

Report under The Conservation of Habitats and
Species Regulations 2017 (as amended),
Regulation 9A

2019-2024

Conservation status assessment for the species:

S1044 - Southern damselfly
(*Coenagrion mercuriale*)

Wales



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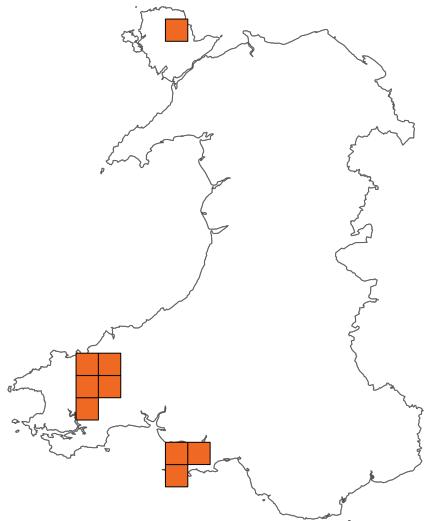
Important note - Please read

- The information in this document represents the Wales Report under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Regulation 9A, for the period 2019-2024.
- It is based on supporting information provided by Natural Resources Wales, which is documented separately.
- The Habitats Regulations reporting 2019-2024 Approach Document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.
- Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included.
- Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country reports.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 National Site Network coverage for Annex II species).

Further details on the approach to the Habitats Regulations Reporting 2019-2024 are available on the [JNCC website](#).

Assessment Summary: Southern damselfly

Distribution Map



Range Map

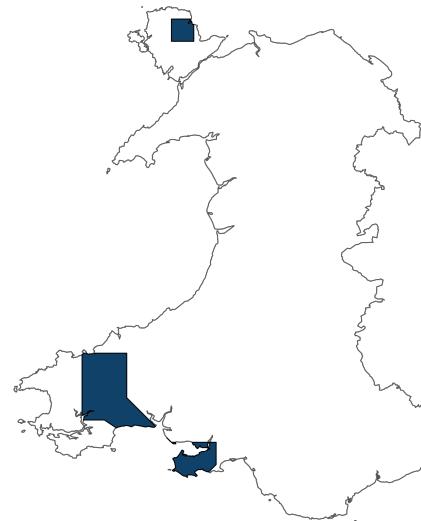


Figure 1: Wales distribution and range map for S1044 - Southern damselfly (*Coenagrion mercuriale*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority. The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period.

Table 1: Table summarising the conservation status for S1044 - Southern damselfly (*Coenagrion mercuriale*). Overall conservation status for species is based on assessments of range, population, habitat for the species, and future prospects.

Overall Conservation Status (see section 11)

Unfavourable-bad (U2)

Breakdown of Overall Conservation Status

Range (see section 5)

Unfavourable-bad (U2)

Population (see section 6)

Unfavourable-bad (U2)

Habitat for the species (see section 7)

Unfavourable-bad (U2)

Future prospects (see section 10)

Unfavourable-bad (U2)

List of Sections

National Level	5
1. General information	5
2. Maps	5
3. Information related to Annex V Species	5
Biogeographical Level	7
4. Biogeographical and marine regions	7
5. Range	7
6. Population	8
7. Habitat for the species	11
8. Main pressures	12
9. Conservation measures	13
10. Future prospects	14
11. Conclusions	15
12. UK National Site Network (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex II species	16
13. Complementary information	17
14. References	18
Biogeographical and marine regions	18
Main pressures	21
15. Explanatory Notes	22

National Level

1. General information

1.1 Country	Wales
1.2 Species code	S1044
1.3 Species scientific name	<i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i>
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name	Southern damselfly
Annex(es)	II

2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	2000-2024
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

2.5 Additional information

No additional information

3. Information related to Annex V Species

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild / exploited?

3.2 What measures have been taken?

a) Regulations regarding access to property

b) Temporary or local prohibition on the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation

c) Regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens

d) Application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations

e) Establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas

f) Regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale, or transport for sale of specimens

g) Breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species

Other measures

Other measures description

3.3: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

a) Unit

Table 2: Quantity taken from the wild during the reporting period (see 3.3a for units). For species with defined hunting seasons, Season 1 refers to 2018/2019 (autumn 2018 to spring 2019), and Season 6 to 2023/2024. For species without hunting seasons, data are reported by calendar year: Year 1 is 2019, and Year 6 is 2024.

