

Habitats Regulations Assessment

Appendix A: European Sites considered during HRA screening

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
SAC					
Cernydd Carmel	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3180 Turloughs <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> • 4030 European dry heaths • 7110 Active raised bogs • 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 	N/A	The turlough will fill and empty according to natural seasonal fluctuations in the aquifer. It will typically fill with water in the autumn-spring period and empty during the summer months. Aquatic alien plant species will be absent	Proposals to intensify agricultural practices are being addressed through management agreements and Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal agri-environment schemes.	<p>Turloughs Favourable: unclassified Sept 2011</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: unclassified July 2008</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified July 2008</p> <p>Active raised bogs Unfavourable: unclassified July 2008</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion Unfavourable: unclassified Jun 2007</p>
Coed Cwm Einion	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 	N/A	The Tilio-Acerion woodland habitat will occupy a minimum area of approximately 6 hectares. The woodland will be maintained as far as possible by natural processes and receive	The conservation value of Coed Cwm Einion is dependent on the operation of natural woodland processes. The woodland has been modified through the planting of non-native conifer and beech trees, and in other areas natural regeneration is restricted though over-grazing and the	Tilio-Acerion Unfavourable: unclassified May 2012

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			minimum management intervention.	presence of dense bracken. A Forest Design Plan has been produced which includes the parts of the site in the ownership of NRW. The plan gives priority to conservation objectives and prescribes the gradual removal of non-native species. Negotiations to reach agreements with other owners to exclude livestock and encourage natural regeneration will continue.	
Coed y Cerrig	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 	N/A	The naturally high, largely spring-fed water table is essential to the ecological character of the site, as is the maintenance of an appropriate woodland management regime. The majority of the site is managed as a National Nature Reserve, the remainder subject to a management agreement; these ensure that there are no current management problems.	Around a third of the site is covered by wet alder and willow woodland. This wet woodland grades into areas of permanent open swamp dominated by lesser pond-sedge (<i>Carex acutiformis</i>) or other typical wetland plants, where the hydrological conditions are suitable. Adjacent areas of marshy grassland and spring-fed mire are intimately linked to the wet woodland and swamp. Plants associated with nutrient enrichment do not dominate large areas and invasive alien species are absent.	Alluvial forests Favourable: maintained May 2012
Coedydd a Cheunant Rheidol / Rheidol Woods and	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with 	N/A	The woodland area will cover the entire site and will be maintained as far as possible by natural processes.	The sessile oak woodlands are dependent on low-intensity management. However, parts of the woodland are grazed or even-aged or both, and exclusion of grazing	Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: declining Jan 2006

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Gorge	<i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles		<p>Non-native invasive species will be restricted through a rolling programme to identify and control/remove the species across all areas of the site where they occur.</p> <p>The diversity of lower plant flora (mosses, liverworts, lichens and fungi) will be high, corresponding to the range of niches provided by the varied structure of the woodland.</p>	<p>animals and selective felling are necessary to encourage natural regeneration. This is being achieved through management agreements and land purchases. Invasive non-native species could cause significant deleterious change, and there is a need to monitor and control them. This is dealt with by actions set out in the management plan.</p>	
Coedydd Derw a Safleoedd Ystlumod Meirion / Meirionnydd Oakwoods and Bat Sites	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature): 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the</p>	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat 	<p>The tree canopy percentage cover within the woodland area for the whole SAC shall be no less than 80%.</p> <p>It is important for most of the woodland SAC that the vegetation does not become rank and overgrown with a height above 40cm and/or dominated by species such as bramble, ivy and young holly.</p>	<p>Management of the key features of these woodlands i.e. the Atlantic bryophyte and lichen assemblages requires light grazing of the field layer vegetation, usually by sheep grazing. This must be balanced against the requirements to allow natural regeneration of trees. Within the NNRs, fencing is maintained to allow grazing regimes ranging from total exclusion to relatively heavy periodic grazing. Mosses and liverworts in gorges where recreational activities such as gorge-walking and extreme canoeing take place are threatened by over-use. A Code of Conduct is</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2011</p> <p>Alluvial forests Not assessed</p> <p>Lesser horseshoe bat Favourable: unclassified July 2012</p> <p>Water courses of plain to montane Not assessed</p> <p>Northern Atlantic Wet</p>

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	Habitats	Species			
	<p>Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix 4030 European dry heaths 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 91D0 Bog woodland</p>		<p>The abundance and distribution of common and typical (Atlantic, sub-Atlantic, western, oceanic) mosses and liverworts, lichens (and slime moulds), will be maintained or increased.</p> <p>The population of lesser horseshoe bats should be maintained at its current size and encouraged where possible to increase.</p> <p>There are sufficient breeding roosts (buildings, structures and trees) and hibernation roosts (mines and buildings) of appropriate quality. The other types of roost such as night, transitional, leks and swarming sites, should also be maintained as our knowledge of these often significant roosts improves.</p> <p>Foraging or feeding habitat in the SAC and surrounding countryside, including</p>	<p>being drawn up, combined with restrictions on use. There are CCW management plans for the areas declared as National Nature Reserves. In other areas there are S15 management agreements with landowners and occupiers where appropriate grazing regimes have been implemented.</p> <p>Feral goats present within some of the sites require careful control to prevent bark-stripping and browsing damage to sapling and seedling trees. NRW undertakes annual monitoring of the herds throughout the SAC and implements control measures when numbers exceed set limits. Due to the very acid nature of the soils throughout the woodlands, they are vulnerable to acidification. In the past the heathland has been threatened by inappropriate burning/grazing and afforestation. These issues are being addressed through agri-environment schemes (Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal) and S15 Management Agreements.</p> <p>The populations of lesser horseshoe bats are most vulnerable in their</p>	<p>heaths Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2012</p> <p>European dry heaths Not assessed</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes and ravines Unfavourable: recovering Oct 2012</p> <p>Bog woodland Unfavourable: declining May 2007</p>

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	Habitats	Species			
			<p>grasslands and some gardens, is of appropriate quality, extent and connectivity across the range.</p> <p>The range of the population within the SAC/Gwynedd is stable or increasing.</p>	<p>summer and winter roosts. They are also affected by a reduction in the availability of insect prey due to changes in agricultural practices and pesticide use. Roosts are most often protected through the planning system, by incorporating the bats' requirements into the plans at an early stage. Also many roosts in mine adits have now been grilled to prevent disturbance to hibernating bats.</p>	
Coedydd Llawr-y-glyn	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles 	N/A	<p>The vision for the site is that 95% is comprised of broadleaved woodland, the majority of which dominated by native oaks. The shrub layer consists of locally native species, typical of oak woodland and the ground flora is variable in structure and composition. Lichens, growing on the larger trees, that are indicators of old woodland are gradually spreading throughout the site.</p>	<p>Much of the woodland is fenced against livestock but certain blocks are subject to sheep grazing. In these areas current stocking levels are not damaging to the trees or ground flora but are sufficient to prevent regeneration of oak and other woody species. It would be desirable to exclude livestock from most of these areas to encourage natural regeneration. This could be achieved by a combination of SSSI management agreements and agri-environment measures.</p> <p>Where epiphytic lichens and moisture/shade-reliant mosses and liverworts are prominent it is important that a closed canopy is maintained.</p> <p>Elsewhere some thinning or group felling would be desirable in order to</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified June 2010</p>

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				<p>facilitate tree and shrub regeneration and promote development of the ground flora.</p> <p>Airborne acid and nutrient deposition require monitoring particularly for epiphytic lichens on the oak trees.</p> <p>Nutrient run-off from farmland above the woods is causing localised damage to the ground flora and it would be desirable to create buffer strips in these areas.</p>	
Coedydd Nedd a Mellte	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 	N/A	<p>There will be no signs of overgrazing, such as browse lines and poaching, on the site.</p> <p>There will be no signs of excessive nutrient enrichment, such as areas of nettles.</p> <p>Recreational activities at this popular tourist destination will be well managed. Paths are well maintained so that visitor pressure is kept to discrete areas. Activities such as gorge-walking and climbing are undertaken in a manner that is consistent with the maintenance of the extent and quality of the</p>	<p>The majority of the woodland is owned by the Forestry Commission (now NRW) and is ungrazed. However, stray livestock still gain access in places and could pose a threat to tree and shrub regeneration. Fencing against livestock would certainly be desirable in the areas currently subject to agricultural use. A combination of agrienvironment schemes and management agreements offer the best mechanism for securing favourable management in these areas.</p> <p>Stands of planted conifers, beech and sycamore within and adjacent to the site are seeding into semi-natural woodland communities in places. The Forestry Commission had agreed to remove most of these species from the site itself, but seedlings may still invade from other areas and an</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified Dec 2009</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion Unfavourable: unclassified Dec 2009</p>

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			woodland.	<p>ongoing control programme should be considered.</p> <p>The area contains waterfalls which are a great attraction to the public and significant erosion damage has been caused by pedestrians, horses and bicycles. An ongoing path repair programme has only been partially successful in addressing this problem and further restrictions on public access should be considered. Given the level of access to the site and surrounding plantations, there could be significant fire risk in prolonged dry periods.</p> <p>Airborne acid and nutrient deposition may also be a problem, particularly for epiphytic lichens.</p>	
Coetiroedd Cwm Elan / Elan Valley Woodlands	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p>	N/A	<p>The extent, quality and diversity of blanket bog vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded bog is restored to good condition.</p> <p>The extent, quality and diversity of heath vegetation within the constituent sites</p>	<p>Current high stocking levels are damaging to the trees and ground flora in areas such as Glanllyn Wood. It would be desirable to exclude livestock from most of these areas, either temporarily or permanently, and in some areas this has already happened. Also, management of the woodland structure to encourage the lichens and bryophytes is necessary. This could be achieved by a</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: recovering June 2009</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2011</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4030 European dry heaths 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 		<p>is maintained and, where possible, degraded heath is restored to good condition.</p> <p>Within the woodland, plants indicating disturbance and nutrient enrichment are not common and there are no extensive areas of bare ground.</p>	<p>combination of SSSI management agreements and agri-environment measures.</p> <p>In certain areas, where grazing is light or absent, invasive rhododendron is a problem. This is being addressed by a programme of cutting and stump treatment.</p> <p>The proximity to heathland and accumulation of bracken litter pose a fire risk in dry weather. Heather management on adjacent areas must be carried out with great care. Illegal use by motorcycles is a growing problem. This damages the ground flora and can disturb nesting birds. More concerted police action may be required to deter offenders. Illegal moss-gathering is also a threat but perpetrators have been prosecuted when caught.</p> <p>Airborne acid and nutrient deposition are affecting the important epiphytic lichen communities, particularly in the woods that are exposed to prevailing winds.</p>	Favourable: maintained
Cors Caron	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7110 Active raised bogs 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	The active raised bog at Cors Caron will show the typical features of a fully functional raised bog including central microform	In the past few centuries, changes in hydrology due to peat-cutting and burning have taken place, and birch and willow scrub has increased, mainly at the expense of the lagg fen	Active raised bogs Unfavourable: declining Oct 2011

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion 91D0 Bog woodland 		<p>patterning, steep peripheral rand and marginal lagg fen. The peat domes should be waterlogged with the watertable at the surface or within a few centimetres of the surface for most of the year.</p> <p>80% of the degraded raised bog resource is restored to a point commensurate with the definition of active raised bog.</p> <p>The population of otters in the SAC is stable or increasing over the long term and reflects the natural carrying capacity of the habitat within the SAC, as determined by natural levels of prey abundance and associated territorial behaviour.</p> <p>The natural range of otters in the SAC is neither being reduced nor is likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future. The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary,</p>	<p>communities.</p> <p>Agricultural drainage and grazing by farmstock have also caused hydrological changes and the loss of raised bog flora and fauna. Cessation of agricultural tenancies or management agreements are needed to remedy these threats, and these are now under consideration.</p> <p>Monitoring of the hydrology and remedial management works as set out in the management plan have been implemented.</p> <p>20,000 visitors use the site each year but they are not considered to be causing deleterious changes at present.</p>	<p>Degraded raised bogs Favourable: maintained Oct 2011</p> <p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Favourable: maintained Oct 2011</p> <p>Depressions on peat substrates Unfavourable: declining Oct 2011</p> <p>Bog woodland Not assessed</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers.		
Glynllifon	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat <i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i> 	<p>The natural range of lesser horseshoe bats will not be reduced, nor be likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>There is, and will continue to be, sufficient habitat to maintain the lesser horseshoe bat population on a long-term basis.</p> <p>The three maternity roosts will continue to be occupied annually by lesser horseshoe bats and their babies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Glynllifon Mansion. Melin y Cim. Pen y Bont. <p>There will be a sufficiently large area of suitable habitat surrounding these roosts to support the bat population, including continuous networks of sheltered, broadleaved and coniferous woodland, tree lines and hedgerows</p>	<p>The site includes the roost and adjacent feeding areas utilised by the bats. The building in which the roost is located is currently on sale, and the management of the estate grounds, including the woodlands, is being revised. A recent road improvement scheme, which has interfered with a key flightpath out of the estate and which has failed to incorporate adequate mitigation for the bats, also illustrates the pressure on this site. A management agreement exists with the current owners of the roost building but this does not extend to the feeding areas, currently excluded from the SSSI and SAC. There is some scope for improving management of the site as a whole for the bats, through management agreement, agri-environment schemes and other partnership initiatives.</p>	<p>Lesser horseshoe bat Unfavourable: unclassified May 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			connecting the various types of roosts with areas of insect-rich grassland and open water.		
Granllyn	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1166 Great crested newt (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>) 	<p>No less than 100 great crested newts are present on the site.</p> <p>At least 2 display/breeding ponds are to be found throughout the entire site.</p> <p>Great crested newt larvae are found in Granllyn Pool breeding ponds in at least one out of every two years.</p> <p>The terrestrial habitat surrounding breeding ponds comprise of refuge areas, foraging areas, hibernacula and corridors that aid the dispersal of great crested newts. If these features are not present the conservation management aim will be to provide them.</p> <p>Off site habitats that function as stepping stone or corridors located between SAC compartments are maintained for migration, dispersal; foraging and</p>	<p>Granllyn Pool itself is vulnerable to increasing dominance by trees/vigorous emergent species. The owners of the pool (the Woodland Trust) have instigated a beneficial management regime, ensuring that directly sunlit areas of open water are maintained and expanded, and colonisation by willow is kept in check.</p> <p>Appropriate future management in the field immediately surrounding Granllyn Pool will involve glade creation and thinning as the planted trees become more mature, to be agreed with the Woodland Trust.</p> <p>Pasture further away from the Pool and the Moat is still grazed and requires monitoring to ensure compatibility for foraging and hibernating newts.</p> <p>The introduction of fish is a distinct threat, particularly to Granllyn Pool. Newt egg and larval stages are susceptible to predation by fish, and the absence of fish in the pool is likely to be a key factor in its attractiveness to the newts.</p>	Great crested newt Unfavourable: unclassified May 2010

