

WFD Compliance Assessment of Concrete slipway at Gimlet rock, Pwllheli

Stage 2: Scoping Assessment

Stage 2, step 1

Brief description of works

The works consist of up to 3 boreholes and then the installation of a 60m long concrete slipway 3m wide on the foreshore at Gimlet rock caravan park, Pwllheli

Does your proposal have the potential to introduce or spread INNS?

Yes without mitigation – Whilst no material will be brought to site that has the potential to introduce invasive species to the Afon Erch and local environment, there is potential for plant to bring INNS to site, the attached supporting documents give mitigation to this matter.

WFD Protected Areas

The site of the slipway is within the Afon Erch, some 300m from the Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau (Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau) SAC boundary. The SAC does not extend into the river or up into the harbour, but sits along the coastline. The Tremadog bay coastal water body also is some 300m away at it too follows the coastline.

There will be strict control on the time of placing of concrete, at low water (the slipway does not go down to low water) and with protection to ensure that pollution risk is minimised such as use of a small cofferdam. Plant used will be in good condition with spill kits installed on each machine. In addition when not in use the plant will be taken off the foreshore and parked in an area above MHWS to prevent any pollution during non working times.

Full details can be found on the supporting document that list methods and mitigation to align to the Welsh National Marine Plan policies. This includes discussion on the WNMP policies on pollution both in construction and operation, protecting MPA, various features such as migratory fish, marine mammals and sea birds.

The attached EIA shows that it is considered that the proposed works are unlikely to affect any statutorily protected nature conservation sites, providing the works strictly adhere to a suitable method statement, once developed.

Other Protected and Priority habitats and species.

These are listed in attached EIA. After mitigation the impact is considered to be low.

Summary of step 1 scoping

Q2.1 Is there a risk that a component of the proposal may cause deterioration of any element that makes up water body status?

NO

Stage 2, step 2: Summary of scoping decision of the project ‘alone’

Q2.2 Is there a risk that a component of the proposal may prevent the water body or Protected Area from achieving its objectives in the future?

NO

Stage 2, step 3: Assessing potential in combination and/or cumulative impacts

Q2.3 Can the risk of deterioration or prevention of achieving water body objectives from in combination and or cumulative effects be ruled out?

There will be strict control on the time of placing of concrete, at low water (the slipway does not go down to low water) and with protection to ensure that pollution risk is minimised. Plant used will be in good condition with spill kits installed on each machine. In addition when not in use the plant will be taken off the foreshore and parked in an area above MHWS to prevent any pollution during

non working times. Full details can be found on the supporting document that list methods and mitigation to align to the Welsh National Marine Plan policies. This includes discussion on the WNMP policies on pollution, protecting MPA, various features such as migratory fish, marine mammals and sea birds.

Therefore, it is considered that the proposed works are unlikely to affect any statutorily protected nature conservation sites, providing the works strictly adhere to a suitable method statement, once developed.

Stage 2, Step 4: Overall scoping summary

Summarise if there is a potential risk that your proposal may cause deterioration or prevent a water body from meeting its objectives either alone or in combination.

After assessing the project and protection measure in place it is concluded that there is **no risk** of deterioration or prevention of the water body achieving its objectives as a result of the proposal, either alone or in combination/cumulative, and therefore no further consideration under the WFD Regulations 2017 is required.

Scoping Assessment Completed by	Mark Glennerster	Date	30/04/2025
Scoping Assessment Reviewed by <i>If applicable</i>		Date	
Document Reference		Version	1

Consultation with NRW and any other regulatory/advisory organisation

Officer name and job title	Organisation	Date	Advice received

Supporting information and documents

Screening document, plan and details of proposed works plus document detailing method and proipsoed mitigations.	April 2025
EIA	April 2025

