

7.6 INVERTEBRATE SURVEY

Introduction

- 7.6.1 A general survey of invertebrates was undertaken by specialists from the National Museum of Wales. The survey method agreed with CCW and NCC involved two visits, one during spring and one during summer 2013. The first survey was delayed by several weeks to make allowance for the unusually cold spring weather.

Survey method

- 7.6.2 The survey visits were carried out on 31 May and 16 July 2013. Sampling methods included sweep-netting, beating, pooting, suction sampling, and pond netting. The target groups for the survey were Coleoptera (Beetles) and Hymenoptera (bees). The survey team included a Hymenoptera specialist, a Coleoptera specialist and a general survey assistant. The weather conditions were warm and sunny during both surveys.

Survey findings

- 7.6.3 The Hymenoptera and Coleoptera recorded are summarised in Tables 7.6.1 and 7.6.2

Table 7.6.1. Hymenoptera observations

Family	Species	Date	Status
Andreninae	<i>Andrena fulva</i> (Muller, 1766)	31 May	Common
	<i>Andrena chrysoceles</i> (Kirby, 1802)+-	16 July	Common
	<i>Andrena flavipes</i> Panzer, 1798	16 July	Common
	<i>Andrena wilkella</i> (Kirby, 1802)	16 July	Common
Apinae	<i>Apis mellifera</i> Linnaeus, 1758	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus hypnorum</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	31 May+16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus hortorum</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus terrestris</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus lucorum</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus lapidarius</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus pratorum</i> (Linnaeus, 1761)	16 July	Common
	<i>Bombus pascuorum</i> (Scopoli, 1763)	16 July	Common
	<i>Nomada flava</i> Panzer, 1798	31 May	Common
Colletinae	<i>Colletes fodiens</i> (Geoffroy, 1785)	16 July	Common
	<i>Hylaeus hyalinatus</i> Smith, 1843	16 July	Common
	<i>Hylaeus communis</i> Nylander, 1852	16 July	Common
Halictinae	<i>Halictus rubicundus</i> (Christ, 1791)	31 May+16 July	Common
	<i>Lasioglossum calceatum</i> (Scopoli, 1763)	31 May+16 July	Common
Megachilinae	<i>Megachile centuncularis</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	16 July	Common
	<i>Megachile versicolor</i> Smith, 1844	16 July	Common
	<i>Megachile willughbiella</i> (Kirby, 1802)	16 July	Common
	<i>Osmia coerulescens</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	31 May	Common
	<i>Osmia rufa</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	31 May	Common
	<i>Osmia leaiana</i> (Kirby, 1802)	16 July	Common
Crabronidae	<i>Pemphredon inornatus</i> Say, 1824	16 July	Common

