

RIVER TAWE

The River Tawe has its source on the Black Mountain, on the western edge of the Brecon Beacons. From there, it flows in a general southerly direction, through Ystradgynlais, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe, and Clydach before entering the sea at Swansea Bay on the eastern side of Swansea some 48km from source.

Its tributaries include the Nant Llech, Upper and Lower Clydach Rivers, the Afon Twrch and Nant-y-fendrod.

PROTECTED SITES

The Tawe is not one of Wales's SAC rivers although there are several Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within its catchment. These include the area of its source (Mynydd Du) and one of the Tawe's tributaries, the Nant Llech. The steep sided gorge through which this stream flows is designated SSSI for its rich variety of woodland and cliff plant communities. It is also host to the rare Soldier beetle.



Soldier beetle
(*Podabrus alpinus*)

SPECIES

The Tawe is home to a variety of fish and bird species, including:



Brook & River Lamprey

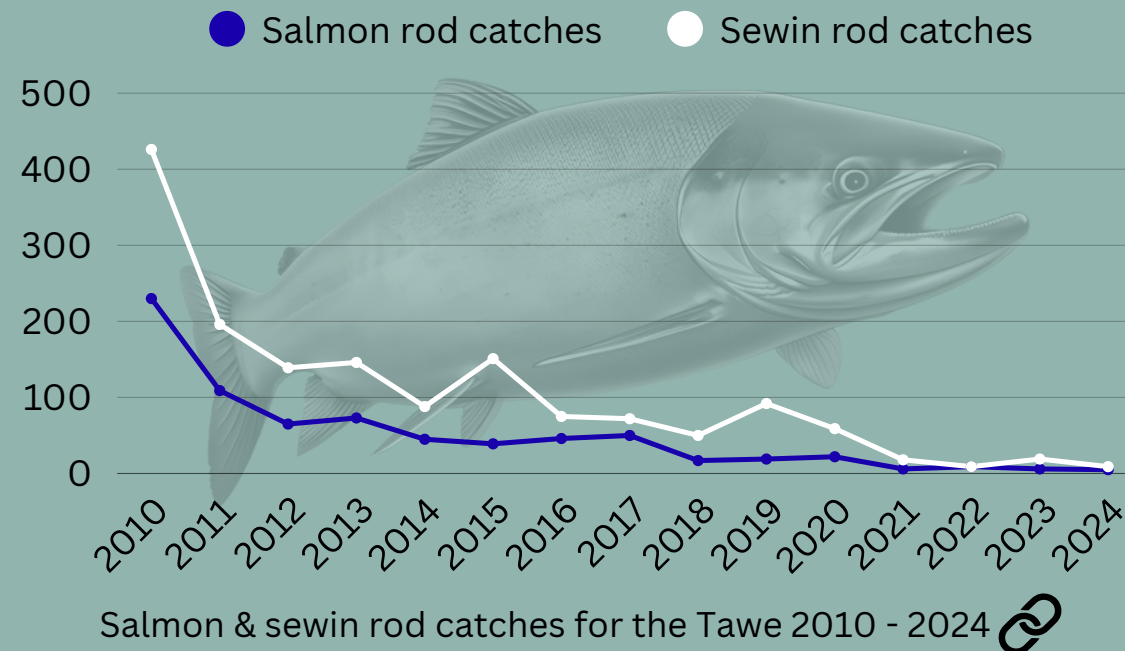


Sewin & brown trout

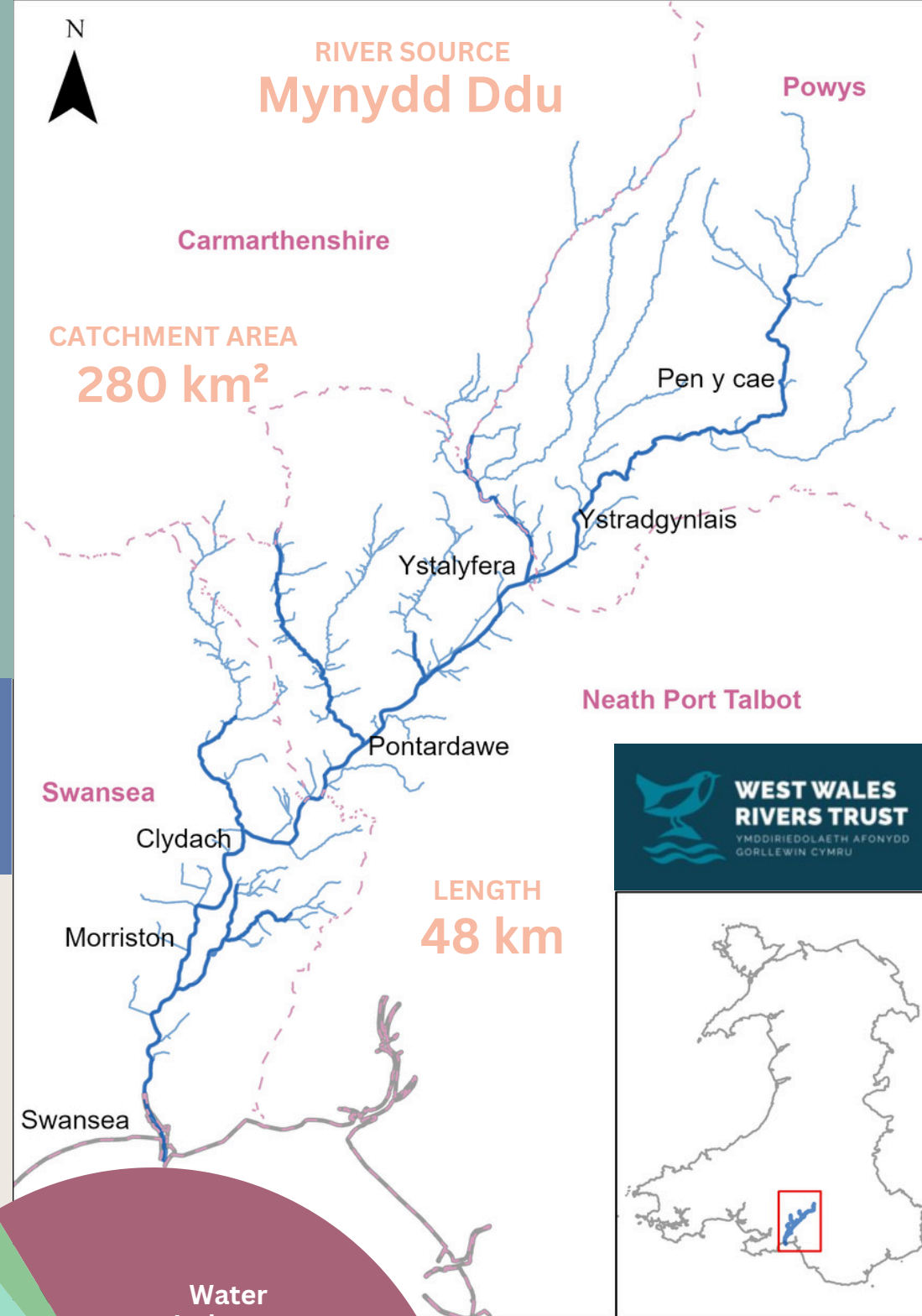


Dipper

FISH POPULATIONS AT RISK



In its latest assessments NRW have classified Tawe salmon and sewin populations as depleted and at risk, and unlikely to change by 2029.



