

Community Update – Feb 2026

Diweddariad Cymunedol – Chwefror 2026

Rhaglen Mwyngloddiau Metel Cymru

Wales Metal Mines Programme



Cefnogir gan
Lywodraeth Cymru
Supported by
Welsh Government

Rhaglen Mwyngloddiau Metel Cymru

Wales Metal Mines Programme

Nodau'r rhaglen

Lleihau llygredd tir ac afonydd o fwyngloddiau metel, a thrwy wneud hynny:

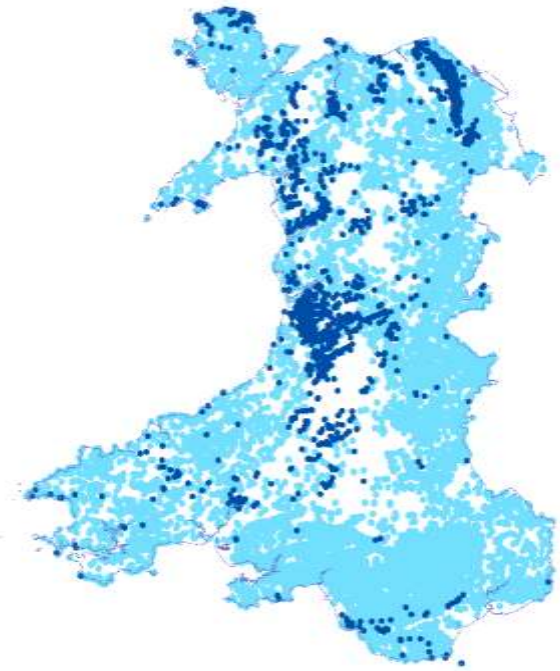
- Liniaru'r peryglon a'r risgiau sy'n deillio o fwyngloddiau metel
- Diogelu a gwella cyflwr a chydnerthedd ecosystemau
- Hybu a gwella iechyd a llesiant
- Dathlu a hyrwyddo treftadaeth ac amwynder mwyngloddiau metel
- Cefnogi cymunedau a rhanddeiliaid lleol, a bod o fudd iddynt

Programme Aims

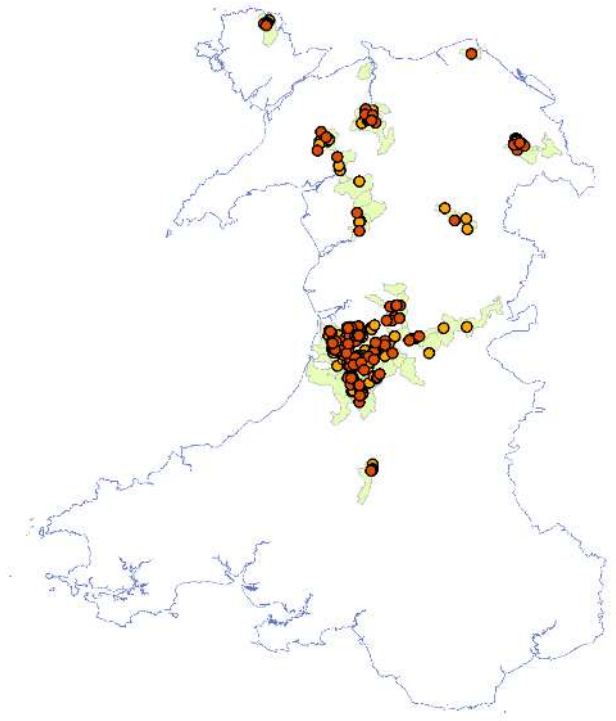
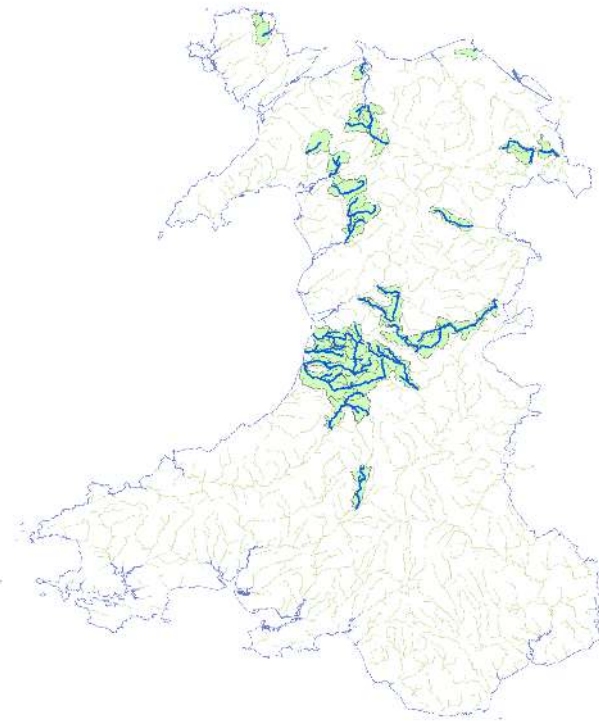
Reduce the pollution of land and rivers from metal mines, and in so doing:

- mitigate the hazards and risks from metal mines
- protect and improve the resilience of ecosystems
- promote and enhance health and well-being
- celebrate and promote the heritage and amenity value of metal mines
- support and benefit local communities and other stakeholders