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Tremadog Bay

Water body ID: GB651009350000

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
Transitional and Coastal water bodies	N/A – no impact pathway	<i>Wet Concrete leaking into Afon Erch, potential contaminated beach material to be excavated</i>	Works to excavated beach material, install boreholes and placement of concrete will be controlled with strict method statements. Cofferdam installed to prevent sediment entering afon erch and to prevent 'wet concrete' from leaking into river. Scoped Out.
Hydromorphology – hydromorphology constitutes both 'hydrology' and 'geomorphology' and describes the physical characteristics and processes of a water body. Could the proposal lead to changes in:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • morphological conditions, for example depth variation, the seabed and intertidal zone structure • tidal patterns, for example, dominant currents • freshwater flow • wave exposure 	No	n/a	n/a
Is the proposal in a HMWB?	No	n/a	n/a
Water quality An activity can modify the flow of water, introduce artificial materials or remove sediment and/or vegetation. These can all affect the water quality – particularly physico-chemical aspects of water quality - such as levels of dissolved oxygen, nutrients and ammonia. Include water quality in the detailed assessment if the activity could affect:			

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> water clarity (turbidity or suspended particulate matter concentration) 	Yes	3 boreholes plus excavation for the slipway will cause very localised disturbance of the foreshore over the 3m wide area. Excavated material from foreshore to be place alongside the new slipway.	<p>Excavation, boreholes and will only be undertaken with strict control and undertaken at low water</p> <p>Works to excavate foreshore and install concrete will be controlled with strict method statements. Cofferdam installed to prevent sediment entering afon erch and to prevent 'wet concrete' from leaking into river.</p> <p>see supporting document with this WFD.</p>
<p>Chemicals - A detailed assessment will also be required if the activity uses or releases chemicals, for example, through sediment disturbance or building works. This is necessary when either the:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> chemicals are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list activity disturbs sediment with contaminants (for estuarine and coastal above Cefas Action Level 1). or, if the activity releases chemicals on the EQSD list and has a mixing zone, like a discharge pipeline or outfall, follow the Environment Agency's surface water pollution risk assessment guidance. This is part of the Environmental Permitting Regulations guidance. 	Yes possibly, though unlikely	Material from boreholes to be tested if required	Testing to be advised, if undertaken then results to be discussed, unlikely given location but taking precautionary approach.
Biology			

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<p>Identify if the activity or project could impact on the abundance or composition of the biological elements listed below:</p> <p>Biological elements for transitional (T) and coastal (C) waters under the directive are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benthic invertebrates (T, C) • Fish (T) • Phytoplankton (T, C) • Macroalgae (T, C) • Angiosperms (T, C) <p>Could the proposal lead to:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to the composition and abundance of aquatic flora • changes to the composition and abundance of benthic invertebrate fauna 	yes	Sediment may smother existing mudflats, Post-construction, the beach between the proposed jetty and the slipway of the boatyard to the west will potentially be subject to increased 3rd party damage from bait digging and collection.	Cofferdam to stop sediment release in construction. It is recommended that signage prohibiting bait collection in this area
<p>For TraC water bodies - scope in if the footprint (where footprint can be direct or a plume i.e. chemical or thermal; for dredging multiply the area by 1.5x) of your activity is:</p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0.5km² or larger • 1% or more of the water body's area • Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat (see table below) • 1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat (see table below) 	Yes, the works are within 300m of the SAC and Tremadog water body	As discussed in EIA	As above controlled by adherence to strict method statements. Works will be less than 40 days in total, some days no work will take place to account for tides, thus the area will not have 15 days continuous disturbance.
<p>Fish fauna (Transitional water bodies only): could the proposal lead to:</p>			

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • changes to the composition, abundance and age structure of fish fauna • an impact on normal fish behaviour like movement, migration or spawning (for example creating a physical barrier, noise, chemical change or a change in depth or flow) • entrainment or impingement of fish • refuge/predation areas <p>Or: is the proposal in an estuary and could affect fish in the estuary; is outside the estuary but could delay or prevent fish entering it; or, could affect fish migrating through the estuary</p>	<p>The works are in the Afon Erch, but as the slipway is going to flush with adjacent foreshore then fish are unlikely to be impacted once in place.</p> <p>Boreholes and excavation for slipway will be at low water</p>	<p>May impact fish migration</p>	<p>See attached document for mitigation and description of works - Timing of construction works in the river must avoid peak fish migration periods (June to September – October). Boreholes likely to be acceptable any time due to very limited operational window.</p>