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			genetic exchange purposes.	<p>Water enters Granllyn Pool from a number of sources, including storm-drains from the adjacent road and from local gardens. The Moat also receives some water from adjacent pasture. There is a risk that waterborne pollution could enter both waterbodies.</p> <p>Key hibernating locations are presently unknown and so they may be inadvertently destroyed.</p>	
Grogwynion	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4030 European dry heaths 	N/A	<p>Open shingle heath (Calaminarian grassland and European dry heath) will occupy between 20% and 70% of the total site area.</p> <p>The remainder of the site will be mine spoil, the river and small streams and backwaters and bands of acid grassland, scrub, marshy grassland, broadleaved woodland and small blocks of conifer plantation.</p> <p>Lichens will be abundant, including many rare metallophyte species, and in places <i>Cladonia</i> species will form delicate white</p>	<p>Grogwynion is the largest known area of shingle heath in England and Wales. It comprises bands of highly distinctive heath, metalliferous vegetation and other habitats whose distribution is thought to be controlled by substrate characteristics such as sediment size and degree of stability and heavy metal toxicity. A joint CCW and University of Wales, Aberystwyth, project is underway to investigate these complex associations, and will inform management decisions. The long-term characteristics of the site will depend upon the degree to which available heavy metals remain in the flood plain. The SNCO hold a long-term lease over the majority of the site and management will prevent gradual encroachment by alien species and</p>	<p>Calaminarian grasslands Unfavourable: unclassified June 2010</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified June 2010</p>

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			mounds.	will address occasional problems of trespass by vehicles and bicycles. The majority of the remainder of the site is owned and managed sympathetically by the Forestry Commission.	
Clogwyni Pen Llyn / Seacliffs of Llyn	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1230 Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic Coasts 	N/A	<p>Extent of coastal or maritime heath is stable or increasing.</p> <p>At least 2 different coastal or maritime heath NVC community types are present and support a range of characteristic plant species.</p> <p>Areas of heath form a mosaic with maritime grassland with patches of bare ground – no blanket heath cover. Pioneer heath plants are present.</p> <p>Grazing occurs annually at a level which prevents a long sward developing but does not suppress heather growth or flowering. A low sward height in grassland habitats and an open, varied structure in heath will be maintained within the cliff top habitats for feeding chough, without</p>	The site is physically relatively robust although activities in recent years have clearly demonstrated the vulnerability of habitats on both hard and soft cliffs to human pressure. Inappropriate agricultural management, including undergrazing, overgrazing and physical disturbance of habitat, continues to be a problem, which is addressed on some parts of the site through Management Agreements.	Vegetated sea cliffs Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2007

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			<p>causing a decline in the extent or quality of the grassland and heathland.</p> <p>Associated important species such as feeding chough (on the mainland and Ynys Enlli) and nesting Manx shearwater (on Ynys Enlli) are recorded in coastal or maritime heath areas.</p>		
Gweunydd Blaencleddau	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) • 7130 Blanket bogs • 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs • 7230 Alkaline fens 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Eurodryas aurinia</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1044 Southern damselfly (<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>) 	<p><i>Molinia</i> meadows will occur as small patches around the site.</p> <p>Wet heath will occupy at least 6% of the total site area.</p> <p>Blanket bog will occupy at least 4% of the total site area.</p> <p>Transition mire and quaking bog will occupy at least 2% of the total site area.</p> <p>Flushes will occupy at least 10% of the total site area. The majority of the flushes will naturally support carpets of bog moss below a canopy of tall rushes or sedges.</p>	<p>The enclosures are extensively grazed under a variety of different regimes, principally involving horses and cattle. <i>Euphydras aurinia</i> requires a moderately tussocky Molinia-dominated sward with abundant <i>Succisa pratensis</i>. Grazing pressures could be increased across much of the site to produce or maintain the requisite sward structure for this species. Conversely, hard grazing in two enclosures is crucial to the maintenance of open flush systems with populations of <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>.</p> <p>The site is in multiple ownership. 38% is managed under ESA agreements, and 6% under a management agreement with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority.</p>	<p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: no change July 2011</p> <p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: unclassified March 2012</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: no change July 2011</p> <p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: no change July 2011</p> <p>Alkaline fens</p>

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			<p>Scrub species will be largely absent.</p> <p>There are at least 50ha of suitable marsh fritillary butterfly habitat on the site or within a 2km radius around it.</p> <p>Density of adult southern damselfly males during sampling is at least 1 male per 10 square metres of breeding habitat</p>		<p>Favourable: maintained Aug 2006</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: no change Sept 2011</p> <p>Southern damselfly Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2011</p>
Cors Fochno	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7110 Active raised bogs • 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion 	N/A	<p>The cover level of characteristic bog mosses (<i>Sphagnum</i> species) will be sufficiently high (>25%) to indicate healthy peat growth.</p> <p>Scrub species will be largely absent.</p> <p>Characteristic plant species of the mire margins and transitions will have stable or increasing populations.</p> <p>Species intolerant of impeded drainage such as bracken and most grass</p>	<p>The quality and extent of the raised mire and transitional brackish mire habitats have been affected by past drainage works, agricultural conversion, peat cutting and fire.</p> <p>A significant proportion of the degraded mire is protected from seawater incursion by artificial structures and is therefore vulnerable to flooding. The potential for restoration of brackish transitions requires detailed assessment. Vulnerability of the intact mire has been significantly reduced in recent decades by land acquisition and designation, such that a broad 'buffer zone' of modified mire is now under</p>	<p>Active raised bogs Unfavourable: declining Oct 2011</p> <p>Degraded raised bogs Favourable: maintained Oct 2011</p> <p>Depressions on peat substrates Unfavourable: declining Oct 2011</p>