Rhaglen Mwyngloddiau Metel Cymru Wales Metal Mines Programme



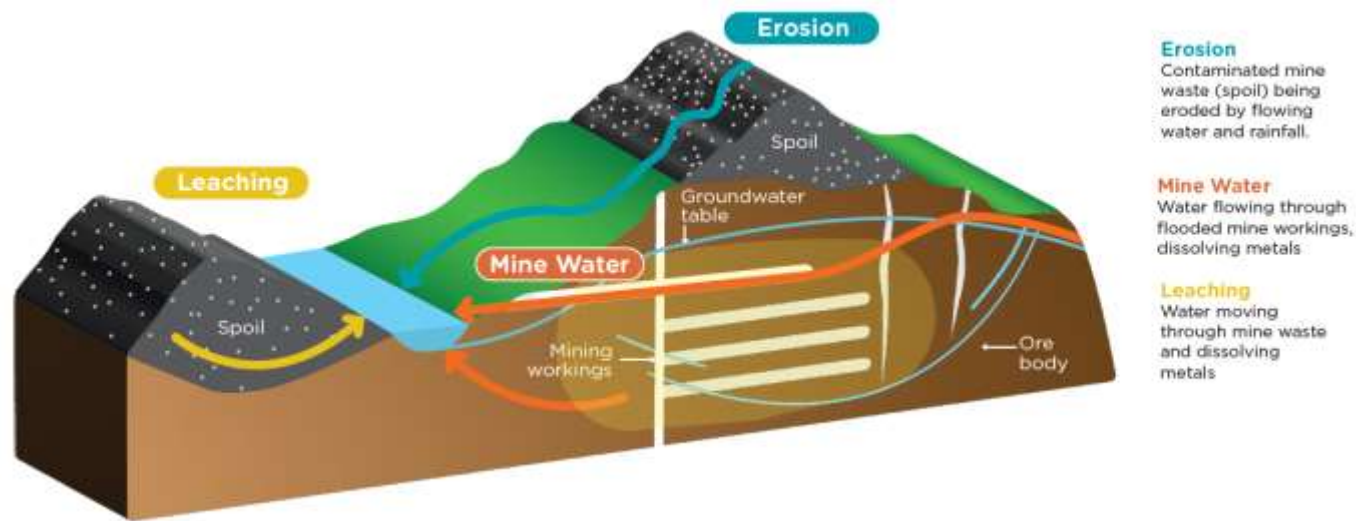
Challenges – Scale of the problem
60 water bodies, 700 km river, 240
priority mines



Heriau – Graddfa'r broblem
60 o gyrff dŵr, 700 km o afon, 240 o
fwyngloddiau blaenoriaeth

Llygredd o fwyngloddiau metel

Pollution from abandoned metal mines



Heriau – Gweithio ar safleoedd cymhleth gyda nodweddion gwarchodedig lluosog

Challenges – Working on complex sites with multiple protected features



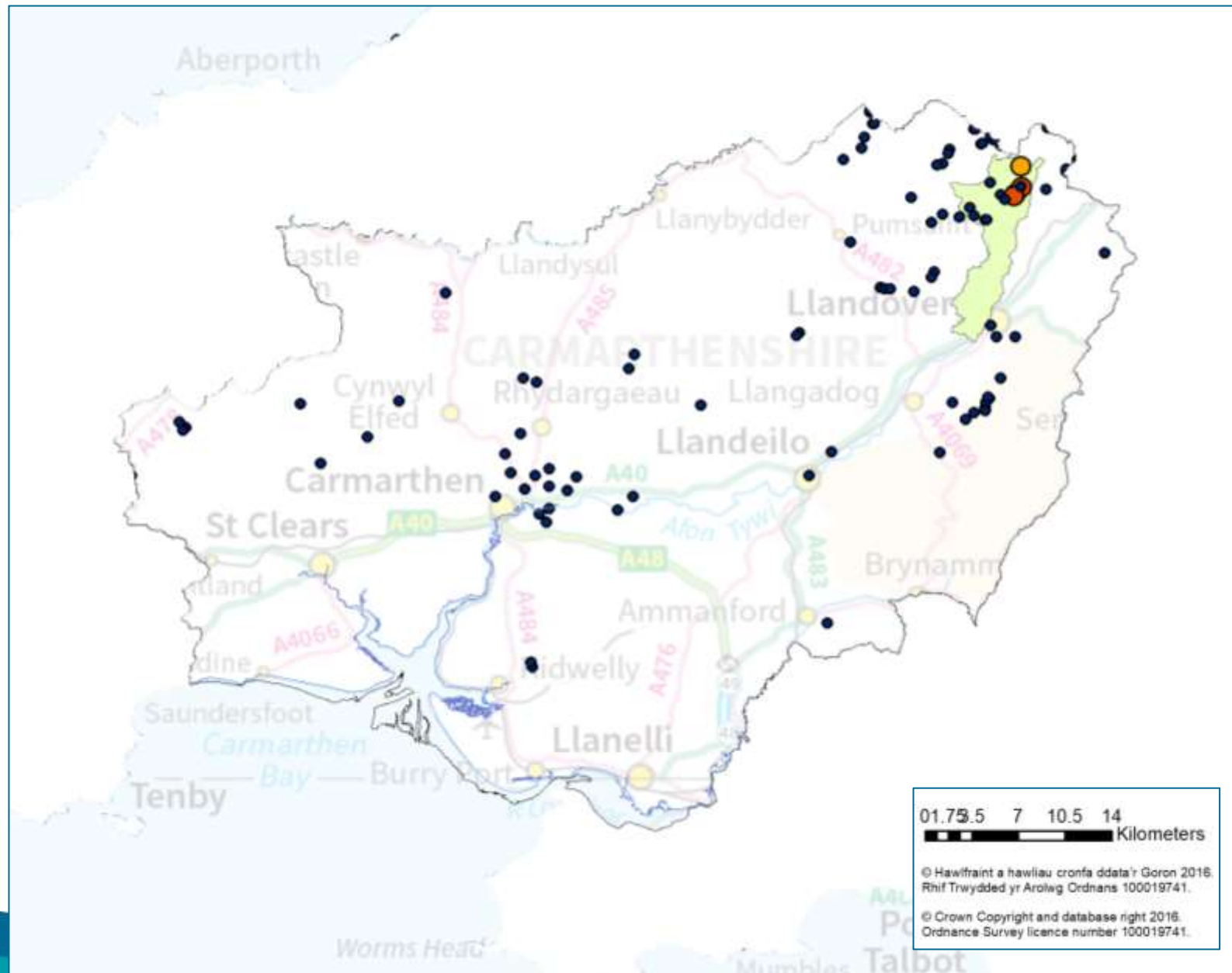
Gwaith Diweddard / Recent Work



Gwaith Diweddard / Recent Work



Sir Caerfyrddin
Carmarthenshire



Nant y Mwyn Mine

Prif ffynhonnell metelau i Nant y Mwyn a Nant y Bai

Cyfraniad blynyddol:

~13 tonnell o sinc

~2 dunnell o blwm

~40 kg o gadmiwm

Mae Afon Tywi yn methu â bodloni safonau WFD ar gyfer sinc a chadmiwm

Mae lefelau sinc yn parhau i fod yn uchel am ~25 km

Major source of metals to Nant y Mwyn and Nant y Bai watercourses

Annual contribution:

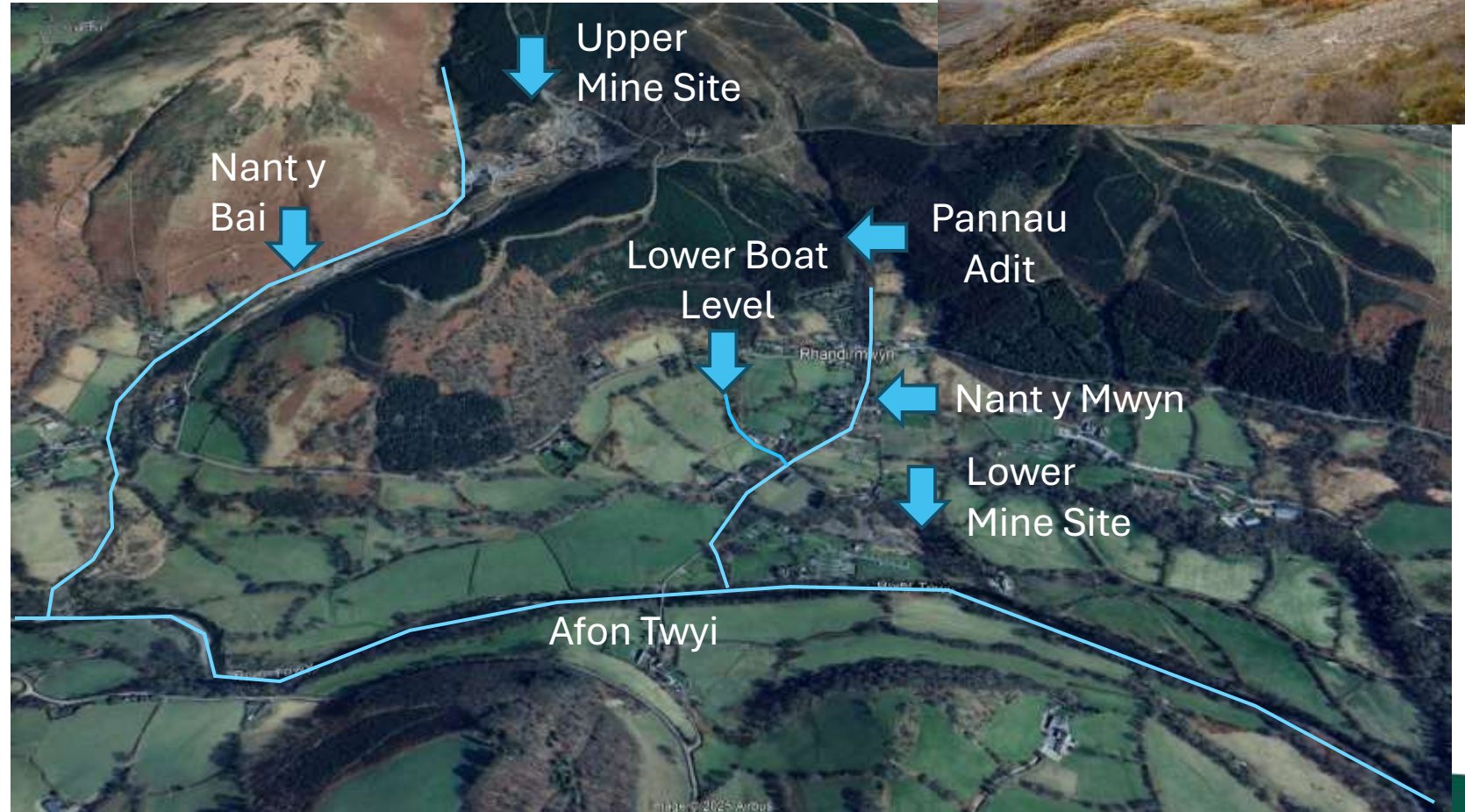
~13 tonnes of zinc

~2 tonnes of lead

