

WFD Compliance Assessment

OGN 72 Appendix 2 WFD Compliance Assessment template

- In completing this template for a WFD compliance assessment, refer to OGN72 ([link](#)) for definitions, processes and further links to useful websites.

If there are any problems or issues with the information in this desk instruction, you must report it to the responsible Manager Team member named as the owner and guidance.development@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk

Version History

Document Version	Date Published	Summary of Changes	Authorised by
1	September 2020	Document created and ready for trialling	
Review Date: [Month & Year]			

Figure 1: Stage 1 Screening

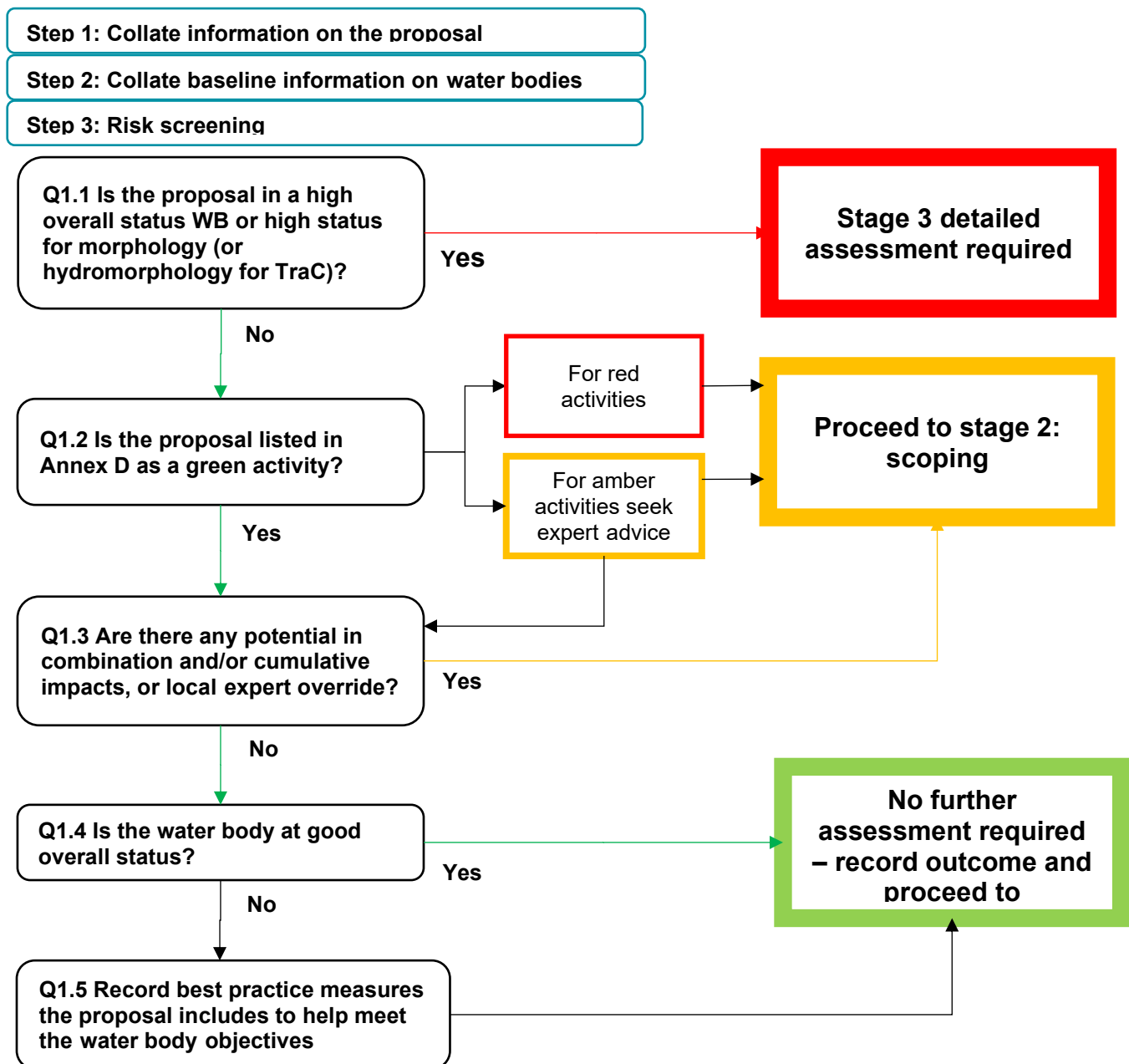
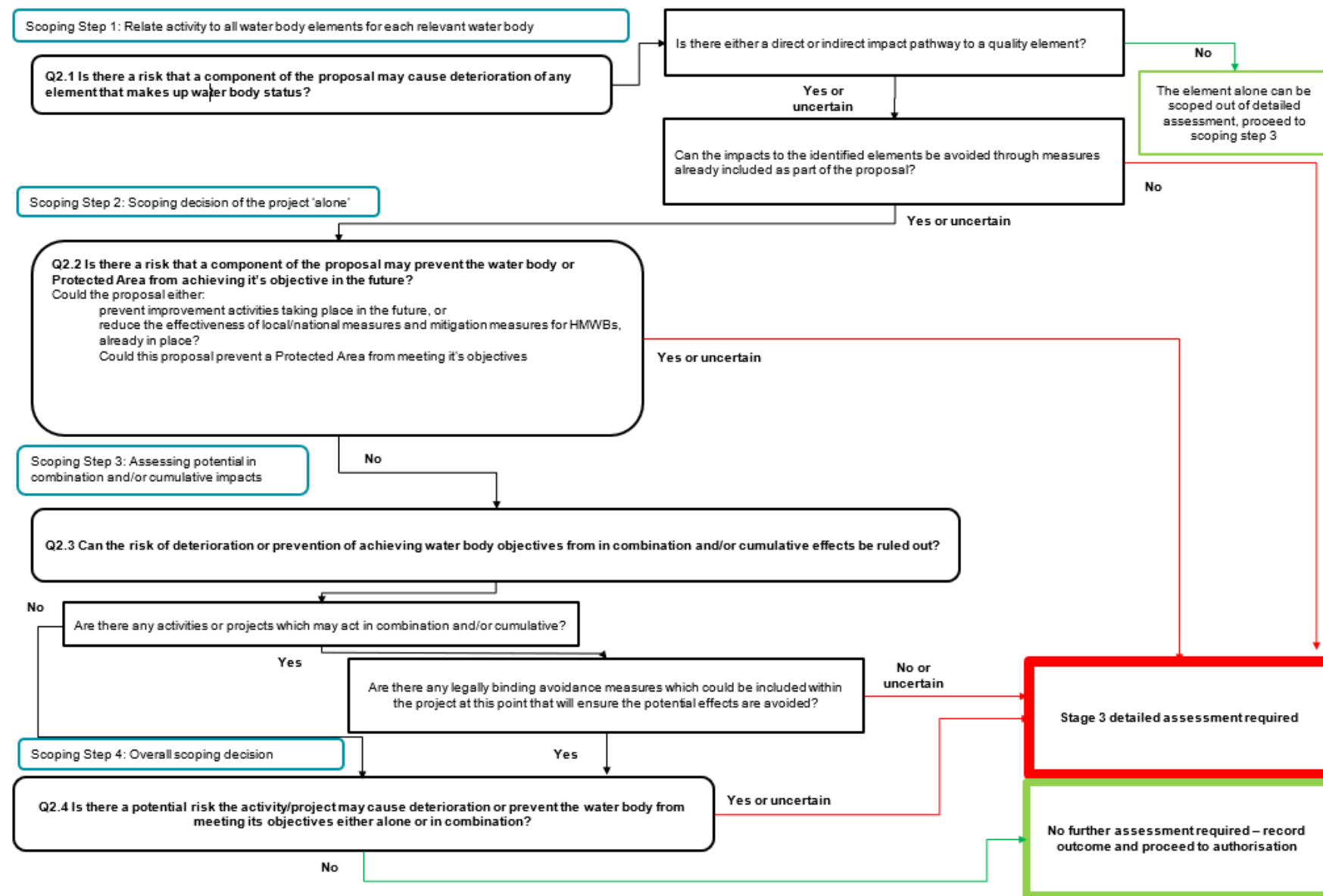
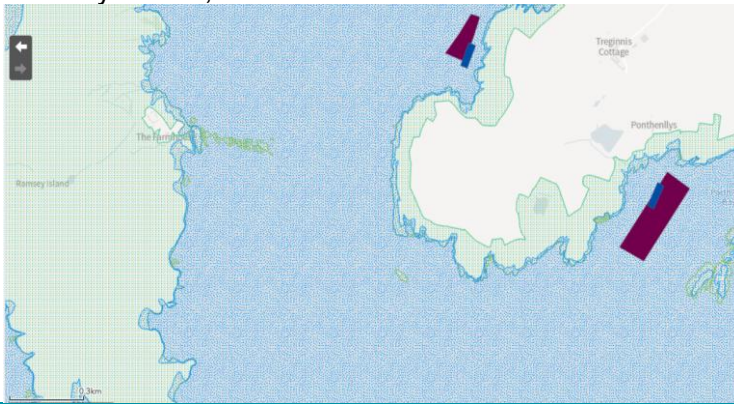


Figure 2: Stage 2 Scoping



WFD Compliance Assessment of Expansion to Car-Y-Mor trial restorative ocean farms in Ramsey Sound

Stage 1 step 1: proposal details.

