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

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OGN 200 Form 1B

Record of a Habitats Regulations Assessment

Plan or project name, brief description or application reference number	ML26873 - Fairbourne Sewage Treatment Works Effluent Pipe Repair
HRA iteration/version	N/A

1. Plan or Project Details

Information about the plan or project		
1	**Date application received**	02 October 2026
2	**Applicant details**	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW)
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**	Excavation of beach sediment using an 8-tonne tracked excavator and by hand, to uncover and expose the leaking effluent pipe. Excavator to access the beach working area by tracking up the beach area as per *ML26873 Proposed Access Route CRM_0271040* & *ML26873 RAMS 001 Excavation Works - Fairbourne Beach rev02.docx*. Excavated material will be side-casted. The pipe will be cut using a combination of a brickwork/masonry saw and a handheld angle grinder. The repair piece will cut to the

		required length on site using the brickwork/masonry saw and placed in situ prior to being clamped in place with proprietary couplings. DCWW and Sapphire operatives to jointly remove the isolation and restore flows through the pipe to check, if possible, that the asset repair is holding. Once confirmed, backfill of beach sediment and reinstating the beach surface to its original condition will take place.
5	**Relevant legislation or statutory basis**	Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009
6	**Location**	Fairbourne Beach, Gwynedd
7	**Plan or project documents, including any application documents**	• ML26873 Fairbourne Beach License Area.jpg • ML26873 RAMS 001 Excavation Works - Fairbourne Beach rev02.docx • ML26873 Gwynedd Maritime Correspondence.msg • ML26873 Trinity House Correspondence.msg • ML26873 RCAHMW Correspondence.msg • ML26873 Fairbourne Final Effluent Long Sea Outfall.msg • ML26873 Proposed Access Route CRM_0271040 • ML26873 MCA Correspondence.msg • ML26873 Updated Coordinates.png
8	**Environmental Statement**	N/A
9	**Pre-application correspondence**	Returned application - ML26840
10	**NRW team responsible for preparing this HRA report, and lead officer**	Marine Licensing Team – Dylan Morgan – Marine Licensing Officer
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?	YES
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?	NO
~~**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?**~~	

3. Considering the likelihood of a significant effect (LSE)

3.1 Renewal of a project authorisation on the same or more restrictive terms as an extant authorisation

Is this a renewal of an extant authorisation which complies with NRW approved criteria for ruling out significant effects of renewals (see Part 2 of OGN200) without conducting a project-specific LSE test?	NO

3.2 Likelihood of significant effects (LSE) test

3.2.1 Which European sites might be affected by the plan or project?

(a)	**Based on the plan or project specification, or information provided in the application, it is considered that these European sites have features which could be negatively affected by the plan or project**	**Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau/Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC [UK0013117]**

(b)	**The potential for the plan or project to negatively affect these European sites was also initially considered, but can be ruled out without further consideration**	• Northern Cardigan Bay / Gogledd Bae Ceredigion SPA – approximately 3km from the location of the proposed works at Fairbourne Beach • West Wales Marine / Gorllewin Cymru Forol SAC – approximately 11.2km from the location of the proposed works at Fairbourne Beach The above designated European sites have been ruled out due to distance, short-term & small-scale minimally invasive nature of the proposed works.

3.2.2 Screening for likelihood of significant effect

Table 3.2.2 Screening assessment

Designated site feature	**Relevant conservation objectives**	**Screening conclusion – 'SCREEN OUT', 'SCREEN IN' or 'IN COMB'**	**Explanation**
Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau/Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC			
Reefs	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf	SCREEN OUT	Screened out due to no impact pathway as a result of the proposed works.
Large Shallow inlets and bays	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		

Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater at all times	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		
Estuaries	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf	SCREEN IN	Proposed works are located within this feature, as such an LSE cannot be ruled out at this stage.
Coastal lagoons	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf	SCREEN OUT	Screened out due to no impact pathway as a result of the proposed works.
Mudflats and Sandflats	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf	SCREEN IN	Proposed works are located within this feature, as such an LSE cannot be ruled out at this stage.
Atlantic salt meadow	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf	SCREEN OUT	Screened out due to no impact pathway as a result of the proposed works.
Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand feature	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		
Bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus*	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		

