DIWEDDARIAD PROSIECT 2023

Helô gan dîm Morwellt Achub Cefnfor Gogledd Cymru. Mae hi wedi bod yn flwyddyn hynod brysur, ac mae gennym lawer o newyddion i'w rannu gyda chi:

Casglu hadau:

Yn ystod yr Haf y llynedd, fe ddychwelon ni i Borthdinllaen gan lwyddo casglu miliwn o hadau morwellt. Mi fydd yr hadau a gasglwyd yn cael eu plannu eleni. Braf oedd cael profi cefnogaeth a brwdfrydedd ein gwirfoddolwyr unwaith eto. Heb eu cymorth yn snorclo, rhydio, plymio a lawnsio cychod, mi fysai'r gwaith yma yn amhosib i'w wneud. Yn ogystal â'r gwirfoddolwyr yma, daeth sawl grŵp cymunedol i'n helpu, felly diolch hefyd i'n Hyrwyddwyr Achub Cefnfor (ein cadwraethwyr morol ifanc), grŵp cyn-filwyr Boots on the Ground, a grŵp ceiswyr lloches Pobl i Bobl.

Roedd gan ein tîm plymio ni hefyd digon i'w cadw nhw'n brysur, drwy gynnal treialon mecaneiddio ynghyd â chasglu hadau. Rhoddodd yr RNLI ganiatâd i ni storio'r bagiau o hadau ffres ar eu bwiau, ac felly yn y dŵr tan y funud olaf. Wrth gadw'r hadau o dan yr amodau delfrydol fel hyn, doedd dim rhaid i ni ddelio gyda'r arogl afiach o hadau'n pydru!

Rhai o'r gwirfoddolwyr ar ôl casglu'r hadau:

Yr hadau'n barod i'w storio ar ôl cael eu prosesu:

Prosesu'r hadau:

Ar ôl casglu'r hadau morwellt, cafon nhw eu trosglwyddo i Ben-y-bont ar Ogwr er mwyn cael eu prosesu. Yma maen nhw'n cael eu cadw mewn tanciau mawr, gyda llif cyson o aer a dŵr, er mwyn rhoi cyfle i'r hadau bach ddisgyn yn naturiol o'r morwellt wrth iddo bydru. Caiff yr hadau wedyn eu casglu a'u symud i'w storio ym Mhentywyn, Sir Gâr.

Defnyddio plymwr SCUBA i fonitro morwellt

Monitro:

Plannwyd morwellt yng Ngharreg y Defaid a Phenychain yn ystod y Gwanwyn llynedd, ac felly erbyn mis Medi roedd hi'n amser monitro'r cynnydd yn y lleoliadau yma, yn ogystal â rhai safleoedd ar Ynys Môn. Roedd hi'n galonogol gweld darnau o forwellt newydd yn tyfu tu fewn a thu allan i'r mannau arbrofol ym Mhenychain. Unwaith eto, diolch i'n gwirfoddolwyr a'r Hyrwyddwyr Achub Cefnfor am y cymorth a gafon ni, yn enwedig gan ei bod hi wedi tresio bwrw wrth iddyn nhw weithio!

Tra bod y sefyllfa ym Mhenychain yn un positif, yn anffodus, doedd dim newyddion da wrth i ni arolygu Carreg y Defaid. Roedd llawer o botensial ar y safle yma gan fod 3200 eginblanhigyn morwellt yn tyfu yma ym mis Mehefin. Ond yn anffodus, erbyn mis Medi, doedd dim ar ôl. Yr esboniad mwyaf tebygol am hyn ydi bod adar wedi bod yn pori yma. Er bod y dail wedi diflannu, mae'r gwreiddgyff yn dal i fodoli o dan y gwaddod. Tu allan i'r mannau arbrofol, roedd llond llaw o eginblanhigion morwellt ar ôl, gyda hôl pori ar ddail bron iawn i bob un planhigyn. Mae hyn yn dipyn o ddirgelwch i ni, felly os oes unrhyw wybodaeth neu syniadau gennych chi, mae croeso mawr i chi gysylltu a rhannu'ch damcaniaethau.