~40 kg of cadmium

Afon Tywi fails WFD standards for zinc and cadmium

Zinc remains elevated for ~25 km downstream



Flow Gauging Structures / Strwythurau Mesur Llif

Pannau Adit



Lower Boat Level



Upper Boat Level

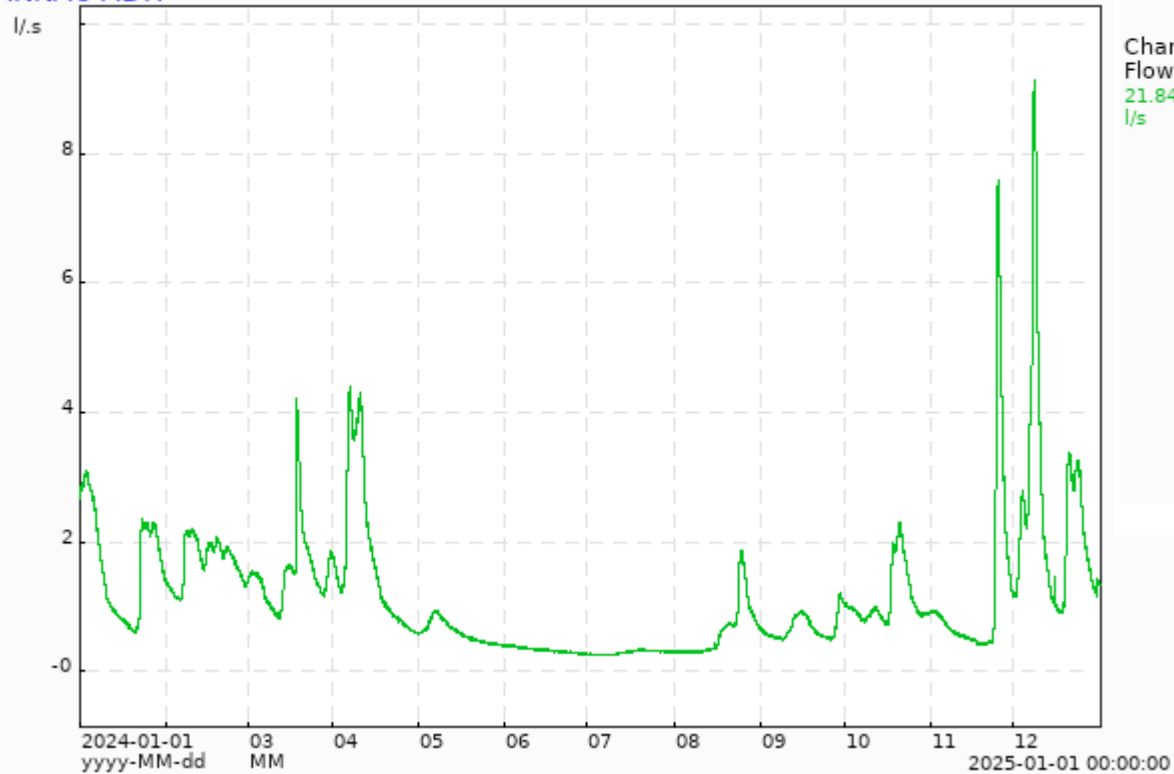


Flow Gauging Structures

Strwythurau Mesur Llif

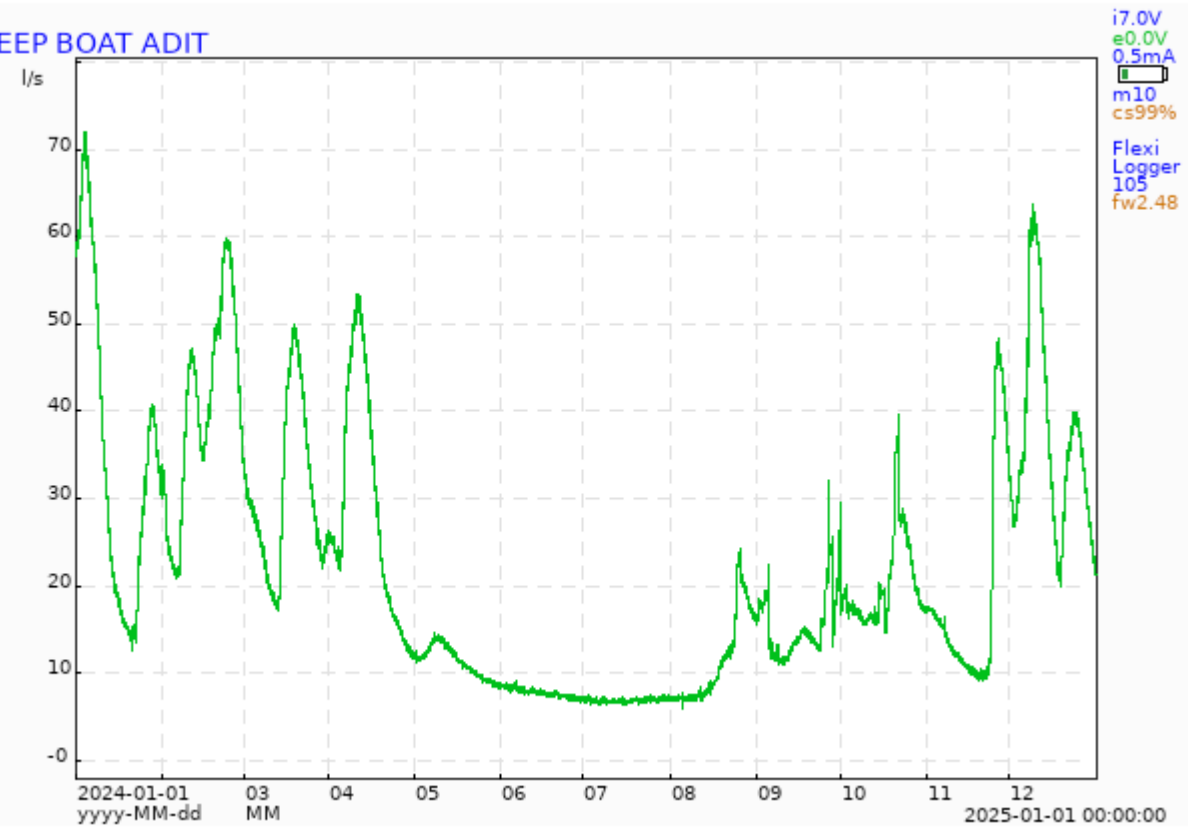