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	Habitats	Species			
			species will be absent or rare throughout the site, together with alien invasive species such as rhododendron.	<p>conservation management.</p> <p>The maintenance of peripheral drains is the main threat to successful rehabilitation. CCW contributed to a water level management plan with the Environment Agency.</p> <p>Monitoring of the hydrology and the mire vegetation indicates a positive response to ditch-blocking works commenced in 1981. Further remedial actions are being addressed, as set out in the management plan.</p>	
Corsydd Eifionydd / Eifionydd Fens	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) 1393 Slender green feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>) 	<p>Transition mire and quaking bog will be the dominant habitat at Cors Gyfelog and Cors Graianog.</p> <p>A mosaic of fen, bog, marshy grassland and swamp habitats should cover at least 80% of both sites. The habitat should be of good quality, supporting a number of scarce, rare and endangered plant species. It should also provide habitat for a wide range of birds, insects and reptiles.</p> <p>Nutrient enrichment of the water source is also a</p>	<p>The site is under one principal threat - scrub encroachment due to a lack of grazing, which is a reflection of the inaccessible, boggy nature of the terrain. Drainage and pollution are additional threats.</p>	<p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: unclassified July 2012</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Favourable: unclassified Oct 2012</p> <p>Slender green feather-moss Unfavourable: unclassified July 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>potential risk at both sites. Measures should be implemented to prevent and/or reduce to a minimum sources of nutrient enrichment.</p> <p>At least 80% of Cors y Wlad SSSI should be covered by habitat suitable for the marsh fritillary i.e. rushy vegetation (rhos pasture). The habitat should be of good quality (tussocky grassland at a height of 10 – 20cm) with an abundance of devil's bit-scabious, the food plant of the marsh fritillary caterpillars.</p>		
Crymlyn Bog / Cors Crymlyn	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs • 7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> <p>Annex II habitats (qualifying features):</p>	N/A	<p>Factors affecting the extent and quality of the calcareous fen habitat (including water quality, atmospheric pollution, water levels, successional change, scrub encroachment and non-native species) should be under appropriate control.</p>	<p>In recent years scrub has encroached at the expense of fen vegetation due to lack of appropriate management. This seral succession is now being addressed by scrub-cutting and stump treatment as set out in the NNR management plan.</p> <p>The flora and fauna of the site is susceptible to changes in water quality, influenced by surrounding industrial effluent sources such as oil, pulverised fuel ash and iron-rich mine</p>	<p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2011</p> <p>Calcareous fens Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2012</p> <p>Alluvial forests Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 			<p>adit discharge.</p> <p>Monitoring is in place to provide a check on ongoing discharges. The current dominance and ongoing spread of relatively species-poor <i>Phragmites australis</i> reedswamp, will require further management at the site.</p> <p>Since the announcement in late 1997 of the closure of the BP Llandarcy Oil Refinery a number of studies have been completed to further assess the site's hydrological characteristics and the influence of historic hydrocarbon contamination. The water-balance of the site is critical to future management and the function of the site's internal waterway (the Glan y Wern Canal) is being considered with a view to its restoration.</p>	
Cwm Cadian	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) 7230 Alkaline fens 	N/A	<p>Fen-meadow will occupy at least 26 ha of a total area of marshy grassland habitat which itself will cover at least 42 ha.</p> <p>The remainder of the site will mainly consist of other semi-natural habitat, including alkaline fen.</p> <p>Typical fen-meadow plants</p>	<p>These grasslands are dependent on the continuance of low intensity agricultural management with no, or minimal, use of agro-chemicals. Where necessary, agreements secure appropriate grazing levels and management.</p> <p>Base enrichment and moisture content are also important factors influencing the ecological character of the vegetation. This enrichment</p>	<p>Molinia meadows Favourable: unclassified July 2010</p> <p>Alkaline fens Favourable: unclassified July 2010</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>will be common.</p> <p>Plants indicating agricultural modification or alteration to hydrology and drying of soils will be absent or present at only low cover.</p>	<p>appears to derive from rising groundwater. Quarrying or other operations within the groundwater catchment may influence groundwater movements.</p> <p>The operation of an adjoining quarry is subject to a conditioned planning permission, site investigation and monitoring that will constrain operations in order to safeguard the grassland vegetation.</p>	
Cwm Clydach Woodlands / Coedydd Cwm Clydach	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9130 <i>Asperulo-Fagetum</i> beech forests <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9120 Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with <i>Ilex</i> and sometimes also <i>Taxus</i> in the shrublayer (<i>Quercion robri-petraeae</i> or <i>Ilici-Fagenion</i>) 	N/A	<p>At least 50% of the canopy-forming trees in the beech forests are beech. The canopy cover is at least 80% (excluding areas of crag) and composed of locally native trees.</p> <p>The woodland has trees of all age classes with a scattering of standing and fallen dead wood.</p> <p>Regeneration of trees is sufficient to maintain the woodland cover in the long term.</p>	<p>The woodland was formerly grazed by sheep from the nearby common land, but better fencing here has reduced livestock trespass to a level that does not prevent regeneration of trees and shrubs or damage the woodland ground flora. However, the impact of grazing needs to be monitored and fencing against livestock considered if necessary.</p> <p>Due to the close proximity to urban areas, fly-tipping and vandalism are a particular problem in these woodlands. Rubbish is regularly cleared but an increased wardening effort would be needed to bring these problems under control.</p> <p>The woodlands may be threatened by road improvement plans and</p>	<p><i>Asperulo-Fagetum</i> beech forests Favourable: maintained Nov 2009</p> <p>Atlantic acidophilous beech forests Favourable: maintained Nov 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
				associated development but these proposals will be subject to appropriate assessment under the Habitats Regulations. Airborne acid and nutrient deposition are not a significant threat here as most of the woodland soils are well-buffered and nutrient-rich.	
Cwm Doethie – Mynydd Mallaen	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4030 European dry heaths 	N/A	<p>The extent, quality and diversity of blanket bog vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded bog is restored to good condition. Populations of uncommon bog plants are stable or increasing.</p> <p>The extent, quality and diversity of heath vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded heath is restored to good condition.</p>	<p>Common land occupies a large proportion of the site. In the past, overgrazing has led to the loss of extent and quality of heathlands and affected regeneration within some woodland blocks. However, many of the private owners and the graziers on the common land have entered the ESA agri-environment scheme. The RSPB own a significant parcel of land within the site.</p> <p>Maintenance of woodlands depends on achieving protection from grazing. The heathland is vulnerable to overgrazing. Some areas not currently heathland would revert if grazing pressure was reduced.</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2012</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: recovering Sept 2012</p> <p>Molinia meadows No data available</p> <p>Alluvial forests No data available</p>
Drostre Bank	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils 	N/A	<p>There is no significant input of nutrient-rich water from ditches and surrounding land.</p> <p>Existing ditches are maintained but not over-deepened and there</p>	<p>The fen-meadow community is particularly vulnerable to agricultural improvement in the form of drainage, cultivation, application of herbicides and fertilisers and increased stocking and possibly associated feeding of livestock.</p>	<p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: unclassified June 2010</p> <p>Alluvial forests Favourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>(Molinion caeruleae)</p> <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 		<p>are no significant areas of water-logging as result of blocked ditches.</p> <p>Moderate grazing by cattle and/or ponies between spring and autumn each year is essential in maintaining the marshy grassland communities.</p> <p>Some bare ground is present in the marshy grassland but cattle poached areas should not be extensive.</p> <p>No drainage works are undertaken within the wet woodland areas but existing ditches channelling surface water into the woodland are maintained.</p>	<p>Conversely, abandonment of traditional treatment may, through natural succession, result in reversion to rank secondary fen and scrubby woodland. However a management agreement is in force to ensure continuation of the traditional management of light grazing with cattle in late summer through to the early winter.</p> <p>There is a possibility of eutrophication of the site from the inward drainage of water enriched by nitrogenous and phosphatic fertilisers, and also as a result of fertiliser spray drift.</p> <p>Monitoring projects will be initiated to ensure that the fen-meadow community is maintained in a favourable condition.</p>	<p>unclassified June 2010</p>
Elenydd	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the <i>Violetalia calaminariae</i> 7130 Blanket bogs 	<p>Annex I species (primary feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) 	<p>The extent, quality and diversity of blanket bog vegetation and heath vegetation within the constituent sites is maintained and, where possible, degraded bog and heath is restored to good condition.</p> <p>Old sessile oak woodlands</p>	<p>Threats include overgrazing and related livestock management practices such as burning, and use of vehicles. Winter feeding causes direct damage to the vegetation and also concentrates the effects of grazing. Uncontrolled fires have damaged blanket bog vegetation in some areas. Livestock levels over the majority of the area are currently</p>	<p>Calaminarian grasslands Favourable: unclassified Aug 2012</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea • 4030 European dry heaths 		<p>remain a significant and conspicuous feature of the upland valley sides within the plan area.</p> <p>The larger trees support a variety of lichens on their trunks and branches.</p>	<p>controlled by management agreements.</p> <p>Recreational pressure, particularly motorbike scrambling, is a problem in localised areas. The habitat is easily damaged by such activities. A measure of control is being sought by modification of local authority highway regulations.</p> <p>Other man-induced threats include acidification via rainfall, and possible nitrate deposition, which may encourage the spread of <i>Molinia caerulea</i> to the detriment of other blanket bog species.</p> <p>The threat of atmospheric pollutants to floating water-plantain in the naturally nutrient-poor lakes cannot at present be quantified. Leaf surfaces are frequently entirely overgrown by epiphyllous algae that might be further stimulated by nitrogen oxide pollution.</p> <p>The metal mine sites in the vicinity to roads and tracks have suffered disturbance due to fly-tipping and the removal of metal-rich spoil for hardcore and track surfacing.</p>	<p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2008</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2012</p> <p>Floating water-plantain Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2004</p>
Eyri / Snowdonia	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1393 Slender 	The high summits should each support summit heath vegetation which does not	The area is extensively grazed by sheep. In many areas, ecological overgrazing takes place, ericaceous	Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoeto-Nanojuncetea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands • 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels • 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation • 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 	<p>green feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) 	<p>show signs of heavy modification by grazing and/or heavy trampling. Grasses should not comprise a significant proportion of the vegetation. The habitat should grade into montane heath at its lower level.</p> <p>There will be no loss of calcareous chasmophytic vegetation and it will continue to occur in all of management units in which it currently occurs. The feature must continue to support a range of arctic alpine plant populations.</p> <p>The plants will be ungrazed and able to mature and set seed freely, or non-flowering plants reproduce by propagules or vegetative means.</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes should support a range of bryophytes and ferns in suitable crevices on acid rocks.</p> <p>Each of the lakes has a macrophyte flora which</p>	<p>species are being suppressed, grass species are dominating and montane communities such as moss heath are being damaged and reduced in area. Resolution of this problem is complex, due to the breakdown of traditional shepherding, other changes in livestock management on these open mountain areas, and the economics of upland farming.</p> <p>Snowdonia, which contains the highest peaks in Wales, has long been used for rock-climbing and fell-walking. It is subject to intense recreational pressures and where these are concentrated, particularly on paths and summit areas, there are severe erosion problems, despite management. However, these rarely impinge upon the special features of the area.</p> <p>The high rainfall and extensive acidic geology/pedology renders this area, especially its watercourses and lakes, vulnerable to acidification. Sections of the site (Cwm Crafnant, Cwm Idwal and Yr Wyddfa) are managed as National Nature Reserves</p>	<p>Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2007</p> <p>Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands Unfavourable: unclassified July 2011</p> <p>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities Unfavourable: recovering Sept 2012</p> <p>Siliceous scree Unfavourable: recovering Sept 2012</p> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2012</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2012</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica tetralix • 4030 European dry heaths • 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths • 6170 Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands • 6230 Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) • 7130 Blanket bogs • 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion • 7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion) 		<p>includes characteristic species.</p> <p>The distribution of dry and wet heath habitats must be stable or increasing in the long-term.</p> <p>The heath shrubs will not exhibit any signs of overgrazing.</p> <p>Intact blanket bog habitat will not show any signs of degradation as a result of overgrazing, drainage, or burning, such as depletion of dwarf shrubs and sphagna with increased grass cover.</p>		<p>heaths Unfavourable: no change June 2011</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: no change May 2011</p> <p>Alpine and Boreal heaths Unfavourable: no change Sept 2011</p> <p>Alpine and sub-alpine calcareous grasslands Favourable: unclassified July 2011</p> <p>Species-rich Nardus grasslands Unfavourable: unclassified July 2011</p> <p>Blanket Bogs Unfavourable: no change July 2011</p> <p>Depressions on peat substrates</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7230 Alkaline fens 7240 Alpine pioneer formations of the Caricion bicoloris-atrofuscae 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles 				<p>Unfavourable: declining July 2012</p> <p>Petrifying springs with tufa formation Unfavourable: no change Aug 2012</p> <p>Alkaline fens Unfavourable: declining July 2011</p> <p>Alpine pioneer formations Favourable: recovered Sept 2012</p> <p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2009</p>
Aberbargoed Grasslands	<p>Annex I habitats (primary feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) 	<p>Molinia marshy will occupy at least 70% of the site area and scrub species will be largely absent from it.</p> <p>The site will support a sustainable metapopulation of the marsh fritillary in the Aberbargoed area.</p>	<p>The primary interest of this site is the population of marsh fritillary butterflies which are dependent upon habitats such as the Molinia meadows and the wet heath. The future of these habitats depends on traditional management of extensive grazing. At present, the site is under-grazed and under-managed and is prone to vandalism such as burning.</p>	<p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: unclassified May 2009</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: unclassified May 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>The population will be viable in the long term, acknowledging the extreme population fluctuations of the species.</p> <p>Habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the metapopulation.</p>	<p>However, these problems are being addressed through liaison with the site owners and the local authority. A management plan has been drawn up and discussions are currently being undertaken towards securing a management agreement with the owners. This will secure consistent management on the site and will maintain or enhance the conservation value of the site.</p>	
Afon Eden – Cors Goch Trawsfynydd	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7110 Active raised bogs 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1029 Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	<p>The location and distribution of the raised bogs and associated rands and fen laggs will increase at the expense of less desirable vegetation communities. The abundance and distribution of uncommon plants is maintained or increased.</p> <p>Invasive species will be controlled and all areas of active raised bog habitat will remain free of trees.</p> <p>The populations of freshwater pea mussel, atlantic salmon and floating water-plantain will be viable throughout their current extent. There will be sufficient habitat to support viable populations of those</p>	<p>The pearl mussel and salmonids are particularly vulnerable to water pollution e.g. sheep-dip, nitrate input, sediment input, and inappropriate river management. Any inputs to the river which affect water chemistry need to be controlled, and river management must take account of the needs of the features. The mire features require appropriate grazing and control/cessation of burning, currently being addressed through agrienvironment scheme agreements (Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal). The high rainfall and acidic geology/pedology renders this area vulnerable to acidification.</p>	<p>Active raised bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2008</p> <p>Freshwater pearl mussel Unfavourable: declining July 2011</p> <p>Floating water-plantain Favourable: maintained May 2010</p> <p>Atlantic salmon Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>Otter Unfavourable: unclassified</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>species.</p> <p>The population of otters in the SAC are stable or increasing over the long-term. Their population size should not be limited by the availability of suitable undisturbed breeding sites.</p> <p>The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers.</p>		Aug 2008
Afon Gwyrfai a Llyn Cwellyn	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or the Isoeto-Nanojuncetea • 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion</i> 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) • 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	<p>The capacity of the habitats in the SAC to support each feature at near-natural population levels, as determined by predominantly unmodified ecological and hydromorphological processes and characteristics, should be maintained as far as possible, or restored where necessary.</p> <p>Water quality of the lake is within parameters which are</p>	<p>The lake is utilised as a raw drinking water reservoir. The present abstraction regime is compatible with its nature conservation status.</p> <p>Recent investigations have revealed that Llyn Cwellyn has acidified by 0.7 pH units since the late 1800s, due to increases in emissions of oxides of sulphur and nitrogen and subsequent acidic depositions in the form of 'acid rain'. The management of the extensive block of coniferous plantation on the shores of Llyn Cwellyn is an important factor in</p>	<p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters Favourable: recovered May 2011</p> <p>Water courses of plain to montane levels Favourable: recovered Aug 2007</p> <p>Atlantic salmon Unfavourable: no change 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<i>fluitantis</i> and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation		<p>suitable to support the characteristic flora and fauna.</p> <p>The lake shows a characteristic vegetation zonation from the shore to the deeper water.</p> <p>Floating water-plantain will continue to flourish in the Afon Gwyrfai and will continue to occur in every selected section.</p> <p>The population of otters in the SAC are stable or increasing over the long-term. Their population size should not be limited by the availability of suitable undisturbed breeding sites.</p> <p>The safe movement and dispersal of individuals around the SAC is facilitated by the provision, where necessary, of suitable riparian habitat, and underpasses, ledges, fencing etc at road bridges and other artificial barriers.</p>	<p>safeguarding the conservation value of the lake.</p> <p>A management plan has been agreed and negotiations are in progress to redesign the plantation to remove trees from around tributary streams, and hence reduce any further risk of acidification.</p> <p>The Afon Gwyrfai is likely to be most vulnerable to cumulative impacts of small-scale changes along its length which may affect water quality and habitat structure.</p>	<p>Floating water-plantain Favourable: unclassified Sept 2011</p> <p>Otter Unfavourable: unclassified March 2010</p>
Afon Teifi / River Teifi	Annex I habitats (primary reason):	Annex II species (primary reason):	The Afon Teifi/River Teifi SAC will be maintained or,	The species and habitats present on this site are dependent on water	Water courses of plain to montane levels

