



Pembrokeshire Coast
National Park Authority

Daugleddau Estuary
and
Milford Haven Waterway

ANNUAL
SHELDUCK SURVEY

Report for 1998

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DAUGLEDDAU ESTUARY AND
MILFORD HAVEN WATERWAY:
ANNUAL SUMMER SHELDUCK
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Contents

<u>Section</u>	<u>Page no</u>
Summary	<i>i</i>
1. Introduction and background	1
2. Scope of the annual summer survey	1
3. Aims, objectives and methods	2
4. Results	3
5. Discussion of results	7
6. Future monitoring	8
7. Acknowledgements	8

Fig 1. Map showing the area covered by the 1998 survey, and the distribution of shelduck broods

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Boat specification

Appendix 2: Tabulated data

Appendix 3: References

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 has been the subject of annual boat based surveys between 1991 and 1997. The survey was repeated in 1998, in June and August, as part of a programme of environmental monitoring and research in the estuary system. The 1998 season was as successful as those of 1997 and 1996, in terms of the total number of broods seen, although the average brood size was lower than in the previous two seasons. In addition to shelducks, the numbers and distribution of other estuary birds were noted. These showed that in early August, the numbers of curlew present were above the threshold of national importance, thus confirming the importance of the estuary system for estuary birds during migration.