	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
b) Minimum	-	-	-	-	-	-
c) Maximum	-	-	-	-	-	-
d) Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-

3.4: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild; Method used

3.5: Additional information

No additional information

Biogeographical Level

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs ATL

4.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km²) 980.22

5.2 Short-term trend; Period 2013-2024

5.3 Short-term trend; Direction Decreasing

5.4 Short-term trend;
Magnitude

a) Estimated minimum

b) Estimated maximum

c) Pre-defined range Decreasing 0 - 12%

d) Unknown

e) Type of estimate

f) Rate of decrease Decreasing >1% (more than one percent) per year
on average

5.5 Short-term trend; Method used Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

5.6 Long-term trend; Period 2001-2024

5.7 Long-term trend; Direction Decreasing

5.8 Long-term trend;
Magnitude

a) Minimum

b) Maximum

c) Rate of decrease

	Decreasing <=1% (one percent or less) per year on average
5.9 Long-term trend; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

5.10 Favourable Reference Range (FRR)

a) Area (km²)	
b) Pre-defined increment	Current range is between 2% and 10% smaller than the FRR
c) Unknown	No
d) Method used	Expert opinion
e) Quality of information	

5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range

a) Change	Yes
b) Genuine change	Yes
c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data	Yes
d) Different method	No
e) No information	No
f) Other reason	No
g) Main reason	Improved knowledge/more accurate data

5.12 Additional information

No additional information

6. Population

6.1 Year or period 2008-2024

6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)

a) Unit number of map 1x1 km grid cells

b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	23
6.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate

6.4 Quality of extrapolation to reporting unit

6.5 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)

a) Unit	
b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	
e) Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend; Period	2008-2024
6.8 Short-term trend; Direction	Decreasing
6.9 Short-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Estimated minimum	
b) Estimated maximum	
c) Pre-defined range	Decreasing 13 - 25%
d) Unknown	No
e) Type of estimate	Pre-defined range
f) Rate of decrease	Decreasing >1% (more than one percent) per year on average
6.10 Short-term trend; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.11 Long-term trend; Period	1989-2024

6.12 Long-term trend; Direction	Decreasing
6.13 Long-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Minimum	
b) Maximum	
c) Confidence interval	
d) Rate of decrease	Decreasing >1% (more than one percent) per year on average
6.14 Long-term trend; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

6.15 Favourable Reference Population (FRP)

ai) Population size	
aii) Unit	
b) Pre-defined increment	Current population is between 51% and 100% smaller than the FRP
c) Unknown	No
d) Method used	Reference-based approach
e) Quality of information	moderate

6.16 Change and reason for change in population size

a) Change	Yes
b) Genuine change	Yes
c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data	No
d) Different method	No
e) No information	No
f) Other reason	No
g) Main reason	Genuine change

6.17 Additional information

No additional information

6.18 Age structure, mortality and reproduction deviation Unknown

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat (for long-term survival)

a) Is area of occupied habitat sufficient? No

b) Is quality of occupied habitat sufficient? No

c) If No or Unknown, is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality? No

7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat; Method used

a) Sufficiency of area of occupied habitat; Method used Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

b) Sufficiency of quality of occupied habitat; Method used Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.3 Short-term trend; Period 2008-2024

7.4 Short-term trend; Direction Decreasing

7.5 Short-term trend; Method used Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

7.6 Long-term trend; Period

7.7 Long-term trend; Direction

7.8 Long-term trend; Method used

7.9 Additional information

No additional information

8. Main pressures

8.1 Characterisation of pressures

Table 3: Pressures affecting the species, including timing and importance/impact ranking. Pressures are defined as factors acting currently and/or during the reporting period (2019–2024). Rankings are: High (direct/immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Pressure	Timing	Ranking
PA04: Removal of small landscape features for agricultural land parcel consolidation (hedges, stone walls, rushes, open ditches, springs, solitary trees, etc.)	Only in future	Medium (M)
PA05: Abandonment of management/use of grasslands and other agricultural and agroforestry systems (e.g. cessation of grazing, mowing or traditional farming)	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PA07: Intensive grazing or overgrazing by livestock	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Medium (M)
PA08: Extensive grazing or undergrazing by livestock	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PA10: Livestock farming (without grazing)	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PA17: Agricultural activities generating pollution to surface or ground waters (including marine)	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Medium (M)
PA21: Active abstraction of water for agriculture	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	Medium (M)
PA22: Drainage for use as agricultural land	In the past but now suspended due to measures	Medium (M)
PJ01: Temperature changes and extremes due to climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PJ03: Changes in precipitation regimes due to climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PJ14: Other climate related changes in abiotic conditions	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)

