

SWANSEA SA1

Repairs to An Existing Damaged Rock Revetment Defence and Outfall

Client

Welsh Assembly Government

Contractor

McCarthy Contractors (Bridgend) Ltd

Local Council

City & County of Swansea

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Water Framework Directive assessment: scoping template for activities in estuarine and coastal waters

Use this template to record the findings of the scoping stage of your Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment for an activity in an estuary or coastal water.

If your activity will:

- take place in or affect more than one water body, complete a template for each water body
- include several different activities or stages as part of a larger project, complete a template for each activity as part of your overall WFD assessment

The [WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters](#) will help you complete the table.

Your activity	Description, notes or more information
Applicant name	Welsh Assembly Government
Application reference number (where applicable)	
Name of activity	Repair of Existing Damaged Rock Revetment and Outfall (Eing Wall and Apron) at SA1
Brief description of activity	Repair and strengthen the damage rock toe and apron to an existing coastal defence an reinstate the damaged wing walls and apron to an outfall within the rock revetment. Repair small areas of the existing rock which have been damaged by storm activity.
Location of activity (central point XY coordinates or national grid reference)	<i>Nat. grid. SS 6658 9257</i> (Full Co-ords = 266580E 192570N)
Footprint of activity (ha)	Approximately 0.15ha
Timings of activity (including start and finish dates)	April 2026 to September 2026. Start date will be influenced by the issuing date of the marine licence.
Extent of activity (for example size, scale frequency, expected volumes of output or discharge)	The works comprise the repair of the damaged revetment and outfall (apron and wingwalls) by reconstructing the failed elements with more robust materials. The damaged rock armour toe and apron will be reconstructed with larger edge armour founded on a new apron that will replace the original damaged apron. There are localised areas of damaged revetement further up the slope that will be filled and strengthened with larger rock to reduce the risk of future storm damage. The outfall apron and wing walls have failed and need to be replaced with structurally robust rock and concrete elements. The geometry/footprint will not change. The existing steel grating will also be renewed with a hinged arrangement to allow access to the pipe for cleaning. Access to undertake these works will be located within the footprint of the existing works. The reinforcement of the existing scour apron will facilitate a firm accessway for plant to carry out the repairs. The currently displaced armour will be cast to the land ward side on

	top of the existing revetment to allow access on the upgraded bedstone apron that will support the more robust toe. The robust toe and tie into the lower portion of the existing revetment will be formed as we make our way back towards the main access point down as shown on the drawing.
Use or release of chemicals (state which ones)	None

Water body ¹	Description, notes or more information
WFD water body name	<i>Swansea Bay</i>
Water body ID	<i>GB641008260000</i>
River basin district name	
Water body type (estuarine or coastal)	<i>Estuarine</i>
Water body total area (ha)	<i>110million m2</i>
Overall water body status (2015)	
Ecological status	
Chemical status	
Target water body status and deadline	
Hydromorphology status of water body	
Heavily modified water body and for what use	
Higher sensitivity habitats present	

Lower sensitivity habitats present	<i>'Intertidal Soft Sediment – Sand Mud & Mixed'</i>
Phytoplankton status	
History of harmful algae	
WFD protected areas within 2km	

¹ Water body information can be found in the Environment Agency's catchment data explorer and the water body summary table. Magic maps provide additional information on habitats and protected areas. Links to these information sources can be found in the WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters.

Specific risk information

Consider the potential risks of your activity to each of these receptors: hydromorphology, biology (habitats and fish), water quality and protected areas. Also consider invasive non-native species (INNS).

Section 1: Hydromorphology

Consider if hydromorphology is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find out the hydromorphology status of the water body, if it is classed as heavily modified and for what use.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Hydromorphology risk issue(s)
Could impact on the hydromorphology (for example morphology or tidal patterns) of a water body at high status	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO
Could significantly impact the hydromorphology of any water body	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO

Is in a water body that is heavily modified for the same use as your activity	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	<i>NO</i>
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Record the findings for hydromorphology and go to section 2: biology.

