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No. 102
NATIONAL SAND DUNE VEGETATION SURVEY
SOUTH WALES DUNE SURVEY
SITE REPORT NO. 52
PEMBREY COAST
1989

T C DARGIE

Contract HF3-03-434

Nominated Officer: G. Radley, CSD

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# NCC COASTAL ECOLOGY RESEARCH PROGRAMME

The Coastal Ecology Branch of the Chief Scientist Directorate was established in August 1979. One of the functions of the branch is to co-ordinate a programme of research and survey in the field of terrestrial coastal conservation. To this end a research programme has been developed with four main aims:

- 1. To describe the size, location and quality of the main coastal habitats in Great Britain (saltmarshes, sand-dunes, vegetated shingle, sea cliffs, strandlines, 'reclaimed' land and maritime islands).
  - 2. To assess the impact of major development projects on sites of national importance for nature conservation.
  - 3. To provide guidance on the management of the main coastal habitats for nature conservation.
  - 4. To investigate the role of physical and biological processes in the maintenance of natural and semi-natural coastal habitats.

The results are disseminated in a variety of Nature Conservancy Council publications.

- a. CSD Contract reports: limited numbers with specialist interest are produced. Copies are usually prepared by the contractor and made available as a Chief Scientist Directorate Report in microfiche through the Nature Conservancy Council's Information and Library Services.
- b. Contract survey reports
- c. Research and survey in nature conservation
- d. Focus on nature conservation

If you would like any further information on this report or on the research programme please contact Dr Doody in Peterborough.

Dr Pat Doody Coastal Ecologist NCC (GBHQ) Peterborough

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#### 1. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Pembrey Coast was surveyed as part of the Sand Dune Survey of Great Britain. This project is one of a series of strategic surveys of coastal habitats currently being undertaken by the Nature Conservancy Council. The Survey has two aims:

- i. To produce a vegetation map and description for each sand dune system which will be useful to those involved directly in its conservation;
- ii. To produce a national inventory of the range and extent of sand dune habitats in Great Britain. Such an inventory will then allow the interest of any particular site or group of sites to be placed in its national context.

This contract (HF3-03-434) involved a survey of dunes in South Wales. The specification involved the production of a vegetation map(s) and a botanical survey report for **each** of the following sites or site sets:

- i. Pembrey Coast
- ii. Whiteford Burrows
- iii. Hillend-Llangennith-Broughton-Delvid-Hills Tor Burrows
  - iv. Port-Eynon to Horton
  - v. Oxwich-Nicholaston-Penmaen-Pennard Burrows
  - vi. Black Pill to Bryn Mill
- vii. Crymlyn Burrows

This document is one of the above site reports. In addition, the overall information is synthesized in a Regional Report which reviews the following points: dune distribution, type, size, vegetation communities and relationships, management and special characteristics. This report should be read in conjunction with the regional document if the Pembrey Coast is to be considered in a broader geographical and ecological context.

#### 2. METHODS

The Pembrey Coast was surveyed using the standard techniques of the Sand Dune Survey of Great Britain. Collecting data in a consistent manner will thus enable valid comparisons to be made between sites on a national basis.

The field survey technique and subsequent analysis of the data were carried out using methods similar to those of the National Vegetation Classification (NVC).

Further details of the field techniques, data analysis and vegetation mapping are included in Annex 1. The quadrat data set (in coded format) is presented in Annex 7. Quadrat membership of vegetation types is given in Annex 4.

#### 3. SITE DESCRIPTION

# Location, conservation status and land ownership

The Pembrey Coast is a large 10 km long x 1-3 km wide sand dune system running northwest - southeast between the Taf-Tywi-Gwendraeth estuary and the Burry Inlet at Burry Port (Fig. 1). It is within the Borough of Llanelli, Carmarthen, Dyfed.

The northern sector around Tywyn Point and the southern sector of Pembrey Burrows both lie within the Pembrey Coast SSSI (3180ha, renotified March 1984). The central sector of Pembrey Forest, Pembrey Country Park and a small dune area north of Pembrey Burrows all lie outside the SSSI boundary. The conservation value of Pembrey Forest (Brechfa Forest Division) is recognized by the Forestry Commission. A conservation plan has been completed for the area (Currie 1987).

The northern area is owned by the Ministry of Defence and is used as an aerial firing range operated by RAF Pembrey. Access is restricted to weekends and bank holidays. Pembrey Forest is owned by the Forestry Commission. Pembrey Country Park and Pembrey Burrows are owned by Llanelli Borough Council. Permission for access was obtained from all organisations.

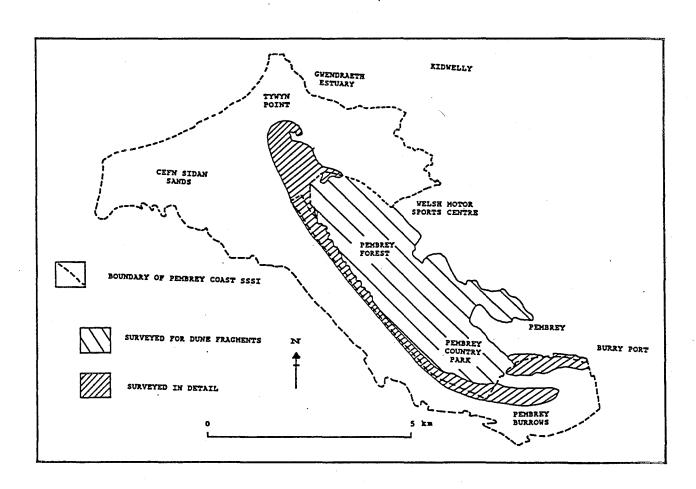


Figure 1. Survey and SSSI boundaries for Pembrey Coast

# Geomorphology

Little information is available on the origin of this very large dune system. As elsewhere in South Wales the sand source is Devensian till and outwash materials deposited by piedmont glaciers fed from valleys and high ground further east. An end moraine running north-south is known from Whiteford, southeast of Pembrey Burrows across the Burry Inlet, and it is possible that there is a till core to some of the Pembrey system.

Equally likely is a shingle core generated offshore by a rising Flandrian sea level. This might have migrated landwards and become sand covered as it reached the intertidal zone. It could then have created an area of poor drainage between the shingle barrier beach and the shore. This badly drained depression may now be the very flat topography between Pembrey and Kidwelly to the north.

Storm conditions between the 14th and 18th centuries drove much sand inland elsewhere in South Wales. It is likely that this happened in the Pembrey system and such sand could be represented by the low dunes under forest at Pennybedd Wood, detached from Pembrey Forest. Alternatively, this latter dune area might be the remnants of an earlier small sand system.

In recent times there has been erosion in the centre of the Pembrey Coast. Material removed here, plus that in the estuaries to the northwest and southeast, has provided substantial sediment for the construction of rapidly accreting terminal spits at Tywyn and Pembrey Burrows. Overall the Pembrey Coast represents a large hindshore dune system behind a barrier beach with two fine recurved terminal spits. Such systems usually undergo cyclic erosion and stabilisation, with parabolic dunes creating extensive slacks. These features have, however, probably largely disappeared under forest.

#### Soils

All soils sampled proved to be neutral or alkaline (pH range 7.0-8.2) apart from some acidity under a forest cover (pH 6.3-6.8). These results suggest that calcareous dune sand (or an alkaline/brackish watertable in slacks or the transition to saltmarsh) is responsible. In a dune environment the implication is that the dunes are a young system and lack stable surfaces which over a longer time would become acidic by leaching.

#### Management

Past and present management are varied. The aerial firing range at Tywyn Point has been in operation for some while and the dunes and saltmarsh are fenced to exclude people and stock.

Pembrey Forest has been owned by the Forestry Commission since the 1920's and much was planted (mainly with Corsican Pine) from the early 1930's. Second generation planting is now in progress using mainly Corsican Pine and some Sitka Spruce. Areas of conservation interest, including many sectors of track and ride, are subject to specific procedures in relation to forestry practice (Currie 1987).

Pembrey Country Park was formerly an explosives/munitions factory. It has now been restored by Llanelli Borough Council to provide a wide variety of recreational opportunities (e.g. golf, riding, cycling, miniature railway, dry skiing, picnic areas), a visitor centre and large areas of car parking for access to the beach or forest. A charge is made for admission. One car park has been built without NCC approval within the Pembrey Coast SSSI. Much of the Pembrey area is the subject of developments proposed by Llanelli Borough Council and these are reviewed by NCC(1983). There is also a small industrial estate, factory and caravan park on the eastern side of the country park.

Pembrey Burrows is managed in the north as a golf course. Former wetland along the northern dune edge has been drained to provide fairways. In the dunes there has been little fertiliser application and good-quality semi-natural grassland is present. North of Pembrey saltmarsh there is an area of fixed dune with pronounced 'hedgehog' topography not used for golf. Trailbikes use the area but erosion is not severe. Until recently the dunes south of Pembrey saltmarsh were largely unspoilt but a road has been cut through the centre of the dunes and the illegal car park (see above) built from it.

#### 4. VEGETATION OF THE PEMBREY COAST

This section contains a general description of the vegetation of the Pembrey Coast. Thorough survey of Pembrey Forest and Pembrey Country Park was not done; instead, a search was made for dune vegetation fragments using aerial photographs in rapid reconnaissance.

The characteristic species composition of each community is outlined and the mapping legend number and equivalent NVC code(s) are included in brackets. An explanation of the NVC codes can be found in Annex 3 together with further information on the NVC communities, local variations and non-NVC vegetation types. The vegetation map(s) is provided at the end of the report and area data for vegetation is given in Annex 8.

#### Strandline

The strandline is poorly developed on the exposed outer dune edges and sand burial transforms it into a foredune. In more sheltered locations to leeward, on the transition between saltmarsh and dune, there is a species-rich community dominated by the foredune grass Sand Couch (Elymus farctus), and upper saltmarsh grasses Red Fescue (Festuca rubra) and Fiorin (Agrostis stolonifera). There are also additional indicators of strandline, saltmarsh and foredune/mobile dune: Sea Sandwort (Honkenya peploides), Spear-leaved Orache (Atriplex prostrata), Prickly Saltwort (Salsola kali), Sea Beet (Beta vulgaris maritima), Marram Grass (Ammophila arenaria) and Sea Holly (Eryngium maritimum). This is an intermediate community type which does not fit the NVC. It is mapped as 1 and coded as X1. It mainly occurs in a mosaic with Sea Couch-grass (Elymus pycnanthus) saltmarsh (17 - NVC SM24).

#### Foredune

Active scour at the dune foot in the centre of the Pembrey Coast has removed all foredunes. At Tywyn Point there is one extensive zone of low foredunes which straddle a buried strandline.

The lowest are embryo foredunes dominated by Sand Couch (Elymus farctus): Additional infrequent species suggest that the sand has buried a strandline: Spear-leaved Orache, Sea Rocket (Cakile maritima), Sea Sandwort and Sea Beet. This is mapped as 2 and the NVC code is SD4. Above this position the foredunes contain both Sand Couch and Marram grass. The strandline indicators above are often present if the foredunes are close to the drift line but higher up the beach additional species suggest mobile dune elements: Sea Holly (Eryngium maritimum), Sea Spurge (Euphorbia paralias), Evening Primrose (Oenothera erythrosepala) and Common Ragwort (Senecio jacobaea). This is mapped as 3 and the NVC code is SD6a.

At Pembrey Burrows the most extensive suite of foredunes in this South Wales survey is located at the front of the entire frontage of the southern exposed dune face. Both Type 2 (SD4) and Type 3 (SD6a) are present and in places the width of both reaches 160m (probably more in recent expansion since 1986 aerial photography). The foredunes even exist well below high water levels and saltmarsh species can be found with Sand Couch-grass. There is also a small patch close to Pembrey saltmarsh, on sand derived from tidal scour.

# Dune grassland

#### Tywyn

Dune grassland is largely restricted to the western edge of this area. Mobile dune (4 - NVC SD6d) forms a western fringe up to 80m deep as a species-poor Marram Grass (Ammophila arenaria) sward. A large patch of mobile dune with both Marram and Red Fescue (Festuca rubra) as dominants (5 - NVC SD6e) is present in the relative shelter east of the dune ridge at Tywyn Point.

East of the mobile dunes is a series of several low sub-parallel dune ridges which curve northwards and which were probably foredunes in origin. The westernmost are part-stabilised with a semi-fixed dune grassland of sparse Marram and Red Fescue set in a patchy carpet of the moss *Tortula ruralis* ssp. *ruraliformis* and several annual species (7 - NVC SD7d). Many of these ridges are also invaded by young Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*) scrub.

There are three areas of fixed grassland. The first is a series of Red Fescue - Lady's Bedstraw (Galium verum) patches well to the east on the transition to saltmarsh. These locations are probably old foredunes which have developed from the Type 1 (X1) strandline transition. The second (also 8) is in the south of the point in an area of former Sea Buckthorn scrub which was cleared in 1985 (Currie 1987). The turf is patchy with much bare sand.

The final fixed grassland is Type 9 (NVC SD9) as a small patch on a slight rise close to the eastern boundary with Pembrey Forest. This is a rank grassland with False-oat Grass (Arrhenatherum elatius) mixed in a sward dominated by Red Fescue.

#### Pembrey Forest, Pembrey Country Park and Pembrey Burrows

There is no mobile dune community for most of the central 5km dune frontage west of Pembrey Forest. Coastal erosion appears to have eroded all foredunes and mobile dune grassland. Only a narrow (30-50m width) strip of semi-fixed grassland (6 - NVC SD7c) is found, a mix of Marram, Red Fescue and Common Restharrow (Ononis repens). Much of this is invaded by young Sea Buckthorn scrub.

South of the visitor centre for Pembrey Country Park there is a narrow ridge of mobile Marram (4) dune extending southeast for c.1.6km to where it merges into foredunes and then appears again as mobile dune in a 0.5km band at the eastern end of Pembrey Burrows.

Behind this outer dune ridge there is another wide zone of semi-fixed dune as at Tywyn, but here it is Type 6 (NVC SD7c) grassland with much Common Restharrow. This wide belt extends to the eastern end of Pembrey Burrows. Low ridge and swale topography suggests this grassland was formerly a foredune environment.

There is little Type 7 (NVC SD7d) semi-fixed dune in this area and most is on recently-constructed embankments around car parks close to the visitor centre. Further inland the main sward is a fixed dune of Red Fescue and Lady's Bedstraw (8 - NVC SD8). This extends into the southeastern corner of the country park and the southwest of Pembrey Burrows. It is even more extensive north of Pembrey Saltmarsh where much has been converted to golf course. Some patches show slight evidence of leaching (presence of the moss Dicranum scoparium) but in general the turf is fairly rank and is often invaded by Dewberry (Rubus caesius). There is no acidic grassland.

