

Form WRE: Application for a new impoundment licence, technical variation to an impoundment licence or the removal of an existing impoundment

Reference number (The number you generated in form WRA). Example: WRNATURALRESOURCESWALES1101

WRNBHYDRO08072026

Are you applying for a licence for a new impoundment or an existing impoundment

removal of an impoundment

Impoundment details

All information should correspond with any maps and drawings submitted with this application

	Impoundment location name/reference	Left bank National Grid Reference	Right bank National Grid Reference
	Bryn Cemlyn Hydro Intake	SH 72827 22780	SH 72827 22778
	-	-	-
	-	-	-

Provide details about the type of impoundment you propose to construct at the points specified above and how the works will operate. This should include a description of any existing works and how your proposal will affect the flow of inland water.

Tell us the purpose of the works. If the water is to be impounded for more than one purpose, list both the primary and secondary purpose

This is an existing hydropower intake. It was licenced under licence number WA/064/0003/005/V001 but this was receded due to death of the licence holder and the family being unaware they needed to notify NRW within 15 months. The hydro scheme has not been operational since May 2025 but is still in operational condition.

The impoundment features a pipe to deliver HOF, two notches - the screen notch and the flow split notch, an overshot, perforated steel screen and a gravity fed outfal pipe. The weir wall is constructed from oak sleepers.

Description of impoundment

Name of watercourse

Un named tributary of the Afon Mawddach

Will your proposed impoundment result in a change to the submerged area (downstream) or new submerged areas behind (upstream of) the impounding works?
(If yes, ensure this is shown on any map or drawings submitted)

Yes

Will the ponded area created by the impoundment be lined?

No

Give the height of the impoundment structure, from the downstream toe to crest or top of spillway (in metres above Ordnance Datum). If the proposal involves an existing impoundment, state the change in height (in millimetres).

1400mm

What is the overflow or crest level of the impoundment (in metres above Ordnance Datum)?

82.9m

Will the proposal create a raised reservoir?

(A raised reservoir is one where water is stored at a level above the natural level of the lowest level of the surrounding area.)

Yes

What is the proposed capacity of the impoundment when full to spillway level (in cubic metres)?

3m3 approx

Does the proposal involve the controlled release of water to safeguard downstream flows?

This could be the release of flood attenuation flows, reservoir compensation flows or a residual flow via a notch or orifice.

Yes

Tell us what the proposed flow at the outlet will be and how you intend to measure this. If the works involve monitoring of levels or flows, include details of this.

The design of the intakes are failsafe in that the Hands off Flow (HOF) notch is set below the level of the screen notch so that water cannot be physically abstracted unless the HOF is flowing downstream. The site will be regularly visited to monitor this.
Abstracted flows are measured using an electricity meter in the turbine house and the HAF (Hydro Abstraction Factor).

Is the impounded water to be used for a subsequent purpose?

Yes

Provide details of subsequent purpose (for abstractions, state the daily and annual quantities in cubic metres).

Used for 3.7kW hydro scheme. 1080m³/day. 374,760 m³/year.

How will the impounded area be filled initially, and subsequently refilled if applicable?

Example: by rainwater, overland flow or pumped from another source.

It's existing so already filled with stream water.

Fish and eel passage

Confirm the fish species present at your site.

Unlikely to be any as such a small and incredibly steep stream (deprived reach gradient 25%)

Please confirm type of fish screen

Intake Overshot perforated screen

Outfall none

Please confirm screen height and width - intake (millimetres)

Width 990mm

Height 400mm

Please confirm screen height and width - outfall (millimetres)

Width none

Height none

Please confirm screen aperture size (millimetres)

Intake 3mm

Outfall none

Please confirm type of upstream fish/eel passage intake

Not required

Please confirm type of downstream fish/eel passage

Not required

Please confirm proposed flow for fish pass

Not required

Construction, maintenance and operation

Provide details of maintenance or activities relating to the operation of the impoundment. Include the extent and frequency of activities. This could include the operation of scour valves or maintenance of a fish pass.

Describe any sediment management plan associated with the impoundment.

Periodic visits to clean screen and to unblock HOF orifice if necessary.

Do you intend to divert the flow of the inland water while you are building, changing or removing the impounding works?

No

Proposed Design of Structure

Upload design drawings and calculations here. (Spreadsheet file formats need to be: .xls, .xlsx, or .ods)

- File: Design statement for abstraction licence.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: Low Flows Report Bryn Cemlyn.pdf - [Download](#)
- File: Bryn Cemlyn Intake as built v2.pdf - [Download](#)

Please upload your stage 1 geomorphology photosurvey. Find out more on how to complete your survey on our Geomorphology Photosurveys for Hydropower developments page (opens in new tab)

- File: Note on geomorphology survey.pdf - [Download](#)

Other permissions

Planning permission advice received?

Yes

Is planning permission required?

Yes

What is the status of the planning permission?

Approved

Planning permission reference

NP5/60/136

Have you applied for or do you hold a Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) for the proposed works?

No

Commercial confidentiality and national security

Are you applying for Commercial Confidentiality?

No

Have you applied to the Welsh Ministers for national security for your application?

No

Declaration

By signing below, you are declaring that, to the best of your knowledge; the information given in this form, on any map and in any supporting or additional information; is true.

Signed Mrs Eirian Davenport

Print name Eirian Davenport

Position Partner

Date

* 09/07/2026

Submit your application

Enter your email address to get a copy of your application

nick@nbhydro.co.uk