PK01: Mixed source pollution to surface and ground waters (limnic and terrestrial)	Only in future	Medium (M)
PL01: Abstraction from groundwater, surface water or mixed water (mixed or unknown drivers)	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PL05: Modification of hydrological flow (mixed or unknown drivers)	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PM07: Natural processes without direct or indirect influence from human activities or climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)
PJ10: Change of habitat location, size, and / or quality due to climate change	Ongoing and likely to be in the future	High (H)

8.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

8.3 Additional information

No additional information

9. Conservation measures

9.1: Status of measures

a) Are measures needed?	Yes
b) Indicate the status of measures	Measures identified and taken
9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken	Restore the habitat of the species (related to 'Habitat for the species')
9.3 Location of the measures taken	Both inside and outside National Site Network
9.4 Response to measures	Medium-term results (within the next two reporting periods, 2025–2036)

9.5 List of main conservation measures

Table 4: Key conservation measures addressing current pressures and/or anticipated threats during the next two reporting periods (2025–2036). Measures are ranked by importance/impact: High (direct/

immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Conservation measure	Ranking
MA04: Reinstate appropriate agricultural practices to address abandonment, including mowing, grazing, burning or equivalent measures	High (H)
MA05: Adapt mowing, grazing and other equivalent agricultural activities (e.g. burning)	High (H)
MA10: Reduce/eliminate point or diffuse source pollution to surface or ground waters (including marine) from agricultural activities	Medium (M)
MA13: Manage agricultural drainage and water abstraction (incl. the restoration of drained or hydrologically altered habitats)	Medium (M)
MJ01: Implement climate change mitigation measures	Medium (M)
MJ02: Implement climate change adaptation measures	Medium (M)
MK02: Reduce impact of multi-purpose hydrological changes	Medium (M)
MM01: Management of habitats (others than agriculture and forest) to slow, stop or reverse natural processes that occur without direct or indirect influence from human activities or climate change	High (H)
MM04: Other measures related to natural processes	High (H)
MS02: Reintroduce species from the directives	Medium (M)
MS03: Restoration of habitat of species from the directives	High (H)

9.6 Additional information

No additional information

10. Future prospects

10.1a Future trends of parameters

ai) Range Very Negative - decreasing >1% (more than one percent) per year on average

bi) Population

	Very Negative - decreasing >1% (more than one percent) per year on average
ci) Habitat for the species	Very negative - important deterioration

10.1b Future prospects of parameters

aii) Range	Bad
bii) Population	Bad
cii) Habitat for the species	Bad

10.2 Additional information

No additional information

11. Conclusions

11.1 Range	Unfavourable-bad (U2)
11.2 Population	Unfavourable-bad (U2)
11.3 Habitat for the species	Unfavourable-bad (U2)
11.4 Future prospects	Unfavourable-bad (U2)
11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unfavourable-bad (U2)
11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	Deteriorating

11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status trend

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

11.8 Additional information

No additional information

12. UK National Site Network (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network

a) Unit	number of map 1x1 km grid cells
b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	23
12.2 Type of estimate	Best estimate
12.3 Population size inside the network; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Direction	Decreasing
12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
12.6 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Direction	Decreasing
12.7 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

12.8 Additional information

No additional information

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of percentage thresholds for trends

