

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**

Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment.....	3
1. Plan or Project Details	3
2. Determining the need for a Habitats Regulations Assessment.....	5
6. Conclusion.....	7
7. Consultation with the ANCB and how sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this HRA report (as applicable) take into account that advice.	8
9. Appendix - Supporting information.....	9

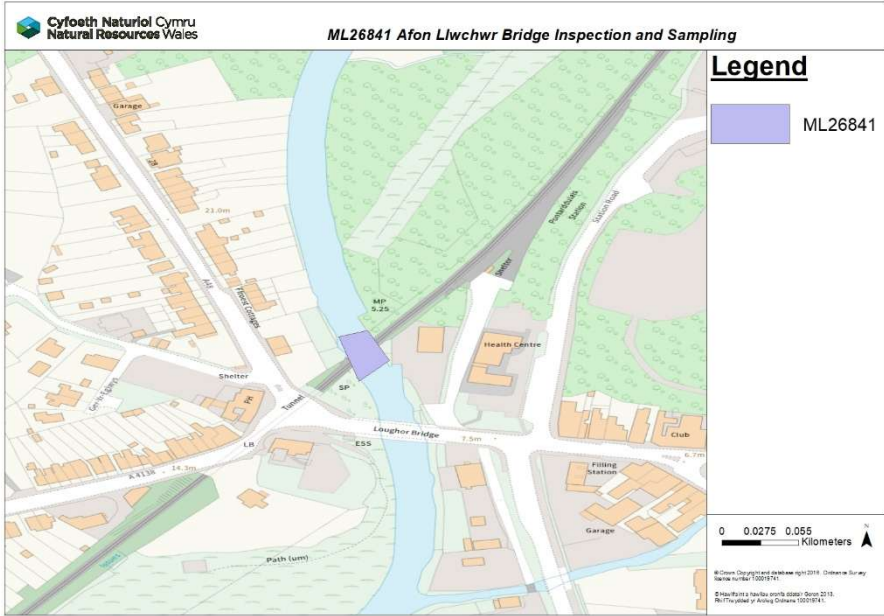
OGN 200 Form 1B

Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment

Plan or project name, brief description or application reference number	ML26841 - Afon Lluchwr Bridge Inspection and Sampling
HRA iteration/version	N/A

1. Plan or Project Details

Information about the plan or project		
1	Date application received	30 June 2026
2	Applicant details	M Group Transport (Rail & Aviation) Limited, Abel Smith House, Gunnels Wood Road, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, England, SG1 2ST Company number: 01450372 Agent: EcoVigour Ltd.
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	Construction of working platform (floating pontoon) and small scaffold tower to inspect and take samples of a railway bridge.

		Works are to carry out testing and inspection of metallic elements of existing rail structure. Access to the space below the structure will be undertaken using a modular pontoon, which will be removed from the watercourse after each shift. All shifts are to occur during daytime conditions, during normal manageable flow conditions. An impermeable membrane will be setup within the pontoon, in order to capture an arising the fall away from the structure during sampling and metal work inspections. Works are anticipated to take no more than a week to complete.
5	Relevant legislation or statutory basis	Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009
6	Location	Afon Llŵchwr Railway Bridge, Pontarddulais 
7	Plan or project documents, including any application documents	ML26841 Application Form ML26841 Application Form Amendments (to Signed) ML26841 1184 - Location Table ML26841 BAND 1 Applications - 0366 & 1184 (RCAHWW) ML26841 Re_ Notice of Upcoming Band 1 Marine Applications - 0366 & 1184 (Navigation Safety)

		ML26841 RE_ Notice of Upcoming Band 1 Marine Applications (trinity) - 0366 & 1184 ML26841 1184 - Afon Llŵchwr Bridge – Location ML26841 1184 - Afon Llŵchwr Bridge - WNMP SIGNPOST DOCUMENT ML26841 MGroup Methodology Outline - 1184 - Afon Llŵchwr Bridge - Rev1
8	Environmental Statement	N/A
9	Pre-application correspondence	N/A
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?	NO The location of works is located approximately 3.0km & 8.90km upstream of the below listed designated European sites, as such due to the small scale, minimally invasive nature of the works and short-term duration of the works, there are no conceivable impacts or LSE to the nearby European sites listed below. As such, a HRA is not required. • Carmarthen Bay and Estuaries / Bae Caerfyrddin ac Aberoedd SAC – approximately 3.0km downstream of work location • Burry Inlet Ramsar & Burry Inlet SPA – approximately 8.90km downstream of work location
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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

HRA is not required because there is no conceivable impact on any European sites. (As documented in section 2.1)	X
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)	
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)	
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)	
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)	
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: - 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 (*SSSI consents cannot be given as derogations)	
Signed:  Name: Dylan Morgan Position: Marine Licensing Officer Date: 09 July 2026	
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 due to location, nature, timeframe and small scale of works.
3		
4		
5		

9. Appendix - Supporting information

