

RHEOLA LOWLAND GRASSLAND

Reference No: NPTSINC122

Ward: Resolven

Grid ref at centre: SN8374403550

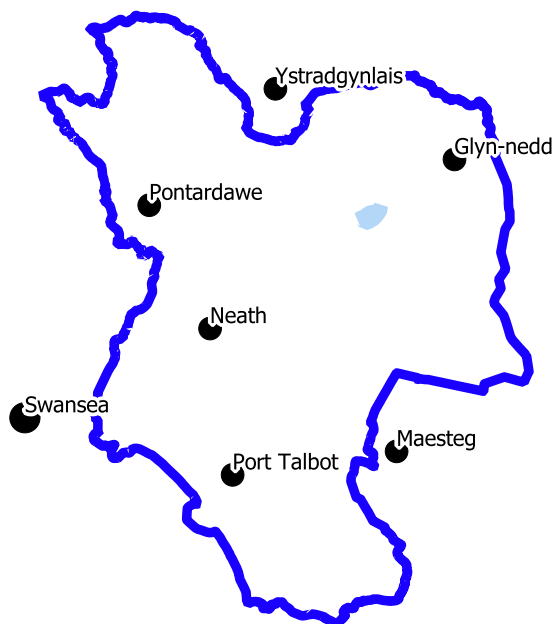
Area (ha): 26.2

Reason for selection:

H1:3 Native woodland

H5:1 Lowland meadows

H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures



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SITE OF IMPORTANCE FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

RHEOLA LOWLAND GRASSLAND

Site Description:

A large, species-rich meadow near to Resolven, adjacent to the A465, with an ecological gradient from dry, semi-improved neutral grassland through to swamp and wet woodland. There are significant populations of Great burnet and Marsh ragwort. The site is bounded on its west border, and separated from the River Neath, by an area of wet Alder/Willow woodland. A swampy area in this vicinity has Marsh cinquefoil and Branched bur-reed.

Qualifying features

H1:3 Native woodland - wet woodland
H5:1 Lowland meadows 9/8
H9:3 Purple moor-grass and rush pastures 27/12

Important species

Species recorded: Great burnet, Marsh cinquefoil, Meadowsweet, Angelica, Water-purslane, Gipsywort, Branched bur-reed, Southern marsh-orchid
Habitat suitable for: Bats, Herps, Lesser-spotted Woodpecker, Marsh Tit, Song Thrush, Mistle Thrush, Spotted Flycatcher, Grey Wagtail, Lesser Redpoll

Management Recommendations

Grazing appears to have ceased on the site in 2016. A regime of periodic grazing/cutting will be required to maintain the site in reasonable condition.

Last surveyed: 2016 Surveyor: MRH/CH Author: CH

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.