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Natural Resources Wales Cambria House, Cardiff

1st September 2021

Dear Joshua,

DAT file number 15347

Tidal Dyfi Screening Advice Note

Thank you for sending this consultation on the draft Screening Advice Note for the Tidal Dyfi Coastal Adaption Project and for the opportunity to comment at this early stage. Based on the boundary within the document you provided I have reviewed the consultation area against the HER, scheduled monument data, Coflein (Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales). A more accurate screening can be done if a GIS boundary as an ESRI Shapefile or MapInfo table can be provided.

I have noted 21 historic environment records within the area:

PRN	SITE NAME	SITE NAME	PERIOD	SUMMARY	NGR
125727		DWELLING	POST MEDIEVAL	House shown on T Lewis' map of Cors Fochno dating to 1790.	SN6171893185
125742		PEN	POST MEDIEVAL	'Cattle Pen' marked on 1st and 2nd edition OS Historic Mapping.	SN6187093120
125754		SHEEP FOLD	POST MEDIEVAL	Sheepfold marked on 1st edition OS Historic Mapping	SN6095291791
100619		Railway Wagon	Modern	A former railway coach now used as a private dwelling or holiday accommodation. Originally a 3rd brake coach owned by the Great Western Railway. Possibly a former 'Camping Coach', let by railway companies to holiday makers, popular from the 1930s to the	SN6186793138
122596		FARMSTEAD	POST MEDIEVAL	Farmstead recorded on 2nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN6173493082
35312		Sea Defences	POST MEDIEVAL	Earth bank between and along the Afon Leri and Afon Clettwr. Until the construction of the railway this bank was the primary sea defence of the area. N.Page 1998 Forms part of the sea defences which extend northwards from Borth, along the course of the Afon Leri to its mouth on the Dyfi estuary. The defences then turn eastwards and follow the southern side of the estuary inland a far as the Ynys Hir Nature Reserve. Spurs of the sea defences turn inland along the line of streams and rivers flowing towards the estuary, in all over 16 square kilometres of low lying farmland are located on the landward side of the sea defences, and the area is crossed by numerous drainage channels, which often define many of the fields. G Williams, 1995 The chronology of the sea defences is unresolved. JH May 1998	SN6169393114
35335		Military Building	Modern	Fortified rectangular building with an observation slit along its west side looking along the railway line. A WWII building of unknown function. N.Page 1998	SN6298693494





51822		BUILDING	Modern	A building is marked on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map against the field boundary. No visible trace of the building was identified during the farm visit.	SN62829350
125738	Aber Leri Wharf	WHARF	POST MEDIEVAL	The river frontage has collapsed in places.	SN6166593220
94898	ABERLERI FARM	Farmstead	POST MEDIEVAL	The house walls of Aberleri are of split and roughly course rubble set in lime mortar. The roof is made of slate and it has brick chimneys. The openings have shallow segmented arched heads of brick, the windows are large paned Victorian sashes.	SN60959196
5432	AFON LERI BRIDGE	Bridge	POST MEDIEVAL	A railway bridge built in 1863. Consists of seven spans with wooden piers (PP 31/03/09).	SN61679295
122598	GLAN-DWR	FARMSTEAD	POST MEDIEVAL	Farmstead recorded on 2nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN6190593026
6097	GORS FOCHNO	Cropmark	Prehistoric	Irregular circular shaped earthwork visible on LiDAR at 1m DSM. JS 2021	SN6203191908
6098	GORS FOCHNO	Cropmark	Prehistoric	Slight curvilinear earthwork visible on LiDAR at 1m DSM. JS 2021	SN62159173
94922	TY HWNT	Farmstead	POST MEDIEVAL	A small farmstead on the southern side of Ynys Mochno. Shown on Lewis's map of 1790, still in use. (PP 06/04/09)	SN62739241
94943	TY MAWR MOCHNO	Farmstead	POST MEDIEVAL	A mid to late 19th century farmstead complex on the northernwestern side of Ynys Mochno. First marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1889, still mostly in occupation. (PP 07/04/09)	SN62949269
94944	YNYS LAS FARM	Farmstead	POST MEDIEVAL	A small mid - late 19th century farmstead complex on the northern fringes of Cors Fochno. First recorded on the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Farmstead still in use. (PP 07/04/09)	SN62599333
125751	Ynys Tachwedd Cottage	HOUSE	POST MEDIEVAL	A small cottage referred to and shown on the plan accompanying the sales particulars for various properties belonging to Thomas Savin in 1866. Now demolished.	SN6238093320
125749	Ynyslas Cottage; Gorgerddan Arms	PUBLIC HOUSE	POST MEDIEVAL	Orginally built as an inn to service the growing community at Ynyslas after the coming of the railway. Now a private residence.	SN6215792974
125698	Ynyslas Station	RAILWAY STATION	POST MEDIEVAL	Ynyslas Train Station. Now demolished.	SN6185093130
125748	Ynyslas Terrace	TERRACED HOUSING	POST MEDIEVAL	Terraced Cottages, removed by the time of the OS Survey in 1886. Uneven pasture is all that remains.	SN6174093110

As you note in the document there are no Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings or Registered Parks or Gardens within the project area, though the Scheduled Hulks at Ynyslas (CD282) are some 400metres to the north. The Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments have additional records of drainage ditches and a railway siding (the latter may be an incorrect location).

