

PUFFARAZZI

Photographing Puffins to Study their Diet

Puffin Facts

- Nicknamed 'sea parrots' or 'clowns of the sea'
- Chicks are named pufflings
- Small fish called sandeels form the majority of puffin's diet



VULNERABLE >

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Main Threats

- Sandeels are becoming a **less reliable food source**. Researchers are trying to see **how climate change may be causing this change**.
- **Reduced food puts puffins at risk of extinction.**



The Puffarazzi

PROJECT PUFFIN asked concerned citizens to join the **PUFFARAZZIS** and send photos of puffins with fish in their beaks to identify **WHAT THEY ATE** in different places and learn how puffin diet is linked to their survival.

#PUFFARAZZI

What were the images used for?

Can you tell the difference between the fish species on the left?

Trained citizen scientists (public participating in research) **used the images to identify and count species of fish in each beak**

THANKS TO ALL OUR CITIZEN SCIENTISTS!

THIS INFORMATION IS USED TO PROTECT PUFFINS!



Non-Larval Sandeels



Larval Sandeels



Gadoids



Rockling

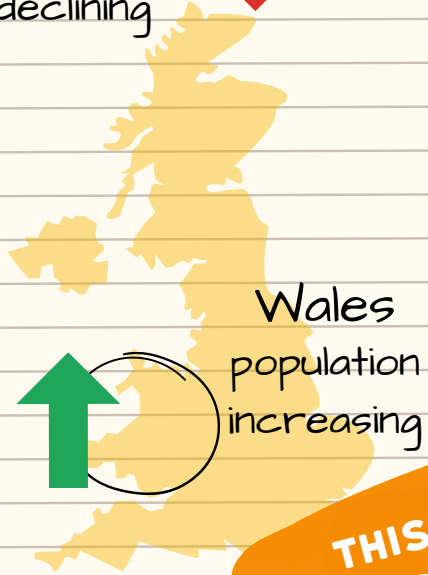


Clupeids

WHAT WERE THE RESULTS?

- Sandeels make up **50-100%** of puffin diets.
- Shetland puffins ate more **larval sandeels** (younger and lower quality food source).
- Quantity brought back each trip was **lowest in Shetland** and **highest in Wales**.
- Colonies that ate **many kinds of fish** were **less affected by changes in environment**.

Shetland population declining



Wales population increasing

