

# BAGLAN BAY

Reference No: NPTSINC006

Ward: Baglan

Grid ref at centre: SS7220991784

Area (ha): 248.49

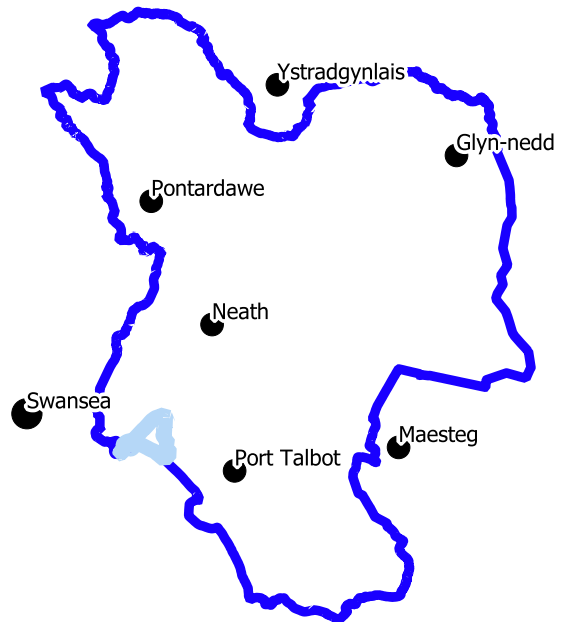
Reason for selection:

H15:2 Coastal sand dune

H18:1 Coastal saltmarsh

S2 Birds

S6 Vascular plants



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**SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION**

# BAGLAN BAY

## Site Description:

Baglan Bay is a large expanse of mobile dune system and saltmarsh adjacent to heavily contaminated post-industrial land which is subject to remediation and regeneration. Baglan Bay is thought to be the location of the first recorded *Matthiola sinuata* (Sea Stock) plant, back in 1773. The system is located on the southern side of the Neath estuary near Briton Ferry, Baglan and Sandfields. Crymlyn Burrows SSSI and SINC are on the opposite side of the estuary, and are essentially part of the same system due to the likely movement of sand between them. Baglan Bay is the only mobile dune system remaining in Neath Port Talbot, although its integrity is compromised due to persistent and continued development of the surrounding land which will prevent the dunes from rolling backwards in response to sea level rise. The site also includes an area of previously developed land managed for one of the largest populations of Lapwing in Wales. This population is considered nationally important. Part of the site is currently managed by The Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales as part of a planning agreement.

## Qualifying features

H15:2 Coastal sand dune, together with associated slacks, seepages, grassland and scrub habitat

H18:1 Coastal Saltmarsh

S2 Birds - (A) Short-eared owl

S6 Vascular plants - (PS) Sea stock

## Important species

Species recorded: Sea stock, Hedge bindweed subsp. *Roseata*, Dotted sedge, Sea-heath, Wall bedstraw, Golden samphire, Sharp rush, Prickly saltwort, Yellow bartsia, Common cudweed, Brown Hare, Sharp rush, Lapwing (not breeding), Common lizard, Skylark, Short-eared owl

## Management Recommendations

Dune system is currently being managed by the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales. The Lapwing Mitigation Site is currently being managed by St Modwens but this does not appear to be appropriate.

Last surveyed: 2018 Surveyor: WTSWW (BS) Author: RSS

To be read in conjunction with Wildlife Sites Guidance Wales (WBP 2008) and the NPT amendments. This area has been designated as a Site of Importance for Nature Conservation by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. This does not formally protect the site or place any restrictions upon the landowner. Neath Port Talbot Council's Countryside & Wildlife Team will endeavour to support and encourage activities that maintain and enhance the biodiversity interest of the land; where funding is available, funds may be provided to facilitate these activities. The information given is used to ensure that nature conservation is taken into account in planning decisions. The designation itself does not confer any rights of access to the site and places no restriction on the management of the land.