NRW
NYM PANNAU ADIT
2024

Chan 2
Flow
1.394
l/s



NRW
NYM DEEP BOAT ADIT
2024

Chan 2
Flow
21.849
l/s

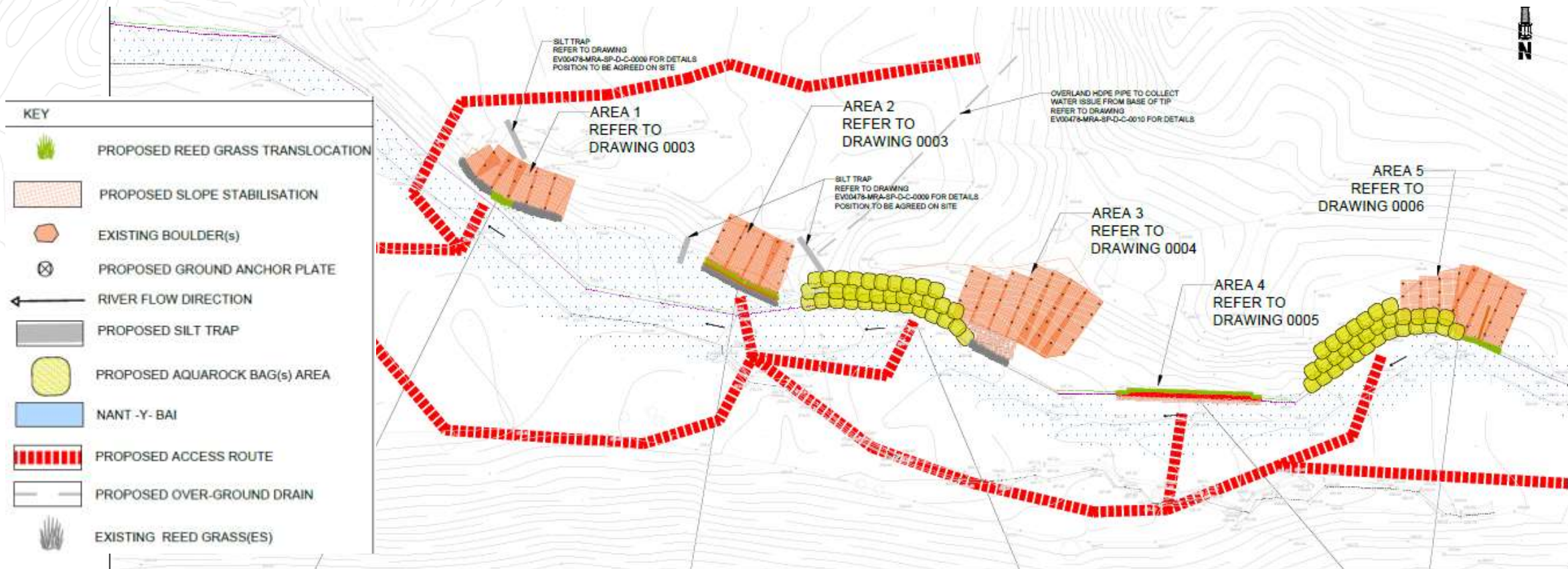


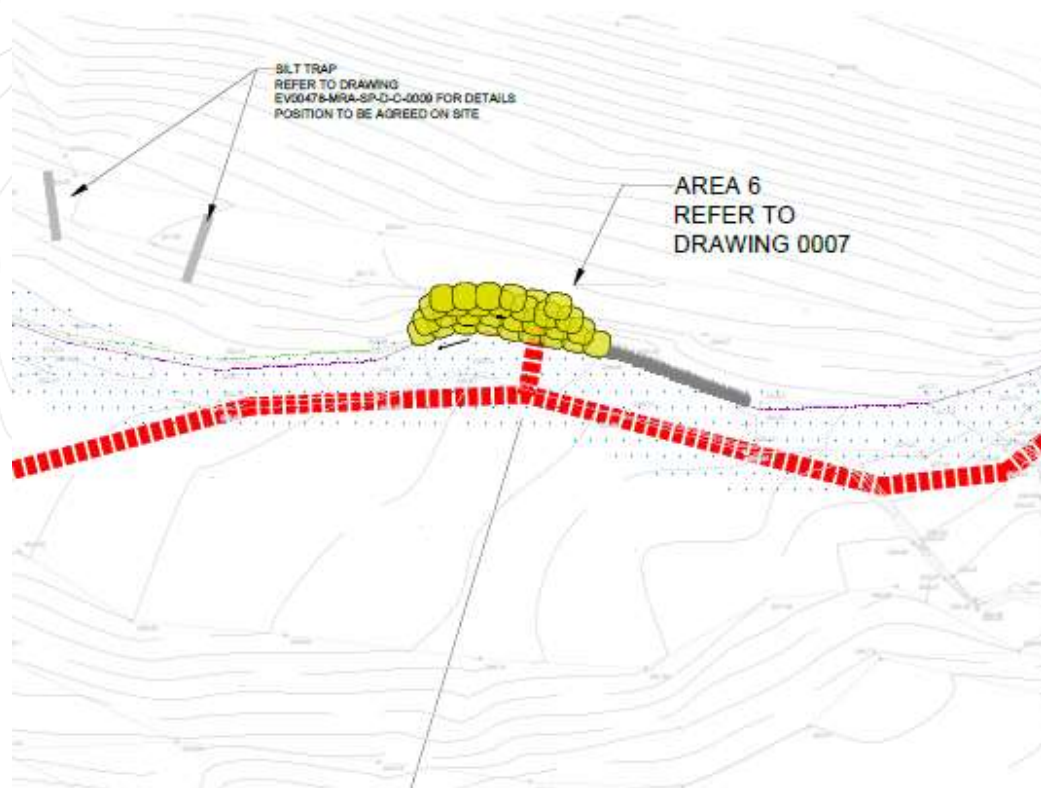


**Nant y Bai -
Amddiffynfeydd Dros
Dro i Atal Erydiad**

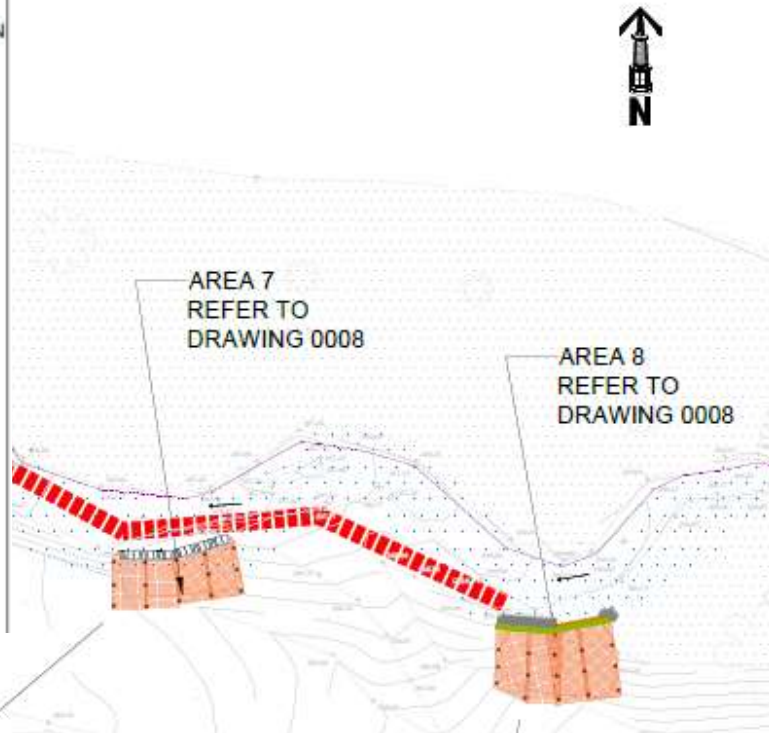
**Nant y Bai - Temporary
Scour Protection**



