

SCHOOL ROAD, CRYNANT

Reference No: NPTSINC070

Ward: Crynant

Grid ref at centre: SN7955905404

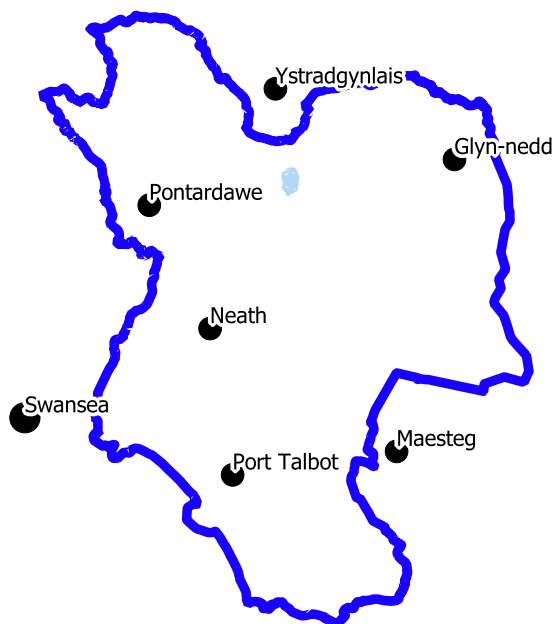
Area (ha): 6.4

Reason for selection:

H5:1 Lowland meadows

H7:1 Lowland dry acid grassland

H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

SCHOOL ROAD, CRYNANT

Site Description:

Contiguous site of marshy grassland, acid grassland, small areas of wet heath, streams, willow carr and scrub. The site is bordered to the east by a railway line and the west by residential housing. The site has the potential to support Marsh Fritillary butterflies. Located in Crynant in the Dulais Valley, this site is one of a number of similar sites which are spread along the valley floor. The nearest of these is Treforgan (NPTSINC055) and Rhos Common (NPTSINC035) to the north west. The northern acid grassland fields is grazed by horses at a fairly high intensity. The lower marshy area doesn't appear to be managed at all.

Qualifying features

H5:1 Lowland meadows 11/8

H7:1 Lowland dry acid grassland 8/7

H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures 19/12

A coherent site which includes; A species-rich example of marshy grassland, Semi-improved lowland dry acid grassland which retains a relatively high diversity of indicator species, and A structurally-diverse and species-rich mixed scrub site.

Important species

Species recorded: Bilberry, Common bird's-foot trefoil, Devil's-bit scabious, Greater bird's-foot trefoil

Habitat suitable for: Marsh fritillary, reptiles

Management Recommendations

Drainage has previously been an issue here causing flooding to the adjacent properties; continued drainage will result in the loss of this habitat. Scrub encroachment is also a problem and efforts should be made to prevent further loss of habitat to scrub. Dumping of garden waste may mean that invasive non-native plants will take hold. This should be monitored and action taken as necessary.

Last surveyed: 2011 Surveyor: HYDER 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.