Foel Fach Wind Farm Limited.

Foel Fach Wind Farm – Environmental Statement Volume III

Appendix 5.4: Outline Habitat Management Plan

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Energy for generations

Coriolis Energy

Foel Fach Wind Farm

on behalf of Foel Fach Wind Farm Limited

Environmental Statement

Appendix 5.4: Outline Habitat Management Plan

avian ecology

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Appendix provides the outline habitat management principles to be finalised in consultation with Natural Resources Wales, Gwynedd Council and landowner as a Habitat Management Plan for the Proposed Development. The Appendix provides five aims and associated objectives that would provide multi-faceted benefits for biodiversity. These measures include enhancing heathland, wetland, mire/flush and woodland habitats onsite, and improving nesting and roosting opportunities for bats and birds. These measures accord with Planning Policy for Wales (Chapter 6) particularly with respect to biodiversity net benefits and enhancing habitats and species which are listed on Section 7 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and the Gwynedd Council Local Biodiversity Action Plan.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 This Appendix has been prepared to accompany the Environmental Statement **(ES) Volume II, Chapter 5: Terrestrial Ecology**, for the Proposed Development.

1.1.2 It presents outline habitat management principles (and is termed an outline Habitat Management Plan; OHMP) to be finalised in consultation with Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Gwynedd Council (GC) and the landowner (and additional relevant stakeholders as appropriate) following receipt of planning consent and implemented as a Habitat Management Plan (HMP) in accordance with a suitably worded planning condition.

1.1.3 The finalisation and implementation of the HMP would be completed prior to the end of the first year of operation of the Proposed Development. After this the HMP would remain in place as agreed, subject to monitoring of effectiveness, for the remaining operational lifetime of the Proposed Development, as consented.

1.1.4 The Site is tenanted by a number of farmers, so the measures in this OHMP aim to provide tangible biodiversity benefits while being sensitive to the farming practices and livelihoods which are dependent on the Site.

1.2 Site Overview

1.2.1 The Site is shown on **ES Volume IV, Figure 5.9: Outline Habitat Management Plan**.

1.2.2 Detailed baseline habitat descriptions of the Site are provided within **ES Volume II, Chapter 5: Terrestrial Ecology** and **ES Volume III, Appendix 5.1: Habitats and Vegetation**.

1.2.3 In summary, the Site is dominated by semi-improved acid grassland in the east and centre, along with extensive areas of acid flush and marshy grassland. In the west, there is a complex mosaic of poor semi-improved grassland, acid grassland, and marshy grassland, with areas of wet heath, acid flush, and fen. There is also scattered dry heath and bracken / gorse scrub across the Site, and small remnant patches of blanket bog.

1.2.4 There are a few small streams in the centre and south-west of the Site, running off the hills, and also a waterbody (reservoir), Llyn Maen Bras, in the south-west.

1.2.5 The access track is composed of enclosed species-poor pasture, with some adjacent native hedgerow boundaries and mature broad-leaved trees.

1.3 Structure of the OHMP

1.3.1 There will be five aims and related objectives of the Proposed Development's OHMP, achieved through the implementation of management prescriptions and habitat creation practices, outlined herein.

1.3.2 The five aims (and related objectives) are:

- Aim 1: Enhancement of heathland habitats.
    - Objective 1: Increase the extent of heath onsite.
    - Objective 2: Manage dense bracken.
- Aim 2: Improvement of wetland habitats.
    - Objective 1: Create a pond and scrape(s).
    - Objective 2: Create a floating wildlife island.
- Aim 3: Enhancement of mire/flush habitats.
    - Objective 1: Improve conditions for marsh fritillary butterfly.
- Aim 4: Enhance woodland, tree and scrub cover.
    - Objective 1: Riparian tree/shrub planting along the Nant Cefn-coch.
    - Objective 2: Native tree/hedgerow/scrub planting.
    - Objective 3: Rhododendron management.
- Aim 5: Increasing nesting and roosting opportunities for wildlife.
    - Objective 1: Install bat and bird boxes.

1.3.3 The success of management prescriptions and habitat creation in achieving the aims and objectives of the OHMP will be monitored, with the results reported, in accordance with timings and protocols to be agreed with NRW and GC.

