



Biosecurity Plan Template

Marine Maintenance Dredging

This Biosecurity Plan Template is intended to be used by marine maintenance dredging operators and contractors in order to minimise the risks posed by marine invasive non-native species (INNS), particularly related to minimising spread to new areas. It is difficult to directly manage INNS in the marine environment once they are present, therefore, prevention is key which is recognised in the GB Invasive Non-native Species Strategy (2015)

“Where direct management is not feasible, as is often the case in the marine environment, we will seek to reduce the spread of species by improved and targeted biosecurity”.

There are a number of legislative drivers for this work including the Marine Strategy Framework directive (MSFD); EU IAS (Invasive Alien Species) Regulation and the Wildlife and Countryside Act (W&CA) 1981, Schedule 9. Section 14 of the W&CA states that it is an offence to ‘release or allow to escape into the wild any animal which is not ordinarily resident in Great Britain or any species listed in Schedule 9 of the Act’. Schedule 9 of the act lists a number of marine INNS particularly relevant to marine dredging activities, these include the Chinese mitten crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*), American Oyster Drill (*Urosalpinx cinerea*) and the American Slipper Limpet (*Crepidula fornicata*).

With respect to maintenance dredging activities in Wales and in order for the potential risks posed by these species to be managed in the most effective way it is important that NRW obtain as much information as possible. In certain circumstances where the activity is deemed not to contribute to the further geographic spread of those species on Schedule 9 (W&CA), NRW may issue an exemption in the form of a ‘General Species Licence’, however, this will be assessed as part of the licensing process.

1. Introduction

Maintenance dredging within Aberystwyth Marina using the water injection dredging method. This method has been used within the marina for several years.

Applicant Name: *The Marine & Property Group Ltd*

1.1. Marine Licence reference number: *DML1554*

1.2. Description of Operation: *Maintenance dredging, Aberystwyth Marina*

1.3. Dredge and disposal Site Location(s): *Dredging within Aberystwyth Marina. Coordinates of dredge area provided with the marine licence application, and included in previous marine licences. No disposal site – water injection dredging.*

1.4. Activity period: *One dredging campaign per annum lasting approximately 10-15 days*

1.5. Biosecurity Manager/Officer: *Rob Freemantle*

1.6. Approval Date: *To be completed by NRW Marine Licensing Team*

1.7. Document version number: *V1*

2. Information related to the Environmental conditions affecting biosecurity

	Source environment/location	Receiving environment/location
Marine Non-native species known to be present	<i>No records or evidence of marine non-native species within the marina</i>	<i>n/a</i>

3. Vessels & equipment involved in the operation¹ *(please list all vessels, barges and equipment to be used as part of the maintenance dredging operation – insert additional rows as necessary)*

Vessel name	Photo reference	Vessel type	Details, Risk factors & Justification	Risk:
<i>CMS Innovation</i>	<i>photo 20170329_153946 – see Appendix</i>	<i>Water injection dredger</i>	<i>Vessel is transported to the site by road, so the likelihood of INNS surviving the journey is low.</i>	<i>Low</i>

3.1. Vessel & Disposal site Proposed activity log

In relation to maintenance dredging activities, marine invasive non-native species typically have three main vectors by which spread can potentially occur from one location to another. These are hull fouling, transfer in vessel ballast water and transfer within marine sediments. In order to better understand the potential risks associated to the current operation it is important to outline a brief history of vessel/equipment movements. This includes information such as vessel/equipment recent activity history (including any periods of inactivity) as well as information on ports visited and dredge/disposal site locations associated to the current licensable activity.

¹ The licence holder should update and submit a revised plan as a result of any amendments to the list of vessels and/or equipment to be utilised as part of current licence.

(Please note: a separate row should be inserted for changes in vessel and/or disposal site)

Vessel name	Brief description of vessel activity over the last 12 months	Transit ports (list all ports to be visited on route to the current dredge activity if applicable)	Transit ports arrival and departures		Disposal site name & reference
			Arrival date	Departure date	
CMS Innovation	Water Injection Dredging in UK coastal waters	Burry Port Marina	Oct 2018	Jan 2019	Not applicable – dispersive dredger
		Aberystwyth Marina	April 2018	May 2018	
		Watchet Marina	April 2018	April 2018	
		Cardiff Harbour	February 2019	February 2019	
		Bristol Harbour	February 2019	Ongoing	

4. Activities which have a significant risk of introducing or spreading marine invasive non-native species (Please provide as much detail as possible of how each of the activities have the potential to increase the risk of introduction or onward spread of marine invasive non-native species – insert additional rows as necessary)

Activity and brief description	Details of how this could potentially increase the risk of introducing and/or spreading MINNS	Mitigation and Biosecurity measures to be implemented
Movement of a vessel from one port to another in relation to maintenance dredging activities.	- Inadequate anti-fouling of vessel may cause transfer of certain MINNS from one port to another - Inadequate biosecurity measures related to the cleaning/flushing of equipment and screens before moving to the next location	- Dredger will be transported by road to Aberystwyth Marina, so the likelihood of INNS surviving the journey is low. - On arrival at Aberystwyth Marina, the dredger's hull will be inspected for any invasive marine growth, which will be scraped off and disposed of at suitable waste reception facilities on land prior to the

		dredger entering the water. - Regular antifouling of vessel demonstrated through up-to-date log book.
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5. Mitigation & Biosecurity Control Measures – Instructions for staff/contractors/site users *(insert additional rows as necessary)*

Who	What	Where	When
Vessel skipper	Inspect hull prior to dredger entering the water at Aberystwyth Marina. Remove any invasive marine growth and dispose of at appropriate land-based waste reception facilities. Keep records of hull inspections in the vessel logbook.	Vessel logbook	Prior to vessel entering the water
Vessel Skipper	Ensure vessel logbook is up to date and vessel has conformed to best practice under hull fouling guidance.	Vessel logbook	To be kept up to date during normal operations

6. Operational surveillance and reporting procedure

Not applicable

7. Contingency Plan *(i.e. when changes to the plan necessary and have been identified - insert additional rows as necessary)*

Action	Responsibility	Location of Equipment
Not applicable – if dredging vessel is not available, dredging will not be undertaken until it becomes available.	n/a	n/a

8. Location of biosecurity logbook

Biodiversity Handbook is stored on the vessel.

9. Annual Review Date

1st May 2020

Useful reference documents

IMO Guidelines for the control and management of ships biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species

http://www.imo.org/blast/blastDataHelper.asp?data_id=30766

Shetland Biosecurity Plan

<http://www.nafc.uhi.ac.uk/departments/marine-science-and-technology/BiosecurityPlan.pdf>

Marine Biosecurity Planning Guidance (England & Wales November 2015 – adapted from SNH, Payne, Cook Macleod February 2014)

<https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/downloadDocument.cfm?id=1401>

GB non-natives species secretariat

[Marine biosecurity - key guidance documents and websites](#)

Non - native species records can be accessed via the local record centres

<http://www.lrcwales.org.uk/?AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1>

or the National Biodiversity Network

<http://www.nbn.org.uk/>

or the marine biological Association

<http://www.mba.ac.uk/>

NRW marine experts can also give advice on Non-native species records.

Appendix

Photograph of dredging vessel CMS Innovation

