

SEWBR_eC PRODUCTS AND SERVICES PORTFOLIO:

**For Local Authorities, Environmental
Consultants, Governmental Organisations,
NGOs, Charities, LBAP Partnerships,
Students & Academic Researchers, Landowners
and Wildlife Recorders**



SOUTH EAST WALES BIODIVERSITY RECORDS CENTRE
CANOLFAN GOFNODION BIOAMRYWIAETH DE DDWYRAIN CYMRU

an **ALERC**  **accredited LERC**
Association of Local Environmental
Records Centres

NBN 
MEMBER

South East Wales Biodiversity Records Centre (SEWBRc) is the centre for the collation, management and dissemination of biodiversity data for south east Wales. SEWBRc's aim is to make appropriate local biodiversity information available to all those who need it, to help ensure that decisions which affect local biodiversity are made using best available data.

In January 2017, SEWBRc was accredited by the Association of Local Environmental Records Centres (ALERC). The accreditation assessment process ensures that SEWBRc meets a set of standards relating to its operations and functions, from our data protection policies to how we interact with local recorders. In the words of ALERC, 'it outlines core levels of products and services that a LERC should provide to assist key users, and ensures the LERC is actively working with data holders to improve the availability and quality of data'. SEWBRc is also part of the Local Environmental Records Centres Wales (LERC Wales) consortium, and a member of the National Biodiversity Network (NBN).

SEWBRc currently offers a wide range of innovative and tailored biodiversity information products and services to meet the needs of its users. Some examples of these are outlined in this portfolio, but we are also very keen to develop and expand our product range further, so please contact us to discuss any specific requirements.

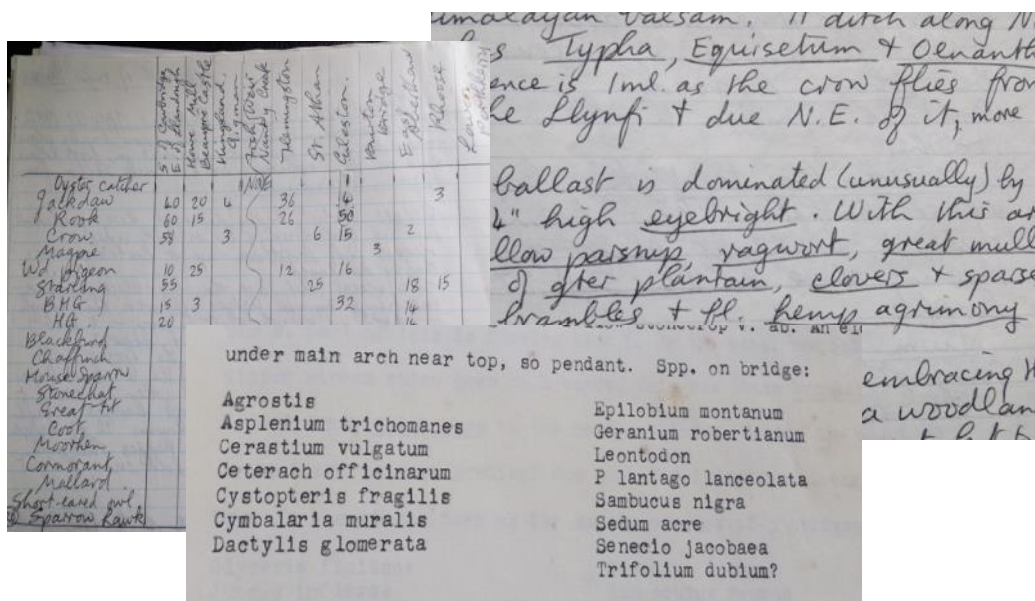
Contents

1. Data Management:	Collation, digitisation and management of species data sets	3
	Data quality checking	3
	Capturing biodiversity information from consultancy reports	3
	Public participation surveys ('citizen science')	4
	Online Services: SEWBRcCORD & LERC Wales App	4
	Photographs & slide digitisation	5
	Development of protocols and checklists	5
	Identification of geographical & taxonomic gaps	6
	Digitisation of habitat information	7
	Digitisation of important sites & maintenance of the layers	7
2. Accessing Data:	Site specific searches (Species, Habitats & Designated Sites)	8
	Aderyn: Public, Partner, Recorders & Trust Data Access	9-10
	Aderyn: Commercial Data Access	11-12
	Aderyn Tools: Planning & e-Mapper	13
	Species Distribution Data	14-16
	Habitat Audits	17
3. Training Courses & Outreach:	An Introduction to Wildlife Recording	18
	Species Identification	18
	How to access biodiversity data you need (and the pitfalls)	19
	IT Training Courses	19
4. Events:	Field Recording Days	20
	Supporting Partner Events & BioBlitzes	20
	Events Calendar	20
5. Miscellaneous:		21

1. Data Management:

Collation, digitisation and management of species data sets

SEWBRc has vast experience of collating, digitising and managing species data sets. We manage data from the private, public and voluntary sectors including local authorities, governmental organisations, environmental consultants, conservation charities, and individual wildlife recorders. We regularly digitise paper records and/or import digital data from Excel and other database software into a single database that can be easily interrogated. In some circumstances, we may also be able to retrieve data from obscure or obsolete electronic formats. SEWBRc can also support self management of data through IT support and advice.



Extracts from Dr Mary Gillham's notebooks and files

Data quality checking

SEWBRc can provide quality checks on data in partnership with local and national species experts. Data verification ensures the accuracy of the identification of the species recorded, whilst data validation ensures a record has been correctly entered into the database.

Capturing biodiversity information from consultancy reports

SEWBRc can assist with the storage, digitisation and metadata capture of ecological reports submitted during the planning process. We can archive reports which are in danger of being destroyed, and extract (with necessary permissions) the biological records within them. In addition we are working on a GIS layer of "other potential sources of biodiversity information", which captures metadata for consultancy reports which have not been made available to SEWBRc. These details are included in our biodiversity reports, enabling decision makers to seek out additional information that may be of relevance to a planning application or management plan. SEWBRc can also offer technical assistance and advice to ecological consultants who wish to submit their records in line with CIEEM best practice.



Photo: Seal © Andrea Rowe

Public participation surveys ('citizen science')

We can design and disseminate survey cards, set up online surveys, create promotional materials, collate and manage the incoming results, and produce useful outputs such as data, graphs and maps.

Online services:

SEWBRcC has developed two online services to aid submission of records, namely SEWBRcCORD and the LERC Wales App.



Example of brown hare & lapwing survey cards



SEWBRcCORD

SEWBRcCORD (www.sewbreCORD.org.uk) is our online recording database. It is a site for recorders to submit

their records to SEWBRcC, with a built in capacity to view, amend and manage individual records. The primary purpose of SEWBRcCORD is to make it easier for wildlife sightings to be submitted, collated, checked by experts and made available to those that need them for their research or decision making. Users can enter their records, upload photographs, view other records and explore dynamic maps and graphs of their data whilst making a real contribution to science and conservation. SEWBRcC can also develop, design and set up online recording forms for specific surveys using SEWBRcCORD.