Eginblanhigion byw ac iach ym Mhenychain

Eisteddfod:

Pleser oedd cael rhannu ein hangerdd dros forwellt, ynghyd â gwybodaeth am y prosiect, gyda channoedd o bobl wrth iddynt ymweld â'r Brifwyl ym Moduan, Pen Llŷn. Roedd hi'n braf cyfathrebu gydag aelodau o'r cyhoedd gan rannu gwybodaeth am brosiect Morwellt Achub Cefnfor mewn ffyrdd gwahanol yn dibynnu ar eu hoed, cefndir, a'u milltir sgwâr. Cafodd oedolion a phlant bach gyfle i lenwi bagiau bach hesian a'u hannog i ardystio y byddent yn gwneud eu gorau glas i warchod natur yng Nghymru. Daeth holl bartneriaid Morwellt Achub Cefnfor ynghyd er mwyn cynnal gêm ryngweithiol 'Bingo Morwellt' ar draws eu stondinau ar y Maes.

Stondin rhyngweithiol Ymddiriedolaeth Natur Gogledd Cymru

Ymgysylltu cymunedol:

Rydyn ni wedi bod yn brysur yn tywys teithiau cerdded yn ardal Porthdinllaen er mwyn i amrywiaeth o grwpiau allu dysgu mwy am y ddôl morwellt, ein gweledigaeth, a'n amcanion. Mae llawer o ddiddordeb wedi bod, ac rydym wedi cael trafodaethau difyr iawn yn ystod y teithiau. Os hoffech chi ymuno â thaith tywys, cadwch lygad ar ein cyfryngau cymdeithasol i gael yr holl fanylion.

Yn ystod yr Hydref fe ddaeth rhai o drigolion Pen Llŷn at ei gilydd er mwyn creu grŵp newydd o wirfoddolwyr sydd gyda diddordeb ym maes cadwraeth morol. Mae'r grŵp yn cwrdd unwaith y mis, ac mewn partneriaeth â'r Ymddiriedolaeth Genedlaethol, yn casglu morwellt sydd wedi'i olchi i'r traeth ym Mhorthdinllaen, a'i drawsblannu i'r safleoedd plannu newydd yng Ngharreg y Defaid a Phenychain. Rydyn ni hefyd wedi bod yn hyfforddi aelodau o Boots on the Ground a Pobl i Bobl er mwyn eu galluogi nhw i drawsblannu morwellt, traddodi cyflwyniadau, ateb cwestiynau a chynnal trafodaethau gyda grwpiau eraill. Mae'r perthnasoedd sydd gennyn ni gyda grwpiau cymunedau lleol yn golygu fod digwyddiadau gyda Pride Cymru, elusen iechyd meddwl a grŵp o'r Brifysgol hefyd ar y gweill.

Mae ysgolion lleol ym Mhen Llŷn wedi bod yn cael blas ar ein gwaith drwy weithgareddau sy'n rhoi profiad rhyngweithiol i'r plant o atgyweirio morwellt. Cafodd plant Ysgol Pentreuchaf daith addysgiadol i Borthdinllaen, lle buon nhw'n casglu morwellt oedd wedi'i olchi i'r traeth. Casglodd y plantos 227 o blanhigion morwellt, ac mi fydd rhain yn cael eu hail-blannu ar safleoedd newydd.

Y Camau Nesaf:

Mi fydden ni'n gorffen prosesu'r hadau er mwyn eu storio nhw dros y Gaeaf, cyn dychwelyd i gynnal mwy o dreialon plannu yn ogystal â phlannu tameidiau gyda'n gwirfoddolwyr. Mae gennyn ni galendr lawn ar gyfer 2024, gyda digwyddiadau wedi'u cynllunio er mwyn meithrin a datblygu perthnasoedd hen a newydd gydag ysgolion a grwpiau cymunedol ar draws Gogledd Cymru.

Braf iawn fysa clywed gennych chi gydag unrhyw gwestiynau - peidiwch â dal yn ôl a chysylltwch hefo ni heddiw!

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PROJECT UPDATE 2023

Hello from the Seagrass Ocean Rescue North Wales team. It's been a busy year with lots to update on.