There are small patches of rank Type 9 grassland with False-oat Grass and Red Fescue, usually in corners used for dog-walking.

Most of the grassland in Pembrey Country Park is a re-seeded mesotrophic (i.e. circum-neutral) sward. Rank and infrequently mown areas away from trampling pressure are dominated by False-oat Grass (mapped as MG1). Heavily-used parts are seeded with Rye Grass (Lolium perenne) and are mapped as MG2. These types were not recorded in detail and hence not related to NVC mesotrophic grassland descriptions.

# Dune slack

The largest extents of dune slack are at Tywyn. In Pembrey Forest drainage and shading have eradicated most cases but a few are still scattered in the area. At Pembrey Burrows they are confined to the northern part of the dune system.

#### Tywyn

A young slack system is developing from Sea Rush (Juncus maritimus) saltmarsh (16 - NVC SM18b) in the west close to the exposed dune ridge. Patches at the north end contain a species-rich sward with Glaucous Sedge (Carex flacca), Fiorin (Agrostis stolonifera), Variegated Horsetail (Equisetum variegatum), Red Fescue, patches of Creeping Willow (Salix repens), the mosses Bryum pseudotriquetrum and Campylium stellatum, and the liverwort Aneura pinguis. This was mapped as 12, is Type 12a, NVC code SD14c.

An important feature along most of the eastern side of Tywyn is transitional damp grassland dominated by Red Fescue, Yorkshire Fog (Holcus lanatus), Bird's-foot Trefoil (Lotus corniculatus), Fiorin, Sand Sedge (Carex arenaria), Self-heal (Prunella vulgaris) and Creeping Willow. This was mapped as 14 (NVC SD16).

Further east in wetter positions there is an extensive area dominated by two slack types. In the south is an area covered by Creeping Willow and a carpet of the moss Calliergon cuspidatum (Type 12b, mapped as 12, NVC SD15). This has plentiful occurrences of the Marsh Helleborine orchid (Epipactis palustris). Further north there is a tall-herb community (13 - NVC SD15c) dominated by a mix of Fleabane (Pulicaria dysenterica), Yorkshire Fog, Water Mint (Mentha aquatica), Silverweed (Potentilla anserina), Sea Rush, Creeping Willow, Yellow Iris (Iris pseudacorus) and a moss carpet of Calliergon cuspidatum.

# Pembrey Forest and Pembrey Burrows

Within Pembrey Forest there a few Type 12b, 13 and 15 slacks. These generally show signs of shading. In Pembrey Burrows drier slacks containing Common Restharrow and Creeping Willow are found amongst fixed dune north of Pembrey saltmarsh. In one area they form pronounced 'hedgehog' dunes, the probable site of a former blowout in which slack shrubs were able to grow up through a steady accumulation of sand to form this type of dune.

#### Woodland and scrub

An impressive quantity of Sea Buckthorn (Hippophae rhamnoides) is present in all sectors of the Pembrey Coast. Two types can be recognised: a stage of early invasion when Red fescue is still present in some quantity (21 - NVC SD18a), and a late stage (22 - NVC SD18b) which is shaded and enriched by leaf litter and bird excreta, shown by Stinging Nettle (Urtica dioica) in the understorey. Patches of both exist in partly-zoned patches at Tywyn and Pembrey Burrows where invasion is recent. For the entire coastal front of Pembrey Forest the zonation of types is perfect, with the mature stands against forest (planted originally for dune stabilisation) and the early stage to the west entering grassland.

Other scrub types are much smaller in extent and none is found at Tywyn. Blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*, 26 - W22), Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*, 27 - W23) and Blackberry (*Rubus fruticosus*, 28 - W24) are scattered around the edges of Pembrey Forest and Pembrey Burrows.

There is a marked contrast in the distribution of woodland types, with wetland types (slack woodland) largely confined to Tywyn and dry dune coniferous woodland to sectors further south. At Tywyn there are many patches of young and rapidly expanding Common Sallow (Salix cinerea, 23 - NVC W1) and Alder (Alnus glutinosa, 30 - X2). These often mix to form thick copses. The understorey of both usually contains Marsh Bedstraw (Galium palustre) and Yellow Iris (Iris pseudacorus). Alder woodland (30) is also found in old Pembrey Forest slacks but here it is more mature and heavily shaded, with a poor ground flora.

The coniferous woodland of Pembrey Forest is dominated by Corsican Pine (Pinus nigra) and covers a very large proportion of the Pembrey Coast survey area (c. 950ha). Unthinned plantations support a poor groundflora but older thinned stands (35-55 years) have a diverse tall shrub understorey (Hawthorn, Common Oak, Sycamore, Cotoneaster) and a groundlayer of various herbs, perhaps ferns and very frequent and thick Blackberry. Recently felled areas do not seem to regenerate via a dune succession but a weedy community develops, usually with Rosebay Willowherb (Epilobium angustifolium). Replanting generally takes place quickly and succession in clearings is not easily observed. Former heavily shaded slacks usually have some relict Creeping Willow but little else. In more open stands Sea Buckthorn can tolerate shading by leggy growth.

#### Other habitats

There are small areas of swamp and large expanses of saltmarsh with good transitions to dune. Pembrey Forest contains a small reed-bed dominated by Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) at the edge of one slack in the north (18 - NVC S4a) and the western end of the saltmarsh at Pembrey Burrows has a mosaic of Common Reed and Sea Club-rush (19 - NVC S4d/S21b) which may relate to discharges from a small adjacent sewage treatment plant. Small excavations by RAF Pembrey at Tywyn have been revegetated with a Bulrush swamp (*Typha latifolia*), 20 - NVC S12b.

Transitions to saltmarsh at Tywyn involve both dune grassland and slack. In damp areas the change is to Sea Rush (*Juncus maritimus*) saltmarsh (16 - NVC SM18b) but drier areas usually grade into Sea Couch-grass (*Elymus pycnanthus*) saltmarsh(17 - NVC SM24). This last type is the commonest at Pembrey where dry types of transition are dominant.

# Recent changes in vegetation

No early air photos were available to compare with 1986 survey material for an analysis of change. Field survey suggested that active accretion at Tywyn and Pembrey Burrows had created large areas of relatively new dune, saltmarsh and some slack. The dune scarp in the centre of the Pembrey Coast is retreating due to Coastal erosion. Reclamation schemes in Pembrey Country Park have had little effect on natural and semi-natural vegetation, though there has been a loss of semi-fixed dune to an illegal car park in the adjacent SSSI.

# 5. RARE PLANTS

The SSSI site description cites the following rare or local plant species: Sand Catchfly (Silene conica) - found during survey in Pembrey Country Park, Fen Orchid (Liparis loeselii) and Dune Gentian (Gentianella uliginosum).

#### 6. SITE ASSESSMENT

The Pembrey Coast is important as a high-quality site of geomorphological and biological interest. It is a very large dune system and most communities are natural types with little anthropological influence. It has a good range of community diversity in its dune vegetation, including actively accreting foredunes and a range of mobile, semi-fixed and fixed grasslands. It lacks only acidic grassland and dune heath. The transition to saltmarsh is excellent at both Tywyn and Pembrey. There are also several local or rare species, most of which are present in reasonable numbers.

Conifer planting in Pembrey Forest has removed most of the vegetation interest for a very large proportion of the total survey area. The major interest is at Tywyn and Pembrey Burrows. There is no visitor pressure at the former and it has excellent slacks to complement its young dune grasslands, though Sea Buckthorn invasion is strong, as is slack woodland invasion. There has been some loss of fixed dune to golf course at Pembrey Burrows, plus the probable removal of slacks by drainage.

#### 7. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

There is little need for concern at Tywyn unless slack woodland development is considered a threat to some rarities. There is massive Sea Buckthorn development which would now be very difficult to control. In Pembrey Forest there may be some scope for discussion with the Forestry Commission on experiments to attempt regeneration of dune grassland in small areas where clear-felling has been completed. There is a reasonable chance that acidic grassland or heath could be developed. Visitor impact is a potential threat to the dunes at Pembrey Burrows via overspill from Pembrey Country Park - foredune, mobile and semi-fixed dunes are fragile systems - and this should be raised with the park officials and Llanelli Borough Council.

#### ANNEX 1

#### METHODS

# AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Air photos were used for field navigation and vegetation mapping in all but one site. The following material was supplied or purchased:

Cambridge University RC8K 27 May 1987 Crymlyn Burrows Colour (poor quality) c. 1:6000 Prints 88-92, 97-105, 121-125 Black Pill to None available - field positioning and mapping done by pacing in relation to Bryn Mill features on 1:10000 OS map. Pennard and Hunting Surveys HSL UK 86 023 19 March 1986 Penmaen Panchromatic (excellent quality) c. 1:5000 Run 17 Prints 2563-2566 Run 18 Prints 2478-2482 Oxwich and Cambridge University RC8KW 20 June 1983 Nicholaston Colour (fair quality) c. 1:5000 Prints 201-207, 209-213 (212 missing), 218-222. Cambridge University RC8DA 26 June 1979 Port-Eynon to Panchromatic (good quality) c. 1:10000 Horton Prints 268-270 MAFF/ADAS Hasselblad Hillend to 7 May 1989 Colour (good quality) c. 1:10000 Whitford Run 89-18 Prints 43-51, 66-68 Run 89-27 Prints 08-09

MAFF/ADAS 15 June 1986 Pembrey Coast Panchromatic (excellent quality) c. 1:11000 Film 291 Prints 24-36, 86-98, 157-8

# FIELD SURVEY

All major types of vegetation at each site were located by a rapid reconnaissance. Each type was then visited and a visually homogeneous stand was picked out. Vegetation was recorded within 2m x 2m (strand, dune grassland, dune slack, dune heath), 5m x 5m (scrub) and 10m x 10m (woodland) quadrats. The quadrat position and number was located precisely on an acetate overlay fixed to air photos.

The recommended procedure for the National Vegetation Classification (NVC) was followed as often as possible. dune vegetation types in each site were recorded with a minimum of five quadrats. Transitional habitats to saltmarsh, swamp and scrub/woodland were sampled less intensively.

Each quadrat was recorded on a standard record sheet (see Annex 2) which incorporated species and special variable number codes for use in later rapid computer data entry. All vascular plants, bryophytes and lichens in a quadrat were recorded on the Domin cover/abundance scale, together with community structure data (strata height and cover). Occasional soil samples (0-10 cm) were collected for most vegetation types and were then air dried prior to pH analysis.

Target notes (see Annex 6) were used for several purposes:

- a. To note particular features;
- b. To comment on land use;
- c. To supplement quadrat records.

Target note positions were also marked in the field upon air photo overlays. Less emphasis was placed on these notes than in other National Sand Dune Survey studies because quadrat data was more intensive in this case.

A total of 640 quadrats was achieved for all sites, numbered as follows:

Crymlyn Burrows	1	-	146
Black Pill to Bryn Mill	147		169
Tywyn (Pembrey Coast)	170	_	271
Pembrey Burrows	272		347
Pembrey Country Park and Pembrey Forest	348 627		354, 640
Port-Eynon to Horton	355	_	390
Whiteford Burrows	391	_	468
Nicholaston Burrows	469	-	495
Penmaen Burrows	496	-	522
Oxwich Burrows	523	-	565
Pennard Burrows	566	_	596
Hillend and Llangennith Burrows	597	-	626

Access problems prevented any quadrat collection from Broughton, Delvid and Hills Tor Burrows. In traversing sites obvious vegetation boundaries were marked on air photo overlays and simple codes were marked for vegetation types, both to aid later photo-interpretation. Survey took place in two phases: June/early July and August/early September.

#### ANALYSIS

Quadrat records were entered into an IBM-XT compatible microcomputer using the RECORD program in the VESPAN2 suite devised by Andrew Malloch of Lancaster University.

An initial classification of all quadrats using the TWINSPAN program enabled the clear separation of samples into three subsets: strand, dry dune and transitions; wet dune and transitions; scrub, woodland and transitions. Each sub-set of quadrats was then classified by TWINSPAN to produce end groups of samples. Each end group was listed in full using the TABLE program to detail all quadrats and species.

These tables enabled a comparison with the keys, tables and descriptions of vegetation types in the various NVC chapters. In many cases there was a direct correspondence with an NVC community, but often not to sub-community level. Some non-NVC groups were found and required separate description. More importantly, the classifications were not perfect and several NVC vegetation types (notably swamp, scrub and woodland transitions represented by low quadrat totals) were scattered amongst other end groups. Once recognised these community samples were aggregated using the SELECT program in VESPAN2.

Several dune vegetation types with large quadrat totals had distinct non-NVC sub-goups and these were described as variants of the NVC community. This important scale of variability is covered under PROBLEMS (see below).

# MAP PREPARATION

Following analysis and the recognition of vegetation types, a set of mapping units was created (see vegetation legend sheet in map pocket). For Black Pill to Bryn Mill those mapping units present were marked with approximate boundaries upon a 1:10000 OS map, given that air photos were not available. For all other sites fresh acetate overlays were mounted over field overlays and air photos. The mapping units were then marked on the top overlay using an Old Delft Scanning Mirror Stereoscope to position boundaries. In areas of small-scale rapid transition between communities (usually due to microtopography in slacks and around old small blowouts) the communities were mapped as a mosaic.

Features marked on 1:10000 OS maps were also accurately marked. The top overlay was then removed and OS map features were used to reproduce the photo-map at c. 1:7500 using a Zeiss Sketchmaster. All 1:7500 maps were then mosaiced and drawn as a final vegetation map on Permatrace at c. 1:7500 scale. This was then reduced to 1:10000 on an accurate zoom photocopier for reproduction on A3 paper.

A total of 14 final maps was involved. The legend was too lengthy to reproduce on each map and it is presented separately on A4 sheets in the map pocket of site reports.

#### AREA MEASUREMENT

One copy of each vegetation map was carefully dissected by cutting around vegetation boundaries with fine scissors. Excised polygons were aggregated into map units and weighed on an accurate balance. The weights were converted to area (hectares) using the known paper weight of a 1 km square (100 ha). Mosaic types had the area allocated equally between component types.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

Additional information on sites was obtained from SSSI site descriptions (if an SSSI), discussions with regional staff of NCC and the National Trust, and by consulting reports held at the Oxwich Information Centre.

