

Marine Licence with introductory note

The Marine and Coastal Access Act (2009)

Licence Holder: Natural Resources Wales

Welsh Government Offices,
Cathays Park,
King Edward VII Avenue,
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ

All Wales Marine Benthic Invertebrate Grab
Sampling Programme

Licence Number:

RML2503

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All Wales Marine Benthic Invertebrate Grab Sampling Programme

Marine Licence number: RML2503

Introductory note

This introductory note does not form a part of the marine licence

The main features of the marine licence are as follows.

Grab sampling of seabed sediment habitats for environmental monitoring purposes across Welsh inshore waters.

The status log of the marine licence sets out the marine licence history, including any subsequent marine licence variation(s)

Status log of this marine licence		
Description	Date	Comments
Application	06 February 2025	Application received and considered to be duly made
Date licence determined	24 March 2025	Determination date

Related marine licences or applications under determination

End of introductory note.

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MARINE LICENCE, NUMBER RML2503

1 LICENCE DETAILS

1.1 Marine Licence

This is a licence granted by the Licensing Authority in respect of an application numbered **RML2503** and duly made on **06 February 2025** and authorises the Licence Holder to carry out activities for which a licence is required under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, (2009 Act). This licence should be interpreted in accordance with **Section 4**.

1.2 Licence Holder

The Licence Holder is the organisation set out below:

Organisation name: Natural Resources Wales

Address: Welsh Government Offices, Cathays Park, King Edward VII Avenue, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ

1.3 Licence Validity

Licence Start Date	24 March 2025
Licence End Date	31 December 2027
Licence Issue Date	24 March 2025

1.4 Conditions

This licence is subject to the conditions set out in **Section 3**.

Signed:



For and on behalf of the Licensing Authority

2 LICENSED ACTIVITIES

2.1 Project

All Wales Marine Benthic Invertebrate Grab Sampling Programme

The following Licensed Activities can be conducted within the Licence Period, within the Licensed Area and in accordance with the Approved Application and the Approved Supporting Documents:

Table 1 Licensed Activities

Activity 1 Grab Sampling	
Type of Licensed Activity	Removal
Description	Grab sampling of seabed sediment habitats for environmental monitoring purposes across Welsh inshore waters.
Material types to be removed or deposited	Silt, stone, rock, gravel, plastic, synthetics, sand
Quantities/Dimensions	A maximum of 8,825 grab samples will be taken over 3 years. Each grab sample has an approximate maximum area of 0.1m ² and an approximate maximum volume of 14 litres.

2.2 Licensed Area

The Licence Holder is authorised to conduct the activities described in Table 1, within Welsh inshore waters, at the locations specified by the coordinates in Appendix 2, and as indicated in the plan attached at Appendix 1.

In the event of any discrepancy between the coordinates set out in Appendix 2 and the plan attached at Appendix 1, the coordinates shall take precedence.

2.3 Approved Supporting Documents

Title/Description of Document	Date Submitted
RML2503 - eng-marine-works-licence-application (NRW Grab Sampling 2025-27).docx	09 January 2025
RML2503 - Copy of Electronic appendix (planned target positions).xlsx	09 January 2025
RML2503 - OGN 200 Form 1A simple HRA Grab Sampling 25-27.docx	09 January 2025

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RML2503 Supporting Information for Marine Licence Application NRW Grab Sampling Survey programme 2025-2027_WFD assesment updated.docx	28 January 2025
RML2503 welsh-national-marine-plan-signposting-en-only (NRW Grab Sampling).xlsx	24 January 2025

3 CONDITIONS

Notification and Inspection

3.1 Notification of Commencement

- 3.1.1** The Licence Holder must notify the Licensing Authority no less than **10 days** before the commencement of the Licensed Activities, or an individual phase of the Licensed Activities, is expected to commence.
- 3.1.2** The Licence Holder must notify Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) no less than **10 days** before the commencement of the Licensed Activities, or an individual phase of the Licensed Activities, is expected to commence.
- 3.1.3** The Licence Holder must ensure that local mariners and fishermen's organisations are made fully aware of the Licensed Activities through local notices to mariners **10 days** prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activities.

3.2 Notification of Vessels and/or Vehicles

The Licence Holder must ensure that the details of the vessels and/or vehicles utilised to undertake the Licensed Activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority and Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) at least **24 hours** prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activities.