Project details where an <u>external party</u> has applied to NRW for any form of authorisation		
Project details	Application reference number (if applicable)	DEML2540
	Date application received	Duly made on 09 September 2025
	Applicant details	For the Love of the Sea Ltd
	Activity proposed	Expansions to the existing farms at Carn Ar Wig and Porthlysgi in the Ramsey Sound, Pembrokeshire, currently licensed under DEML2013. Carn Ar Wig will increase to 2Ha and Porthlysgi will increase to 3Ha. Both sites will expand on the same locations as the current sites.
	Relevant legislation	<i>Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2000 establishing a framework for Community action in the field of water policy The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017</i>
	List other permissions that may be required where known	N/A
	Location (include map where appropriate)	Ramsey Sound, Pembrokeshire 
	Application documents <i>Include: Project purpose and background, site map, scaled plan, site photographs and working method statement.</i>	• DEML2540 - 1 - Car-y-Mor Marine License Application Form.docx.pdf • DEML2540 - 2 - Car-Y-Mor license - Method Statement v1.0.docx.pdf • DEML2540 - 3 - Car-Y-Mor license - Env Responsibilities v1.0.docx.pdf • DEML2540 - 7 - Car-Y-Mor license - INNS Biosecurity RA and Management Plan.docx.docx.pdf • DEML2540 - Application Form Section 12a(i) MCA & NRW Advisory Correspondence Evidence.pdf

- DEML2540 - Application Form Section 12a(i) NRW Correspondence Evidence.pdf
- DEML2540 - Application Form Section 12a(i) PCNPA Correspondence Evidence.pdf
- DEML2540 - Application Form Section 12a(i) The Crown Estate Correspondence Evidence.pdf
- DEML2540 - Application Form Section 12a(i) Trinity House Correspondence Evidence.pdf
- DEML2540 - Car y Mor Letters.pdf
- DEML2540 - CYM welsh-national-marine-plan-signposting-en-only.xlsx
- DEML2540 - Figure 1.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 8.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 2.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 3.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 4.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 5.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 6.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 7.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 11.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 9.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 10.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 25 - Porthlysgi Proposed South End DDV Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 14 - Carn Ar Wig Current Farm Sonar Habitat Map.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 15 - Carn Ar Wig Proposed Farm Sonar Habitat Map.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 16 - Porthlysgi Current Farm Sonar Habitat Map.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 17 - Porthlysgi Proposed Farm Sonar Habitat Map.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 18 - Carn Ar Wig Current North End Diver Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 19 - Carn Ar Wig Current South End Diver Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 20 - Porthlysgi Current North End Diver Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 21 - Porthlysgi Current South End Diver Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 22 - Carn Ar Wig Proposed North End DDV Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 23 - Carn Ar Wig Proposed South End DDV Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Figure 24 - Porthlysgi Proposed North End DDV Footage Habitats.pdf
- DEML2540 - Marine Mammal Entanglement Monitoring and Maintenance Log (July 2023-June 2024).xlsx

	• DEML2540 - Section 6c (i)_ Admiralty Chart of Project.pdf • DEML2540 - Section 6c (ii)_ Construction Plan and Sectional Drawings.pdf • DEML2540 - SLVIA v1.pdf • DEML2540 - View point photomontage.pdf • DEML2540 Baseline Benthic Habitat Survey Report - v5.pdf • DEML2540 Car-y-Mor Marine License Application Form .docx • DEML2540 Car y Mor Environmental information to inform HRA.docx • DEML2540 6 - Car-Y-Mor license - Marine Mammal Entanglement protocol REVISED AUG 25.docx • DEML2540 Response to Fitness Checks Questionnaire - Marine Mammals.docx Further Information Submitted 11 December 2025; • DEML2540 7 - Car-Y-Mor license - INNS Biosecurity RA and Management Plan REVISED NOV25.docx • DEML2540 Aquaculture Environmental Management Plan REVISED NOV25.docx • DEML2540 Figure 4 Updated.pdf • DEML2540 Figure 5 Updated.pdf • DEML2540 Figure 11 Updated.pdf • DEML2540 Figure 8 Original.pdf • DEML2540 MARINE EMERGENCY ACTION CARD - Carn Ar Wig REVISED NOV25.docx • DEML2540 Trinity House confirmation email for Nav Lighting.pdf • DEML2540 MARINE EMERGENCY ACTION CARD - Porthlysgi REVISED NOV25.docx • DEML2540 Updated Photomontages (HD).pdf • DEML2540 Further Information Request Point by Point Response as 11122025.pdf
Environmental Statement	N/A
List ongoing maintenance requirements. All structures will require maintenance	Ongoing maintenance of site infrastructure will take place during operations.
Timing of works	No specific timing specified
Pre-application correspondence	N/A
NRW team responsible for drafting this WFD	Marine Licensing Team – Peter Morrison - Lead Specialist Officer

	Compliance Assessment report, and name of lead officer	
	Date of assessment	12 February 2025

Stage 1, step 2: Collate baseline information on all water bodies at risk from the proposal.

