Habitats Directive

Pembrokeshire Marine Special Area of Conservation

What's happening?

Laws were introduced under the Habitats Directive to safeguard Europe's most endangered plants, animals and habitats.

As part of this, the Environment Agency had to review all the existing consents that we regulated to ensure there were no adverse effects on the nature conservation interests of designated sites such as Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).

We used a staged approach to do this:

- Stages One and Two – listed all consents and looked at those with the potential to have a significant effect.
- Stage Three – looked in detail at whether consents would have an adverse affect on special sites, by means of an appropriate assessment.
- Stage Four - those consents with no adverse affect will stand, whilst those with adverse effects will need to be changed.

Location

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About this site

Pembrokeshire Marine SAC extends from just north of Abereiddy on the north Pembrokeshire coast to just east of Manorbier in the south and includes the coast islands of Ramsey, Skomer, Grassholm and Skokholm, the Bishops and Clerks and The Smalls.

High habitat and biological diversity are of great importance throughout the site, particularly the reefs and Milford Haven ria-estuary. The ria-estuary is considered to be one of the best, high quality examples, of a ria in Britain.

Pembrokeshire Marine SAC is the third largest marine SAC in the UK, covering 138,069 hectares. The SAC also co-exists with the only Coastal National Park in UK.

Review of Consents

For the appropriate assessment of this review we looked at the following **water quality** issues :

- Toxic contamination in the water column
- Dissolved oxygen
- Sediment quality
- Unionised ammonia
- Nutrients
- Intermittent discharges

We carried out hydraulic modelling to study how various **abstractions** and flows affect the water depth and velocity. Also a hydro-ecological impact assessment of abstractions on sensitive coastal streams was undertaken.

A number of relevant **waste management licences** assessed were landfills, which were subject to re-permitting under the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) regime. A number originally included in the review have closed and ceased operation. Assessment of the remaining consents was carried out by considering the type of operation and where the effects were possible and the conditions associated with it.

Due to the potential of large industrial air emissions an **air quality** assessment was undertaken. Features were allocated sensitivities to atmospheric deposition and a critical load was then calculated for the site. This is a measure of atmospheric deposition calculated to protect the most sensitive feature.

Lamprey

River and sea Lamprey are eel-like jawless primitive fish. The fully grown adults migrate into rivers to spawn on stony and gravely substrates.
The main river catchment that flows into the tidal reaches of Pembrokeshire Marine SAC is the Cleddau Rivers, also designated SAC status.

Conclusions

- Stage 3 considered 315 permissions, assessing whether or not they were having an adverse effect on Pembrokeshire Marine SAC. The impacts assessed included toxic contamination, nutrients, reduction of freshwater flows, air quality impacts.
- All the consents assessed were not having an adverse effect on site integrity and were therefore affirmed at stage 4.

Further information can be found on our website
www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Guidance can be requested from enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Habitats Directive

Ardal Gadwraeth Arbennig Forol Sir Benfro

Beth sy'n digwydd?

Cyflwynwyd cyfreithiau o dan y Gyfarwyddeb Cynefinoedd ar gyfer diogelu'r planhigion, yr anifeiliaid, a'r cynefinoedd hynny sydd tan fwyaf o fygythiad yn Ewrop.

Yn rhan o hyn, bu raid i Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd adolygu'r holl ganiatadau a reolwn ar hyn o bryd er mwyn sicrhau nad oedd effeithiau andwyol ar safleoedd dynodedig megis Ardaloedd Cadwraeth Arbennig (ACA) ac Ardaloedd Gwarchodaeth Arbennig (AGA).

Darfu inni gyflawni hyn fesul cam:

- Y Cam Cyntaf a'r Ail – rhestru'r holl ganiatadau ac edrych ar y rhai a ddichon fod ag effaith sylweddol.
- Y Trydydd Cam – craffu ar a fyddai caniatadau'n effeithio er gwaeth ar safleoedd arbennig, trwy gyfrwng asesiad addas.
- Y Pedwerydd Cam – gadewir llonydd i ganiatadau nad ydynt yn effeithio er gwaeth, ond bydd angen newid y gweddill.

