

COED BACH A'R CWM

Reference No: NPTSINC100

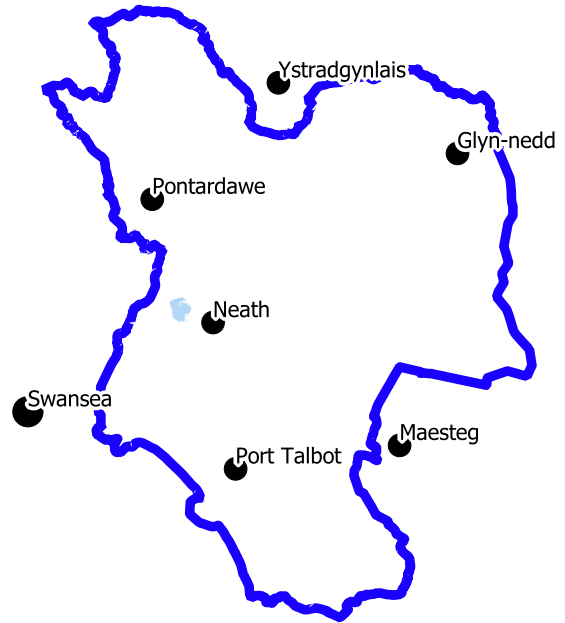
Ward: Dyffryn

Grid ref at centre: SS7369798397

Area (ha): 4.42

Reason for selection:

H1:3 Native woodland



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

COED BACH A'R CWM

Site Description:

Coed Bach a'r Cwm is native, largely W10 valley woodland, established along part of the Afon Clydach and one of its tributaries. The northern part of the site is Registered Ancient Woodland and the site (and the southern section provides an extension of similar quality habitat) is situated on the northern outskirts of Neath near Neath Abbey. Its boundaries are partially defined by housing estates, with enclosed pastures to the north. The elevation ranges between 30-50m a.s.l. and the underlying geology in this area is the South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation, exposures of which can be found along the river course. The site is well connected to Dyffryn Woods SINC059 and forms a link with the well wooded corridor of the Neath Canal SINC025. There appears to be limited management at the site. Wild Service-tree is a special feature of the site recorded taxa include 142 vascular plants, 39 bryophytes, 8 bird species and 19 invertebrates, though the site is likely to be important for this poorly sampled latter group.

Qualifying features

H1:3 Native woodland - W10 with 8 indicator species

Important species

Species recorded: Wild service tree, Fatfoot Pocket-moss, Mougeot's Yoke-moss, Sanicle, Wood Anemone, Wild Cherry, Wych Elm

Habitat suitable for: Bats, invertebrates

Management Recommendations

The site probably requires limited intervention, other than measures to prevent further spread and/or carry out eradication of invasive non-natives including Japanese Knotweed and Rhododendron. Both species are present at a relatively low level so targeted eradication, particularly in the upper section of the site would be a realistic objective. Work to identifying and safeguarding the locations of any Wild service-trees should be undertaken. The site is ideally situated for Community Projects.

Last surveyed: 2011 Surveyor: BS Author: BS

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.