

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

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

**CORS LLYN COETHLYN
(LLYN COETHLYN BOG)**

Date of Notification: 1984

National Grid Reference: SJ 023148

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

Site Area: 18.4 ha

Description:

A valley mire system supporting three vegetation types of outstanding interest – extensive areas of bog-moss (*Sphagnum* spp.) lawn, mesotrophic areas with slender sedge *Carex lasiocarpa*, and birch/willow carr (*Betula pubescens*/*Salix cinerea*).

The core of the site is centred around the small water body of Llyn Coethlyn. Here the open water is surrounded by birch/willow carr which contains extensive areas of greater tussock-sedge *Carex paniculata* and bog-mosses, especially *Sphagnum recurvum*. Other species present include marsh-bedstraw *Galium palustre* and marsh cinquefoil *Potentilla palustris*. The lichen *Cetraria sepincola*, in one of its very few known Welsh sites, occurs here on the birch trees.

A bog-moss dominated mire in which purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea* and slender sedge are co-dominants occurs to the east and west of the carr. This community includes white sedge *Carex curta* and common sedge *C. nigra*. North-west of the carr is an extensive area of wet heath variously dominated by purple moor-grass, bog-mosses, cottongrasses *Eriophorum angustifolium* and *E. vaginatum* and cross-leaved heath *Erica tetralix*. Locally the bog-moss lawns are well developed, with a hummock-hollow system and with the uncommon species, *Sphagnum magellanicum*, an important constituent.

The eastern part of the mire system is similar to the drier areas of the wet heath. Tormentil *Potentilla erecta* and bog asphodel *Narthecium ossifragum* are two species well represented here, and common spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza fuchsii* also occurs.

Other interesting areas within the site include rush-dominated mire *Juncus acutiflorus*/*articulatus* and purple moor-grass zones in which bottle sedge *Carex rostrata* and other

sedges tend to be well represented, together with species such as bogbean *Menyanthes trifoliata*.

No detailed invertebrate surveys have yet been carried out, but dragonflies noted include the black darter *Sympetrum scoticum* and the golden ringed *Cordulegaster boltonii*.

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