Lleoliad

[H] Hawlfraint y Goron. Cedwir pob hawl. Asiantaeth yr Amgylchedd. 100026380. [2008].

Ynglŷn â'r safle hwn

Mae ACA Forol Sir Benfro'n ymestyn o'r gogledd i Abereiddi ar lannau gogleddol y sir i ychydig i'r dwyrain o Faenorbŷr yn y de, gan gynnwys ynysoedd Dewi, Sgomer, Gwales a Sgogwm, y Cerrig a'r Smalls.

Mae amrywiaeth cynefinoedd a bywydegol o bwys mawr ledled y safle, yn enwedig y creigresi a ria-aber Aberdaugleddau. Bernir fod y ria-aber yn un o riâu gorau, uchel ei safon Prydain.

ACA Forol Sir Benfro yw ACA trydedd fwyaf y DU, yn 138,069 hectar. Mae'r ACA hefyd yn cydfodoli â'r unig Barc Cenedlaethol Arfordirol yn y DU.

Adolygiad Caniatadau

Ar gyfer asesiad addas yr adolygiad hwn, edrychasom ar y pynciau **ansawdd dŵr** canlynol:

- Halogiad gwenwynig yn y golofn ddŵr
- Ocsigen tawdd
- Ansawdd gwaddodion
- Amonia anïoneiddiedig
- Maetholion
- Gollyngiadau ysbeidiol

Darfu inni lunio modelau hydrawlig er mwyn astudio sut mae amryw **dyniadau** a llifoedd yn effeithio ar ddyfnder a chyflymder y dŵr. Cynhaliwyd asesiad effaith hydro-ecolegol y tyniadau ar nentydd arfordirol, hawdd eu difrodi.

Roedd nifer o'r **trwyddedau rheoli gwastraff** a aseswyd yn safleoedd tirlenwi, a ad-drwyddedir o dan y drefn Atal a Rheoli Llygredd (ARhLl). Mae nifer a gynhwyswyd yn wreiddiol yn yr adolygiad wedi cau a rhoi'r gorau i weithredu. Aseswyd y canaitadau sy'n weddill trwy ystyried y math o weithredu, lle'r oedd effeithiau'n bosibl, a'r amodau cysylltiedig.

Oherwydd dichonoldeb allyriadau awyr diwydiannol sylweddol, cynhaliwyd asesiad **ansawdd awyr**. Dyranwyd i nodweddion sensitifeddau i ddyddodiad atmosfferaidd, yna amcangyfrifwyd llwyth critigol ar gyfer y safle. Dyma fesur dyddodiad atmosfferaidd a amcangyfrifwyd er mwyn amddiffyn y nodwedd mwyaf sensitif.

Lampreiod

Mae lampreiod afon a môr yn bysgod di-ên, cyntefig tebyg i lyswennod. Mae'r oedolion aeddfed yn ymfudo i afonydd i silio ar gerrig a gro.
Y prif ddalgylch afonol sy'n llifo i rannau llanwol ACA Forol Sir Benfro yw Cleddau, sydd hefyd wedi'i ddynodi'n ACA.

Casgliadau

- Ystyriodd y Trydydd Cam a oedd 315 o ganiatadau'n effeithio er gwaeth ar ACA Forol Sir Benfro ai peidio. Roedd yr effeithiau a aseswyd yn cynnwys llygru gwenwynig, maetholion, lleihad llifoedd dŵr croyw, ac effeithiau ansawdd awyr.
- O'r holl ganiatadau a seswyd, nid oedd un yn effeithio er gwaeth ar gyfanrwydd y safle, felly fe'u cadarnhawyd yn y Pedwerydd Cam.

Ceir rhagor o wybodaeth ar ein gwefan ni
www.environment-agency.cymru.gov.uk

Gellir gofyn i enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk am wybodaeth