

Template for Stage 2 scoping assessment for compliance with the WFD Regulations 2017

Guidance note

Reference number: GN078

Document Owner: Integrated Water Planning Team, NRW

What is this document about?

Scoping template for compliance with the WFD Regulations 2017. Please refer to 'Complying with the WFD Regulations scoping guidance for further information.

Who is this document for?

Anyone designing projects and activities that may impact on the water environment.

You must provide WFD compliance information to support any application for activities that may cause deterioration to a WFD water body or prevent it (or WFD Protected Areas) from achieving the objectives set out in the River Basin Management Plan.

Be aware that you are likely to need to employ a suitably experienced and qualified consultant to do a WFD assessment. You may also need specialist technical input depending on the activity and potential impacts.

Contact for queries and feedback

Integrated Water Planning Team, Evidence, Policy and Permitting Directorate

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Version History

Document version	Date published	Summary of changes
1.0	26/06/24	Document published

Review Date: Dec 2024

To report issues or problems with this guidance contact:
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WFD Compliance Assessment of *Afon Dysynni Beach Shingle Works*

Stage 2: Scoping Assessment

Stage 2, step 1 – Relate activity to receptors

Working with excavator and dumper machinery in the coastal environment below MHWS, shingle to be moved to re-align and open the mouth of the Dysynni river to favour a route southwards past the existing training wall. A low shingle weir will be built across the northern channel to assist river flows southwards while allowing higher flows to continue via the northern route to the sea.

Activity – shingle movement via machine

Pathway – machines tracking across and manoeuvring shingle below MHWS

Receptor – physical (hydromorphology), water quality, biology

Channel not to be over-deepened and no sediments to be removed from proposed works site.

Welfare unit and staff vehicles will be parked outside the marine area on the spit.

Refuelling will be carried out outside the SAC boundary on the highway to the east of the railway line.

GPP5 to be followed; biodegradable fluids used in machines; pre-cleaned machinery will be brought to site to help control the spread of invasive non-natives species.

Scoping table for:

River and Lake water bodies

Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Groundwater bodies

Invasive Non-Native Species

Refer to the [Check Clean Dry](#) campaign to help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in British waters.

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

No - No impact assessment required.

WFD Protected Areas

You must ensure that your proposal will not prevent any Protected Area/s from achieving their objectives. Include WFD protected areas in your assessment if your activity is within the zone of influence.

No protected areas are present in the vicinity of the works apart from Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau SAC for which an HRA has been carried out. See: [20190611 SH50.1 Broadwater clearing accumulated shingle Assent HRA.pdf](#) for further details.

Other Protected and Priority habitats and species.

Proposal does not pose a risk to water dependent priority habitat and, by restricting the timing of works to outside the migratory fish period, does not pose a risk to priority species which are either important to the water body, or are sensitive to the changes proposed, ie Atlantic salmon, European eel. Works are carried out during daylight hours only to avoid impacting nocturnal species, ie otter.

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?

No in combination effects foreseen.

Stage 2, Step 4: Overall scoping summary

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

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, foreseen; no further consideration under the WFD Regulations 2017 is required.

Scoping Assessment Completed by	Liz Jones Environmental Assessment, Integrated Engineering NW	Date	28/05/25
Scoping Assessment Reviewed by	N/A	Date	
Document Reference	N/A	Version	

Consultation with NRW and any other regulatory/advisory organisation

Officer name and job title	Organisation	Date	Advice received

Supporting information and documents

Title of supporting documents / assessments / modelling	Date & Version number
OGN086_LRFN_Afon Dysynni Beach Shingle Works.pdf	26/05/25
20190611 SH50.1 Broadwater clearing accumulated shingle Assent HRA.pdf	11/06/2019
WFD Stg 1 Screening_Afon Dysynni Beach Shingle Works.pdf	27/05/25

Scoping table for River and Lake water bodies

Screened out - N/A

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

[illegible]

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

*Dysynni - Transitional**Cardigan Bay North - Coastal*

Water body ID:

*GB511006414900**GB621009600000*

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
			outlet of the Dysynni to sea by switching main flows from north to south channels. Higher flows will still pass to the northern channel. Additionally, the proposal as a whole will constitute a temporary fix as tidal and fluvial sedimentary processes will continue unhindered once the works are complete. Although this activity may need repeating in future, it will again be at the minimum rate necessary and only when required. No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.
Is the proposal in a HMWB?	Yes (Dysynni) OverallWaterBody = Moderate	Nineteen mitigation measures are listed for this WB of which twelve are not applicable/not required and seven are	Scoped out: The proposal will not impact on any mitigation measures as currently defined (July 2022).

