

KEY HIGHLIGHTS



Over 60 pupils from nine different schools in Carmarthenshire took part in three 3D display events held at the National Botanic Gardens of Wales. The pupils showcased their 3D marine environment displays, and shared their knowledge on sharks, skates and rays with visitors to the gardens.



A junior eggcase workbook with activities has been launched and is downloadable from the [Project SIARC website](#).

These will also be used in schools to help increase awareness and engagement with the Great Eggcase Hunt and Project SIARC in Wales.

PROJECT REPORT 4: APRIL - JULY 2024

FISHER PARTNERSHIPS

- Tackle Shops visited around Carmarthen Bay & Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) to share Project SIARC ID guides and leaflets
- Two Angelshark records shared by fishers to the project.
- Feedback shared about Young Fisher internship opportunity development.



EQUITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

- Work continues to identify how to make events & resources more accessible to a greater diversity of identities.



BAITED REMOTE UNDERWATER VIDEO SYSTEMS (BRUVS) & INSTANT WILD

- 18 BRUVS were deployed within the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Area of Conservation.
- Angelshark tagging surveys were completed, however no angelsharks were caught during the surveys. (Tagging work is carried out with permits and Wildlife & Countryside Act licence)



SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT

- Meet the Scientist sessions completed with six schools within Carmarthen Bay & Estuaries (SAC) as part of the 3D printing outreach programme.



CITIZEN SCIENCE

- 247 people took part in seven eggcase hunt events within the Pen Llŷn a'r Sarnau Special Area of Conservation





ANALYSIS

- Manuscript on fisher led factors of how fisheries have changed in Wales under three themes (socio-economic, ecological, and legislative drivers) submitted to a scientific journal.
- Manuscript on the use of Environmental DNA (DNA) for elasmobranchs off the Welsh coast in draft.



WIDER ENGAGEMENT

- Social media reached 20,381 accounts.
- Article focused on the Great Eggcase Hunt was published in the Summer Issue of Natur Cymru
- e-newsletter sent out, sign up [here](#) to keep up to date



RESEARCH GROUP

- No Updates



DISSECTION EVENTS

- Angelshark dissection to be completed later in the year.



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- No updates

Approved Purposes (NNF)	Progress
FISHER PARTNERSHIP - PS co-designed with fishers and their associations or clubs, through strengthened and diversified working relationships.	
ADDRESSING DATA GAPS - Priority data gaps on how elasmobranchs use protected features in two SACs are filled; data used in NRW advice and decision-making, in close collaboration with fishers.	
EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION - Understanding of diverse perspectives used to overcome barriers to participation and achieve greater equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) in Welsh marine conservation.	
ENABLING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT - A wider demographic access the marine environment in Wales using virtual reality, GEH activities and Instant Wild	
INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION - Schoolchildren from diverse backgrounds achieve learning outcomes on sustainability and the natural world and demonstrate confidence in digital technologies.	
SHOWCASING WALES' MARINE ENVIRONMENT - A greater diversity of communities in Wales learn about the marine environment, using elasmobranchs as a flagship in bilingual communications.	