3.3 Notification of Agents/Contractors/Sub-contractors

The Licence Holder must ensure that details of any agent(s), contractor(s) or sub-contractor(s) utilised to undertake the Licensed Activities are submitted to the Licensing Authority at least **24 hours** prior to the commencement of Licensed Activities.

3.4 Notification of HM Coastguard

The Licence Holder must ensure that HM Coastguard is made aware of the Licensed Activities at least **24 hours** prior to commencement by contacting The National Maritime Operations Centre at **Zone27@hmcg.gov.uk**, **Zone28@hmcg.gov.uk**, **Zone29@hmcg.gov.uk**, **Zone30@hmcg.gov.uk**, **Zone31@hmcg.gov.uk**, and **Zone32@hmcg.gov.uk**.

3.5 Inspection of Licensed Activities

The Licence Holder must allow Marine Enforcement Officers or any other person authorised by the Licensing Authority to inspect the Works at any reasonable time.

3.6 Notification of Completion

- 3.6.1** The Licence Holder must notify the Licensing Authority within **10 days** of completion of the Licensed Activities.

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3.6.2 The Licence Holder must notify Welsh Government Marine & Fisheries Division (Control & Enforcement Branch) within **10 days** of completion of the Licensed Activities.

3.6.3 The Licence Holder must inform the Licensing Authority, of the location of all completed grab samples/boreholes within 10 days of completion of the work.

3.7 Accident or Emergency

3.7.1 If, by reason of force majeure any substances or articles are deposited otherwise than as permitted as part of the Licensed Activities or in the Licensed Area full details of the circumstances shall be notified to the Licensing Authority within **48 hours** of the incident occurring.

3.7.2 If it is necessary for the Licence Holder to recover or remove any equipment, plant or machinery used to undertake the Licensed Activities that have been dropped as a result of an accident or emergency, the Licence Holder is permitted to do so provided that the methodology for such recovery or removal has been approved by the Licensing Authority.

3.8 Distribution of Copies of this Licence

The Licence Holder is required to ensure that a copy of this Licence is given to:

- All agent(s), contractor(s) and sub-contractor(s) whose names have been provided to the Licensing Authority under condition 3.3 and
- The Masters of any vessels and transport managers responsible for the vehicles employed in accordance with this Licence whose details have been submitted to the Licensing Authority under condition 3.2.

3.9 Inspection of Documents

Copies of this Licence shall be made available at the following locations:

- at the address of the Licence Holder specified in section 1.2;
- at any site office, located at or adjacent to the Licensed Area, used by the Licence Holder or its agent(s), contractor(s) or sub-contractor(s) responsible for the loading transportation or deposit of any substances or articles permitted as part of the Licensed Activities;
- on board each vessel or vehicle carrying out Licensed Activities.

The documents referred to in this Condition shall be available at all reasonable times for inspection by officers appropriately authorised by the Licensing Authority and authorised Marine Enforcement Officers at the locations stated in that paragraph.

Vessels, Plant and Equipment

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3.10 Notified Contractors, Vessels and/or Vehicles only to Carry out Licensed Activities

Only those agent(s), contractor(s), sub-contractor(s), vessels and/or vehicles whose details have been notified to the Licensing Authority may operate under the terms of this Licence. Any changes must be notified to and be approved by the Licensing Authority in writing prior to any such agent, contractor, subcontractors or vehicles carrying out any Licensed Activities pursuant to or otherwise operating under this Licence.

3.11 Refuelling of Plant and Equipment

The Licence Holder must ensure that plant, vehicles and machinery are not refuelled on the foreshore or in the sea.

3.12 Equipment, Structures and Access

The Licence Holder must ensure that all equipment, temporary structures, access tracks, waste and/or debris associated with the Licensed Activities are removed on completion of the Licensed activities.

Safety

3.13 Removal of Deposited Material

If the Licensing Authority considers it necessary or advisable for the safety of navigation, the Licence Holder must remove any deposit specified by the Licensing Authority or Marine Enforcement Officers within one month of notice being given by the Licensing Authority, and shall not replace such material until the Licensing Authority has given its written approval.

Pollution control

3.14 Pollution Prevention

The Licence Holder must ensure that pollution prevention best practice is adhered to at all times. Any incidents must be reported to the Licensing Authority as soon as possible using the hotline number **0300 065 3000**.