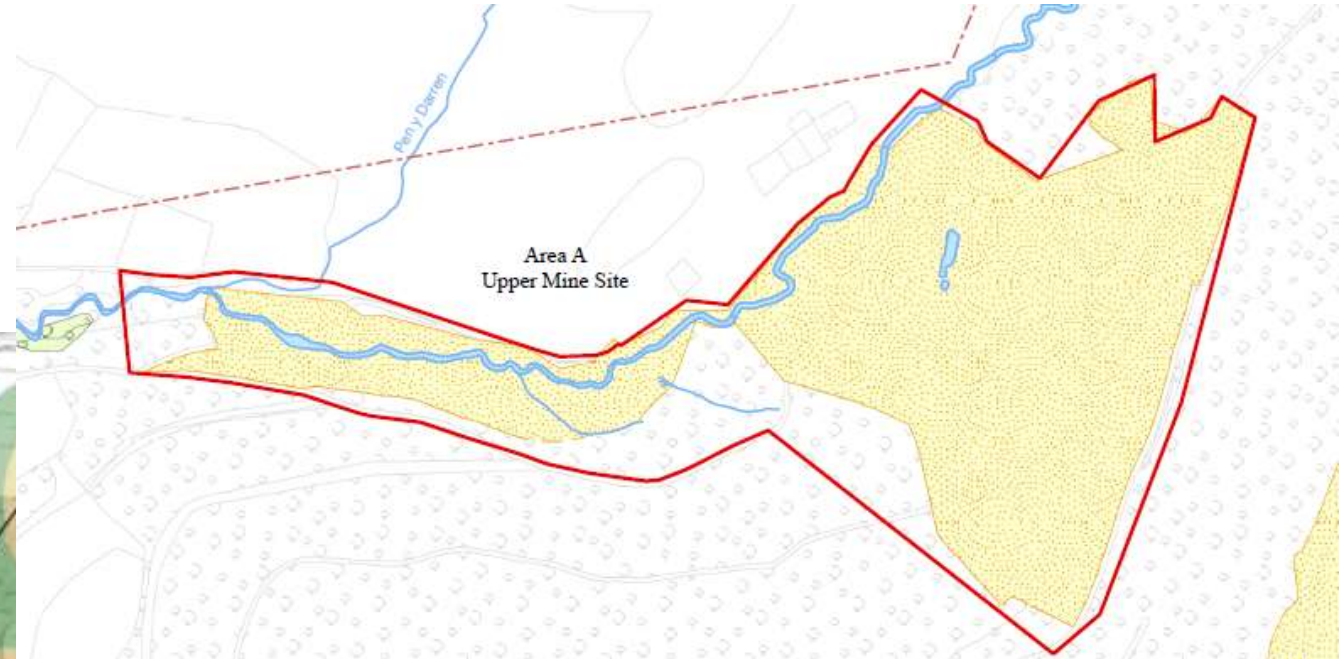
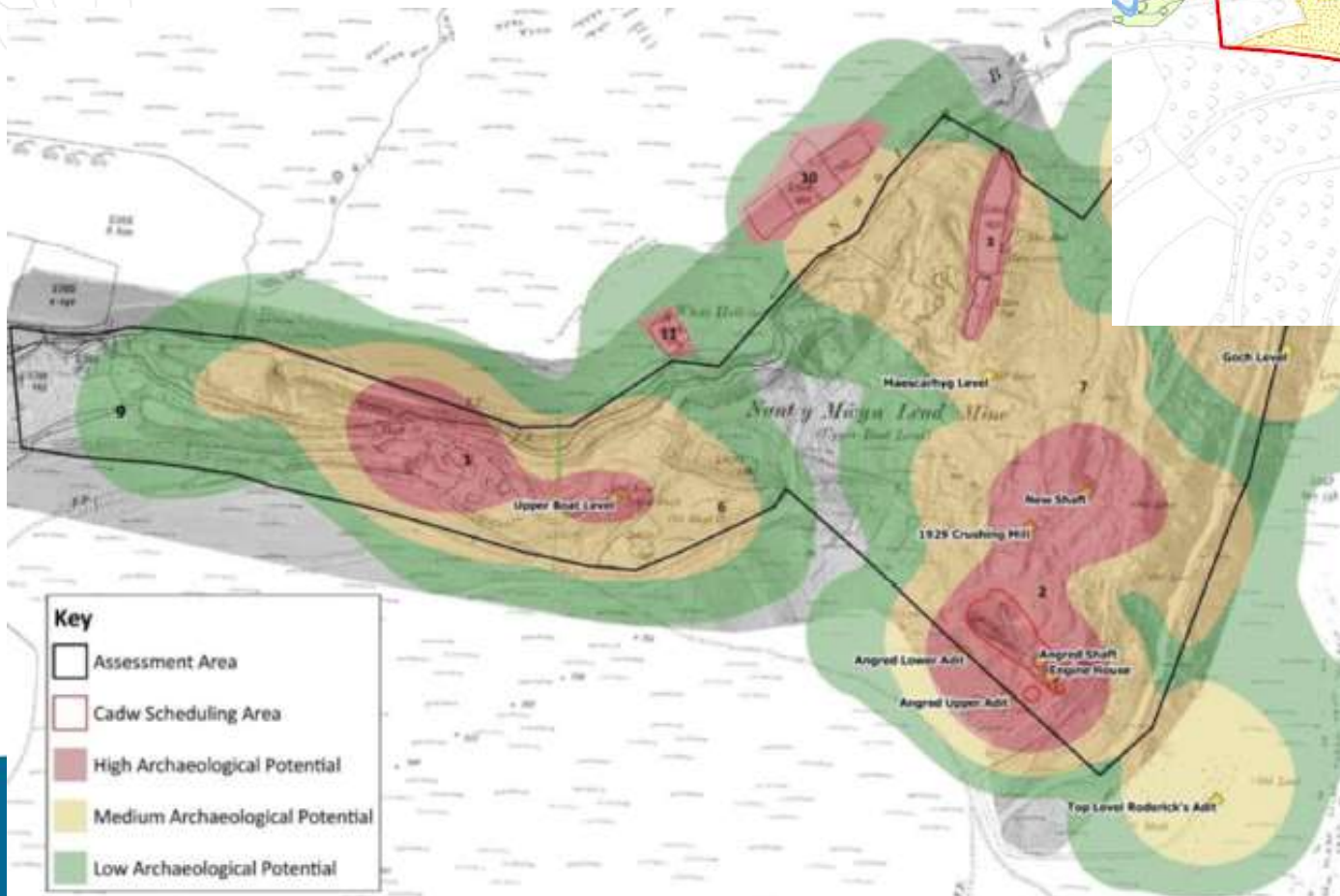




