

WILDFOWL AND WADER COUNTS
in the
MILFORD HAVEN WATERWAY
2008-09

Report prepared for the Milford Haven Waterway Environmental Surveillance Group

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Executive Summary

The Wetland Bird Survey was carried out on the Cleddau estuary system between September 2008 and March 2009, with additional counts for June and July 2008 made by Jane Hodges during the annual survey of summer shelduck populations .

Methodology followed that set out by the British Trust for Ornithology, as in previous years.

Four species reached levels of National Importance: wigeon (max. 7429 in November), , greenshank (max 29 in January), golden plover (max 2851 in December) and curlew (max 1528 in July). Teal fell below the required level (max. 1171 in January), while shelduck numbers (763 in January) almost reached nationally important levels (782).

A total peak count of 25239 birds between November and February confirms that the estuary system is of international importance for its waterfowl populations, even though the peak counts were lower for several species than they have been in recent years.

Comparison of counts with the national report for 2006-07 (the most recent that is available) show that for most species, the local trends in populations are similar to those experienced nationally.

Crynodeb Gweithredol 2008 – 09

Gwnaethpwyd Arolwg Adar y Gwlyptiroedd ar gymhlyg aber y Cleddau rhwng Medi 2008 a Mawrth 2009, gyda chyfrifon ychwanegol ar gyfer Mehefin a Gorffennaf 2008 wnaethpwyd gan Jane Hodges yn ystod yr arolwg blynyddol o boblogaethau hwyaid yr eithin.

Dilynwyd hyn gan fethodoleg wnaeth gael ei bennu fel yn y blynyddoedd blaenorol gan yr Ymddiriedolaeth Brydeinig ar Adaryddiaeth.

Bu i bedwar rhywogaeth gyrraedd lefelau o Bwysigrwydd Cenedlaethol: chwiwell (uchafswm o 7429 ym mis Tachwedd), pibydd coeswerdd (uchafswm o 29 ym mis Ionawr), cwtiad aur (uchafswm o 2851 ym mis Rhagfyr), pibydd coeswyrdd (uchafswm o 1528 ym mis Gorffennaf).

Mae cyfanswm brig gyfrif o 25239 o adar yn cadarnhau fod system yr aber o Bwysigrwydd Rhyngwladaol am ei boblogaethau o adar dŵr, er bod y brig gyfrifon yma yn achos nifer o rywogaethau yn is nag y maen nhw wedi bod yn ystod y blynyddoedd diwethaf.