Date of classification information: *WFD Coastal Cycle 3 2024 Interim*

WB ID	Water body name	WB type	Management catchment	HMWB	Overall water body status	Ecological status	Chemical status	Hydro-morphology status*	Relevance to the proposal
GB611008590003	Pembrokeshire South	Coastal	Western Wales, Pembrokeshire South	No	Good	Good	High	High	In the Water Body

**where there is no information, or a null value then assume it is at good status for morphology (or hydromorphology for TraC water bodies)

The potential for the proposal to affect the following water bodies was also initially considered, but can be ruled out without further consideration:

Stage 1, Step 3: Risk Screening

Question number	Risk screening questions	Name of activity	Screening decision – delete as appropriate
Q1.1	Is the proposal in a water body at high status or high status for morphology or hydromorphology?	Operation of seaweed and shellfish farm	Yes – complete detailed assessment for each water body
Q1.2	Is the activity listed in Annex D as a green activity? Complete new row for each activity		Yes – go to Q1.3 No – complete scoping assessment for each water body For amber activities then seek expert advice

Question number	Risk screening questions	Name of activity	Screening decision – delete as appropriate
Q1.3	Are there any potential cumulative/in combination impacts? Or is there Local Expert Override*?	Yes/No	Yes – complete scoping assessment for each water body No – go to Q1.4
Q1.4	Is the water body at Good overall status?	Yes/No	Yes, no further WFD assessment needed - Go to Authorisation No - Go to Q1.5
Q1.5	Record best practice measures that the works include to help achieve the objectives of the water body.	Include all measures then proceed to Authorisation section <i>For example, a biosecurity plan to ensure the project/activity doesn't introduce or spread Invasive Non-Native Species.</i>	

**Expert judgement may be required i.e. for complex or cumulative interactions; or a particularly sensitive site/activity (including target water bodies).*

Stage 2: Scoping Assessment for: Pembrokeshire South

Each component of the works should be included, for example: a hydropower scheme may include in-channel impoundment, creation of depleted reach, and bank reinforcement for turbine house. Include vegetation removal/management as a scheme component. Where there is a lack of confidence on whether there is potential risk to an element then these should be scoped in for further assessment.

Stage 2, step 1 – relate activity to all water body elements for each relevant water body

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies Water body name: Pembrokeshire South Water body ID: GB611008590003			
Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
Transitional and Coastal water bodies	Choose one of the following: Direct – risk of direct impact Indirect – risk of indirect impact N/A – no impact pathway N/A – other – include additional text to explain	Further detail on potential impacts. Where N/A is included then provide detail to explain.	Colour text in green if all impacts can be avoided through measures already included in the scheme. Or red for schemes which require detailed assessment
Hydromorphology – hydromorphology constitutes both ‘hydrology’ and ‘geomorphology’ and describes the physical characteristics and processes of a water body. <i>Could the proposal lead to changes in:</i>			

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
- morphological conditions, for example depth variation, the seabed and intertidal zone structure - tidal patterns, for example, dominant currents - wave exposure	Direct – risk of direct impact	Scoped into detailed assessment as current status is high for hydromorphology.	
freshwater flow	N/A – no impact pathway		
Is the proposal in a HMWB?	No		
Water quality An activity can modify the flow of water, introduce artificial materials or remove sediment and/or vegetation. These can all affect the water quality – particularly physico-chemical aspects of water quality - such as levels of dissolved oxygen, nutrients and ammonia.			
Include water quality in the detailed assessment if the activity could affect:			
- water clarity (turbidity or suspended particulate matter concentration) - oxygen levels – dissolved oxygen conditions	Direct – risk of direct impact	The main concern with suspended culture is a predicted increase in sedimentation beneath the lantern nets and longlines, caused by localised reduced flow and increased levels of faeces and pseudofaeces from the mussels and associated epibiota. Generally investigations into the effects of suspended culture on sedimentation rates have shown that minor effects particularly in sheltered sites. These effects can increase local dissolved nutrient levels and result in algal blooms and reduction in dissolved organic levels.	<i>No impact expected due to size and location to the water body level</i>
nutrients - dissolved inorganic nitrogen			