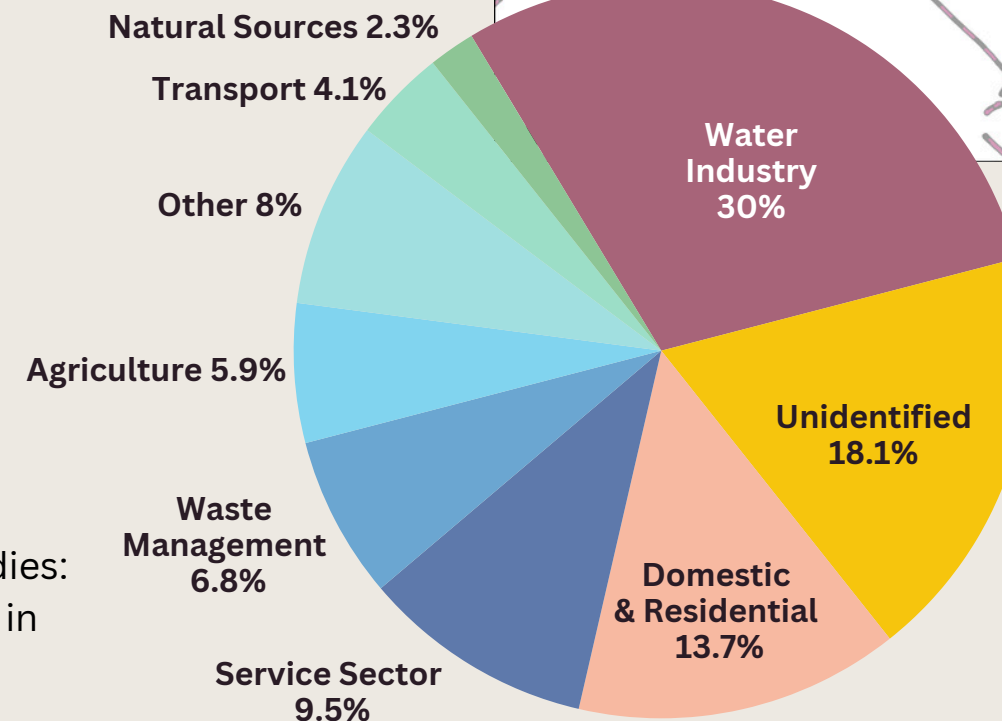
This river Factsheet was compiled by Afonydd Cymru with support from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.



WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE (WFD) TAWE IN GOOD HEALTH?

The health of our rivers is assessed using a range of ecological and chemical indicators. Under the Water Framework Directive, rivers are split up into “waterbodies” which can be classified as High, Good, Moderate, Poor or Bad. The latest assessments by NRW found that.....

- Of the **14** waterbodies in the Tawe catchment, **0** achieve High overall or ecological status.
- However, **8** of the Tawe's waterbodies were classified as Good overall and **6** as Moderate), making it one of the few rivers in Wales with a chance of achieving WFD targets by 2027 (all waterbodies in High or Good overall status).
- Fish numbers were assessed in **11** of the **14** waterbodies: **8** were found to be high or good status for fish and **3** in moderate status.



SOURCE OF TAWE POLLUTION INCIDENTS

2016 - 2024
221 “substantiated” incidents

Data: NRW

AFON TAWE

Mae tarddiad Afon Tawe ar y Mynydd Du, ar ymyl gorllewinol Bannau Brycheiniog. O'r fan honno, mae'n llifo i gyfeiriad deheuol cyffredinol, trwy Ystradgynlais, Ystalyfera, Pontardawe, a Chlydach cyn mynd i mewn i'r môr ym Mae Abertawe ar ochr ddwyreiniol Abertawe tua 48km o'i tharddiad.

Ymhlith ei hisafonydd mae Nant Llech, Afonau Clydach Uchaf ac Isaf, Afon Twrch a Nant-y-fendrod.

SAFLEOEDD WEDI'U GWARCHOD

Nid yw Afon Tawe yn un o afonydd ACA Cymru er bod sawl Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig (SoDdGA) o fewn ei dalgylch. Mae'r rhain yn cynnwys ardal ei tharddiad (Mynydd Du) ac un o lednentydd Afon Tawe, Nant Llech. Mae'r ceunant serth y mae'r nant hon yn llifo drwyddo wedi'i ddynodi'n SoDdGA oherwydd ei hamrywiaeth gyfoethog o gymunedau planhigion coetir a chlogwyni. Mae hefyd yn gartref i'r chwilog Milwr prin.



