



**Cyfoeth
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Cymru
**Natural
Resources**
Wales

Our ref: 01SPAJan14

International Sites Team
Maes-y-Ffynnon
Penrhosgarnedd
Bangor
Gwynedd
LL57 2DW

Email: spaconsultation@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Phone: 0300 065 3000

31 January, 2014

Dear Stakeholder,

CONSULTATION OVER PROPOSED CHANGES TO THREE SPECIAL PROTECTION AREAS (SPAs):

**GLANNAU ABERDARON AC YNYS ENLLI / ABERDARON COAST AND BARDSEY ISLAND SPA
GRASSHOLM SPA
SKOKHOLM AND SKOMER SPA**

Natural Resources Wales was established on 1 April 2013, bringing together the work of the Countryside Council for Wales, Environment Agency Wales and Forestry Commission Wales as well as some functions of the Welsh Government.

One of our duties is to advise the Welsh Government on the designation of areas of land and sea which are of national and international importance for wildlife. In the past you may have received correspondence from the Countryside Council for Wales about such matters.

The Wild Birds Directive (2009/147/EC) aims to conserve species of naturally occurring wild birds in Europe, including through the designation of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) to protect populations of rare, vulnerable and migratory species of birds. We are writing to let you know, as someone who may have an interest in the land and/or sea areas covered by this consultation, that we are consulting on proposals to:

- update the lists of bird species which are considered of international importance for two of these three SPAs; and
- extend seawards the existing boundaries of these three SPAs.

More details about the proposals for each of the three areas can be found in the enclosed information and on the Natural Resources Wales website. The information can be found under "Our Work > Consultations"

Please note that these proposals are not connected with the consultation on Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) in 2012. Those proposals were withdrawn by the Welsh Government in July 2013.

We are carrying out this consultation on behalf of the Welsh Government, and will report to the Welsh Government on the results of the consultation. The Welsh Government has conducted an Impact Assessment of the proposals, in order to better understand the full range of possible impacts on all users and will publish a report on the Welsh Government website. The responsibility for deciding whether to confirm the changes to the SPAs lies with the Welsh Ministers.

Enclosed are a leaflet about the consultation and [a] summary map(s) for the site(s) that we think is/are most relevant to your interests. The Natural Resources Wales website (address above) provides further information on the proposals and on how to respond to the consultation.

You are also welcome to contact your local Natural Resources Wales office. We have also arranged some drop-in sessions to discuss in person any queries you may have. Details of local Natural Resources Wales offices and the drop-in sessions are given in the table below. If you would like hard copies of any of the consultation documents, please contact your local office below or our Customer Care Centre on 0300 065 3000.

Site Name	Regional office	Area Contact	Drop-In Sessions	
			Date & Time	Venue
Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli / Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island SPA	Natural Resources Wales, Plas Penrhos, Ffordd Penrhos, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2BX	Lucy Kay /Charlotte Williams Customer Care Centre: Email General Enquiries: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk Telephone General enquiries: 0300 065 3000	DATE Monday, 17 February 2014 TIME: from 13:30 to 20:00	Aberdaron Sailing Club, Aberdaron Pwllheli LL53 8BD
Grassholm SPA	Natural Resources Wales, Llanion House, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire, SA72 6DY	Andrea Winterton /Alex Harding Customer Care Centre: Email General Enquiries: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk Telephone General enquiries: 0300 065 3000	DATE Wednesday, 19 February 2014 TIME: from 13:30 to 20:00	St David's City Hall, High Street, St Davids, Pembrokeshire, SA62 6SD
Skokholm and Skomer SPA	Natural Resources Wales,	Andrea Winterton /Alex Harding Customer Care Centre:	DATE Thursday 20 February	Marloes Village Hall, Marloes,

	Llanion House, Llanion Park, Pembroke Dock, Pembrokeshire, SA72 6DY	Email General Enquiries: enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk Telephone General enquiries: 0300 065 3000	2014 TIME: from 13:30 to 20:00	Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA62 3AZ
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The consultation period is from 31 January 2014 until 25 April 2014. Written comments should be received by midnight 25 April, 2014 and should either be emailed to spaconsultation@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk or posted to International Sites Team, Natural Resources Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Bangor, LL57 2DW. Please use the response form provided on the Natural Resources Wales' website.

After the consultation period has ended, Natural Resources Wales will report to the Welsh Government on the representations and views received. An anonymised summary report will also be published on the Natural Resources Wales' website.

The Welsh Minister for Natural Resources and Food will consider our report and the responses received and take this information into account in deciding whether to make the proposed changes to the SPAs. Natural Resources Wales will then write to stakeholders to inform them of the Minister's decision.

Yours sincerely



Ceri Davies
Executive Director for Knowledge, Strategy & Planning

Enclosures: A3 Map Glannau Aberdaron ac Ynys Enlli / Aberdaron Coast and Bardsey Island pSPA
A3 map Grassholm pSPA
A3 map Skokholm & Skomer pSPA
Leaflet