

## Bathing Water Profile for Anstruther (Billow Ness)

Anstruther, Scotland

Current water classification <https://www2.sepa.org.uk/BathingWaters/Classifications.aspx>

### Description

Anstruther (Billow Ness) bathing water is a quiet, sandy cove with rock pools. It is situated to the west of Anstruther harbour. The designated area lies between two rocky outcrops and is approximately 300 metres wide.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 10–250 metres. For local tide information see:

<http://easytide.ukho.gov.uk/EasyTide/index.aspx>



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### Site details

Local authority	Fife Council
Year of designation	2010
Water sampling location	NO 56277 03028

### Catchment description

The immediate catchment draining into the Anstruther (Billow Ness) bathing water is less than 1 km<sup>2</sup> in area. Land use in the catchment is a mixture of rural (59%) and urban (39%) with the rural area comprising of a mix of horticulture and grassland. The catchment includes part of the town of Anstruther Wester. Anstruther golf course is adjacent to the bathing water.

There are no watercourses within the bathing water catchment although the Dreel Burn flows into the sea near the harbour.

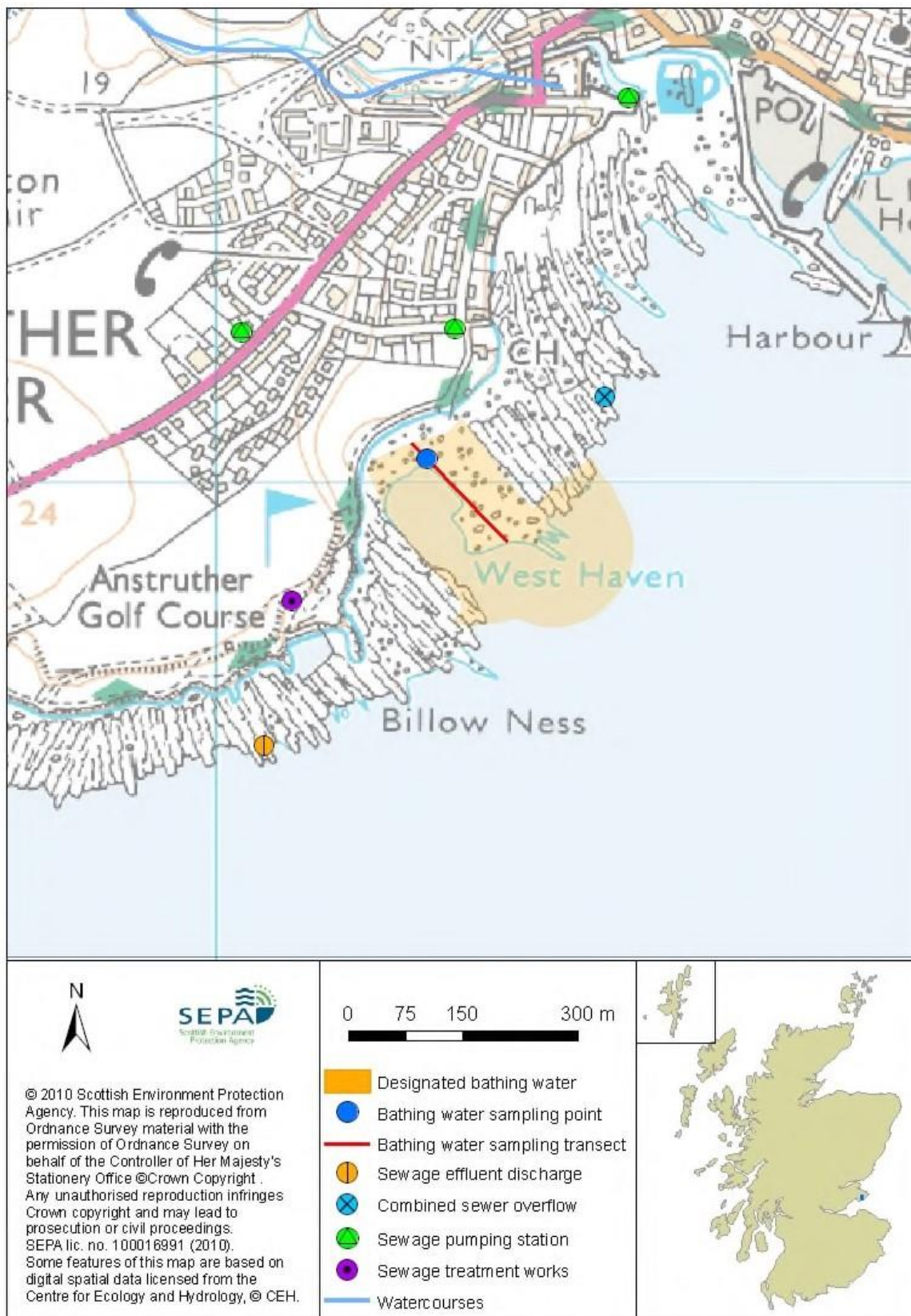
### Risks to water quality

The principal risks and source of wet weather driven short term pollution at this bathing water arise from surface water urban drainage, combined sewer overflows and treated sewage effluent.

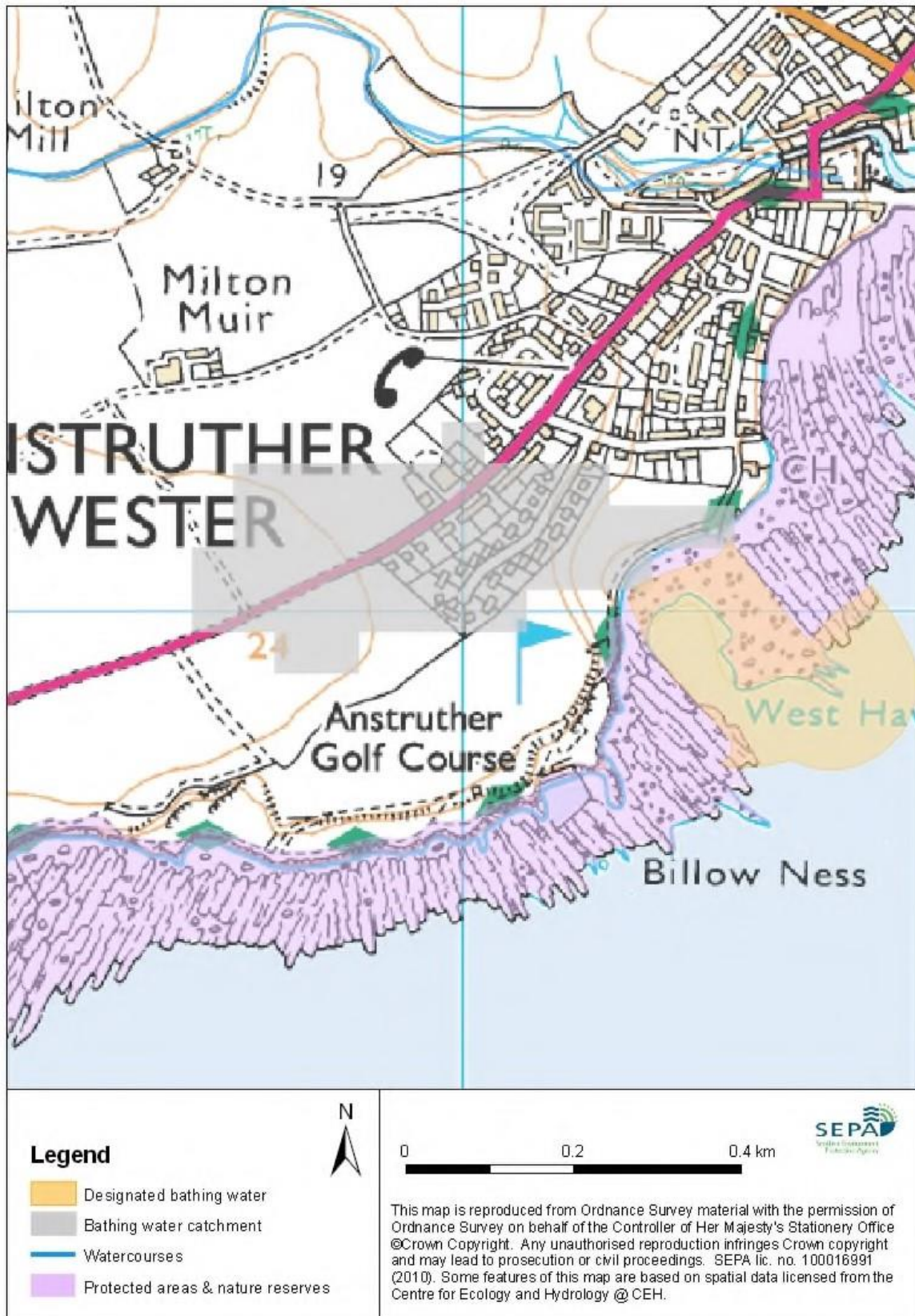
There is a risk that water pollution may occur after heavy rainfall. **Bathing is not advised during or 1-2 days after heavy rainfall. This is due to the risk to bathers' health from water pollution.**