#### **PROBLEMS**

- 1. Access No permission was sought for the Broughton area due to local difficulties. This led to no quadrat recording but the area was visited by public footpaths and reasonable mapping was achieved.
- 2. Photo availability Stereoscopic cover of several sites was not available during survey. Additional cover was purchased for the Pembrey Coast and Pennard-Penmaen. Some cover for Oxwich-Nicholaston was out on loan and was returned late despite repeated requests from local NCC staff. This lack of stereoscopy prevented more emphasis on field boundary identification and slowed down accurate field navigation.
- 3. Nomenclature NVC dune community types and nomenclature changed in the course of survey. Details of the revision (new nomenclature and floristic tables, but no information on slacks) were received between the two field survey periods and required some revision of the first phase results, plus a little re-survey. Detailed descriptions (but only nomenclature and floristic tables for slack types) were received as an NVC strand/dune chapter in November 1989. wholesale revision of slack types had taken place, to the extent that field mapping could not in most cases be accurately assigned to new units. To make matters the computer groupings of slack communities in this survey did not closely agree with new or old All mapping of slack communities should therefore be regarded as very approximate.

4. NVC Community variability Several dune communities, notably Festuca rubra - Galium verum dune grassland and most slack types, were thoroughly sampled with a large number of quadrats. Classification produced distinct sub-types but these were not readily assigned to NVC sub-communities. The problem lies in continuous variation which is dissected in a parsimonious manner by TWINSPAN analysis, both for this quadrat data set and for the more comprehensive set (in a geographical sense) on which NVC types are based.

The solution (i.e. extraction of readily-recognised and spatially recurrent vegetation types) can probably only come from a more rigorous analysis using ordination (to handle continuity) and sound interpretative methods to link continuous variation in several dimensions (succession, habitat gradients, geographical trends), e.g. seriation or canonical correspondence analysis. This was beyond the scope of this study but would be a very desirable feature of the complete national survey.

#### ANNEX 2

# FIELD RECORDING SHEET

The sheet below is a reduced-size version of that used in the field. Space at the top and bottom was used for the field notes and listing of species not covered in the printed table. The NVC codes for species and special variables are present to aid rapid computer entry after fieldwork.

SITE

DUME SURVEY SHEET

Tree hite	9	Shrb	hite	10	Herb	hite	11	Noss	hite	12	Bare	grnd	22
Tree covr	13	Shrb	COAL	14	Herb	COVE	15	Ross	COVE	16			
Achi Bill	106		ptar	105		capi		Agre	stoi		Aira	cary	124
Aira prae	125		glut	153			2656	Ambo	aren			Pypr	160
Anag tene	163		odor	171		vuln		Aren		196		sari	195
Arrh elat	197		hast	217		laci			patu			prat	655
Aven pube	656		pere	230		vulg				t 268		vulg	278
Caly sold	283	-	rotu	288		prat			aren			flac	323
Care nigr	333		pani	339		vulg		Cent				diff	381
Cera font	384		seni	385		arve			Ania			dani	425
Coch offi	427		cane			capi		Crit				scop	
Dact glos	465		inca	167		acsa		Dant				care	475
Dese cesp	477		flex	478		palu		Elya				Dyca	117
Elym repe	118		angu	391		palu		Equi		532		pass	534
Equi palu	535		vari	539		acer		Erie		547		cicu	569
Erop vern	552	Eryn		555		offi		Euph		565		port	567
Fest ovin	574		rubr	576		ulas	583	Sali		605		palu	609
Gali veru	613		ulig			flav		61au				spho	661
Hier pilo	965		o rham		Hole		680	Honk		682		petr	686
Hyde vulg	690	Нурв		704	Нуро		706	Iris				Bcut	720
June arti	722		buf o	725		bulb	726	June	-	732		pari	734
June squa	736		Bacr	746		utu		Leon		770		lati	
Limo bine	778	Linu		786		loes		Lotu				ulig	802
Luzu camp	807		flos	813		euro				1355		sinu	841
Medi lupu	844	Ment		855		aini		Myos		884	_	lach	911
Oeno bien	912		repe	916		apif		Orob		92 <b>8</b> 97 <b>3</b>		palu	946
Phle aren	958		aust	961			972	Plan				Bari	
Pos prat	988		triv	990		0175		Poly				trem	
Pote anse			vulg			aqui			-	1069		rotu	
Ranu acri			flam cris			repe elia				1106 1146		frut	
Rume acet Sali repe			kali			nigr				1189		pari	
Scir seta			PCLE			jaco				1243		coni	
Sile vulg			dulc			virg				1271		aspe	
Stel medi			offi			nudí				1321		prae	
Trif camp			dubi			prat				1350		mari	
Trig palu			euro			chae		Vero				sati	
Viol cani			rivi		Viol			Yulp	fasc	1434			
							_						
Brac albi	1510	Brac	ruta	1519	Bryu	algo	1545	Bryui	SP.	2807	Call	CUSP	1445
Camp stel		Cera	purp	1586	Clad	arbu	2340	Clad	furc	2362	Clad	rang	2381
Clim dend		Corn	acul	2410	Dicr	SCOP	1638	Eury	prae	1677	Hosa	lute	1562
Hypn cupr	1766	Нуро	phys	2416	Loph	bide	2167	Pelt	cani	2486	Plag	undu	1807
Poly pili	1897	Pseu	puru	1914	Rhyt	5QU8	1940	Rhyt	triq	1941	Tort	LALE	2023

#### ANNEX 3

# VEGETATION TYPES

This section contains a description of each vegetation type (NVC and non-NVC) found in this survey of South Wales dunes. Some types may not be present in this site - see Annex 4 and the vegetation map(s) for details of community presence. The account includes variants of NVC dune communities which do not correspond with NVC sub-community types. Particular features of sites are given in some descriptions.

The account is partly based on the relevant chapters of the NVC written by John Rodwell. The codes mainly relate to the different NVC chapters as follows:

- SD Shingle, strandline and sand-dune communities
- S Swamps and tall-herb fens
- SM Saltmarsh communities
- W Woodland and scrubs
- H Heaths
- X Non-NVC or transition types identified in this survey.

One other chapter, mesotrophic grasslands (MG), was not consulted and cases were only mapped in terms of principal dominant (Arrhenatherum elatius or Lolium perenne).

Most emphasis is placed on SD communities and other vegetation descriptions are abbreviated, reflecting less-intensive quadrat sampling.

#### 1 X1 Dry foredune/saltmarsh/strandline transition community

Strandline vegetation is normally found at the extreme high water mark where washed-up debris becomes buried by blown sand. The normal strandline community within the NVC (SD2 Honkenya peploides - Cakile maritima strandline) was not found in this survey.

Instead, on exposed shores, the strandline is rapidly buried and a foredune environment persists (see 2 SD4 Elymus farctus foredune community). In sheltered environments, to leeward of cuspate spits, there is this distinct species-rich strandline transition. The species combination involves a mix of foredune (Elymus farctus), saltmarsh (Festuca rubra, Agrostis stolonifera, Limonium binervosum) and strandline (Honkenya peploides, Atriplex prostrata) indicators. Cakile maritima is rare in this environment. Unlike SD2 it is dominated by perennials and it is probably more persistent and less variable than the usual strandline community.

It grades upwards in wet areas to young salt-influenced slacks (see 12(a) SD14c Salix repens - Campylium stellatum dune slack, Bryum pseudotriquetrum - Aneura pinguis sub-community) and to a variety of dune grassland types in dry zonations. Downslope it usually grades into SM24 Elymus pycnanthus saltmarsh.

As a community type it perhaps deserves recognition in any revised NVC classification of strandline environments. In this survey it was repeatedly found in suitable locations at Crymlyn Burrows, Tywyn (Pembrey Coast) and Pembrey Burrows.

# 2 SD4 Elymus farctus foredune community

Elymus farctus normally dominates this community which is species-poor. Strandline species (notably Salsola kali, Atriplex prostrata, Cakile maritima and Honkenya peploides) are also frequent and suggest that in many localities these low dunes are ephemeral summer features forming on the drift line, usually extending by movement a short distance upslope. They are probably destroyed in autumn and winter storms.

In more sheltered locations, particularly at Crymlyn and Pembrey Burrows, the community is persistent and forms the initial phase of sand colonisation which then leads on to a rapid classic psammosere via SD6 Ammophila arenaria dune. At Pembrey Burrows there has been a recent increase in sand supply (probably from dune erosion in the centre of the Pembrey Coast system) and there has been a very large increase in this community since aerial photography in 1986. The foredunes even extend well downslope into saltmarsh and can include Puccinellia maritima and other saline indicators in the species list, though these are rare.

# 3 SD6a Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Elymus farctus sub-community

This type of mobile dune community normally occurs closest to the sea. It is very open (70% bare sand) and usually has only Ammophila arenaria and Elymus farctus as dominants. Two variants (3v1, 3v2) were recognised after analysis. These show gradation within the the sub-community which itself grades downbeach into SD4 and, upwards, into SD6d Ammophila arenaria mobile dune, Typical sub-community.

3v1 variant This is usually located above the position of the strandline and often contains Eryngium maritimum and Euphorbia paralias.

3v2 variant This is usually located on the position of the strandline and often contains strand indicators (Salsola kali, Cakile maritima, Rumex crispus and Beta vulgaris maritima). It is more species-rich than 3v1.

# 4 SD6d Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Typical sub-community

This community has a high cover of Ammophila arenaria (Marram) and occurs in areas that have a very high rate of sand deposition, in part the effect of the grass itself in modifying windflow to induce sand burial through which it then grows, often in profusion. Areas recently planted with Marram look very similar to this natural community.

In many British systems the community is very species-poor but in this survey there are reasonable numbers of additional species in most samples. Only one monodominant sample (quadrat 270 at Tywyn) was recorded. This enhanced diversity suggests that sand accumulation rates in the South Wales area are lower than normal, allowing invasion by annuals and suitable perennials.

# SD6e Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Festuca rubra sub-community

Festuca rubra normally forms an open understorey beneath Marram in this sub-community. Sand accumulation is low but still significant, producing vegetation which is still species-poor.

As a mapping unit this community is not very extensive and is best developed on dunes with heavy recreational impact, as at Crymlyn, Black Pill, Port-Eynon and Hillend/Broughton. Trampling, sand burial and litter may make this type more nitrogen-rich than usual, allowing enhanced species diversity compared to the NVC description.

Floristic composition suggests that this vegetation is part of a gradation from SD6a and SD6d to SD7c Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune community (Ononis repens subcommunity). Shrubs can invade (notably Rubus caesius) and, at Black Pill. Populus tremula.

# SD7c Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune community Ononis repens sub-community

These dunes are usually dominated in Britain by Marram, plus substantial amounts of Festuca rubra and Ononis repens. Reduced sand deposition compared to other communities to seaward enables high vegetation cover and the start of dune stabilisation.

This vegetation type is very extensive in the dunes of this study and it is possible to recognise four variants (6v1-4).

6v1 variant Ononis repens is less common (frequency class III) and is often replaced by an alternative legume (Anthyllis vulneraria or Lotus corniculatus). Small gaps in the turf are frequent and these are often occupied by winter annuals (Phleum arenarium, Sedum acre, Arenaria serpyllifolia). This is the dominant type at Crymlyn Burrows and is transitional from SD6c to SD7d (Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis sub-community).

6v2 variant Ononis repens is very common and achieves a reasonable cover. Other species suggest this is a community of damper ground (hollows and slack margins, especially at Crymlyn), with Holcus lanatus and Agrostis stolonifera the main moisture indicators. Mesic conditions in some stands may be created by shading from Rubus fruticosus agg..

6v3 variant This is the most typical form found, with high cover and a tall sward being invaded by Rubus caesius, R. fruticosus agg. or Arrhenatherum elatius. These successional transitions to shrub or mesotrophic grassland seem in part due to a lack of grazing in most large dune systems.

6v4 variant This is a small quadrat set which is difficult to interpret and may represent rather heterogeneous conditions. It is species-rich and this vegetation is either trampled dune being invaded by Rubus caesius (at Oxwich and Hillend), or is developed on thin sand over limestone on cliffs at Pennard.

The extensive quantities of type 6-SD7c vegetation reflect in part the rapid stabilisation of mobile dunes (and perhaps even foredunes at Crymlyn and Pembrey Burrows) which tend to be low in height and inextensive. In addition their extent shows stabilisation of dune systems with extensive parabolic dune blowouts which were recently mobile (Oxwich, Whiteford).

7 SD7d Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune community

Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis sub-community

The usual characteristics of this community in Britain are similar to 6-SD7c: abundant Marram and frequent Festuca rubra and Ononis repens. It is normally distinguished from SD7c by common Hieracium pilosella agg., several species of annual, and often an abundant moss carpet of Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis. Many of these features are found in South Wales dunes but there are local differences because Festuca rubra is comparatively rare and H. pilosella has a very weak presence. Winter annuals are a prominent component, especially Phleum arenarium, Arenaria serpyllifolia, Cerastium diffusum diffusum, Vulpia fasciculata, Sedum acre and Aira praecox. More rarely Viola tricolor, Cerastium semidecandrum, Arabis hirsuta and Desmazeria rigida can be found.

The community is very common in several locations, colonising SD6 mobile dunes either near actively extending foreshores (Crymlyn, Nicholaston, Tywyn) or on the steep slopes and flanks of vegetated blowouts (Oxwich, Llangennith/Broughton). It is rare at Pembrey Burrows, suggesting that dune orientation in that system is sheltered, not creating the sand burial rates which favour this community. It is very rare at Penmaen and Pennard, occurring only as very isolated and small coverage on thin sandy rendzinas overlying limestone. It was not mapped in these two latter places.

Festuca rubra - Galium verum fixed dune community No clear NVC sub-community

SD8

This community in Britain usually consists of a closed sward made up of grasses, dicotyledons and mosses. Marram may be only occasional and often lacks vigour. There is very little sand accumulation and the first signs of leaching impact are often found here in terms of indicators of soil acidity.

There are three potential sub-communities likely to be found in South Wales but none can be proposed with confidence. Instead, five variants can be recognised and related to local succession and moisture conditions. The absence of clear sub-communities is probably the result of no intensive grazing, a finding in studies elsewhere in Britain.

8v1 variant Marram and Festuca rubra are dominant, with appreciable quantities of the moss Homalothecium lutescens in the turf. Ononis repens and Galium verum are fairly common (frequency class III) and the variant is probably an early SD8 type emerging in succession from 7-SD7c.

There is little Marram and most cover is 8v2 variant contributed by Festuca rubra and the moss Homalothecium lutescens. There is virtually no Ononis repens. Galium verum is infrequent and early leaching indicators are quite common (the moss Dicranum scoparium and the lichens Cladonia rangiformis and C. impexa). Soil samples had some of the lowest pH values of SD8 samples. It is probably the oldest SD8 grassland type, grading into 10-SD12 Carex arenaria - Festuca ovina - Agrostis capillaris grassland over time.