Section 2: Biology

Habitats

Consider if habitats are at risk from your activity. Use the water body summary table and Magic maps, or other sources of information if available, to find the location and size of these habitats.

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.

Consider if the footprint ⁴ of your activity is:	Yes	No	Biology habitats risk issue(s)
0.5km ² or larger	Yes to one or more – requires impact assessment	No to all – impact assessment not required	NO
1% or more of the water body's area			NO
Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat			NO
1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat			NO

⁴ Note that a footprint may also be a temperature or sediment plume. For dredging activity, a footprint is 1.5 times the dredge area.

Fish

Consider if fish are at risk from your activity, but only if your activity is in an estuary or could affect fish in or entering an estuary.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Biology fish risk issue(s)
Is in an estuary and could affect fish in the estuary, outside the estuary but could delay or prevent fish entering it or could affect fish migrating through the estuary	Continue with questions	Go to next section	NO – Repair is at the eastern side of the Tawe and works will be undertaken only within the footprint of the existing works and in the dry/ low tide.
Could 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)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO – Activity will be above the water line and will not disturb fish movements.
Could cause entrainment or impingement of fish	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO – not possible.

Record the findings for biology habitats and fish and go to section 3: water quality.

Section 3: Water quality

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find information on phytoplankton status and harmful algae.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
Could affect water clarity, temperature, salinity, oxygen levels, nutrients or microbial patterns continuously for longer than a spring neap tidal cycle (about 14 days)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO – All works will be carried out above the water line and clear of the channel to the west. The material being used will have no fines/ will be clean rock armour. There will be no excavation in any material that could affect the water.
Is in a water body with a phytoplankton status of moderate, poor or bad	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO
Is in a water body with a history of harmful algae	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity through the use, release or disturbance of chemicals.

If your activity uses or releases chemicals (for example through sediment disturbance or building works) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO
It disturbs sediment with contaminants above Cefas Action Level 1	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO

If your activity has a mixing zone (like a discharge pipeline or outfall) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals released are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment ⁵	Impact assessment not required	NO

⁵ Carry out your impact assessment using the Environment Agency's surface water pollution risk assessment guidance, part of Environmental Permitting Regulations guidance.

Record the findings for water quality go on to section 4: WFD protected areas.

Section 4: WFD protected areas

Consider if WFD protected areas are at risk from your activity. These include:

- special areas of conservation (SAC)
- special protection areas (SPA)
- shellfish waters
- bathing waters
- nutrient sensitive areas

Use Magic maps to find information on the location of protected areas in your water body (and adjacent water bodies) within 2km of your activity.

Consider if your activity is:	Yes	No	Protected areas risk issue(s)
Within 2km of any WFD protected area ⁶	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No Impact – within dock area and works will be undertaken in the dry / tide out. Work will be in a non navigable area where there are no relevant navigation matter.

⁶ Note that a regulator can extend the 2km boundary if your activity has an especially high environmental risk.

Record the findings for WFD protected areas and go to section 5: invasive non-native species.

Section 5: Invasive non-native species (INNS)

Consider if there is a risk your activity could introduce or spread INNS.

Risks of introducing or spreading INNS include:

- materials or equipment that have come from, had use in or travelled through other water bodies
- activities that help spread existing INNS, either within the immediate water body or other water bodies

Consider if your activity could:	Yes	No	INNS risk issue(s)
Introduce or spread INNS	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	NO

Record the findings for INNS and go to the summary section.

Summary

Summarise the results of scoping here.

Receptor	Potential risk to receptor?	Note the risk issue(s) for impact assessment
Hydromorphology	No risk	
Biology: habitats	No risk	
Biology: fish	No risk	
Water quality	No risk	
Protected areas	No risk	
Invasive non-native species	No risk	

If you haven't identified any receptors at risk during scoping, you don't need to continue to the impact assessment stage and your WFD assessment is complete.

If you've identified one or more receptors at risk during scoping, you should continue to the impact assessment stage.

Include your scoping results in the WFD assessment document you send to your activity's regulator as part of your application for permission to carry out the activity.