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08/08/2023

Dear Daniel,

Ecological walkover – 1129_WAL_MPH

I am writing regarding the Ecological Walkover at 1129 Penmaenmawr which was carried out on 07th of July 2023. The survey comprised a visit and assessment of the proposed area of works and the surrounding area. The survey checked for the presence of nesting birds and protected species that may be present within the working area. The proposed works, as described in the MPH scoping document, will entail removing redundant old rail used as groynes from the beach. The timbers surrounding these rails will also be removed.

The area is accessed via a stone walkway tunnel beneath the railway line overhead (see photo 1) off the A55 dual carriageway. The walkway drops down onto concrete hardstanding then down onto the pebble beach, as shown in photos 2-5. The beach itself has very limited vegetation and is bordered by the stone seawall and large boulders, as shown in photos 3 and 4. A large headland lies to the east of the site, and a smaller headland lies to the west where a water treatment plant is situated. The western headland is covered with grasses and sand dune vegetation, along with some larger bushes and bulrushes further west. This lies outside of the working area however. The accessibility of the site was limited due to the tide as shown in photo 2.

Birds

No nests were visually observed within the area. The site area was located directly on the beach and so provided no nesting habitat for breeding birds. Out at sea, gulls *Laridae spp* were observed flying overhead, but no other birds were observed nearby.

Bats

The stone pedestrian walkway tunnel and railway at Penmaenmawr is currently in use and is therefore most likely unsuitable for use as a potential roost. No other potential roosting features (PRF) were found.

Other Protected Species

No evidence of other protected species was found within the site. The site is predominantly hardstanding or located directly on the beach, as well as in close proximity to a public dual carriageway, making it unsuitable for badger setts. A large drainage river runs into the sea from under the railway and dual carriageway to the west of the site, and is surrounded by stone and pebbles. This is unlikely to support breeding populations of otter, water vole or GCN.

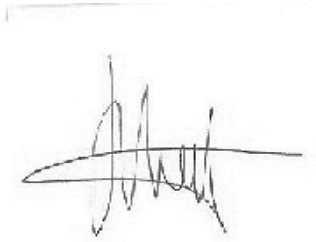
Following the survey, I advised that there are very limited habitats present for protected species near the area of the works. As such, works on the beach may proceed. As always, care should be taken

when working in the area and should stop immediately if any protected species are found and an Ecologist should then be contacted to advise on a way forward.

If works are delayed or are not completed this week, please note that a further breeding bird check will be required to ensure no new nests are being constructed within the area.

Please let me know if you have any further questions regarding the survey or findings.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lucy Hughes', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Lucy Hughes

Ecologist

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Lucy.hughes@atmosconsulting.com

Photos of Site

Photo 1 – stone access tunnel under the railway line to the beach front from the public walkway.



Photo 2 – pebble beach where redundant sleeper breakers lie. Site is bordered by seawall and large boulders to the east and west.



Photo 3 – concrete and stone seawall and redundant rail groins facing east towards headland.

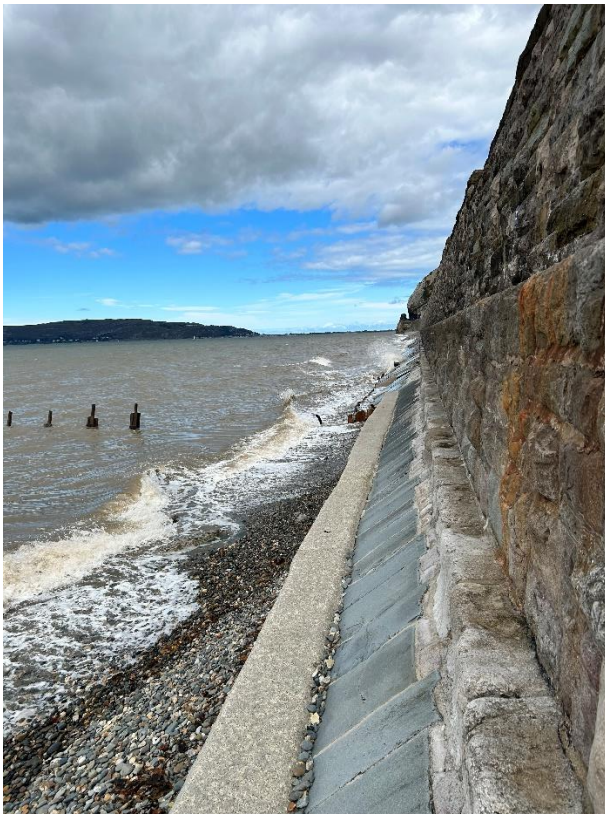


Photo 4 – wooden and metal sleeper groins on pebble beach looking west towards grassy headland.



Photo 5 – stone and concrete seawall upon entering site from tunnel.

