

Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment of a project or spatially-specific plan

OGN 200 Form 1B (with structured tables for likely significant effect screening and appropriate assessment)

Document owner: Head of Business for Natural Resource Management

Version History:

Document Version	Date Published	Summary of Changes
2.0	21/10/2024	Following 2023/24 review of HRA OGNs

Next review date: **October 2025**

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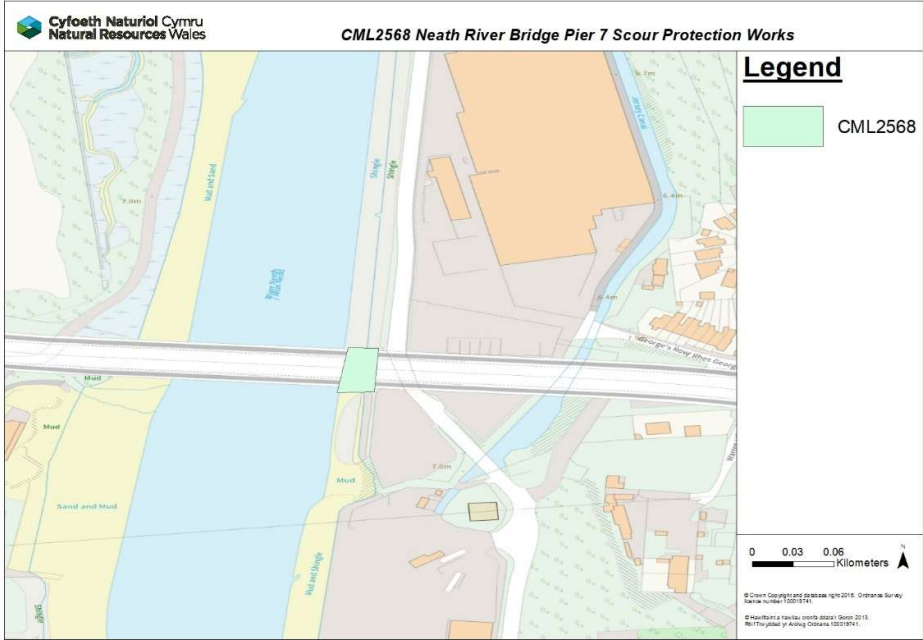
OGN 200 Form 1B

Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment

Plan or project name, brief description or application reference number	CML2568 – Neath River Bridge Pier 7 Scour Protection Works
HRA iteration/version	1.0

1. Plan or Project Details

Information about the plan or project		
1	Date application received	18 November 2025
2	Applicant details	South Wales Trunk Road Agent (SWTRA) The Quays, Brunel Way, Neath, SA11 2GG.
3	NRW team responsible for carrying out, or requiring to be carried out, the plan or project, and name of lead officer	N/A
4	Activity/ies proposed	Installation of sheet piled wall approximately 1m in front of the existing pile-cap, backfilled with marine grade cementitious grout. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Steel for the sheet pile sections; 28 sheet pile sections, each individual sheet pile measuring 11.5 metres in length and 1.26 metres in width

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete and steel reinforcement for the concrete capping beam; Capping beam cross section area approximately 0.35m² and 35m in length on top of sheet piles • Approximately 50m³ of marine grade grout.
5	Relevant legislation or statutory basis	Marine and Coastal Access Act 2010
6	Location	<p>Neath River Bridge</p>  <p>The map is titled 'CML2568 Neath River Bridge Pier 7 Scour Protection Works' and is produced by 'Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru Natural Resources Wales'. It shows a plan view of the Neath River and the bridge crossing it. A green rectangle on the bridge indicates the location of the scour protection works. The map includes a legend with a green box labeled 'CML2568', a scale bar from 0 to 0.06 kilometers, and a north arrow. Text on the map includes 'Neath River', 'Pier 7', 'Mud', 'Sand and Mud', 'Riprap', 'Sheet Piles', '7.0m', '6.4m', '3.0m', and '1.0m'. A copyright notice at the bottom right reads: '© Crown Copyright and geodata 2016. Ordnance Survey. Licence number 10003741. © MapInfo Ltd. All rights reserved. 2016. MapInfo is a registered trademark of MapInfo Corporation. 10019741.'</p>
7	Plan or project documents, including any application documents	<p>CML2568 - Neath Pier 7 Band 2 Marine Licence Application v1.0 Final.pdf CML2568 - BP04_603-ATK-SBR-SWTRA-DR-CB-000004 (3).pdf CML2568 - Pier 7 Location of works.png CML2568 - Pier 7 Neath Location Map.pdf CML2568 - NRB Pier 7 - Sheet Pile Installation Methodology.pdf CML2568 - Pier 7 Neath Scour Protection WFD.pdf CML2568 - Pier 7 welsh-national-marine-plan-signposting.xlsx</p>


8	Environmental Statement	N/A
9	Pre-application correspondence	Yes, however no pre-app query reference number, see: CML2568 - Pre-App Correspondence - Neath River Bridge Pier 7 Consultation (SWTRA WG Projects).eml
10	NRW team responsible for preparing this HRA report, and lead officer	Dylan Morgan – Marine Licensing Officer – Marine Licensing Team
11	Team or person responsible for approving the plan or project (competent authority role)	As Row 10.

