

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0041925

**Licence being assessed:** WA/067/0003/021.

For: Afon Clochnant Impoundment, held by Berwyn Hydro Limited.

At: Afon Clochnant, Llandrillo, Corwen, Denbighshire, LL21 0TD.

**Type of assessment:** Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 28/03/2023, between 11:00 and 12:30.

Parts of licence assessed: 3. Manner and Extent of Impoundment 3.1

**NRW Lead Officer:** Rebecca Redmond, accompanied by Philip Barrett.

**Report sent to:** Richard Ramsay, Licence Holder, on 28/07/2023.

### 1. Summary of our findings (full details in section 4)

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Licence condition
WR-G2 - Impoundment specified by licence - Manner and extent of impoundment	C3 Minor	3.1 Intake works consisting of a concrete weir, Coanda intake screen with spacing no greater than 1 millimetres, a rectangular notch, intake tank, settling tank, gravity feed penstock pipe, a fish pass with three pools formed from steel tray and concrete with rectangular notches, in accordance with the specifications and drawing: Afon Clochnant intake P89 206 R3.

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-G2	Alter the structure to match the drawings in the licence or apply to vary the licence to how the structure is currently built.	16/10/2023

Action criteria codes are listed in the 'Important Information' section below.

### 3. What will happen next?

Any non-compliance we have identified and recorded on this form is an offence. It can result in criminal prosecution or civil sanctions being imposed depending on the circumstances of the offence.

**At this time, we do not intend to take any further action.**

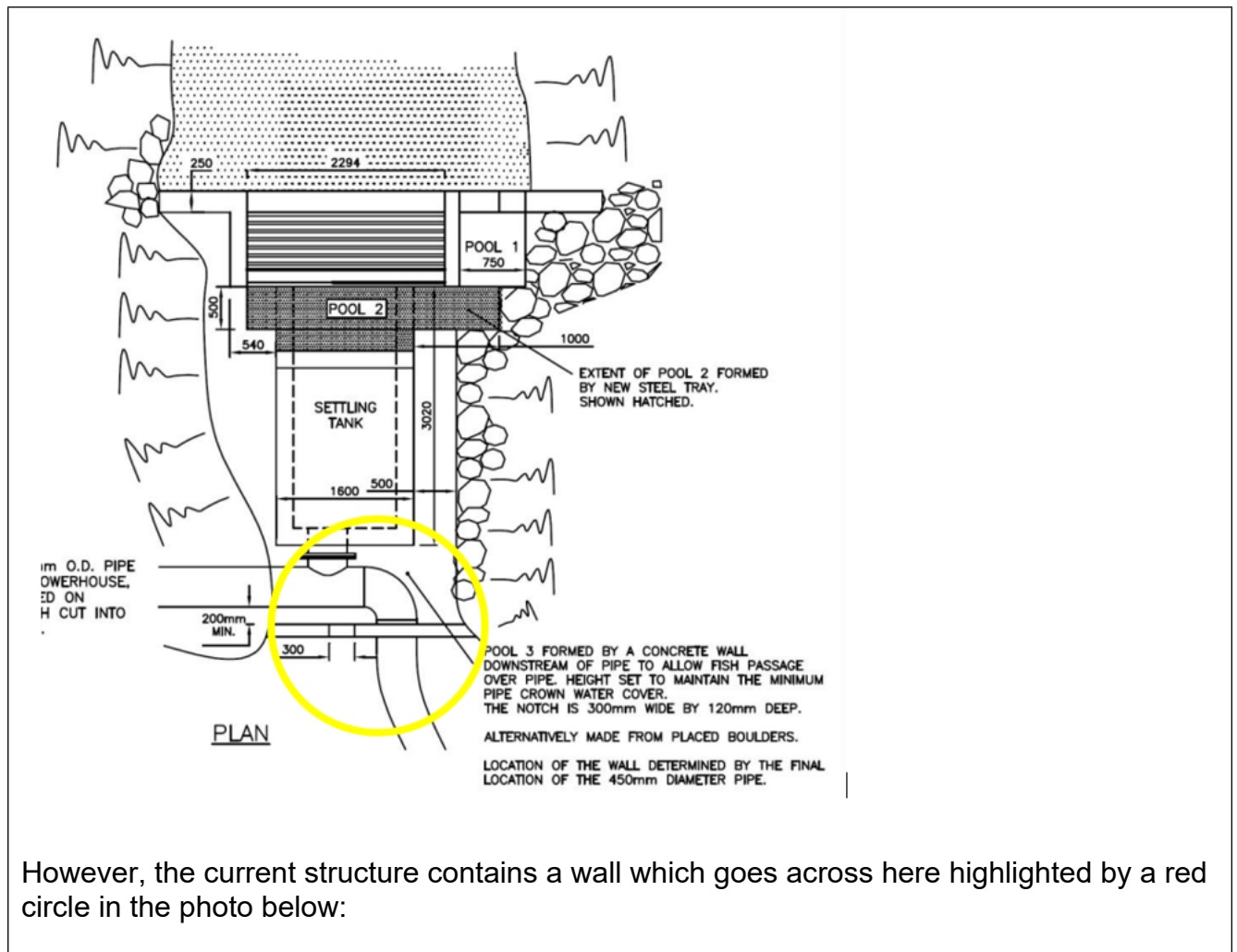
This statement does not stop us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.

