

## Environmental Screening: Low Risk File Note

Project name	Llangynderyn (Llangendeirne) Gauging Station
Project manager	Emily Billson/Bethan Jones
Prepared by	Joshua Gittins (Environmental Assessment Team)
Date Screened	10/08/2020

### Introduction

This project has been screened for environmental risk following Operational Guidance Note 86 and is considered to be “**Low Environmental Risk**” and does not require a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment. Whilst the project has been screened “Low Environmental Risk”, there may still be environmental risks and consents that need to be considered by the Project Manager as detailed in this note. How these recommendations have been followed up should be made clear in any business case submissions.

Please consult the Environmental Assessment Team again should you have any queries regarding the information provided, or if the nature of the project changes as we may need to review our advice. Our email address is:

[environmental.assessment.team@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:environmental.assessment.team@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

<b>Description of Project / Scheme</b>	<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>It has been identified that the structural integrity of the in river set up at Llangendeirne is failing. There are temporary repairs in place to stabilise the measuring instrument, but this suffers with temperature variation during the summer months, rotten wood as a stabilising mount and rotten handrails as edge protection. The river level site is currently too dangerous to access by staff. There is no formal in river access and if the sensor or staff gauge failed it would be very difficult to replace.</p>
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The existing station set up is relatively informal and is accessed through the Welsh Water (DCWW) compound. The station consists of an in-river water level sensor and staff gauge attached to the riverbank. In addition, there is no formal ducting between the river and Kiosk (see photos below).



The Kiosk is significantly tired looking and needs replacing (see photos below). Mains supply power is currently provided by DCWW. A service search needs to be carried out before construction.



Livestock in the field next to the gauging station are accessing the area as the current fencing is not adequate and needs temporary cattle proof fencing in the immediate and an access gate (see photos below).



Formal steps into the river to safely access the sensor and staff gauge when required leading up to the new fencing with a handrail is essential (see photos below).





Access is gained through a privately-owned field and the DCWW compound. Unless accompanied by an authorised individual, a DCWW site induction and 'access to assets' form must be completed beforehand. A single leaf gate in the DCWW compound fence provides access to the river bank. This may need to be removed temporarily to provide construction plant access to the river.

#### **Scope and Description of Works**

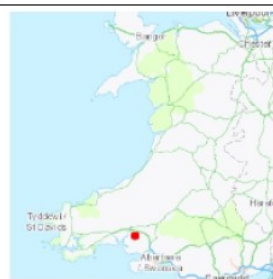
The project team will prepare a scope of works and procure a consultant to prepare a detailed design and Works Information pack and aim for these works to progress to construction in 2020/21. However, at present,

the scope of works include:

- Design and build river access including duct work, staff gauges and handrail;
- Replacement of Kiosk;
- Maintain DCWW site security throughout works;
- Ensure data continuity is maintained throughout project

Screening has been undertaken on the understanding that no additional access or compound areas are required, other than the DCWW compound stated above. Please re-consult the Environmental Assessment Team if this understanding is incorrect, or if there is any other change to the scope of the works outlined above.

