

## Environmental Screening: Low Risk File Note

<b>Project name</b>	<b>Talsarn Embankment Repairs</b>
<b>Project manager</b>	<b>Alexia Dimitriou</b>
<b>Prepared by</b>	<b>Josh Gittins</b>
<b>Date Screened</b>	<b>09/03/2022</b>

### 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>	<b><u>Background</u></b> TBC <b><u>Scope &amp; Description of Works</u></b> Earthworks to repair/replace sections of gabion baskets along the bankside supporting the ducting to the in-river sensors and the foundation for the staff gauging boards.
<b>Location (Grid Ref)</b>	SN 54439 56187

<b>Environmental constraint / opportunity</b>	<b>Identified Receptor</b>	<b>Consent / assessments, which are <u>likely</u> to be required: (Delete as appropriate)</b>	<b>Project Manager to consult further with:</b>
<b>International and National Sites Network Designations (SAC, SPA, Ramsar)</b>	There are no National Sites Network designations within 2.5 k of the site.	None	None
<b>Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)</b>	The Dolau Hafod and Winllan SSSI is approx. 2.4km northeast of the site.	None	None
<b>Waterbody</b>	<p>The proposed work will require working in or adjacent to the Afon Aeron. This is a classified main river so a FRAP consent may be required.</p> <p>Afon Aeron (GB110063041500) is a WFD designated waterbody achieving an overall status of 'Good' There is potential to generate suspended solids into local watercourses during the work. Works should be undertaken in accordance with Guidance for Pollution Prevention (5) – Working or maintenance in or near water.</p>	<p>Preliminary WFD Assessment, Ordinary Watercourse Consent, and FRAP (to be advised by Flood Risk Analysis Team) are likely required. Works should be undertaken in accordance with <a href="#">GPP5: 'works and maintenance in or near water'</a>.</p>	<p>Contact area Environment Team – <a href="mailto:ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a> for assistance with the Preliminary WFD Assessment and the area geomorphologist (<a href="mailto:geomorphologysouth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">geomorphologysouth@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>) channel works and enhancements. The area Flood Risk Analysis Team should be consulted.</p> <p>OGN 72 documents the WFD compliance assessment, Section 3 of this guidance outlines the screening process and this should be documented in the <a href="#">WFDCA template</a></p>
<b>Fisheries</b>	The proposed scheme is located on the Afon Aeron, which has known stocks of salmonid and any headwaters may provide spawning habitat.	Area fisheries specialist should be consulted with regards to any necessary mitigation during construction and ultimately the	Consult local fisheries advisor for the Environment Team ( <a href="mailto:ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a> )

		design of any enhancements.	
<b>Contaminated Land</b>	<p>There are no Authorised or Historic Landfills operating within 500m of the proposed works.</p> <p>There is a low-medium risk of contaminated sediments/water being present.</p>	<p>As stated in the 'Water' section, GPP5 precautions are necessary to minimised the risk of mobilising polluted sediments during works.</p> <p>Should local knowledge, or any GI data, identify additional risks of sediment/soil contamination, NRW Geoscience Team should be consulted.</p>	<p>If works involve ground penetration/disturbance. Should local knowledge, or any GI data, identify a risk of ground contamination, NRW' Geoscience Team should be consulted.</p> <p><a href="mailto:geoscience@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">geoscience@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>).</p>
<b>Public Right of Way</b>	<p>There are two Public Rights of Way (PRoW) which are located along the Left Bank of the Aeron downstream of the proposed works (584/40/17 &amp; 584/53/37)</p>	<p>Check Definitive Rights of Way map and consult with public right of ways officer if diversions or closures are required.</p>	<p>Consult Ceredigion County Council public right of ways officer if diversion likely required.</p>
<b>Protected Species / Invasive Species</b>	<p>There is Local Record Centre evidence of protected &amp; priority species (west European hedgehog, hobby, marsh tit, European otter, pipistrellus bat, kingfisher).</p> <p>There is no recorded evidence of Invasive Non-Native Species in the area.</p>	<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. Fisheries, any bank-nesting birds (kingfisher), and protected/priority vegetation should be closely monitored.</p>	<p>Contact area Environment Team</p> <p><a href="mailto:ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">ceredigionenvironmentteam@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>) or the Local Integrated Engineering Team's Environmental Assessment Officer</p> <p><a href="mailto:mike.jenkins@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk">mike.jenkins@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk</a>)</p>
<b>Historic Environment</b>	<p>Pont Talsarn is a Grade II Listed Building. Castell Trefilan and Pen Clawdd-Mawr Defended enclosure are two Scheduled Monuments</p>	<p>Consult the LPA Conservation Officer and Cadw with regards to the potential for Listed Building consent being required,</p>	<p>TBC</p>

