

TENNANT CANAL

Reference No: NPTSINC025

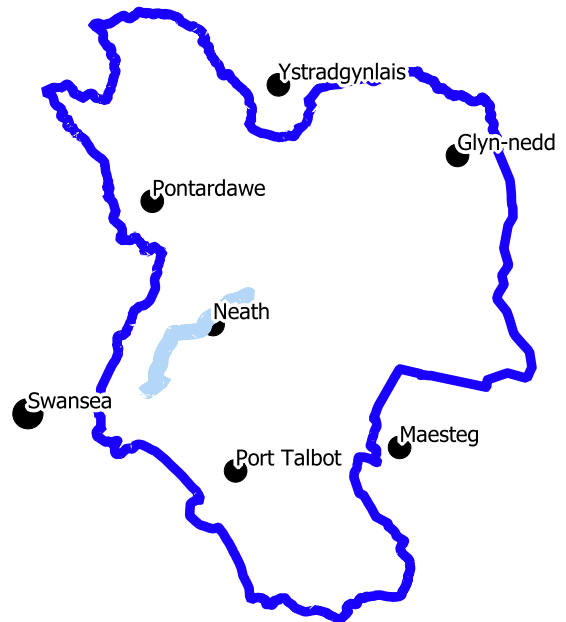
Ward: Aberdulais, Cadoxton, Bryn-coch South, Dyffryn, Coedffranc Central, Coedffranc West

Grid ref at centre: SS7402996958

Area (ha): 19.97

Reason for selection:

H13 Standing open water and canals



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

TENNANT CANAL

Site Description:

The Tennant canal supports exceptional aquatic and emergent flora along much of its length. It lies, in part, adjacent to Pant y Sais Fen and links to Crymlyn Bog. Areas of wet grassland and Carr woodland form adjacent habitat, together with brownfield and industrial sites. Bankside vegetation includes numerous Orchid species, as well as typical emergent plants such as Yellow Flag Iris and Greater Spearwort. The Fen Raft Spider is found along the canal tow path and in Pant y Sais Fen. Otters are also regularly seen on the canal's riparian zone. The SINC runs from Pant-y-Sais Fen in Jersey Marine, in the south west of the county over to Tonna, to the east of Neath. Part of the canal runs alongside Pant-y-Sais Fen SSSI and NNR, the Wildlife Trust's Red Jacket Fen (NPTSINC083) and links to Crymlyn Bog SAC and Ramsar. Part of the Canal itself is included within the Crymlyn Bog SAC. The Tennant Canal Society undertake much of the vegetation management along the canal.

Qualifying features

H13 Standing open water and canals

Important species

Species recorded: Grass snake, Common lizard, Fen raft spider, Otter, Kingfisher, Water shrew, Variable damselfly, Emperor dragonfly, Golden-ringed dragonfly, Broad-bodied chaser, Ruddy darter, Hairy Dragonfly.

Habitat suitable for: Water Vole

Management Recommendations

The tow path is part of the Wales Coastal Path, therefore the authority's Rights of Way team is responsible for the upkeep of the path itself. The Tennant Canal Company undertake much of the vegetation management along the canal. As detailed above, numerous protected and priority species utilise canal and bankside vegetation for foraging, commuting and nesting. Any vegetation clearance should bear these species in mind and be carried out at appropriate times of the year (winter); a licence will be needed for works that may impact protected species.

Last surveyed: Surveyor: Author: ER

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.