

FLOODING IN CAVES

Evidence For Cave Flooding



Trees



Sticks In Roof



Sticks And Gravel



Leaves and Mud



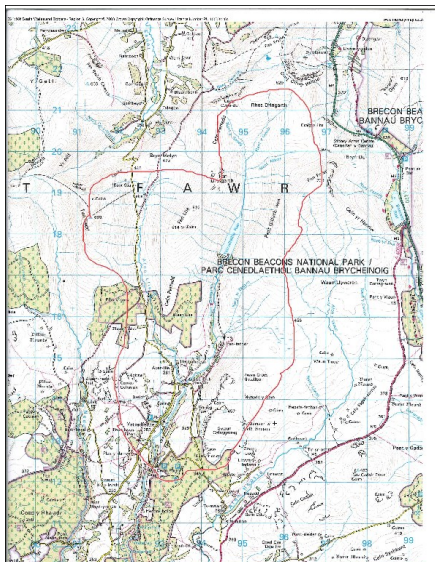
Washed in boulders



Sand

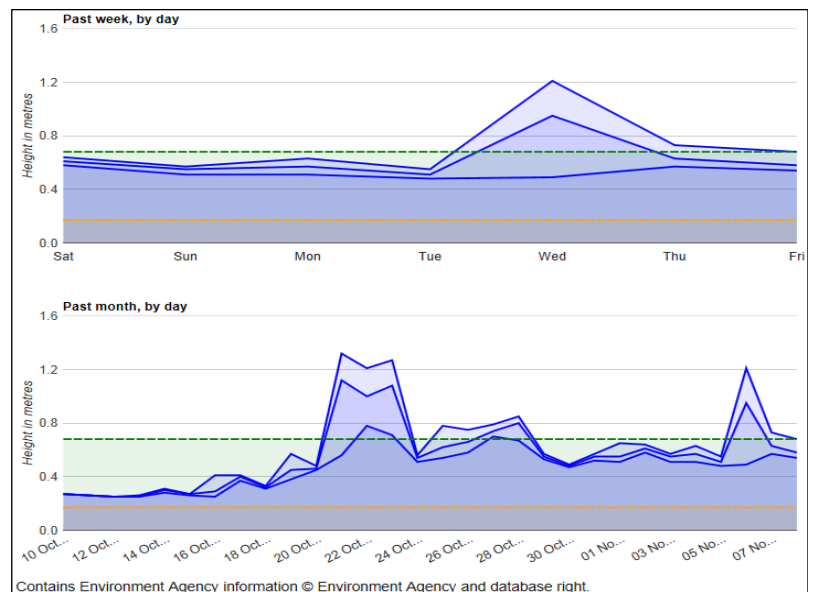


Foam



The catchment area for Porth yr Ogof is approx. 32km². The speed of runoff into any cave is affected by vegetation/bare rock, the steepness of the slopes above the cave, recent precipitation or baked mud. It may also be affected by agricultural practices such as gripping.

The river running into PYO is the Mellte (Welsh for lightning) named after it rapid rise and fall after rain.

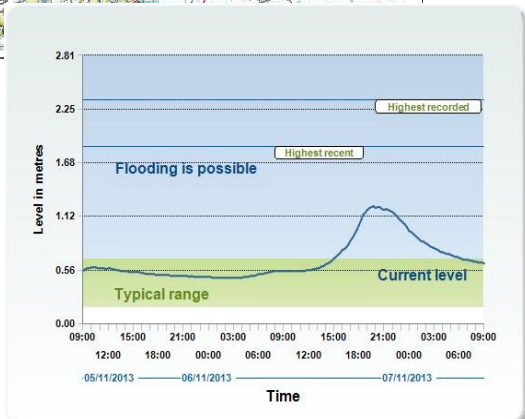


The graphs above shows relevant recent precipitation in the Mellte. This can help with the bigger picture of what has happened and what effect today's rainfall will have.

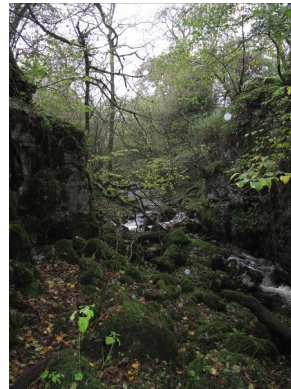
www.riverlevels.info/mellte-ystradfellte-community-pontneddfechan.

The environment agency website left shows the current level at Pontneddfechan downstream of PYO.

www.environment-agency.gov.uk/homeandleisure/floods/riverlevels/120756.aspx?stationId=4121.



OGOF Y CI



Ogof Y Ci entrance is above the stream as seen on the left but the cave is below stream level. Parts can become unusable in very high water but most of the cave is accessible. Foam results from high water.



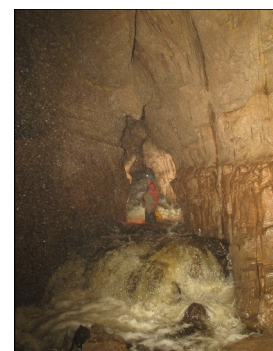
Resurgence in low and high water conditions

PORTH YR OGOF

Main entrance in low, high and very high conditions



BRIDGE CAVE



The fairly recent surface collapse above Waterfall passage (seen here in dry and wet conditions) has meant an increased flow of water into the cave rather than going to Cwm Pwll Y Rhyd. This means that progression inside the cave particularly towards the sump can be much harder.

OGOF CLOGWYN



Entrance low and high water



FLOODING IN CAVES

Resource prepared by Richard Hill (CIC). Resource production funded by NRW in partnership with the SWOAPG Environmental Charter.
For more info visit: www.swoapg.org.uk