**Location and Constraints Map**

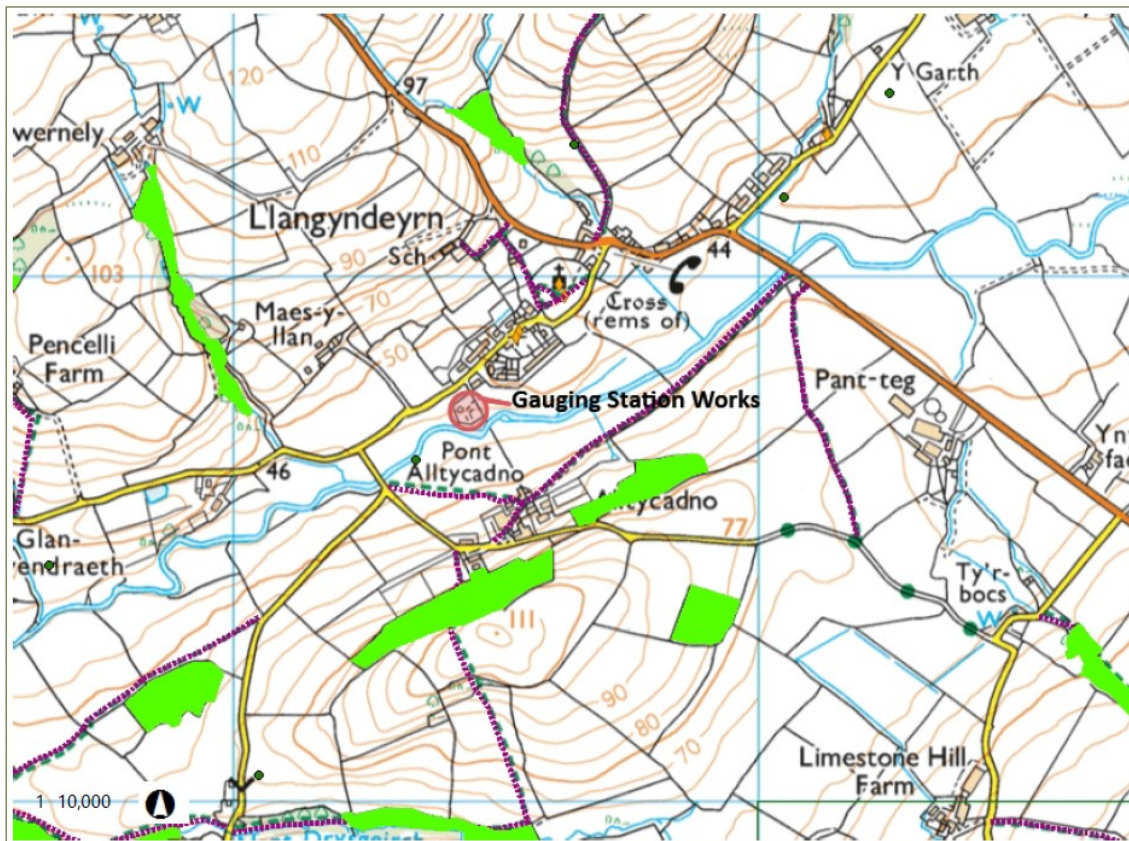


Legend

- Ancient Woodland Inventory 2011
  - Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
  - Restored Ancient Woodland Site
  - Plantation on Ancient Woodland Site
  - Ancient Woodland Site of Unknown Category
- LRC Priority & Protected Species Points
- LRC Invasive non native species region
- Public Rights of Way
- Listed Buildings
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest Features

Notes

Constraints map for the proposed gauging station replacement project at Llangendeirne.



0.5 0 0.25 0.5 Kilometers  
British\_National\_Grid

© Crown Copyright and database rights Ordnance Survey Natural Resources Wales, 100019741, 2015. © Hawffrwyd y Gorn a hawl cronfa ddata Arwag Ordnance Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, 100019741, 2015. This map is a user generated static output from an internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.



**Cyfoeth  
Naturiol**  
Cymru  
**Natural  
Resources**  
Wales

**Location (Grid  
Ref)**

SN 45479 13729



Environmental constraint / opportunity	Identified Receptor	Consent / assessments, which are <u>likely</u> to be required:	Project Manager to consult further with:
<b>European Designated Sites (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)</b>	The River Gwendraeth (Fach) flows approximately 9 km downstream where it joins the River Gwendraeth (Fawr) – both of which then drain into the Carmarthen Bay Special Area of Conservation.	None.	Make the area Environment Team (Carmarthenshire) aware of the project: <a href="mailto:nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org">nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org</a> <a href="http://nrmicrosoft.com">nrmicrosoft.com</a>
<b>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</b>	Carmarthen Bay is also a SSSI. There are five other SSSI sites located between 1.5-5 km of the proposed site. These are, in order of proximity (nearest to furthest), Capel Dyddgen Forest (Coedydd Capel Dyddgen), Llangendeirne Mountain (Mynydd Llangynderyn), Gwempa Trees (Coed Gwempa), Upper Island (Ynys Uchaf) and the Garn Forest (Coedydd Y Garn).	None.	Make the area Environment Team (Carmarthenshire) aware of the project: <a href="mailto:nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org">nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org</a> <a href="http://nrmicrosoft.com">nrmicrosoft.com</a>
<b>Waterbody</b>	The proposed scheme is located on the banks of the River Gwendraeth (Fach). Under the WFD this river is considered Good Status, and the work proposed will renew the Llangendeirne WFD flow monitoring point.	Preliminary WFD Assessment and FRAP (to be advised by Flood Risk Analysis Team). Typical Prevention of Pollution	Contact area Environment Team ( <a href="mailto:nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org">nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org</a> ) for assistance with the Preliminary WFD Assessment and the area geomorphologist ( <a href="mailto:Anne.Lewis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">Anne.Lewis@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a> )