	approx. 1 km from the proposed works.	dependent on the location of the embankment repairs. Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust have been consulted regarding known or unknown archaeological features within the area.	
<b>Landscape</b>	The site is not located in landscape designated area. There is vegetation visible on the banks of the Afon Aeron.	Information on the presence of any Tree Preservation Orders should be sought.	Contact the LPA regarding this (Ceredigion County Council).
<b>NNR, LNR, Local Wildlife Site, Ancient Woodland, other designations.</b>	None	None	None
<b>Is planning consent likely under the Town and Country Planning Regulations?</b>	<p>No – Planning consent is unlikely to be required as the works should fall within NRW Permitted Development as per the General Permitted Development Order (GPDO).</p> <p>Given these works are permitted under the GPDO, there is a need to consider whether the works are improvement or maintenance works. Where improvement works are proposed, screening and advertising in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations is then required. Having considered the scope of works set out in the introduction to this Low Risk File Note, we would deem the works to be maintenance. However, the Project Manager is best placed to determine this. Should the PM deem the works to be improvement, or if the scope of works change to include improvement works, please contact NRW Environmental Assessment Team for guidance on the advertisement requirements as stipulated under the EIA (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations.</p>		
<b>Does the project fall under NRW Permitted Development Rights as per the Town and Country Planning (General</b>	Yes, only if the proposed Scheme is deemed to be maintenance of an existing flood embankment and <i>not</i> an improvement.	<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>	

Permitted development) Order?		
<b>Enhancements / Multiple Benefits</b>	<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

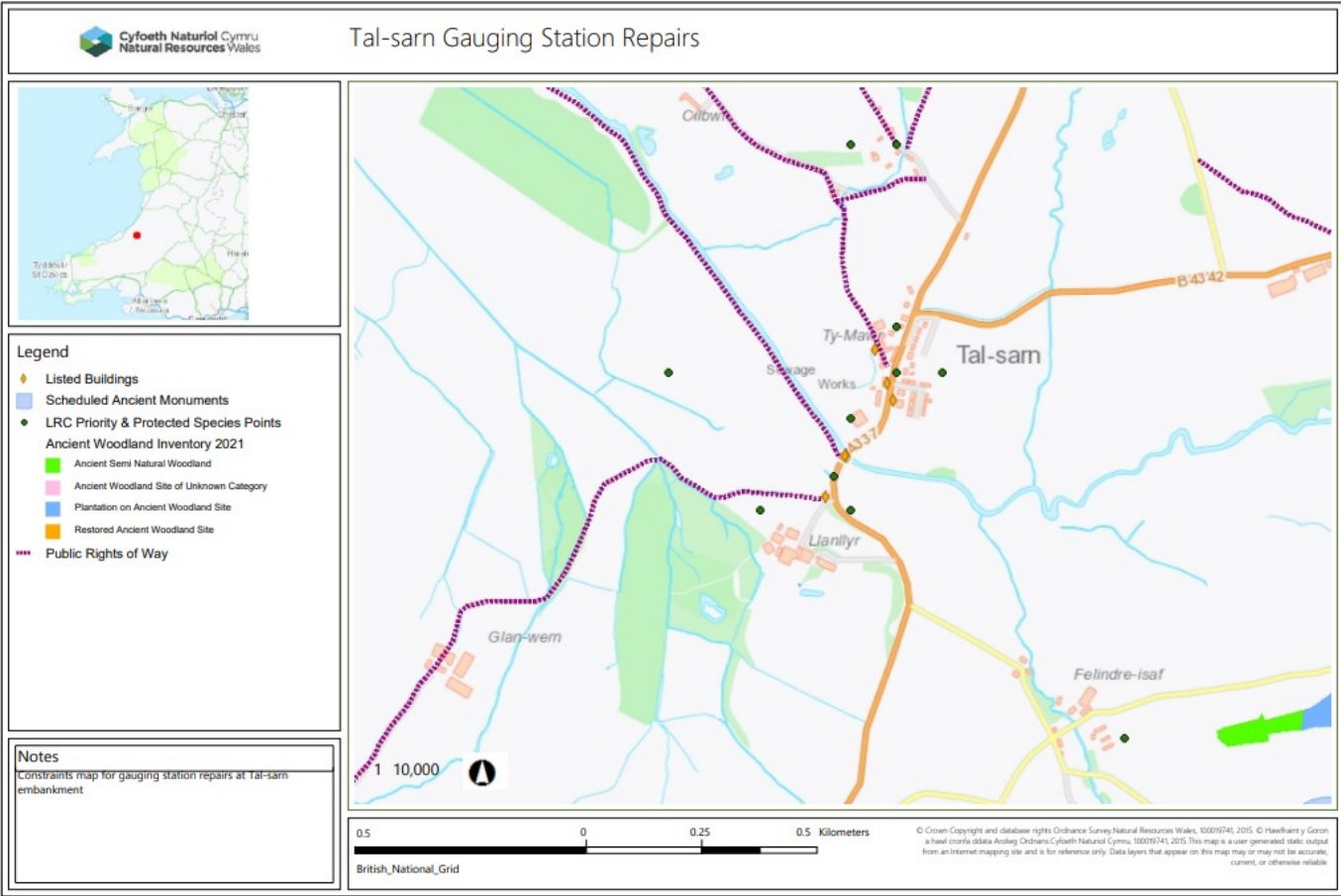
The project manager should ensure that the contractor is aware of and complies with the following good practice (i.e. it is beneficial to include these specification within Works Information):

- 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>

*Note: Consultation on Low Risk File notes is usually limited to the Welsh Archaeological Trusts, however the note will include recommendations for consulting certain teams, which must be followed up by the Project Manager or their advisors.*

# Annex 1: Constraints Map



Constraints map for the proposed embankment repair works at Talsarn gauging station.