2 OVERVIEW OF AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Approach to the OHMP

2.1.1 The Proposed Development infrastructure layout has been designed to minimise potentially significant effects on sensitive ecological and ornithological features. The description of the Site and surrounds is provided in **ES Volume II, Chapter 3: Environmental Context and Reasonable Alternatives Considered,** and a description of the Proposed Development is given in **ES Volume II, Chapter 2: Description of the Proposed Development.**

2.1.2 The measures to be implemented as summarised in this OHMP, accords with Planning Policy for Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales (PPW)[1] with respect to biodiversity net benefits, and that a development should leave the Site and its surrounding environments in a measurably better condition than before. The policy also states that developments should be shaped by the principle of retaining and enhancing existing habitats and species, and that measures should support biodiversity and functioning ecosystems, particularly Section 7 habitats and species. The enhancement measures detailed in this OHMP would benefit Section 7 and GC's Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)[2] habitats (such as 'Upland Heathland') and species (such as barn owl (*Tyto alba*) and marsh fritillary (*Euphydras aurinia*)).

2.1.3 Enhancement measures to be implemented are multi-faceted and include pond and scrape creation, deployment of a floating island for wildlife, heathland creation, mire/flush enhancement, bracken and rhododendron control, native tree/shrub planting including along a riparian corridor and increasing bird nesting and bat roosting opportunities. These would all contribute to increasing the resilience of ecological networks onsite and in the surrounding area.

2.1.4 The measures outlined in this OHMP are indicatively presented in **ES Volume IV, Figure 5.9**.

2.1.5 Where habitat management measures or other operations may result in impacts on protected species or habitats, protective measures will be implemented as follows:

- Habitat Specific Protection Plans (HSPPs) detailing good practice measures for construction works within mire/bog, flush and heathland habitats. HSPPs would detail measures required to manage construction works within these sensitive habitats and include habitat restoration measures; and

- Species Protection Plans for protected species so as to ensure all works are completed in accordance with relevant legislative requirements. Where necessary, derogation licences would be obtained from NRW.

2.1.6 A standard habitat management measure to be adopted is for the 'bat buffer' between operational turbines and potentially key bat habitat features, such as trees, and watercourses (see **ES Volume II, Chapter 5: Terrestrial Ecology**) to be maintained.

2.1.7 The aims, objectives and habitat management measures outlined herein would be further refined and prescribed through detailed Site investigation work and further consultation with NRW and GC (and additional relevant stakeholders as appropriate).

[1] Available at: Planning Policy Wales - Edition 12 (22/08/2025)
[2] Available at: https://www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/en/Council/Strategies-and-policies/Environment-and-planning/Natur-Gwynedd-Biodiversity-Action-Plan.aspx (30/09/2025)

2.2 Aim 1: Enhancement of heathland habitats

2.2.1 Much of the Site is part of the Llandderfel Candidate (Local) Wildlife Site (cWS), which has acid grassland, dwarf shrub heath and bracken as listed habitats. European dry heath is also a key habitat listed on Annex 1 of the Habitats Directive.

Objective 1: Increase the extent of heath onsite

2.2.2 There are areas of heathland in the west and south of the Site. Adjoining habitat to these areas of heathland is predominantly acid grassland.

2.2.3 There is an opportunity to extend the cover of heathland habitat currently onsite by creating heath on what is principally acid grassland.

2.2.4 There is expected to be a modest loss of dry heath as result of the Proposed Development (direct loss of 0.25 ha, as presented in **ES Volume II, Chapter 5: Terrestrial Ecology**). Material from the topsoil of the heathland to be lost would be salvaged where possible (including cuttings, seeds and turfs) and translocated to the heathland creation areas (up to 26.64 ha) as shown on **ES Volume IV, Figure 5.9**. Other suitable cuttings and seeds of heath plants will be introduced to improve the chances of successful colonisation of heathland. It is considered unlikely that full topsoil stripping of the heathland creation areas would be required but instead heath plant species would be plug-planted into a series of dug holes.

2.2.5 Some temporary exclusion of livestock from heathland creation areas is considered likely to be a requirement in the first few years of establishment to prevent potential over- g and trampling/poaching of newly establishing heath plants by livestock.

2.2.6 Any scrub particularly conifer saplings which may establish in the heathland creation areas would be controlled, given scrub encroachment has potential to reduce the success of heath creation.