			<p>regarding any soil/sediment removals.</p> <p>The Flood Risk Analysis Team contact for the area is Rachel Thomas (<a href="mailto:rachel.thomas@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">rachel.thomas@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>)</p>
<b>Fisheries</b>	<p>The River Gwendraeth (Fach) is a known salmonid river (Sea Trout and Salmon).</p>	<p>Any in-river works should be undertaken outside of the fish migratory period. Consult the area fisheries team to discuss specific constraints for this section of the River Gwendraeth (Fach).</p>	<p>Consult with Dave Mee (Conservation and Fisheries) (<a href="mailto:David.Mee@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">David.Mee@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>) for advice on mitigating and fisheries issues.</p>
<b>Contaminated Land</b>	<p>The area of the proposed scheme has no current or historic landfill sites proximate to the site. There have been some previous pollution incidents upstream of the site (Combined Sewer Overflow and dairy cattle slurry spillage), but no major land or water contamination issues present.</p>	<p>Should local knowledge, or any GI data, identify a risk of ground contamination, NRW Geoscience Team should be consulted.</p>	<p>Geoscience Team - Trystan James: <a href="mailto:geoscience@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">geoscience@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a> / 07767 481347.</p>
<b>Public Right of Way</b>	<p>There are two Public Rights of Way (PRoW) approximately 200 m away from the proposed works. One through Llangendeirne and one the opposite bankside of the River Gwendraeth (Fach).</p>	<p>Under the current project scope, no direct works or compound/access works are likely to interfere with the PRoW. However, if the project scope changes, then a Public Path Order (Diversion / Closure) may be necessary. Re-consult EAT if this is the case.</p>	<p>Re-consult EAT if the project scope changes and there are likely to be impacts on the PRoW. The Local Planning Authority's</p>

			LPA; Carmarthenshire County Council - CCC) PRow officer would need to be contacted for advice.
<b>Protected Species / Invasive Species</b>	<p>There is Local Record Centre evidence of some protected or priority species in the immediate area downstream of the proposed scheme (e.g. Otter). Other than this, the site sits approximately 1.5 km northwest of the Capel Dyddgen Forest SSSI, which contains a number of protected species. There are no Sites of Interest for Nature Conservation within 5 km of the proposed site.</p> <p>The proposed scheme is located approximately 900 m northwest of a Local Records Centre INNS region, containing Japanese Knotweed and Cherry Laurel. In addition, there is evidence of American Mink and Grey Squirrel between 1.5-4 km up- and downstream of the site.</p>	Ecological walkover/survey will be required to determine and agree the appropriate mitigation controls required. The surveys should be completed by ecologists with the appropriate licences.	<p>Contact area Environment Team (<a href="mailto:nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org">nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org</a>) who can advise and potentially undertake the surveys.</p>
<b>Historic Environment</b>	There are three Scheduled Monuments located approximately 1.5 km (Standing Stone NE of Halfway House), 1.7 km (Banc y Bettws Caste Mound) and 2 km (Castell y Domen) away from the	More details of the access and compound for the works is required to determine any impact on the nearby Listed Buildings or DCWW property. Cadw should be contacted early for consultation regarding the Assent for the works.	<p>Cadw consultation should be sought early.</p> <p>The Environmental Assessment Team will</p>