Table 7.6.2 Coleoptera observations

Family	Species	Date	Status	
Apionidae	<i>Ceratapion carduorum</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Omphalapion hookerorum</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Oxystoma subulatum</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Perapion hydrolapathi</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Protapion apricans</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Stenopterapion meliloti</i>	16 July	Local	
	<i>Stenopterapion tenue</i>	16 July	Common	
	Byturidae	<i>Byturus tomentosus</i>	31 May	Common
Cantharidae	<i>Rhagonycha fulva</i>	16 July	Common	
Carabidae	<i>Acupalpus dubius</i>	16 July	Local	
	<i>Bembidion biguttatum</i>	16 July	Local	
	<i>Bembidion guttula</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Bembidion lampros</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Bembidion lunulatum</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Demetrias atricapillus</i>	16 July	Local	
	<i>Notiophilus biguttatus</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Oxypsealaphus obscurus</i>	16 July	Local	
	<i>Pterostichus diligens</i>	16 July	Common	
	Chrysomelidae	<i>Bruchus loti</i>	31 May	Local
		<i>Cassida rubiginosa</i>	31 May	Common
		<i>Crepidodera aurata</i>	31 May	Local
<i>Crepidodera plutus</i>		31 May+16 July	Local	
<i>Longitarsus jacobaeae</i>		16 July	Local	
<i>Longitarsus luridus</i>		16 July	Common	
<i>Neocrepidodera transversa</i>		16 July	Common	
<i>Phyllotreta nigripes</i>		31 May	Local	
Coccinellidae		<i>Coccidula rufa</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Coccinella quinquepunctata</i>	16 July	Rare	
	<i>Coccinella undecimpunctata</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Propylea quattuordecimpunctata</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Rhyzobius litura</i>	16 July	Common	
Curculionidae	<i>Anthonomus rubi</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Ceutorhynchus obstrictus</i>	31 May	Common	
	<i>Ceutorhynchus turbatus</i>	31 May	Local (Rare in Wales)	
	<i>Hypera postica</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Hypera rumicis</i>	31 May	Common	
	<i>Mecinus pyraeter</i>	31 May	Common	
	<i>Phyllobius pyri</i>	31 May	Common	
	<i>Sitona suturalis</i>	16 July	Common	
	<i>Tychius meliloti</i>	16 July	Common	
	Dytiscidae	<i>Ilybius fuliginosus</i>	16 July	Common
Hydrophilidae	<i>Anacaena globulus</i>	16 July	Common	
Nitidulidae	<i>Brachypterus urticae</i>	31 May	Common	
	<i>Meligethes fulvipes</i>	31 May	Notable	
	<i>Meligethes rotundicollis</i>	31 May +16 July	Notable	
	<i>Meligethes viridescens</i>	31 May	Common	
Oedemeridae	<i>Oedemera nobilis</i>	16 July	Common	
Phalacridae	<i>Olibrus aeneus</i>	16 July	Common	
Scraptiidae	<i>Anaspis frontalis</i>	31 May	Common	

Family	Species	Date	Status
	<i>Anaspis maculata</i>	31 May	Common
Staphylinidae	<i>Drusilla canaliculata</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Paederus riparius</i>	16 July	Local
	<i>Quedius umbrinus</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus bimaculatus</i>	16 July	Local
	<i>Stenus brunnipes</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus cicindeloides</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus contumax</i>	16 July	Rare (no Welsh records?)
	<i>Stenus flavipes</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus fulvicornis</i>	16 July	Local
	<i>Stenus geniculatus</i>	16 July	Local (Rare in Wales)
	<i>Stenus juno</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus providus</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Stenus pusillus</i>	16 July	Common
	<i>Tachyporus obtusus</i>	31 May	Common
	<i>Tachyporus pallidus</i>	16 July	Local

Discussion

7.6.4 All of the hymenoptera recorded are more or less common species. Most of the coleoptera were also common, but several were notable species, and these are discussed further below:

- *Ceutorhynchus turbatus* (Local; Rare in Wales) was found by sweep-netting. The larvae of this species feed in fruits of *Lepidium draba* in open areas.
- *Meligethes fulvipes* (Notable) was found by sweep-netting in dry areas. The larvae feed in the flowering parts of *Sinapis arvensis*.
- *Meligethes rotundicollis* (Notable) was found by sweep-netting in dry areas. The larvae feed in the flowering parts of *Sinapis arvensis* and *Sisymbrium officinale*.
- *Stenus contumax* (Rare) was found by suction sampling. It is found in dryish habitats & brownfield sites (this species is little known and not previously recorded from Wales).
- *Stenus geniculatus* (Local: Rare in Wales) was found by suction sampling. It is a species of dry places and poor soils.
- *Coccinella quinquepunctata* (Rare) was captured by suction sampling. It is probably not resident at this location as its river shingle habitat is not present on the site. It has been recorded from non-tidal parts of the River Usk.

7.6.5 With the exception of *Coccinella quinquepunctata*, which is not resident, the notable and rare beetle species are associated with dry habitats and some might be brownfield site specialists. However, the presence of these species does not make this a particularly significant site and is likely to be a reflection of under-recording generally. The museum specialists concluded that the site supports a moderate diversity of bees and beetles and would be considered to be of local value for nature conservation.