

Carnedd Wen Wind Farm and Habitat Restoration Project

Micro-siting Protocol to Minimise Peat Impacts

1. The purpose of this protocol is to reduce potential impacts of the wind farm construction on peat habitats.
2. The protocol will be formally agreed prior to the commencement of the development and will be implemented following detailed surveys post-consent, under the supervisions of an Ecological Steering. The protocol applies to construction compounds, borrow pits, wind turbines, anemometry masts, access tracks and crane pads (the infrastructure elements).
3. The principles that are anticipated to be applied during the finalisation of site layout are as follows (as agreed by the Ecological Steering Group):
 - Establish an agreed baseline of data for peat depth and habitat quality, as well as detailed topographic and habitat information, by detailed survey of potential micro-siting areas post-felling;
 - Post-felling hydrological survey to an agreed specification;
 - Review of existing and any newly identified constraints;
 - Agreement of relevant constraints and appropriate weighting, on an infrastructure element by infrastructure element turbine by turbine basis;
 - Agreement as to whether micro-siting of turbine infrastructure element is required;
 - Assessment of whether the micro-siting of tracks and other infrastructure can further minimise impacts effectively;
 - Review of interaction of proposed measures with HMP and habitat restoration areas;
 - Identification of suitable relocation position;
 - Undertake detailed ground investigation of proposed/existing location;
 - Undertake detailed civils design and review as to whether the proposed location is suitable for construction;

- Re-assess the impacts to demonstrate that the benefit to peat outweighs any increased impacts to other constraints;
- Re-iteration of steps 6 – 11 above where necessary to secure optimum location of infrastructure.