Example: SEWBRcCORD is used to collect data for our Species of the Month initiative, and we have developed specific online recording cards for recording patches of invasive non-native plants.



LERC Wales App

The newest addition to SEWBRcC's online services is the LERC Wales App which allows users to upload records directly from their smartphone or tablet. Download the app by following these links ([Google Play for Android devices](#) or [App Store for Apple devices](#)).



Images courtesy of SEWBRc's Dr. Mary Gillham
 Archive Project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund

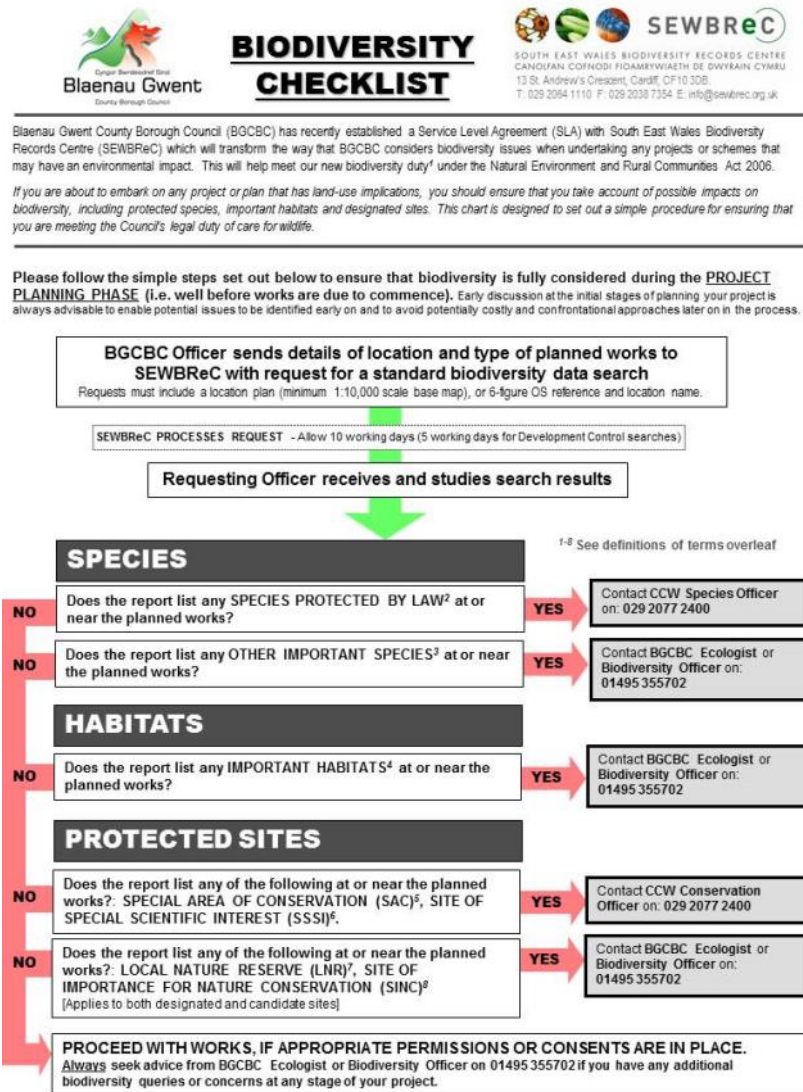
Photograph and slide digitisation

SEWBRc can digitally capture wildlife photographs and slides to safeguard their future. We can also make images available online, allowing them to be used by recorders, charities and others.

Development of protocols and checklists

SEWBRc can facilitate and develop protocols for data management and sharing. We can also design checklists setting out a simple procedure to help ensure that an organisation is meeting its legal duty of care for wildlife.

Example: A Biodiversity Checklist setting out the procedure for any staff within Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council embarking on a project or plan that has land-use implications (2009)





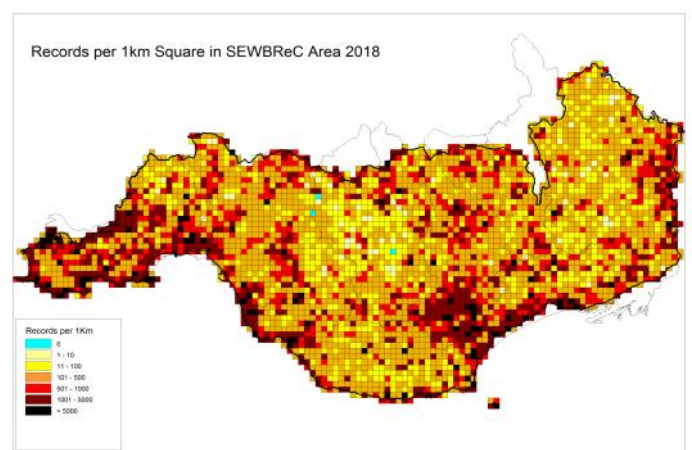
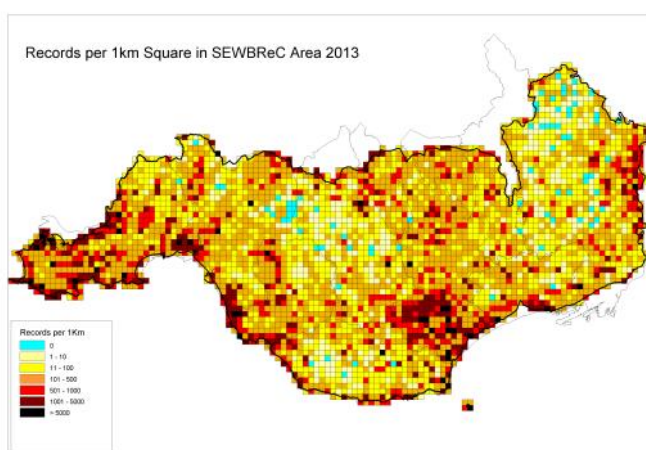
Identification of geographical and taxonomic gaps within datasets

SEWBRc can analyse datasets to identify gaps, this information can then be used to focus survey work and resources.

Example 1. In 2017, the South Wales Mammals Group accessed SEWBRc data via 'Aderyn' (see page 11) to identify gaps for terrestrial mammal (non-bat) species, and used this information to launch their 'Mind the Gap' initiative which aims to encourage volunteers to survey under-recorded squares.

Example 2. In 2014, SEWBRc provided presence/absence maps of each bat species to the Valleys Bat Group. This information was then used by volunteers to target survey work effectively.

Example 3. SEWBRc's 'Square of the Month' scheme gives details of poorly recorded 1km squares and asks local recorders to target their efforts to fill in these gaps. Since launching the initiative in 2013 we have promoted 91 squares and received 11,500 records from 200+ recorders of 1,500 species from 27 taxonomic groups.



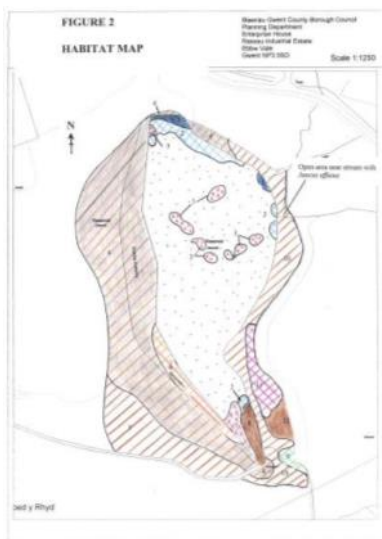
Maps showing the number of records held by SEWBRc in 2018, compared to the number of records held in 2013, following 5 years of SEWBRc's 'Square of the Month' scheme.