3.15 Spillage of Pollutants

The Licence Holder must employ bunding, storage facilities and spill kits to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils and chemicals associated with the plant, refuelling and construction equipment into the marine environment. Secondary containment must be used with a capacity of **no less than 110%** of the container's storage capacity

3.16 Prevention of Disposal of Man-made Debris

The Licence Holder must ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken to prevent the disposal of man-made debris to the marine environment. Such material must be removed immediately and be disposed of appropriately. If it is not possible to prevent manmade debris from entering the marine environment during the Licensed Activities, the Licensed Activities must cease immediately.

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3.17 Cleanliness of Equipment

The Licence Holder must ensure that equipment, machinery and PPE are washed with freshwater and/or thoroughly airdried before deployment and before moving between locations.

Activity-specific Conditions

3.18 Archaeology

The Licence Holder must ensure that any artefacts accidentally recovered are retained and reported through the Marine Portable Antiquities Scheme.

4 INTERPRETATION

In this Licence terms are as defined in section 115 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act unless otherwise stated.

- (a) **"2009 Act"** means the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009;
- (b) **"Approved Application"** means the Marine Licence Application Form together with the Approved Supporting Documents;
- (c) **"Approved Supporting Documents"** means the documents supporting, or supplementary to, the Approved Application, submitted prior to the Licence Issue Date, listed in the Table at paragraph 2.3 above;
- (d) **"Commencement"** means the first undertaking of any Licensed Activities;
- (e) **"Force majeure"** may be deemed to apply when, due to stress of weather or any other cause, the master of a vessel determines that it is necessary to deposit the substances or articles because the safety of human life and/or of the vessel is threatened;
- (f) **"Licensed Activities"** means the activities authorised by this licence as specified in 2.1;
- (g) **"Licensed Area"** means the area within which Licensed Activities are authorised by this licence as specified in section 2.2;
- (h) **"Licence Holder"** means the person(s) or organisation(s) named in section 1.2 to whom this licence is granted;
- (i) **"Licence Period"** means the period beginning with the Licence Start Date and ending on the Licence End Date;
- (j) **"Licensing Authority"** means Natural Resources Wales acting on behalf of the Welsh Ministers;
- (k) **"Marine Enforcement Officers"** means the relevant officers appointed by Welsh Ministers under section 235 of the 2009 Act, contact details for whom are provided in section 5;
- (l) **"Marine Licence Application Form"** means the application form forming part of the application referred to in paragraph 1.1;
- (m) **"Method Statement"** means the Method Statement(s) forming part of the Approved Application or Approved Supporting Documents;

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- (n) **“Works”** means any construction activities comprised in the Licensed Activities and, where the context permits, includes any plant, equipment or materials used to carry out those activities or operations but excludes monitoring, minor routine maintenance or other ongoing operational activities following completion of any construction activities;
- (o) all times shall be taken to be the time in Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) on any given day;
- (p) all co-ordinates shall be taken to be latitude and longitude decimal degree (WGS 84)
- (q) in the event of any discrepancy between the coordinates listed in paragraph 2.2 and the plan attached at Appendix 1, the coordinates shall take precedence.

5 CONTACTS

Except where otherwise indicated, the primary point of contact with the Licensing Authority and the address for returns, correspondence and requests for variations of the licence is:

Marine Licensing Team
Natural Resources Wales
Welsh Government Offices
Cathays Park
King Edward VII Avenue
Cardiff
CF10 3NQ
Tel: 0300 065 3000
Email: marinelicensing@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