2.2.7 Increasing the extent of heathland onsite would be beneficial for biodiversity in that it would increase the amount of a notable (Annex 1, Section 7 and LBAP) habitat, likely improve botanical species-diversity, would increase nesting opportunities for ground-nesting birds including curlew (*Numenius arquata*) and hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), and provide improved habitat for a host of invertebrates, including many species of butterfly, and shelter for reptiles, such as common lizard (*Zootoca vivipara*) and adder (*Vipera berus*).

Objective 2: Manage dense bracken

2.2.8 Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*) can have conservation benefits and can provide a valuable habitat for wildlife, especially where the bracken canopy is relatively open. Bracken is also a listed habitat for the Llandderfel cWS. However, bracken is a successful coloniser and can spread into grassland, moorland and heathland, and reduce habitat quality of sensitive habitats it encroaches on. Additionally, bracken can increase wildfire risk and often creates a reservoir for ticks which may cause disease in livestock and humans.

2.2.9 Management of vigorous bracken growth can help to restore, enhance or maintain the open nature of heathland and moorland of conservation value, and also benefit some priority species including ground nesting birds such as hen harrier, curlew and skylark (*Alauda arvensis*).

2.2.10 An area of dense bracken (total of *c*. 3.24 ha) was recorded in the west of the Site particularly on the southern slopes of Eglwys-Anne Warren Ffridd and Pen y Bwlch Gwyn.

2.2.11 Bracken control will be planned and conducted in accordance with the most up to date relevant guidelines, e.g. FERA's (2024) UK Best Practice Guidance Bracken Management[3]. Chemical treatment is not generally appropriate for habitat management plans under most circumstances. Other potential forms of control include manual (hand cutting, hand pulling, whipping) or mechanical (cutting/rolling/crushing) treatments (where accessibility and slope allow), as well as the use of livestock. Initial treatment will be followed by repeated follow-up treatments, with dense and vigorous stands requiring cutting/flailing/rolling up to three times per year outwith the bird breeding season. Following primary treatment, livestock grazing can be used as part of an ongoing control strategy, complementing mechanical methods. Where removal of bracken leaves bare or sparsely vegetated ground, removal of litter and reseeding/replanting of underlying habitats (for example with heathland plants) would be undertaken. The objective would be to manage the bracken present at the locality and stop it forming dense dominant stands and instead manage it as a more scattered, open habitat for the benefit of biodiversity.

2.3 Aim 2: Improvement of wetland habitats

Objective 1: Create a pond and scrape(s)

2.3.1 It is understood that a record of great crested newts (*Triturus cristatus*) has been made at Llandderfel south-east of the Site, and the A494.

2.3.2 The Site currently does not have suitable waterbodies for great crested newts and other amphibian species. A pond would thus be created on the lower reaches of the Site, with much of the Site greater than 400 m and considered less suitable/ tolerable for great crested newts.

2.3.3 The precise location of the pond would be subject to a Site investigation and discussions with the landowner, but the indicative location is shown on **ES Volume IV, Figure 5.9**.

2.3.4 To make the pond more suitable for amphibians the pond would be created close to field boundary vegetation, such as hedgerows/treelines, with field boundary vegetation providing suitable terrestrial habitat for amphibians outside the breeding season. Any debris and materials excavated during works such as rocks and tree materials would be heaped in mounds around the pond to create hibernacula for wildlife including amphibians, small mammals and invertebrates. The pond would be planted with aquatic and marginal plants of local provenance, and a sloping 'beach' would be included to allow wildlife easy access/egress from the pond. Species to plant would include marsh marigold (*Caltha palustris*) which are visited by invertebrates, such as adult marsh fritillary for nectar.

2.3.5 The pond dimensions would be subject to further investigation but a depth of between 20-100 cm is indicative and would vary across the pond, to provide deeper and shallower areas for the benefit of wildlife. In terms of extent of open water an area of *c*. 50 m^2 is considered appropriate.

2.3.6 The pond would be expected to be used by amphibians, aquatic invertebrates, dragonflies/damselflies and wetland birds such as moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) and other waterfowl. The margins as they establish may be used by bird species, such as common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*).