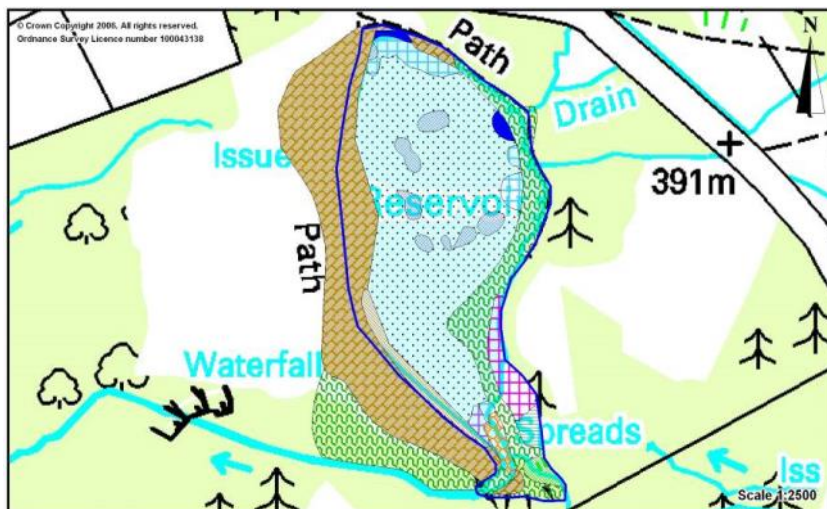
Photo: Quaking grass (Briza media) © Dan Read

Digitisation of habitat information (e.g. NVC, Phase I, UK BAP)

SEWBRc can transfer paper habitat maps into GIS format. The GIS files can then be easily shared, updated and interrogated.



Paper map displaying NVC habitat types at St James' Reservoir



An extract showing NVC habitat types converted to a MapInfo GIS layer at St James' Reservoir. (Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, 2006-07)

Digitisation of important sites (e.g. SINC, Wildlife Sites, LNRs, RIGS), and maintenance of the definitive layer

SEWBRc has created many GIS layers containing various important sites for nature conservation, most notably the Blaenau Gwent and Monmouthshire Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) layers. SEWBRc is now the custodian of these datasets and maintains and updates the master copies.

2. Accessing Data:

Site specific searches

Bespoke data searches for species, designated sites, and habitats can be carried out using a buffer around a grid reference or a site boundary to specify the search area.

The searches can be tailored to meet almost any requirements and can include:

Species

- **Protected and Priority Species:** EU and UK legally protected species, Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (Schedules 1,5 & 8), Section 7 species (Environment (Wales) Act, 2016), Badger Act 1992, and Bern Convention.
- **Other Species of Conservation Concern:** Red Data Book and Nationally Rare and Scarce species (including Welsh Red & Amber Lists)
- **Locally Important Species:** UK RSPB List, Local BAP species, locally rare and scarce species (as identified by local experts).
- **Invasive & Non-Native Species:** e.g. Japanese knotweed, Indian balsam, American signal crayfish, and American mink *etc.*
- **All Species:** All records held, including common and widespread species.
- **Selected Species:** Records of selected species according to user needs (e.g. all bat species).

Designated Sites

- **International designations:** e.g. Ramsar Sites, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas.
- **National designations:** e.g. Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves, Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- **Local designations:** e.g. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation/Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves, Country Parks, Wildlife Trust Reserves, Regionally Important Geological Sites.

Habitats

- NRW 'Phase I' habitat survey data.
- NRW Phase II (woodland, saltmarsh and grasslands) habitat survey data.
- Ancient Woodland (FCW/NRW) boundaries.

Output will usually be delivered via Aderyn and can include:

- Online viewers (e.g. Aderyn and eMapper),
- PDF report,
- Excel/CSV spreadsheet,
- GIS (ESRI or MapInfo) files,
- GIS plots (jpeg),
- Designated site citations.



Aderyn — LERC Wales' Biodiversity Information & Reporting Database

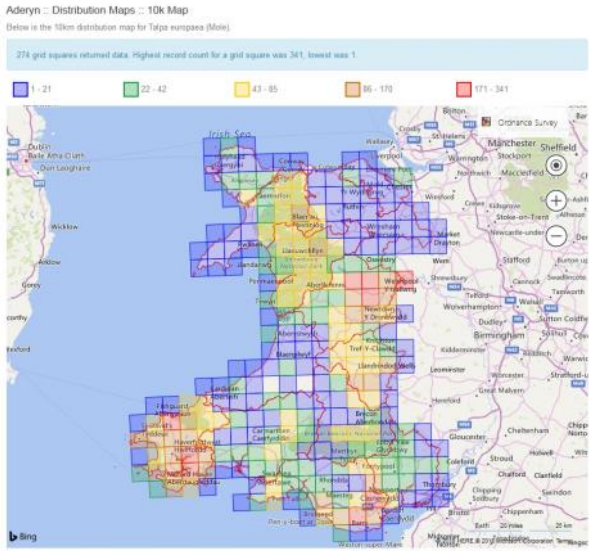


Aderyn is the Biodiversity Information and Reporting Database developed by the Biodiversity Information Service for Powys & Brecon Beacons National Park (BIS) on behalf of LERC Wales. This fast, efficient service provides a much improved final product straight from the combined LERC Wales database, and gives the customer an interactive online view of all the data collated by the four Welsh LERCs. There are different levels of access available:

- Public data access**

The public data access module allows users to find out what species have been recorded in their area of interest. Using the online map, users can select the location they are interested in, or enter a 1km grid square. A summary of species recorded in the 1km grid square will then be available to view within Aderyn. Users can also explore the Wales wide distribution of individual species or entire taxon groups, with results displayed at a 10km level including a coloured scale of record density. Individual 10km squares can be selected in order to examine 1km distribution maps for that species or taxon group.

Nb. Records of sensitive species (based on guidance from Natural Resources Wales (NRW), local recorders and other local and national experts) are not available via the public data access module.



An Aderyn 10km distribution map of *Talpa europaea* (mole)



An Aderyn 1km distribution map of *Talpa europaea* (mole)



- **Partner data access**

Partners such as NRW and local authorities can access enhanced features via the partner data access module. They can perform various data searches for species, habitats and designated sites, and also view sensitive species records. This level of access can either be for the entire LERC Wales dataset, or may be restricted to a specific geographical location / species group depending on the requirements of the customer and the parameters of the Service Level Agreement.

- **Recorder data access**

Individual wildlife recorders may be granted access to run data searches via the recorder data access module. These recorders will have access to sensitive species records, however, searches may be restricted to a specific taxonomic group, and/or geographical location.

- **Trust data access**

This module allows users to run data searches on a collection of polygons such as nature reserves, Country Parks, or a series of land holdings. This will be useful to organisations such as the Wildlife Trusts, the National Trust, Local Authorities, and NRW.