This area was characterised as part of the Wetlands Margins Survey: Cors Fochno (2009) following excavations in which a timber Medieval trackway and Iron Age/Roman lead smelting remains were discovered on the south side of Cors Fochno. These excavations demonstrated the preservation of organic and inorganic remains which were previously hidden from view and highlight the potential for unknown archaeological remains within the bog. In addition to archaeological remains held





within the bog, the assessment highlights the potential for palaeoenvironmental information held within the peat of Cors Fochno. $\frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{n}} \frac{1$

The area under consideration was characterised in the Wetland Margins Survey as:

Area Name	Area Type	Archaeol ogical Potential	Palaeoenvi ronmental Potential	Description
Northern Marsh	Farmed Bog	Medium	High	A large area (286ha) of former bog now drained and turned into farmland onthe northern edge of Cors Fochno. Although areas of peat are noted soils maps indicate much of the underlying soils consist of alluvial deposits and gleys probably representing the former intertidal salt marshes forming the northern boundary of the peat bog prior to the 19th century drainage. The lines of tidal creeks can still be seen, and the area is now occupied by dispersed farmsteads.
				Known archaeological sites include 19th century farmsteads and dwellings and WWII defences along its northern fringes. Prior to the 19th century this area is likely to have contained the earlier crossings along the fringes of the bog to get to places like Ynys Mochno.
				Despite extensive drainage and continued farming there are still likely to be underlying waterlogged deposits surviving.
				Continued drainage provides the main threat to the archaeological and environmental resource.
Rhos Wen & Lower Marsh	Farmed Bog	Medium	High	An area of peat bog (121 ha) lying near the northern limits of the peat that has been drained and farmed in the past, but is now gradually being returned to a more natural state. Also cut by the canalised Leri. LIDAR imaging and archaeological investigations demonstrate past ploughing.
				There is little known archaeology in this area although part of the area does border the islands of Ynys Las and Ynys Mochno and may therefore contain related archaeology.
				19th and 20th century drainage and agricultural activity has caused desiccation of some of the upper peat layers but good survival of waterlogged peat below this has been demonstrated.
				Continued agricultural drainage and ploughing on the private land is the main threat to archaeological and environmental deposits.
Cors Fochno & Llwyn y	Peat Bog	Medium	High	An area (143.5ha) of peat bog that was drained and farmed during the 19th century but has now been reverting to a more natural state. Some evidence of peat-cutting has been noted in this area.
Garreg				As an area of peat bog this area was perhaps more accessible from Ynys Mochno and Bryn Sant but it is unlikely to have seen intensive activity.
				Although surrounded by well-established ditches and drains the resulting enclosures were still quite large and there is still probably a depth of undisturbed waterlogged peat in this area.

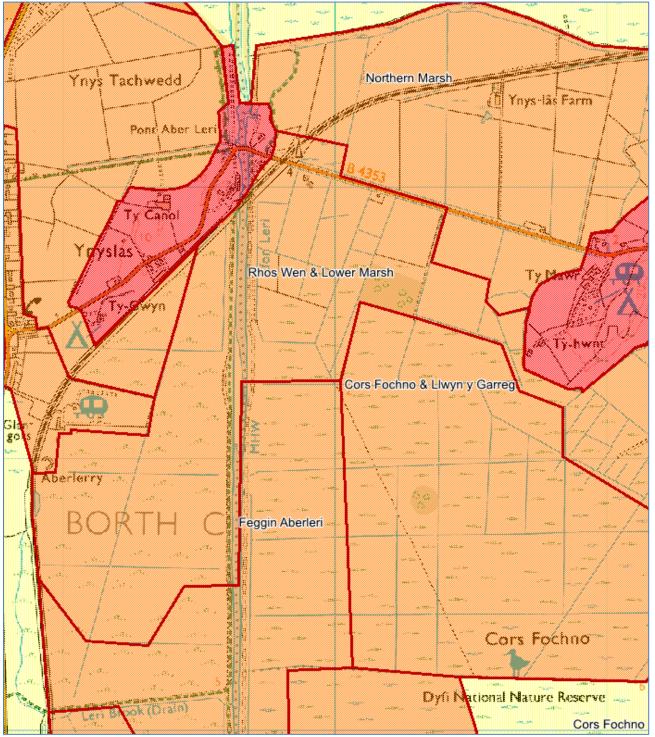




				Many of the drains are probably still active and continue to damage peat deposits but the area is being restored to a more natural state.
Feggin Aberleri	Peat Bog	Medium	Medium	Similar to area 30 this is peat bog that was drained used for farmland and peat cutting but is now mostly returning to a more natural wetter state(155.4ha). However, this area was one of the earliest areas of Cors Fochno to be drained, and large-scale ditches had already been established by the late 18th century. Also cut by the main canalised Leri channel. Archaeological activity in this area is likely to be limited and relating
				only to 18th and 19th century drainage and peat-cuttings activities. Peat and waterlogged deposits are likely but a great deal of damage to these deposits has probably been caused by the deep long-running drains and peatcuttings. These drains continue to pose a threat to the remaining palaeoenvironmental potential.







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Where ground intrusive activities are proposed, such as 'building new infrastructure and breeching existing flood defences' there is the potential for the damage or destruction of archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains. Where ground intrusive works such as this are proposed, a programme of archaeological mitigation will be required. Further advice should be sought from DAT HM when there is further detail on the nature and scope of the works to be carried out. In addition an assessment





should be carried out by a suitably qualified specialist on the effects of the proposals on the palaeoenvironmental remains.

As set out in the NRW WAT MoU, the provision of further advice, review and monitoring of the historic environment work would be funded by NRW.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss any of the issues above or if you require further information.

Alice Pyper

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