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

*Dysynni - Transitional**Cardigan Bay North - Coastal*

Water body ID:

*GB511006414900**GB621009600000*

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
	Driving_Element = Mit_Assmnt Designation Reasons/HM Use = Flood Protection use	not in place/not yet identified.	No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.

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:

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

Dysynni - Transitional

Cardigan Bay North - Coastal

Water body ID:

GB511006414900

GB621009600000

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
- water clarity (turbidity or suspended particulate matter concentration) - thermal conditions (including shading) - oxygen levels – dissolved oxygen conditions - nutrients - dissolved inorganic nitrogen - microbial patterns - salinity/conductivity - is in a water body with a phytoplankton or opportunistic macroalgae status of moderate, poor or bad - is in a water body with a history of harmful algae (where there is an existing designation for the area, information should be available; however, local water quality officers will be able to help).	Water clarity	During operations to move shingle, fines may be resuspended in water or exposed for redistribution during river and tidal flows.	Scoped out: Proposal will be carried out during low tides in fair weather taking approximately 10 working days to complete. River and tidal flows will continue throughout operations and be likely to rapidly disperse any fine sediments that become exposed. No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.

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:

- 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.	N/A	N/A	N/A
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Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

Dysynni - Transitional

Cardigan Bay North - Coastal

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Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
Biology Identify if the activity or project could impact on the abundance or composition of the biological elements listed below: Biological elements for transitional (T) and coastal (C) waters under the directive are: (2021 classification) • Benthic invertebrates (T = not reported, C = good) • Fish (T = not reported) • Phytoplankton (T = not reported, C = good) • Macroalgae (T = high, C = high) • Angiosperms (T = moderate, C = not reported) Could the proposal lead to:			
• changes to the composition and abundance of aquatic flora • changes to the composition and abundance of benthic invertebrate fauna	Aquatic flora Benthic invertebrate fauna	A temporary change to a small area of habitat is likely from redistribution of shingle.	Scoped out: No long term changes foreseen from this small-scale proposal. No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.
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:			

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

Dysynni - Transitional

Cardigan Bay North - Coastal

Water body ID:

GB511006414900

GB621009600000

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
• 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)	Within 500m of higher sensitivity habitat: Intertidal reefs of the Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau SAC are located to the west of the works area in the intertidal zone and further offshore. Redistribution of lower sensitivity habitat: cobbles, gravel and shingle.	Physical damage Pollution	Scoped out: The reefs feature is located to the west of the works area and out of bounds of the works area. Only beach shingle is being redistributed via this proposal. An HRA has been agreed and Assent issued for these works, valid until 11 June 2029. Pollution prevention measures (GPP5) and use of biodegradable fluids in machines is standard practice. Redistributed shingle is not expected to be damaged by the proposal. No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.

Fish fauna (Transitional water bodies only): could the proposal lead to:

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name:

Dysynni - Transitional

Cardigan Bay North - Coastal

Water body ID:

GB511006414900

GB621009600000

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures included in the proposal
• 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 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	<i>Migratory fish and eel route</i>	<i>Direct and indirect impacts on fish and eels as per examples provided.</i>	Scoped out: <i>Operations will not take place during the fish migratory/spawning period 18 October to 30 May inclusive in any years that the licence is extant without prior further approval from NRW.</i> <i>No deterioration in WFD status foreseen.</i>

Info for TraC water bodies

Extract from EA Clearing the water for All

Higher and lower sensitivity habitats for TraC water bodies

Higher sensitivity habitats ²	Lower sensitivity habitats ³
chalk reef	cobbles, gravel and shingle
clam, cockle and oyster beds	intertidal soft sediments like sand and mud
intertidal seagrass	rocky shore
maerl	subtidal boulder fields
mussel beds, including blue and horse mussel	subtidal rocky reef
polychaete reef	subtidal soft sediments like sand and mud
saltmarsh	
subtidal kelp beds	
subtidal seagrass	

² Higher sensitivity habitats have a low resistance to, and recovery rate, from human pressures.

³ Lower sensitivity habitats have a medium to high resistance to, and recovery rate from, human pressures.

Scoping table for Groundwater bodies

Screened out - N/A