8v3 variant Both Marram and Festuca rubra are frequent but Galium verum is low (class II) in frequency. There is a high moss cover involving pleurocarps (Homalothecium lutescens and Eurynchium praelongum) and the acrocarp Dicranum scoparium to suggest a trend towards acidity. A large proportion of quadrats also shows shrub invasion by Rubus caesius. The high frequency of Holcus lanatus (class IV) suggests that moisture is an important determinant of the variant.

This is closest to the SD8a Typical subcommunity and many quadrats did show signs of close rabbit grazing. It has abundant Festuca rubra and Galium verum. With plentiful Plantago lanceolata. There are, however, significant quantities of shrubs (notably Rosa pimpinellifolia and Rubus caesius) and other indicators of shading and invasion (Pteridium aquilinum, Geranium sanguineum). These suggest a former SD8a community in early transition towards scrub, probably following a relaxation in grazing pressure.

This variant is a more extreme form of 8v4. There is a high degree of invasion by Pteridium aquilinum and species typical of early scrub and rank growth: Geranium sanguineum, Rubus caesius and Rosa pimpinellifolia. This community is particularly common between Port-Eynon and Horton where there are a few more nitrophilous species to suggest trampling and dog-walking effects.

SD9 Ammophila arenaria - Arrhenatherum elatius dune grassland No clear NVC sub-community

In Britain this community is found on less-heavily grazed stretches of fixed calcareous dune systems. There is no clear fit with NVC sub-communities because Marram is rare in variant 9v1 and infrequent in 9v2. The species composition of the two variants suggests that the community is seral in character and that it is undergoing rapid change towards scrub development.

9v1 variant Arrhenatherum elatius is relatively infrequent in a rank Festuca rubra and Holcus lanatus sward which contains large quantities of Rubus caesius. There are reasonable quantities of both Ononis repens and Galium verum, suggesting that the community has developed rapidly from SD7 and SD8 categories. The high quantity of Holcus lanatus and occasional presence of Salix repens suggest that moist conditions may be a characteristic of sites which have also had a relaxation in grazing.

9v2 variant This variant shows a more advanced stage of scrub development in SD9 communities. There is both a tree and shrub presence in many samples, with quadrats located in a grassland/scrub mosaic at the rear of several systems (notably Crymlyn Burrows, Black Pill, Hillend/Broughton, Pembrey Burrows).

Where both variants occur in a single system, 9v1 tends-to be more seaward suggesting the community is currently extending towards younger dune grassland types.

capillaris grassland
No clear NVC sub-community

This grassland is typical of grazed acidic sands in Britain and in systems which are initially calcareous it is found on older dunes where leaching has been effective. The rear of most South Wales dune systems, where such swards are likely, has been highly altered in most cases (often to provide golf courses). Reasonable examples of the community type can be found in the fringes of rough around fairways, notably at Crymlyn and Pennard Burrows (the latter system is also grazed by ponies). Further pony grazing by ponies at Penmaen probably also helps maintain the community. Elsewhere the dune systems are either too young or lack of grazing has allowed SD9 rank near-mesotrophic grassland to develop.

There is no very close agreement with NVC sub-communities but two local variants can be recognised.

10v1 variant This resembles in part the SD12a Anthoxanthum odoratum sub-community but lacks Marram and shows early bracken invasion. There is also floristic evidence of sufficient leaching to allow heath indicators (e.g. Calluna vulgaris) into the sward.

10v2 variant This is bracken-invaded and much more species-poor as a result of shading and litter accumulation. It is restricted to leached acidic sands on the cliff tops at Penmaen and Pennard. As in 9v1 there is strong floristic evidence of a trend towards heath vegetation.

# 11 H11 Calluna vulgaris - Carex arenaria heath

Some good examples of heath developed on sand were found but in general these were rare. Communities with Calluna vulgaris dominant (and, less commonly, Erica cinerea and Vaccinium myrtillus) are restricted to leached sands banked against the old seacliff at the rear of Crymlyn Burrows, and to the thinner sands deposited on top of cliffs at Penmaen and Pennard. At Crymlyn the community grades into normal H10 Calluna vulgaris - Erica cinerea heath on the top of the cliff as the sand rapidly thins.

#### SLACK COMMUNITIES

Low-lying areas under the influence of the dune water table (slacks) are usually markedly different from dry dune grasslands. A major revision in NVC slack types took place after field mapping (though description of the new types was not provided). Computer analysis of quadrat data found end groups which did not closely fit old or new NVC classifications (see Annex 1 - Problems). The five quadrat groupings (12a, 12b, 13, 14, 15) are therefore presented as a series with what are probably their closest types in the revised NVC system of November 1989. The fit is far from perfect and all slack classification must be considered approximate.

12a SD14c Salix repens - Campylium stellatum dune slack
Bryum pseudotriquetrum - Aneura pinguis
sub-community

This community probably represents young slacks formed by the enclosure of depressions by spit extension (as at Tywyn) or in deflation hollows left after the passage of a parabolic dune blowout (north Whiteford). There is a slight saline influence at Tywyn shown by the low frequency of Glaux maritima. The community has patches of bare ground and Salix repens often shows a pattern of small circular and coalescing colonies, a feature of early succession. The community is very rich in species.

12b SD15a/b Salix repens - Calliergon cuspidatum dune slack
Carex nigra sub-community (a)
Equisetum variegatum sub-community (b)

There is abundant Salix repens over a carpet of Hydrocotyle vulgaris and the moss Calliergon cuspidatum. Equisetum hyemale is very common in this turf and orchids (commonly Epipactis palustris and Dactylorhiza majalis) are abundant. There is still a saline element in some slacks, shown by Juncus maritimus, J. acutus and Oenanthe lachenalii.

13 SD15c Salix repens - Calliergon cuspidatum dune slack
Carex flacca - Pulicaria dysenterica sub-community

This slack community is one of the most distinctive due to the prominence of tall herbs, with much Juncus maritimus, Pulicaria dysenterica, Eupatorium cannabinum, Filipendula ulmaria, Lotus uliginosus and Lychnis flos-cuculi. It often features the start of slack woodland by Salix cinerea and Alnus glutinosa at Tywyn. At Whiteford it is very extensive on the eastern side, grading into saltmarsh. It seems to prefer steeper slack gradients and may reflect lateral subsurface water flow.

- 14 SD16a/b Salix repens Holcus lanatus dune slack
  Ononis repens sub-community (a)
  Rubus caesius sub-community (b)
- 14 SD16c/d Salix repens Holcus lanatus dune slack
  Prunella vulgaris Equisetum variegatum
  sub-community (c)
  Agrostis stolonifera sub-community (d)

A heterogeneous set of slack and slack transition habitats is represented in this group. The topographic differences within the quadrat set are not clearly distinguished by species composition which overall suggest relatively dry slack conditions. Three main types of topography are involved:

- a. drier slack margins receiving sand input from adjacent dunes (common at Whiteford in western slacks).
- b. clustered large hummocks ('hedgehogs') up to 2m high and 4-5m in diameter, usually with a strong cover of Salix repens. These are believed to be due to dune building controlled by upward growth by Salix in areas suffering sand burial in the past. These are present at Pembrey Burrows and Whiteford.
- c. a transition involving damp grassland at Tywyn which runs for much of the length of the dune system along its eastern side.
- 15 SD17 Potentilla anserina Carex nigra dune slack No clear NVC sub-community

This slack type is the least common in samples and in Britain is believed to be older and less calcareous than others. Carex nigra is usually a prominent feature but only Mentha aquatica is consistently present. Other species offer few clues to more precise habitat or successional relationships.

#### SALTMARSH

16 SM18b Juncus maritimus saltmarsh
Oenanthe lachenalii sub-community

This is common at Crymlyn, Oxwich (unsampled), Whiteford and Tywyn. It represents the highest saltmarsh community in areas which are also flushed by fresh and brackish water draining from dune slacks. It grades upwards into 13-SD15c dune slack, especially at Whiteford.

17 SM24 Elymus pycnanthus saltmarsh

This was noted (but not accurately mapped in terms of full extent) at Crymlyn, Pennard (very restricted), Oxwich-Nicholaston (not recorded), Whiteford, Pembrey and Tywyn. It represents the highest saltmarsh community in areas which are reasonably dry and uninfluenced by slack water. It also contains strandline indicators.

#### SWAMP COMMUNITIES

18 S4a Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds Phragmites australis sub-community

This tall reed-bed community is present in restricted quantity at Crymlyn Burrows and is abundant at Oxwich. Grazing by ponies at Whiteford has probably excluded it as a component of the wet eastern transition from slack to wet saltmarsh.

19 S4d Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds
Atriplex hastata sub-community

19 S21b Scirpus maritimus swamp
Atriplex hastata sub-community

The sheltered strandline at Pembrey Burrows above saltmarsh is the only mapped location for a Phragmites australis - Scirpus maritimus mosaic (hence the presence of Atriplex prostratus and Elymus pycnanthus). Discharges from an adjacent sewage outfall pipe probably helps explain the thick growth in this area and the absence of these types from equivalent positions in other parts of the Pembrey Burrows marsh.

20 S12b Typha latifolia swamp
Mentha aquatica sub-community

This is rather restricted. At Whiteford it is found in a concentrated zone of flushing below a large slack on the transition to saltmarsh. At Tywyn it is found in two man-made slacks adjacent to targets, the sand having been excavated to provide a raised surface for the target zone. A reasonable aquatic flora (including *Chara* sp.) is developing in these excavated hollows.

#### SCRUB AND WOODLAND COMMUNITIES

21 SD18a Hippophae rhamnoides scrub Festuca rubra sub-community

This sub-community did not appear as an end-group in computer analysis and was obtained by selecting all quadrats containing Hippophae rhamnoides and then rejecting those belonging to the 22-SD18b set. This vegetation type represents the early stage of dune scrub invasion, most cases coming from the Pembrey Coast where this process is very frequent. Associated species suggest that 4-SD6d, 5-SD6e and 7-SD7d are the initial invaded communities. This is clear in Pembrey Coast vegetation maps.

22 SD18b Hippophae rhamnoides scrub
Urtica dioica - Arrhenatherum elatius
sub-community

In this community Hippophae rhamnoides is the major dominant. Shading and excreta from birds feeding on berries helps produce a flora characteristic of soils enriched with nitrogen and phosphorus (e.g. Urtica dioica, Galium aparine). Sambucus nigra is occasional and suggests shrub diversification is taking place in larger and older stands. The sub-community is not fully typical of the NVC because Arrhenatherum elatius is rare.

23 W1 Salix cinerea - Galium palustre woodland

This community is dominated by Betula pubescens, with reasonable quantities of Salix cinerea in places. Galium palustre and Iris pseudacorus are consistently present. All small thickets of Salix cinerea were mapped as this category and a reasonable number of quadrats were recorded for this type. However, only seven quadrats formed this clear end-group. A larger number was scattered in various slack end-groups (especially 13), suggesting that such willow scrub is recent and that it has not developed a very distinct flora. Some stands of Salix cinerea showed signs of sand burial, notably at Llangennith and Whiteford.

4 W10c Quercus robur - Pteridium aquilinum Rubus fruticosus agg. woodland
Hedera helix sub-community

This community is dominated by *Quercus robur* and has a scattered tall-shrub understorey of *Crataegus monogyna* over a floor often dominated by *Rubus fruticosus* agg. Shading is effective and there is little *Pteridium aquilinum*. This category was not an end-group in analysis and was obtained by selection of high-cover *Quercus robur* stands. Only five such stands were found, scattered in end-groups representing well-developed scrub.

25 W21a Crataegus monogyna - Hedera helix scrub Hedera helix - Urtica dioica sub-community

This is the commonest form of non-Hippophae scrub quadrat recorded in survey and shows active succession. The tall shrub or tree component rarely forms a continuous canopy and thick Rubus fruticosus agg. is the most consistent woody species present. A mix of trees and tall shrubs is present in the group in addition to Crataegus: Quercus robur, Prunus spinosa, Acer pseudoplatanus, Fraxinus excelsior, Corylus avellana, Pinus nigra. It seems a clear precursor to a variety of woodland types.

26 W22 Prunus spinosa - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub
No clear NVC sub-community

A small number of samples was dominated by Prunus spinosa but these quadrats were scattered amongst scrub end-groups (especially 25-W21a) and were found by selection. One stand on the Pembrey Coast contained dead Hippophae rhamnoides beneath the closed Prunus canopy and this provides some evidence of active succession towards non-dune scrub and woodland types. No clear NVC sub-community can be distinguished within the small quadrat total (9) separated by selection.

27 W23 Ulex europaeus - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub No clear NVC sub-community

Ulex europaeus is a fairly common scrub type at the rear of the Crymlyn and Pembrey Burrows dune systems, and upon steep cliff slopes at Nicholaston, Penmaen and Pennard. It usually contains sizeable quantities of Rubus fruticosus agg. and sometimes Pteridium aquilinum or Arrhenatherum elatius. In some locations it seems to have developed from a lower scrub cover of Rosa pimpinellifolia. Several stands in cliffed sites showed regeneration after burning, especially at Pennard. This vegetation type did not form an end-group in analysis and had to be selected from other scrub-dominated end-groups.

28 W24 Rubus fruticosus agg. - Holcus lanatus underscrub
No clear NVC sub-community

Rubus fruticosus agg. is very widespread in a variety of dune, scrub and woodland communities. In analysis it forms one heterogeneous end-group which has other shrub species patchily present (Rosa pimpinellifolia, Ulex europaeus, Crataegus monogyna). At Black Pill the community contains much Populus tremula and is dominant at the rear of the dune system.

29 W25 Pteridium aquilinum - Rubus fruticosus agg.
underscrub
No clear NVC sub-community

Bracken-invasion of dune and cliff vegetation is widespread in South Wales and Pteridium aquilinum is usually accompanied by a large cover of Rubus fruticosus agg.. A shaded community results which has woodland elements (e.g. Geranium robertianum, Glechoma hederacea, Silene dioica). Other shrub species are few (Ulex europaeus is rare) and Acer pseudoplatanus is the only (infrequent) tree to be recorded. Seral progression beyond this community stage may not therefore be very active.

#### 30 X2 Alnus glutinosa slack woodland

This community represents the commonest woodland type found in damp habitats. It probably represents the most mature community development in slack conditions. Alnus glutinosa is the usual dominant but Salix cinerea is also present in large quantity. It probably develops from type 23-W1 woodland. There is no close affinity with other NVC alder woodland types.

Iris pseudacorus, Galium palustre and Rubus fruticosus agg. are frequent beneath the canopy, with a scatter of shade-tolerant herbs (notably Oenanthe crocata, Berula erecta, Lycopus europaeus and Carex remota).

