

TIROEDD COMIN CWM AMMAN UCHAF

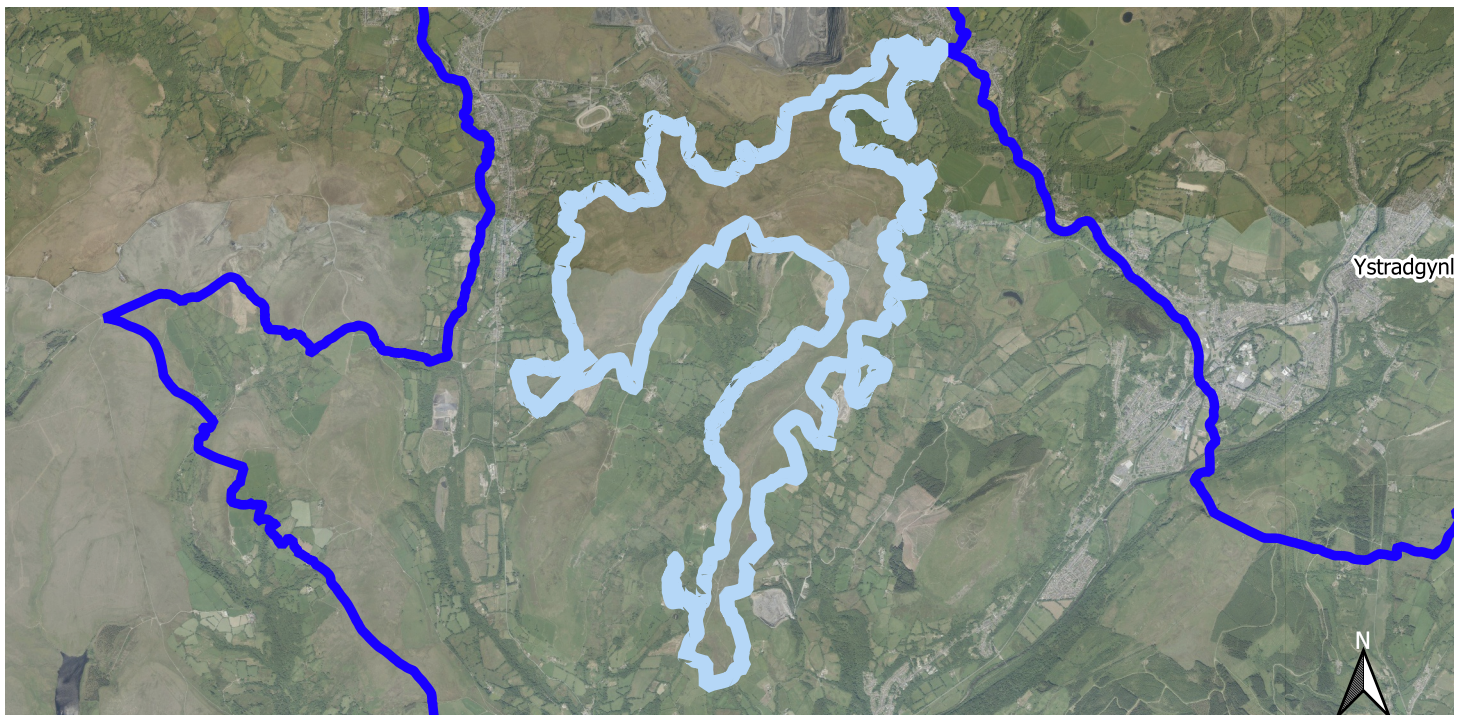
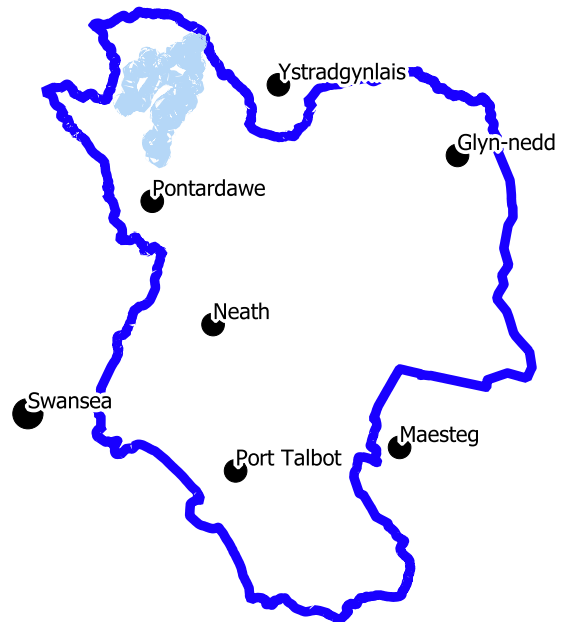
Reference No: NPTSINC063

Ward: Gwaun Cae Gurwen, Lower
Brynamman, Pontardawe, Cwmllynfell

Grid ref at centre: SN7279310080

Area (ha): 713.34

Reason for selection:
H16 Mosaic Habitats



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

TIROEDD COMIN CWM AMMAN UCHAF

Site Description:

Tiroedd Comin Cwm Amman Uchaf translates as 'Common lands of the Upper Amman Valley' as it includes several adjacent registered commons; Gwaun Cae Gurwen, Penlle'r Fedwen and Cefn Gwrhyd. The commons support typical upland habitats including Mat grass dominated acid grasslands, areas of Purple Moor grass and rush pastures, heathland, and bogs and flushes. The underlying geology is of South dipping sandstone in South Wales pennant formation (Lower Pennant Measures) with underlying mudstone of Productive Coal formation. This is an area of open upland common on a plateau which takes in the high ground between the Twrch valley and Cwm Gors. The commons of Carmarthenshire are very close by, as are the commons to the west of the SINC towards the boundary with Swansea and beyond. Mynydd y Garth (NPTSINC062) is the closest of these, only 300m to the south of the western edge.

Qualifying features

H16 Mosaic habitats - The 'block designation' of extensive areas of open countryside where semi-natural upland features predominate.

Important species

Species recorded: Skylark, Lapwing, Badger, Sphagnum spp., Bilberry, Bog asphodel, Bog pimpernel, Bogbean, Cross-leaved heath, Gorse, Hare's-tail cottongrass, Heather, Purple moor-grass, Round-leaved sundew, Whorled caraway
Habitat suitable for: Brown hare

Management Recommendations

Part of the site is designated as a SSSI (Cefn Gwrhyd) and so management there will be dictated by NRW. The site is dominated by mat grass (*Nardus stricta*) brought about by historic and/or current overgrazing. Some grazing is necessary to maintain an open habitat and to prevent succession to scrub and then woodland. Grazing at a low stocking density would allow forbs to return. The addition of heather brush can introduce seeds into barren areas. West Glamorgan Commons Association represents those with rights to graze this common.

Last surveyed: 2019 Surveyor: LEP/MBP 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.