Summary Species **Designated Sites** Habitats Export

Below is a summarised list of sites within the search areas. Use the toggle to display the selected site type on the map at the bottom of this page.

The NRW Priority Areas are large scale areas which were prioritised for targeted conservation work, based on factors including the habitats within them.

Site Type	Key	Number of sites	Category	Intersection Area	Percentage of search area	Display
Site of Special Scientific Interest	■	1	National - Statutory	218,391 m ²	6.91%	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wildlife Site / SINC (Adopted)	■	4	Local - Non-statutory	227,678 m ²	7.20%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancient Semi Natural Woodland	■	14	Priority Area	132,160 m ²	4.18%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site	■	4	Priority Area	13,756 m ²	0.44%	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancient Woodland Site of Unknown Category	■	4	Priority Area	41,250 m ²	1.30%	<input type="checkbox"/>
NRW Priority Area (Woodland - PAWS)	■	4	Priority Area	13,756 m ²	0.44%	<input type="checkbox"/>

Site of Special Scientific Interest
Nelson Bog (219 m)

Use the toggles on the records above to display sites on this map.

All mapping is based on data supplied by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and other national bodies.

Use the switches below to plot the species data on the map.

Priority Species Species of Conservation Concern Locally Important Species
 Other Species Invasive Non-Native

Example showing designated sites for an area in Aderyn. Only SSSIs are displayed on the map.

• Commercial data access

The commercial data access module is designed to allow commercial data searches to be conducted online, choosing from a number of standard search packages.

- **Package A:** Bats & Roof-nesting Birds (BARB), SSSIs & SACs (designated for presence of bats). **Buffer:** Bats **2km**, Roof-nesting Birds (i.e. House Sparrow, Swallow, House Martin, Swift, Barn Owl, Peregrine, Kestrel, Starling, Jackdaw, Pied Wagtail, Little Owl, Black Redstart, Redstart, Wren, Herring Gull and Lesser Black-backed Gull) **150m**, and sites **10km** (This product was developed in accordance with the Bat Conservation Trust's '[Bat Surveys for Professional Ecologists: Good Practice Guidelines, 2016](#)').
- **Package B:** Protected and Priority Species, Other Species of Conservation Concern, Locally Important Species, Invasive & Non-Native Species, Designated Sites and Phase I habitats. **Buffer: 1km**
- **Package C:** Protected and Priority Species, Other Species of Conservation Concern, Locally Important Species, Invasive & Non-Native Species, Designated Sites and Phase I habitats. **Buffer: 2km**
- **Package D:** Protected and Priority Species, Other Species of Conservation Concern, Locally Important Species, Invasive & Non-Native Species, Designated Sites and Phase I habitats. **Buffer: 5km**
- **Custom Package:** Data search is tailored to your exact requirements.

Package A is based on a point search (around a grid reference), packages B-D and custom packages can be based on either a point, polygon or polyline data search.

To access data, the customer completes a Data Enquiry and Release Form (DERF) which is emailed to SEWBRc. When SEWBRc receives the enquiry it runs the search in Aderyn, and either delivers the results immediately (point searches*) or a quote is emailed to the customer if the search is based on a polygon, polyline or is a custom package. Once the quote is accepted, the customer will receive a link to view the data in a variety of formats.

**There is a fixed set price for all point (i.e. central grid reference) searches in packages A-D so these data enquiries will proceed automatically with no quotation. Full details of our charges are displayed on our website and on the DERF.*

This fast, efficient service gives the customer an interactive view of all the data online, and allows the results to be downloaded as a spreadsheet (.CSV format), a printable PDF report, GIS layer (shapefile format) or as an eMapper XML file. *Nb. Some non-standard, bespoke data searches may be processed using an alternative method if Aderyn is unable to adapt to the request.*

Search Results Summary








Package C: Priority Species 2km Search for relevant species, designated sites and Phase I habitats within 2km of your location(s)

Species Records	2561
Pri. Species	707
Cons. Concern	351
Loc. Important	876
Other	572
Species Status	55
Invasive Non-Native	55
Sites	5 (38)
Habitats	20

Location

Customer Reference: Gileston Road
 Location Type: Gridref
 Details: ST0155467469
 Area: 12.5km²

Search results summary information in Aderyn

Format	
View in eMapper - (2506)	
Printable Report / PDF Report This option will open a printable version of this report. The report is designed to be printed in landscape orientation. Using Google Chrome or a PDF printer this report can then be saved as a PDF (portable document format).	
Download a shapefile of Species (Point) for GIS Software	
Download a shapefile of Species (Polygon) for GIS Software	
Download a shapefile of Search Area (Polygon) for GIS Software	
Download results as Comma Separated Value (CSV) / Spreadsheet (This file just contains raw data, please use above eMapper link for a formatted report)	
Species List Comma Separated Value (CSV) / Spreadsheet	

Menu showing the variety of outputs from Aderyn

The long term aim of the commercial data access module is to enable commercial customers to request and pay for the majority of data searches completely online, allowing instant access to requested data.

Some examples of data searches carried out on Aderyn:

Priority Species Species of Conservation Concern **Locally Important Species** Other Species Invasive Non-Native

876 records found. Click on a row to see the full details. Use the search box to filter the results. Use the map and toggles at the bottom of this page to map all species records.

Show 50 entries Search:

Dist (m)	Species	Taxon Group	Cat.	Recorder	Grid Ref.	Location	Date
62	Saxifraga tridactylites ...	flowering p...	CAT3	G. Barrett	ST0167	Gilestone	1972
62	Ononis spinosa (Spiry R...	flowering p...	CAT3	G. Barrett	ST0167	Gilestone	1972
62	Grus grus (Crane)	bird	CAT3	Rob Francis			
62	Valerianella locusta (C...	flowering p...	CAT3	Rob and Lin...			
230	Gallium mollugo (Hedge B...	flowering p...	CAT3	John Pilkin...			
334	Iris foetidissima (Stin...	flowering p...	CAT3	Soltys Brew...			
524	Saxifraga tridactylites ...	flowering p...	CAT3	M.E. Gillham			
540	Ballota nigra (Black Ho...	flowering p...	CAT3	Mary Gillham			
540	Umbilicus rupestris (Na...	flowering p...	CAT3	Mary Gillham			

Use the switches below to plot the species data on the map.

Priority Species Species of Conservation Concern Locally Important Species
 Other Species Invasive Non-Native

Top left: List of Locally Important Species within a search buffer. Record information includes: distance from central grid reference, species, taxon group, category, recorder, grid reference, location & date.

Display Record Details - Agrimonia eupatoria
Below are the details of the species record you have selected.