Grey Seal ***Halichoerus grypus***	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		Screened out due to the short-term, minimally invasive nature of the proposed works when considered within the entire/wider area of the SAC. As such, any impact pathway resulting from the proposed works would be minimal and temporary given that the works are proposed to last up to 1 day.
Otter ***Lutra lutra***	NRW conservation objectives : conservation-advice-for-pen-llŷn-ar-sarnau-sac.pdf		

TABLE 3.2.3 Screening decision of the plan or project 'alone'	
~~**(a) If the screening conclusion for all features for all sites in Table 3.2.2 is 'SCREEN OUT'**~~	~~**The plan or project is not likely to have a significant effect on any European site, and no further consideration under the Habitats Regulations is required in order to determine the approval/application.**~~
(b) If the conclusion for any features in Table 3.2.2 is 'SCREEN IN'	**The plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on one or more European sites and therefore an appropriate assessment is required.**
~~**(c) If there are no features in Table 3.2.2 that are 'SCREEN IN' and any features that are 'IN COMB'**~~	~~**The plan or project is not likely to have a significant effect on any European sites when considered alone, but the possibility of significant effects in combination with other plans and projects needs to be considered.**~~

4. Appropriate assessment of the plan or project when considered alone

4.1 Assessment of plan or project as defined

Table 4.1 Appropriate assessment			
European site feature/s	**Description of impacts**	**Assessment in view of conservation objectives**	**Can adverse effect on site integrity be ruled out? 'YES' or 'NO'**
European site name: Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau/Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC [UK0013117]			
Estuaries Mudflats and sandflats	Disturbance to site features Damage to site features INNS Pollution Habitat loss	Given the short-term (works to last ~1 day) duration and minimally invasive nature of the works, an adverse effect on site integrity can be ruled out when considering the scale of the proposed works within the wider scale of the whole SAC. Additionally, the proposed works are confined to the sediment/shingle-bank around MHWS, and as such impacts to these features will be minimal and will return to their natural state with the tide cycle. Furthermore, standard & activity-specific licence conditions will mitigate the likelihood & significance of any potential impacts.	YES

4.2 Appropriate assessment of the plan or project taking into account additional conditions or restrictions imposed by the competent authority

Table 4.2 Appropriate assessment of the plan or project taking into account additional conditions or restrictions				
European site name:				
European site Feature	**Adverse effect(s)**	**Can adverse effect(s) be mitigated by additional imposed conditions or restrictions? 'YES' or 'NO'**	**Additional imposed mitigation measure(s)**	**Can adverse effect on site integrity be ruled out? 'YES' or 'NO'**
European site name:				

4.3 Concluding the appropriate assessment of the plan or project alone

Table 4.3 Conclusion of the appropriate assessment alone	
(a) If Table 4.1, or the right-hand column of Table 4.2 if applicable, is 'YES' for all features	**It has been ascertained that the plan or project, when considered alone, will not adversely affect the integrity of any European sites.**
(b) If there are any 'NO's in the right-hand column of Table 4.2	~~**It has not been ascertained that the plan or project, when considered alone, will not adversely affect the integrity of one or more European sites.**~~
(c) Are there are any residual effects of the plan or project (net of mitigation measures) which, though not adverse on their own, could be significant when considered in combination with the effects of other plans or projects?	NO

6. Conclusion

HRA is not required because there is no conceivable impact on any European sites. (As documented in section 2.1)	
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, and 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)	**X**
In light of the conclusions of the appropriate assessment, it has not 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 cannot 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:** 23 October 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		
3		
4	Consultation w/ NRW Advisory	NRW A agree with the conclusion of this HRA.
5		

8. Countersignature

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

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 autority team

TO: Dylan Morgan
FROM: Rachael Castle
SUBJECT: Habitats Regulations Assessment of Fairbourne Sewage Treatment Works Final Effluent Pipe Repair

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 Pen Llyn a'r Sarnau/Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau SAC [UK0013117].

We agree that the project has been taken to appropriate assessment and it is established that that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of the above named Natura 2000 site.

Signed: *R Castle*

Date: 04/11/2026

9. Appendix - Supporting information

