

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

MAWNOG GWAUNYNOG

Date of notification: 1984

National grid reference: SJ 075113

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 125
1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 01

Site area: 7.1 ha

Description:

This site is an excellent example of carr woodland developed on deep peat formed in a well defined basin. There is no obvious water inflow or outflow.

Most of the site is covered by a dense cover of downy birch *Betula pubescens* and grey willow *Salix cinerea*. Mature trees are up to 10 metres high with a shrub layer of smaller individuals, together with occasional hazel *Coryllus avellana* and rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*. Alder *Alnus glutinosa* occurs sporadically around the edge of the site. Fallen timber and dead wood is abundant and this is characteristically clothed with a lichen and bryophyte carpet which is diverse in species.

The ground flora is typically dominated by either common reed *Phragmites australis* or meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, the former being the most abundant species in the wettest areas. Other plants occurring here include common valerian *Valeriana officinalis*, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris*, remote sedge *Carex remota* and broad buckler-fern *Dryopteris dilatata*.

A smaller area of drier marginal land supports a mixed woodland with sessile oak *Quercus petraea* well represented and a species-poor ground layer dominated by bracken *Pteridium aquilinum*. Also on the margins of the site small more open areas dominated by common cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium* have developed. These may be heathy and sedge-rich, with bottle sedge *Carex rostrata*, white sedge *C. curta*, star sedge *C. echinata* and carnation sedge *C. panicea* occurring frequently. Alternatively a swamp community has developed with marsh bedstraw *Galium palustre*, marsh cinquefoil *Potentilla palustris* and creeping bent *Agrostis stolonifera* in some quantity.

Remarks:

Registered as common land.

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