

European Wild Oysters are being introduced this month (June) back into Conwy Bay

Wild oysters, once a major part of Wales's fishing industry, have been in decline as a result of over-fishing, changes in water quality, and disease,

Oysters help to keep seas clean and to provide a habitat for marine life.

Native oyster beds were present in Conwy's waters during the 1700 and 1800s and were once an important food source. Oysters help to keep seas clean and to provide a habitat for marine life.

To rebuild the reef with 660 tonnes of limestone topped with crushed shellfish (clutch) for the Oysters to breed on 3 years ago Bangor University and The Zoological Society of London were awarded £249,919 for the project. Funding was sourced through the National Lottery Heritage Fund as part of the Nature Networks Fund on behalf of Welsh Government and in partnership with Natural Resources Wales. Conwy Council were sub-contracted to help with the bagging and loading operation."

Prior going to the reef the young oysters are being bred in wire nursery cages under both Conwy and Deganwy marina's pontoons during which Bangor University held open days for the public to get involved with the support of Boatfolks Conwy Marina,

Although not a navigable channel the reef was initially above the marine licensed permitted height which did raise local concerns that at low water there would be less than 1m of cover for disturbance protection and that that it was too close to existing mussel beds.

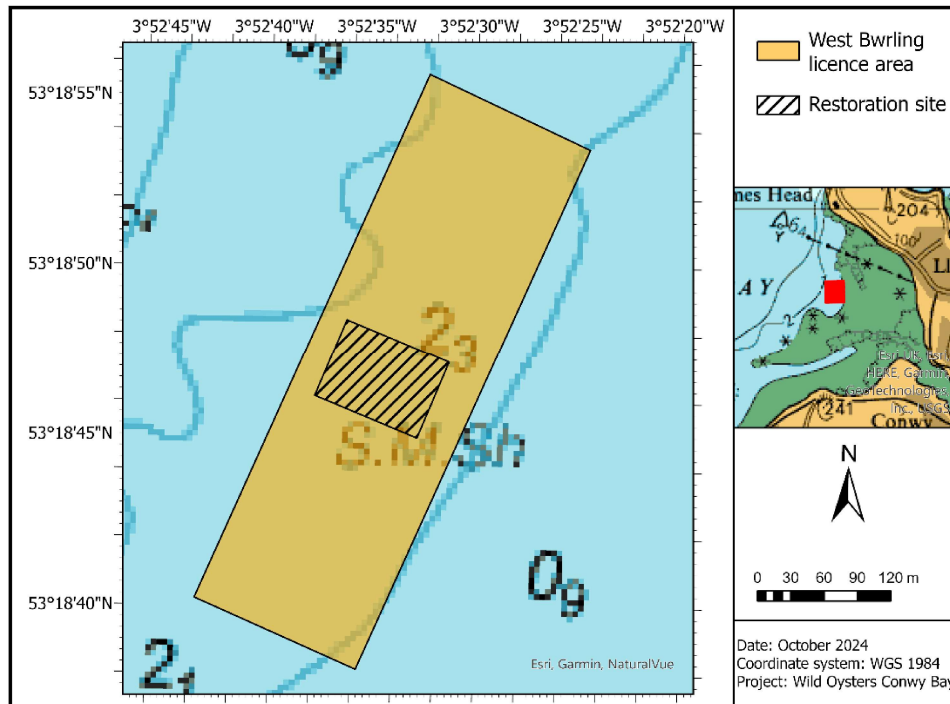
For information below the Navigation Notice giving the location of the new reef (Courtesy of Conwy Harbour Masters Office)

Date of Issue	12/06/2025
Project Works	
The deposit of native oysters, <i>Ostrea edulis</i> for Wild Oysters: Conwy Bay Project is due to take place between 17 June 2025 until 24 June 2025 . The works will involve depositing oysters on the seabed undertaken by the Conwy Harbour Authority, using the vessel Jac-	

Y-Do.

Temporary buoys will be in place to aid deployment within the site. It should be noted that these are not for any navigational warning purposes.

Project Location



Restoration site coordinates

Vector coordinates	Latitude	Longitude
1	53° 18.807 North	3° 52.604 West
2	53° 18.786 North	3° 52.521 West
3	53° 18.749 North	3° 52.547 West
4	53° 18.769 North	3° 52.630 West

