

RHOS COMMON

Reference No: NPTSINC035

Ward: Crynant

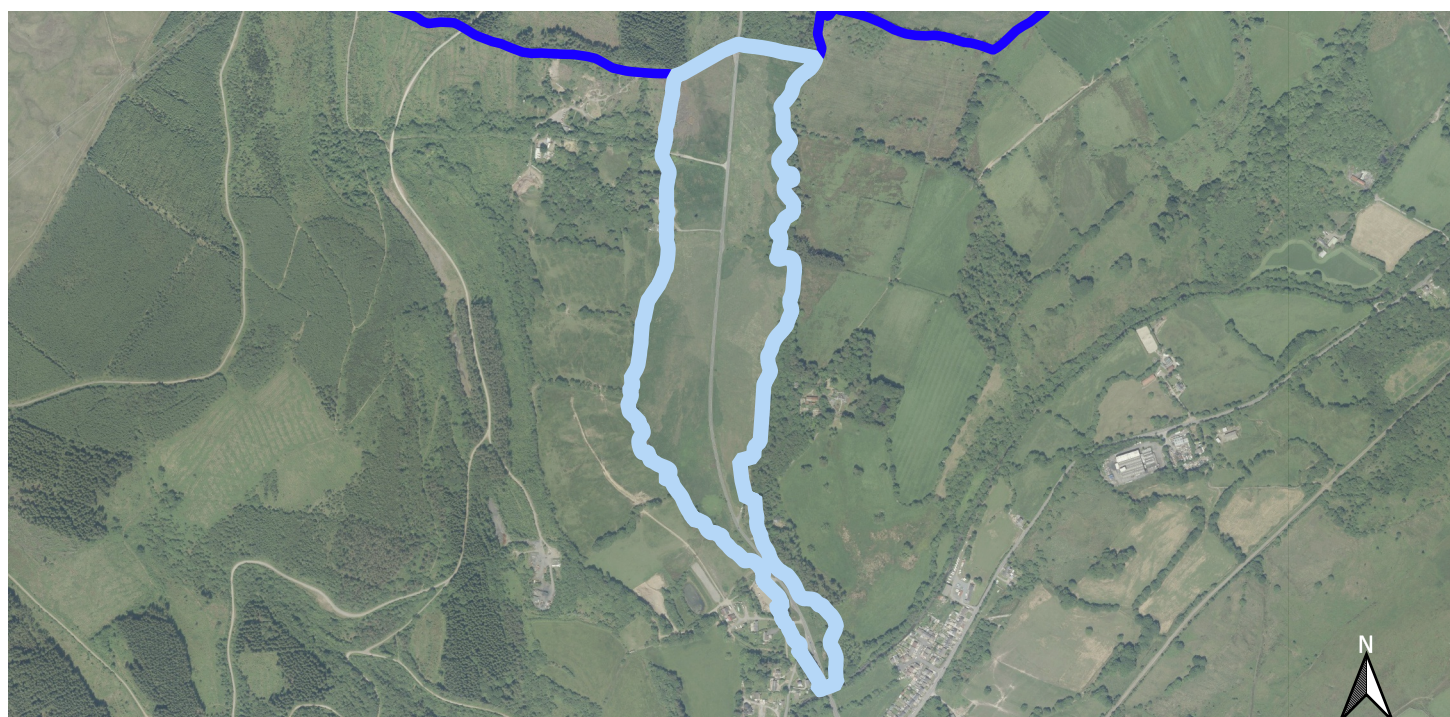
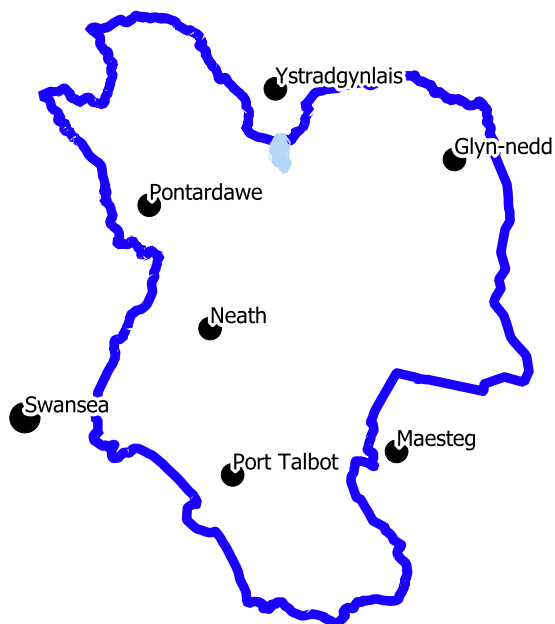
Grid ref at centre: SN7900407005

Area (ha): 26.46

Reason for selection:

H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures

S5 Invertebrates



Ordnance Survey Licence

© Crown Copyright and database right 2020. Ordnance Survey 100023392

© Hawlfraint a hawilau cronfa ddata'r Goron 2020. Rhid Trwydded yr Arolwg Ordnans 100023392

SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

RHOS COMMON

Site Description:

A relatively flat, lowland common, supporting Purple moor-grass with elements of wet heath, Cotton grass and Sphagnum. Stands of tall herbs including Meadowsweet, Common valerian and Rosebay willowherb are also present. The common extends north from the village of Crynant to the county boundary with Powys. Nant-y-Rhos SSSI, designated for its marshy grassland habitat, lies less than 200m north of the site, separated by a small block of forestry plantation. The SINC and SSSI both have Marsh fritillary populations linking with the strongholds of the Ystradgylais metapopulation. There are several graziers recorded on the common's register, several of them are interested in grazing the common. In 2019 a new invisible fence system was installed following several incidents of cattle being hit by cars, hopefully this will allow the reinstatement of grazing.

Qualifying features

H8:1 Lowland heathland - see description
H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures 19/12
S5 Invertebrates - Marsh fritillary

Important species

Species recorded: Marsh fritillary, Common lizard, Meadowsweet, Cotton grasses, Sphagnum.

Management Recommendations

Arson is a problem but this is due to the amount of plant material as a result of undergrazing. The common has not been grazed for many years due to a lack of infrastructure. Neath Port Talbot council is currently working on a project that hopes to enable the commoners to turn out stock. Cattle are the desired stock because they do not graze selectively as sheep do. There is a stand of Japanese Knotweed at the boundary next to the shoot

Last surveyed: 2019 Surveyor: LEP/MBP Author: LEP

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.