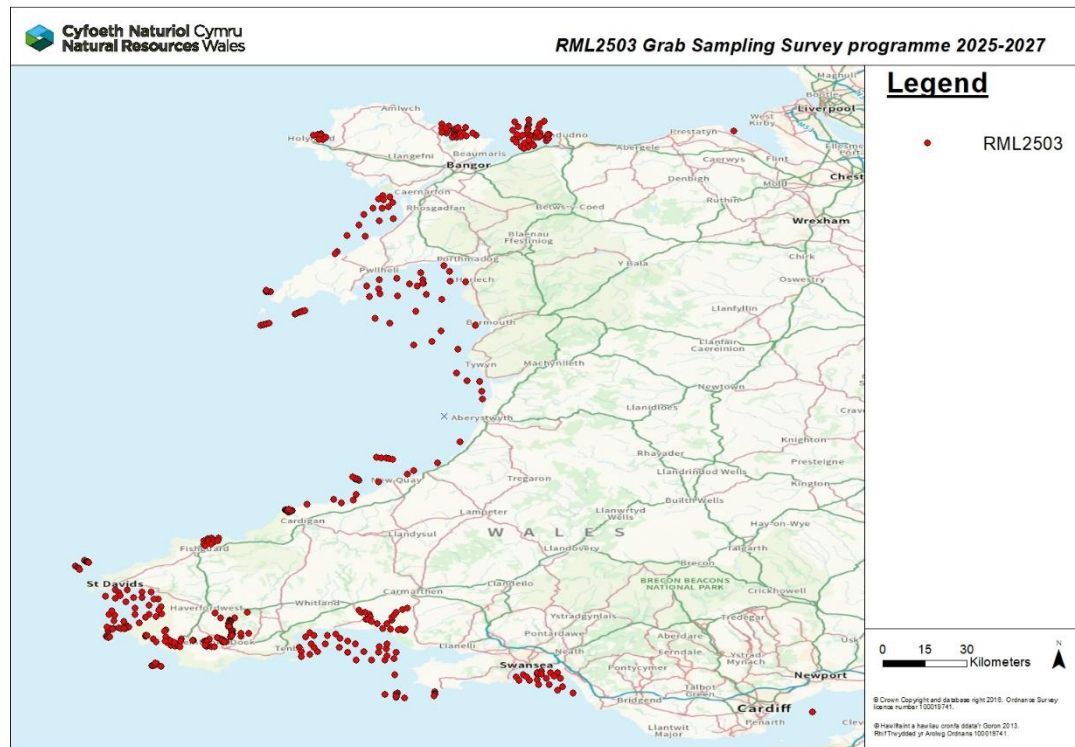
Welsh Government Marine Enforcement Officers may be contacted at:

Welsh Government
Suite 3
Cedar Court
Haven's Head Business Park
Milford Haven Pembrokeshire
SA73 3LS

Tel: 03000253500
Email: MarineLicencingEnforcement@gov.wales

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Appendix 1 – Map of Grab Sample Locations



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Appendix 2 - Coordinates

Longitude	Latitude
-4.686532	52.74850
-4.680615	52.75133
-4.670073	52.75488
-4.662844	52.75858
-4.655194	52.75953
-4.777315	52.82047
-4.770693	52.82068
-4.763978	52.82058
-4.775235	52.82417
-4.779045	52.82478
-4.797015	52.71274
-4.788202	52.71433
-4.777577	52.71631
-4.769785	52.71883
-4.768131	52.72054
-4.412845	52.81538
-4.417321	52.82945
-4.380069	52.72013
-4.428996	52.73640
-4.283066	52.88134
-4.446277	52.80633
-4.415249	52.85871
-4.356916	52.80863
-4.207718	52.90456
-4.189367	52.88658
-4.186536	52.85483
-4.136709	52.85286
-4.213277	52.79596
-4.263411	52.81245
-4.273672	52.84809
-4.456048	52.84014
-4.358176	52.86339
-4.317297	52.84653
-4.297514	52.75818
-4.275009	52.85861
-4.274322	52.84831
-4.292719	52.83951
-4.356915	51.53156
-4.360630	51.52784
-4.360147	51.52269
-4.360136	51.52163
-4.360377	51.51765
-4.360820	51.51897
-4.332783	51.51447
-4.237519	51.53441

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Longitude	Latitude
-4.236663	51.52931
-4.237379	51.52654
-4.239246	51.52172
-4.397495	51.52642
-5.290569	51.71291
-5.290010	51.71240
-5.291437	51.71350
-5.288716	51.71160
-5.286381	51.71009
-5.281851	51.71165
-5.145031	51.61833
-5.140453	51.61941
-5.134004	51.62123
-5.131116	51.62523
-5.133985	51.62808
-5.116420	51.61639
-5.391279	51.93812
-5.384946	51.93575
-5.384266	51.93406
-5.380019	51.93216
-5.377721	51.92849
-5.363054	51.95827
-5.356441	51.95367
-5.353556	51.95243
-5.352038	51.95184
-5.349393	51.95049
-4.481140	51.79690
-4.472710	51.79120
-4.461130	51.78930
-4.446860	51.78370
-4.443470	51.77640
-4.458440	51.76830
-4.452170	51.76720
-4.440810	51.76010
-4.420800	51.75440
-4.391070	51.75410
-4.375250	51.76440
-4.373310	51.77500
-4.366810	51.78110
-4.361600	51.79100
-4.341100	51.79870
-4.323993	51.80380
-4.335630	51.73220
-4.346710	51.73640
-4.332080	51.73510
-4.354300	51.73330

