

**Assessment of Likely Significant Effects
(Habitats Regulations Stage 1 – Screening)**



Cardigan Bay and West Wales Marine Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)s

The purpose of the following assessment is to determine whether the proposed activities are considered under the Habitats Regulations¹ as likely to have a significant effect, alone or in combination with other plans and projects, on one or more Natura 2000 sites.

¹ Regulation 63 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)

Proposed activity/project:	Llangrannog Sea Outfall Pipe Reactive Work - Ground Investigation
National Grid reference:	SN309542
Site reference:	Llangrannog Beach, Ceredigion
Brief description of proposal:	<p>Llangrannog beach is located in south-west Ceredigion. The asset is located within Cardigan Bay SAC and Aberarth-Carreg Wylan SSSI, and partly within the West Wales Marine SAC.</p> <p>A final effluent outfall pipe became exposed on Llangrannog beach. It first appeared in 2018 and has continued to rise since then. It is believed that the concrete anchor points have broken, releasing the pipe. Three potential solutions have been identified, but before a decision can be made, it is necessary to undertake a series of three trial holes to investigate the ground conditions along the route of the pipe. The holes will be located within Cardigan Bay SAC and the SSSI, but outside the West Wales Marine SAC.</p> <p>The ground investigation will be undertaken at low tide. Digging the trial holes will involve the use of a single excavator. Each hole will be backfilled prior to the next one commencing. The dimensions of the holes will be:</p> <p>TH1 - 2m x 1m x 2m deep TH2 - 2m x 1m x 1.1m deep TH3 - 2m x 1m x 1.1m deep</p> <p>No refuelling will occur on the beach and spill kits will be present while works are undertaken. A toothless bucket will be used to avoid damaging the main. No other machinery will be allowed on the beach. See Method Statement and drawing for further information.</p>
European site name(s) and status:	Cardigan Bay SAC and West Wales Marine SAC
List of qualifying features:	<p>Cardigan Bay SAC</p> <p>Habitats:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time • Reefs • Submerged or partially submerged sea caves <p>Species:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> • Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • River lamprey <i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> • Sea lamprey <i>Petromyzon marinus</i> <p>West Wales Marine SAC Harbour porpoise <i>Phocoena phocoena</i></p>	
Is the proposal directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site for nature conservation?	No.	
What potential hazards are likely to affect the qualifying features? Are the qualifying features potentially exposed to the hazard?		
Qualifying Feature:	Potential hazards:	Potential exposure to hazards and mechanism of effect/impact if known:
None	None	N/A
What potential hazards are likely to affect the qualifying features during the operational phase? Are the qualifying features potentially exposed to the hazard?		
Not applicable, as there is no operational phase.		
Is the potential scale or magnitude of any effect likely to be significant?		
a) Alone?	No, the small holes will be dug and backfilled prior to the tide coming in. No impact is expected on any features of the SACs.	
b) In combination with other permissions and/or other plans or projects?	Due to the small scale of the proposed ground investigations, it is not conceived that there will be any impact, either alone or in combination with other projects. Dŵr Cymru has no proposed activities/projects in this area.	
c) In combination with permissions and/or plans/projects of other Competent Authorities?	Due to the small scale of the proposed ground investigations, it is not conceived that there will be any impact, either alone or in combination with other projects.	
Conclusion - Is the proposal likely to have a significant effect 'alone and/or in combination' on a European site?	No, the proposed ground investigations are not likely to have a significant effect on either Natura 2000 site.	
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