Our regulatory and scientific assessment indicates that there are no significant pollution inputs to this bathing water under normal conditions.

Map 1: Anstruther (Billow Ness) bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Anstruther (Billow Ness) bathing water



## **Improving bathing water quality**

### **Improving pollution from sewage and other discharges**

Most waste water collection and treatment services in Scotland are provided by Scottish Water. Investments in the sewerage network and in treatment works will continue to be co-ordinated through the national investment and planning process for Scottish Water.

### **Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae)**

Marine waters are not at risk of cyanobacteria overproduction.

### **Algae**

Current information suggests that this bathing water is not at risk of excessive growth of macroalgae (seaweed) or phytoplankton.

### **Jellyfish**

There is a possibility of increased numbers of jellyfish in the water during summer months. This is a naturally occurring phenomenon. Most species common to the UK are harmless. The Marine Conservation Society advises to 'look but don't touch'.

### **Responding to pollution incidents**

Please use our 24 hour hotline (0800 80 70 60) to report pollution. SEPA will investigate the incident and contact other relevant organisations. That may include Scottish Ministers, Scottish Water, the local authority and the relevant health board. Where necessary, measures will be put in place to resolve the problem.

If beach users or bathers are considered to be at risk, the local authority will warn the public by erecting signs at the bathing water. Information will also be available on our website.

SEPA will investigate whenever our sampling identifies pollution.

Beach users are encouraged to use the bins provided or to take litter home. Beach cleaning and litter clean-up is maintained by Fife Council for this bathing water.

## Contact details and information sources

<p><b>SEPA Glenrothes office</b> Pentland Court The Saltire Centre Glenrothes KY6 2DA 01592 776910 <a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk">www.sepa.org.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Fife Council</b> Fife House North Street Glenrothes Fife KY7 5LT 08451 55 00 00 fife.council@fife.gov.uk <a href="http://www.fife.gov.uk">www.fife.gov.uk</a></p>	<p><b>Keep Scotland Beautiful</b> 01786 471333 <a href="mailto:beach@ksbscotland.org.uk">beach@ksbscotland.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org">www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org</a></p>
<p><b>Scottish Government</b> Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ 0131 244 0396 <a href="mailto:eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk">eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters">www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters</a></p>		

Version number:	Date:	Next review due:
1.0	Nov 2010	
1.1	March 2014	
1.2	June 2015	
1.3	April 2020	
1.4	May 2023	