

Environmental Screening Advice Note

Screening completed by	Anthony Kubale 2015 (updated by VS in 2023)
Date	January 2023
Version	1 - Draft

Project Name	Llanrhystud Ford – Salmon 4 Tomorrow Programme		
Location	Llanrhystud, Ceredigion	Grid reference	SN 5469 1710
Senior User	Ben Wilson	Senior User Post Title	Principle Fisheries Advisor
Project Manager	Elinor Meloy	Project Manager Post Title	Project Manager (PPD)
Community Risk Register Area (for FRM projects)	n/a	Strategic Context e.g. CFMP / SMP Policy, RBMP	Western Wales RBMP

Set out the background, scope, description, and objectives of the project (information from draft project brief)

The Afon Wyre in Ceredigion rises near to the Llangwyrfon Wind Farm, in South West Wales. The Wyre is a coastal stream that enters the sea at Llanrhystud. The Wyre is approximately 17km in length, with a large tributary the Wyre Fach contributing a further 6.5km of riverine habitat.

The Wyre has a history of being fished by anglers, and is known locally for having a good salmon and migratory trout population. The Wyre's WFD status is rated 'good' for fish.

The ford in Llanrhystud crossing the Wyre links the B4337 in the village to the main A487 coast road. The ford structure provides a fixed crest level, currently used by NRW Hydrometry Team to measure flow. The structure incorporated a fish pass channel. The ford crossing is now closed due to deterioration in the integrity of the structure. Deterioration in the structure and loss of the fish pass, has been highlighted by the Area Fisheries Officers as posing an increasing obstruction to fish migration. Further deterioration of the structure may also impact on future flow gauging at the site.

This project was initially put forward by H&T in 2015 but was not progressed. This project is now being progressed under the Salmon 4 Tomorrow Programme and aims to improve fish passage beyond the ford on the Afon Wyre, Llanrhystud. The ford is a redundant river crossing no longer used by vehicles or pedestrians on the River Wyre, between Aberystwyth and Cardigan. It is a barrier to fish movement because of the step in height difference. By removing this height difference would open up 20km of habitat upstream for spawning.

Environmental Screening

Environmental Desk Based Assessment	Follow up Action Required	Who will carry out the follow up action?	Action Tracker can delete this column for high risk projects where ECOR produced
	<i>List surveys, consultation, standard mitigation measures as necessary.</i>	<i>This can be follow up action for PM, EAT, Environmental Assessment officer, or a consultant depending upon the resource and expertise required.</i>	<i>To be completed by PM to document whether action has been completed. Advice Note should then be used as supporting document when applying for project assurance (e.g. submissions to PMO, Independent project Assurance Group (IPAG))</i>

			<i>&/or Business Board)</i>
<p><u>Population & Human Health</u></p> <p>Work is within the community of Llanrhystud and directly on a ford which is currently impassable due to deterioration in its condition. The work is also directly adjacent to a number of roads and residential properties. Careful communication and consultation with affected parties.</p> <p>There are no Public Right of Way's located within close proximity to the works.</p> <p><i>Steve Meaden to comment re HIA</i></p>	<p><u>Population & Human Health (Recreation)</u></p> <p>Agree working hours, noise mitigation, traffic management and air quality management with Ceredigion County Council as appropriate.</p> <p>Consult with Highways department of Local Authority in relation to re-instatement of the ford.</p>	PM	
<p><u>Biodiversity, Fisheries & Invasive Non-Native Species</u></p> <p>The site is 1km upstream of the West of Wales Marine SAC</p> <p>A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) was undertaken by Arup in Dec 22.</p>	<p><u>Biodiversity, Fisheries & Invasive Non-Native Species</u></p> <p>Consult with the Ceredigion Environment Team CeredigionEnvironmentTeam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk to determine the need for a HRA</p> <p>Follow recommendations of the Arup PEA, eg -Tree and shrub removal should be kept to a minimum and be undertaken outside of the bird nesting season (Aug-February)</p>	PM	

	<p>-In river works methodology should be agreed with the Environment Team (including fisheries) and be undertaken outside of the fish migration/spawning season.</p> <p>-Buildings (excluding the river monitoring station) and three trees present within the study area were considered potentially suitable for roosting bats. It is also possible that other trees are present with the potential to support roosting bats that could not be fully inspected. If direct impact or disturbance to the potential roost features is possible, further survey/s to confirm likely presence/absence of bats will be required.</p> <p>Japanese knotweed and Himalayan Balsam have been confirmed at the site. An INNS Management Plan should be produced to include the locations, extents and general guidance for managing the INNS on Site during the works.</p>		
<p><u>Land (eg land take)</u> The land surrounding the ford is an urban settlement. The scheme is unlikely to create any loss in agricultural land.</p> <p>Utilities running across the project area are possible and if present should be incorporated into design.</p>	<p>Check site for presence of utility services.</p>	PM	
<p><u>Soils (eg organic matter, erosion, compaction, sealing)</u> There are no geological SSSIs within the area, or historic or existing landfill sites present.</p>	<p>Every effort should be made to protect surface and groundwater from contamination during any groundworks and construction (fuel leaks etc.) – follow GPP5 and use correct materials storage procedures.</p>	PM	

