

YOUR COUNTY NEEDS YOU!!!

Ceredigion Species Records Required

You can make a difference and help fill the gaps in our knowledge and understanding of species distribution and numbers in Ceredigion. Please record any relevant species that you can identify with confidence.

Mammals, Amphibians, Reptiles - Tom McOwat - tommo@ceredigion.gov.uk is interested in **any** records including common species (rabbits, rats, foxes etc) and evidence (e.g. recent molehills) and roadkill as you're driving through the county.

Otters – Geoff Liles - gliles@otterconsultancy.freeserve.co.uk is interested in receiving details of sightings of otters. He is particularly interested in coastal/estuarine sightings this year. Otter road casualties, please phone Environmental Agency Wales (0800807060 – 24hrs) or the Countryside Council for Wales (08451306229 – office hours only).

Cetaceans (Whales, dolphins and porpoises) – Hanna Nuuttila is the Sightings Officer for Sea Watch Foundation, who collects all records of sightings of whales, dolphins and porpoises for monitoring and conservation purposes. Please e mail info@seawatchfoundation.org.uk, visit www.seawatchfoundation.org.uk or call 01545 561227 if you want to report a sighting, find out more or volunteer as a cetacean observer.

Unusual Marine Species - Sea Watch Foundation also collects all records of sightings of any unusual marine species, such as sharks, sunfish or turtles for monitoring and conservation purposes. (Contact details are as above)

Stranded Marine Animals - see www.strandings.com for further information on the collaborative UK Marine Mammal & Marine Turtle Strandings Project. Please report cetaceans, seals and turtles. Live strandings: RSPCA (Wales) 08705 555999. Dead strandings: Marine Environmental Monitoring 01348 875000.

Butterflies, Damselflies and Dragonflies - Lin Gander- lingander@strandings.demon.co.uk . She usually receives records at the end of the season but is happy to receive them as the weeks go by - provided it is either by e.mail or letter (NOT a telephone message), especially the rarer species ie hairstreaks & fritillaries as this gives her a chance to see them and verify if necessary. With *odonata*, if they are recorded at ponds, it is important to know whether they are breeding so activity is important; ie egg laying, in cop(ulation), exuvia present, males, female, teneral etc.

Birds – Russell Jones - Russell.Jones@rspb.org.uk

The submission of records of breeding birds falls into two categories: 1) those which are sufficiently scarce that individual records of pairs/nests or singing males is required; and 2) those which are sufficiently common that some idea of breeding numbers in a given area is more meaningful. The following species have been taken from the LBAP list.

Individual records of pairs/individuals:

Black Grouse
Chough
Curlew
Golden Plover
Lapwing
Nightjar
Tree Sparrow
Turtle Dove
Woodlark
Yellowhammer

Breeding numbers:

Bullfinch
Linnet
Skylark
Song Thrush
Spotted Flycatcher

Reed Bunting tends to fall between the two since it is rather localised in some areas, notably in the south of the county, so it would be useful to have records of outlying breeding sites.

There are other species which we require more records so assess numbers and distribution, these would include:

Barn Owl, Cuckoo, Green Woodpecker, Kestrel, Kingfisher, Lesser Sp Woodpecker, Marsh Tit, Merlin, Red Grouse, Redshank, Ring Ouzel, Snipe, Stock Dove, Willow Tit, Woodcock.

The county south-west of the A482 (Aberaeron – Lampeter) road is certainly under represented in the records.

Moths – Carol Fielding – c.fielding@ccw.gov.uk Carol is interested to receive any records of adults or larvae along with foodplant records.

Bumble Bees – Nigel Ajax-Lewis - n.ajaxlewis@welshwildlife.org Nigel is willing to help with identification. A good description and/or decent digital photos will help.

Spiders – Mike Bailey m.bailey@ccw.gov.uk

Other invertebrates- Adrian Fowles - a.fowles@ccw.gov.uk He would like to receive any weevil records from the county (and would be willing to identify specimens).

Higher plants - Arthur Chater aochater@nildram.co.uk Arthur is keen to get any records of interesting or unusual vascular plants from Ceredigion. The Ceredigion Rare Plants Register is useful guidance.

Please send records directly to the recorders at the end of the field season/monthly/quarterly, annually (unless rare) – whatever suits you. Alternatively, send all records to Leanne Bird leannebird@ceredigion.gov.uk (again not individual records) if this saves you time and Leanne will forward them to the relevant recorders. Please provide the minimum of a 6-figure grid ref and use the spreadsheets provided if you find them useful.

Sarah Andrews June 2006

