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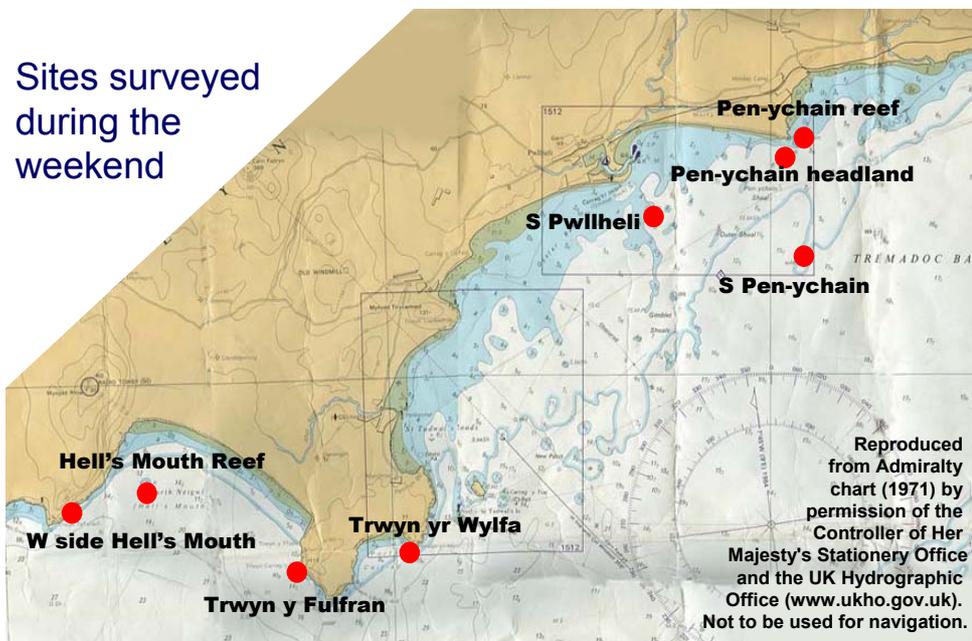


[www.seasearch.org.uk](http://www.seasearch.org.uk)

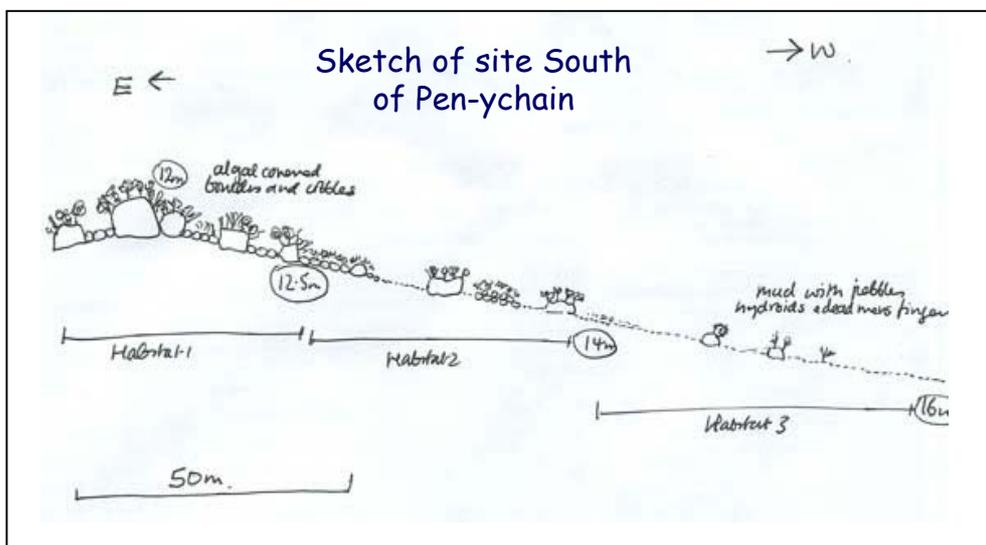
## Lleyn peninsular weekend 19/20 June 2004

Originally we had planned to do Seasearch dives on the north side of the Lleyn peninsular. However, strong northerly winds meant that we had to change our plans and head for the relative shelter of the south side. Two groups of divers took part in the Seasearch dives; a group organised by North Wales Seasearch, diving from a RIB chartered from Waterline (run by Paul Turkentine) and the Lleyn Sub-Aqua Club, diving from their club RIB. On Saturday sites off Pwllheli and near Pen-y-chain were surveyed. A wide range of seabed types were found here, from rocky reefs dominated by a rich mixture of seaweeds to sandy areas with sandstars and *Philine aperta*, the white relative of sea slugs.

Sites surveyed  
during the  
weekend



On Sunday the sites surveyed were either side of Porth Neigwl (Hell's Mouth) and the headland south and west of Abersoch. Here divers found more sponges and anemones covering the rocks than at the sites dived the previous day. Divers also observed corkwing wrasse building nests of algae.



Sponges (*Esperiopsis fucorum* and *Cliona celata*), soft corals (*Alcyonium digitatum*) and bryozoans (*Flustra foliacea*) at Trwyn yr Wylfa (CW)



Corkwing wrasse above its nest of algae (CW)



Gravel sea cucumber *Neopentadactyla mixta* (HE)

Phylum	Common name	No. of species	Common species
Porifera	Sponges	20	Shredded carrot sponge <i>Esperiopsis fucorum</i>
Cnidaria	Anemones, hydroids, jellyfish	20	Antenna hydroid Dead men's fingers <i>Nemertesia antennina</i> <i>Alcyonium digitatum</i>
Platyhelminthes	Flatworms	1	Candy stripe flatworm <i>Prostheceraeus vittatus</i>
Annelida	Segmented worms	6	Parchment tube worm <i>Chaetopterus sp</i>
Crustacea	Lobsters, crabs, barnacles	16	Velvet swimming crab Hermit crab <i>Necora puber</i> <i>Pagurus bernhardus</i>
Mollusca	Shells, sea slugs	20	Cowrie <i>Trivia sp</i>
Bryozoa	Seamats	8	Ross 'coral' Hornwrack <i>Pentapora foliacea</i> <i>Flustra foliacea</i>
Echinodermata	Starfish, urchins, sea cucumbers	9	Bloody Henry starfish Common starfish <i>Henricia</i> <i>Asterias rubens</i>
Subphylum Tunicata	Sea squirts	7	<i>Aplidium punctum</i>
Subphylum Pisces	Fish	22	Dogfish Corkwing wrasse Two spot goby Sea beech <i>Scylliorhinus canicula</i> <i>Crenilabrus melops</i> <i>Gobiusculus flavescens</i> <i>Delesseria sanguinea</i> <i>Dictyota dichotoma</i>
Algae	Seaweeds	38	<i>Zostera marina</i>
Zosteraceae	Seagrasses	1	
<b>Total species</b>		<b>168</b>	

A total of 168 species were recorded over the weekend. Some of the more unusual species included burrowing sea cucumbers and an octopus.

The Seasearch part of the weekend was organised by Kirsten Ramsay and participating divers were Lee Calderwood, Linda Crawford, Hugh Evans, Carol Jones, David Jones, Gwyn Jones, Lucy Kay, Paul Kay, Neil Rawlinson, Kate Smith, George Stoye, Malcolm Roberts, Don Williams and Chris Wood.

Text by Kirsten Ramsay, photos by Chris Wood and Hugh Evans, sketch by Chris Wood.

Seasearch is a volunteer underwater survey project for recreational divers to contribute to the conservation of the marine environment. Financial support for the project during 2004 and for the production of this summary report has been given by:



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