2.3.7 A scrape to provide temporary, shallow water, muddy margins and sparse marginal vegetation is also proposed to be created, with the specific location subject to further Site investigation and landowner discussions. The scrape would be largely aimed to benefit wetland bird species including wading species, where they could probe for invertebrates in the shallow water and exposed mud. In order to increase the probability for wetland bird species to use the scrape, the scrape would be positioned

[3] Available at: https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2024-06/introduction-bracken.pdf (30/09/2025)

away from field margin vegetation such as hedgerows and treelines, given birds (including most waders) tend to avoid field boundaries. The scrape would be created following guidance from the RSPB (2024[4]). It may be possible to create the scrape and connect it to an existing ditch so that water levels can be managed to some extent. It may be that, following discussions with the landowner and further onsite investigation, more than one scrape is preferable (so more than one smaller scrapes rather than one large scrape, in accordance with RSPB guidance, 2024[4]).

Objective 2: Create a floating wildlife island

2.3.8 Llyn Maen Bras is a reservoir in the south-west of the Site, spatially distant from the Proposed Development. It is understood that given the waterbody is a reservoir and is part of a hydro-power system there are restrictions on creating a permanent island within the reservoir.

2.3.9 A floating island is thus proposed for the benefit of wildlife. During recent Site visits, a number of mature trees from around the margins of Llyn Maen Bras had been blown down and fallen into the water. These partially submerged trees were being used by a small number of nesting black-headed gulls (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*), forming a small gull breeding colony. Black-headed gull is a Red List species in Wales on the Birds of Conservation Concern (Johnstone *et al*., 2022[5]) and is therefore a species which is 'declining and need our help'[6]. It is understood that on completion of the bird breeding season; these partially submerged trees had to be removed as part of the hydro-power operations. Therefore, there is no longer any suitable safe, nesting habitat for gulls to use at Llyn Maen Bras.

2.3.10 A floating island/raft would be created and anchored to the base of the reservoir by at least two tethers. The specific design and dimensions would be subject to discussions with specialist island suppliers/builders and the landowner, with respect to optimising the benefit to nesting gulls but ensuring hydro-power production is not negatively impacted. A floating island design, as used successfully by the Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust (LRWT[7]) for nesting black-headed gull (and terns) would be considered. Consultation would also be sought with the LRWT regarding the best design given the size of Llyn Maen Bras and details of suppliers. It is proposed that like the floating islands used by the LRWT toughened plastic (recycled) is used rather than timber, given the lifespan for plastic made islands is considerably greater than that of timber (particularly when out exposed constantly to the elements, and floating on water). The final design of the floating island would be agreed with NRW and GC.

2.3.11 In order to benefit gulls and with an aim to provide nesting habitat to support a gull colony the island would be sufficiently sized and would be sparsely vegetated to provide appropriate shelter/cover for nests, but not too densely vegetated where the vegetation may deter nesting. Gulls when nesting would require good lines of sight and ensuring vegetation is managed to be short and sparse would keep conditions optimal for gulls. It is envisaged that gravel/stones would comprise a high proportion of the ground layer on the floating island, which is characteristic, along with sparse vegetation, of typical black-headed gull nesting sites.

2.3.12 A floating island would also likely benefit other wildlife including other wetland bird species and aquatic invertebrates which may use the underside of the island for shelter.

[4] Available at: https://speciesontheedge.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Scrapes.pdf (01/10/2025)
[5] Available at: https://www.bto.org/our-work/science/publications/reports/birds-of-conservation-concern-wales (01/10/2025)
[6] As the summary report of the Johnstone *et al* (2022) report states.
[7] Available at: https://www.lrwt.org.uk/floating-islands-rutland-water-nature-reserve (01/10/2025)

2.4 Aim 3: Enhancement of mire/flush habitats

Objective 1: Improve conditions for marsh fritillary butterfly

2.4.1 The marsh fritillary is a Section 7 and GC LBAP species, and lives in damp, tussocky grasslands, fens and wet heath, where the larval foodplant devil's bit scabious (*Succisa pratensis*) is present. The habitat to the north-east of Maen Bras is principally wet heath, with acid flush, and a mosaic of wet heath/acid flush. Part of the habitat resembles M19 mire habitat but is typically less than 0.5 m deep and there is limited bog-moss cover. It was described during the habitats survey as potentially representing a former blanket bog that has been adversely impacted by heavy grazing and drainage. Adopting a sensitive grazing regime and re-wetting the habitat to increase the water table would thus be prudent.