No justification information

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

No trans-boundary assessment information

13.2 Other relevant information

No other relevant information

14. References

Biogeographical and marine regions

4.2 Sources of information

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Main pressures

8.2 Sources of information

No sources of information

15. Explanatory Notes

Field label	Note
2.4: Distribution map; Method used	<p>There has never been a comprehensive survey of <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> in Wales and, whilst there is an assumption that it has been lost from sites with historic records, additional surveys are required to confirm this. Monitoring of populations on Gower and Anglesey are monitored regularly, if not annually, and a similar programme is required in Pembrokeshire to determine current status and distribution.</p>
5.3: Short-term trend; Direction	See 5.11
5.11: Change and reason for change in surface area of range	<p>As reported in the previous reporting round (Howe, 2019): Fowles (2013) reports that “mercuriale continues to occupy 8 10km squares and although there may have been a few losses of populations within these squares the range is unaltered over the short-term”. However, it appears to have been lost from SM92 (Springfield, Hayscastle Cross) after 2003 and it is currently restricted to 7 10x10km squares. Fowles (2013) further reports that it has been “probably lost from two 10km squares since 1989, hence a 20% loss over the long-term period.” Whilst it has been lost from Sluxton Farm, Whitemoor during this period, this does not represent a major range change as this was probably part of the Rhossili Down population.</p> <p>Since then, populations have contracted at Cefn Bryn and Rhossili Down but are still extant, it is still present on Mynydd Presili and Gweynydd Blaenlleddau where suitable habitat has declined but some management is in place. A visit to Waun Fawr, Puncheston in 2023 found little suitable habitat and no damselflies (Karen Wilkinson, pers. comm.). Suitable habitat is at a premium on Cors Erddreiniog. A new population was discovered on Clyne Common in 2023 and occupies two hectads.</p>

	<p>With the potential loss of the population at Waun Fawr but the addition of Clyne Common, it could be argued that any change in range has been balanced. However, with population contractions on all occupied sites, a slight range reduction is considered more accurate.</p>
	Coenagrion mercuriale is currently found in 8 hectads.
6.2: Population size	Since 2008, it has been recorded from 23 monads in 8 hectads. This probably equates to 7 populations (Cors Erddreiniog on Anglesey; Cefn Bryn Common, Rhossili Down & Clyne Common on Gower; Waun Fawr Puncheon, north Preseli, south Preseli & Gweunydd Blaencleddau in Pembrokeshire) on four SACs. There are two outliers on non-statutory land just outside Preseli SAC.
6.10: Short-term trend; Method used	Recent reports highlight that suitable habitat and damselfly populations are declining on all four SACs over this period. Remedial works have been initiated on some sites to address these declines but have not necessarily reversed declines. It may have been lost from Waun Fawr, Puncheon SSSI during the current reporting period, with little suitable habitat and no damselflies recorded in 2023.
	<p>Corsydd Mon SAC – despite a high adult male count in 2024, suitable breeding habitat on Cors Erddreiniog is at a premium following a lack of grazing and increasingly rank vegetation in the main stronghold (Nant Isaf Spring Field). This is the third time in just over a decade that breeding habitat has been very limited, putting the population at immediate risk of extinction. Currently, breeding habitat is in Unfavourable condition, although sympathetic management (strimming and grazing by livestock) is anticipated in late winter 2024-25.</p>
	<p>Gower Commons SAC, Cefn Bryn – adult male numbers have fluctuated markedly between 1997 and 2024, from a low of 42 in 2016 to a peak of 359 (based on a calculation rather than a direct count) in 2003. Recent counts have been 125 in 2021, 55 in 2022 and 54 in 2023. Males were</p>

recorded along four of the ten runnels in 2023 (CB3, CB5, CB9 & CB10), with the majority on CB3 and CB5. Six were utilised in 2010 and nine in 2003. In 2023, it was noted that good condition habitat is localised and not extensive on any runnel, with CB5 recovering from overly invasive management and CB9 becoming unsuitable due to a lack of grazing and over-shading. Currently, the population and breeding habitat are in Unfavourable condition.

Gower Commons SAC, Rhossili Down - adult male numbers have fluctuated markedly between 1997 and 2024, from a low of 5 in 2008 to a peak of 264 in 2010. Recent counts have been low – 7 males in 2022 and 30 in 2023. As recently as 2021, males were recorded along seven of the ten runnels but in 2023 all were restricted to runnel RD3. Most runnels are now unsuitable for breeding although good habitat remains on RD3. In 2021, just 98 linear metres of good breeding habitat was recorded on four of nine runnels (RD3, RD6, RD8 & RD9) of which 72 metres (73%) was on RD3. Currently, the population and breeding habitat are in Unfavourable condition.

Gweunydd Blaencleddau SAC – seepages of variable quality; some good seepage areas with reasonable numbers of damselflies and other areas very rank with few damselflies. PCNPA has undertaken recent ditch management, with mixed results, and has also carried out vegetation cutting, fencing and introduced cattle grazing on Waun Blaencleddau Bog, Cleddau Common and Dolau Newydd. Currently, the population and breeding habitat are likely to be in Unfavourable condition.

