



Nodi Nodweddion Dyfrol (yn DdibynnoI lawn ar Ddŵr) Natura 2000

Identification of Aquatic (Highly Water Dependent) Natura 2000 Features

Rhaglen Natura 2000 LIFE yng Nghymru
LIFE Natura 2000 Programme for Wales

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Cyflwyniad

Mae Grŵp Cynghori Technegol y DU parthed Cyfarwyddeb Fframwaith Dŵr y DU (UKTAG) wedi cyhoeddi canllawiau ar adnabod ardaloedd a warchodir gan Natura (2003) sy'n cynnwys rhestrau o nodweddion Natura 2000 sy'n 'ddibynol ar ddŵr'. [Grŵp Cynghori Technegol Y Du Parthed Y Gyfarwyddeb Fframwaith Dŵr](#)

Mae hyn yn cynnwys cynefinoedd Atodiad I a rhywogaethau Atodiad II dan y Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd ac Atodiad I a rhywogaethau ymfudol rheolaidd dan y Gyfarwyddeb Adar. Mae'r meini prawf ar gyfer ymddangos ar y rhestr yn eang iawn – er enghraifft, caiff nodweddion fel y frân goesgoch a rhostir sych eu cynnwys.

Mae Rhaglen Natura 2000 LIFE yng Nghymru yn cynnal ymarfer ar gyfer cynllunio a blaenoriaethu camau rheoli ac adfer ar draws rhwydwaith Natura 2000 yng Nghymru. Bydd y gwaith yn helpu i gyflawni gofynion y Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd a Chynlluniau Rheoli Basnau Afonydd y Gyfarwyddeb Fframwaith Dŵr.

Er bod rhestrau a chanllawiau'r UKTAG yn werthfawr ar gyfer sawl pwrpas, mae eu defnydd o ran blaenoriaethu a chynllunio strategol yn gyfyngedig oherwydd y cwrmpas eang. O'r herwydd, cafodd ffrwd waith 'Bylchau mewn Tystiolaeth' ei sefydlu er mwyn llunio rhestr fwy penodol o nodweddion Natura 2000 sy'n ddibynol iawn ar ddŵr – hynny yw, nodweddion dyfrol neu wlyptirol.

Y nod yw ategu canllawiau presennol yr UKTAG, yn hytrach na'u disodli.

Introduction

The UK Technical Advisory Group on the UK Water Framework Directive (UKTAG) has published guidance on the Identification of Natura Protected Areas (2003) which includes lists of 'water dependent' Natura 2000 features.

[UK Technical Advisory Group On The Water Framework Directive](#)

This includes Annex I habitats and Annex II species under the Habitats Directive and Annex I and regularly occurring migratory species under the Birds Directive. The criteria for inclusion on the list is very broad – for example, features such as Cough and Dry heath are included.

The LIFE Natura 2000 Programme for Wales is undertaking an exercise to plan and prioritise management and restoration actions across the Natura 2000 network in Wales. This work will help deliver requirements of the Habitats Directive and Water Framework Directive River Basin Management Plans.

While the UKTAG guidance and lists are valuable for many purposes, their use for strategic planning and prioritising is limited by the broad scope. Therefore, an 'Evidence Gaps' workstream was established to create a more focused list of Natura 2000 features which are highly water dependent – that is, aquatic or wetland features.

The aim is to supplement, not replace the existing UKTAG guidance.

Method

All species and habitats rely on water to some extent. However, a number of Natura 2000 species and habitats are entirely aquatic in nature; while others can be considered as wetlands (or dependent upon wetlands) as they are associated with high ground water levels and/or surface waters.

The LIFE Natura 2000 Programme has developed a list of these features with the advice and consultation with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) species and habitat specialists.

Criteria for selection as a highly water dependent (aquatic and wetland) feature were based on the following:

- species or habitats which are aquatic or semi-aquatic in the freshwater environment
- species or habitats which exist entirely or mainly within the sub-tidal or intertidal environment
- species or habitats which exist entirely or mainly within rivers and lakes
- species or habitats which exist entirely or mainly within wetlands which are dependent on high levels of ground water and/or surface waters
- Species or habitats which are mainly or entirely found within named water bodies (as defined by WFD), including ground water bodies.

This applies to species for all or part of their life cycle, and for habitats which are wet or flooded for all or a significant part of the year.

Some features are clearly highly water dependent (e.g. fish species) and are therefore, straightforward to classify. However, other features are harder to classify as they inhabit more marginal areas such as wetland fringes, small seepages or land subject periodic inundation; or are dependent on spray from streams, salt from the sea or coastal processes. In these cases, the judgement of the specialist advisor has been relied upon, with the LIFE Natura 2000 team providing a check for consistency.

