

AFON EFYRNWY

RIVER VYRNWY

The River Vyrnwy (Afon Efyrnwy) has its sources in the Berwyn Mountains off whose slopes multiple streams empty into Lake Vyrnwy. From the reservoir, the river flows in a generally easterly direction before joining the River Severn at Melferley, approximately 40km below the dam wall. For the last few kms, the river forms the border between Wales and England.

Several important tributaries join the Vyrnwy along the way, including the Banwy, Cain and Tanat. The Severn Rivers Trust have been delivering projects to improve the habitat and water quality of these tributaries, and working to protect them from climate change.

The Vyrnwy is home to multiple fish species, including Atlantic salmon, brown trout and grayling and in its slower-flowing lower reaches, pike and chub.

LAKE VYRNWY SSSI

Lake Vyrnwy is an SSSI area due to its mix of natural and man-made features, diverse habitats and species.



PEREGRINE
FALCON



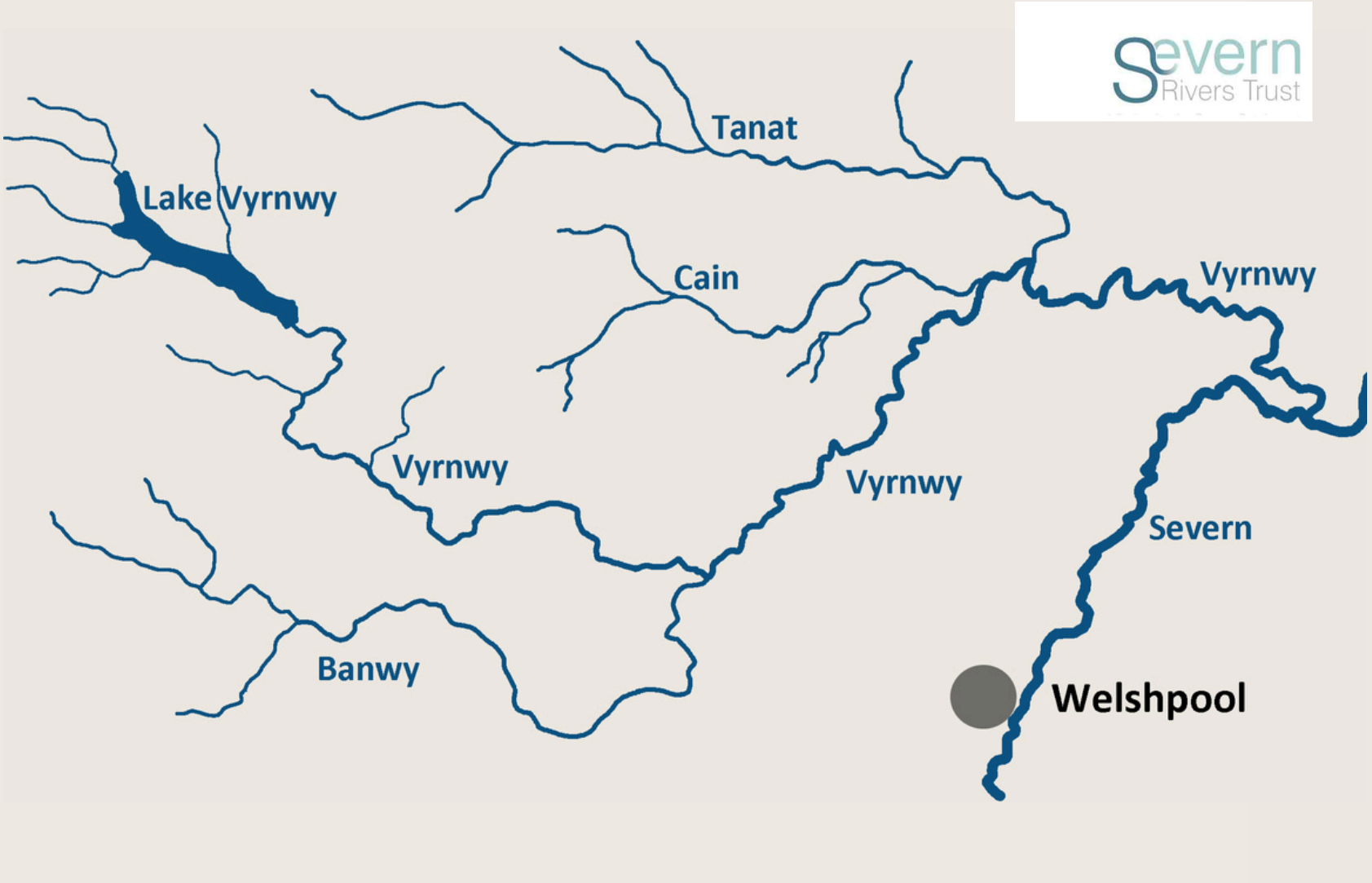
WOOD
WARBLER



BROWN
TROUT



This river Factsheet was compiled by Afonydd Cymru with support from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.



CATCHMENT AREA
778 km₂

LENGTH
63.9 km

RIVER SOURCE
Berwyn Mountains

RIVER HEALTH TODAY

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.

	Overall Status	Biological Status
Cycle 1	Moderate	Good
Cycle 2	Moderate	Good
Cycle 3	Moderate	Good

Despite good biological status the river still remains at moderate overall status.

LAKE VYRNWY

Built between **1880-1890** to supply water to Liverpool. Water began to arrive in the city in **1892**.

It has a capacity of **60 million** cubic metres, the equivalent of **13,000** Olympic swimming pools.

Its dam wall is **40** metres thick at its base, **44** metres high and **350** metres wide.

In the village of Llanwddyn, **37** houses, **10** farms, **1** church, **3** pubs and **2** chapels were demolished before the reservoir was filled and the occupants moved to a new settlement.

After completion, the reservoir was stocked with **40,000** brown trout from Loch Leven in Scotland.