Name: Agrimonia eupatoria (Agrimony) CAT3
 Taxon Group: flowering plant, Vascular Plants
 Family: Rosaceae
 Species Order: Rosales
 Status: LI(VC47)

Date: 09/09/1978
 Comments: GR est site centroid for West side River Thaw: West Aberthaw.
 Doc#8_AC21_39
 TOK: LC000215000ZGYR
 Abundance:

Grid Ref.: ST02846703
 Location: West Aberthaw

Recorder: Mary Gillham
 Determiner: Mary Gillham
 Source: Dr Mary Gillham Project records

Verification: Unconfirmed

Species at ST02846703
 Distance: 2,137m
 ● Yellow Feather-moss (Moss)
 ● Marram (Flowering Plant)
 ● Buck's-horn Plantain (Flower...)
 ● Roof Plait-moss (Moss)

Above right: Locally Important Species mapped in Aderyn.

Above left: Full details of a species record in Aderyn including recorder's comments and source of record.

Results - Gileston Road

Summary Species Designated Sites **Habitats** Export

Below are listed habitats within the search areas (based on the largest buffer). Phase I habitat types that may contain Priority habitats are marked in red. Habitats are listed in order of intersection size (descending). Use the toggle to display the selected habitat on the map at the bottom of this page.

Code	Count	Intersection Area	Total Search Area	Percentage	Description	Display?
G1	122	15,069,963.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	30.08%	Standing water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
J4	566	1,023,049.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	2.04%	Bare ground	<input type="checkbox"/>
B6	532	821,515.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	1.64%	Poor semi-improved grassland	<input type="checkbox"/>
A1.1.1	117	489,195.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	0.98%	Semi-natural broadleaved woodland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
A2.1	1046	405,774.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	0.81%	Dense scrub	<input type="checkbox"/>
J2.1	1321	369,112.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	0.74%	Intact hedge	<input type="checkbox"/>
H3.2	4	179,344.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	0.36%	Shingle/gravel above mhw	<input type="checkbox"/>
B2.2	21	111,350.00m ²	50,091,533.00m ²	0.22%	Semi-improved neutral grassland	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
H1.2	2					<input type="checkbox"/>
A1.1.2	23					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

All mapping is based on data supplied by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and other national bodies.

Right: List of Phase I habitats within a search buffer.

Right: Mapped Phase I habitats on Aderyn. Only standing water, semi-natural broadleaved woodland, and semi-improved neutral grassland have been displayed.

Use the switches below to plot the species data on the map.

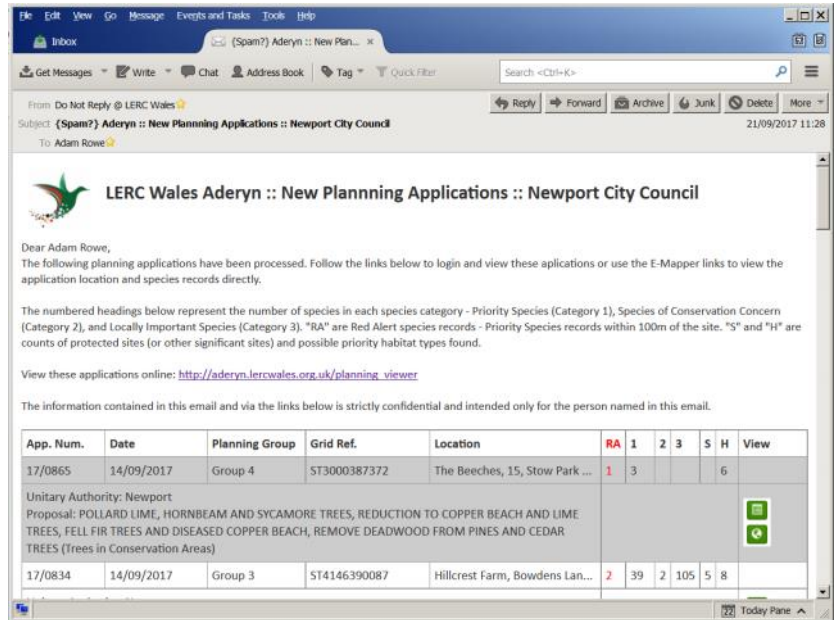
Priority Species Species of Conservation Concern Locally Important Species
 Other Species Invasive Non-Native

B2.2
Semi-improved neutral grassland

Aderyn tools:

- **Planning tool**

This tool allows a planning list to be uploaded to Aderyn, which interrogates the LERC Wales database and pulls out records of relevance to the individual planning applications. A link to the results is then emailed to local authority planners and selected other users. The results can be viewed within Aderyn or via eMapper.

