

Felinhen Uchaf  
Tregarth  
Bangor  
Gwynedd LL57 4BB  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Marine Licensing Team  
Cardiff Permitting Service, Natural Resources Wales  
29 Newport Road, Cambria House  
Cardiff CF24 0TP

**Re: Application for a Marine License for replacement of a wooden walkway between Ynys y Big and Menai Bridge ref - CML 1867**

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you as the representative of the Cambrian Ornithological Society (COS) which amongst other things gathers and publishes annually, information about birds and their numbers from Anglesey, Caernarfonshire and Meirioneth.

It has come to our attention about the proposal to construct a wooden walkway allowing access from Menai Bridge to the uninhabited Ynys y Big, which is part of the Glannau Porthaethwy SSSI.

Ynys y Big was connected to the mainland by a poor walkway up to about 30 years ago but around that time fell into disrepair. Since then the island has only been accessible at low tide over treacherous mud, and the trees and shrubbery on the island have remained unmanaged. Due to its isolation it has since become a safe and important high tide roost for a number of bird species including large numbers of Oystercatchers which can number over 1000 and a significant numbers of Little Egret which can number 50 or more.

Ynys y Big is the only island in the Menai Straits that holds this number of high tide roosting birds and since the completion of the Wales Coastal Path a number of years ago undisturbed and suitable high tide roosts in the area and beyond have reduced considerably. It is felt by COS that allowing this development will add further stress to a significant number of shorebirds by yet again disturbing safe high tide roosting sites these birds use.

We therefore oppose the granting of this license on the above grounds

Yours Sincerely



Dr Gareth Jones, Cambrian Ornithological Society