2. Determining the need for a Habitats Regulations Assessment

2.1 Is there any possibility that the plan or project could negatively affect any European sites?	<p>NO</p> <p>No conceivable impact to any European site due to location, distance and nature of works. The nearest European site is Crymlyn Bog / Cors Crymlyn SAC approximately 1.5km from the works, however, there is no hydrological connectivity between the sites.</p> <p>The nearest marine designated European sites are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenfig / Cynffig SAC located approximately 13.6km and 24km from the location of works. • Limestone Coast of South West Wales / Arfordir Calchfaen De Orllewin Cymru SAC located approximately 18.8km and 25km from the location of works. • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries / Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd SAC is located approximately 26.8km from the location of works.
2.2 Is the whole of the plan or project directly and only connected with or necessary to the management of one or more European sites, for the purposes of conserving the habitats or	

species for which the European site(s) is/are designated?	
2.3 Is there a possibility that the plan or project could affect any other feature of the European site(s) concerned, or of another European site, in a way that would undermine that feature's conservation objectives?	

6. Conclusion

<p>HRA is not required because there is no conceivable impact on any European sites. (As documented in section 2.1)</p>	<p>X</p>
<p>HRA is not required because the whole of the plan or project is directly connected with or necessary to the management of one or more European sites, for the purposes of conserving the habitats or species for which the site(s) is/are designated, <u>and</u> the plan or project is not likely to have a significant effect on any other European sites. (As documented in section 2.2 and 2.3)</p>	
<p>This project is a renewal of a current permission which complies with NRW agreed criteria for ruling out likely significant effects of a renewal without conducting a project-specific LSE test. Therefore, it is considered not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects. (As documented in section 3.1 of this form)</p>	
<p>The plan or project has been screened for likelihood of significant effects and is considered not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites. (As documented in section 3.2 of this form, and section 5 if applicable)</p>	
<p>In light of the conclusions of an appropriate assessment it has been established that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of any European sites, taking into account any conditions or restrictions as applicable, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects. (As documented in section 4 of this form, and section 5 if applicable)</p>	
<p>In light of the conclusions of the appropriate assessment, it has <u>not</u> been ascertained that the plan or project will not adversely affect the integrity of any European sites, as documented in section 4 of this form, and section 5 if applicable. Approval for the plan or project <u>cannot</u> be given unless either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the plan or project specification, and/or the terms under which it might be approved, are modified so as to remove the risk of adverse effects, and a revised HRA is prepared, or • the plan or project (not being an SSSI consent*) satisfies the requirements for a derogation and a Derogation Notice is prepared and submitted for consideration by the appropriate authority, normally Welsh Ministers <p>(*SSSI consents cannot be given as derogations)</p>	
<p>Signed:</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start; margin-top: 20px;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  <p>Name: Dylan Morgan</p> <p>Date: 27 November 2025</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%; text-align: right;"> <p>Position: Marine Licensing Officer</p> </div> </div>	

Was this HRA conclusion an escalated decision? YES or NO

NO

7. Consultation with the ANCB and how sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this HRA report (as applicable) take into account that advice.

Relevant section of the HRA report	Correspondence and/or meetings with the ANCB	Description of how the comments from the ANCB have been taken into account
2	N/A	HRA not required as there are no conceivable impacts to any European sites. NRW A agree with the conclusion of this HRA
3		
4		
5		

Appropriate nature conservation body (ANCB) response to an internal HRA consultation

This form should be completed by the team or individual providing the ANCB advice to the competent authority team

TO: The Marine Licensing Team

FROM: The Marine Area Advice and Management Team

SUBJECT: Habitats Regulations Assessment of Neath River Bridge Pier 7 Scour Protection Works - Band 2 (Non-Dredge) Marine Licence

Thank you for consulting Marine Area Advice and Management Team on the above. Our comments are as follows:

We agree with the conclusion of the above mentioned HRA, with respect to the marine features of the Kenfig / Cynffig SAC, Limestone Coast of South West Wales / Arfordir Calchfaen De Orllewin Cymru SAC and Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries / Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd SAC all located 10km+ from the proposed works.

We agree that the project has been screened for likelihood of significant effects and taking in advice received from protected site advisors that due to the distance from the designated site features, scale of the works and the measures included in the WFD to minimise pollution risks, it is considered not likely to have a significant effect on the above named Natura 2000 sites.

Signed: *Natalie Muirhead-Davies*

Date: 18/12/2025

9. Appendix - Supporting information

