

## Water Framework Directive assessment: scoping template for activities in estuarine and coastal waters

Use this template to record the findings of the scoping stage of your Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment for an activity in an estuary or coastal water.

If your activity will:

- take place in or affect more than one water body, complete a template for each water body
- include several different activities or stages as part of a larger project, complete a template for each activity as part of your overall WFD assessment

The [WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters](#) will help you complete the table.

Your activity	Description, notes or more information
Applicant name	Dwr Cymru-Welsh Water
Application reference number (where applicable)	-
Name of activity	Llangrannog Sea Outfall Pipe Reactive Work - Ground Investigation
Brief description of activity	<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>Dwr Cymru’s effluent outfall pipe at Llangrannog beach became exposed. We would like to undertake reactive works to remove potential H&amp;S hazard to the public (trip hazard). It is proposed to complete all necessary works prior to the next bathing season at this popular beach.</p> <p>To determine a suitable solution, Dwr Cymru needs to undertake a ground investigation. The ground investigation will be undertaken at low tide, and will involve an excavation of three trial holes using a single small excavator. Each hole will be backfilled prior to the</p>

	<p>next one commencing. Locations of the trial holes are as indicated on the attached drawing. The dimensions of the holes are anticipated to be as follow</p> <p><b>TH1</b> - 2m x 1m x 2m deep</p> <p><b>TH2</b> - 2m x 1m x 1.1m deep</p> <p><b>TH3</b> - 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.</p>
Location of activity (central point XY coordinates or national grid reference)	SN309542
Footprint of activity (ha)	As stated above, the ground investigation will be in a very limited foot print. It will not be greater than 0.001 ha
Timings of activity (including start and finish dates)	No more than two days' work, during low tide in January
Extent of activity (for example size, scale frequency, expected volumes of output or discharge)	A one off activity, undertaken during low tide. No discharges expected.
Use or release of chemicals (state which ones)	Not applicable

Water body <sup>1</sup>	Description, notes or more information
WFD water body name	Cardigan Bay Central
Water body ID	GB651009030000

River basin district name	<i>Western Wales</i>
Water body type (estuarine or coastal)	<i>Coastal</i>
Water body total area (ha)	<i>104.29 km<sup>2</sup></i>
Overall water body status (2015)	<i>Good</i>
Ecological status	<i>Good</i>
Chemical status	<i>Good</i>
Target water body status and deadline	<i>n/a</i>
Hydromorphology status of water body	<i>Not available (2015)</i>
Heavily modified water body and for what use	<i>n/a</i>
Higher sensitivity habitats present	<i>none</i>
Lower sensitivity habitats present	<i>intertidal soft sediments like sand and mud</i>
Phytoplankton status	<i>n/a</i>
History of harmful algae	<i>n/a</i>
WFD protected areas within 2km	<i>Llangrannog Bathing water, Cardigan Bay SAC and Aberarth-Carreg Wylan SSSI, and partly within the West Wales Marine SAC.</i>

<sup>1</sup> Water body information can be found in the Environment Agency's catchment data explorer and the water body summary table. Magic maps provide additional information on habitats and protected areas. Links to these information sources can be found in the WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters.

## Specific risk information

Consider the potential risks of your activity to each of these receptors: hydromorphology, biology (habitats and fish), water quality and protected areas. Also consider invasive non-native species (INNS).

### Section 1: Hydromorphology

Consider if hydromorphology is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find out the hydromorphology status of the water body, if it is classed as heavily modified and for what use.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Hydromorphology risk issue(s)
Could impact on the hydromorphology (for example morphology or tidal patterns) of a water body at high status	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	<i>No</i>
Could significantly impact the hydromorphology of any water body	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	<i>No</i>
Is in a water body that is heavily modified for the same use as your activity	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	<i>No</i>

Record the findings for hydromorphology and go to section 2: biology.

## Section 2: Biology

### Habitats

Consider if habitats are at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table and Magic maps, or other sources of information if available, to find the location and size of these habitats.

Higher sensitivity habitats <sup>2</sup>	Lower sensitivity habitats <sup>3</sup>
chalk reef	cobbles, gravel and shingle
clam, cockle and oyster beds	intertidal soft sediments like sand and mud
intertidal seagrass	rocky shore
maerl	subtidal boulder fields
mussel beds, including blue and horse mussel	subtidal rocky reef
polychaete reef	subtidal soft sediments like sand and mud
saltmarsh	
subtidal kelp beds	
subtidal seagrass	

<sup>2</sup> Higher sensitivity habitats have a low resistance to, and recovery rate, from human pressures.

