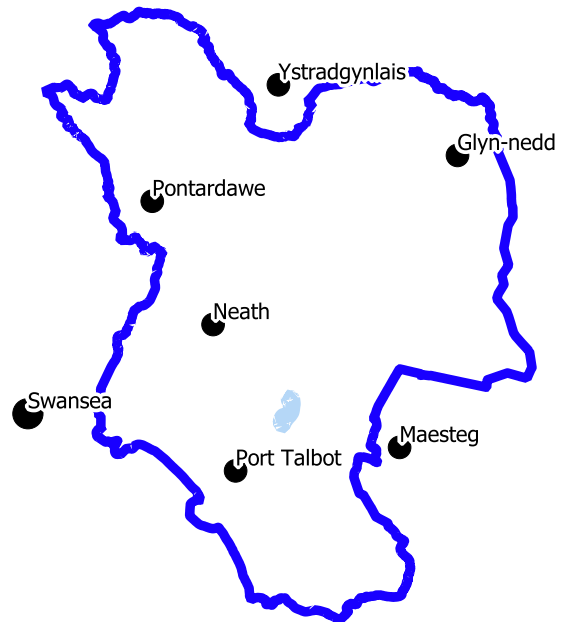


CWMAVON COAL TIPS

Reference No: NPTSINC068
Ward: Bryn and Cwmavon
Grid ref at centre: SS7925493095
Area (ha): 24.75

Reason for selection:
H1:3 Native woodland
H1:4 Scrub communities
H9:3 Purple Moor-grass and Rush
Pastures
H14:3 Open Mosaic Habitats on
Previously Developed Land
S5 Invertebrates



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

CWMAVON COAL TIPS

Site Description:

A valley site running along the eastern side of the Afan Valley, between Pontrhydyfen and Cwmavon, ranging in elevation from 40m to 80m asl. The underlying geology is that of the South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation, the valley bottom holding glaciofluvial deposits and till, though largely overlain by colliery spoil. The valley supports a mosaic of riparian woodland, scrub, secondary acid and neutral grasslands, lowland heath on spoil. Public access extends along the entire site via a series of tracks. Management is very limited. Recorded taxa include 142 vascular plants, 47 bryophytes, 9 birds, 2 lichens, 190 invertebrates 18 of which are deemed to be of conservation interest.

Qualifying features

H1:3 native woodland
H1:4 scrub communities
H5:1 Lowland meadows 22/8
H6 Calcareous 11/8
H7:1 Dry acid grassland 13/7
H8:1 lowland heathland
H9:3 PMGRP 19/12
H14:3 OMPDL a33/20 + b10, H16:2 bracken, S7 Invertebrates 18sp of conservation interest, 2 S7

Important species

Species recorded: Bell-heather, Bilberry, Carnation Sedge, Common Bird's-foot-trefoil, Common Knapweed, Common Valerian, Eyebright, Goldenrod, Greater Bird's-foot-trefoil, Heather, Marsh Ragwort, Meadow Vetchling, Sharp-flowered Rush, Sneezewort, Marsh-orchids, Spreading Meadow-grass, Square-stalked St John's-wort, Zig-zag Clover, Small pearl-bordered fritillary, Dingy skipper, the millipede *Ceratosphys amoena* form *confusa* (new to Britain 2014), the ground bug *Drymus pumilio*, the millipede *Turdulisoma cf turdulorum* (new to science 2017)

Management Recommendations

Scrub encroachment and natural succession are the major threats on coal spoil. Targeted removal of scrub (control not eradicate) and cutting/bruising of bracken where it is dense and problematic. Aim to maintain a mix of habitats. Some done in early 2019.

Last surveyed: 2018 Surveyor: CSBI Author: LP

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.