

Site Specific Risk Assessment for USK SSSI/SAC/SPZ2

In all areas of application the impact to the SPZ2 is limited entirely by application rates never exceeding crop need. This prevents the movement of excess nutrient to all forms of Groundwater in the drainage catchment.

The main issues associated with the river USK are;

- Water Quality
- Sediments

The first site is based at Aberbran Fawr, where the risk to the SSSI is only an indirect risk via small drainage channels and in field ditches, to the SSSI.

These issues are addressed on **Reservoir** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river.
- applications of waste will be followed by immediate ploughing to reduce the chance of waste entering the River Usk.
- there are 3 parcels a track and a main road, between the parcels and the SSSI which will buffer any run off.

These issues are addressed on **L Shaped Field** by;

- there are parcels between the L Shaped and the SSSI along with a strip of woodland, and a main road. These will all buffer the SSSI
- In addition to this the drainage adjacent to this field will have a 50m buffer strip for manure applications where possible.
- applications of waste will be injected, to reduce the risk of the liquid waste running off/ entering watercourses leading to the SSSI

The other site is Newton, the gradient is sloping towards the SSSI to the south. So there is no risk to the SSSI to the North

These issues are addressed on **Long field** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river.
- applications of waste will be followed by immediate ploughing to reduce the chance of waste entering the River Usk. Waste will be down -spread surface applied, before being soil incorporated.

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- there are 2 parcels a track and a main road, between the parcels and an additional buffer strip against the SSSI.

Waste will also be spread on fields at Garngaled farm, which neighbours Aberbran Fawr. Again, the risk to the SSSI is indirect. Run off could possibly drain into field ditches, and consequently to the River Usk.

These issues are addressed on field **1515** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 6 or 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river. *
- There are two parcels, with the main road intercepting them, and bankside trees between 1515 and the river Usk.
- Land slopes towards the East, and not the North, where the SSSI is located

These issues are addressed on field **9408** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 6 or 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river. *
- There are 2 to 3 parcels of land, the main road, and again, bankside trees buffering the river Usk.
- Land slopes gradually more to the East, and not the North where the SSSI is located

These issues are addressed on field **9995** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- There are 3 parcels of land, the main road, and bankside trees buffering the river Usk.

These issues are addressed on field **7785** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 6 or 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river. *
- There is a section of woodland directly below parcel 7785. This would considerably slow any possible soil and waste run off. It is unlikely waste and soil run off would pass through the wooded area too.
- There are 2 more parcels of land beyond the woodland, adding to the buffer for any run off

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These issues are addressed on field **4984** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- 6 or 10m no spread zones to reduce the risk of waste entering ditches and consequently the river. *
- there are a couple of parcels below 4984, before it meets the town of Llanspyddid. These features will buffer the SSSI from any run off on 4984.

These issues are addressed on field **4470** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- There are 2 to 3 parcels below 4470, again buffering the SSSI from possible run off

These issues are addressed on field **3478** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- There are 2 parcels below 3478, and the town of Llanspyddid below these, before the river Usk would be met. All measures would be taken to prevent run off reaching the town, before it could be channelled to the river

These issues are addressed on field **2368** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- As with 3478, there are 2 to 3 parcels below 2368, and the town of Llanspyddid, before run off would reach the river Usk

These issues are addressed on field **0865** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- There are 2 to 3 parcels below 0865, again buffering the SSSI from possible run off

These issues are addressed on field **9466** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- The main road runs along the west side of the field, and above the river Usk, with 3 or more parcels of land between the road and 9466. These would all create a buffer to the SSSI

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These issues are addressed on field **9060** by;

- keeping strictly to the protection zone for cultivation to limit soil disturbance and thus sediments entering into the River.
- The main road runs along the west side of the field, and above the river Usk, with 3 or more parcels of land between the road and 9060
- There is also another parcel of land between the main road to the south of 9060, and the river, creating further buffering

** when you are using precision manure spreading equipment to apply slurry, sewage sludge or anaerobic digestate, in which case you may spread manure 6 metres or more from surface water.*

-Guidance on complying with the rules for Nitrate Vulnerable Zones in England for 2013 to 2016