2.4.2 There is a small brook which forks and flows into Maen Bras from the east. Site investigation (with input from a hydrologist) would be undertaken to determine the potential for at least one of the brooks to be blocked and water redirected into the wet heath/flush habitat. This would aim to raise the water table and increase resilience of the habitats at the locality to future drying out due to climatic change. The increased 'wetness' would also benefit botanical species which prefer mire-like conditions and make conditions optimal for marsh fritillary.

2.4.3 It is proposed that some of the mire/flush enhancement area (up to 10.25 ha) is planted with devil's bit scabious plants to increase the extent of the exclusive foodplant for marsh fritillary.

2.4.4 The habitat may be subject to some restrictions of grazing in the early years to allow devil's bit scabious to establish. Some sensitive grazing would however reduce the potential for rank, common species becoming dominant. A balance would need to be struck, and monitoring (see **Section 1**) would help establish the most appropriate level of livestock grazing.

2.4.5 More widely degraded peatlands have been identified in a number of locations within the Site. Restoration measures would be undertaken to improve the condition of the peatland and restore active peat soil development. It is anticipated that restoration measures would include blocking or damming of drains, ditches and peat channels to slow the flow of water and help raise the water table, and reprofiling of channels and peat hags to manage erosion and surface water flow paths. Additional techniques including use of heather mulches and biodegradable geotextiles may be employed to protect areas of bare peat soil from erosion and to promote re-establishment of peatland vegetation. The rewetting effects of restoration measures at various locations across the Site would benefit the marsh fritillary butterfly, as well as other species.

2.5 Aim 4: Enhance woodland, tree and scrub cover

Objective 1: Riparian tree/shrub planting along the Nant Cefn-coch

2.5.1 The Nant Cefn-coch in the south-east of the Site is sparsely vegetated/shaded. There is therefore an opportunity to increase the habitat connectivity through the Site by increasing the area of permanent woodland coverage. The increase in permanent woodland coverage through native riparian planting will increase and improve the habitat present for wildlife. Up to 900.94 m of the Nant Cefn-coch is identified as the focus for the riparian tree planting.

2.5.2 Native riparian planting can deliver benefits for a host of wildlife, including aquatic animals such as invertebrates and potentially fish, through the casting of shade, maintenance of cool water temperatures, provision of cover and sources of food from in-falling litter and insects.

2.5.3 The species to be planted would be of local provenance and include hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), blackthorn (*Prunus spinosa*), rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*), alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and birch (*Betula* species). These tree/scrub species would provide shelter, refuge and nesting opportunities to a host of wildlife. Planted trees/shrub would likely need to be protected with bio-degradable guards or fencing.

2.5.4 Native riparian planting can also deliver opportunities for foraging and commuting bats, terrestrial mammals, birds and reptiles, as it provides a corridor that wildlife can use and move through particularly in otherwise relatively open and exposed habitat onsite. As such, prescriptive measures may incorporate additional objectives for other species. However, these measures will remain sensitive to the potential for exacerbating potential impacts upon such species groups/habitats that result from the Proposed Development (e.g. ensure collision mortality risks to bats are not increased through interaction with operational turbines, and avoidance of deeper areas of peat).

Objective 2: Native tree/hedgerow/scrub planting

2.5.5 Native tree planting the Site would improve habitat connectivity through the Site and into the wider landscape, including via the riparian tree planting summarised in **Section 2.5.1-2.5.4**.

2.5.6 Up to 1248.24 m of tree and hedgerow planting is proposed in the west of the Site. This would help connect key habitats and act as a corridor that is likely to be used by bats (farm buildings and woodland blocks) to allow bats to forage and commute along vegetated field boundaries at an appropriate spatial distance from the Proposed Development (particularly the turbines).

2.5.7 Hedgerow plants and trees of local provenance would be planted, and these would include species such as hawthorn and blackthorn, that would provide nesting habitat when established for many bird species, and a winter food resource (berries). Tree species would also be of local provenance and would include species as listed for the riparian tree planting. Trees/hedgerows/scrub would be protected with bio-degradable guards or fencing.

2.5.8 Around Llyn Maen Bras are scattered mature trees, but a number have been blown down in stormy weather. Native woodland/scrub planting around the periphery of Llyn Maen Bras is proposed to provide some shelter for the waterbody. The planting would be scattered however, to ensure that Llyn Maen Bras does not become too enclosed/encircled by trees and become suboptimal for supporting a gull colony (as discussed in **Section 2.3**). Tree/scrub species to be planted would be of local provenance. Baseline surveys recorded a hobby (*Falco subbuteo*) family in trees around Llyn Maen Bras and although no nest site was located it is considered highly likely that this is an area that the species will use and may nest. Increasing the tree cover at this locality is therefore considered likely to benefit species including hobby in the long-term as trees establish.