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) <p>Annex II species: (qualifying feature)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) 	<p>where necessary, restored to high ecological status, including its largely unmodified and undisturbed physical character, so that all of its special features are able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally functioning ecosystem.</p> <p>The aquatic plant communities that characterise parts of the river are not only attractive but also give a good indication of the overall quality of the environment. They will contain the variety and abundance of species expected for this type of river, in conditions of suitably clean water and bed substrate combined with a relatively stable flow regime.</p> <p>There will be healthy populations of floating water-plantain in the Teifi Pools and in the river around Tregaron.</p>	<p>quality, flow rate and appropriate management of riparian habitat. Future proposals for abstractions and discharges will require careful scrutiny. Management agreements are being used to secure appropriate management of riparian habitat. In recent decades the number of otters on the site has been increasing. Migratory fish are vulnerable to obstacles to migration (e.g. pollution, in-stream artificial structures), overfishing and damage to habitats outside the site. The SNCO has worked closely with the authorities responsible for fisheries, wildlife, environmental protection and local planning, to address these issues.</p>	<p>Favourable: unclassified Sept 2012</p> <p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters Favourable: unclassified Sept 2003</p> <p>Brook lamprey Favourable: recovered Oct 2013</p> <p>River lamprey Favourable: recovered Oct 2013</p> <p>Atlantic salmon Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>Bullhead Unfavourable: unclassified Nov 2006</p> <p>Otter Favourable: maintained March 2010</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>Five special fish species will be present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well-distributed good quality habitat.</p> <p>The abundance of prey and widespread availability of undisturbed resting and breeding sites will allow a large otter population to thrive. They will continue to be found along the entire length of the river and its main tributaries.</p>		
Afon Tywi / River Tywi	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1103 Twaite shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) • 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) • 1099 River lamprey 	<p>To maintain or, where necessary, restore the river to high ecological status, including its largely unmodified and undisturbed physical character, so that all of its special features will be able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally functioning ecosystem.</p> <p>The special fish species found in the river, both residents such as the bullhead and brook lamprey, and migratory species such as shad, river</p>	<p>All features for which the site is designated are directly or indirectly vulnerable to deterioration in water quality: direct and diffuse pollution, particularly nutrient run-off from agricultural land; and eutrophication and increased siltation. Afforestation in the upper catchment contributes to low pH that can affect features further downstream. They are also affected by flow conditions and extremes of water temperature. This is a regulated river, with abstraction from the river for drinking water and industry.</p> <p>Anadromous fish are vulnerable to barriers to migration, such as weirs.</p>	<p>Twaite shad Unfavourable: unclassified May 2012</p> <p>Otter Favourable: maintained March 2010</p> <p>Sea lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>Brook lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<p>(<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1102 Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) • 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) 	<p>& sea lamprey, will be present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well-distributed good quality habitat.</p> <p>The abundance of prey and widespread availability of undisturbed resting and breeding sites will allow a large otter population to thrive.</p>	<p>All fish are vulnerable to inappropriate fishing activities and the introduction of non-indigenous species. The Tywi is one of only four rivers in England and Wales in which spawning stocks of twaite shad are known to occur. Shad are particularly vulnerable to many of these issues.</p> <p>Suitable in-stream and riparian habitat is required for all features. Gravel extraction, intensive agricultural land-use, engineering works, invasive plant species and the loss of alder tree-cover through disease can lead to degradation of habitat and water quality. All features can be affected by disturbance relating to recreation and amenity access. In addition, otters require suitable terrestrial habitats to provide cover and adequate populations of prey species.</p>	<p>April 2005</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>Allis shad Unfavourable: unclassified May 2012</p> <p>Bullhead Unfavourable: unclassified May 2006</p>
Afonydd Cleddau / Cleddau Rivers	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitricho-Batrachion 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) • 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra</i> 	<p>To maintain or, where necessary, restore the river to high ecological status, including its largely unmodified and undisturbed physical character, so that all of its special features will be able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally</p>	<p>This habitat and the species within it are vulnerable to pollution from agricultural sources and physical changes such as canalisation, abstraction, riverbank clearance, gravel extraction, alterations to grazing, and man-made obstructions.</p> <p>Healthy fish and otter populations require a semi-natural channel</p>	<p>Water courses of plain to montane levels Not assessed</p> <p>Active raised bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2012</p> <p>Alluvial forest</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	vegetation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7110 Active raised bogs • 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 	<i>fluviatilis</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) Annex II species (qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) 	<p>functioning ecosystem.</p> <p>The special fish species found in the river, both residents such as the bullhead and brook lamprey, and migratory species such as shad, river & sea lamprey, will be present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well-distributed good quality habitat.</p> <p>The abundance of prey and widespread availability of undisturbed resting and breeding sites will allow a large otter population to thrive.</p> <p>There will be areas of undisturbed yet naturally dynamic alluvial forests throughout the SAC, providing cover and breeding opportunities for the otter. Areas of lowland raised bog, fen and swamp within the river floodplain and SAC will be maintained and where necessary restored.</p>	<p>structure, and the fish species also require silt and gravel beds in which to spawn. Over-exploitation of fisheries and introduction of non-native species of animal or plant could also be a threat. Otters are also vulnerable to human disturbance, habitat loss, crossing highways, and injury from discarded fishing equipment.</p> <p>Associated wetland habitats require high water levels and where necessary, controlled grazing.</p>	<p>Unfavourable: unclassified Nov 2012</p> <p>Brook lamprey Unfavourable: recovering March 2013</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable: recovering March 2013</p> <p>Bullhead Unfavourable: unclassified Nov 2006</p> <p>Otter Favourable: maintained March 2010</p> <p>Sea lamprey Unfavourable: declining March 2013</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
Berwyn a Mynyddoedd De Clwyd / Berwyn and South Clywd Mountains	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4030 European dry heaths • 7130 Blanket bogs <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites) • 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs • 8120 Calcareous and calcshist screes of the montane to alpine levels (Thlaspietea rotundifolii) • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 	N/A	<p>There will be no measurable decline in dry heath or blanket bog; the area of the habitat must be stable or increasing.</p> <p>All areas of blanket bog should exhibit a high water table just below the surface of the ground for the majority of the year and this consistent with continued peat formation. In areas of wet bog in particular, the vegetation should develop or retain an irregular pattern with drier hummocks and wetter hollows. The quality of blanket bog (including in terms of ecological structure and function) must be maintained.</p> <p>There should be areas of long heather providing nesting habitat for ground nesting birds such as grouse, merlin and hen harriers; and areas of lower young heather, and wet flushes where birds can feed on heather shoots and invertebrates.</p>	<p>The blanket bog, heaths, fens, and grasslands have been threatened by inappropriate agricultural development including drainage, reseeding, application of fertilisers, burning, track construction and the adoption of damaging grazing regimes. Some areas of grassland and heath are also threatened by the encroachment of bracken.</p> <p>These problems are being addressed successfully by means of management agreements with owners and occupiers and through joint agreements with the Tir Gofal scheme.</p> <p>Local tourist pressure and damage by recreational vehicles can cause erosion problems. This is being addressed by visitor management and wardening as well as positive management works of vegetation reinstatement on eroded areas.</p>	<p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified March 2012</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2012</p> <p>Semi-natural dry grassland and scrubland Unfavourable: no change July 2009</p> <p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Favourable: unclassified June 2012</p> <p>Calcareous and calcshist screes Favourable: recovered Aug 2009</p> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes Favourable: unclassified Aug 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>The extent of the calcareous and neutral grasslands should be maintained or increase in size at the expense of bracken, scrub and other more improved grasslands. No loss in extent is acceptable.</p> <p>The limestone grassland areas will have a wide variety of plant communities with the limestone grasslands having those typical of thin, lime rich soils.</p>		
Blaen Cynon	N/A	<p>Annex II species (qualifying reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) 	<p>The various habitats within the SAC will be managed for the benefit of this butterfly. Wet grassland covers at least 50% of the total site area. The wet grassland is comprised of acid flush and marshy grassland.</p> <p>Small areas of the site should consist of habitats associated with the wet grassland, including wet heath, bog pools and swamp.</p>	<p>The plant communities of Blaen Cynon are dependent on maintenance of the hydrological regime and the continuation of traditional agricultural management.</p> <p>The marsh fritillary butterfly population is threatened in some parts of the site by a lack of grazing, leading to scrub encroachment, and by inappropriate tree planting. Burning for agricultural purposes is also a major threat.</p> <p>Appropriate agricultural management could be achieved over the majority of the site through management</p>	<p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2008</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
				<p>agreements with the owners and occupiers.</p> <p>The site lies within the South Wales Coalfield on the fringes of an urban area, designated as cSAC, which will help control threats from housing, opencast or other industrial development and pollution arising from such development in the immediate vicinity.</p>	
Brecon Beacons / Bannau Brycheiniog	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4030 European dry heaths 6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels 	N/A	<p>The heathland has a varied age structure created by grazing, such that there is a mosaic young, mature and degenerate heath. Dense patches of bracken are generally absent from these areas and the dominance of purple moor-grass is under control.</p> <p>The area of other habitats of particular interest, such as blanket bog and flushes are stable in the long term, their quality and range of typical species are maintained and the factors that may affect them are under control.</p> <p>For each species of particular interest, the</p>	<p>Craig Cerrig-gleisiad and Craig Cwm-du:</p> <p>These areas are a National Nature Reserve (NNR); the management regime is light grazing. Almost all of the heathland is contained in these sections, and is in good condition. Public pressure from ramblers and climbers is not a significant problem.</p> <p>Pen y Fan, Blaen Taf crags and Craig y Fro:</p> <p>These areas are on common land where grazing has been at high levels for the past 30-40 years. The SAC interests here are largely confined to cliffs and crags inaccessible to sheep. The potential for loss of habitat to grazing is therefore small. If grazing were reduced, there would probably be a small extension in the extent of the</p>	<p>Calcareous rocky slopes Unfavourable: unclassified July 2010</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes Unfavourable: unclassified July 2010</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified July 2010</p> <p>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe Unfavourable: unclassified July 2010</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			population is stable or increasing and is sustainable in the long term and the factors that affect the species or its habitat are under control.	<p>chasmophytic vegetation of both calcareous and silicious rocky slopes, due to reduction in sheep dunging, grazing and rubbing of the smaller accessible outcrops. Due to the high palatability of the hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities, a very large reduction, or exclusion, of grazing would be required to obtain extensions in habitat area. The European dry heath is very limited in extent on this part of the site and unlikely to extend in area with reduced grazing.</p> <p>Grazing pressure, combined with human trampling, along the Pen y Fan ridge has caused localised soil erosion. In places, soil and rock debris are washing down the steeper faces and burying some colonies of arctic-alpine plants. Some progress has been made in recent years in laying a hard surface on the summit ridge path on Pen y Fan.</p>	
Cadair Idris	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea 	<p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) • 1393 Slender green feather-moss 	The low nutrient or clear-water lakes should be maintained as naturally clear and unpolluted, with hopefully reduced inputs of acid rain. The acid or base-poor nature of much of the underlying rock means that the lakes are especially	The area is very popular for walking, with heavy visitor pressure causing localised damage to the vegetation. However this problem is being addressed by the Snowdonia Upland Path Partnership. The moorland has been grazed and burnt heavily in some areas leading to an increase in the grassland component. Previously, CCW discussed management	<p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters</p> <p>Favourable: unclassified Aug 2008</p> <p>Siliceous scree of montane to snow levels</p> <p>Favourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8110 Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels (Androsacetalia alpinae and Galeopsietalia ladani) 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation 8220 Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> 4030 European dry heaths 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) 6430 Hydrophilous tall 	<p>(<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</p>	<p>vulnerable to acidification.</p> <p>The vegetated scree should be maintained in its current favourable condition. The tall herb ledges and chasmophytic vegetation should be maintained and preferably increased in area beyond the current ledges to which they are confined by current grazing.</p> <p>The dry heath, wet heath and blanket bog should be restored by grazing and water level management and be encouraged to increase at the expense of less desirable vegetation. The fragile damp, moss and liverwort rich heath should continue to flourish and increase in cover on suitable north and northeast facing slopes. In the longer term, the development of open woodland and scattered trees onto heath, as a more natural tree line develops, is considered desirable. The woodland area should remain stable or increase by trees spreading up onto</p>	<p>agreements with owners on the site in order to reduce the grazing levels to an appropriate level, and to restrict heather burning.</p> <p>The NNR section of the site is managed according to a CCW management plan, but suffers from the fact that CCW did not own the grazing rights.</p> <p>The high rainfall renders the site vulnerable to acidification.</p>	<p>maintained Aug 2009</p> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes Favourable: maintained Aug 2009</p> <p>Siliceous rocky slopes Favourable: maintained Aug 2009</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: no change June 2010</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: recovering June 2010</p> <p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: declining Mar 2009</p> <p>Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities Favourable: maintained</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7130 Blanket bogs • 7230 Alkaline fens • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles 		<p>the mountain and by bracken communities developing into woodland or wood pasture.</p> <p>The woodland condition should be restored by eradication of rhododendron and invasive species and the managed removal of most conifers and other non-natives over the longer-term.</p> <p>The Molinia grassland, alkaline fen and slender green feather moss should be maintained in area and location by appropriate management particularly grazing. Similarly the population of marsh fritillary at Tir Stent, (and on neighbouring habitat off the SAC), would benefit from restoration habitat management so that this butterfly meta population does not decline.</p>		<p>Aug 2010</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: no change July 2010</p> <p>Alkaline fens Unfavourable: declining July 2009</p> <p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified Nov 2008</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: declining June 2009</p> <p>Slender green feather-moss Unfavourable: declining Sept 2012</p>
Caeau Mynydd Mawr	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6410 Molinia meadows on 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly 	<p>The marsh fritillary requires large areas of continuous or closely connected habitat to survive in the long term, so</p>	<p>Part of the site is owned by Butterfly Conservation, and Section 15 agreements cover ca. 66% of the site, so the features are protected</p>	<p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2008</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae)	(<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>)	<p>this SAC is vital to supporting the marsh fritillary across the landscape stretching from Cwmgwili to Llyn Llech Owain Country Park. That is why the marshy grassland and other habitats in the SAC will be managed primarily for the benefit of this endangered butterfly.</p> <p>Species indicative of agricultural modification, such as rye grass, should remain rare in the grassland. Scrub, trees and hedgerows provide important shelter for the marsh fritillary butterflies, but should cover no more than 10% of the site area, leaving plenty of open grazed grassland.</p>	<p>over that area.</p> <p>Parts of the site could be at risk from future industrial/residential development and part of the site is subject to increasing agricultural pressure.</p>	Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: declining Sept 2009
Cardigan Bay / Bae Ceredigion	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time • 1170 Reefs • 8330 Submerged or partially 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1349 Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1095 Sea lamprey 	<p>A high quality marine environment, where the protected habitats and species of the site are in a condition as good as or better than when the site was selected; where human activities co-exist in harmony with the habitats and species of the</p>	<p>Bottlenose dolphins, porpoise and seals are vulnerable to disturbance from seismic survey for oil and gas, and ecotourism and sea-based recreational activities.</p> <p>Environmental contaminants, particularly mercury and PCBs, are a concern</p>	<p>Sandbanks Not assessed</p> <p>Reefs Not assessed</p> <p>Submerged sea caves Favourable: maintained Nov 2006</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	submerged sea caves	<p>(<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) • 1364 Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) 	site and where use of the marine environment is undertaken sustainably.	<p>being addressed by studies on potential dolphin and porpoise prey species.</p> <p>There are concerns about the potential for an increase in marine mammal entanglement in fishing nets and marine debris, the reduction or prey species and damage caused to seabed habitats by mobile fishing gear.</p> <p>The site's relevant authorities are considering these issues in the development of a management plan. An Interreg project is addressing the problem of marine litter in the southern Irish Sea.</p> <p>Dolphins, porpoises and seals are vulnerable to military testing or ordnance that occurs within the site.</p> <p>There are many small harbour-dredging projects in the bay. The potential for the disposal of spoil from these projects to affect seabed habitats and marine mammals is being addressed through liaison between nature conservation agencies, local councils and relevant government departments.</p>	<p>Bottlenose dolphin Favourable: maintained Jan 2007</p> <p>Sea lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>Grey seal Favourable: maintained Jan 2007</p>
Carmarthen	Annex I habitats	Annex II species	The physical character of	Carmarthen Bay is both a fisheries	Sandbanks