Results

Tables 1 and 2 itemised those Natura 2000 feature can be considered highly water dependent (aquatic and wetland) or otherwise. Table 1 refers to Annex I habitats and Annex II species. Table 2 for refers to Annex I and regularly occurring bird species. Tables 3 and 4 list of all Natura 2000 sites which have at least one aquatic or wetland feature (Table 3 for Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Table 4 for Special Protection Areas (SPAs)).

Summary of results

- From a possible 82 SAC features, 70 (85%) were classified as water dependent by the UKTAG, whereas 56 (68%) are classified highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland).
- From a possible 41 SPA features, 37 (90%) were classified as water dependent by the UKTAG, whereas 36 (87%) are classified highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland). 5 feature were unassessed by the UKTAG.
- From a possible 92 SACs, 83 (90%) were classified as being designated for at least one water dependent feature using the UKTAG lists. This falls to 80 (86%) using the Welsh highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) classification.
- From a possible 20 SPAs, 20 (100%) were classified as being designated for at least one water dependent feature using the UKTAG lists. This falls to 12 (60%) using the Welsh highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) classification.

Table 1: Highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland features) on SACs in Wales

SAC feature name (informal)	Highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) feature	UKTAG water dependent feature
Active raised bogs	Yes	Yes
Base-rich fens	Yes	Yes
Alder woodland on floodplains	Yes	Yes
Alpine and subalpine heaths	No	No
Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands	No	No
High-altitude plant communities associated with areas of water seepage	Yes	Yes
Annual vegetation of drift lines	No	Yes
Beech forests on neutral to rich soils	No	No
Beech forests on acid soils	No	No
Atlantic salt meadows	Yes	Yes
Blanket bog	Yes	Yes
Bog woodland	Yes	Yes
Grasslands on soils rich in heavy metals	Yes	Yes
Base-rich scree	No	Yes
Calcium-rich fen dominated by great fen sedge (saw sedge)	Yes	Yes
Plants in crevices on base-rich rocks	No	Yes
Caves not open to the public	No	Yes
Lagoons	Yes	Yes
Degraded raised bog	Yes	Yes
Depressions on peat substrates	Yes	Yes
Dunes with <i>Salix arenaria</i>	Yes	Yes
Shifting dunes	No	Yes
Estuaries	Yes	Yes
Dry heaths	No	Yes
Dune grassland	No	Yes
Calcium-rich nutrient-poor lakes, lochs and pools	Yes	Yes
Humid dune slacks	Yes	Yes
Tall herb communities	No	Yes
Shallow inlets and bays	Yes	Yes
Purple moor-grass meadows	Yes	Yes
Intertidal mudflats and sandflats	Yes	Yes
Acid peat-stained lakes and ponds	Yes	Yes
Naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed	Yes	Yes
Wet heathland with cross-leaved heath	Yes	Yes
Western acidic oak woodland	Yes	Yes
Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels	Yes	Yes
Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves	No	Yes
Hard-water springs depositing lime	Yes	Yes
Reefs	Yes	Yes
Glasswort and other annuals colonising mud and sand	Yes	Yes
Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	Yes	Yes
Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone	No	No
Shifting dunes with marram	No	Yes

Montane acid grasslands	No	No
Plants in crevices on acid rocks	No	Yes
Acidic scree	No	Yes
Species-rich grassland with mat-grass, in upland areas	No	Yes
Sea caves	Yes	Yes
Yew-dominated woodland	No	No
Mixed woodland on base-rich soils associated with rocky slopes	No	No
Very wet mires often identified by an unstable 'quaking' surface	Yes	Yes
Turloughs	Yes	Yes
Vegetated sea cliffs	No	Yes
Rivers with floating vegetation often dominated by water-crowfoot	Yes	Yes
Allis shad	Yes	Yes
Twaite shad	Yes	Yes
White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish	Yes	Yes
Barbastelle	No	Yes
Southern damselfly	Yes	Yes
Bullhead	Yes	Yes
Slender green feather-moss	Yes	Yes
Marsh fritillary butterfly	Yes	Yes
Early gentian	No	No
Grey seal	Yes	Yes
River lamprey	Yes	Yes
Brook lamprey	Yes	Yes
Fen orchid	Yes	Yes
Floating water-plantain	Yes	Yes
Otter	Yes	Yes
Freshwater pearl mussel	Yes	Yes
Petalwort	Yes	Yes
Sea lamprey	Yes	Yes
Greater horseshoe bat	No	No
Lesser horseshoe bat	No	No
Shore dock	Yes	Yes
Atlantic salmon	Yes	Yes
Killarney fern	Yes	
Great crested newt	Yes	Yes
Bottlenose dolphin	Yes	Yes
Narrow-mouthed whorl snail	Yes	Yes
Geyer's whorl snail	Yes	Yes
Desmoulin's whorl snail	Yes	Yes