2.5.9 Some scattered scrub planting is proposed increasing habitat connectivity from the riparian tree planting along the Nant Cefn-coch to a minor watercourse which flows south-west towards Maen Bras. Species for planting would be of local provenance and include juniper (*Juniperus communis*) which is a species typically found in moorland. It is considered likely that foraging and commuting bats that use the Nant Cefn-coch will be encouraged along the line of scrub and along the watercourse which flows into the Llyn Maen Bras (with the waterbody and surrounding trees/woodland considered optimal foraging habitat for bats). Therefore, connectivity through the Site and between key bat habitats would be improved.

Objective 3: Rhododendron management

2.5.10 To the south of Llyn Maen Bras is an area of mixed woodland which supports invasive, non-native rhododendron (*Rhododendron ponticum*). It is understood that some of the rhododendron is rooted

into the embankment of the Llyn Maen Bras, and thus management would need to be sensitive to this. Complete removal (including of the roots) may damage the integrity of the Llyn Maen Bras embankment, resulting in water leaking from the reservoir.

2.5.11 Management of the rhododendron (whilst retaining roots of those plants embedded into the embankment of the Maen Bras) is prudent given the species can dominate and shade out native plants, as well as carry a disease *Phytophthora ramorum* which can be transmitted to, and kill, many native plant species.

2.5.12 The specifics of the rhododendron management would be discussed with the landowner to ensure the invasive species can be controlled while not negatively impacting the integrity of the Llyn Maen Bras reservoir.

2.6 Aim 5: Increasing nesting and roosting opportunities for wildlife

Objective 1: Install bat and bird boxes

2.6.1 At least ten bat boxes and 15 bird boxes would be deployed, and these would be fixed to appropriate structures (not on commercial trees to be harvested). This would be on mature trees around Maen Bras and on mature trees next to a ruined building south of Llaithgwm, as shown on **ES Volume IV, Figure 5.9**. These locations are appropriately spatially distant from the Proposed Development that encouraging species such as kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*) and barn owl would not increase collision risk for these species with operational turbines.

2.6.2 A variety of different types of bird boxes would be used (including cavity, open-fronted, owl and kestrel nest boxes to benefit the widest range of bird species), and various types of bat roost boxes[8].

2.6.3 A wildlife nest/roost box plan will be designed by a suitably competent and qualified ecologist for incorporation into the HMP, with the number, type and location of boxes identified and appropriate for the Proposed Development.

[8] Various types of bat roosting box available at: https://www.nhbs.com/blog/buyers-guide-bat-boxes?srsltid=AfmBOoo4mBO0uq71vknn34NOsS_cJ9mlgb8Es9vKiH3_gCjKkvLlICaH (01/10/2025).

3 MONITORING MEASURES SET OUT WITHIN THE HMP

3.1.1 As per PPW, monitoring and rectification strategies, are fundamental for ensuring notable biodiversity, sites and habitats are maintained (or improved where enhancement measures are adopted). Accordingly, monitoring would be undertaken for all enhancement measures considered in this OHMP. This would include monitoring of habitats to be created/enhanced, surveys of marsh fritillary and bird surveys of the floating island on Llyn Maen Bras, to record the species and numbers of any establishing gull colony.

3.1.2 This monitoring would determine the success of the measures and identify any necessary remedial action.

3.1.3 Monitoring is proposed as part of the OHMP in operational years 3, 5, 10 and 15 of the Proposed Development. The Applicant would provide a summary of the HMP activities and monitoring results to NRW and GC each year of monitoring. The frequency of monitoring and reporting after 15 years would be agreed with NRW and GC.

3.1.4 The requirement for any updated baseline surveys to act as 'Year 0' for monitoring purposes would also be identified and undertaken at the appropriate time (for example, within the first year of operation of the Proposed Development and/or during the main growing/breeding season March to August, inclusive).

3.1.5 The HMP is intended to remain a live document which would be updated and amended as necessary, based on results of the Site investigation works and monitoring. NRW and GC would be kept informed of any proposed changes to the HMP and their agreement sought as necessary.