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Longitude	Latitude
-4.404170	51.73790
-4.379270	51.73640
-5.099720	51.73470
-5.105240	51.72910
-5.084500	51.68420
-5.071280	51.68310
-4.953340	51.67890
-4.967150	51.68110
-4.907510	51.69510
-4.919030	51.69730
-4.860200	51.71280
-4.834270	51.72330
-4.858810	51.72180
-4.925280	51.77130
-4.943350	51.78780
-4.880030	51.77300
-4.838890	51.79050
-5.167080	51.71350
-5.165610	51.71670
-5.161500	51.71550
-4.978541	52.02117
-4.965645	52.02677
-4.953202	52.02865
-4.932618	52.02892
-4.966307	52.02180
-4.930634	52.02980
-4.948720	52.02214
-4.965637	52.01540
-4.946648	52.01545
-4.977912	52.01008
-4.975196	52.00473
-4.956095	52.00819
-4.932930	52.02144
-3.974689	51.58219
-3.931324	51.57043
-3.908600	51.59190
-3.907851	51.57402
-3.907726	51.59584
-3.953200	51.58894
-3.966637	51.57114
-3.941519	51.58312
-3.841019	51.59686
-3.832999	51.57735
-3.894761	51.60106
-3.893681	51.59279
-3.878811	51.57819

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Longitude	Latitude
-3.864491	51.59532
-3.853358	51.58600
-3.868605	51.55905
-3.903582	51.55888
-3.826012	51.55027
-3.792379	51.53163
-3.841528	51.53908
-4.403713	53.13081
-4.380279	53.12659
-4.418216	53.11833
-4.385794	53.09365
-4.406395	53.08955
-4.369727	53.05536
-4.415087	53.04863
-4.460966	52.99978
-4.517810	53.00269
-4.400965	53.11556
-4.372201	53.10748
-4.435187	53.08887
-4.464235	53.07005
-4.480017	53.03580
-4.549918	52.94936
-4.556900	52.94230
-4.134861	53.32177
-4.166571	53.31668
-4.147038	53.33132
-4.180309	53.31817
-4.214964	53.35964
-4.174784	53.32615
-4.214588	53.34602
-4.197868	53.33087
-4.103044	53.32391
-4.114058	53.33196
-4.137499	53.34899
-4.158645	53.33722
-4.198683	53.33736
-4.191830	53.35399
-4.152748	53.32005
-4.200322	53.34761
-4.176128	53.33219
-4.214080	53.33390
-4.177757	53.33852
-4.173435	53.34184
-4.172189	53.34393
-4.164300	53.34417
-4.162229	53.34926

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Longitude	Latitude
-3.984191	53.31156
-3.975046	53.30271
-3.960343	53.28774
-3.964385	53.31699
-3.936209	53.28688
-3.954303	53.32502
-3.925309	53.29872
-3.934259	53.31877
-3.896589	53.32180
-3.899326	53.33170
-3.949398	53.28067
-3.925983	53.32202
-3.911799	53.32683
-3.912361	53.32429
-3.904673	53.32463
-3.907395	53.32136
-3.915021	53.32067
-3.911920	53.31679
-3.903522	53.31799
-3.899584	53.32162
-3.909363	53.33349
-3.904095	53.34975
-3.937993	53.33325
-3.973965	53.32678
-3.987206	53.33897
-3.898907	53.35978
-3.935443	53.37476
-3.978695	53.36795
-3.885371	53.36975
-3.947408	53.29925
-3.934658	53.30735
-3.967816	53.35107
-3.933891	53.35742
-3.937774	53.35260
-3.938531	53.34774
-3.937569	53.34442
-3.939880	53.33908
-4.439902	51.63692
-4.417038	51.66220
-4.364623	51.59005
-4.397804	51.63644
-4.367640	51.64167
-4.389295	51.65078
-4.361268	51.66257
-4.392724	51.67252
-4.390573	51.68936