Table 2: Highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland features) on SPAs in Wales

SPA feature common name	Highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) feature	UKTAG water dependent feature
Northern pintail	Yes	Yes
Northern shoveler	Yes	Yes
Eurasian teal	Yes	Yes
Eurasian wigeon	Yes	Yes
Gadwall	Yes	Yes
Greater white-fronted goose	Yes	Yes
Greenland white-fronted goose	Yes	Yes
Turnstone	Yes	Yes
Short-eared owl	No	
Dunlin	Yes	Yes
Red knot	Yes	Yes
Hen harrier	No	Yes
Bewick's swan	Yes	Yes
Merlin	No	Yes
Peregrine falcon	No	Yes
Atlantic puffin	Yes	Yes
Red-throated diver	Yes	Yes
Eurasian oystercatcher	Yes	Yes
European storm-petrel	Yes	Yes
Lesser black-backed gull	Yes	
Bar-tailed godwit	Yes	Yes
Black-tailed godwit	Yes	Yes
Black (common) scoter	Yes	Yes
Red breasted merganser	Yes	
Red kite	No	Yes
Northern gannet	Yes	Yes
Eurasian curlew	Yes	Yes
Great cormorant	Yes	Yes
Grey plover	Yes	Yes
Great crested grebe	Yes	Yes
Manx shearwater	Yes	Yes
Red-billed chough	No	Yes
Seabird assemblage	Yes	
Little tern	Yes	Yes
Roseate tern	Yes	Yes
Common tern	Yes	Yes
Arctic tern	Yes	Yes
Common shelduck	Yes	Yes
Sandwich tern	Yes	Yes
Common redshank	Yes	Yes
Waterfowl assemblage	Yes	

Table 3: Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) in Wales with water dependent features

Site Name	At least one highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) feature	At least one UKTAG water dependent feature
Aberbargoed Grasslands	Yes	Yes
Afon Eden – Cors Goch Trawsfynydd	Yes	Yes
Afon Gwyrfai a Llyn Cwellyn	Yes	Yes
Afon Teifi/ River Teifi	Yes	Yes
Afon Tywi/ River Tywi	Yes	Yes
Afonydd Cleddau/ Cleddau Rivers	Yes	Yes
Alyn Valley Woods/ Coedwigoedd Dyffryn Alun	Yes	Yes
Bae Cemlyn/ Cemlyn Bay	Yes	Yes
Berwyn a Mynyddoedd de Clwyd/ Berwyn and South Clwyd Mountains	Yes	Yes
Blackmill Woodlands	Yes	Yes
Blaen Cynon	Yes	Yes
Brecon Beacons/ Bannau Brycheiniog	No	Yes
Cadair Idris	Yes	Yes
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	Yes	Yes
Cardiff Beech Woods	No	No
Cardigan Bay/ Bae Ceredigion	Yes	Yes
Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries/ Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd	Yes	Yes
Carmarthen Bay Dunes/ Twyni Bae Caerfyrddin	Yes	Yes
Cernydd Carmel	Yes	Yes
Clogwyni Pen Llyn/ Seacliffs of Lleyn	No	Yes
Coed Cwm Einion	No	No
Coed y Cerrig	Yes	Yes
Coedwigoedd Dyffryn Elwy/ Elwy Valley Woods	No	No
Coedwigoedd Penrhyn Creuddyn/ Creuddyn Peninsula Woods	No	No
Coedydd a Cheunant Rheidol/ Rheidol Woods and Gorge	Yes	Yes
Coedydd Aber	Yes	Yes
Coedydd Derw a Safleoedd Ystlumod Meirion/ Meirionnydd Oakwoods and Bat Sites	Yes	Yes
Coedydd Llwr-y-glyn	Yes	Yes
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	Yes	Yes
Coetiroedd Cwm Elan/ Elan Valley Woodlands	Yes	Yes
Cors Caron	Yes	Yes
Cors Fochno	Yes	Yes
Corsydd Eifionydd	Yes	Yes
Corsydd Llyn/ Lleyn Fens	Yes	Yes
Corsydd Môn/ Anglesey Fens	Yes	Yes
Crymlyn Bog/ Cors Crymlyn	Yes	Yes
Cwm Cadlan	Yes	Yes
Cwm Clydach Woodlands / Coedydd Cwm Clydach	No	No
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	Yes	Yes
Dee Estuary/Aber Dyfrdwy	Yes	Yes
Deeside and Buckley Newt Sites	Yes	Yes
Drostre Bank	Yes	Yes
Dunraven Bay	Yes	Yes
Elenydd	Yes	Yes

