

# North Wales Wildlife Trust Research Projects

Dr Shaun Russell, Bangor University, is a first contact point for exploring these options with BU students ([s.russell@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:s.russell@bangor.ac.uk))

| Scheme/area                                  | Topic            | Subject   | NWWT Contact | Priority | Scale/Scope     |
|--|------------------|---|--------------|----------|-----------------|
| <b><u>Living Landscape Schemes (LLS)</u></b> |                  |   |              |          |                 |
| Anglesey Fens                                | Landscape        | The potential for increasing habitat connectivity in the Anglesey Fens LLS through habitat restoration and re-creation - <i>selected key habitats to examine (heathland, woodland, fen etc)</i>                             | CW           | M        | BSc/MSc         |
|  | Agriculture      | Farm management and water quality issues in the fens catchment  | CW           | H        | BSc/MSc/PhD     |
|  | Species          | Invasive species in LLS - an assessment of key species and issues   | CW           | M        | BSc/MSc         |
|  | Cultural         | What is the/is there a cultural identity associated with all/part of the LLS?   | CW           | L        | BSc/MSc         |
| North-west's Living Landscape scheme         | Living Landscape | Take Iolo's initial GIS assessment of where to site a further LL scheme in NW area to the next stage, including gathering species info, contacting landowners, and possibly fundraising options to pay for a scoping study. | RB           | H        | BSc / MSc       |
| <b>WT Nature Reserve Based</b>               |                  |   |              |          |                 |
| Cors Goch                                    | Invertebrates    | - butterfly transect (through summer months) compare data with previous transects to investigate effects of management  | CW           | H        | April-September |
| -  | Ornithology      | - breeding bird survey (especially focussing on wetland species); compare data with previous surveys (1999  | CW           | M        | BSc/MSc         |

|                     |                              |   |    |   |         |
|---------------------|------------------------------|---|----|---|---------|
|                     |                              | and 2004) and other sites to investigate effects of management  |    |   |         |
|                     | Botany                       | - studies of stonewort species especially the nationally endangered species, Dwarf Stonewort ( <i>Nitella tenuissima</i> ); e.g. survivorship in the spore bank   |    |   |         |
|                     | Botany                       | - vegetation monitoring in any of a variety of habitats (fen, heath, grassland) and compare data with previous work to investigate effects of management  | CW | L | BSc/MSc |
|                     | Zoology                      | - studies of invertebrate species; their distributions in a variety of habitats (fen, heath, grassland) and compare data with previous work to investigate effects of management  | CW | H | BSc     |
| Spinnies, Aberogwen | Zoology                      | Feasibility studying looking at introducing beaver  | CW | L | BSc/MSc |
| Cemlyn              | Ornithology                  | - behavioural studies of the interactions between tern species and black-headed gulls, e.g klepto-parasitism<br><i>WT can provide details of previous MSc/BSc examining similar issues and access to population data</i>        | CW | L | BSc/MSc |
|                     | Ornithology                  | Other aspects of tern ecology   | CW | M |         |
|                     | Hydrochemical/<br>Ecology    | - Fluctuating salinity regimes and the responses of key lagoonal invertebrate species<br><i>WT can provide details of biological interest and salinity readings taken over (on/off) a two year period for comparative study</i> | CW | M | MSc     |
|                     | Geomorphology/<br>ecosystems | geomorphology; shingle ridge & climate change adaptation/resilience   | CW | M | MSc     |
| Coed Crafnant       | Ecology                      | - Determining role/importance of deadwood at this site and developing a means for monitoring standing dead wood and regeneration.   | RB | L | BSc     |

|                                      |   |   |       |   |           |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|-------|---|-----------|
|                                      | Grazing / habitat management                    | Assess effect of browsing pressure by feral goats on the understorey and regeneration of the woodland and key species (particularly lichens and bryophytes)           | RB    | M | BSc / MSc |
| Morfa Bychan and/ or Greenacres      | Geomorphology                                   | - dune erosion monitoring; collect data and analyse along with data collected by WT   | RB    | L | BSc       |
|                                      | Botany  | Vegetation surveys to guide management  | RB    | L | BSc       |
| Gogarth, Bryn Pydew, and Rhiwledyn   | Species <b>ID</b> and survey techniques         | Undertake bird surveys and butterfly transects, moth-trapping, vegetation surveys, mammals, invertebrates, etc. to inform management                                  | RB    | L | BSc       |
| Cors Bodgynydd                       | Wetland ecology                                 | Water quality and depth analysis - assess effects of grazing, run-off, and surrounding conifer plantation   | RB    | M | BSc       |
| Caeau Tan-y-Bwlch                    | Traditional hay meadow management               | Soil testing to assess need and techniques available for effective management, e.g. lime dressing, alternate grazing / hay cut.                                       | RB    | M | BSc       |
| Mariandyrys                          | Botany  | Heathland and calcareous grassland restoration - how do soil types predict changes to date, following management<br><i>WT can provide results of previous surveys</i> | CW    | L | BSc/MSc   |
| Caeau Pen y Clip                     | Botany  | Changes in grassland composition after the re-introduction of conservation management - <i>baseline data available</i>  | CW    | H | BSc/MSc   |
|                                      | Various   | There may also be further opportunities on WT reserves e.g. small mammals, invertebrates, bryophytes.   | CW    | L | BSc/MSc   |
| Management Planning                  | Ecology, conservation, environmental management | Research/review (and write up) reserve management plans   | RB+CW | H | BSc / MSc |
| <b>Outside of WT Nature Reserves</b> |   |   |       |   |           |

|   |                         |   |    |   |     |
|---|-------------------------|---|----|---|-----|
| Traeth Lafan and coastal zone             | Various                 | Studies of species interest in the area, e.g. mammals, invertebrates & potential for improvements   | CW | L | BSc |
| Wildlife Sites -                          | Botany                  | Survey of non-statutory sites of a particular habitat and examination of resource/contribution to LBAP and other conservation delivery mechanisms.<br><i>WT can provide details, list of sites and an indication of biological interest</i> | CW | M | BSc |
| WT & development control/planning process | Conservation & planning | An examination of how effective our work is, looking at examples of where we have commented, what the results are etc. Implications for future improvements.<br><i>WT can provide details of consultations and responses</i>                | CW | L | MSc |
| Ecosystem services                        | Ecosystems              | Carbon capture, flood risk management. Discuss with staff   |    |   |     |
| Wildlife and People                       |                         |   |    |   |     |
|   |                         | Welsh-speakers' involvement (or non-involvement) in wildlife / environmental organizations  |    |   |     |
| Marine                                    |                         |   | NJ |   |     |