

10. Y Gweira

Llantrisant, Rhondda Cynon Taff

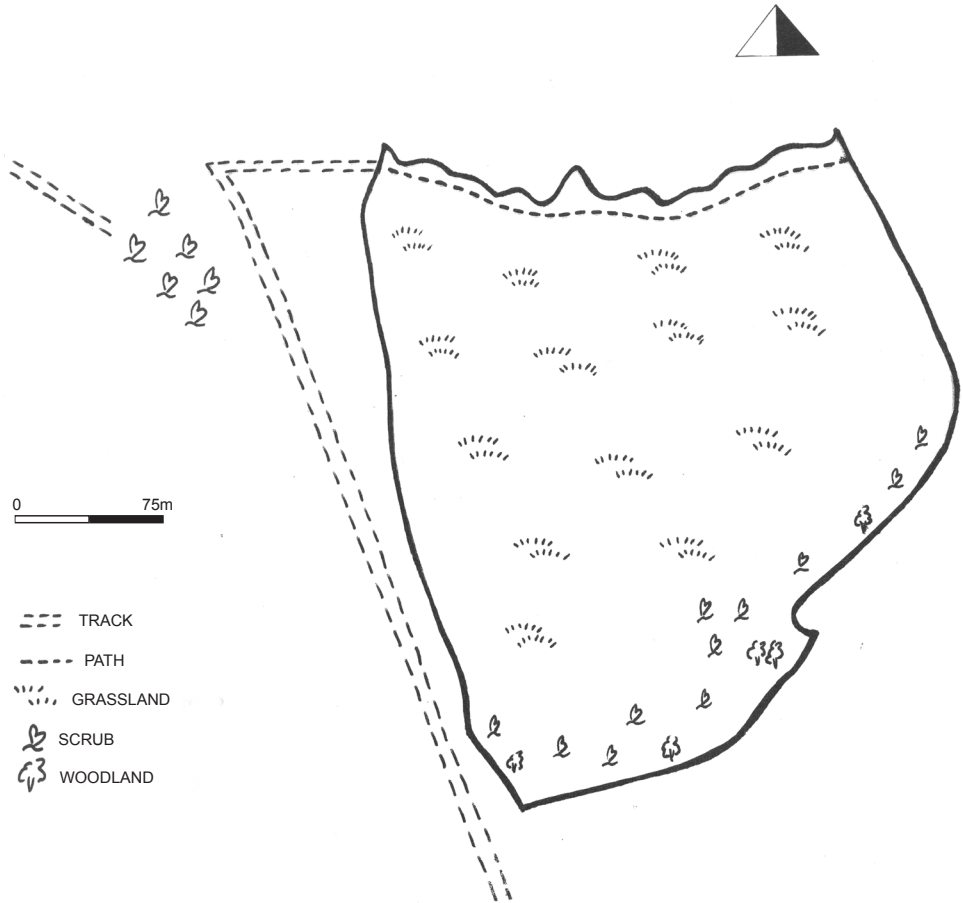
Grid References	O.S. Explorer map 151 Cardiff and Bridgend. Main entrance: ST051850, Site centre: ST052849
Status	The site is part of the Llantrisant Common and Pastures SSSI. The site is covered by a Tree Preservation Order.
Tenure	The reserve was purchased June 2001 with grant aid from CCW.
Size	6.5 ha (16 acres).
Location and Access Notes	Y Gweira is located at the north-eastern corner of Llantrisant Common, south of Castellau Road. The common lies west of the village of Beddau, and 1 km north of Llantrisant. Not accessible to wheelchairs.
Public transport	Bus numbers 244 from Bridgend or 400 from Cardiff to Llantrisant or Beddau.

Description: Marshy grassland and lowland wet heathland.

The pasture is made up of a mosaic of wet heath, mire, and marshy grassland dominated by Purple Moor Grass. Much of the grassland has plenty of Tormentil (6-9), together with species such as Sheep's Fescue, Mat Grass and Heath Rush, and supports a strong, large population of Petty Whin (5-6). The wet heath is identified by the presence of Cross-leaved Heath (7-8) and Heather (8-9).

Occasional areas where the soil is slightly less acidic are distinguished by the presence of Meadow Thistle (6-7). Royal Fern has been found in two areas associated with the ditches on the site.

This open habitat supports breeding Meadow Pipit, and Skylark, and a variety of invertebrates including butterflies; hopefully the Marsh Fritillary (5-6) in future, and dragonflies such as the Common Darter (6-9).



Management Objectives: Light cattle or mixed grazing to maintain the mosaic of heath and grassland, and suppress succession to wet woodland.

Good times to visit

Apr - Jul	Breeding birds
Apr - Sept	Butterflies, dragonflies and other invertebrates
May - Sept	Grassland and heathland flowers