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
		hydrodynamics on reducing the possible impacts. The fast currents in the area will flush away any suspended matter and deposition of organic matter is unlikely. Bivalve farms in intertidal high-energy and well flushed areas have been found to have a low impact on sediments, with high dispersal of organic particles (Gallardi et al. 2014; Campbell et al. 2018). Câr-Y-Môr will ensure that all harvest taken from the farm site will be washed onshore in fresh water at their processing Hub. The wastewater from their processing will be disposed through the areas' traditional Sewage Treatment Works (or septic tank system), which digests any materials in a microbial process, destroying and organic contaminant. Plant waste from the processing will be taken to be composted locally. No waste material from Câr-Y-Môr's processing facility will find its way back into the sea. <i>DEML2540 Car y Mor Environmental information to inform HRA</i> <i>DEML2540 Aquaculture Environmental Management Plan REVISED NOV25.docx</i>	
microbial patterns	Direct – risk of direct impact	All laboratories that Câr-Y-Môr will employ in the duty of seaweed seed production will be fully accredited and work to hygiene standards to ensure no cross contaminated of seaweed	No impact expected to the water body level

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
		stock (or diseases) are brought back to Câr-Y-Môr's site. <i>DEML2540 - 3 - Car-Y-Mor license - Env Responsibilities v1.0</i>	
thermal conditions (including shading)	N/A – no impact pathway		
salinity/conductivity	N/A – no impact pathway		
is in a water body with a phytoplankton or opportunistic macroalgae status of moderate, poor or bad	N/A – no impact pathway		
is in a water body with a history of harmful algae (where there is an existing designation for the area, information should be available; however, local water quality officers will be able to help).	N/A – no impact pathway		
Chemicals - A detailed assessment will also be required if the activity uses or releases chemicals, for example, through sediment disturbance or building works. This is necessary when either the:			
chemicals are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	N/A – no impact pathway	Chemicals will not be used as part of the Project. Any introduction of chemicals to the waterbody will be as a result of accidental release from vessels and/or equipment associated with the Project. No chemicals are to be used as part of the Project. Accidental spills would be avoided through best working practice including pollution incident response, pollution spill kit and any cleanup/absorbing materials as needed.	No impact expected to the water body level

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
		<i>DEML2540 Aquaculture Environmental Management Plan REVISED NOV25.docx</i>	
activity disturbs sediment with contaminants (for estuarine and coastal above Cefas Action Level 1).	N/A – no impact pathway		
or, if the activity releases chemicals on the EQSD list and has a mixing zone, like a discharge pipeline or outfall, follow the Environment Agency's surface water pollution risk assessment guidance. This is part of the Environmental Permitting Regulations guidance.	N/A – no impact pathway		
Biology Identify if the activity or project could impact on the abundance or composition of the biological elements listed below: Biological elements for transitional (T) and coastal (C) waters under the directive are: - Benthic invertebrates (T, C) - Fish (T) - Phytoplankton (T, C) - Macroalgae (T, C) - Angiosperms (T, C) Could the proposal lead to:			
changes to the composition and abundance of aquatic flora	Direct – risk of direct impact	Câr-Y-Môr intend to cultivate several native species of seaweed: Atlantic wakame (<i>Alaria esculenta</i>) and Sugar Kelp (<i>Saccharina latissimi</i>), potentially Oar Weed (<i>Laminaria digitata</i>) and Furbellows (<i>Saccorhiza polyschides</i>). Dulse (<i>Palmaria palmata</i>) and Pepper Dulse (<i>Osmundea pinnatifida</i>) farm them will be available imminently. Fertile seeded stock will	No impact expected to the water body level

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
		be collected from local shore sites and will be cultured onto growing medium at a commercial hatchery. <i>DEML2540 - 3 - Car-Y-Mor license - Env Responsibilities v1.0</i>	
changes to the composition and abundance of benthic invertebrate fauna	Direct – risk of direct impact	The seabed anchoring system sinks well into the coarse benthic materials and are kept well away from any rocky reef systems nearer the shore. Câr-Y-Môr are confident that other than the obvious impacts to the direct spots on which the anchors are set, that operational activities will have a negligible impact on the benthic conditions of the site. This has been discussed with NRW and a Benthic Monitoring Plan for both farm sites set up. Consideration has been given that there are no chemical or feed additions, no faecal or waste deposits and that outputs, beyond the initial damage done during the initial construction phase where anchors are laid, there is negligible impact on benthic habitats. <i>DEML2540 - 3 - Car-Y-Mor license - Env Responsibilities v1.0</i> <i>DEML2540 Baseline Benthic Habitat Survey Report - v5</i>	No impact expected to the water body level
For TraC water bodies - scope in if the footprint (where footprint can be direct or a plume i.e. chemical or thermal; for dredging multiply the area by 1.5x) of your activity is:			
0.5km² or larger	N/A		
1% or more of the water body's area	N/A		

Scoping table for Transitional and Coastal water bodies

Water body name: Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID: GB611008590003