Eryri/ Snowdonia	Yes	Yes
Fenn`s, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses	Yes	Yes
Glannau Môn: Cors heli / Anglesey Coast: Saltmarsh	Yes	Yes
Glannau Ynys Gybi/ Holy Island Coast	Yes	Yes
Glan-traeth	Yes	Yes
Glaswelltiroedd Cefn Cribwr/ Cefn Cribwr Grasslands	Yes	Yes
Glynllifon	No	No
Gower Ash Woods/ Coedydd Ynn Gwyr	Yes	Yes
Gower Commons/ Tiroedd Comin Gwyr	Yes	Yes
Granllyn	Yes	Yes
Great Orme`s Head/ Pen y Gogarth	No	Yes
Grogwynion	Yes	Yes
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	Yes	Yes
Halkyn Mountain/ Mynydd Helygain	Yes	Yes
Johnstown Newt Sites	Yes	Yes
Kenfig/ Cynffig	Yes	Yes
Limestone Coast of South West Wales/ Arfordir Calchfaen de Orllewin Cymru	Yes	Yes
Llangorse Lake/ Llyn Syfaddan	Yes	Yes
Llwyn	Yes	Yes
Llyn Dinam	Yes	Yes
Migneint–Arenig–Dduallt	Yes	Yes
Montgomery Canal	Yes	Yes
Morfa Harlech a Morfa Dyffryn	Yes	Yes
Mwyngloddiau Fforest Gwydir/ Gwydyr Forest Mines	Yes	Yes
Mynydd Epynt	Yes	Yes
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands/ Coedydd Gogledd Sir Benfro	Yes	Yes
North West Pembrokeshire Commons/ Comins Gogledd Orllewin Sir Benfro	Yes	Yes
Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes/ Safleoedd Ystum Sir Benfro a Llynnoedd Bosherton	Yes	Yes
Pembrokeshire Marine/ Sir Benfro Forol	Yes	Yes
Pen Llyn a`r Sarnau/ Llyn Peninsula and the Sarnau	Yes	Yes
Preseli	Yes	Yes
Rhinog	Yes	Yes
Rhos Goch	Yes	Yes
Rhos Llawr-cwrt	Yes	Yes
Rhos Talglas	Yes	Yes
River Dee and Bala Lake/ Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid	Yes	Yes
River Usk/ Afon Wysg	Yes	Yes
River Wye/ Afon Gwy	Yes	Yes
Severn Estuary/Môr Hafren	Yes	Yes
St David`s / Ty Ddewi	Yes	Yes
Sugar Loaf Woodlands	Yes	Yes
Tanat and Vyrnwy Bat Sites/ Safleoedd Ystumod Tanat ac Efyrnwy	No	No
Usk Bat Sites/ Safleoedd Ystumod Wysg	Yes	Yes
Wye Valley and Forest of Dean Bat Sites/ Safleoedd Ystumod Dyffryn Gwy a Fforest y Ddena	No	No
Wye Valley Woodlands/ Coetiroedd Dyffryn Gwy	No	No
Y Fenai a Bae Conwy/ Menai Strait and Conwy Bay	Yes	Yes
Y Twyni o Abermenai i Aberffraw/ Abermenai to Aberffraw Dunes	Yes	Yes
Yerbeston Tops	Yes	Yes

Table 4: Special Protection Areas (SPAs) in Wales with water dependent features

Site Name	At least one highly water dependent (aquatic or wetland) feature	At least one UKTAG water dependent feature
Bae Caerfyrddin/ Carmarthen Bay	Yes	Yes
Berwyn	No	Yes
Burry Inlet	Yes	Yes
Castlemartin Coast	No	Yes
Craig yr Aderyn (Bird's Rock)	No	Yes
Dyfi Estuary / Aber Dyfi	Yes	Yes
Elenydd – Mallaen	No	Yes
Glannau Aberdaron and Ynys Enlli/ Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island	Yes	Yes
Glannau Ynys Gybi/ Holy Island Coast	No	Yes
Grassholm	Yes	Yes
Liverpool Bay / Bae Lerpwl	Yes	Yes
Migneint–Arenig–Dduallt	No	Yes
Mynydd Cilan, Trwyn y Wylfa ac Ynysoedd Sant Tudwal	No	Yes
Ramsey and St David's Peninsula Coast	No	Yes
Severn Estuary	Yes	Yes
Skokholm and Skomer	Yes	Yes
The Dee Estuary	Yes	Yes
Traeth Lafan/ Lavan Sands, Conway Bay	Yes	Yes
Ynys Feurig, Cemlyn Bay and The Skerries	Yes	Yes
Ynys Seiriol / Puffin Island	Yes	Yes