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
Bay and Estuaries / Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd	<p>(primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time • 1130 Estuaries • 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide • 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays • 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand • 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (Glaucopuccinellietalia maritimae) 	<p>(primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1103 Twaite shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) • 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) • 1102 Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	<p>Carmarthen Bay continues to be largely unmodified and undisturbed, and the natural processes of tides, waves and currents, and the associated processes of sediment erosion and deposition are allowed to operate without any undue interference, thus forming the foundations for this special ecosystem, which supports a large number of species, including bivalve molluscs, worms, burrowing urchins, brittle-stars and sand-stars.</p> <p>The site retains its complete sequences of saltmarsh vegetation, from pioneer vegetation, such as glasswort and annual seablite, through to upper, mature saltmarsh meadows of great floral variety and high biodiversity. The area also continues to be important for undisturbed saltmarsh transitions to other coastal habitats, such as shingle, sand dunes and brackish to freshwater habitats.</p>	<p>resource and important nursery ground. Developments in fishing practices and target species could threaten the integrity of both the benthic communities and the sea-duck population (for which the Bay is also proposed as an SPA). Most of the potential threats come from fisheries and related activities such as shellfish management and access issues related to mussel and cockle gathering.</p> <p>Works to dredge aggregate at Helwick Bank works may have an effect locally on the biology of the Bank, and in conjunction with other coastal defence works may also affect sediment budgets and characteristics over a wider area.</p>	<p>Unfavourable: declining Nov 2006</p> <p>Estuaries Favourable: maintained Nov 2006</p> <p>Mudflats and sandflats Favourable: maintained Nov 2006</p> <p>Large shallow inlets and bays Favourable: maintained Nov 2006</p> <p>Salicornia Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2006</p> <p>Atlantic salt meadows Unfavourable: unclassified 2012</p> <p>Twaite shad Unfavourable: no change</p> <p>Sea lamprey</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>The special fish species found in the site, such as the lampreys and shads, will be present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well distributed habitat of good quality with sufficient suitable food resources. These migratory fish are allowed to migrate unhindered by artificial barriers, such as weirs, pollution or depleted flows, and undisturbed to and from any areas of the site they may require, including feeding and spawning grounds.</p>		<p>Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified April 2005</p> <p>Allis shad Unfavourable: no change</p> <p>Otter Favourable: unclassified March 2010</p>
Johnstown Newt Sites	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1166 Great crested newt (<i>Triturus cristatus</i>) 	<p>The site supports a breeding population of over 300 adult great crested newts as identified by torch surveys in the spring. The population of newts is stable or increasing, with at least 30 display/breeding ponds present across the site. Native macrophyte plants cover many of the ponds, but at least 40% of the surface remains as</p>	<p>The important great crested newt populations are dependent on the preservation of suitable aquatic and terrestrial habitat. These are vulnerable to destruction and inappropriate management. Situated in the urban fringe, these post-industrial sites are subject to threat from unregulated public access, fly-tipping and pollution. They are also subject to pressures for development. Management agreements and acquisition by public bodies has secured</p>	<p>Great crested newt Unfavourable: declining April, May and August 2011</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>open water.</p> <p>Fish are absent from all breeding/display ponds which support great crested newts, and wildfowl are only seen in small numbers. No non-native aquatic species will be present in any of the ponds.</p> <p>Great crested newts disperse between the ponds using a network of corridors, formed by hedgerows and rough grasslands, together with habitats, such as ponds or scrub, that function as stepping-stones.</p> <p>Between sites, new surface water management systems will be amphibian friendly and will therefore not hinder newt dispersal.</p>	<p>appropriate management of some areas. Close liaison with planning authorities and the provision of site wardening are controlling many of the pressures. Habitat management is underway on areas owned by the local authority to secure optimum habitat conditions.</p>	
Llangorse Lake / LLyn Syfaddan	<p>Annex I habitat (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with 	N/A	<p>Llangorse Lake is an outstanding natural feature situated towards the head of the Afon Llynfi between the hills of Mynydd</p>	<p>Water quality is of primary importance to the aquatic macrophyte flora. This naturally eutrophic lake entered an algal-dominated hyper-eutrophic</p>	<p>Natural eutrophic lakes Unfavourable: no change Aug 2011</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition - type vegetation		<p>Llangorse and Allt yr Esgair. On average, the lake itself covers around 70% of the site.</p> <p>Water quality is high, inputs of nitrates and other nutrients and sediments from agricultural and domestic sources are under control and the quality and clarity of the water is generally good.</p> <p>Non-native plant species or fish are absent.</p>	<p>state in the late 1970s, following high nutrient loadings from sewage effluent. These inputs were diverted and the aquatic macrophyte recovery monitored.</p> <p>Recovery has been substantial but there is still the potential for a return to an algal-dominated state.</p> <p>Surveillance of the ecosystem continues. Recreational activities on the lake, fisheries operations and agricultural practice within the catchment are potentially influential. The need for further measures to aid the recovery is being kept under review.</p>	
Migneint-Arenig-Dduallt	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4030 European dry heaths • 7130 Blanket bogs <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying features):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of 	N/A	To maintain, or where necessary restore the SAC feature habitats of this upland site comprising blanket bog, dry heath, wet heath, woodland and lakes, to good condition so that all of its typical and uncommon species are able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally functioning ecosystem.	The main threats to the vegetation features of this site are from inappropriate grazing/burning/drainage and consequent degradation of blanket bog and heath. Afforestation of mire and heath has also been a problem in the past. These problems are being addressed through a number of agri-environment scheme agreements (Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal) and several S15 management agreements. A joint RSPB/Forest Enterprise/CCW black grouse project helped restore blanket bog and heath in some areas which had previously been planted with	<p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: no change Oct 2012</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: no change Oct 2012</p> <p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with <i>Ilex</i> and <i>Blechnum</i> in the British Isles 			<p>conifers.</p> <p>The vegetation and lake features are vulnerable to acidification due to atmospheric pollution, which is compounded by the high rainfall and acidic geology/pedology of the site. Artificial liming of the catchment is an additional threat.</p> <p>In the past this site has been significantly affected by quarrying, resulting in habitat destruction.</p>	<p>Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds Unfavourable: recovering Sept 2009</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2012</p> <p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: no change April 2012</p>
Montgomery Canal	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) 	<p>At least 75% of the canal lengths have open water supporting a rich assemblage of floating-leaved, emergent and submerged plants at a cover of 30% or greater.</p> <p>Water plants, such as the invasive, non-native Canadian pondweed, and filamentous algae, which indicate nutrient enrichment, are scarce.</p> <p>Aquatic invertebrates, especially those indicative of good water quality, such</p>	<p>Enrichment through agricultural or domestic nutrient inputs is a likely threat as this could affect the populations of floating water-plantain. Several sections of canal currently suffer from lack of management.</p> <p>Previously, CCW liaised with owners and occupiers to achieve an appropriately scaled and timed management. To ensure that bank protection and other engineering works are undertaken in a sensitive manner, CCW liaised with competent and relevant authorities to agree on appropriate methods and practices. For example, the mowing of terrestrial and marginal vegetation</p>	<p>Floating water-plantain Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>as dragonflies and damselflies and water beetles, are abundant along the canal.</p> <p>More than ten species of dragonflies and damselflies breed here.</p> <p>Alien aquatic and land-based species are absent from the canal.</p>	<p>would not harm aquatic plants but herbicide run-off from the towpath could be a problem.</p> <p>The effects of boat traffic on populations of floating water-plantain are uncertain and are being investigated by British Waterways. It is certain that the species will be detrimentally affected above a certain point as the actions of propeller/wash will detach floating leaves and create turbidity which will reduce light transfer to submerged leaves.</p> <p>The population of floating water-plantain is vulnerable to colonisation by aggressive species which can have an impact on the canal's ecology, through blanket coverage of the canal channel and increased nutrient input because of a large leaf biomass. The introduction of certain fish species could also damage aquatic plant populations.</p>	
Morfa Harlech a Morfa Dyffryn	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes • 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila</i> 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1395 Petalwort (<i>Petalophyllum ralfsii</i>) 	<p>The sand dunes at Morfa Harlech and Morfa Dyffryn support a broad range of plant community types; from the naturally sparse vegetation of the strandline and the shifting dunes which grade into more fixed and stable</p>	<p>The beaches adjacent to both dune systems are subject to heavy recreational pressure, particularly in the summer months. Access points through the dunes are actively managed to minimise anthropogenic dune destabilisation.</p> <p>Morfa Dyffryn is especially vulnerable</p>	<p>Embryonic shifting dunes Favourable: maintained Sept 2007</p> <p>Shifting dunes with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> Favourable:maintained</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p><i>arenaria</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2170 Dunes with <i>Salix repens ssp. argenta</i> (Salicion arenariae) • 2190 Humid dune slacks 		<p>dune communities such as the species rich mature dunes slacks and fixed dune grasslands.</p> <p>The mosaic of habitats, including sand dune communities, grasslands, swamp, shingle and scrub which add to the diversity of the site, should be maintained at their present level, or they could decrease in area, if the sand dunes or salt marsh increased.</p> <p>The natural processes which have formed both Morfa Harlech and Morfa Dyffryn sand dune systems, should be allowed to continue unimpeded, with dunes being allowed to develop naturally</p> <p>The population of petalwort should be maintained at least at its current level, but where possible increased.</p>	<p>as it is actively mobile and has a limited external sand supply.</p> <p>Parts of both dunes have been managed as National Nature Reserves since the late 1950s (Morfa Harlech) and early 1960s (Morfa Dyffryn).</p>	<p>Sept 2007</p> <p>Dunes with <i>Salix repens ssp. argenta</i> Unfavourable: declining Sept 2007</p> <p>Humid dune slacks Unfavourable: declining Sept 2007</p>
Mwyngloddiau Fforest Gwydir / Gwydyr Forest Mines	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6130 Calaminarian grasslands of the 	<p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus</i> 	<p>Many of the mine workings included in this site have been surveyed and shown either to be used by bats or to be of importance to bats</p>	<p>The component grassland sites are generally unmanaged and are not used recreationally. The SAC will require continued monitoring for purposes such as the assessment of</p>	<p>Calaminarian grasslands Unfavourable: declining 2008</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	Violetalia calaminariae	hipposideros)	<p>during the winter when these animals hibernate. The entrances of mines used by bats should be maintained in a suitable condition to allow the mines to be used as hibernation sites.</p> <p>All the available areas of heavy-metal-rich mine spoil should support a range of the rare and scarce mosses and lichens found at these sites. These areas should be kept open to maintain this feature and to enhance further growth of lower plants.</p>	conifer encroachment, as well as an agreement with the site owners to effect positive management.	Lesser horseshoe bat Unfavourable: unclassified April 2006
Mynydd Epynt	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1393 Slender green feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>) 	<p>Sufficient wetland habitat to support a viable population of varnished hook-moss, <i>Hamatocaulis vernicosus</i> is being maintained at this site. Suitable habitat for the moss of mildly base-rich spring-fed flushes where the water table is at or close to the surface for most of the year, occurs at all six locations at Mynydd Epynt.</p> <p>Factors, which could affect the hydrology and water</p>	All areas of the site supporting <i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i> form part of the Ministry of Defence army training area. These were formerly mostly used by artillery. The ranges now offer important infantry training. No areas with <i>D. vernicosus</i> lie in areas affected by the impact of large munitions but may suffer sporadic damage from trampling and the use of small explosive charges. All areas with <i>D. vernicosus</i> are grazed by sheep, currently at levels sufficient to prevent scrub encroachment, whilst not	Slender green feather moss Favourable: unclassified Aug 2009