In several locations the community is developed adjacent to saltmarsh (at Crymlyn, Oxwich and Whiteford). Young alder thickets are particularly common at Tywyn where rapid scrub succession is taking place. Old inland examples are found as scattered remnants within Pembrey Forest.

#### 31 X3 Pinus nigra/sylvestris woodland

Pembrey Forest and Pembrey Country Park are dominated by very large expanses of Pinus nigra plantation, some dating back to the 1930's. Old and thinned stands support a reasonable woodland groundflora with some shrub development (a scatter of Crataegus monogyna, Prunus spinosa or Ligustrum vulgare, occasionally Hippophae rhamnoides in well-thinned places). Several small stands are also present at Whiteford where there is some regeneration from seed. In addition there has been removal and thinning at Whiteford designed to improve shaded dune communities beneath.

This category did not form a clear end-group in analysis and had to be selected. Of seventeen samples, twelve are represented here and the remaining five are shaded slacks which were classified correctly and were thus retained in slack classes. Shading effects were, however, very clear in each case.

#### 32 X4 Acer pseudoplatanus woodland

Sycamore woodland did not form a classification end-group but five quadrats could be selected. The vegetation type is found at Whiteford on sand blown on to a hillslope at the south of the survey area, and it is present in small quantity at the Pembrey Coast. Young stands are developing between Port-Eynon and Horton. The community is rather species-poor and lacks much ecological interest.

#### ANNEX 4

# QUADRAT MEMBERSHIP OF VEGETATION TYPES

Quadrat membership of vegetation types at these sites is listed below. Some quadrats appear in more than one vegetation type. These are transitional samples identified in classification and placed in more than one end group of the three main TWINSPAN hierarchies.

Only mapping unit numbers (plus variant type) are listed against quadrats. For full NVC nomenclature consult Annex 3 and the vegetation legend in the rear map pocket.

The floristic characteristics of each vegetation type are given in Annex 5. Descriptions of each vegetation type, plus notable characteristics of these sites, are given in Annex 3.

# TYWYN

0	VT	0	VT		Q	VT	Q	VT
Q 170			3v1			3v2	173	
	4 21	175				2		3v1
	7 21		16			16	181	
182		183	1		184		185	
			17		188		189	
	4 21	191	22			7 21	193	
194		195	7			30	197	22
198			14 21			12(b)	201	
	12(b)					16	205	
206						4		12(b)
			22 28			8v2 8v3 21	213	
	13 21						217	
			16			16	221	16
	13		13			16		6v3 8v3
226				21		8v1 8v3 21	229	
230	12(a)	231	16		232	9 <b>v</b> 2 23 30	233	6v2 14
234	16	235	13			9 <b>v</b> 2	237	6 <b>v</b> 3 28
238	12(a)	239	12(b)		240	30	241	12(b)
242	12(b) 15	243	15 30		244	30	245	30
246	6v2 6v3	247	4 21		248	6v1 8v3 21	249	22 28
250	7 21	251	8v3 9v1	21	252	12(b)	253	13 21
254	8v2 8v4	255	12(b)		256	16	257	13
258	9 <b>v</b> 2 27	259	8v2 8v3		260	16	261	6v3 8v3
262	16	263	12(a)		264	15 20	265	15 20
266	20	267	7 21		268	7 21	269	4
270	4	271	7 21					

# PEMBREY BURROWS

Q	VT	Q	VT	Q	VT	Q	VТ
	9v2 28		8v4		22	275	8 <b>v</b> 4
276	9√2	277	8 <b>v</b> 4	278	8v4	279	8 <b>v</b> 4
280	8v4	281	8v4	282	8v4 9v1 14	283	9v2 27
284	27 28	285	9v2	286	13	287	9v2 21 23
288	9v1 21	289	6v3 8v4	290	16	291	16
292	8 <b>v</b> 2	293	8v1 8v4	294	8 <b>v</b> 4	295	8 <b>v</b> 2
296	27 28	297	27 28	298	27 28	299	27 28
300	24 25	301	25 27	302	9v2 26 28	303	17
304	17	305	17	306	17	307	4
308	1	309	4	310	6 <b>v</b> 1	311	2
312	2	313	2	314	7	315	6v3 8v3
316	8v1 8v3	317	22	318	8 <b>v</b> 1	319	6v2 6v3
320	22	321	22 28	322	8 <b>v</b> 1	323	1
324	17	325	6 <b>v</b> 3	326	6 <b>v</b> 3	327	17
328	14	329	17	330	6 <b>v</b> 3	331	14
332	16 19	333	16 19	334	16 19	335	16 19
336	16	337	17	338	14	339	21 22
340	21 22	341	6v3 21	342	5	343	6v1
344	6v1	345	22	346	25 26	347	9v2 26 28

# PEMBREY COUNTRY PARK AND PEMBREY FOREST

Q	VT	Q		VT		Q	VT	Q	VΤ
348	26	349	13	15		350	15	351	8v4
352	9v1	353	23	30		354	13 30		
c 0.7	05 24	600	٥.	2.1		c 0 0	02.20	620	24
	25 31	628	25	3 L		629	23 30	630	3 L
631	8v2 31	632	14	31		633	8v2 31	634	31 32
635	31	636	30			637	30	638	30
639	21	640	8v2	21	31				

# ANNEX 5

# FLORISTIC DETAILS OF VEGETATION TYPES

The following pages include the vegetation types present in the site(s). Community structure data on height and cover are provided, plus information on bare ground, pH and mean species diversity. Species are listed in order of decreasing frequency:

> V = >80% IV = >60% - 80% III = >40% - 60% II = >20% - 40%

Very infrequent species are excluded to restrict table length. Domin values are the most common (i.e. they are modal scores).

MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT		MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT		MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT		MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	·
	oredune/saltmarsh/strandline ition community	2 SD4 Elymus farctus fo	redune community	Elya	phila arenaria mobile dune community us farctus sub-community ant 2	3 SD6a Ammop	hila arenaria mobile dune community s farctus sub-community
		Tree height (m) -				Varia	nt 1
Tree height (m)	-	Shrub/bracken height (m) -		Tree height (m)	-		
Shrub/bracken height (m)	-	Herb height (cm) 25		Shrub/bracken height (m)	-	Tree height (m)	-
Herb height (cm)	20	Tree cover (%)		Herb height (cm)	30	Shrub/bracken height (m)	-
Tree cover (%)	-	Shrub cover (%) -		Tree cover (%)	<del>-</del>	Herb height (cm)	50
Shrub cover (*)	-	Herb cover (%) 20		Shrub cover (%)	-	Tree cover (%)	-
Herb cover (%)	40	Cryptogem cover (%) -		Herb cover (%)	30	Shrub cover (%)	-
Cryptogem cover (%)	-			Cryptogam cover (%)	•	Herb cover (%)	30
		Bare surface (%) 80				Cryptogam cover (%)	-
Bare surface (%)	60	pH 8.1-8.5		Bare surface (%)	70		
pH	8.3	Mean species per quadrat 5.2		Hq	7.9-8.1	Bare surface (%)	70
Mean species per quadrat	9.7			Mean species per quadrat	6.0	Hq	7.9-8.2
		FREQ	- DOMIN			Mean species per quadrat	4.6
	FREO- DOMIN	UENC	Y VALUE		FREQ- DOMIN		
	UENCY VALUE				UENCY VALUE		FREQ- DOMIN
		Elymus farctus V	5				UENCY VALUE
Elymus farctus	V 4	Salsola kali III	4	Ammophila arenaria	V 3		
Festuca rubra	V 5	Atriplex prostrata III	4	Elymus farctus	٧ 4	Elymus farctus	V 5
Agrostis stolonifera	IV 5	Cakile maritima II	1	Salsola kali	V 3	Ammoohila arenaria	V 4
Honkenya peploides	III 5	Honkenya peploides II	3	Cakile maritima	IV 2	Eryngium maritimum	III 2
Limonium binervosum	III 4	Beta vulgaris maritima II	3	Eryngium maritimum	II i	Euphorbia paralias	III 4
Plantago maritima	III 3			Euphorbia paralias	II i	Genothera erythrosepala	II 1
Ammophila arenaria	III 2			Rumex crispus	II 1	Senecio jacobaea	II 2
Eryngium maritimum	III 1			Beta vulgaris maritima	II 3		
Halimione portulacoides	III 4				r		
Plantago coronopus	III 3						
Atriplex prostrata	II 1						
Sagina procumbens	II 2			<b>1</b> (			
0.4l	TT 0						

1.10

II 2 II 2

II 3

II 3 II 3 II 1

Beta vulgaris maritima

Desmazeria marina Parapholis strigosa

Carex arenaria Salsola kali

MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT
4 SD6d Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Typical sub-community	5 SD6e Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Festuca rubra sub-community	6 SD7c Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune community Ononis repens sub-community Variant 1	6 507c Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune community Ononis repens sub-community Variant 2	6 SD7c Ammorbila arenaria - Festuca rubra · semi-fixed dune community Ononis repens sub-community Variant 3
Tree height (m)	Tree height (m)			
Shrub/bracken height (m) -	Shrub/bracken height (m) -	Tree height (m)	Tree height (m)	Tree height (m)
Herb height (cm) 70	Herb height (cm) 50	Shrub/bracken height (m) -	Shrub/bracken height (m) -	Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.6
Tree cover (1)	Tree cover (\$) -	Herb height (cm) 50	Herb height (cm) 30	Herb height (cm) 40
Shrub cover (%)	Shrub cover (*)	Tree cover (%)	Tree cover (%)	Tree cover (3)
Herb cover (%) 50	Herb cover (%) 70	Shrub cover (\$) -	Shrub cover (%)	Shrub cover (1) 10
Cryptogam cover (1) -	Cryptogam cover (%) -	Herb cover (%) 70	Herb cover (*) 90	Herb cover (%) 90
		Cryptogam cover (%) 20	Cryptogam cover (%) 10	Cryptogam cover (%) 20
Bare surface (%) 50	Bare surface (%) 30			-
pH 7.8~8.2	pH 7.8	Bare surface (%) 10	Bare surface (%) 10	Bare surface (4) 5
Mean species per quadrat 7.1	Mean species per quadrat 9.4	pH 7.6-8.1	pH 7.4-8.2	pH 6.8-8.1
,	ERFA BAUTU	Mean species per quadrat 13.8	Mean species per quadrat 12.6	Mean species per quadrat 14.0
FREG- DOMIN	FREG- DOMIN		-	
UENCY VALUE	UENCY VALUE	FREG- DOMIN	FREG- DOMIN	FREQ- DOMIN
	Ammobila arenaria V 6	UENCY VALUE	UENCY VALUE	UENCY VALUE
Ammophila arenaria V 7	The state of the s			
Senecio jacobaea III 3	1000000	Ammophila arenaria V 5	Festuca rubra V 6	Festuca rubra V 7
Hypochaeris radicata III 3	Hypochaeris radicata IV 2 Flymus farctus III 3	Festuca rubra V 6	Carex arenaria IV 3	Ammophila arenaria V 5
Eryngium maritimum III 3	22,720 120 000	Hypochaeris radicata IV 3	Ononis repens IV &	Carex arenaria IV 4
Sonchus asper III 2	VOI EX DI VINI 18	Leontodon hispidus III 3	Ammophila arenaria IV 4	Poa pratensis IV 3
Euphorbia paralias II 3	Calystegia soldanella II 3	Ononis repens III 4	Lotus corniculatus III 4	Holcus lanetus IV 3
Elymus farctus II 3	Ononis repens II 2	Eryngium maritimum III 2	Holcus lanatus III 4	Ononis repens IV 5 Furnachium paselonoum III 5
Cerastium diffusum diffusum II 3	Rubus caesius II 3	Carex arenaria III 3	Eurynchium praelongum III &	Las / Novitale practivity and
Oenothera erythrosepala II 2	Senecio jacobaea II 2	Oenothera erythrosepala III 3	Plantago lanceolata III 3	Plantago lanceolata III 3
Arenaria serpyllifolia II 3	Taraxacum sp. II 2	Rubus caesius III 3	Poe pratensis III 3	Senecio jacobaea III 2
Rubus caesius II 3	Euphorbia paralias II 2	Anthyllis vulneraria II 4	Taraxacum sp. III 3  Hypochaeris radicata II 3	Lotus corniculatus II 3 Anthyllis vulneraria II 3
		Cerastium diffusum diffusum II 2	10,000,000,000	1,101,1222 1021101 0-
		Senecio jacobaea II 3	Rubus fruticosus agg. II 5 Agrostis stolonifera II 5	Arrhenatherum elatius II 4 Dactylis glomerata II 3
		Eurynchium praelongum II 4 Phleum arenarium II 2		2200,120
		11124111 21 11111 212	· · ·	
		C 4017 1110 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Sonchus asper II 2 Anthyllis vulneraria II 3	Hypochoeris radicata II 2 Rubus caesius II 5
	•	***************************************		
		Barbula vinealis II 4		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
		14 VIIII 24 VII P/1101V110	Dactylis glomerata II 3	
		Foe pratensis II 3		
		Brachythecium albicans II 4		
		Taraxacum sp. • II 3		Hieracium pilosella agg. II 3
		Rhynchosinapis cheiranthos II 2		

MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	MAP VEGETATION UNIT
7 SD7d Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubri semi-fixed dune community Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis sub-community	dune community	8 SD8 Festuca rubra - Galium verum fixed dune community No clear NVC sub-community Variant 2	8 SD8 Festuca rubra - Galium verum fixed dune community No clear NVC sub-community Variant 3	8 SD8 Festuce rubra - Galium verum fixed dune community No clear NVC sub-community Variant 4
Tree height (m)	Tree height (m)	Tree height (m) -	Tree height (m) -	Tree height (m) -
Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.3	Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.3	Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.3	Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.4	Shrub/bracken height (m) 0.4
Herb height (cm) 20	Herb height (cm) 20	Herb height (cm) 30	Herb height (cm) 40	Herb height (cm) 30
Tree cover (t) -	Tree cover (%)	Tree cover (%) -	Tree cover (%) -	Tree cover (%)
Shrub cover (%) 5	Shrub cover (%) 10	Shrub cover (%) 10	Shrub cover (%) 10	Shrub cover (%) 20
Herb cover (%) 40	Herb cover (%) 90	Herb cover (%) 60	Herb cover (%) 80	Herb cover (%) 90
Cryptogam cover (%) 30	Cryptogam cover (%) 40	Cryptogam cover (%) 60	Cryptogam cover (%) 30	Cryptogam cover (%) 20
Bare surface (%) 30	Bare surface (%) 5	Bare surface (%)	Bare surface (%)	Bare surface (%)
pH 7.3-8.1	pH 6.8-7.6	pH 6.5-7.2	pH 6.9-7.1	pH 7.0-7.4
Hean species per quadrat 16.2	Mean species per quadrat 19.0	Mean species per quadrat 17.1	Mean species per quadrat 15.8	Mean species per quadrat 15.0
FREQ- DOMIN UENCY VALUE	FREQ- DOMIN VENCY VALUE	FREG- DON'IN UENCY VALUE	FREQ- DOMIN UENCY VALUE	FREG- DOMIN UENCY VALUE
Phleum arensrium V 3	Ammophila arenaria V 5	Festuca rubra V 6	Festuca rubra V 7	Festuca rubra V 7
Ammophila arenaria IV 5	Festuca rubra V 7	Homalothecium lutescens V 5	Ammophila arenaria V 5	Galium verum IV 4
Arenaria serpyllifolia IV 3	Hypochaeris radicata V 3	Dicranum scoparium ¥ 5	Carex arenaria IV 3	Plantago lanceolata IV 4
Cerastium diffusum diffusum IV 3	Homalothecium lutescens V 6	Carex arenaria IV 3	Holcus lanatus IV 4	Poa pratensis IV 3
Hypochoeris radicata IV 3	Ononis repens IV 4	Holcus lanatus IV 4	Homalothecium lutescens III 4	Carex arenaria IV 3
Carex acenaria IV 3	Anthyllis vulneraria IV 5	Ammophila arenaria III 3	Hypochoeris radicata III 3	Dactylis glomerata III (
Oenothera erythrosepala IV 3	Rubus caesius - IV 5	Anthoxanthum odoratum III 4	Polypodium vulgare III 3	Rosa pimpinellifolia III 5
Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis III 5	Carex arenaria III 3	Galium verum III 4	Rubus caesius III 4	Anthoxanthum odoratum III 4
Leontodon hispidus III 3	Galium verum III 5	Hypochoeris radicata II 2	Senecio jacobaea III 2	Agrostis capillaris III 4
Vulpia fasciculata III 4	Hieracium pilosella agg. III 4	Hieracium pilosella agg. II 3	Anthyllis vulneraria III 3	Sanguisorba minor III 6
Senecio jacobaea III 2	Crepis capillaris III 3	Plantago lanceolata II 3	Lotus corniculatus III 4	Holcus lanatus II 4
Sedum acre III 3	Leontodon hispidus III 2	Poe pratensis II 3	Hieracium pilosella agg. III 3	Rubus caesius II 5
Ononis repens III 4	Luzula campestris III 3	Lotus corniculatus II 4	Poa pratensis II 3	Avenula pubescens II 4
Festuca rubra II 4	Sedum acre III 2	Polypodium vulgare II 5	Galium verum II 5	Ononis repens II 3
Ceratodon purpureus II 5	Senecio jacobaea III 2	Cladonia rangiformis II 4	Hieracium vulgatum agg. II 2	Pteridium aquilinum II 5
Holcus lanatus II 4	Poa pratensis III 3 Cladonia pocillum III 3	Taraxacus sp. II 1	Hippophae rhamnoides II 5	Thymus praecox arcticus II 6
Rubus caesius II 4 Aira praecox II 3		Anthyllis vulneraria II 4	Leontodon hispidus II 2	Veronica chamaedrys II 3
Aira praecox II 3		Crepis capillaris II 3	Oenothera erythrosepala II 2	Achilles millefolium II 4
		Rosa pimpinellifolia II ( Cladonia impera II (	Plantago lanceolata II 3 Rubus fruticosus agg. II 4	Lotus corniculatus II 4
	Centaurium erythraea II 3 Cerastium fontanum triviale II 2	Cladonia impera II 4	Rubus fruticosus agg. II 4 Eurynchium praelongum II 5	Pseudoscleropodium purum II 5
	Avenula pubescens II 4	•	Taraxacum sp. II 2	Geranium sanguineum II 5
	Oenothera erythrosepala II 2	•	Arrhenatherum elatius II &	
	Phleum arenarium II 2		Cerastium fontanum triviale II 2	
	Thymus praecox arcticus II 4		Ononis repens II 4	
	Viola tricolor II 2	•	Anacamptis pyramidalis II 1	
	Peltigera canina II 3		Luzula campestris II 3	•
	Aira praecox II 3		Dicranum scoparium II 5	•
	Hieracium vulgatum agg. II 1			
	Lotus corniculatus II 4			
	Plantago lanceolata II 3			
	Polygala vulgaris II 2			
	Rhinanthus minor II 3			
	Construe alamanana II 1			

11 1

II 6

Sonchus oleraceus Brachythecium albicans

MAP VEGETATION UNIT WHIT		MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT		MAP VEGETATION Unit Unit		MAP VEGETATION		MAP VEGETATION	
		Origi Origi		outi outi		UNIT UNIT		UNIT UNIT	
dune grassl	renaria - Arrhenatherum elatius and C sub-community	dune grassl	arenaria - Arrhenatherum elatius and C sub-community	dune slack	dotriquetrum - Aneurm pinguis	dune slack <i>Carex nigr</i>	ns - Calliergon cuspidatum a sub-community (m) variegatum sub-community (b)	dune slack	ns - Calliergon cuspidatum na - Pulicaria dysenterica ty
Tree height (m)	-	Tree height (m)	0-6	Tree height (m)	•	Tree height (m)	_	*	
Shrub/bracken height (m)	0.4	Shrub/bracken height (m)	0-6	Shrub/bracken height (a)	0.3	Shrub/bracken height (m)	0.4	Tree height (m)	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
Herb height (cm)	40	Herb height (cm)	50	Herb height (cm)	20	Herb height (cm)	40	Shrub/bracken height (m) Herb height (cm)	0.6 80
Tree cover (%)	-	Tree cover (%)	0-60	Tree cover (%)	•	Tree cover (%)		Tree cover (%)	<b>8</b> 0
Shrub cover (%)	20	Shrub cover (%)	0-70	Shrub cover (%)	30	Shrub cover (%)	30	Shrub cover (%)	40
Herb cover (%)	90	Herb cover (%)	60	Herb cover (%)	80 :	Herb cover (%)	40	Herb cover (%)	80
Cryptogam cover (%)	20	Cryptogam cover (%)	10	Cryptogam cover (%)	30	Cryptogam cover (%)	70	Cryptogam cover (%)	30
Bare surface (%)	1	Bare surface (%)	1	Bare surface (%)	5	Bare surface (%)	-		
pH	5.8-6.5	pH	6.2-6.4	pH	7.7-8.2	pare surrace (*)	7.6-7.9	Bare surface (%)	-
Mean species per quadrat	16.6	Mean species per quadrat	16.1	Mean species per quadrat	26.6	Mean species per quadrat	16.8	pH Mean species per quadrat	7.6-8.3 15.6
	FREG- DOMIN			1.		Hard absorbe bet discussion		Hemi species per dubit of	13.0
	UENCY VALUE		FREQ- DOMIN UENCY VALUE		FREQ- DOMIN UENCY VALUE		FRER- DOMIN UENCY VALUE		FREQ- DOMIN UENCY VALUE
Festuca rubra	V 6	Arrhenatherum elatius	IV 5	Carex flacca	. V 6	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	V 6	Pulicaria dysenterica	IV 6
Holcus lanatus	¥ 5	Eurynchium praelongum	IV 6	Campyllium stellatum	V 4	Salix repens agg.	V 6	Holcus lanatus	IV 4
Carex arenaria	IV 3	Festuca rubra	III <b>4</b>	Agrostis stolonifer <b>a</b> .	V 6	Epipactis palustris	IV 6	Hentha aquatica	IV 4
Rubus caesius	IV 5	Rubus fruticosus agg.	III 5	Ranunculus acris	٧ 4	Equisetum variegatum	IV 6	Potentilla anserina	111 4
Arrhenatherum elatius Dactylis glomerata	III 5 III 4	Holcus lanatus	III 5	Trifolium pratense	. <b>V 3</b>	Calliergon cuspidatum	IV 8	Juncus maritimus	III 5
Ononis repens	III 3	Dactylis glomerata	III 4	Aneura pinguis	A 2	Agrostis stolonifera	III 6	Salix repens ago.	111 7
Plantago lanceolata	III 3	Carex arenaria	II 3 II 3	Festuca rubra	IV 4	Carex nigra	III 5	Rubus caesius	III 5
Poa pratensis	III 3	Heracleum sphondylium Plantago lanceolata	11 3 11 3	Prunella vulgaris	· IV 4	Holcus lanatus	III 3	Equisetum arvense	III 3
Centaurea nigra	III 3	Rubus caesius	II 6	Salix repens agg.	IV 5	Juncus maritimus	III 5	Eupatorium cannabinus	III 5
Galium verum	III 3	Ammophila arenaria	II 6	Equisetum variegatum Holcus lanatus	IV 4 IV 4	Mentha aquatica	III 4	Festuca rubra	III 5
Heracleum sphondylium	111 3	Rumex acetosa	II 3	Bryum pseudotriquetrum	IV 3	Potentilla anserina	III 4	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	III 5
Lophoclea bidentata	III 3	Senecio jacobaea	II 3	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	III 2	Galium palustre	III 3	Agrostis stolonifera	II 4
Oenothera erythrosepala	II 2	Populus tremula	II 6	Hypochoeris radicata	III 2	Iris pseudacorus Oenanthe lachenalii	III 3 III 3	Carex nigra	II 6
Senecio jacobae <b>a</b>	II 2	Ulex europaeus	II 7	Juncus articulatus	111 3	Ranunculus acris	III 3	Filipendula ulmaria	II 5 II 9
Eurynchium praelongum	II 5	Centaurca nigra	II 4	Lotus corniculatus	111 6	Dectylorhiza majalis	III 2	Calliergon cuspidatum	II 9 II 4
Rumex acetosa	II 3	Hedera helix	II . 4	Mentha aquatica	III 3	Carex arenaria	II 3	Lotus uliginosus Carex flacca	II 3
Salix repens agg.	II 8	Rumex crispus	II 2	Potentilla anserina	111 3	Cerex flacca	II 3	Lychnis flos-cuculi	II 3
Pseudoscleropodium purum	II 5	Salix cinerea	II 6	Calliergon cuspidatum	III 6	Pulicaria dysenterica	II 6	Angelica sylvestris	II 2
Vicia sativa Anthyllis vulneraria	II 3 II 3	Lophoclea bidentata	11 6	Anagallis tenella	III 4	Ranunculus flammula	II 3	Cirsium palustre	11 3
Equisetum arvense	II 3	Vicia sativ <b>a</b>	II 3	Cynosurus cristatus	III 4	Salix cinerea	II 4	Oenanthe lachenalii	II 2
Hieracium vulgatum agg.	II 3			Euphrasia officinalis agg.	111 6	Carex otrubae	II 3	Plantago lanceolata	II 4
Hypochoeris radicata	II 2			Radiola linoides	III 3	Festuca arundinacea	II 3	Salix cinerea	II 4
TO POOL TO TENTOLE				Trifolium repens	III 3	Juncus acutus	II 4	Trifolium pratense	II 3
				Taraxacum sp.	III 3	Poa pratensis	II 3		
				Blackstonia perfoliata	II 3 II 3	Rubus fruticosus agg.	11 4		
				Carex arenaria Carex distans	II 3	Trifolium pratense	11 4		
				Epipactis palustris	II 4				
			,	Glaux maritima	11 4				
				Lotus uliginosus	II 6				
				Pulicaria dysenterica	11 3				
				Ranunculus flammula	II 6	•			ω
				Dactylorhiza majalis	II 2				4
	**	and the second s	S 11.5						