Soldier beetle (Podabrus alpinus)

RHYWOGAETHAU

Mae Afon Tawe yn gartref i amrywiaeth o rywogaethau pysgod ac adar, gan gynnwys:



Llysywen Bendoll yr Afon

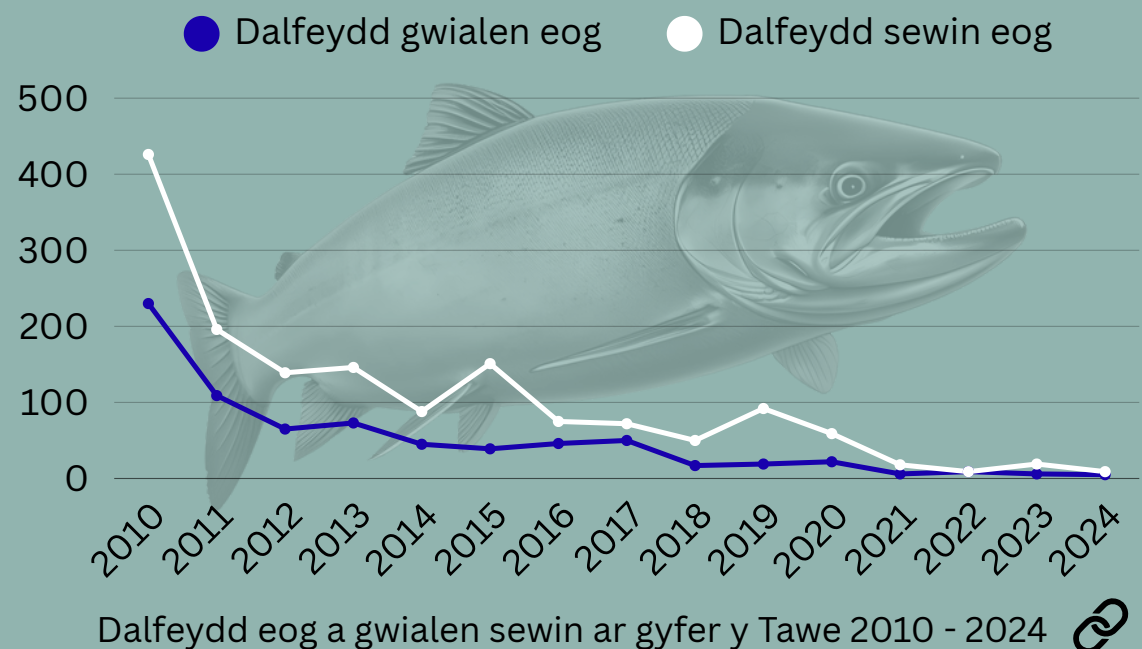


Sewin & brithyll

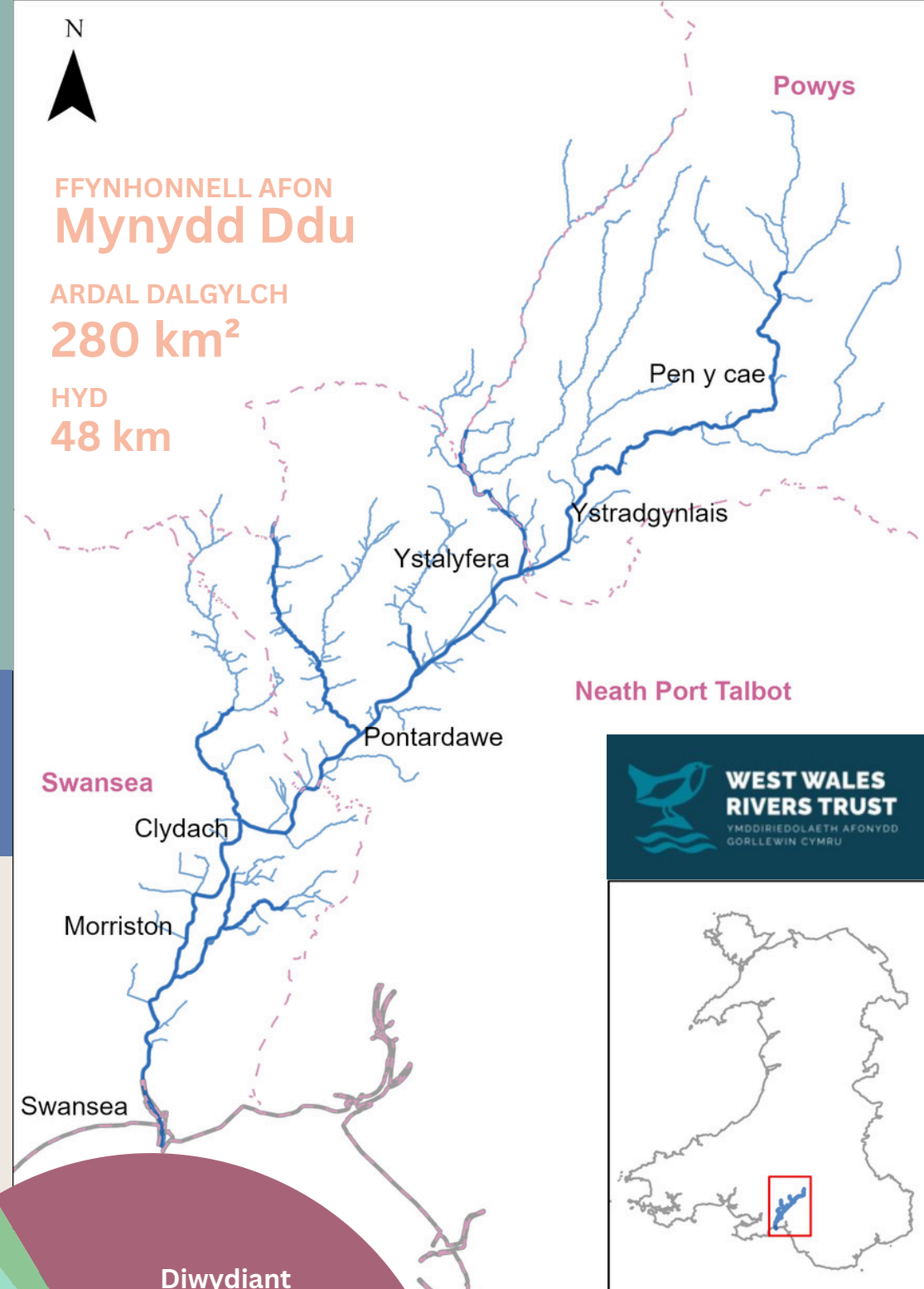


Bronwennod y Dŵr

POBLOGAETHAU PYSGOD MEWN PERYGL



Yn ei asesiadau diweddaraf mae CNC wedi dosbarthu poblogaethau eogiaid a sewin Tawe fel rhai sydd wedi'u disbyddu ac yn annhebygol o newid erbyn 2029.



Lluniwyd y Daflen Ffeithiau hon am yr afon gan Afonydd Cymru gyda chefnogaeth gan Sefydliad Esmée Fairbairn.



Y GYFARWYDDEB FFRAMWAITH DŴR TAWE MEWN IECHYD DA?

Caiff iechyd ein hafonydd ei asesu gan ddefnyddio amrywiaeth o ddangosyddion ecolegol a chemegol. O dan y Gyfarwyddeb Fframwaith Dŵr, mae afonydd yn cael eu rhannu'n "gyrff dŵr" y gellir eu dosbarthu fel Uchel, Da, Cymedrol, Gwael neu Wael. Canfu'r asesiadau diweddaraf gan NRW fod.....

- O'r **14** corff dŵr yn nalgylch Tawe, nid oes **0** ohonynt yn cyflawni statws cyffredinol neu ecolegol Uchel.
- Fodd bynnag, dosbarthwyd **8** o gyrff dŵr Afon Tawe fel Da ar y cyfan a **6** fel Cymedrol, gan ei gwneud yn un o'r ychydig afonydd yng Nghymru sydd â chyfle o gyflawni targedau'r Gyfarwyddeb Fframwaith Dŵr erbyn 2027 (pob corff dŵr mewn statws Uchel neu Dda ar y cyfan).
- Aseswyd niferoedd pysgod mewn **11** o'r **14** corff dŵr: canfuwyd bod **8** o statws uchel neu dda ar gyfer pysgod a **3** o statws cymedrol.

