

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046199

Permit being assessed: GWSE1230

For: Troed-rhiwr-fuwch-farm, held by William Spencer Thomas

At: Pontlloftyn Rhymney Caerphilly, CF8 9RN.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 29/01/2025, between 10:25 and 11:22.

Parts of permit assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Gavin Summerhill.

Report sent to: Morgan Thomas, Son of permit holder, on 13/02/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C2 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	Action only (X)	

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C2	A written management system plan needs to be submitted that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, non-conformances.	13/03/2025

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 and/or suspension or revocation of your permit.

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

Site Report

On Wednesday 29th January 2025, I visited Duffryn Farm, Pontlloftyn, Rhymney CF83 9RN to undertake a Water Discharge (Sheep Dip) permit inspection on Permit Number GWSE1230. I arrived on site at 10.15am. The weather conditions were dry and overcast.

My Site inspection commenced at 10.30am.

Observations

I was met by Mr Morgan Thomas who identified himself as the permit holders son. After our introductions I agreed to a site tour with Mr Thomas present.

I questioned Mr Thomas with regards to the type of sheep dip that was used on site and the storage method and storage location. Mr Thomas advised that no sheep dip was kept on site. Mr Thomas advised the sheep dip (Golden Fleece) was delivered to site on the day the sheep dip activity was due to commence and any sheep dip not used was taken away by the supplier.

I asked Mr Thomas to identify the location where the sheep dip activity is conducted. The location was a closed off area. I can confirm there were no watercourses near this location. Please see Fig 1 and 2 below.

Location of sheep dip activity (Fig 1)



Location of sheep dip activity (Fig 2)



I continued my discussion with Mr Thomas regarding the sheep dip process. Mr Thomas advised the sheep dip is conducted once per annum in the month of September by a contractor named Tom Silverthorne. Approximately 2000 sheep that produces approximately 1800 litres of discharge that is spread onto a designated field.

I checked the National Grid Reference at SO 12850 03990. I confirmed this was accurate as stipulated by the permit. Please see Fig 3 and 4 below.

Designated field for sheep dip discharge (Fig 3)



Designated field for sheep dip discharge (Fig 4)



I can confirm this location is compliant with the following:-

2.3.1 The discharge shall be made by spreading onto an area of land with an established vegetation cover of minimal wildlife value. The area of land shall not include hedgerows, woodlands or wildflower meadows, or land that is bare as part of a crop rotation.

2.3.2 No discharge shall take place within:

(a) 10 metres of the nearest watercourse (which includes ditches and open land drains which may run dry for part of the year) or 30 metres of a river designated as a European Site or Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI);

(b) 50 metres of any well, spring or borehole, irrespective of its current use;

(c) 200 metres of any well, spring or borehole where the water is intended for human consumption;

(d) 25 metres of an identified swallow hole.

2.3.3 No discharge shall be made within two metres of any field boundary or footpath.

2.3.4 No discharge shall take place on land which: Consolidated permit number GWSE1230 Page 2 of 12

(a) has been under drained or mole drained within 12 months prior to any discharge operation, or is cracked down to the drain or any backfill;

(b) has a slope greater than 11 degrees (approximately 1 in 5);

(c) is frozen hard or snow covered;

(d) is liable to flooding;

(e) is severely compacted or waterlogged.

2.3.5 The discharge of used / waste sheep dip shall not be made to land on which crops

are currently being grown for human consumption.

I had a discussion with Mr Thomas regarding general management. No written management system was available at the time of my inspection.

This concluded my permit inspection. I left site at 11.22am

Breaches of permit condition:

1 Management

1.1 General management

1.1.1 The operator shall manage and operate the activities:

(a) in accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints; and

Justification

No written management system available at the time of my inspection.

Action required by date specified:

- A written management system plan needs to be submitted that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, non-conformances.

The above actions are required by the 13th March 2025.

Contact details:

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details:

Gavin Summerhill (Environment Officer)

gavin.summerhill@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay, then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

--

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 permit is issued to you under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your permit 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
- review the conditions of your permit.

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 quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

WQ B: Operations

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

WQ C: Emissions and monitoring

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

WQ D: Information

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

Enforcement response

Any permit condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution, serving a notice on you and/or suspension or revocation of your permit. 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 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email 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

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.