### 4. Details of our assessment

A compliance inspection was carried out on 28/03/23 of licence WA/067/0003/021 following on from a previous inspection last summer on 22/08/22 where the incorrect licence was used, meaning we were unable to assess licence conditions at the time without having the correct specifications and drawings referred to in the new licence.

During the most recent site visit, it was highlighted that the structure was not compliant with licence condition 3.1 whereby "Intake works consisting of a concrete weir, Coanda intake screen with spacing no greater than 1mm, a rectangular notch, intake tank, settling tank, gravity feed penstock pipe, a fish pass with three pools formed from steel tray and concrete with rectangular notches, in accordance with the specifications and drawing: 'AFON CLOCHNANT INTAKE P89 206 R3'.

By the drawings, pool 3 should be formed by a concrete wall downstream of the pipe which creates a deep pool to allow for fish passage.



However, the current structure contains a wall which goes across here highlighted by a red circle in the photo below:



We understand this contradicts a previous CAR form dating back to 12/01/2022 under the reference [CAR\\_NRW0039218](#). However, due to the recent findings, not all measurements and observations appear to be correct from the last visit. Therefore, the structure will need to be constructed as per the drawings in the licence, otherwise a permit variation will be required to change the drawings to the current structure at present which will ultimately make it compliant when next inspected.

An abstraction was not observed to be taking place at the time of inspection and therefore no visit was carried out to observe the outfall.

### **Actions:**

- The structure will need to be constructed as per the drawings in the licence, meaning the fish pools are built to specification.
- Or alternatively, apply for a permit variation to alter the drawings to match how the structure is currently built. This will be dependent on whether NRW fisheries officers are satisfied with the current structure and happy that fish are able to pass easily through the fish pools.

To be carried out by: 16/10/2023

If you would like to discuss any of the points above or arrange a joint visit to the site, please do not hesitate to contact Phil Barrett via the number below:

0300 065 3670.

If you have any queries about this report, or to discuss completion of any actions, please contact the NRW Officer named above.

## Important information

### Legal status of this report

Your licence is issued to you under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your licence and prevent pollution/harm to the environment. You must also ensure that you comply with any other relevant legislation that may apply to your site's operations.

This report explains the findings of our assessment and any action you are required to take. We categorise non-compliance using our guidance for assessing non-compliance at regulated sites.

When we find potential non-compliance/s we will normally give you advice on how to maintain compliance.

To correct non-compliance, we may:

- require you to take specific actions
- issue a notice.

Any advice and guidance we give will be without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.

### Assessment results and non-compliance categories (used in section 1):

Assessment result	Description
Assessed (A)	Assessed or assessed in part, no evidence of non-compliance found
Action only (X)	Action only relating to the activity assessment
Ongoing (O)	Ongoing non-compliance, not scored

Non-compliance category	Description
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property

### If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

**Full list of Water resource action criteria** (used in section 1 and 2):**WR A: Abstraction specified by Licence**

- WR-A1 Source of supply
- WR-A2 Points of abstraction
- WR-A3 Means of abstraction
- WR-A4 Purposes of abstraction
- WR-A5 Period of abstraction
- WR-A6 Quantities
- WR-A7 Land
- WR-A8 Other specified on licence

**WR B: Abstraction measurement and records**

- WR-B1 Means of measurement
- WR-B2 Recording
- WR-B3 Reporting

**WR C: Surface / Groundwater level and protected flow**

- WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements
- WR-C2 Flow/level measurement devices
- WR-C3 Recording
- WR-C4 Reporting

**WR D: Environmental monitoring and information**

- WR-D1 Recording
- WR-D2 Reporting
- WR-D3 Notifications

**WR E: Fish and eel passage**

- WR-E1 Infrastructure specified by licence
- WR-E2 Maintenance and records

**WR F: Discharge**

- WR-F1 Point of discharge
- WR-F2 Infrastructure
- WR-F3 Measurement
- WR-F4 Recording
- WR-F5 Reporting

**WR G: Impoundment specified by licence**

- WR-G1 Inland water to be impounded
- WR-G2 Manner and extent of impoundment
- WR-G3 Point(s) of impoundment
- WR-G4 Construction and removal requirements
- WR-G5 Other specified on licence

**WR H: Borehole infrastructure**

- WR-H1 Infrastructure and accessibility
- WR-H2 Maintenance and calibration

**Enforcement response**

Any licence condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution or civil sanctions. See our Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance for further information.

**Data protection notice**

You should make sure that anyone named in this report knows that the information it contains will be processed by Natural Resources Wales to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s).

We may also use and/or disclose the report in connection with:

- offering or providing you with our literature or services relating to environmental matters
- consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (e.g. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- providing public register information to enquirers
- investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- assessing customer service satisfaction and improving our service
- Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations requests.

We may also pass it on to our agents or representatives to do these things on our behalf.

**Disclosure of information – this report will be available to view on-line**

If you think this report contains commercially confidential information that should not be placed on our public register, you must contact your local Natural Resources Wales office within **fifteen working days** of receiving this report, using the contact details in the accompanying email or letter. You must give a full explanation of why it should not be added to our public register, including specifying which information is commercially confidential. We will assess your request and respond to you within 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

**What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?**

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Mon to Fri 08:00 – 18:00), or email [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk) for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at [ask@ombudsman.wales](mailto:ask@ombudsman.wales)

**Welsh Language Standards**

We are committed to establishing Natural Resources Wales as a naturally bilingual organisation. We will provide compliance reports in your preferred language.