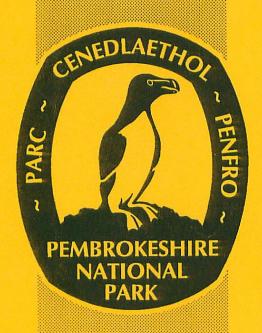
Daugleddau Estuary and Milford Haven Waterway ANNUAL SUMMER SHELDUCK SURVEY



Report for 1994

Jane E. Hodges PEMBROKESHIRE COAST NATIONAL PARK

DAUGLEDDAU ESTUARY and MILFORD HAVEN WATERWAY: ANNUAL SUMMER SHELDUCK SURVEY

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SUMMARY

The Daugleddau Estuary and Milford Haven Waterway hold internationally important numbers of shelducks during the winter months. In addition, there is a small summer population which was the subject of annual boat-based surveys in 1991, 1992 and 1993. The survey was repeated in June and August 1994, as part of a rolling programme of environmental research and monitoring for the estuary system. The results of the 1994 survey are presented in this report. Possible reasons for a disappointing breeding performance are identified — these include predation, disturbance and weather. Data collected on other waterfowl during the survey are also presented. The report concludes with a proposal to continue annual monitoring of shelducks during the summer.