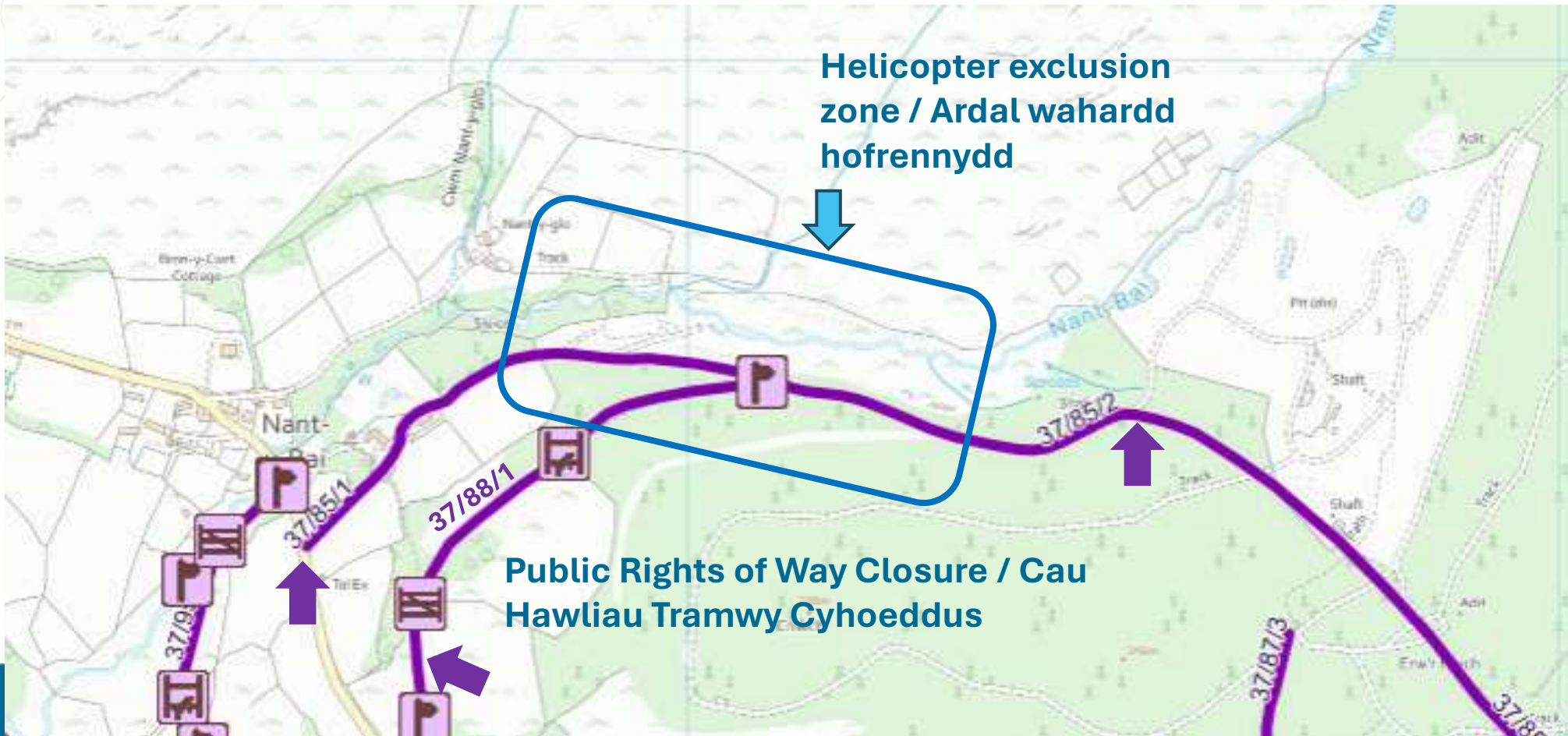
KEY	
	PROPOSED REED GRASS TRANSLOCATION
	PROPOSED SLOPE STABILISATION
	EXISTING BOULDER(s)
	PROPOSED GROUND ANCHOR PLATE
	RIVER FLOW DIRECTION
	PROPOSED SILT TRAP
	PROPOSED AQUAROCK BAG(s) AREA
	NANT -Y- BAI
	PROPOSED ACCESS ROUTE
	PROPOSED OVER-GROUND DRAIN
	EXISTING REED GRASS(ES)