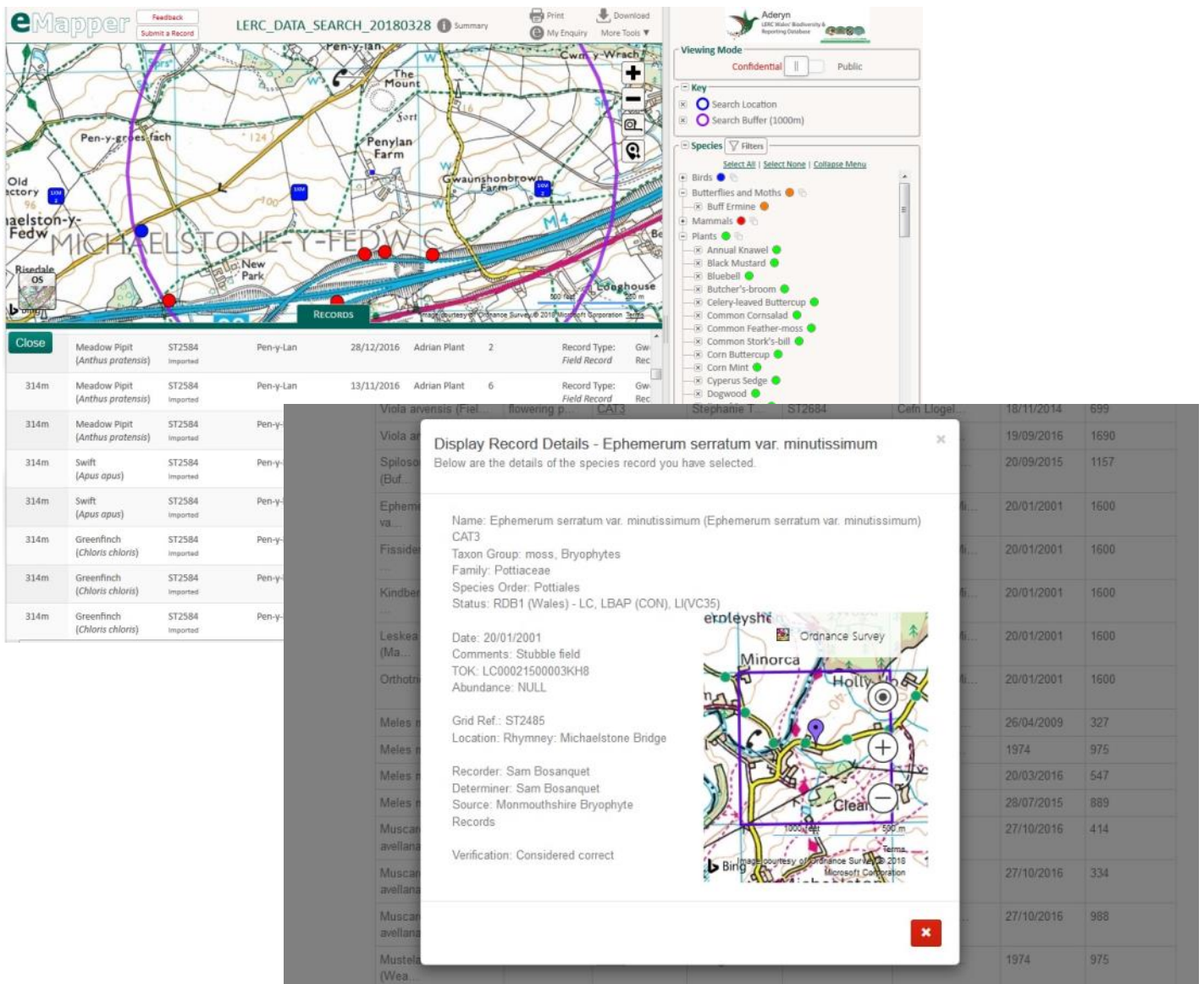


Example of the planning tool in Aderyn

- **eMapper tool**

eMapper is an online interactive report viewing tool. Developed by Cofnod in North Wales, it permits the user to view raw and mapped data through an elegant user interface. It is possible to customise the search results via filtering and toggling various options, whilst the interactive map allows features to be changed, viewed or hidden as required. A link to results in emapper is included with commercial search reports (below 5,000 species records).

Example showing the results of a data search displayed in eMapper



Example showing the results of a data search displayed in eMapper

Species distribution data

SEWBRc offers a range of products that can illustrate species distribution and trends:

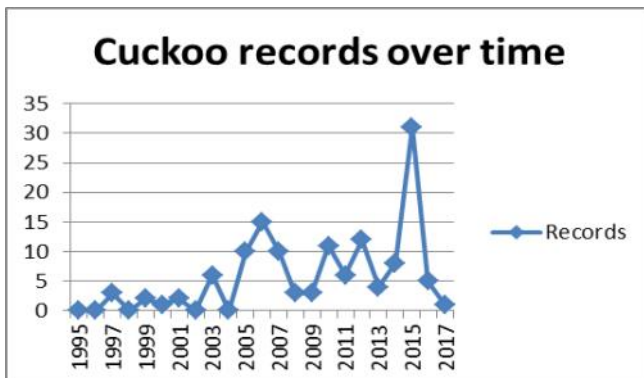
i) Species audits

A species audit could be taken annually and used to update information on populations & distribution of Section 7/LBAP/protected species; and re-focus & refine surveys, land management & resources. The audit could include:

- a simple species list,
- information on the number of records and when it was first and last recorded,
- dot distribution maps or GIS layers,
- a sites list for species,
- species accounts with trend analyses.

Example: Section 7 species (Cuckoo) audit for Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (December 2017)

Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)



Cuckoo (*Cuculus canorus*)

Total Records: 144

2015 saw the first integration of BirdTrack data into the SEWBRc database, and this boosts the overall records giving a false impression of a peak in the species for that year. Similar numbers of records would be expected for 2016 and 2017 once they are incorporated into the database.

Records are widely distributed in the authority.

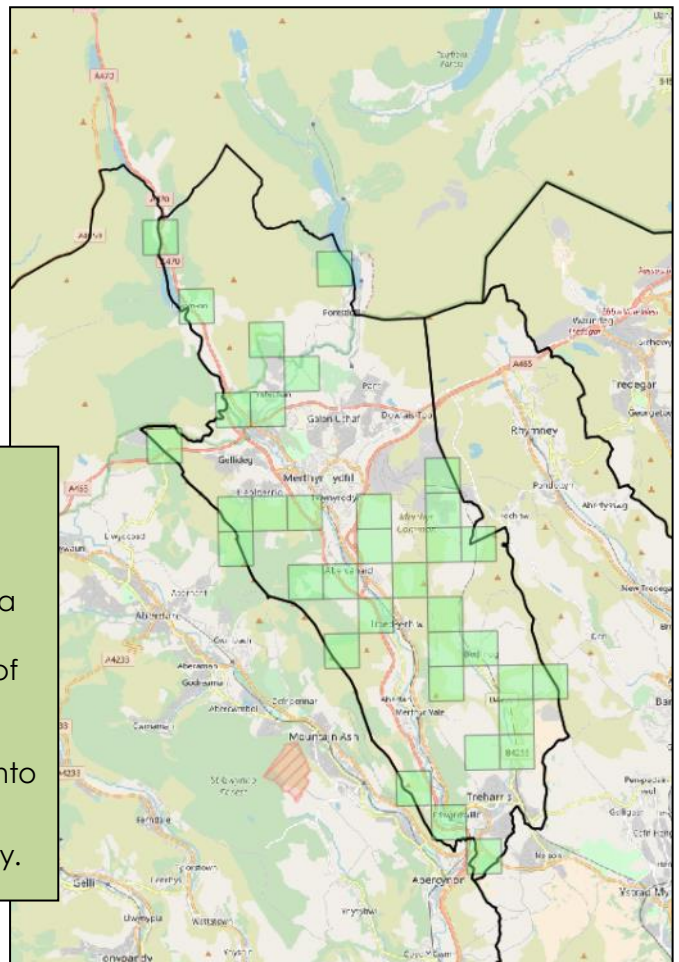




Photo: Marsh fritillary @ David Slade

iii) Distribution of invasive non-native species

Example: In 2015, SEWBRc used aerial photos and online resources to identify stands of Japanese Knotweed (*Fallopia japonica*). Checks in the field were undertaken to ensure the methodology was reliable, the data was then entered into [SEWBRcCORD](#) and provided as a GIS layer to Bridgend County Borough Council. This information was used to effectively target problem areas with eradication/control programmes, and evaluate and monitor their efficacy.



Home Record Explore

Home » Record of Fallopia japonica

Record of Fallopia japonica

Record ID:	2700455
Species:	Fallopia japonica
Preferred species name:	Fallopia japonica
Taxonomy:	Phylum : Caryophyllales : Polygonaceae
Survey:	General records
Recorder:	
Input log:	
Record status:	Awaiting review
Date:	04/11/2015
Submission date:	Entered on 5th November 2015 at 11:03
Recorder Name:	
Identified by:	
Certainty:	Certain