Preseli SAC (Mynydd Preseli SSSI & Waun Fawr, Puncheston SSSI) again, seepages of variable quality; some good seepage areas with reasonable numbers of damselflies and other areas very rank with few damselflies. PCNPA has undertaken some vegetation cutting on Waun Isaf, north & south and Waun Fawr, and introduced cattle grazing following fencing work. Good numbers of

damselflies were reported on Waun Isaf, south in 2023 and 2024, but Waun Fawr was very rank with little suitable breeding habitat and no damselflies in 2023. Currently, the population and breeding habitat are likely to be in Unfavourable condition.

6.12: Long-term trend; Direction	<p>Fowles (2013) states that “Since 1989 <i>C. mercuriale</i> has been recorded from 53 1km squares in Wales. This was reduced to 45 squares for the last round of reporting and in the current period stands at just 15. There has undoubtedly been a decline in the number of occupied squares over this time period but these figures exaggerate reality. Comprehensive surveys took place in the late 1980s and 1990s (1990s (eg Jenkins 1997, Hopkins & Day 1997, Skidmore 1996, Woodman 2000), building up a picture of the status and distribution of <i>mercuriale</i> in Wales, but since the culmination of several research projects there has been reduced observer effort and this has resulted in substantial under-recording in recent years. It is therefore impossible to say with any certainty what the rate of decline has been long-term, but it is likely to be less than 25% (ie. lost from 13 squares)”.</p> <p>It was lost on Sluxton Marsh in 2010 and may have been extirpated from Waun Fawr, Puncheston. On Gweunydd Blaencleddau, Mynydd Preseli, Cefn Bryn Common and Rhossili Down, southern damselfly has become increasingly restricted to a small number of suitable seepages and runnels as habitat condition has declined, despite some management intervention. On Cors Erddreiniog, habitat condition has been unsuitable on three separate occasions in the last decade, putting the population at risk of extinction.</p> <p>Despite the discovery of a small population on Clyne Common in 2023, the damselfly continues to decline across occupied sites.</p>
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6.16: Change and reason for change in population size	Habitat quality, occupied runnels and adult numbers have probably declined in all four SACs, with the potential loss of the population on Waun Fawr, Puncheon SSSI.
7.1: Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	Fowles (2013) states that “The UK assessment (Boyce 2002) measured linear extent of watercourses and extant populations in Wales were estimated to occupy 23,050 metres of watercourse. Assuming an average width of 1metre per watercourse this equates to less than 2.5 sq kms of habitat. In 2003 and 2004 each Welsh site was re-assessed and habitat estimated as area (Boyce 2004, Boardman 2005). In total they reported 36,070 sq metres of suitable habitat on occupied sites. Subsequently some of the SACs have been monitored (Wilkinson 2009, 2011, Surry 2012) and they have recorded 1840 sq metres of habitat, though this excludes the extensive areas on Mynydd Preseli SAC. There are difficulties in comparing these results due to observer bias and further work needs to be done to address this problem.”
	On Cors Erddreiniog, there was 80m ² of good quality breeding habitat in 2016 compared to the required minimum of 500m ² (Tom Harrison, pers. comm.).
	Recent surveys have demonstrated that most runnels and seepages on Cors Erddreiniog, Cefn Bryn Common, Rhossili Down, Gweynydd Blaencleddau, Mynydd Preseli and Waun Fawr, Puncheon are unsuitable for southern damselfly and populations are restricted to small patches of suitable habitat. Efforts to restore suitable conditions through vegetation strimming, livestock grazing and mechanical excavations have produce mixed results, and often the latter is damaging in the short to medium-term.
7.5: Short-term trend; Method used	Runnels and seepages continue to decline in condition on all sites despite management interventions.
8.1: Characterisation of pressures	As <i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i> occupies shallow, open streams and runnels, the main pressure is from natural succession arising from undergrazing by livestock (PA08 & PA10), grazing/agricultural abandonment (PA05) and natural