MAP VEGETATIO UNIT UNIT	ON			MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT			MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT	•		MAP VI	EGETATION UNIT			MAP UNIT	VEGETATION UNIT				
14 SD16a/t	b Salix repen dune slack				a anserina - C NVC sub-commun	arex nigra dune slack ity		ritimus saltma lachenalii s⊯b		17		s pycnanthus sa	ltmarsh	18		vragmites au vragmites au			and reed-beds maunity
	Ononis repe Rubus caesi	us sub-comm	mîty (b)	Tree height (m)	-		Trec height (m)	-		Shrub/b	ight (m) racken height (m)	-		19	•••				and reed-beds
		- •	uisetum variegatum	Shrub/bracken height (m)	0-3		Shrub/bracken height (m)	-			ight (cm)	30			•	triplex hasi			ity
	sub-communi			Herb height (cm)	80		Herb height (cm)	50		Tree co		-		19		cirpus <b>ma</b> rii			
	Agrostis st	olonifera su	ub-community (d)	Tree cover (%)	-		Tree cover (%)	-			over (*)	-			A	triplex hasi	ata sı	rp-commun	ity
				Shrub cover (%)	30 90		Shrub cover (%)	-		Herb co		50			_				
Tree height (m)	•	0.4		Herb cover (%) Cryptogam cover (%)	90 30		Herb cover (%) Cryptogem cover (%)	80 30		cryptog	am cover (%)	10		20		ypha latifo. entha aquat			<b>t</b> u
Shrub/bracken 1 Herb height (c		U.4 40		tryptogam cover (*)	30		Cryptogam cover (4)	30		Dana nu	rface (%)	40			n	entha aquat.	ica sui	D~COMMUNIT	.,
Tree cover (%)		-		Bare surface (%)	<b>.</b> .		Bare surface (%)	- 10		pH Hq	11805 (4)	7.7-8.2				\$41		id \$21b	\$12b
Shrub cover (4)		40		pH pH	6.8-7.9		pHi	7.8-8.3			ecies per quadrat	9.2		Tona I	height (m)	-			-
Herb cover (%)	,	80		Mean species per quadrat			Mean species per quadrat	12.3		1641 39	coles per quou de	7. <b>L</b>			/bracken height	(a) -			-
Cryptogam cover	r (1)	25		indi species per quante	****		tional photocop has done as	12.0				FREO-	DOMEN		height (cm)	20	Ω 2	00 100	40-100
CI / PLOSEE COTO					FREQ	- DOMIN		FREQ-	DOMIN		•		VALUE		cover (%)	-			-
Bare surface (	<b>1</b> )	1			UENC	Y VALUE		UENCY	VALUE						cover (%)	-			-
pH	•	7.5-7.9								Elymus	pycnanthus	17	5		cover (%)	10	0 1	00 100	20-40
Mean species p	er quadrat	17.0		Mentha aquatica	٧	5	Oenanthe lachenalii	γ.	3	Festuca	rubra	IV	6		ogam cover (%)	-			80
				Carex nigra	111	4	Agrostis stolonifera	٧	6	Agrosti	s stolonifera	IV	6	• ,,,					
		FREQ-	- DOMIN	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	III	6	Juncus maritimus	III	4	Plantag	o cononopus	11	4	Bare	surface (%)	-			•
		UENC	/ VALUE	Pulicaria dysenterica	III	` 5	Juncus gerardi	III	5	Carex e	xtens <b>a</b>	II	3	pH			•		-
				Iris pseudacorus	III	4	Glaux maritima	III	5	Limoniu	m binervosum	11	4	Hean	species per que	drat 2.	7 2	.5 3.0	11.3
Holcus lanatus	;	IV	4	Equisetum arvense	III	3	Festuca rubra	111	6	Atriple	x prostrata	11	4						
Festuca rubra		IV	6	Filipendula ulmaria	III	5	Potentilla anserina	III	5	_	renaria	II	2				DOP	IIN VALUES	š .
Lotus cornicul		IV	5	Holcus lanatus	III	4	Juncus acutus	II	5		ium erythraea	II	3						
Agrostis stolo		IV	5	Potentilla anserina	111	4	Carex distans	. II	3		eris radicata	II	3		mites australi	s 10	, 1	.0 -	-
Carex arenaria		IV	3	Salix repens agg.	III	6	Carex otrubae	II	4		on hispidus	11	3	-, -	rum salicaria				-
Salix repens a	99.	IV	7	Juncus maritimus	II	5	Plantago maritima	II	3		orniculatus	11	4	Rubus	s fruticosus ao	g. (	•		-
Carex flacca	·	III	4	Lythrum salicaria	II II	•	Carex extensa	II II	3 2	Plantag	o maritima	II	2		44.4			- 8	
Equisetum vari Pom pratensis	egatum	III	4	Calliergon cuspidatum Agrostis stolonifera	11	,	Rumex crispus Samolus valerandi	II	3						ous maritimus			4 4	•
Trifolium prat	ARCA	II	· 1	Eupatorium cannabinum	II	5	Scirpus maritimus	II	ა 5						plex prostrata			8 8	-
Plantago lance		II	ì	Lotus uliginosus	II	ĭ	Eleocharis palustris	II	4						us pycnanthus us maritimus		_	- 6	_
Epipactis palu		II	3	Salix cinerea	11	ì	Hydrocotyle vulgaris	II	ì					Junci	us maritimus			•	
Euphrasia offi		11	3	Oenanthe lachenalii	II	2	Mentha aquatica	II	3					Tunh	a latifolia		-		5
Hypochoeris ra		II	3	Rubus caesius	II	3	Phragmites australis	II	i i						ha aquatica		-		i
Ononis repens		II	4	Rubus fruticosus agg.	11	5	Drepanocladus aduncus	11	6						a sp.	٠.	-		9
Taraxacum sp.		II	3	Angelica sylvestris	11	2	Plantago coronopus	II	5						x nigra		-		3 -
Blackstonia pe	rfoliata	11	i	Arrhenatherum elatius	11	4	Triglochin maritima	11	2						charis palustri	s	-		3
Mentha aquatic	a	II	3.	Eleocharis palustris	II	4									um palustre		-		3
Phragmites aus	tralis	II	3	Lychnis flos-cuculi	11	3	i,								ocotyle vulgar	s	-		3
Prunella vulga	ris	11	4	Juncus subnodulosus	II	5	2.5								us articulatus		-		3
Juncus maritim	us	II	4											Ranu	nculus flammuli	,	-		3
Potentilla ans	erin <b>a</b>	II	6											Sali	x repens agg.		-		4
Radiola linoid	-	II	3			,								Scir	pus lacustris	abernaem.	-		4
Rhinanthus min	ior	11	3											Dres	anocladus adun	cus	-		6
Rubus caesius		II	4			,													
Calliergon cus	pidatum	II	6																

MAP VEGETATION			MAP VEGETATION			MAP VEGETATION			MAP VEGETATION			MAP VEGETATION		
UNIT UNIT			UNIT UNIT			UNIT UNIT			UNIT UNIT			UNIT UNIT		
	rhamnoides scri ubra sub-commun:		22 SD18b Hippophae Urtica dio sub-commun	ica - Arrhena	rub therum elatius	23 W1 Salix cinere	a - Galium pa	lustre woodland		r - Pteridium cosus agg. wood sub-communit	iland	25 W21 Crataegus mo Hedera helix		a helix scrub ca sub-community
			<b>\_</b> \.			Tree height (m)	4-8					Tree height (m)	0-4	
Tree height (m)	-		Tree height (m)	-		Shrub/bracken height (m)	0-6		Tree height (m)	2-14		Shrub/bracken height (m)	1-5	
Shrub/bracken height (m)	0.4-2		Shrub/bracken height (m)	2-6		Herb height (cm)	20-150		Shrub/bracken height (m)	0-2		Herb height (cm)	20-100	
Herb height (cm)	40		Herb height (cm)	40		Tree cover (%)	30-80		Herb height (cm)	30		Tree cover (%)	0~80	
Tree cover (%)	-		Tree cover (%)	-		Shrub cover (%)	0-80		Tree cover (%)	60-100		Shruib cover (%)	30-100	
Shrub cover (%)	40		Shrub cover (%)	80		Herb cover (%)	30		Shrub cover (%)	0-100		Herb cover (%)	60	
Herb cover (%)	60		Herb cover (%)	60		Cryptogam cover (%)	40		Herb cover (%)	30-100		Cryptogam cover (%)	10	
Cryptogam cover (%)	20		Cryptogam cover (%)	20					Cryptogam cover (%)	0-30				
						Bare surface (%)	-					Bare surface (%)	-	
Bare surface (%)	10		Bare surface (%)	10		płi	6.7		Bare surface (%)	-		pH	6.1-7.2	
Hq	7.4-7.8		pH	6.6-7.5		Mean species per quadrat	10.3		pH ·	5.9		Mean species per quadrat	13.3	
Mean species per quadrat	14.4		Mean species per quadrat	9.7					Mean species per quadrat	14.4				
								DOMIN						DOMIN
	FREO- D				DOMIN		UENCY	VALUE			DOMIN		UENCY	VALUE
	UENCY V			UENCY	VALUE					UENCY	VALUE		•	
Hippophae rhamnoides	•	5				Betula pubescens	٧	6				Crataegus monogyna	IA	5
Ammophila arenaria		5	Hippophae rhamnoides	٧	8	Galium palustre	٧	5	Quercus robur	٧	9	Geranium robertianum	IV	3
Carex arenaria		3	6alium aparine	٧	4	Iris pseudacorus	Ą	4	Crataegus monogyna	٧	4	Hedera helix	IV	6
Festuca rubra	III	6	Eurynchium praelongum	IV	5	Agrostis stolonifera	IA		Hedera helix	IA	6	Rubus fruticosus agg.	14	7
Holcus lanatus	Ш	5	Rubus fruticosus agg.	IA	5	Ophioglossum vulgatum	IA	3	Galium aparine	III	4	Urtica dioica	111	4
Rubus caesius	111	6	Urtica dioica	IV	6	Phragmites australis	IA	6	Geranium robertianum	III	3	Quercus robur	III	4
Hypochoeris radicata		3	Brachythecium rutabulum	III	5	Rubus fruticosus agg.	IA	2	Rubus fruticosus mgg.	III	7	Silene dioica	11	3
Senecio jacobaea		3	Sambucus nigra	III	5	Salix cinerea	ΙŅ	5	Arrhenatherum elatius	11	6	Fraxinus excelsior	· II	4
Rubus fruticosus agg.	II	4	Solanum dulcamara	111	4	Calliergon cuspidatum	IÝ	5	Brachypodium sylvaticum	II	4	Prunus spinosa	II	4
Cerastium diffusum diffusum		3	Holcus lanatus	11	3	Juncus ettusus	III	4	Fraxinus excelsior	II	4	Phyllitis scolopendrium	11	3
Oenothera erythrosepala		3	Polypodium vulgare	11	3	Solanum dulcamara	III	2	Holcus lanatus	11	5	Rosa piapinellifolia	II	3
Agrostis stolonifera	II	4	Evernia prunastri	II	2	Epilobium palustre	II .	3	Polypodium vulgare	II	3	Solanum dulcamara	II	6
Arenaria serpyllifolia	II	3				Equisetum sylvaticum	11	3	Tamus communis	II	2	Tamus communis	II	3
Leontodon hispidus	II	3				Eriophorum angustifolium	II	2	Urtica dioica	II	6	Acer pseudoplatanus	II	3
Lotus corniculatus	II	4				Hydrocotyle vulgaris	11	3				Brachypodium sylvaticum	II	4
						Salix repens agg.	11	6				Epilobium montanum	11	2
												6alium aparine	II	4

MAP VEGETATION MAP VEGETATION MAP VEGETATION UNIT UNIT UNIT UNIT UNIT UNIT W22 Prunus spinosa - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub W23 Ulex europaeus - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub W24 Rubus fruticosus agg. - Holcus lanatus No clear NVC sub-community No clear NVC sub-community underscrub No clear NVC sub-community Tree height (m) Tree height (m) Shrub/bracken height (m) 2-5 Shrub/bracken height (a) 1-3 Herb height (cm) 30 Herb height (cm) 20-100 Tree height (m) Tree cover (%) Tree cover (%) Shrub/bracken height (m) 1-3 Shrub cover (%) 60-100 Shrub cover (%) 40-90 Herb height (cm) 30 Herb cover (%) 5-80 Herb cover (%) 40-80 Tree cover (%) Cryptogam cover (%) 10-40 Cryptogam cover (%) 0-10 Shrub cover (%) 60 Herb cover (%) 60 Bare surface (%) Cryptogam cover (%) Bare surface (%) 10 7.4 5.9-6.8 12.6 Mean species per quadrat 12.6 Mean species per quadrat Bare surface (%) 6.3-6.9 FREQ- DOMIN FREQ- DOMIN Mean species per quadrat 12.1 UENCY VALUE UENCY VALUE FREQ- DOMIN Prunus spinosa Ulex europaeus UENCY VALUE Eurynchium praelongum I۷ Holcus lanatus IV Urtica dioica I۷ Rubus fruticosus agg. IV Rubus fruticosus I٧ Crataegus monogyna Ш 5 Arrhenatherum elatius Ш Arrhenatherum elatius IV Dactylis alomerata Ш 3 Festuca rubra Ш Festuca rubra I۷ Rosa pimpinellifolia Ш 5 Dactylis glomerata Ш Holcus lanatus Ш Rubus fruticosus agg. Ш Galium aparine 11 Eurynchium praelongum Ш Festuca rubra Π Pteridium aquilinum 11 Solanum dulcamara Ш 3 Geranium robertianum H Rosa pimpinellifolia Dactylis glomerata Ш 3 61echoma hederacea Ħ iubus caesius II Galium aparine Ш Hedera helix П Urtica dioica п Rosa pimpinellifolia Ш Quercus robur H Agrostis stolonifera П Ulex europaeus III Sambucus nigra II Carex arenaria II Carex arenaria II Silene dioica П 3 Poa pratensis Crataegus monogyna II Arrhenatherum elatius II 2 Solanum dulcamara II Agrostis stolonifera II Athyrium filix-femina Eurynchium praelongum II Populus tremula II Brachypodium sylvaticum Urtica dioica Agrostis capillaris H 11 Carex arenaria Π Anthoxanthum odoratum II 3 Hedera helix H Dryopteris filix-mas Η Crataegus monogyna II 5 Rumex crispus II Epilobium montanum 2 Plantago lanceolata II 3 Sonchus asper 11 2 Fraxinus excelsion II

6alium verum

Phyllitis scolopendrium

Plantago lanceolata

Pteridium aquilinum Rubus caesius

Senecio jacobaea

Stachys sylvatica

Tamus communis

11

11

11

II

11 2

II 3

II

UNIT	UNIT				
31	Х6	Pinus ni	gra/sylve	stris	woodland
Tree h	eight (m)		10-18		
Shrub/l	bracken h	eight (m)	1-4		
Herb h	eight (cm	)	30		
Tree c	over (%)		40-80		
Shrub	cover (%)		5-100	)	
Herb o	over (%)		10-30		
Crypto	gam cover	(\$)	-		
•	(9)				
	urface (%	J		, ,	
pH M	,		5.6-6	0.8	
nean s	pecies pe	r quadrat	12.0		
				FREO_	DOMIN
				NENCA	
				OLIVO	THEOL
Pinus	nigra/syl	vestris		٧	7
Cratae	gus monos	iyna		IA	4
Dryopt	eris fili	X-885		IV	á
6erani	um robert	ianum		IV	Á
Rubus	caesius			III	4
Rubus	fruticosu	is agg.		Ш	7
Epilob	ium angus	tifolium		11	3
Rosa p	impinelli	folia		11	3
Solanu	m dulcama	ira		II	4
Hedera	helix	`		II	9
Phylli	tis scole	pendrium		II	4
Silene	dioica			П	3
Urtica	dioica			II	5
Prunus	spinosa			11	1

MAP VEGETATION

UNIT UNIT		
30 X5 Alnus gl	utinosa slack	woodland
Tree height (m)	2-12	
Shrub/bracken height (m)	1-3	
Herb height (cm)	30-50	•
Tree cover (%)	70-100	
Shrub cover (%)	0-40	
Herb cover (%)	50	
Cryptogam cover (%)	20	
Bare surface (%)	-	
pH	5.9-6.5	
Mean species per quadrat	11.7	
		•
		DOMIN
	UENCY	VALUE
Iris pseudacorus	IV	5
Rubus fruticosus agg.	IV	5
Galium palustre	IV	3
Alnus glutinosa	IV	9
Salix cinerea	III	7
Solanum dulcamara	III	é
Calliergon cuspidatum	111	6
Phragmites australis	11	3
Oenanthe crocata	II	6
Holcus lanatus	II	4
Lycopus europaeus	II	3
Agrostis stolonifera	II	3
Berula erecta	II	2
Carex remota	II	6
Filipendula ulmaria	11	3
Geranium robertianum	II	6

MAP VEGETATION

MAP VEGETATIO UNIT UNIT

#### 32 X7 Acer pseudoplatanus woodland

Tree height (m)	6-16
Shrub/bracken height (m)	0-6
Herb height (cm)	20-40
Tree cover (%)	60-95
Shrub cover (%)	0-50
Herb cover (%)	20-50
Cryptogam cover (%)	10
Bare surface (%)	-
nli	6.3

pH 6.3

Kean species per quadrat 12.0

	FREQ-	DOMIN
	UENCY	VALUE
Acer pseudoplatanus	٧	9
Rubus fruticosus	IV	4
Hyacinthoides nonscripta	III	3
Geranium robertianum	111	3
Hedera helix	III	6
Arum maculatum	II	1
Crataegus monogyna	II	3
Glechoma hederacea	11	4
Pteridium aquilinum	11	2
Rubus caesius	11	6
Silene dioica	11	2
Brachythecium rutabulum	11	4

#### ANNEX 6

#### TARGET NOTES

#### PEMBREY COAST

These are marked on the site map sheet(s) as TNn. Numbers 1-19 are extracted and abbreviated from Pembrey Forest Conservation Plan, together with their map references. The numbering system differs from the conservation plan. Large lengths of track and ride are recognised in the conservation plan as of interest. They are distinguished on the Pembrey Coast vegetation maps and details can be found in the conservation plan.

