

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

PISTYLL RHAEADR

<u>Date of Notification:</u>	2000
<u>National Grid Reference:</u>	SJ 072 295
<u>O.S. Maps:</u>	1:50,000 Sheet number: 125 1:10,000 Sheet number: SJ 02NE
<u>Site Area:</u>	60.9 ha

Description:

Pistyll Rhaeadr is of special interest due to its fluvial geomorphology. The site lies on the southern slopes of the Berwyn mountain about 6 km north-west of Llanrhaeadr ym Mochnant.

The site contains the waterfall of Pistyll Rhaeadr, the highest in Wales at 75 m, together with stretches of the Afon Disgynfa above and Afon Rhaeadr below the falls. The river runs from north-west to south-east and drops from an altitude of 400 m as it runs through the moorland above the falls to about 260 m.

Pistyll Rhaeadr marks the boundary between an upland, boulder-lined channel originating in peat and a downstream reach with point bars as characteristic depositional features. Associated with the falls are a series of plunge pools and an arch. The importance of the site lies not only in the waterfall and related features, but also in the geomorphologically significant contrast between the mountain torrent of the Disgynfa upstream of the fall and the wider valley section occupied by the Afon Rhaeadr downstream which demonstrates more lateral activity and depositional features.

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