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Longitude	Latitude
-4.414460	51.67872
-4.490939	51.68920
-4.516612	51.69762
-4.541375	51.70744
-4.554920	51.72149
-4.581462	51.71668
-4.589273	51.68942
-4.544081	51.67673
-4.638231	51.72484
-4.651573	51.71082
-4.624121	51.71675
-4.633323	51.68897
-4.624327	51.67654
-4.614633	51.66371
-4.515925	51.66279
-4.672955	51.67717
-4.665224	51.66450
-4.666417	51.64739
-4.638532	51.65464
-4.489401	51.63610
-4.465766	51.66317
-5.176459	51.83816
-5.199469	51.80434
-5.148108	51.85674
-5.124556	51.83360
-5.116353	51.80879
-5.114150	51.78609
-5.132629	51.77630
-5.123911	51.79702
-5.140047	51.83298
-5.177102	51.85615
-5.154455	51.81230
-5.154986	51.78440
-5.166892	51.77508
-5.186683	51.75759
-5.201024	51.78390
-5.204944	51.83773
-5.225819	51.86164
-5.263994	51.86200
-5.250999	51.85404
-5.247100	51.84549
-5.229403	51.82304
-5.227902	51.74682
-5.267918	51.76279
-5.265232	51.78100
-5.283649	51.78321

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Longitude	Latitude
-5.273560	51.79448
-5.262907	51.83575
-5.294085	51.84319
-5.235642	51.76104
-4.479397	52.21420
-4.485530	52.21890
-4.491360	52.21869
-4.491465	52.22162
-4.500806	52.22500
-4.423943	52.28865
-4.407545	52.28695
-4.393597	52.28555
-4.383115	52.28393
-4.371378	52.28270
-5.285795	51.72973
-5.285043	51.73334
-5.277970	51.73909
-5.289105	51.74399
-5.251372	51.74051
-5.238413	51.74123
-5.220532	51.74201
-5.244325	51.73760
-5.231212	51.73818
-5.270412	51.73734
-5.236050	51.73838
-5.272350	51.73690
-4.918443	51.70089
-3.275305	53.33721
-5.140685	51.70460
-5.103640	51.69867
-5.095417	51.69314
-5.082830	51.69660
-5.088072	51.70067
-5.072775	51.69409
-5.052773	51.69880
-5.050488	51.70443
-5.013474	51.70008
-5.100254	51.71244
-4.896134	51.76583
-4.892709	51.76328
-4.892847	51.76044
-4.893065	51.75933
-4.896004	51.75498
-4.899444	51.75415
-4.898842	51.75064
-4.899922	51.74555

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Longitude	Latitude
-4.929274	51.70768
-4.893940	51.73743
-4.886006	51.73227
-4.887614	51.72750
-4.887093	51.71955
-4.891134	51.71799
-4.891728	51.71594
-4.893038	51.71060
-4.936898	51.70827
-4.969739	51.69733
-4.976822	51.69697
-4.968480	51.70109
-4.918460	51.70049
-4.973522	51.69498
-4.888931	51.72090
-4.964815	51.69950
-4.961141	51.70352
-4.561656	52.15309
-4.537710	52.14310
-4.499559	52.15166
-4.488862	52.16877
-4.417633	52.21016
-4.647539	52.13693
-4.324342	52.23561
-4.304391	52.24545
-4.227148	52.27036
-4.156455	52.33798
-4.083053	52.47614
-4.086714	52.50030
-4.093076	52.53342
-4.134088	52.53479
-4.167744	52.55948
-4.163480	52.63529
-4.105687	52.71326
-4.245615	52.66110
-4.303417	52.65061
-4.215787	52.69382
-4.718200	52.11962
-4.714684	52.12067
-4.712169	52.11823
-4.709464	52.11674
-4.707155	52.11528
-4.708229	52.11300
-4.703696	52.11365
-4.698212	52.11522
-4.694311	52.11691

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Longitude	Latitude
-4.698145	52.11799
-4.709915	52.12057
-4.706377	52.12270
-4.602989	53.32903
-4.626591	53.32352
-4.609964	53.31782
-4.608829	53.32456
-4.613207	53.32690
-4.602360	53.31968
-4.604466	53.32420
-4.595815	53.31058
-4.586899	53.31704
-4.608828	53.30979
-3.878029	53.30671
-3.877882	53.31637
-3.873579	53.32437
-3.872371	53.31358
-3.870227	53.32704
-5.132756	51.69648
-5.103206	51.69868
-5.054040	51.69872
-5.014208	51.70002
-4.970711	51.69581
-4.918209	51.70131
-4.889373	51.71534
-4.897535	51.74471
-5.061208	51.68311
-5.054701	51.68081
-4.971703	51.68201
-4.944210	51.67931
-4.974862	51.68452
-4.919040	51.69601
-4.919203	51.69921
-4.912858	51.69551
-3.919058	53.29117
-3.874060	53.32541
-3.023578	51.47039