

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	For the Love of the Sea Limited																
Application reference number (where applicable)	NA																
Name of activity	Câr-Y-Môr 3 hectare Restorative Ocean Farms in Ramsey Sound producing seaweed and shellfish																
Brief description of activity	Câr-Y-Môr has operated for a year in Ramsey Sound, two trial 3D ocean farms. (marked with Trinity House Buoys). This is a form of IMTA aquaculture that grows both seaweed and shellfish. These trials have proved farm concept, demonstrating both the potential economics and sustainability of ocean rope grown seaweed and shellfish sites and further more taught all the Câr-Y-Môr volunteers how to manage such a ocean farm in these marine locations. The volunteers now wish to deploy a three hectare 3D ocean farm 500 meters north of the carn ar wig trial site. We will call this the St Justinian site																
Location of activity (central point XY coordinates or national grid reference)	Latitude and Longitude in decimal degrees to 4 decimal places of the two initial trial sites <table> <tr> <td>Carn Ar wig - Northerly Buoy</td><td>51.868020</td></tr> <tr> <td>-5.315540</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Carn Ar Wig - Southerly Buoy</td><td>51.867196</td></tr> <tr> <td>-5.316035</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Porthlisky – Northerly Buoy</td><td>51.862967</td></tr> <tr> <td>-5.304505</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Porthlisky - Southerly Buoy</td><td>51.862125</td></tr> <tr> <td>-5.305099</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Carn Ar wig - Northerly Buoy	51.868020	-5.315540		Carn Ar Wig - Southerly Buoy	51.867196	-5.316035		Porthlisky – Northerly Buoy	51.862967	-5.304505		Porthlisky - Southerly Buoy	51.862125	-5.305099	
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See the Admiralty chart 5620.8

The Coordinates of the proposed St Justinian site :

St Justinians Proposed Site	
Longitude	Latitude
-5.312440965606686	51.87332853640763
-5.3137350082397505	51.87070162364426
-5.3121900558471715	51.87054263792684
-5.311006965606687	51.87319753571296

Footprint of activity (ha)

Footprint at each location is 3 hectare

Timings of activity (including start and finish dates)

20 years - 01.10.21 to 01.10.41

Extent of activity (for example size, scale frequency, expected volumes of output or discharge)

Size 3 hectare, Weekly visits, Output up to 15 tonnes of seaweed and shellfish per year

Use or release of chemicals (state which ones)

Use of dissolved nitrogen and Carbon from seawater - release of oxygen into seawater

Water body¹

Description, notes or more information

WFD water body name

Pembrokeshire South

Water body ID

GB611008590003

River basin district name

Western Wales

Water body type (estuarine or coastal)

Coastal

Water body total area (ha)

NA -

Overall water body status (2015)

Good

Ecological status

Good

Chemical status	Good
Target water body status and deadline	NA
Hydromorphology status of water body	NA
Heavily modified water body and for what use	NA
Higher sensitivity habitats present	NA
Lower sensitivity habitats present	NA
Phytoplankton status	NA
History of harmful algae	NA
WFD protected areas within 2km	SAC

¹ 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	NO -Impact assessment not required	
Could significantly impact the hydromorphology of any water body	Requires impact assessment	No impact assessment not required	
Is in a water body that is heavily modified for the	Requires impact assessment	NO- Impact assessment	

same use as your activity assessment not required

Record the findings for hydromorphology and go to section 2: biology. **No impact assessment required**

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 ² **NONE**

chalk reef
clam, cockle and oyster beds
intertidal seagrass
maerl

Lower sensitivity habitats ³

cobbles, gravel and shingle
intertidal soft sediments like sand and mud
rocky shore
subtidal boulder fields

mussel beds, including blue and horse mussel
polychaete reef
saltmarsh
subtidal kelp beds
subtidal seagrass

subtidal rocky reef YES
subtidal soft sediments like sand and mud YES

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

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

Consider if the footprint ⁴ of your activity is:	Yes	No	Biology habitats risk issue(s)
0.5km ² or larger	Yes to one or more – requires impact assessment	No to all – impact assessment not required	
1% or more of the water body's area			
No to all – impact assessment not required			

Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat

No to all – impact assessment not required

1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat

No to all – impact assessment not required

⁴ 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.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Biology fish risk issue(s)
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	No to all – impact assessment not required	
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	No to all – impact assessment not required	
Could cause entrainment or impingement of fish	Requires impact assessment	No to all – impact assessment not required	

Record the findings for biology habitats and fish and go to section 3: water quality. No to all – impact assessment not required

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	
Is in a water body with a phytoplankton status of moderate, poor or bad	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	
Is in a water body with a history of harmful algae	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	

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	
It disturbs sediment with contaminants above Cefas Action Level 1	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	

If your activity has a mixing zone (like a discharge pipeline or outfall) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals released	Requires impact	Impact assessment not	

are on the assessment⁵ required
Environmental Quality
Standards Directive
(EQSD) list

⁵ 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) **YES** ☐ bathing waters
- ☐ special protection areas (SPA) ☐ nutrient sensitive areas
- ☐ shellfish waters

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.

Consider if your activity is:	Yes	No	Protected areas risk issue(s)
Within 2km of any WFD protected area ⁶	Requires impact assessment Attached : Environmental Impact statement and Document to inform a Habitats Regulation Assessment for a plan or project affecting a European Site	Impact assessment not required	

⁶ 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.

Environmental Impact statement and Document to inform a Habitats Regulation Assessment completed and attached

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	

Record the findings for INNS and go to the summary section. **Only local species to be farmed**

Summary

Summarise the results of scoping here.

Receptor	Potential risk to receptor?	Note the risk issue(s) for impact assessment
Hydromorphology	None	
Biology: habitats	None	
Biology: fish	None	
Water quality	None	
Protected areas	None	
Invasive non-native species	None	

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.