	<p>succession (PM07). Changes in hydrology as a consequence of human activity (PA21, PA22, PL01 & PL05) and climate change (PJ01, PJ03, PJ10 & PJ14) are an ongoing and long-term threat.</p>
9.5: List of main conservation measures	<p>There have been recent conservation efforts to restore the open, shallow runnels and streams required for breeding following agricultural abandonment or reduced livestock grazing. This has involved the careful excavation of overgrown runnels and the reinstatement of grazing. This has been undertaken by Pembrokeshire National Park Authority & the British Dragonfly Society in Preseli SAC, by Natural Resources Wales and the National Trust on Gower Commons SAC, and Natural Resources Wales on Corsydd Mon SAC. As these have failed to arrest declines, further interventions are required targeting efforts at restoring suitable breeding habitat on all previously-occupied runnels and seepages.</p>
10.1: Future trends and prospects of parameters	<p>The Southern Damselfly has contracted in range to occupy open runnels and streams on a small number of sites in Wales, and is now mostly restricted to Cefn Bryn Common, Rhossili Down & Clyne Common on Gower, Gweunydd Blaenlleddau, Mynydd Preseli & Waun Fawr, Puncheston in Pembrokeshire and Cors Erddreiniog on Anglesey. All populations are small and vulnerable to stochastic extinctions, particularly as adults are very poor at dispersal. The population on Cors Erddreiniog is under immediate threat, being a very isolated site with little suitable and occupied habitat and adult numbers currently very low. Without securing better management of runnels and seepages at all locations, the damselfly is likely to experience a slow, terminal decline. The immediate focus is to ensure that sympathetic management is in place on occupied sites to maximise the amount of suitable breeding habitat to avoid future localised extinctions.</p>
11.1: Range	<p>Conclusion on Range reached because: (i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is decreasing by more than 1% per year; and (ii) the current Range surface</p>

	area is not more than 10% below the Favourable Reference Range.
11.2: Population	Conclusion on Population reached because:(i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is decreasing by more than 1% per year; (ii) the current Population size is more than 25% below the Favourable Reference Population and iii) reproduction, mortality and age structure does not have data available.
11.3: Habitat for the species	Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) the area of occupied habitat is not sufficiently large for long-term survival of the species (ii) the quality of occupied habitat is not suitable for the long-term survival of the species; and iii) there is not a sufficiently large area of occupied and unoccupied habitat of suitable quality for long term survival (iv) the short-term trend in area of habitat is decreasing; and v) expert opinion determines that the habitat quality of occupied and unoccupied habitat is bad; and vi) expert opinion determines that the habitat area is clearly insufficient.
11.4: Future prospects	Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are bad; (ii) the Future prospects for Population are bad; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are bad.
11.5: Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Unfavourable-bad because all of the conclusions are Unfavourable-bad.
12.1: Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network	Since 2008, it has been recorded from 23 monads in 8 hectads. This probably equates to 7 populations (Cors Erddreiniog on Anglesey; Cefn Bryn Common, Rhossili Down & Clyne Common on Gower; Gweunydd Blaenlleddau, Mynydd Preseli and Waun Fawr, Puncheon in Pembrokeshire) on four SACs. In recent years, the Welsh resource has been predominantly found within SACs and may now be restricted to four SACs. It may have become extinct on Waun Fawr, Puncheon SSSI (part of Preseli SAC) where suitable habitat was scarce in 2023.

12.6: Short-term trend of the habitat for the species within the network; Direction	In recent years, the Welsh resource has been predominantly found within SACs and may now be restricted to four SACs – Corsydd Mon, Gower Commons, Gweunydd Blaencleddau & Preseli. Adult numbers on all four SACs have suffered recent declines, most likely as a consequence of habitat succession and a deterioration in the suitability of runnels and streams used for breeding despite recent targeted management.
6.15: Favourable Reference Population (FRP)	The UK-level FRV for population was developed by JNCC using an audit trail based on the year the FRV was first established and any changes made in subsequent reporting rounds. The audit may draw from any combination of the 2007, 2013, or 2019 Habitats Directive reports and reflects the full rationale used for the 2019 Article 17 reporting. This FRV was reviewed by Welsh experts and considered appropriate for use in Wales based on current population trends and abundance.
5.10: Favourable Reference Range (FRR)	The UK-level FRV for range was developed by JNCC using an audit trail based on the year the FRV was first established and any changes made in subsequent reporting rounds. The audit may draw from any combination of the 2007, 2013, or 2019 Habitats Directive reports and reflects the full rationale used for the 2019 Article 17 reporting. This FRV was reviewed by Welsh experts and considered appropriate for use in Wales based on current distribution and trends.