

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU  
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**ANGLESEY**

**RHOSNEIGR REEFS**

**Date of Notification:** 1980, 1987

**National Grid Reference:** SH313727

**O.S. Maps:** 1:50000 Sheet number: 114  
1:25000 Sheet number: SH37

**Site Area:** 27 ha

**Description:**

Rhosneigr Reefs consist of a group of rocks and flanking reefs situated just to the south west of Rhosneigr on the west coast of Ynys Mon. Extensive areas of intertidal bedrock and sandy sediments are included within the site.

The site is a classic area for the research and educational study of marine algae. It is of particular importance for the abundance and variety of rock pools present, formed by the combination of extensive bedrock outcrops with the shallow-sloping sandy beach. Rock pools are present on the shore at a range of tidal heights. The size of many of the pools permits a considerable upwards extension of many species and is particularly well represented here. The extensive lagoon formed at low water contains a rich marine flora and fauna. Shelter provided by outlying rocks minimises sand scouring and enhances development of these communities.

In addition to a high diversity of littoral and shallow sublittoral algae present in these pools several less common or rare species such as the red algae *Laurencia obtusa* occur. Faunal communities are similarly well developed and include the spider crab *Pisa tetraodon* near its northern limit in the British Isles.

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