<sup>3</sup> Lower sensitivity habitats have a medium to high resistance to, and recovery rate from, human pressures.

Consider if the footprint <sup>4</sup> of your activity is:	Yes	No	Biology habitats risk issue(s)
0.5km <sup>2</sup> or larger	Yes to one or more – requires impact assessment	No to all – impact assessment not required	No
1% or more of the water body's area			No
Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat			No
1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat			No

<sup>4</sup> Note that a footprint may also be a temperature or sediment plume. For dredging activity, a footprint is 1.5 times the dredge area.

## Fish

Consider if fish are at risk from your activity, but only if your activity is in an estuary or could affect fish in or entering an estuary.

<b>Consider if your activity:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Biology fish risk issue(s)</b>
Is in an estuary and could affect fish in the estuary, outside the estuary but could delay or prevent fish entering it or could affect fish migrating through the estuary	Continue with questions	Go to next section	No
Could 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)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
Could cause entrainment or impingement of fish	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No

Record the findings for biology habitats and fish and go to section 3: water quality.

### Section 3: Water quality

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find information on phytoplankton status and harmful algae.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
Could affect water clarity, temperature, salinity, oxygen levels, nutrients or microbial patterns continuously for longer than a spring neap tidal cycle (about 14 days)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
Is in a water body with a phytoplankton status of moderate, poor or bad	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
Is in a water body with a history of harmful algae	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity through the use, release or disturbance of chemicals.

If your activity uses or releases chemicals (for example through sediment disturbance or building works) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	n/a
It disturbs sediment with contaminants above Cefas Action Level 1	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	n/a

<b>If your activity has a mixing zone (like a discharge pipeline or outfall) consider if:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Water quality risk issue(s)</b>
The chemicals released are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment <sup>5</sup>	Impact assessment not required	n/a

<sup>5</sup> Carry out your impact assessment using the Environment Agency's surface water pollution risk assessment guidance, part of Environmental Permitting Regulations guidance.

Record the findings for water quality go on to section 4: WFD protected areas.

#### **Section 4: WFD protected areas**

Consider if WFD protected areas are at risk from your activity. These include:

- special areas of conservation (SAC)
- special protection areas (SPA)
- shellfish waters
- bathing waters
- nutrient sensitive areas

Use Magic maps to find information on the location of protected areas in your water body (and adjacent water bodies) within 2km of your activity.

<b>Consider if your activity is:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Protected areas risk issue(s)</b>
Within 2km of any WFD protected area <sup>6</sup>	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	Yes, the location of work will be within the designated Bathing Water are (Llangrannog beach). The proposed work, however, will not have significant impact on the designated Bathing Water. There is no significant impact on the Cardigan Bay SAC or the West Wales Marine SAC. No further impact assessment will be undertaken for the proposed ground investigation.

<sup>6</sup> *Note that a regulator can extend the 2km boundary if your activity has an especially high environmental risk.*

Record the findings for WFD protected areas and go to section 5: invasive non-native species.

## Section 5: Invasive non-native species (INNS)

Consider if there is a risk your activity could introduce or spread INNS.

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 other water bodies

Consider if your activity could:	Yes	No	INNS risk issue(s)
Introduce or spread INNS	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No. Check Clean Dry will be implanted. No material introduced to the site or taken off site.

Record the findings for INNS and go to the summary section.

### Summary

Summarise the results of scoping here.

Receptor	Potential risk to receptor?	Note the risk issue(s) for impact assessment
Hydromorphology	No	n/a
Biology: habitats	No	no significant impact
Biology: fish	No	n/a
Water quality	No	n/a
Protected areas	No	No significant impact
Invasive non-native species	No	Unlikely with biosecurity measures incorporated

If you haven't identified any receptors at risk during scoping, you don't need to continue to the impact assessment stage and your WFD assessment is complete.

If you've identified one or more receptors at risk during scoping, you should continue to the impact assessment stage.

Include your scoping results in the WFD assessment document you send to your activity's regulator as part of your application for permission to carry out the activity.