

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048945

Permit being assessed: BN0069101

For: CARAVAN SITE AT ERWBARFE FARM, held by ERWBARFE FARM CARAVAN SITE

At: ERWBARFE FARM, PONTERWYD, ABERYSTWYTH, CEREDIGION, SY23 3JR.

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

On 09/06/2025, between 13:56 and 14:25.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria listed below

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis, accompanied by: Carol Fielding.

Report sent to: Bryn and Priscilla Jones, Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site, on 25/07/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	C3 Minor	1.1.1(a)
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C2 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to land	C3 Minor	3.3.1
WQ-D3 - Water Quality - Information - Notifications	C4 No impact	4.3.4

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-A1	Prepare a written management system and provide NRW with a copy.	25/11/2025
WQ-C2	Install an effluent sample point in accordance with the permit and provide NRW with a photograph of the sample point as evidence of its installation.	25/01/2026
WQ-D3	Apply for a permit variation to change the address of the operator.	25/11/2025

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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

Summary

This was a pre-planned site inspection of Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site's permit BN0069101 undertaken by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officers Bethan Lewis and Carol Fielding. The NRW officers were accompanied during the site inspection by Mr. Bryn Jones, one of the current owners of Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site.

The site inspection commenced at 13:56 hours on the 09 June 2025 and concluded at 14:25 hours. The weather at the time of the inspection was dry but cloudy.

The septic tank at Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site serves all caravans at the site and was installed approximately 20 years ago. The septic tank, shown in photograph 1 below, consists of two chambers and is emptied three times a year by a licenced waste carrier. As can be seen in photograph 1, the septic tank was found to be somewhat overgrown at the time of the site inspection. NRW recommend that Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site periodically clear the vegetation surrounding the septic tank to ensure that it can be accessed at all times for maintenance and inspection.



Photograph 1: Septic tank

Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site's septic tank discharges to ground via a drainage field. The approximate location of the drainage field is shown in photograph 2 below. No evidence was observed to suggest that the discharge was causing pollution.



Photograph 2: Drainage field

Non-compliances

Condition 1.1.1(a) of permit BN0069101 requires Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site to *"manage and operate the activities 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"*. Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site do not currently have a written management system. A category 3 non-compliance has therefore been recorded above for a non-compliance which has the potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property. To rectify this non-compliance, Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site are asked to prepare a written management system and provide NRW with a copy of the written management system by the **25 November 2025**. To assist with this, Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site may wish to review the guidance provided under the following webpage for developing an Environment Management System:

<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/water-discharges-and-septic-tanks/discharges-to-surface-water-and-groundwater/develop-an-environment-management-system-for-the-discharge-of-up-to-20-cubic-metres-per-day-of-sewage-effluent/?lang=en>

Condition 3.3.1 of permit BN0069101 states that *"permanent means of access shall be provided to enable sampling/monitoring to be carried out in relation to the emission points specified in schedule 3"*. This sampling/monitoring must take place at an effluent sample point at National Grid Reference SN 74700 78500. No effluent sample point currently exists at Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site. For this reason, the NRW officers were unable to assess whether the outflow from the septic tank prior to discharge into land contained a significant trace of visible oil or grease. A category 3 non-compliance has therefore been recorded above against condition 3.3.1. To rectify the non-compliance, Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site are asked to install an effluent sample point in accordance with the permit and provide NRW with a photograph of the sample point as evidence of its installation by the **25 January 2026**.

Condition 4.3.4 of permit BN0069101 states that NRW *"shall be notified within 14 days of any change in the operator's name or address"*. Whilst Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site continue

to operate the permit, the operator's address has changed and should no longer include the names of the previous site owners (Mr Gm & Be Lewis). As NRW were not notified of the change in address, a category 4 non-compliance has been recorded above for a non-compliance that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property. To rectify the non-compliance, Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site are asked to apply for a permit variation to change the address of the operator by the **25 November 2025**. Further information on how to do this can be found under the following webpage:

<https://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk/permits-and-permissions/water-discharges-and-septic-tanks/septic-tanks-and-private-sewage-systems/change-vary-an-existing-permit-for-a-discharge-of-domestic-sewage/?lang=en>

If Erwbarfe Farm Caravan Site are unable to meet any of the above deadlines, we recommend that they contact the NRW officer noted above as soon as possible.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.