

WAUN STERW

Reference No: NPTSINC030

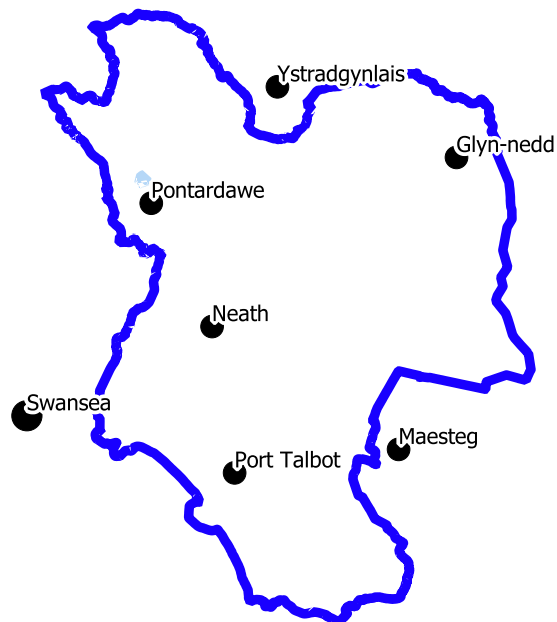
Ward: Pontardawe

Grid ref at centre: SN7175905373

Area (ha): 1.38

Reason for selection:

H9:3 Purple Moor-grass and Rush Pastures



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

WAUN STERW

Site Description:

A small parcel of land on the north-eastern periphery of Rhydyfro at 130m asl. The underlying geology in this area is the South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation. The land has impeded drainage and supports unimproved and semi-improved marshy grassland (M25a) and valley mire vegetation (M6d). Other important habitats include Wet Woodland (W1), stands of Bracken and species-rich hedgerows. Ownership is unknown and there has been minimal management in recent years, the lack of grazing resulting in the habitats being in unfavourable condition. Recorded taxa include 99 vascular plants, 29 bryophytes, 17 bird species and 6 invertebrates

Qualifying features

H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures 23/12 M25

Important species

Species recorded: Bog asphodel, Carnation sedge, Common marsh-bedstraw, Common reed, Cross-leaved heath, Deergrass, Devil's-bit scabious, Greater bird's-foot trefoil, Hemp agrimony, Lousewort, Purple moor-grass, Sharp-flowered rush, Sheep's fescue, Star sedge, Heather, Tormentil & Yellow iris, Bog groove-moss, 6 spp. of bog-moss.

Management Recommendations

The site urgently requires scrub clearance and the reinstatement of light grazing to bring marshy grassland and mire vegetation back into favourable condition.

Last surveyed: 2018 Surveyor: RSS 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.