Elements	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
• Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat (see table below)	N/A		
• 1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat (see table below)	N/A		
Fish fauna (Transitional water bodies only): could the proposal lead to:			
• changes to the composition, abundance and age structure of fish fauna	N/A		
• an 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)	N/A		
• entrainment or impingement of fish	N/A		
• refuge/predation areas	N/A		
Or: is the proposal in an estuary and could affect fish in the estuary; is outside the estuary but could delay or prevent fish entering it; or, could affect fish migrating through the estuary	N/A		

Invasive Non-Native Species

Refer to the [Check Clean Dry](#) campaign to help prevent the spread of invasive plants and animals in British waters. You can find out more about INNS on the [GB Non-native Species Secretariat website](#)

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 to other water bodies

Does the activity or project have the potential to introduce or spread INNS to a water body?			
Add in each relevant WB ID Use a separate row for each WB ID	Applicable	Potential Impact (include direct and indirect potential impacts)	Avoidance measures (briefly describe any measure included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided)
	Choose one of the following: Direct – risk of direct impact Indirect – risk of indirect impact N/A – no impact pathway N/A – other – include additional text to explain		Colour text in green if all impacts can be avoided through measures already included in the scheme. Or red for schemes which require detailed assessment
GB611008590003 - Pembrokeshire South	Direct – risk of direct impact	There is a risk of introduction of INNS particularly related to shellfish culture	Impact cannot be ruled out, detailed assessment required.

WFD Protected Areas

If the proposed activity is within, or hydrologically connected to, a WFD Protected Area. If the activity is hydrologically linked, then as a general rule those Protected Areas within 2 km of the proposed activity will be most at risk.

Protected Areas and Critical sensitive habitats/species		
Consider if WFD protected areas are at risk from your activity. These include:	Applicable	How have you considered the potential impacts?
Protected Areas:		
SACs/SPAs/RAMSAR	Yes	Impact on protected sites have been considered within the HRA which concluded no adverse impact was predicted on any European Protected Site.
Bathing Waters	No	
Shellfish Waters	No	
Other Protected and Priority habitats and species.		
Nationally or locally protected areas e.g. SSSI, NNR etc	No	
Section 6 Biodiversity and resilience of ecosystems duty (Environment (Wales) Act 2016) here - other Protected and Priority habitats and species. The S6 duty requires that public authorities must seek to maintain and enhance biodiversity so far as consistent with the proper exercise of their functions and in so doing promote the resilience of ecosystems. Identify if there is a risk that the activity/project could impact on a water dependant priority habitat and or species which are either critical to the ecological health of the water body or sensitive to changes proposed on the water body.		
Section 7 list of priority habitats e.g. wetlands	No	No additional impacts predicted above which that have been considered within the Habitat Regulation Assessment.
Section 7 list of priority species e.g. water voles	No	No additional impacts predicted above which that have been considered within the Habitat Regulation Assessment.
Ecosystem Resilience		
The Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Section 3 states that the objective of the sustainable management of natural resources is to maintain and enhance the resilience of ecosystems and the benefits they provide now and for future generations		
Consideration of ecosystem resilience – diversity, extent, condition, connectivity.		Multitrophic farming has the potential to provide habitat enhancements by increasing habitat complexity resulting in enhanced biodiversity.

Stage 2, step 2: Scoping decision of the project ‘alone’

Scoping assessment	Scoping decisions
Q2.1 Is there a risk that a component of the proposal may cause deterioration of any element that makes up water body status?	<i>No. Impact can be avoided</i>
Q2.2 Is there a risk that a component of the proposal may prevent the water body or Protected Area from achieving its objectives in the future?	<i>No. Impact can be avoided</i>

Stage 2, step 3: Assessing potential in combination and/or cumulative impacts

It is important to consider the in combination and/or cumulative effects of pressures in a water body and the combined impacts of the proposed activity.

Do not include activities which have not yet been applied for, unless the activity is well defined and there are solid reasons for believing that it will be taken forward. Consult with [technical advisors](#) as required.

Avoidance measures - Describe any conditions, restrictions or other measures, if any, applicable to the activity/project, and/or to the other activities giving rise to the in combination / cumulative effect, which could remove the risk of deterioration or prevent of achieving water body objectives. Include details of how such measures would be applied, and who would be responsible for applying them.

If required, further details can be provided in separate clearly referenced documents.