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>chemistry of the flushes, are under control.</p> <p>In addition, at least 2.5ha of acid grassland habitat is maintained at Disgwylfa, which supports a rich variety of grassland fungi and at least twenty types of waxcap.</p>	<p>damaging the flush vegetation.</p> <p>In the recent past, the MoD undertook some drainage of flushes by the use of open ditches, but none of these areas were affected. Plans to change the grazing/letting arrangements from an annual licence held in common over the whole range to short-term tenancies over specific areas could allow farmers to drain or fertilise more of the range.</p> <p>Conditions will need to be included in the tenancies to preclude this activity.</p>	
North Pembrokeshire Woodlands / Coedydd Gogledd Sir Benfro	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1308 Barbastelle (<i>Barbastella barbastellus</i>) 	<p>The site will be covered by sustainable woodland consisting of locally native, broadleaved species, with oak prominent in the canopy.</p> <p>The rare barbastelle bat will continue to thrive at Pengelli, roosting in cavities in dozens of mature trees throughout the woodland, protected from the weather by lush shrub growth.</p> <p>Dyffryn Gwaun will support species-rich marshy grassland as well as alluvial woodland, with species</p>	<p>The ancient woodlands in this series differ in their management history and various environmental factors.</p> <p>Large areas of woodland were felled after WW1, and a decline in traditional broad-leaved woodland management such as coppicing has taken place. The site has been fragmented by coniferous afforestation.</p> <p>The lack of variation in age structure limits the structural and biological diversity; current management activities seek to redress this through, for example, selective thinning or reintroduction of coppicing.</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: recovering May 2010</p> <p>Alluvial forests Favourable: maintained June 2005</p> <p>Barbastelle Favourable: maintained Aug 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>such as the marsh fritillary butterfly. At Cwm Bach, Sychpant, there will be a mosaic of acid grassland and woodland with a wide assemblage of butterflies.</p> <p>All of the woodlands except Pengelli have an unusually rich variety of lichens. Many of these species are only found in ancient woodlands, in areas with exceptionally clean air. The variety and abundance of lichens will be maintained or increase in the long-term.</p>	Many of the woods are owned or managed by conservation organisations.	
Pembrokeshire Bat Sites and Bosherton Lakes / Safleoedd Ystum Sir Benfro a Llynnoedd Bosherton	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp. 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1304 Greater horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus ferrumequinum</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	<p>Standing open freshwater habitats and communities, supporting Charophytes (stoneworts) will be maintained in Bosherton Lakes.</p> <p>All individual roost sites within component SSSI, used by breeding or hibernating bats, will be maintained in good condition and be free of disturbance. Sheltered flyways and a network of insect-rich foraging habitat will also be maintained within SSSI and the</p>	<p>Both bat species are vulnerable to physical deterioration of the buildings which contain the roosts, to human disturbance, and to habitat loss and disturbance within their key feeding areas.</p> <p>These issues are being addressed through existing or pending management agreements or management plans over nursery roosts, transitory roosts, associated hibernacula and adjacent feeding habitats.</p> <p>There is regular surveillance of the greater horseshoe's nursery roosts, and an annual census is undertaken</p>	<p>Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters Unfavourable: no change Dec 2011</p> <p>Greater horseshoe bat Favourable: maintained Aug 2012</p> <p>Lesser horseshoe bat Unfavourable: declining Aug 2012</p> <p>Otter Favourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>surrounding areas.</p> <p>Otters will be observed regularly and their population will thrive.</p>	<p>at the lesser horseshoe sites. These populations use roosting sites throughout Pembrokeshire.</p> <p>Known roosts are under surveillance. The lakes are vulnerable to drought, to nutrient enrichment, and to siltation. They are covered by a Nature Reserve Agreement with the owners, the National Trust, which is addressing these issues.</p> <p>The breeding otter population is vulnerable to water pollution, human disturbance, entanglement in fishing gear and habitat loss.</p>	<p>unclassified March 2010</p>
Pen Llyn a'r Samau / Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time • 1130 Estuaries • 1150 Coastal lagoons • 1160 Large shallow inlets and bays • 1170 Reefs <p>Annex II habitats (qualifying features):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not 	<p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1349 Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) • 1364 Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) 	<p>The varied physical character and processes in different parts of the SAC will operate without any undue interference, this includes the natural processes of tides, waves and currents and the associated processes of sediment erosion and deposition. The quality of water in the SAC will be maintained or restored to a level necessary to maintain the features in favourable condition for the foreseeable future. The health and quality of the 12 SAC features are inter-</p>	<p>Construction, e.g. of slipways, coastal defence and marinas/harbours could cause disturbance to the estuarine, intertidal mudflat and sandflat, and reef habitats and disrupt physical processes essential for maintenance of these habitats.</p> <p>There is an increasing demand for additional facilities and/or upgrading existing facilities, and NRW will need to work with the other relevant authorities to assess the implications of all proposed developments of this sort for the SAC features.</p> <p>Certain reef communities are vulnerable to disturbance from specific fishing methods, in particular</p>	<p>Sandbanks Favourable: maintained Sept 2007</p> <p>Estuaries Unfavourable: no change Sept 2007</p> <p>Coastal lagoons Unfavourable: declining Sept 2007</p> <p>Large shallow inlets and bays Unfavourable: unclassified</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>covered by seawater at low tide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand • 1330 Atlantic salt meadows (Glaucopuccinellietalia maritima) • 8330 Submerged or partially submerged sea caves 		<p>related and will also depend on the state of other non SAC feature marine habitats within the site, as well as structural and functional components of the marine ecosystem.</p> <p>Bottlenose dolphin will continue to be widespread within the waters of the SAC and those frequenting the SAC will reflect a healthy population structure including immature and adult male and female dolphins.</p> <p>Otters will continue to be widespread throughout the SAC both in areas of open coast and within the estuaries. Otters will have sufficient availability of prey and widespread availability and access to good quality essential habitats including freshwater and undisturbed resting and breeding sites to allow the otter population to thrive.</p> <p>Grey seals will continue to be widespread throughout</p>	<p>heavy bottom-fishing gear. The potential impacts of heavy bottom-fishing gear on the subtidal sandbank and shallow inlet and bay habitats will need to be assessed.</p> <p>There is the possibility of future drilling for oil and gas in Cardigan Bay and the Irish Sea as well as the possibility of offshore wind power developments</p> <p>Many of the marine wildlife communities in the SAC are sensitive to oil pollution. The development of oilwells and boat traffic in the Irish Sea present potential pollution sources.</p>	<p>June 2009</p> <p>Reefs Favourable: maintained Nov 2007</p> <p>Mudflats and sandflats Unfavourable: declining Nov 2007</p> <p>Salicornia Favourable: unclassified Aug 2011</p> <p>Atlantic salt meadows Unfavourable: declining Oct 2011</p> <p>Submerged or partially submerged sea caves Favourable: maintained Nov 2007</p> <p>Bottlenose dolphin Favourable: maintained Nov 2007</p> <p>Otter Unfavourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			the SAC predominantly in areas of open coast and sea. Grey seals will have access to, and sufficient availability of prey, and they will have widespread availability and access to good quality essential habitats, including areas for hauling out and pupping, that are free from excessive disturbance.		unclassified Jan 2008 Grey seal Favourable: maintained Nov 2007
Preseli	<p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with <i>Erica tetralix</i> 4030 European dry heaths 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion 7230 Alkaline fens 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <p>1044 Southern damselfly (<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>)</p> <p>1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>)</p> <p>1393 Slender green feather-moss (<i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i>)</p>	The development of scrub and woodland must be kept in check where it is sustainable to do this. If this mixture of wetland habitats can be conserved, then the marsh fritillary, southern damselfly and other characteristic species currently found here should continue to flourish.	<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> requires well-grazed open wet heath and mire vegetation with small runnels or streams. <i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i> requires boggy slopes flushed with spring water, where the vegetation is quite low-growing. Both species are therefore vulnerable to inappropriate levels or the cessation of grazing. The continuance of the current moderate to high summer grazing regime is essential, but difficult to influence because of the common land status of the site and the large number of registered rights.	<p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: unclassified June 2012</p> <p>European dry heaths Unfavourable: unclassified June 2012</p> <p>Depressions on peat Unfavourable: declining Aug 2012</p> <p>Alkaline fens Not assessed</p> <p>Southern damselfly Unfavourable: unclassified June 2011</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
					<p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: no change Sept 2011</p> <p>Slender green feather moss Favourable: maintained Feb 2006</p>
Rhinog	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4030 European dry heaths • 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the Littorelletea uniflorae and/or of the Isoëto-Nanojuncetea • 4010 Northern Atlantic wet heaths with Erica 	<p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1831 Floating water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>) 	<p>The heath land should be maintained in its current good condition and less favourable areas should be encouraged to mature. The area of heath should remain stable or increase at the expense of acid grassland.</p> <p>The series of lakes, from those with little or no vegetation such as Llyn Hywel to the relative species richness of Llyn Cwm Bychan, should be maintained as naturally clear and unpolluted, with hopefully reduced inputs of acid rain.</p> <p>The blanket bogs are generally in good condition and should be maintained as such. However</p>	<p>The area is popular for walking; however, due to the rough terrain, recreational pressures are largely confined to public rights of way and car parks, with minimal impact upon the special features.</p> <p>The high rainfall and extensive acidic geology/pedology renders this area, especially its watercourses and lakes, vulnerable to acidification. The lichen-rich and bryophyte-rich oceanic heathland is vulnerable to burning and over-grazing. Current general policy is to continue the traditionally low levels of sheep/feral goat grazing and to discourage burning.</p> <p>In the woodland areas, the vegetation requires careful management by manipulation of grazing to achieve appropriate light and humidity levels for the exceptionally rich lichen and</p>	<p>European dry heaths Favourable:maintained July 2011</p> <p>Old sessile oak woods Favourable: recovered Jan 2012</p> <p>Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2009</p> <p>Northern Atlantic wet heaths Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2010</p> <p>Alpine and Boreal heaths Unfavourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	tetralix <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4060 Alpine and Boreal heaths • 7130 Blanket bogs • 7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion 		vegetation on the plateau to the west of Rhinog Fawr and the impoverished bogs of Moelyblithcwm and Y Llethr require restoration. The rare floating water plantain should continue to be recorded from Llyn Cwm Bychan in a number of locations and may hopefully be re-found or become re-established in other lakes on the Rhinogydd where it has been recorded in the past.	bryophyte assemblages while ensuring adequate regeneration of the woodland. These issues are being addressed through the use of agri-environment schemes (Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal) and S15 management agreements.	declining Aug 2011 Blanket Bogs Unfavourable: unclassified July 2011 Depressions on peat substrates Favourable: maintained Aug 2010 Floating water-plantain Favourable: Maintained Oct 2011
Rhos Goch	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7110 Active raised bogs • 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs Annex I habitats (qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion) 	N/A	Around 95% of the site is wetland, comprising a mosaic of different habitats. The central core of Rhos Goch common, comprising around 20% of the site, consists of fairly open raised bog with a series of pools and hummocks. Most of the core bog area is surrounded by a band of wet woodland. This occupies around 30% of the site in	The open mire areas are currently threatened by natural succession to willow and birch carr. This is partly a result of a reduction in the numbers of livestock being grazed on the common in summer. The spread of woody species is being monitored and a programme of birch and willow clearance has been initiated. The effects of reduced grazing on the vegetation structure and composition are also being monitored with a view to increasing livestock numbers where appropriate. The spread of soft rush into the swamp and mire communities has been monitored and a programme of experimental cutting	Active raised bogs Unfavourable: no change Oct 2012 Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2012 Molinia meadows Unfavourable: unclassified July 2012 Bog woodland

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> caeruleae) 91D0 Bog woodland 91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae) 		<p>total.</p> <p>The site supports a wide range of specialised wetland insects, including rare and scarce flies, beetles and bugs. Generally, for each wetland plant or insect of particular interest, the population is stable, or increasing and is sustainable in the long term, the range is not contracting, sufficient habitat exists to support the species and the factors that may affect the species or its habitat are under control.</p>	<p>has been initiated. The mire communities could also be adversely affected by falling water tables, eutrophication as a result of agricultural intensification on surrounding land, or acidification via rainfall. Current monitoring indicates that all of these influences fall within acceptable limits. Water tables on-site are maintained by sluices, and a large amount of adjacent unimproved pasture provides a buffer against eutrophication.</p>	<p>Unfavourable: recovering June 2010</p> <p>Alluvial forests Favourable: maintained June 2010</p>
Rhos Llawr-cwrt	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1393 Slender green feather-moss <i>Drepanocladus (Hamatocaulis) vernicosus</i> 	<p>Rhos Llawr Cwrt Special Area of Conservation (SAC) will continue to be a rhos pasture site. Rhos pastures are a mixture of different grassland communities and on this site marshy grassland, neutral grassland, acid grassland and wet heath will be present as a complex patchwork. Rhos pasture will also be found outside the SAC boundary within the National Nature Reserve (NNR). Most of the SAC sits within</p>	<p>This site is an NNR and is being managed by NRW to maintain its features.</p> <p>The marsh fritillary butterfly population is dependent upon a mosaic of marshy grassland, wet heath, fen, and mire communities. Traditional low-intensity management with cattle or pony grazing, minimal use of agrochemicals, and a high water table, low soil nutrient status and moderate pH are required to maintain the habitat. This management is appropriate for <i>Drepanocladus vernicosus</i> provided that localised undergrazing does not</p>	<p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2012</p> <p>Slender green feather moss Not assessed</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			this NNR. The rhos pasture both within and outside the SAC will be essential to support the special range of communities and species found here.	occur in key areas.	
Rhos Talglas	Annex I habitats (qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils (Molinion caeruleae) 	Annex II species (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1065 Marsh fritillary butterfly (<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i>) 	<p>The 20 or so enclosures will contain a very wide range of plant communities, which clearly reflect the underlying environmental gradients. Species-rich neutral grassland will occupy the drier mounds on around one-fifth of the site. In the damper ground covering nearly half of the site there will be marshy grassland where purple moor-grass, various types of rush and small sedges are prominent.</p> <p>The sward will be a patchwork of short and tall vegetation, mainly about 8–25cm, the ideal structure for the marsh fritillary butterfly.</p>	Traditional low-intensity management with cattle or pony grazing, no or minimal use of agrochemicals, a high water-table and low soil nutrient status and moderate pH are required to maintain the Molinia meadows. The marsh fritillary population is dependent upon maintenance of the habitat. The site has been notified as a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Management agreements are either in place or under negotiation to secure appropriate management.	<p>Molinia meadows Unfavourable: recovering Aug 2007</p> <p>Marsh fritillary butterfly Unfavourable: recovering Sept 2009</p>
River Dee and Bala Lake / Afon Dyfrdwy a Llyn Tegid (Wales / England)	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the 	Annex II species (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) 1831 Floating 	The River Dee and Bala Lake SAC will be maintained at, or where necessary restored to, high ecological status with all its features at favourable conservation status.	The habitats and species for which the site is designated are dependent on the maintenance of good water quality and suitable flow conditions. Fish species require suitable in-stream habitat and an unobstructed migration route. Otters also require	<p>Water courses of plain to montane levels Unfavourable: no change Sept 2008</p> <p>Atlantic salmon</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation	<p>water-plantain (<i>Luronium natans</i>)</p> <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) • 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) • 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) • 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) • 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) 	<p>Therefore the quality, quantity and flow variability of water, plus the quality of adjacent habitats, will be maintained or adjusted to a level necessary to maintain the features in favourable condition for the foreseeable future.</p> <p>Natural processes of erosion and deposition will operate without interference.</p> <p>The protected fish species found in this SAC, both those that are resident all year round, such as the bullhead and brook lamprey, and migratory species such as the Atlantic salmon, sea and river lampreys, swim up river to spawn and go through their juvenile stages in the river. These species will be present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well-distributed good quality habitat.</p>	<p>suitable terrestrial habitat to provide cover and adequate populations of prey species.</p> <p>The site and its features are threatened by practices which have an adverse effect on the quality, quantity and pattern of water flows. In particular the following may threaten riverine ecosystems: inappropriate flow regulation; excessive abstraction (for industry, agriculture and domestic purposes); threats to water quality from direct and diffuse pollution; eutrophication and siltation. Degradation of riparian habitats due to engineering works, agricultural practices and invasive plant species may also have an adverse effect. The Atlantic salmon population is threatened by excessive exploitation by high sea, estuarine and recreational fisheries. Introduction of non-indigenous species could also threaten both fish and plant species.</p> <p>These issues are being addressed by a variety of statutory bodies that are in a position to overcome these threats through regulatory powers and partnerships with landowners, industry and other interested parties.</p>	<p>Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>Floating water-plantain Not assessed</p> <p>Sea lamprey Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>Brook lamprey Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable: no change 2012</p> <p>Bullhead Unfavourable: no change July 2005</p> <p>Otter Unfavourable: unclassified March 2010</p>
River Usk /	Annex I habitats	Annex II species	To maintain, or where	The River Usk is an excellent habitat	Water courses of plain

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
Afon Wysg	(qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and Callitricho-Batrachion vegetation 	(primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) 1103 Twaite shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) Annex II species (qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1102 Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>) 	necessary restore the river to high ecological status, including its largely unmodified and undisturbed physical character, so that all of its special features are able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally functioning ecosystem. Allowing the natural processes of erosion and deposition to operate without undue interference and maintaining or restoring connectivity maintains the physical river habitat, which forms the foundation for this ecosystem.	for six Annex II freshwater fish. There are some concerns over long-term aquatic and riparian habitat degradation but these are being addressed in the Usk Catchment Management Plan, the Conservation Strategy, the River SSSI Management Plan, and by conservation agencies encouraging owners and occupiers to carry out positive habitat management through agreements and agri-environment schemes. There are few barriers to migration for the anadromous species and where barriers exist, investigation is proposed to analyse for potential impacts and remedy them through multi-species fish passes. Water quality is good throughout the main river, except for localised enrichment from sewage discharges, the effects of which, along with the more significant water abstractions, are being closely monitored.	to montane levels Not assessed Sea lamprey Unfavourable: no change 2012 Brook lamprey Unfavourable: declining Nov 2012 River lamprey Unfavourable: declining Nov 2012 Twaite shad Unfavourable: declining 2012 Atlantic salmon Unfavourable: declining 2012 Bullhead Unfavourable: declining 2012 Otter Favourable: recovered