Seed-picking:

This summer we returned to Porthdinllaen to collect one million seagrass seeds for planting in 2024. Again, we were overwhelmed by the support and enthusiasm of all our volunteers. From snorkeling and wading, to diving and boat launches, we couldn't do it without you. Key community groups also got involved, including our Seagrass Ocean Rescue Champions, the veteran Boots on the Ground group and the Pobl i Bobl asylum seekers.

Our dive team were also busy surveying, conducting mechanisation trials, and collecting seeds. This year, we were given permission from the RNLI to store bags of freshly collected seagrass seeds on their buoys, which worked very well. This kept the seeds suspended in the water and thereby kept them in optimal condition, also avoiding the unpleasant smell of rotting seagrass!

Some of our volunteers after seed collection:

Processed seeds ready for storage:

Seed-processing:

After finishing up our seagrass seed collection, we took all the seeds to our processing facilities in Bridgend. We kept them in large tanks with constant air and water flow, allowing the seeds to naturally drop out of the decaying seagrass matter, after which we collected and stored them at our seagrass nursery in Pendine.

Monitoring seagrass through SCUBA diving

Monitoring:

In September, we monitored the seagrass we planted at Carreg y Defaid and Penychain in the spring, and also conducted site visits on Ynys Môn. Penychain seagrass is doing well, with patches of new seagrass present inside and outside the experimental plots. We were again joined by some hard-working volunteers who provided great assistance, and the Seagrass Ocean Rescue Champions (young marine conservationists) who braved torrential rain to help us monitor!

At Carreg y Defaid, we were presented with a mystery. Whilst this site had been very promising, with over 3200 seagrass shoots growing in June, by the end of September there were none. We tested a few hypotheses, and what seems most likely is grazing by birds, as whilst the leaves are gone, the rhizomes are still present under the sediment. Outside of our experimental plots, we found a handful of seagrass shoots planted by a volunteer, and the leaves of virtually all plants had grazing marks. Please do share any further insights with us.

Healthy seedlings at Penychain

Eisteddfod:

Our team attended the national Eisteddfod in Boduan, Pen Llyn. We enjoyed sharing our love of seagrass and information on the project with hundreds of festival guests. We communicated the work of Seagrass Ocean Rescue with members of the public, ranging in age, background and locality, adapting the information we told and the activities we had to offer depending on who we were liaising with. We offered hessian bag filling sessions for young children and adults alike, asked all to make a seagrass 'promise' or a 'pledge' to help protect nature in Wales, and ran an interactive 'seagrass bingo', connecting all Seagrass Ocean Rescue partner stands across the Eisteddfod.

North Wales Wildlife Trust's interactive stand & the team at Eisteddfod

Community Engagement:

We've also been leading guided seagrass walks with a variety of groups, taking people to Porthdinllaen seagrass meadow to learn more about seagrass and our aims. We've had great conversations and interest. Keep an eye on our social media platforms for next walks.

Over the autumn, we helped to form a new voluntary group of local people in Pen Llŷn interested in the marine environment. Working closely with the National Trust and our team, the volunteers meet monthly to collect and transplant washed up seagrass fragments from Porthdinllaen to the new planting sites in Penychain and Carreg y Defaid. We've also been training Boots on the Ground and Pobl i Bobl in fragment transplanting, giving presentations and Q&A discussions to other groups. We continue to liaise with community groups, with events with Pride Cymru, a mental health charity and a University group currently in the making.

We've also been busy engaging with local schools in Pen Llŷn, where local children are having 'hands on' seagrass restoration experience. The team recently took pupils from Ysgol Pentreuchaf on a seagrass educational trip to Porthdinllaen. The school children collected 227 washed-up seagrass plants from Porthdinllaen, to be planted at new sites.

Next steps:

Our next steps are to finish processing the seeds for winter storage, then return for some autumn planting trials and fragment planting with volunteers, continuing our engagement with community groups and schools. In the meantime, we are planning for an exciting year of activities in 2024 and continuing to establish and strengthen connections with new and existing community groups across North Wales.

If you have any questions, please get in touch - we would love to hear from you.

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