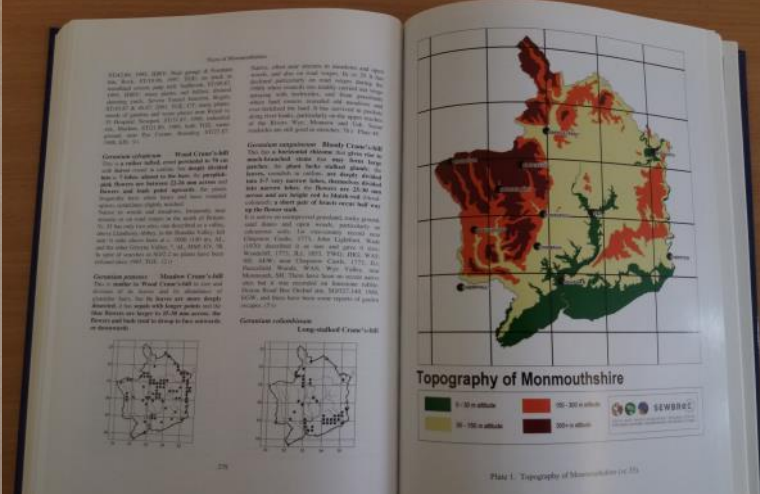
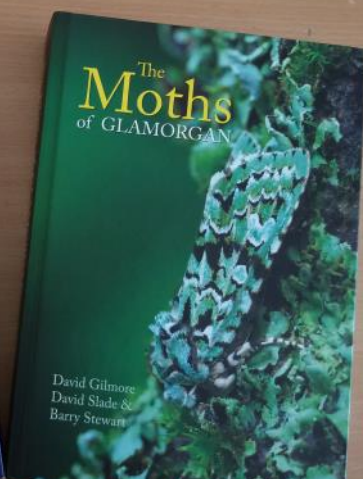
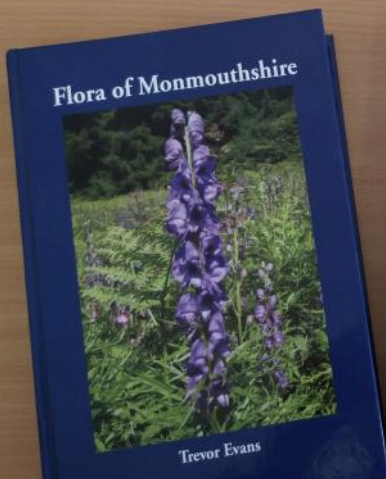
iv) Help with production of species atlases

SEWBRc can pull together the relevant species, habitat or site data, and produce maps using the SEWBRc database and GIS expertise.

- *Example 1:* Topographical, urban area & transport links maps created for the *Flora of Monmouthshire*. Evans, T. 2007.
- *Example 2:* Data collation, formatting text, and species and geology maps created for *The Moths of Glamorgan*. Gilmore, D., Slade, D., & Stewart, B. 2014.
- *Example 3:* Data collation and formatting for the online [East Glamorgan Bird Atlas](#) (2014).



Mapping Japanese knotweed in Bridgend using SEWBRcCORD, 2015.



Left photo: *The Flora of Monmouthshire* (Trevor Evans), and *The Moths of Glamorgan* (David Gilmore, David Slade & Barry Stewart). Right photo: Topography of Monmouthshire map created by SEWBRc for the *Flora of Monmouthshire* (Trevor Evans).



Photo: Toadstools © Dan Reed

Habitat audits

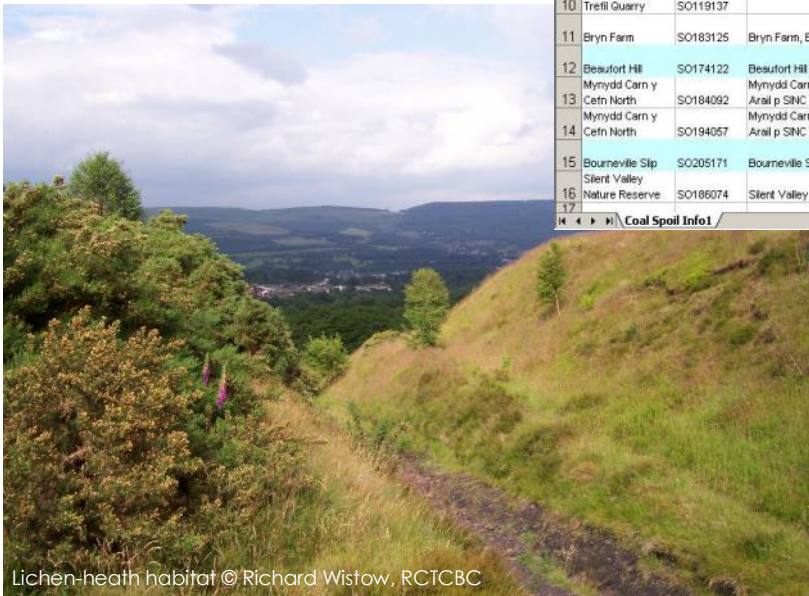
i) Mapping of UKBAP/LBAP priority habitats using a similar technique to the work described previously for invasive non-native species (see page 16).

ii) Identification of suitable new sites for habitat creation/ expansion/enhancement and species reintroductions/ translocation using the Phase I data.

iii) Use of incidental indicator species to identify habitat.

Example: SEWBRc used records of *Cladonia* spp., Carline thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*) and Fairy flax (*Linum catharticum*) to locate potential lichen-heath on coal spoil (Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council, 2007). This was then used to produce a list of potential lichen-heath sites, and target surveys of this often under-recorded habitat type.

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	POSSIBLE INTERESTING SPOIL SITES IN BLAENAU GWENT							
2								
3	(those highlighted in blue have been mapped - on the supplied CD)							
4	Name	Grid Reference	Designations	Unique Id for use in MapInfo	Vegetated Spoil	Survey	Area (ha)	Comments
5	Brynmawr North	SO183133	Partly designated as SSSI & SAC. Was a pSINC (no longer)	so11se_428479		Upland_UplandSurvey	70.86	Cladonia records dotted around site.
6	Brynmawr North-East	SO192133	North part is SSSI & SAC	so11se_428844		Upland_UplandSurvey	30.11	No indicator species records
7	Bryn Serth	SO153108	Partly designated as pSINC (Maun y Pound)	so11sw_193554		Lowland_Phase1	unknown	Phase I hasn't identified this area has spoil but there are records of Cladonia and Carline thistle. lfd as mosaic of improved grassland, heath and marshy grassland
8	Ty Picca	SO181108	Ty Picca Pond Group pSINCs are scattered throughout area	N/a		N/a	Unknown	Phase I has identified this area as semi-improved grassland NOT spoil. No records of Cladonia, Carline or Fairy flax thistle are currently available at SEWBRc for this area
9	West of Bryn Serth	SO144110	None	so11sw_191994		Lowland_Phase1	35.23	Seems to be partly built on?? But is identified as spoil by Phase I
10	Trefil Quarry	SO119137		N/a		N/a	Unknown	Phase I has not identified this as spoil but there are records of Cladonia, fairy flax, and Carline thistle here. lfd as marshy grassland, unimproved calcareous grassland,
11	Bryn Farm	SO183125	Bryn Farm, Brynmawr pSINC	N/a		N/a	Unknown	Cladonia records found on the pSINC. Not identified as spoil but as heath/grassland mosaic
12	Beaufort Hill	SO174122	Beaufort Hill pSINC	N/a		N/a	Unknown	Cladonia records found on the pSINC. Not identified as spoil but as grassland mosaic
13	Mynydd Carn y Cefn North	SO184092	Mynydd Carn y Cefn (Cefn yr Aral p SINC	N/a		N/a	Unknown	lfd as acid grassland/heath mosaic not as spoil. Cladonia records here.
14	Mynydd Carn y Cefn North	SO194057	Mynydd Carn y Cefn (Cefn yr Aral p SINC	N/a		N/a	Unknown	lfd as acid grassland/heath mosaic not as spoil. Cladonia records here.
15	Bourneville Slip	SO205171	Bourneville Slip pSINC	N/a		N/a	Unknown	lfd as acid/marshy grassland/cree/bracken mosaic not as spoil. Cladonia records here.
16	Nature Reserve	SO186074	Stert Valley nature Reserve	so10ne_441464		Lowland_Phase1	0.43	lfd as spoil surrounded by acid marshy grassland. Fairy flax record here.



