

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

PENTROSFA MIRE

<u>Date of Notification:</u>	1989
<u>National Grid Reference:</u>	SO 059597
<u>O.S. Maps:</u>	1:50,000 Sheet number: 147 1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 05
<u>Site Area:</u>	8.6 ha

Description:

The mire supports a range of characteristic fen types, including plant communities which are nationally and locally uncommon. Within a small area there is a complete transition from dry grassland through to open water. The diversity of plant species present reflects this habitat diversity. The mire has several plants which are uncommon in Radnor.

The site comprises a small lake, partly artificial in origin, which is now silting up. Swamp communities are encroaching the open water area – these being variously dominated by bogbean *Menyanthes trifoliata*, bulrush *Typha latifolia* and bottle sedge *Carex rostrata*. An area of topogenous fen has developed in the valley bottom above the lake. This area supports a plant community which is largely dominated by bottle sedge, although common sedge *Carex nigra* and brown sedge *C. disticha* are both locally abundant. Marsh cinquefoil *Potentilla palustris*, marsh-marigold *Caltha palustris* and water horsetail *Equisetum fluviatile* occur throughout, whilst bogbean, common cottongrass *Eriophorum angustifolium*, common marsh-bedstraw *Galium palustre*, marsh valerian *Valeriana dioica* and ragged-robin *Lychnis flos-cuculi* are all locally frequent. The uncommon broad-leaved cottongrass *Eriophorum latifolium* and many-stalked spike-rush *Eleocharis multicaulis* occur within this community. The eastern fringe of this topogenous fen community grades into areas of spring-fed (soligenous) fen which support a particularly diverse plant community. Common cottongrass, common sedge, carnation sedge *Carex panicea* and glaucous sedge *C. flacca* are abundant here. Common butter-wort *Pinguicula vulgaris*, jointed rush *Juncus articulatus*, flea sedge *Carex pulicaris*, devil's-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis*, quaking-grass *Briza media*, marsh arrowgrass *Triglochin palustris* and marsh valerian occur throughout. Few-flowered spike-rush *Eleocharis quinqueflora* is locally abundant, whilst tawny sedge *Carex hostiana*, round-leaved sundew *Drosera rotundifolia*, bogbean and broad-leaved cottongrass are all locally frequent. Northern marsh-orchid *Dactylorhiza purpurella* is found within this community. At the head of the fen there are extensive areas of fen-meadow, dominated variously by sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus*, soft-rush *J.*

effusus and purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*. The eastern fen-edge grades into slightly acidic dry grassland characterised by tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and devil's-bit scabious. Here there are small sedge-dominated flushes and springs. On the western side of the fen several areas of grey willow *Salix cinerea* woodland are developing.

*This document is **NOT** a definitive legal version and has been formatted, updated and partially edited for use on the CCW Web site. This document should not be used in any legal proceedings, public enquiry or any other hearing or appeal. If you require a full legal copy of the document please contact CCW in writing.*