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
					March 2010 Allis shad Unfavourable: declining 2012
River Wye / Afon Gwy (England / Wales)	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion vegetation <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs 	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1092 White-clawed (or Atlantic stream) crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>) 1095 Sea lamprey (<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>) 1096 Brook lamprey (<i>Lampetra planeri</i>) 1099 River lamprey (<i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i>) 1103 Twaite shad (<i>Alosa fallax</i>) 1106 Atlantic salmon (<i>Salmo salar</i>) 1163 Bullhead (<i>Cottus gobio</i>) 1355 Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) <p>Annex II species (qualifying feature):</p>	To maintain or, where necessary, restore the river to high ecological status, including its largely unmodified and undisturbed physical character, so that all of its special features are able to sustain themselves in the long-term as part of a naturally functioning ecosystem. Allowing the natural processes of erosion and deposition to operate without undue interference and maintaining or restoring connectivity maintains the physical river habitat, which forms the foundation for this ecosystem. The quality and quantity of water, including natural flow variability, and the quality of adjacent habitats are maintained or restored to a level necessary to maintain the features in favourable condition for the foreseeable future. In	<p>Water quality impacts arising from changing agricultural land-use within the catchment are having direct and indirect effects on the SAC interests through effects of diffuse pollution such as nutrient run-off and increased siltation.</p> <p>Water quality is also affected by synthetic pyrethroid sheep-dips and by point-source discharges within the catchment. The impact of sewage treatment works on the SAC is being addressed through the Asset Management Plan process and review under the Habitats Regulations. Loss of riparian habitat is occurring as a result of changes in agricultural land-use practices and other factors, including riverside development and the loss of alder tree-cover through disease. These impacts and concerns over water quality will be identified and actions recommended within the conservation strategy for the river.</p> <p>Fishing activities are implicated in the</p>	<p>Water courses of plain to montane levels Unfavourable: declining Nov 2006</p> <p>Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: declining July 2012</p> <p>White-clawed crayfish Unfavourable: declining June 2004</p> <p>Sea lamprey Favourable: unclassified Nov 2006</p> <p>Brook lamprey Unfavourable: unclassified June 2006</p> <p>River lamprey Unfavourable:</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		1102 Allis shad (<i>Alosa alosa</i>)	<p>places such as urban environments where natural processes are likely to cause significant damage to the public interest, artificial control measures are likely to be required.</p> <p>The special fish species found in the river, both residents such as the bullhead and brook lamprey, and migratory species such as the Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey and shad, which swim up river to spawn and go through their juvenile stages in the river, are present in numbers that reflect a healthy and sustainable population supported by well-distributed good quality habitat. The migratory fish are able to complete their migrations and life cycles largely unhindered by artificial barriers such as weirs, pollution, or depleted flows. The abundance of prey and widespread availability of undisturbed resting and breeding sites allows a large otter population to</p>	<p>decline of the salmon; initiatives such as the Wye Salmon Action Plan will help to address this issue.</p> <p>There is increasing demand for abstraction from the river for agriculture and potable water. The impact of this is still being investigated, but maintenance of water levels and flow will be addressed under the review of consents under the Habitats Regulations.</p> <p>Demand for increased recreational activities is a source of potential concern for the future. Regularisation of the functions of the competent authorities, currently being sought, should reduce the risk of damage to the SAC as a result of developments for such activities.</p>	<p>unclassified June 2006</p> <p>Twaite shad Unfavourable: unclassified 2012</p> <p>Atlantic salmon Favourable: unclassified 2012</p> <p>Bullhead Unfavourable: unclassified Nov 2006</p> <p>Otter Favourable: recovered March 2010 Allis shad</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>thrive. They are found along the entire length of the river and its main tributaries.</p> <p>The Wye catchment forms an important refuge for the globally endangered white-clawed crayfish. The species is abundant and widely distributed in suitable habitat and is protected from the harmful effects of pesticide pollution and non-native crayfish. Non-native crayfish such as American signal crayfish are eradicated from the Wye catchment.</p>		
Sugar Loaf Woodlands	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles 	N/A	<p>At least 70% of the site is covered by woodland (including temporary canopy gaps and glades), with mature Sessile and hybrid Oaks being dominant in the canopy. The Oak woodland has trees of all age classes with a scattering of standing and fallen deadwood.</p> <p>Regeneration of Oak trees is sufficient to maintain the woodland cover in the long-term.</p>	<p>The majority of the woodland is on common land that is grazed by sheep. So long as tree regeneration is sufficient to maintain the canopy, it should not be necessary to control grazing within the majority of the woodland. Part of the woodland is presently subject to livestock exclusion. Removal of non-native trees and shrubs may be necessary in this area. Agri-environment schemes offer the best mechanism for securing favourable management in the longer term.</p> <p>The accumulation of bracken litter on the common poses a fire risk in dry</p>	<p>Old sessile oak woods Unfavourable: unclassified April 2009</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>Most of the woodland on the Sugar Loaf Common continues to be surrounded by lightly grazed heathland on the upper slopes and a mosaic of heathland, acid grassland and Bracken on the lower slopes.</p> <p>This site forms part of a wider network, and is ecologically connected with its surroundings and with other designated sites in the region.</p>	<p>weather. Restrictions on public access could be considered, but it would be very difficult to control most incidents as they appear to be the result of children deliberately setting fires. Control of bracken in a buffer strip at the wood edges may be a more sensible consideration.</p> <p>Airborne acid and nutrient deposition may also be a problem, particularly for epiphytic lichens on the oak trees.</p>	
Tanat and Vyrnwy Bat Sites / Safleoedd Ystlumod Tanat ac Efymwy	N/A	<p>Annex II species (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) 	<p>The two maternity roosts contain a minimum of 300 adult Lesser Horseshoe Bats in total every year, with at least 200 at Hendre Cottage and at least 100 at Bryngwyn Hall Stables and Coach House.</p> <p>The buildings are maintained in a suitable condition for use by the bats, to ensure that the roofs are in good repair, not heavily shaded by surrounding trees, and the roof space is undisturbed (except in emergencies).</p>	<p>Full protection of bat species depends upon no disturbance to both summer (breeding) and winter (hibernating) roosts and continuity of invertebrate food supply by appropriate traditional land management, for example, maintenance of continuous hedgerows.</p> <p>The winter roosts (hibernacula) are not vulnerable as all mine entrances are now securely grilled and the underground workings are considered to be stable.</p> <p>The bats which use two of the four mines may be vulnerable because the associated breeding roosts are</p>	<p>Lesser horseshoe bat Unfavourable: unclassified Oct 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>Access for the bats to and from the buildings and roof spaces is unhindered and flight paths along surrounding hedgerows and woodland edges are protected. All other factors that affect the species are under control. The four hibernation roosts contain a minimum of 200 Lesser Horseshoe bats in total every year, with at least 50 in each of Allt-y-main Mine and Penygarnedd Mine; and evidence of continued use of West Llangynog Slate Mine and Garth-eryr. All four sites are maintained in a suitable condition for use by the bats, by ensuring that they remain undisturbed (except for monitoring purposes), and that the entrance is free from obstruction. The extent, quality and connectivity of broadleaved woodland habitat is also maintained and may be enhanced if possible. All other factors that affect the species are under control.</p>	<p>not known. The two known breeding roosts are potentially vulnerable to accidental fire, and casual or deliberate human disturbance, for example blocking of entrances.</p> <p>All roost sites are the subject of a programme of monitoring visits to check site integrity and count the numbers of bats. The quality of surrounding feeding habitats is maintained through land management agreements with owners/occupiers.</p>	
Usk Bat Sites /	Annex I habitats	Annex II species	The site will support a	Minimal disturbance is required within	European dry heaths

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
Safleodd Ystlumod Wysg	<p>(qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4030 European dry heaths • 7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration • 7130 Blanket bogs • 8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation • 8310 Caves not open to the public • 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 	<p>(primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1303 Lesser horseshoe bat (<i>Rhinolophus hipposideros</i>) 	<p>sustainable population of lesser horseshoe bats in the River Usk area. The population will viable in the long term, acknowledging the population fluctuations of the species. Buildings, structures and habitats on the site will be in optimal condition to support the populations. Sufficient foraging habitat is available, in which factors such as disturbance, interruption to flight lines, and mortality from predation or vehicle collision, changes in habitat management that would reduce the available food source are not at levels which could cause any decline in population size or range.</p> <p>Management of the surrounding habitats is of the appropriate type and sufficiently secure to ensure there is likely to be no reduction in population size or range, nor any decline in the extent or quality of breeding, foraging or hibernating habitat.</p>	<p>the lesser horseshoe bat cave hibernacula. The population has been satisfactorily safeguarded from disturbance for many years, where necessary by gating cave entrances, providing access by permit only and promoting a code of conduct. The Annex I feature Caves not open to the public is also supported, all species being subject to the safeguards above.</p> <p>The maternity roost occupies a large coach-house, which is leased by a conservation body and has been renovated specifically to safeguard the bats.</p> <p>The remaining SAC features are almost entirely located on common land with grazing rights. Control of grazing levels is presently difficult to achieve on common land and some reduction in grazing levels and/or change of grazing patterns appears desirable.</p> <p>The condition of the blanket bog and degraded raised bog interest has probably also been affected by past uncontrolled fires and historic atmospheric inputs. The degree of effect of present atmospheric inputs is unknown.</p>	<p>Unfavourable: unclassified March 2012</p> <p>Degraded raised bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Aug 2010</p> <p>Blanket bogs Unfavourable: unclassified Sept 2010</p> <p>Calcareous rocky slopes Favourable: maintained July 2012</p> <p>Caves not open to the public Favourable: maintained November 2012</p> <p>Tilio-Acerion Favourable: maintained Aug 2012</p> <p>Lesser horseshoe bat Favourable maintained Aug 2012</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			There will be no loss or decline in quality of linear features (such as hedgerows and tree lines) which the bats use as flight lines - there will be no loss of foraging habitat use by the bats or decline in its quality, such as due to over-intensive woodland management	The blanket bog has been subject to hydrological change as a result of past ditch construction to supply water to reservoirs. Subject to agreements with land owners and graziers it may be possible to block some of the ditches. The actual benefit that would accrue is presently unknown and would need prior identification.	
River Clun	N/A	Annex II species (qualifying feature): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1029 Freshwater pearl mussel (<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i>) 	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its qualifying features, by maintaining or restoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the extent and distribution of the habitats of qualifying species; the structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species; the supporting processes on which the habitats of qualifying species rely; the populations of qualifying species, and, 	<i>Margaritifera margaritifera</i> is dependent on low sediment and nitrate levels, fast flows of cool water and clean gravels. It is also relies on the presence of trout for part of its breeding cycle. Intensification of agriculture across the catchment is a significant threat to the long-term survival of the isolated population at this site i.e. enhanced sedimentation through poor agricultural practice leading to smothering of adult and juvenile mussels; eutrophication of waters through fertiliser run-off from adjacent land. In addition upstream domestic sewage treatment works are believed to give a significant nutrient loading. Recent increases in the occurrence of alder disease also poses a risk through loss of shading bankside tree cover. Some of these issues will be	Freshwater pearl mussel No data available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the distribution of qualifying species within the site. 	<p>addressed by revised authorisation, Review of Consents/AMP 4 processes.</p> <p>Sustainable agricultural management is being promoted via production of Whole Farm Plans, Environmentally Sensitive Area Agreements and Countryside Stewardship Agreements for landowners within the catchment.</p>	
The Stiperstones and the Hollies	<p>Annex I habitats (primary reason):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4030 European dry heaths <p>Annex I habitats (qualifying feature):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 91A0 Old sessile oak woods with Ilex and Blechnum in the British Isles 	N/A	<p>Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying features, by maintaining or restoring;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats; the structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and the supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely. 	<p>The heathland is dependent on the continuation of traditional heather moorland management with rotational burning or cutting supplemented by light grazing. In the recent past, lack of management on parts of the site has resulted in scrub encroachment, and on other parts high stocking levels has caused overgrazing and a deterioration of the heathland interest. These issues are being addressed by an effective management programme on that part of the site which is managed as a National Nature Reserve and, on land in private ownership, by management agreements and ESA payments. The sessile oak woods have been traditionally managed either as high forest or as oak coppice. Neglect and grazing of coppiced woods in the past has led to a deterioration in woodland interest. Traditional management of these woods has been reinstated</p>	European dry heaths Favourable / Unfavourable: recovering 2008, 2009, 2010

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
				by effective management of the National Nature Reserve and by agreement of a site management statement with woodlands in private ownership.	
Downton Gorge	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9180 Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines 	N/A	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species; the structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats; the structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species; the supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely; the populations of 	The site is potentially vulnerable to the effects of air- and water-borne pollution, particularly in respect of its significant lichenological interest. However these effects are not related to the management of the site.	Tilio-Acerion Unfavourable: no change Oct 2012

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> qualifying species, and the distribution of qualifying species within the site. 		
West Midland Mosses	Annex I habitats (primary reason): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds 7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs 	N/A	Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats the structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and the supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely. 	Colonisation of open schwingmoors or Sphagnum lawns and rafts in the West Midland Mosses by birch and pine is controlled by works under Management Agreement or by National Nature Reserve management, and in liaison with the local wildlife trust at Abbots Moss. Several sources of nutrient enrichment, including atmospheric deposition of nutrients, pose a potential threat at these sites. A Management Agreement controls agricultural run-off at Chartley Moss. Trees at this site trap airborne nutrients and provide roost areas for birds, but the enrichment effect of both is only localised. At Abbots Moss the threat of enrichment from atmospheric sources has been reduced by clear-felling of basin slopes adjacent to the mires. All parts of that site are vulnerable to recreational disturbance, particularly the northern portion which is a scout camp.	Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds Unfavourable: declining March 2012 Transition mires and quaking bogs Unfavourable: recovering Nov 2010 and March 2012
SPA					
Migneint-Arenig-Dduallt	N/A	This site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the	To maintain and manage the recovery of the SPA	Inappropriate grazing/burning/drainage	Hen harrier Favourable:

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<p>Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) at least 2.1% of the GB breeding population • Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) at least 0.7% of the population in Great Britain • Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) at least 1% of the population in Great Britain 	<p>bird features, hen harrier, merlin and peregrine so that their populations are sustainable and viable in the long term. Management of the SPA features is intrinsically linked to management of the habitat supporting them.</p>	<p>management has damaged the feeding/breeding habitat of hen harrier and merlin, and damaged the feeding habitat of peregrine falcon, the three SPA features. This is being addressed in some areas through S15 Management Agreements and Tir Cymen/Tir Gofal agreements. Afforestation of blanket bog has also reduced breeding/feeding habitat in the past.</p> <p>The feeding/breeding habitats of all three species are also vulnerable to acidification due to atmospheric pollution being compounded by the high rainfall and acidic geology/pedology of the site. This site has also been significantly affected in the past by quarrying operations which have resulted in the destruction of habitats used by breeding birds, including the three SPA species.</p> <p>The recreational pressure from walkers is currently fairly low and diffused across the site, but the SPA features could be affected if usage were to increase significantly close to breeding sites, for example following the implementation of CROW Act legislation or increased publicity through guidebooks.</p>	<p>unclassified June 2004</p> <p>Merlin Not assessed</p> <p>Peregrine falcon Not assessed</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
				Persecution has been a problem in the recent past, with birds being shot at the nest. It is hoped that this threat will be reduced by greater vigilance and by raising public awareness.	
Berwyn	N/A	<p>This site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hen harrier (<i>Circus cyaneus</i>) at least 2.1% of the GB breeding population • Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) at least 0.7% of the population in Great Britain • Peregrine falcon (<i>Falco peregrinus</i>) 1.5% of the GB breeding 	The SPA supports a characteristic and varied breeding bird community which includes merlin, hen harrier and peregrine falcon.	<p>The breeding habitats of the hen harrier, merlin, red kite and peregrine are threatened by inappropriate agricultural operations such as drainage and reseeding, application of fertilisers and the adoption of damaging grazing regimes. These problems are being addressed successfully by means of management agreements with owners and occupiers and through joint agreement via the Tir Cymen Scheme, an agri-environment scheme.</p> <p>The breeding productivity of the ground nesting hen harriers and merlins is vulnerable to high levels of predation by species such as the fox and carrion crow. Landowners are encouraged to use appropriate measures to control pest species.</p> <p>All the qualifying species are vulnerable to human persecution, by disturbance or destruction of nests, eggs or young; as well as illegal killing of adult birds. Liaison with</p>	<p>Hen harrier Favourable: unclassified June 2004</p> <p>Merlin Unfavourable: unclassified March 2004</p> <p>Peregrine falcon Unfavourable: unclassified June 2002</p> <p>Red Kite Unfavourable: unclassified March 2000</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<p>population</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Kite (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) 1.2% of the GB breeding population 		owners, the police and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, as well as improving public understanding is attempting to address this problem.	
Craig yr Aderyn (Bird's Rock)	N/A	<p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red-billed chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>) 1.8% of the GB breeding population <p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red-billed chough (<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>) 8% of the GB population 	<p>The breeding population of Chough is at least 5 pairs.</p> <p>The winter roosting population should be at least 27 birds.</p> <p>Sufficient suitable habitat is present to support the populations.</p>	The crags regularly support over 1% of the British population of breeding chough, and 8% of the British wintering population, as it is also a roost site for this species. It is the site of the only regular in-land breeding colony of cormorant in Wales. Both these species are vulnerable to disturbance as the crags are a well known climbing site. This is being addressed by imposing restrictions on when the activity can take place. The grazing pressure is regulated by a Tir Gofal management agreement at the moment, to produce favourable chough feeding habitat.	<p>Chough (breeding) Unfavourable: unclassified June 2004</p> <p>Chough (wintering) Unfavourable: unclassified Feb 2005</p>
Dyfi Estuary / Aber Dyfi	N/A	<p>This site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:</p>	<p>The Dyfi wintering population attains national importance level (ie.1% of the national (UK) population), annually.</p> <p>Winter mortality levels are <1% annually.</p> <p>Juvenile/ sub-adult bird comprise > 5% of the</p>	The Dyfi estuary regularly supports over 1% of the GB wintering population of Greenland white-fronted geese, and as the only site in England and Wales, it is the most southerly population in the UK. Disturbance by leisure activities including wildfowling, and also low-flying aircraft, may be significant to feeding and roosting geese. NRW and the RSPB	White-fronted goose Favourable: unclassified March 2004

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<p>Over winter the area regularly supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> White-fronted goose (<i>Anser albifrons flavirostris</i>) 1% of the GB population 	<p>wintering population annually.</p> <p>All site-specific factors affecting the achievement of these conditions (eg. avoidable disturbance), are under control</p>	<p>lease the sporting rights over the majority of the site. The sporting rights are let to local wildfowling clubs within the NNR where there is a voluntary ban on shooting the geese.</p> <p>There are also sanctuary areas where no shooting takes place within the eastern half of the estuary. The SPA is wardened by NRW and the RSPB and disturbance from leisure activities is monitored. Appropriate grazing of the saltmarsh and grassland is important to maintain feeding areas. There is an increasing resident flock of Canada geese on the estuary of approximately 2,000 birds. The interactions between this species and the Greenland white-fronted geese and the impact on the habitat is unknown.</p>	
Elenydd – Mallaen	N/A	<p>This site qualifies under Article 4.1 of the Directive (79/409/EEC) by supporting populations of European importance of the following species listed on Annex I of the Directive:</p> <p>During the breeding season the area regularly supports:</p>	<p>The SPA area continues to support at least 15 pairs of breeding red kites, or 0.5% of the British population.</p> <p>The SPA area continues to support at least 7pairs of breeding merlins, or 0.5% of the British population.</p> <p>Traditional nest sites within the SPA continue to be</p>	<p>The site's primary importance lies in its good population of Merlin and Red Kite. Merlin prey on small birds, which are most numerous in heath and scrub habitats around the hill margins. These areas are vulnerable to damage by over-grazing and excessive burning, which is carried out illegally by some graziers. Enforcement action by WOAD may help to alleviate the problem. Nesting Merlin are vulnerable to disturbance from walkers, mountain bikers and motorcycles. The Welsh Water</p>	<p>Merlin Favourable: unclassified June 2000</p> <p>Red Kite Favourable: unclassified June 2003</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merlin (<i>Falco columbarius</i>) 0.5% of the GB breeding population Red Kite (<i>Milvus milvus</i>) 9.3% of the GB breeding population 	<p>used.</p> <p>The extent of suitable semi-natural feeding habitat within the SPA is maintained.</p> <p>Availability of carrion within the SPA is maintained.</p> <p>Roosting sites within the SPA are maintained.</p>	<p>Ranger Service and local police do their best to prevent disturbance and the local authority are considering traffic regulation orders.</p> <p>Red Kites scavenge for sheep carrion on the open hill and prey on small mammals and worms on the hill edge. Thus they are vulnerable to a reduction in sheep subsidies and Environmentally Sensitive Area payments are effectively preventing such changes. Red Kites nest in woodland and are particularly vulnerable to human disturbance during the breeding season. The most vulnerable kite nests are watched to prevent intentional and accidental disturbance. Forestry operations could threaten certain nest sites, however liaison with the Forestry Authority and Forestry Enterprise has been effective in protecting most active nests.</p>	
Ramsar					
Cors Caron	<p>Ramsar criterion 3</p> <p>Supports a rich vegetation assemblage and possesses a surface pattern characteristic</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>The site supports an important population of the butterfly <i>Coenonympha tullia</i>, occurring at the</p>	<p>The active raised bog at Cors Caron will show the typical features of a fully functional raised bog including central microform patterning, steep peripheral rand and marginal lagg fen.</p>	None reported	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<p>of this mire habitat type.</p> <p><i>Sphagnum pulchrum</i>, <i>S. subsecundum</i>, <i>Atrichum tenellum</i> - nationally scarce <i>Riccia huebeneriana</i>, <i>Scapania paludicola</i> - nationally rare</p>	<p>southern limit of its range in Britain. <i>Coenophila subrosea</i> (rosy marsh moth); <i>Lutra lutra</i> (otter) (Habitats Directive Annex II feature (S1355)); <i>Arvicola terrestris</i> (water vole).</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 6</p> <p>Whooper Swan (<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>) - 9 individuals, representing an average of 0.1% of the GB population</p>	<p>The peat domes should be waterlogged with the watertable at the surface or within a few centimetres of the surface for most of the year.</p> <p>80% of the degraded raised bog resource is restored to a point commensurate with the definition of active raised bog.</p>		
Cors Fochno and Dyfi	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>The site contains the largest expanse of primary raised mire in lowland Britain; the largest estuarine raised mire, and third-largest `active` raised mire in Britain. Habitats Directive Annex I features present on the SAC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H7110 Active raised bogs 	N/A	<p>The cover level of characteristic bog mosses (<i>Sphagnum</i> species) will be sufficiently high (>25%) to indicate healthy peat growth.</p> <p>Scrub species will be largely absent.</p> <p>Characteristic plant species of the mire margins and transitions will have stable or increasing populations.</p> <p>Species intolerant of</p>	None reported	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration H7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i> 		impeded drainage such as bracken and most grass species will be absent or rare throughout the site, together with alien invasive species such as rhododendron.		
Crymlyn Bog	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>Largest example of valley floodplain topogenous mire in South Wales, and one of the largest surviving fens in the west of Britain. Very few other sites are known to support a comparable complexity and diversity of vegetation. Habitats Directive Annex I features present on the SAC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs 	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>Supports a substantial population of the nationally-rare slender cotton-grass <i>Eriophorum gracile</i>, and a rich invertebrate fauna including many rare and highly localised species.</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 3</p> <p>The site supports 199 vascular plant species including 17 regionally-uncommon and one nationally rare.</p>	Factors affecting the extent and quality of the calcareous fen habitat (including water quality, atmospheric pollution, water levels, successional change, scrub encroachment and non-native species) should be under appropriate control.	Eutrophication	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H7210 Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i> • H91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> 				
Llyn Idwal	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>A small, shallow, oligotrophic corrie lake. The semi-circular rock basin (or cwm) containing the lake is one of the finest examples in Snowdonia.</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>Species-rich plant community, including almost all of the species typical of oligotrophic waters in Britain. Notable species include <i>Elatine hexandra</i> and <i>Subularia aquatica</i> (both nationally scarce) and <i>Pilularia globulifera</i> (vulnerable at a European level).</p>	<p>The site should continue to support the characteristic plants including arctic alpine plant species.</p> <p>The only acceptable losses of this habitat should be due to succession to other valuable montane communities such as tall herb ledge vegetation.</p> <p>The lakes which have not been dammed for use as reservoirs retain a natural profile.</p>	None reported	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>All of the lakes show a characteristic vegetation zonation from the shore to the deeper water.</p> <p>Water quality of each lake is within parameters which are suitable to support the characteristic flora and fauna.</p>		
Llyn Tegid	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>Largest natural lake in Wales, lying deep in a formerly glaciated trough.</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>Plant species growing in or beside the lake are mudwort <i>Limosa aquatica</i>, six-stamened waterwort <i>Elatine hexandra</i>, water sedge <i>Carex aquatilis</i> and floating water plantain <i>Luronium natans</i>, all of which are scarce in Britain. The latter species is regarded as vulnerable on a global scale. This site is also one of only six sites in Britain for the whitefish or gwyniad <i>Coregonus lavaretus</i>; the Welsh population of this fish is genetically distinct. Llyn Tegid is also an</p>	<p>The total extent of lake area should be maintained. The abundance and distribution of rare aquatic and emergent species will be maintained or increased and continue to be self-sustaining.</p>	<p>Pollution – domestic sewage. Point source pollution from sewage outfall accounts for less than 10% of the total phosphate & nitrate in-put. Intermittent & seasonal blue-green algal blooms. Some improvements to sewage treatment works. Pollution – pesticides / agricultural run-off.</p> <p>Diffuse pollution continues to contribute to the eutrophication of the lake waters. Phosphate & nitrate levels in the lake are fairly constant.</p>	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		unusual habitat for the normally riverine fish grayling <i>Thymallus thymallus</i> . The Nationally Rare glutinous snail <i>Myxas glutinosa</i> has been rediscovered in the shallow gravels of the lake shore.			
Corsydd Mon a Llyn / Anglesey and Llyn Fens	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>The site supports a suite of base-rich, calcareous fens which is a rare habitat type within the United Kingdom's biogeographical zone.</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 3</p> <p>The site supports a diverse flora and fauna with associated rare species and is of special value for maintaining the genetic and ecological diversity of the region.</p>	<p>Calcareous fen exhibits a range of condition states (see below) in which great fen sedge <i>Cladium</i> is frequent to dominant, with no less than 10% referable to species-poor <i>Cladium</i> swamp and the remainder to either vegetation in which <i>Cladium</i> occurs with sweet gale <i>Myrica gale</i>, bluntflowered rush <i>Juncus subnodulosus</i>, purple moor-grass <i>Molinia caerulea</i> and cross-leaved heath <i>Erica tetralix</i>, or vegetation with many of the above elements as well as bog-bean <i>Menyanthes trifoliata</i> marsh cinquefoil <i>Potentilla palustris</i>, bladderwort <i>Utricularia vulgaris</i>, and slender sedge <i>Carex lasiocarpa</i> and</p>	<p>Vegetation succession</p> <p>Drainage / land-claim</p> <p>Eutrophication</p> <p>Pollution – agricultural fertilisers</p>	No information available

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			<p>other small sedges. .</p> <p>Species indicative of drainage or agricultural modification, such as yorkshire fog <i>Holcus lanatus</i>, bramble <i>Rubus spp.</i>, nettle <i>Urtica dioica</i> are largely absent from the calcareous fen.</p>		
Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 1	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>The site comprises a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog.</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>Supports a number of rare species of plants associated with wetlands including five nationally scarce species together with an assemblage of rare wetland invertebrates (three endangered insects and five other British Red Data Book species of invertebrates).</p>	<p>Maintenance of habitat extent and suitable conditions for characteristic species.</p>	<p>Eutrophication</p> <p>Introduction / invasion of non-native plant species</p>	<p>No information available</p>
Midland Meres & Mosses – Phase 2	<p>Ramsar criterion 1</p> <p>The site comprises a diverse range of habitats from open water to raised bog.</p>	<p>Ramsar criterion 2</p> <p>Supports a number of rare species of plants associated with wetlands, including the nationally scarce cowbane <i>Cicuta virosa</i> and, elongated sedge <i>Carex elongata</i>. Also</p>	<p>Midland Meres and Mosses Ramsar site overlaps with several other designated sites in Wales. Fenn`s, Whixall, Bettisfield, Wem and Cadney Mosses SAC will be restored to actively growing, and peat forming raised bogs, surrounded by unintensively-managed</p>	<p>Eutrophication</p> <p>Introduction / invasion of non-native plant species</p> <p>Pollution – pesticides / agricultural run-off</p>	<p>No information available</p>

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
		<p>present are the nationally scarce bryophytes <i>Dicranum affine</i> and <i>Sphagnum pulchrum</i>.</p> <p>Also supports an assemblage of invertebrates including several rare species. There are 16 species of British Red Data Book insect listed for this site including the following endangered species: the moth <i>Glyphipteryx lathamella</i>, the caddisfly <i>Hagenella clathrata</i> and the sawfly <i>Trichiosoma vitellinae</i>.</p>	<p>habitats on mineral ground.</p> <p>The raised bogs will be a self-maintaining, virtually treeless carpet of peat-forming bog mosses together with a small number of specialist bog plants growing on a deep layer of waterlogged peat, often several metres thick.</p> <p>The surface of the bogs will consist of a mixture of occasional small bogpools small, moss-filled waterlogged hollows and slightly drier hummocks where heathers grow. Plants include cross-leaved heath, common heather, cotton-sedge, crowberry, cranberry, deer-grass and purple moor-grass with sphagnum bog mosses below.</p> <p>Scattered scrub will occur near the edges of the bog and will comprise, willow and alder woodland, along with wet heath, rush pasture and fen. Drier habitats will include areas of birch. On the mineral</p>		

Site name	Qualifying Features		Conservation Objectives	Vulnerabilities	Site Condition Assessment
	Habitats	Species			
			ground slopes around the edge of the bog, heath, low intensity farmland, scrub and native woodland, rush pasture and rabbit grazed <i>Teesdalia</i> grassland will occur.		