Are there any activities or projects which may act in combination and/or cumulative? <i>If none, put 'N/A'</i>	Nature of the in-combination/cumulative effect (if any)	Avoidance measures Are there any legally binding avoidance measures which could be included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided?	Can the risk of deterioration or prevention of achieving water body objectives from in combination/ cumulative effects be ruled out? 'YES' or 'NO' or 'DON'T KNOW'
<i>None identified</i>			
Scoping decision of the project cumulatively or 'in combination'		Potential cumulative/in combination impacts conclusion	
Q2.3 Can the risk of deterioration or prevention of achieving water body objectives from in combination and or cumulative effects be ruled out?	(a) If the right-hand column is 'YES' in all cases	It can be concluded that potential deterioration or prevention of achieving water body objectives from in combination / cumulative effects can be ruled out	
	(b) If any row is 'NO' or 'Don't know' in the right-hand column	It cannot be concluded that potential deterioration or prevention of achieving water body objectives from in combination / cumulative effects can be ruled out	

Stage 2, Step 4: Overall scoping decision

Scoping assessment	Scoping decisions
Overall scoping decision Q2.4 Is there a potential risk that the proposal may cause deterioration or prevent a water body from meeting its objectives either alone or in combination? <i>(choose one of the following options and delete the other)</i>	There is no risk of deterioration or prevention of the water body achieving its objectives as a result of the proposal, either alone or in combination, and no further consideration under the Water Framework Directive/Regulations is required in order to determine the application. If this section is selected, delete Q2.5 and Stage 3. There is a risk the proposal may cause deterioration or prevent the water body from meeting its objectives and therefore a detailed compliance assessment might be required if no mitigation measures that can be included at Q2.5. If this section is selected, complete Q2.5.
Q2.5 Mitigation measures Are there any legally binding mitigation measures which could be included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided? Describe any conditions, restrictions or other measures, if any, applicable to the activity/project, which could remove the risk of deterioration or prevent of achieving water body objectives. Include details of how such measures would be applied, and who would be responsible for applying them. <i>If required, further details can be provided in separate clearly referenced documents.</i>	There is a risk the proposal may cause deterioration or prevent the water body from meeting its objectives however the following legally binding avoidance measures will be included within the project at this point that will ensure the potential effects are avoided. List the legally binding avoidance measures that will be included in the consent/permit/authorisation, and who will be responsible for applying them. If this section is selected, delete Stage 3. There is a risk the proposal may cause deterioration or prevent the water body from meeting its objectives and therefore a detailed compliance assessment is required. There are no mitigation measures that can be included at this stage. If this section is selected, complete Stage 3.

Stage 3: Detailed Assessment

The amount of information provided at this stage will vary depending on the scale and nature of the project and its potential environmental effects. The detail presented at this stage should be proportionate to the scale of the project and its potential risks. For complex cases then a separate report for detailed assessment would be appropriate. For example, if the only aspect of a project being scoped in to stage 3 is the risk of chemical spills during a construction activity and the mitigation being proposed is a Construction Environmental Management Plan to ensure adequate management of the risks are in place then this may be best presented as a simple table. On the other end of the scale, for a complex project we would expect to see the evidence presented of the underpinning assessments for all aspects of the project that had been scoped in to Stage 3. This information is likely to be drawn from modelling studies and other assessments carried out as part of the wider EIA process where relevant and this should cover the following as a minimum:

Assessing for Deterioration

Deterioration in this context refers to deterioration from one status class to a lower one, unless the element is already at bad status and then this also includes within class deterioration.

Temporary effects do not count as deterioration if the water body/ies in question would recover within a short period of time.

Consider if the effects arising from the project are:

- Direct or indirect/secondary
- Alone or in combination; cumulative
- Ensure all stages of the project have been covered in the assessment where relevant, including construction, operation and maintenance, decommissioning

If stage 3 identifies a risk of deterioration, then avoidance of the impact must be considered. If this is not practicable, mitigation should be then considered to reduce the effects as far as is possible. In this context, mitigation can only apply to the water body/ies which are at risk of deterioration, it does not include compensation in other water bodies.

Protected Areas

This stage should also consider the impact of the activity on each of the protected areas identified at the scoping stage.

If it is identified that there is a potential to impact to a SAC/SPA/RAMSAR site, then an HRA must also be carried out; this should be clearly referenced within this section if so.

Assessment of Invasive and Non-native Species (INNS)

If there is a risk of the project introducing or spreading INNS, then a Biosecurity Risk Assessment must also be carried out in association with the project and clearly referenced within this section.

Jeopardising Good Status

If the water body being assessed is at less than good status, it will have the objective of achieving good status by a set date. If this is the case, it must be assessed whether the project will jeopardise the attainment of good status. This is done by assessing if the project may impact upon any improvement measures being currently carried out in the water body by conflicting with them or reducing their effectiveness. A list of water body improvement measures can be found in the RBMPs.

HMWBs – Jeopardising Mitigation Measures

If the water body in question is designated as a HMWB, then there will be a set of water body mitigation measures associated with it. This stage of the assessment must also consider if the project is in conflict with the water body mitigation measures either now or in future. The list of water body mitigation measures can be found on [Water Watch Wales](#).

Stage 3 decision table.