- 1 380044 Patches of Pyrola rotundifolia.
- 2 377041 Slack remnant beside ride with Ophioglossum vulgatum, Dactylorhiza majalis praetermissa, D. fuchsii, Listera ovata.
- 3 374040 Large slack with open water at eastern end (Baldellia ranunculoides and Chara hispida reported).
- 4 370036 Slack of great interest: Anacamptis pyramidalis, Dactylorhiza majalis praetermissa, Orchis morio, Ophrys apifera, Epipactis palustris, Spiranthes spiralis, Ophioglossum vulgatum, Botrychium lunaria, Pyrola rotundifolia, Salix triandra. All in an alder-sallow carr within SSSI boundary. The map reference is probably incorrect is it 367044 (as marked)?
- 5 378034 Single specimen of Rosa tomentosa.
- 6 377033 Single specimen of Rosa stylosa.
- 7 376028 Ophioglossum vulgatum in ditch, decreasing due to shading.
- 8 386031 Slack remnant with Pyrola minor and Dactylorhiza majalis praetermissa.
- 9 399023 Small patch of Geranium pyrenaicum.
- 10 391018 Ride junction with Pyrola minor, Dactylorhiza fuchsii, D. majalis praetermissa, Listera ovata.
- 11 383018 Small patch of Pyrola minor.
- 12 388014 Large (20m x 10m) patch of *Pyrola minor* and a few *Dactylorhiza majalis praetermissa*.

- 13 387014 Patch of Rubia peregrina.
- 14 396010 Slack remnant with Dactylorhiza majalis praetermissa.
- 15 400011 Overgrown pond with willows, damp slack and alder scrub.
- 16 401009 Anacamptis pyramidalis and Briza media in glade.
- 17 408014 Roadside edge with Verbascum virgatum.
- 18 420014 Patches of Geranium sanguineum.
- 19 417018 Large patch of Lathyrus sylvestris.
- 20 Dune front eroding to expose *Hippophae rhamnoides* suckers and roots (good nodules visible).
- 21 Ruins of old observation building.
- 22 Recent site of small fire.
- 23 Many old bomb craters with little succession evidence.
- 24 Target area adjoining swamp-slack depression (15-20) badly cut up by cannon shot.
- 25 Area cleared of *Hippophae rhamnoides* in 1985.

  Regeneration in drier turf (8-21) but good turf regrowth in wetter (8-14) sward.
- 26 Good grazing contrast either side of fence on saltmarsh dune transition. No stock grazing to west.
- 27 Recently-constructed car park (without NCC approval).
  Not on air photos approximate position marked.
- 28 Rubble dumped at end of track.
- 29 Scattered individuals of Silene conica.
- 30 Leymus arenarius tussock on dune ridge.
- 31 Trailbike tracks dissect dunes but erosion not severe. Silene conica reported in area and may be related to bike disturbance.

#### ANNEX 7

# QUADRAT DATA (COMPUTER FORMAT)

Full tabulation of all quadrat data as sample-species tables is too costly in terms of space. A reduced version of the data in NVC format for use in the VESPAN2 package is given here. A copy of this data aggregated for all sites has been supplied to the NCC Nominated Officer on floppy diskette. For readers with access to VESPAN2 it is thus possible to obtain the data and display individual quadrats in full format.

The species characteristics of vegetation types are presented in great detail in Annex 5 (apart from infrequent species), based on data from all sites. Particular characteristics of this site are emphasised under descriptions of vegetation types in Annex 3. Quadrat membership of vegetation types is listed in Annex 4. This organisation of information should satisfy most readers.

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网络一个基层 唯一有限 计工程程序 医假性 化液化学出版

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### ANNEX 8

# AREAS OF VEGETATION TYPES

The table below lists the area (in hectares) of vegetation types at this site(s). Results are based on weighing on a balance accurate to 10mg - small categories may not be fully accurate. PF= Pembrey Forest, PCP= Pembrey Country Park, PB= Pembrey Burrows (non-SSSI and SSSI sectors).

1 X1 0.96 1-973 14.54 2 SD4 1.60 3.21 9.73 14.54 3 SD6a 1.60 - 12.88 13.48 5D6d 12.05 3.85 7.69 23.59 5 SD6e 1.28 - 1.92 3.2 6 SD7c - 33.34 32.05 65.39 7 SD7d 23.08 10.26 - 33.26 8 SD8 21.45 29.44 22.44 73.33 9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12		ap NVC or nit non-NVC Unit	TYWYN SSSI	PF/PCP/non- SSSI PB	PB SSSI	TOTAL PEMBREY COAST
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3 SD6a 1.60 - 12.88 13.48 4 SD6d 12.05 3.85 7.69 23.59 5 SD6e 1.28 - 1.92 3.2 6 SD7c - 33.34 32.05 65.39 7 SD7d 23.08 10.26 - 33.26 8 SD8 21.45 29.44 22.44 73.33 9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12				e - 6 =		
SD6d   12.05   3.85   7.69   23.59   5   SD6e   1.28   -     1.92   3.2   6   SD7c   -     33.34   32.05   65.39   7   SD7d   23.08   10.26   -     33.26   8   SD8   21.45   29.44   22.44   73.33   9   SD9   0.38   1.28   1.28   2.94   10   SD12   -     -     -     -     -     -		2 SD4	1.60	3.21		
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6 SD7c - 33.34 32.05 65.39 7 SD7d 23.08 10.26 - 33.26 8 SD8 21.45 29.44 22.44 73.33 9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12	inoj	4 SD6d	12.05	3.85	7.69	23.59
7 SD7d 23.08 10.26 - 33.26 8 SD8 21.45 29.44 22.44 73.33 9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12		5 SD6e	1.28	-	1.92	3.2
8 SD8 21.45 29.44 22.44 73.33 9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12		6 SD7c	<u>-</u>		32.05	65.39
9 SD9 0.38 1.28 1.28 2.94 10 SD12		7 SD7d	23.08	10.26		33.26
10 SD12		8 SD8	21.45	29.44	22.44	73.33
11 H11 13.62 13 SD15c 13.14 1.92 - 15.06 14 SD16a/b-SD16c/d 28.78 2.31 4.49 35.58 15 SD17 0.64 1.28 - 0.92 16 SM18b 1.28* 1.28* 17 SM24 4.53* - 23.40* 27.93* 18 S4a - 0.64 - 0.64 19 S4d-S21b 8.97 8.97 20 S12b 0.64 0.64 21 SD18a 19.85 25.00 2.56 47.41 22 SD18b 9.61 42.95 5.13 57.69 23 W1 18.91 1.92 - 20.83 24 W10c - 0.51 0.51 1.02 25 W21a		9 SD9	0.38	1.28	1.28	2.94
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26  W22					-	
27 W23 - 0.64 0.96 1.60 28 W24 - 2.56 - 2.56 29 W25 30 X2 15.49 2.56 - 18.05 31 X3 - 966.67 0.38 967.05 32 X4 - 1.28 0.38 1.66  1-11 (strand/ 62.40 81.38 88.95 232.73 grassland/heath) 12-15 (slacks) 55.80 5.89 4.49 64.26  16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45 0.64 32.37 41.38 swamp) 21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland) Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28 Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01					0.96	3 52
28  W24			***			
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31 X3 - 966.67 0.38 967.05 32 X4 - 1.28 0.38 1.66  1-11 (strand/ 62.40 81.38 88.95 232.73 grassland/heath) 12-15 (slacks) 55.80 5.89 4.49 64.26  16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45 0.64 32.37 41.38 swamp) 21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland) Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28  Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01			15 49	2 56		18 05
32       X4       -       1.28       0.38       1.66         1-11 (strand/ grassland/heath)       62.40       81.38       88.95       232.73         grassland/heath)       55.80       5.89       4.49       64.26         16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45       0.64       32.37       41.38         swamp)       21-32 (scrub and 63.86       1046.65       10.88       1121.39         woodland)       Golf fairways/greens       26.92       1.28       28.20         MG1       43.59       43.59       37.18         Disturbed       1.28       1.28         Total       188.51       1242.25       139.25       1570.01			-		0.38	
1-11 (strand/ 62.40 81.38 88.95 232.73 grassland/heath) 12-15 (slacks) 55.80 5.89 4.49 64.26  16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45 0.64 32.37 41.38 swamp) 21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland) Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28  Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01			_			
grassland/heath) 12-15 (slacks) 55.80 5.89 4.49 64.26  16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45 0.64 32.37 41.38 swamp) 21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland) Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28  Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01	J	2 A=		1.20	0.50	1.00
12-15 (slacks) 55.80 5.89 4.49 64.26  16-20 (saltmarsh* and 6.45 0.64 32.37 41.38 swamp) 21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland) Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28  Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01			62.40	81.38	88.95	232.73
swamp)       21-32 (scrub and 63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39 woodland)         Golf fairways/greens       26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed         Total       188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01			55.80	5-89	4.49	64.26
21-32 (scrub and woodland)       63.86 1046.65 10.88 1121.39         Woodland)       26.92 1.28 28.20         MG1 43.59 43.59       43.59         MG2 37.18 37.18       37.18         Disturbed 1.28 1.28       1.28         Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01			6.45	0.64	32.37	41.38
Golf fairways/greens 26.92 1.28 28.20 MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28 Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01	2	1-32 (scrub and	63.86	1046.65	10.88	1121.39
MG1 43.59 43.59 MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28 Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01				26.92	1.28	28.20
MG2 37.18 37.18 Disturbed 1.28 1.28  Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01		<del>-</del> -				
Disturbed       1.28       1.28         Total       188.51       1242.25       139.25       1570.01						
Total 188.51 1242.25 139.25 1570.01					1.28	
	,	<del></del>				
				1242.25	139.25	1570.01

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William Control

#### ANNEX 9

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36 GF

 $(x,y) = \mathcal{Y}(x,y) + (x,y)$ 

6, 1,646 268 423

74. 60 233

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40 17 60 17

# YAVAU MARPING AND VEGETATION UNITS FOR 1989 SQUIH WALES DUNE SURVEY

# STRAND, DUNE AND TRANSFITIONS

a	b		
1		Dry foredune/saltmarsh/strandline transition community	
2	SD4	Elymus farctus foredune community	
		A CONTRACTOR OF A CONTRACT OF	
3		Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community  Elymus farctus sub-community	g ·
4	SD6d	Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Typical sub-community	t. Ir
5	<b>့သည်6e</b> ု ၁	Ammophila arenaria mobile dune community Festuca rubra sub-community	
6	SD7c	Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune communi Ononis repens sub-community	ty
7	SD7đ	Ammophila arenaria - Festuca rubra semi-fixed dune communi Tortula ruralis ssp. ruraliformis sub-community	ty
8	SD8	Festuca rubra - Galium verum fixed dune community No clear NVC sub-community	ς <u>ξ</u>
9	SD9	Ammophila arenaria - Arrhenatherum elatius dune grassland No clear NVC sub-community	€.
10	SD12	Carex arenaria - Festuca ovina - Agrostis capillaris grass No clear NVC sub-community	land
11	H11	Calluna vulgaris - Carex arenaria heath	

a = mapping unit b = vegetation unit X = Major non-NVC category or transitional type

# MATPING AND VEGETATION UNITS FOR 1989 SOUTH WALES DUNE SURVEY

# SLACK, SALTMARSH AND SWAMP

_	1.	SLACK, SALITARSH AND SWAMP		
a	b		t:	§
12	SD14c	Salix repens - Campylium stellatum dune slack Bryum pseudotriquetrum - Aneura pinguis sub-comm	unity	
12	SD15a/b	Salix repens - Calliergon cuspidatum dune slack Carex nigra sub-community (a) Equisetum variegatum sub-community (b)	.3	
13	SD15c	Salix repens - Calliergon cuspidatum dune slack Carex flacca - Pulicaria dysenterica sub-communi	ty	
14	SD16a/b	Salix repens - Holcus lanatus dune slack Ononis repens sub-community (a) Rubus caesius sub-community (b)	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
14	SD16c/d	Salix repens - Holcus lanatus dune slack Prunella vulgaris - Equisetum variegatum sub-com Agrostis stolonifera sub-community (d)	munity	(c)
15	<b>SD17</b> SALUTE LEVO É	Potentilla anserina - Carex nigra dune slack No clear NVC sub-community	is d	7
<b>16</b>	<b>SM18b</b>	Juncus maritimus saltmarsh Oenanthe lachenalii sub-community	- 	74
17	SM24	Elymus pycnanthus saltmarsh		
18	<b>S4a</b>	Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds Phragmites australis sub-community		÷
19	S4d	Phragmites australis swamp and reed-beds Atriplex hastata sub-community		
19	S21b	Scirpus maritimus swamp Atriplex hastata sub-community		
20	S12b	<i>Typha latifolia</i> swamp <i>Mentha aquatica</i> sub-community	;	

a = mapping unit b = vegetation unit
X = Non-NVC category or transitional type

## MAPPING AND VEGETATION UNITS FOR 1989 SOUTH WALES TAKE SURVEY

# WOODLAND AND SCRUB

2	В	
21	SD18a	Hippophae rhamnoides scrub Festuca rubra sub-community
22	SD18b	Hippophae rhamnoides scrub Urtica dioica - Arrhenatherum elatius sub-community
23	W1	Salix cinerea - Galium palustre woodland
24	W10c	Quercus robur - Pteridium aquilinum - Rubus fruticosus agg. woodland Redera helix sub-community
25	W21.	Crataegus monogyna - Hedera helix scrub Hedera helix - Urtica dioica sub-community
26	W22	Prumus spinosa - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub No clear NVC sub-community
27	W23	Ulex europaeus - Rubus fruticosus agg. scrub No clear NVC sub-community
28	W24	Rubus fruticosus agg Holcus lanatus underscrub No clear NVC sub-community
29	W25	Pteridium aquilinum - Rubus fruticosus agg. underscrub No clear NVC sub-community
30	X2	Alnus glutinosa slack woodland
31	Х3	Pinus nigra/sylvestris woodland
32	X4	Acer pseudoplatanus woodland

a = mapping unit b = vegetation unit
X = Non-NVC category or transitional type