Treftadaeth ac Ecoleg Heritage & Ecology

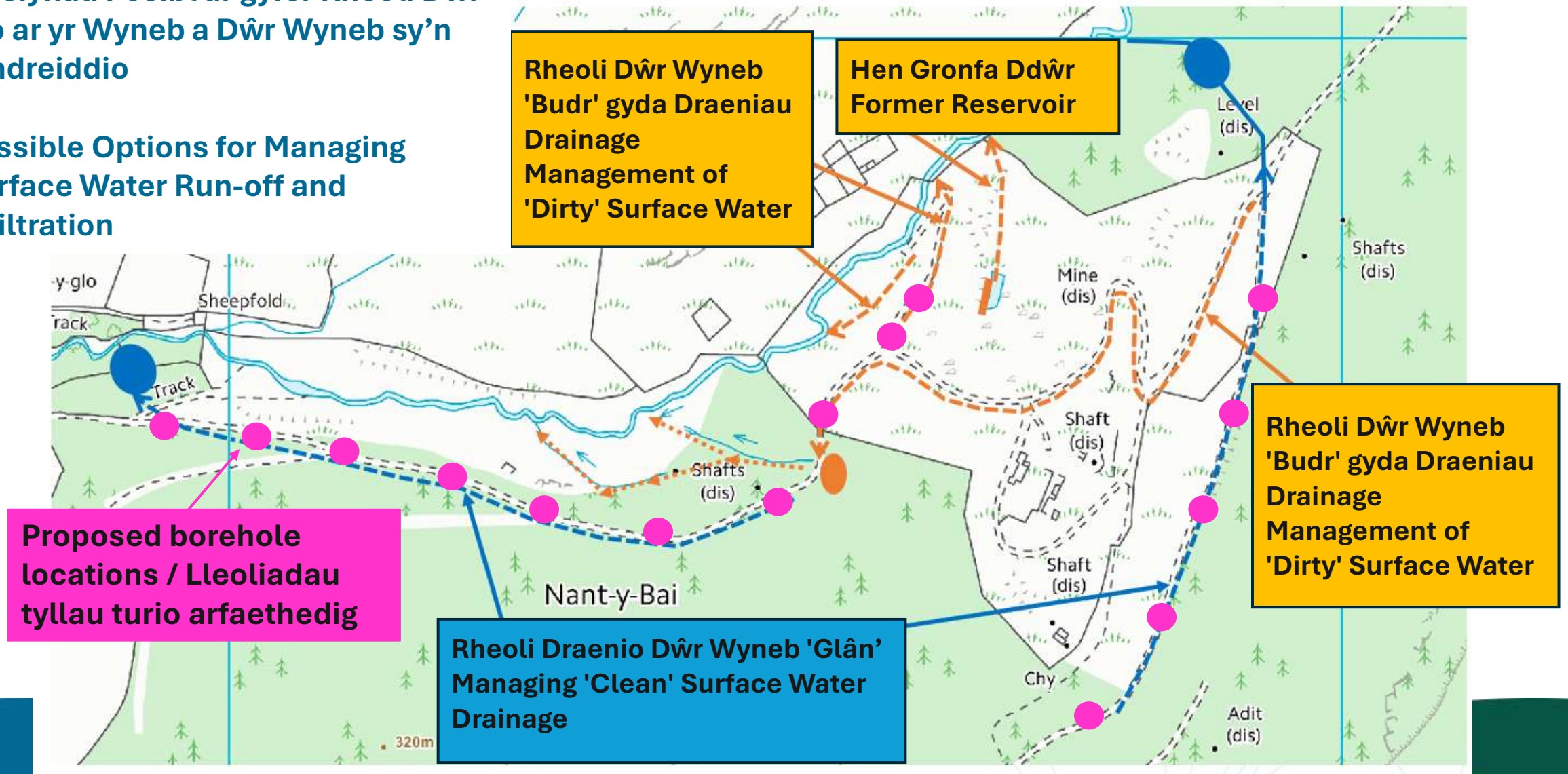


Helicopter / Hofrennydd



Opsiynau Posibl ar gyfer Rheoli Dŵr Ffo ar yr Wyneb a Dŵr Wyneb sy'n Ymdreiddio

Possible Options for Managing Surface Water Run-off and Infiltration



Cymuned Community

Nant y Mwyn Lead Mine - Natural Resources Wales Citizen Space - Citizen Space

Autumn 2025

**Cyfoeth Naturiol
Cymru
Natural Resources
Wales**

**Mining
Remediation
Authority**

Nant y Mwyn Lead Mine

Community Update



Why This Work Matters

The Nant y Mwyn and Nant y Bai watercourses flow into the Afon Tywi which is impacted by metal pollution from historical lead mining. Our long-term goal is to reduce metal loadings entering these tributaries and, ultimately, the Afon Tywi which currently fails to meet Environmental Quality Standards for zinc.

We're pleased to share the latest community update from the Wales Metal Mines Programme, highlighting recent progress at the historical Nant y Mwyn lead mine near Rhandirmwyn.

Since our last update, we've been busy behind the scenes exploring remediation options, with a particular focus on surface water interventions.

To better understand the local environment, we've carried out a range of ecological surveys, including assessments for otters, water voles, and pine martens, as well as technical drone surveys to support our work.

What We've Found

Since the last newsletter in November 2023, a Feasibility Study has been underway to assess the technical, environmental, and economic viability of various intervention options. One key finding is that the Nant y Bai is actively eroding spoil heaps along its banks, a likely contributor to elevated metal levels and contaminated sediments in downstream watercourses.

What We're Planning

To help tackle spoil heap erosion and reduce contamination, we're planning the following targeted interventions:

Scour protection

We aim to protect approximately 100 metres of Nant y Bai embankment with the installation of scour protection, which may include:

- Gabion baskets
- Rock or gravel filled bags
- Geotextile matting
- Timber stakes
- Grassland translocation to stabilise disturbed areas

Watercourse management

We plan to divert water away from the spoil heaps, helping to prevent further pollution from entering the stream.

Sediment Management

We will deploy sediment traps to capture mobile spoil material before it reaches the watercourse.



Sign up for updates:

bit.ly/NantyMwynMetalMine
nantymwyn@metalmine.wales.co.uk

 Old mines are dangerous places with many hidden hazards. Many of our projects are located on private land where public access is not permitted without landowner approval.



We're currently finalising designs for this phase of the project with the cooperation of landowners.

Further work will continue in the years to come, but we anticipate that these initial interventions will have a significant impact at Nant y Mwyn. They will also provide valuable groundwork for future phases of the project, helping us to better target long-term solutions to reduce pollution from the mine.

Areas of the mine site are designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). We will ensure our approach respects the protected ecology and will seek the necessary permissions, including the SSSI assent required, to allow the project to proceed.

Working Together

We're committed to keeping the community informed and involved. As the project moves forward, we'll share more updates, including timelines and ways you can get involved or share your views.

If you'd like to learn more, receive updates by email or share your thoughts, we'd love to hear from you.

NRW General Enquiries: 0300 065 3000

Engagement Manager:
Adam Bateman - Direct Line **01623 637015**

Project Manager:
Marika Gades - Mining Remediation Authority

Lead Specialist Advisor:
Tom Williams - Natural Resources Wales



Diolch
Thank you