	Consult NRW Geoscience Team regarding identifying any requirement for contaminated land assessment. Trystan James Geoscience Team Lead (geoscience@cyfoethynaturiolcymru.gov.uk).		
<p><u>Water (eg hydromorphological changes, quantity and quality)</u></p> <p>The scheme is situated within Wyre headwaters to tidal limit (GB110063041530). The water body is currently at good status.</p> <p>The area is not within a Groundwater Source Protection Zone, however it is within a 'Minor' Groundwater Vulnerability Zone.</p> <p>The area is also underlain by a bedrock Secondary A aquifer. These aquifers are capable of supporting water supplies at a local rather than strategic scale. These are generally aquifers formerly classified as minor aquifers</p> <p>As works will be 'in-river' method statements for any construction work must be discussed and agreed with the relevant Environment Officer.</p>	<p><u>Water (inc WFD)</u></p> <p>A WFD Preliminary Assessment (Screening) will be required. Liaise with the Local Environment Team, Trevor West (WFD Coordinator), and Geomorphology South (geomorphologysouth@cyfoethnaturiolcymrugov.uk) who can advise on delivery of potential WFD mitigation measures.</p> <p>Ensure best practice pollution prevention methods following GPP5.</p>	PM	
<u>Air</u> N/A	<u>Air</u> N/A		

<p><u>Climate (eg greenhouse gas emissions, impacts relevant to adaptation)</u></p> <p>The Carbon neutrality of these works should be considered via design and offset measures.</p> <p>Net carbon sequestration could be sought through appropriate landscaping.</p>	<p><u>Climatic Factors</u></p> <p>Project designers should consider potential opportunities for better local climate change adaption (e.g. minimise GHG emissions, using low-carbon material, offset tree/shrub planting for shade and green engineering options rather than materials with high carbon footprints as well as taking opportunities to restore the natural environment so as to increase carbon sequestration) and sustainable resource management.</p>	<p><i>PM</i></p>	
<p><u>Landscape</u></p> <p>The site is not within an AONB, National Park and is outside of the Llanrhystud Conservation Area, the boundary of which is approximately 200m downstream on the right bank</p>	<p><u>Landscape</u></p> <p>Landscape design to be considered as the project progresses. Environmental Assessment Team (EAT) Landscape Architect can provide adhoc advice, as required.</p>		
<p><u>Cultural Heritage</u></p> <p>There are a number of Listed Buildings, National Monument Records for Wales and Historic Environment Records within close proximity but none directly adjacent to the proposed works.</p> <p>There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within close proximity.</p> <p>The site is not within a National Park, Registered Historic Park and Garden, Historic Landscape, or within / adjacent to any World Heritage Sites.</p>	<p><u>Cultural Heritage</u></p> <p>Dyfed Archaeological Trust will be consulted on this SAN</p>		

Material Assets Correct waste management procedures should be undertaken, especially in relation to excavated material. The PM should be familiar with any necessary waste licencing requirements and contractor checks must be done	Material Assets Consult with Local Environment Team and Waste licencing team. The Waste licencing team can advise on the Definition of Waste (Code of Practice and Exemptions).		
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Likely Consenting Route <i>For further advice on consenting routes, refer to Section 3 of OGN86</i>	If the works are entirely within channel then they are likely to be considered 'permitted development'. However, depending upon the final design, they could constitute a Land Drainage Improvement (LDI) and so require advertising under the LDI (EIA) Regs.	<i>Does it constitute a land drainage improvement? If yes, advertisement of our screening decision is required. PM must ensure this is done, as non-compliance is EMS auditable.</i>	
Other Approvals required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HRA, • WFD Compliance, • FRAP 	PM	
Environmental Opportunities	The aim of this project is to deliver environmental benefit by enhancing the connectivity, in particular for fish, of the watercourse. In delivering this project there may be opportunities to deliver wider benefits, for example:	<i>List who is responsible for delivering each action?</i>	<i>Ensure any benefits delivered are reported to the benefactor and to the communications team for publicising.</i>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are there any opportunities for planting trees or shrubs? • Are there any opportunities for using green engineering or green infrastructure? • Where associated with water courses can the project help deliver WFD regulations benefits, for example bank naturalisation, treatment of Invasive Non Native Species, hydromorphological improvements? • Are there any opportunities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with the project (including procurement), e.g. substituting materials, reducing transport? • Are there any opportunities for to improve protected species populations? • Can recreational or access opportunities be delivered through your project, including active travel opportunities to connect communities and amenities? • Are there any opportunities for community engagement or education? 		
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Record of all consultation responses can be found within **Annex 1**.

Screening Conclusion

- Following internal consultation, it has been determined that this project is not likely to lead to significant environmental effects provided that good working practices and any additional mitigation identified is implemented. Unless the project scope changes, this project does not require Environmental Assessment Team (EAT) involvement.

- This note has been prepared to assist the project manager (PM) in taking forward actions and in documenting this for project approval purposes. The PM can seek assistance from Environment Assessment Officers (for Integrated Engineering Team projects) for specific tasks identified in Table 2, which must be agreed as part of the project planning stage. If at any point the scope of the works changes from that described above, the project manager must contact the EAO or EAT to confirm whether a revised determination is required.
- The project manager is responsible for ensuring the follow up actions are undertaken to ensure the environmental risk is managed.

Annex 1: Parties consulted in the screening

Name	Function	Date issued	Response received	Comments Received	Action taken to address comments
Environment Team Ceredigion	Environment/ecology	24/01/2023			
Marianne Jones	Landscape	24/01/2023			
Steve Meaden	HIA	24/01/2023			
Trevor West	WFD	24/01/2023			
Alice Pyper	Dyfed Arch. Trust	24/01/2023			
Geomorphology South	Geomorphology	24/01/2023			
Clare Sanderson	Geoscience	24/01/2023			