

# Goodwick Moor, Fishguard

Improving Wetland Habitat

Goodwick Moor, near Fishguard, Wales, suffered from habitat loss following continued growth of common reed and willow encroachment. As part of a Pembrokeshire Nature Partnership Project, an opportunity to restore and improve the diversity of the habitat through the creation of a large pond.



The site was constrained by limited access and a wet floodplain as works could only be undertaken during the period December – March to avoid nesting birds. Salix's specialist amphibious plant was used to access the moor, whilst minimising disturbance to wildlife features on the reserve.

The site is known to provide habitat for a range of important species, including Otters, Water Voles, Buzzards, Kestrels and Sparrowhawks.

Working with the Wildlife Trust of South and West Wales Reserves Manager throughout the project was crucial in order to maximise the environmental benefits of the project.

The pond was created with a depth of 1-1.5m, with shallow edges formed on the north and west sides. Excavated spoil remained on site, some used in the creation of an island in the middle of the pond.

Due to the terrain and access to the site, Salix amphibious excavators were deployed to complete the work. Spoil was reused on site, deposited in a perimeter surround the pond.

The open water created provided further benefit for amphibians and aquatic plants, greatly improving the biodiversity of the site.



What the Client Said... "Salix River & Wetland Services Ltd was involved in a project at Goodwick Moor Nature Reserve in Pembrokeshire at the start of 2023. The work involved creating a large pool (roughly 2500m<sup>2</sup>) with an island and desilting a number of ditches on the reserve, roughly 500m in total. The work was done to an excellent standard, and it was a pleasure to work with the staff employed. Communication was constant and the work completed within the time frame required. The machinery used was suitable for the work needed and efficient. I would have no issue with recommending Salix River & Wetland Services Ltd for any other similar work elsewhere and happy to provide further details if required."