Water body name & ID	WFD element/s scoped in	Description of impacts; include a list of all evidence documents to inform the detailed assessment	Mitigation measures	Is there risk of the activity preventing the water body/ PA from meeting its objectives?* 'YES' or 'NO'	Can the risk of deterioration be ruled out?* 'YES' or 'NO'
GB611008590003 - Pembrokeshire South	INNS	There is no evidence that seaweed diseases have been transferred as a result of seaweed culture, unlike other forms of finfish, crustacean and mollusc culture where there are many documented examples of translocation of pathogens as a result of movements of cultured animals (Welcomme, 1988; NCC, 1989). The risks of introducing pathogens and invasive species with seedstock, juvenile shellfish or on equipment or footwear will be reduced by strict cleaning and checking procedures, and through regular inspections. The introduction of non-native species will be controlled through the continued implementation of the INNS Biosecurity Protocol submitted with this application. No Pacific Oysters are reported in Ramsey Sound – strict procedures will be followed to ensure none are introduced. Additionally, the Society's INNS Biosecurity protocol encourages all involved to be vigilant for non-native species using the sites as stepping stones. Samples from header and cultivation ropes are taken as part of work done on the farms so if the site is used as a stepping stone it has a good chance of	Provision of and adherence to a Biosecurity Risk Assessment to be conditioned to the licence	NO	YES

		being identified. Any non-native species will be reported and removed. Antifouling on vessels will be maintained up-to-date with once a year anti fouling paint applied. A thorough inspection protocol to be followed where all shellfish is to be cleaned and inspected on land before deployment to the farms. All personnel will be trained on correct procedures listed in the Plan. DEML2540 - 7 - Car-Y-Mor license - INNS Biosecurity RA and Management Plan DEML2540 Car Y Mor WFD Detailed Assessment application (1) DEML2540 7 - Car-Y-Mor license - INNS Biosecurity RA and Management Plan REVISED NOV25.docx NRW A in response dated 22 January noted that further detail was required surrounding the sourcing of oyster and scallop stocks to be introduced at the farm.			
GB611008590003 - Pembrokeshire South	Hydromorphology	It is possible that large areas of dense seaweed can affect local hydromorphological conditions. However, the Ramsey Sound area is highly dynamic and the areas of proposed seaweed farms (Carn Ar Wig and Porthlysgi 2 and 3Ha sites respectively) are relatively small in relation to the total water body area (41,332 ha). Moreover, the proposed farm will cultivate both shellfish and seaweed, resulting in reduced seaweed lines density. Both characteristics of the development will limit limits the effect to levels that will not be detectable to the water body level. <i>DEML2540 Physical Processes Assessment for Small-Scale Coastal Project_ Câr-y-Môr</i> No impact expected due to size and location to the water body level	n/a	NO	YES

* Where there is uncertainty if the proposed activity may prevent a water body or PA from meeting its objectives or may cause deterioration then we must follow a precautionary approach, contact the Integrated Water Planning team for further advice.

Conclusion of WFD Compliance Assessment & Authorisation

~~WFD stage 1 screening has been completed and the activity/project have been ruled out as not requiring any further WFD assessment. Or, further assessment is not required because there is no conceivable impact pathway to any water body or Protected Area.~~

~~WFD stage 2 scoping has been completed and the activity/project is considered as having no risk of causing deterioration or preventing any water body or WFD Protected Area from reaching its objectives and taking account of the advice from technical officers—is considered compliant with the Water Framework Directive/Regulations.~~

In light of the conclusions of a detailed compliance assessment (Stage 3), and taking account of the advice received from technical specialist advisors, it has been established that the activity/project has no potential to cause deterioration of any water body or prevent a water body or WFD Protected Area from meeting its objectives, taking into account any conditions or restrictions as applicable, either alone or in-combination with other activities.

~~In light of the conclusions of the detailed compliance assessment, it has **not** been ascertained that the project has no potential to cause deterioration or prevent water bodies or WFD Protected Areas from meeting their objectives, as documented in stage 3 of this form. If the conclusion of stage 3 detailed compliance assessment identifies a risk of deterioration of one or more water bodies that cannot be mitigated or may prevent a water body or WFD Protected Area from meeting its objectives, then **approval for the project cannot be given unless either:**~~

- ~~• the project specification, and/or the terms under which it might be approved, are modified so as to remove the risk of deterioration or prevention of achievement of objectives, and a revised compliance assessment report is prepared, or~~
- ~~• the project satisfies the requirements of Article 4.7 (including 4.8 & 4.9) of the Water Framework Directive, and is approved by the NRW executive team.~~

Completed by	Peter Morrison
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Job title	Lead Specialist Officer, Marine Licensing Team
Date	12 February 2026

Consultation with technical advisors/specialists

Relevant section of the WFD compliance assessment	Date(s) of correspondence* and any meeting(s) with technical advisor(s) and include the name of the technical advisor	Description of how the comments from technical advisors have been considered
	30/10/2025	NRW advice received confirms that are content with the conclusion of the WFD.