

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048855

Licence being assessed: WA/057/0031/0008.

For: River Ely at Tynybryn Bridge, held by RHONDDA CYNON TAFF CBC .

At: near the A4119 road, Tonyrefail, CF39 8AG.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 11/07/2025, between 13:20 and 14:15.

Parts of licence assessed: All

NRW Lead Officer: Ceri Malone.

Report sent to: Natalie England, Senior Engineer RCTCBC, on 16/07/2025.

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

Part of licenced activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Licence condition
WR-G1 - Water Abstraction - Impoundment specified by licence - Inland water to be impounded	Assessed (A)	
WR-G2 - Water Abstraction - Impoundment specified by licence - Manner and extent of impoundment	C4 No impact	3.1 Impounding works comprising of five block stone weirs spaced 10 meters apart, each with a 300 millimetre wide flow notch with an adherent nappe profile and a series of fish baffles upstream in accordance with the specifications and drawings: - Proposed General Arrangement C02 - 30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-1800 - dated 17/07/2023 - Proposed Sections and Elevations Sheet 1 C02-30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-2501 - dated 17/07/2023

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WR-G2	Explain why the weirs have not been constructed in	16/10/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	accordance with the specifications on the license. Provide NRW with updated specifications and drawings which are representative of the final design.	

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 or civil sanctions being imposed depending on the circumstances of the offence.

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

Impoundment (WA/057/0031/0008) - River Ely at Tynybryn Bridge RCTCBC

Site Report

A site compliance visit to inspect the impoundment on the River Ely at Tynybryn Bridge near the A4119 was completed by a Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Environment Officer on 11/07/2025. The weather was clear and warm with low rainfall over the past few weeks.

At 13:20 the river was checked between NGR's ST 00745 87611 (Point A) and ST 00728 87592 (Point E) where the impounding work is listed on the license. Banking work including new block stones, riprap and a stepped block stone cascade at the location for weir 2/Point B (see photograph 1) has been constructed in accordance with 3.1 of the permit - Proposed General Arrangement C02 - 30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-1800. A series of fish baffles have also been installed the length of the upstream culverted section as designed (see photograph 2).



Photograph 1: Point B Block Stone, Riprap and Cascade



Photograph 2: Fish Baffles

The series of 5 block stone weirs (Points A-E) have not been constructed as shown in "Proposed Sections and Elevations Sheet 1 C02- 30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-250" of 3.1 of the license. Some stone is present in the channel at points A-E but it is unclear if this is due to a natural deposition or if they have been placed there to form crude weirs as part of the construction. The stone is also natural rather than the block stone specified and is having a limited impounding effect (see photograph 3). No notches have been cut into any stones at these locations.



Photograph 3: Upstream View of Weir Locations 4&5 (Points D&E)

Breaches of license condition:

The following condition of the license has been breached due to the lack of block stone weirs present in accordance with the specifications on the license:

3. MANNER AND EXTENT OF IMPOUNDMENTS

3.1 Impounding works comprising of five block stone weirs spaced 10 meters apart, each with a 300 millimetre wide flow notch with an adherent nappe profile and a series of fish baffles upstream in accordance with the specifications and drawings:

- Proposed General Arrangement C02 - 30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-1800 - dated 17/07/2023

- Proposed Sections and Elevations Sheet 1 C02- 30003219-BHK-00-XX-DR-C-2501 - dated 17/07/2023

Although the weirs have not been constructed in accordance with the specifications there does not appear to have been any negative environmental impact. As a result the breach is considered a C4 non-compliance.

Action required by dates specified:

- Explain why the weirs have not been constructed in accordance with the specifications on the license. Provide NRW with updated specifications and drawings which are representative of the final design. **Complete the actions by 16/10/2025.**

Contact details:

If you have any other queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details: Ceri Malone, Environment Officer, Ceri.Malone@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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 licence is issued to you under the Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Water Act 2003. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your licence 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.

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 resource action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**WR A: Abstraction specified by Licence**

- WR-A1 Source of supply
- WR-A2 Points of abstraction
- WR-A3 Means of abstraction
- WR-A4 Purposes of abstraction
- WR-A5 Period of abstraction
- WR-A6 Quantities
- WR-A7 Land
- WR-A8 Other specified on licence

WR B: Abstraction measurement and records

- WR-B1 Means of measurement
- WR-B2 Recording
- WR-B3 Reporting

WR C: Surface / Groundwater level and protected flow

- WR-C1 Minimum hands-off flow/level requirements
- WR-C2 Flow/level measurement devices
- WR-C3 Recording
- WR-C4 Reporting

WR D: Environmental monitoring and information

- WR-D1 Recording
- WR-D2 Reporting
- WR-D3 Notifications

WR E: Fish and eel passage

- WR-E1 Infrastructure specified by licence
- WR-E2 Maintenance and records

WR F: Discharge

- WR-F1 Point of discharge
- WR-F2 Infrastructure
- WR-F3 Measurement
- WR-F4 Recording
- WR-F5 Reporting

WR G: Impoundment specified by licence

- WR-G1 Inland water to be impounded
- WR-G2 Manner and extent of impoundment
- WR-G3 Point(s) of impoundment
- WR-G4 Construction and removal requirements
- WR-G5 Other specified on licence

WR H: Borehole infrastructure

- WR-H1 Infrastructure and accessibility
- WR-H2 Maintenance and calibration

Enforcement response

Any licence condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution or civil sanctions. 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 (Mon to Fri 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.