	<p>proposed works. Further, there are a number of Listed Buildings in Llangenderine town, including two Grade II listed churches (Capel Salem and St Cynderyn parish church).</p> <p>The proposed works are not set within, or adjacent to, any Historic Park or Garden sites.</p>	The local Archaeological Trust (Dyfed) should also be contacted regarding potential 'known' or 'unknown' historic environment sites.	consult Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
<b>Landscape</b>	There is some vegetation (including mature trees) visible on the banks of the River Gwendraeth (Fawr) and the DCWW site.	Information on any Tree Preservation Orders is necessary to determine.	Contact the LPA regarding this (CCC).
<b>NNR, LNR, Local Wildlife Site, Ancient Woodland, other designations.</b>	There are no NNR, LNR or Sites of Interest for Nature conservation near to the proposed site. Some Ancient Semi-Natural Woodlands within approximately 300-400m of the proposed scheme though none directly connected to the site, or access to the site.	See 'Protected Species/ Invasive Species' section above; ecological survey/walkover of site required to understand constraints and mitigation needed.	Contact area Environment Team ( <a href="mailto:nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org">nrmcarmarthenshire@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.org</a> ) regarding surveys.
<b>Is planning consent likely under the Town and Country Planning Regulations?</b>	<p>Typically, we would envisage these works not to require planning consent as they would fall under NRW' Permitted Development Rights. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 1995: Part 15 (d) the maintenance, improvement or repair of works for measuring the flow in any watercourse or channel; and</p> <p>(f) any other development in, on, over or under their operational land, other than the provision of a building but including the extension or alteration of a building.</p> <p>Consult with CCC to determine whether planning consent is required.</p>		
<b>Does the project fall under NRW</b>	Should CCC confirm that Permitted Development Rights do apply, there would still be a requirement to advertise (in accordance with the Environmental Impact	Carmarthenshire County Council	



<p><b>Permitted Development Rights as per the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted development) Order?</b></p>	<p>Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement) Regulations 1999.</p> <p>As the proposed Scheme is likely to be classified as ‘improvement works’ there would be a requirement to advertise the proposed Scheme in accordance with Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement) Regulations. Advert must be placed: on site; local newspaper; NRW website; and circulated to statutory consultees. Work must not commence on site prior to 28 days from the date at which the advert was published, therefore permitting time for representation to be made.</p>	<p>Planning Department  <a href="mailto:planningconsultations@carmarthenshire.gov.uk">planningconsultations@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Contact Environmental Assessment Team (EAT) for further guidance and to obtain advert template.  <a href="mailto:environmental.assessment.team@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">environmental.assessment.team@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a></p>
<p><b>Enhancements / Multiple Benefits</b></p>	<p>Consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can your project build in measures to slow the flow of water, consequently having flood risk and water quality benefits?</li> <li>• Where associated with water courses can your project deliver Water Framework Directive benefits e.g. bank naturalisation, treatment of Invasive Non Native Species, hydromorphological improvements etc.?</li> <li>• Where associated with Natura 2000 sites, can your project deliver any actions required under the Prioritised Improvement Plans?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities for using green engineering / green infrastructure?</li> <li>• Can recreational or access opportunities be delivered through your project?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities for planting trees or shrubs?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities to promote simple changes to land management to provide food, shelter and nest sites for pollinators?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities for habitat improvement or creation, paying particular attention to resilience (connectivity, diversity, condition) of habitats within or linked to the study area?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities for community engagement or education?</li> <li>• Are there any opportunities to improve fish habitat or passage?</li> </ul>	

## Environmental Good Practice Guidance

The project manager should ensure that the contractor is aware of and complies with the following good practice (i.e. it is beneficial to include these specification within Works Information):

- Environment Good Practice on Site, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2010 (CIRIA).
- Construction Industry Publication (CIP) Construction Environmental Manual.
- Bio-security Guidance (Forestry Commission) <https://naturalresources.wales/media/2637/biosecurity-guidance.pdf> & <https://naturalresources.wales/forestry/tree-health-and-biosecurity/biosecurity/?lang=en>.
- Natural Resources Wales's Environmental Policy Statement [www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk/about-us/managing-our-environmental-impact/?lang=en](http://www.cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk/about-us/managing-our-environmental-impact/?lang=en)
- Guidance for Pollution Prevention (Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). <http://www.netregs.org.uk/environmental-topics/pollution-prevention-guidelines-ppgs-and-replacement-series/guidance-for-pollution-prevention-gpps-full-list/>

For an extensive and broader list of UK environmental guidance that is currently available see <https://www.gov.uk/topic/environmental-management>