

AFON AERON

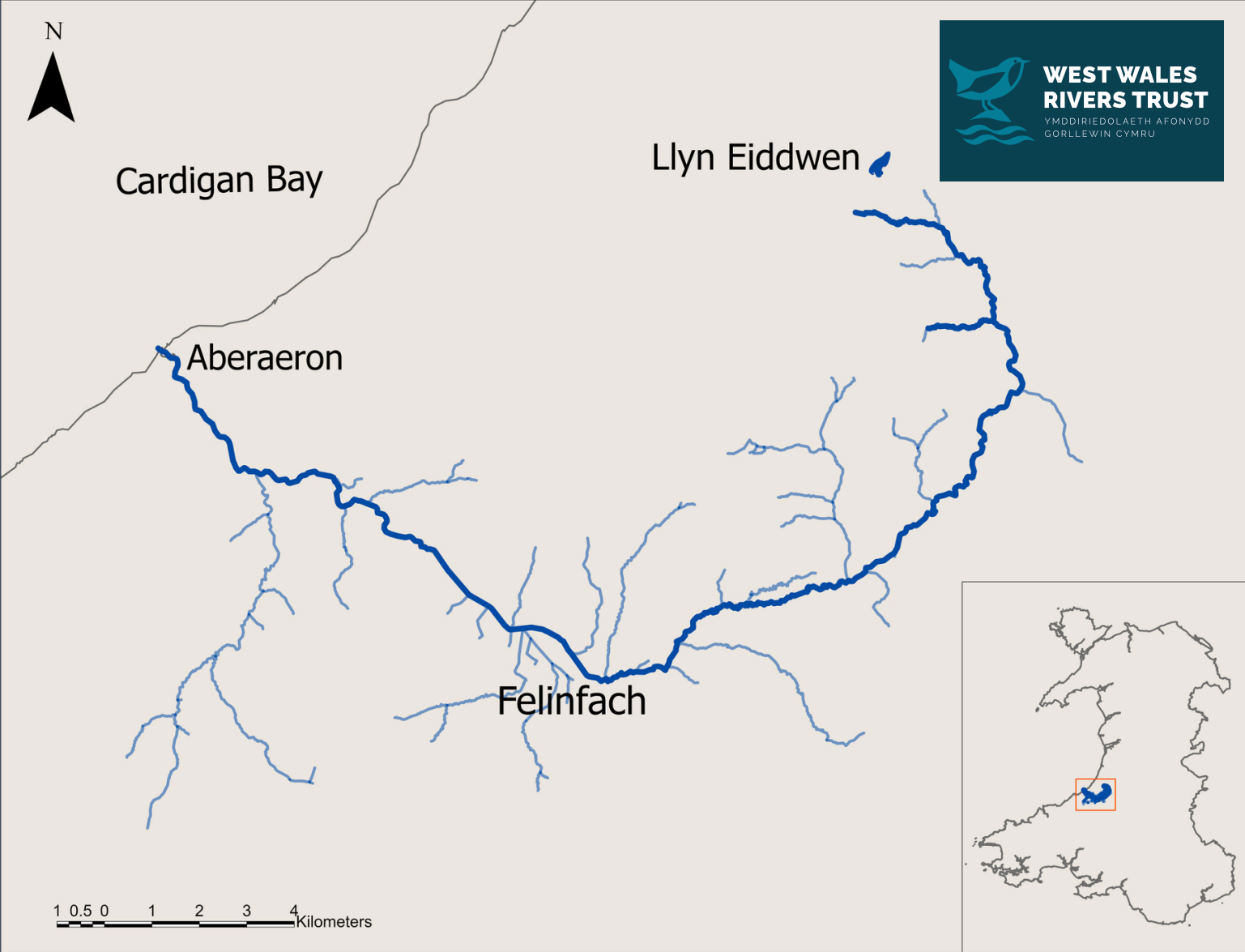
The Afon Aeron is a predominately rural river catchment in Ceredigion. It rises from its source at Llyn Eiddwen in the Mynydd Bach hills and then flows in a westerly direction to Cardigan Bay. Felinfach and Aberaeron are the main communities on the river.

The Llyn Eiddew is a natural, upland lake which supports flora (Shoreweed, Spring Quillwort and Quillwort) and wildfowl which has led to its designation as a Special Site of Scientific Interest (SSSi).

AN IMPROVING RIVER

The Afon Aeron has shown **improvement** in water quality, since Water Framework Directive classifications began in 2009. Originally, in moderate status throughout its length, the river suffered from repeat pollutions from the 1970s which resulted in a significant prosecution of the creamery site at Felinfach.

The combined assessment of macrophytes and phytobentos is a measure of the combined impact to water quality usually associated with **nutrient** pollution.



CATCHMENT AREA	LENGTH
161 km ²	37.3 km

GOOD HEALTH

The health of our rivers is assessed using a range of ecological and chemical indicators. Under the Water Framework Directive, a river can be classified as High, Good, Moderate, Poor or Bad. High means close to natural conditions.

The Afon Aeron is in good overall health, however, the Mydyr tributary is currently classified as Moderate.

The Mydyr is failing for **Macrophytes and Phytobentos** combined. There are currently no named sources for the failure of the catchment.

WATER QUALITY

Two of the three Aeron waterbodies have improved over the the three Water Framework Directive assessment cycles.

	WFD Cycle 1 (2009)	WFD Cycle 2 (2015)	WFD Cycle 3 (2021)
Afon Aeron Source to confluence Gwili	Moderate	Moderate	Good
Afon Aeron Confluence Gwili to tide	Moderate	Moderate	Good
Afon Myrdr	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

FISH SPECIES

The Aeron is known for its sewin, brown trout and salmon. It is recognised as a predominately sea trout (sewin) river but the 2022 stock assessment shows the river **probably at risk** from extinction.

Only one salmon was caught by anglers in 2022.