Extract of spreadsheet displaying possible lichen-heath coal spoil sites based on presence of *Cladonia* spp., Carline thistle (*Carlina vulgaris*) and Fairy flax (*Linum catharticum*) in Blaenau Gwent (2007).

3. Training Courses & Outreach:

i) 'Introduction to wildlife recording' course

This full-day introductory course provides a basic introduction to wildlife recording and is delivered by experienced SEWBRc staff. It can be provided to various groups including 'Friends of' or volunteer groups, local communities, societies, and school eco-clubs. The course includes:

- Why record wildlife
- What is a biological record
- Methods and techniques on how to record wildlife
- Surveys that attendees can get involved in
- A short outdoor session to make wildlife observations
- A demonstration of the LERC Wales App and SEWBRcCORD (SEWBRc's Online Recording Database)



We can also offer a follow up Field Event after delivering an 'Introduction to Wildlife Recording' course. These are designed for beginners starting on their journey of wildlife recording, and offer an excellent opportunity for course attendees to practice the theory learnt on the training course. The field events can involve guided elements and the presence of additional species experts to augment the learning experience.



ii) Species identification courses

SEWBRc can organise and facilitate species identification courses in collaboration with species experts (local and national).

Example 1: Three training days (Fungi, Dragonflies and Aquatic Plants) held for the National Trust's Gower Landscape Partnership Project in 2017.

Example 2: Four training days (Coal Spoil Biodiversity, Fungal Microscopy, Leafhoppers and Umbellifers) funded by Wales Biodiversity Partnership (WBP) held in 2016.



iii) 'How to access the biodiversity data you need (and avoid the pitfalls)' course

In recent years the need for high quality biodiversity evidence has grown, as has the amount of data in existence and the number of possible sources via which it can be obtained. SEWBRcC recognises that it can be difficult for those requiring access to data to fully understand which data sources can and cannot legitimately be used, especially when required for commercial purposes, due to non-commercial usage restrictions imposed on some data sources (including Aderyn and the NBN Atlas).

SEWBRcC has developed a training workshop specifically for its commercial consultancy customers which tackles all of these issues and shows participants how to legitimately access the biodiversity data they need, whilst avoiding data pitfalls.

The training workshop covers the following areas:

- LERCs in Wales and the UK
- What LERCs do
- Growing the evidence base
- Who needs biodiversity data in Wales and why?
- Accessing data via the NBN Atlas: what do you need to know?
- Accessing SEWBRcC data services: current services and terms of use
- Accessing biodiversity data in Wales via Aderyn
- Submitting your biodiversity data

iv) IT training courses

SEWBRcC can offer basic training courses in:

- Biological recording software such as Recorder or MapMate,
- QGIS (a free and open-source GIS software),
- Aderyn (the Biodiversity Information & Reporting Database of Local Environmental Records Centre Wales),
- SEWBRcCORD (SEWBRcC's Online Recording Database).

4. Events:

Field recording days

SEWBRc can organise, promote and deliver field recording days. These events encourage wildlife recording on sites which are often under-recorded or on sites not normally accessible to the public. These events are generally aimed at more experienced / specialist recorders, and are an excellent way to learn more about the biodiversity of a particular site.

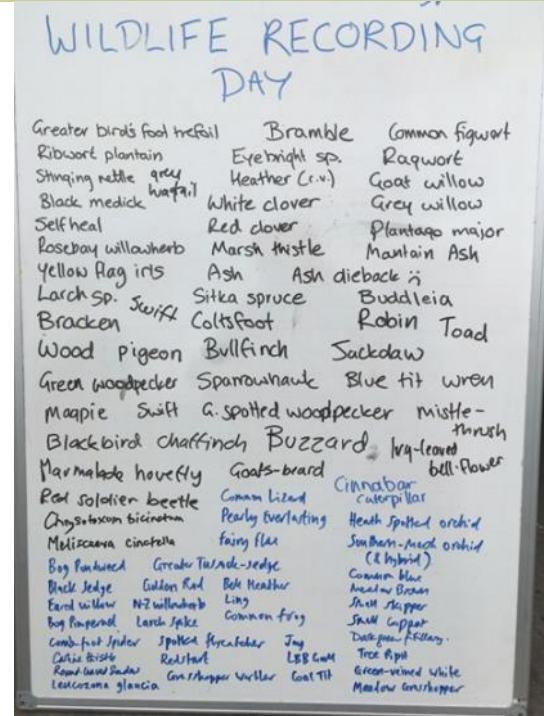
Example field recording days at: Cefn Ila (2017) held in association with the Woodland Trust; Flat Holm (2017) as part of the Mary Gillham Archive Project.

Supporting partner events and BioBlitzes

SEWBRc regularly attends and supports partner events such as Go Wild! (organised by Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent County Borough Councils), Wales Biodiversity Partnership Conference (organised by Wales Biodiversity Partnership), Unknown Wales Conference (organised by the Wildlife Trust of South & West Wales). We can also assist with the organisation and data gathering aspects of public facing BioBlitzes, for example Hendre Lake BioBlitz in collaboration with Living Levels Landscape Partnership (2019), Newport Wetlands BioBlitz (2017) in association with RSPB, and Abergavenny Castle BioBlitz (2014) in association with Monmouthshire Environment Partnership Board.

Promoting events

SEWBRc can promote other biodiversity/nature conservation events held by other organisations through our monthly emails, website events calendar and social media accounts (Facebook & Twitter).



5. Miscellaneous:

SEWBRc also:

- Has experience of all aspects of project management (e.g. the Mary Gillham Archive Project, funded by the National Lottery via the Heritage Lottery Fund).
- Attends various partnership meetings such as Local Biodiversity Action Partnerships (LBAPs), Glamorgan Biodiversity Action Group (GlamBAG) and Greater Gwent Biodiversity Action Group (GGBAG).
- Represents and advocates for wildlife recorders at many local meetings and on a national level via seats on the steering groups / committees of NBN Atlas Wales, ALERC and NFBR (National Forum for Biological Recording).
- Organises the annual Gwent & Glamorgan Recorders' Forum Meeting.
- Edits and publishes the biannual Gwent-Glamorgan Recorders' Newsletter.

SEWBRc can also:

- Assist with the production and publication of newsletters on behalf of local natural history/ recording groups.
- Host local natural history/recording groups webpages on the SEWBRc website.
- Assist with professional archiving of notebooks, recording cards and other documents (in association with professional archiving services such as Glamorgan Archives, where appropriate).
- Loan species identification guides, atlases and other natural history books. Equipment such as a slide scanner and compound and stereo microscopes are available to use at the SEWBRc offices. Field equipment such as a GPS device, specimen pots, nets, white trays, moth trap, hand lenses, bat detector, and mammal footprint tunnel may also be loaned out for home or event use.





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