

Bathing Water Profile for Seacliff

Seacliff, Scotland

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

Description

Seacliff bathing water is situated to the north of the small village of Seacliff in East Lothian. The sandy bay, which is about 700m in length, is popular with families, surfers and horse riders.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 10–200 metres. The beach slopes gently towards the water.



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Site details	Local authority	East Lothian Council
	Year of designation	2008
	Water sampling location	NT 605 846

Catchment description

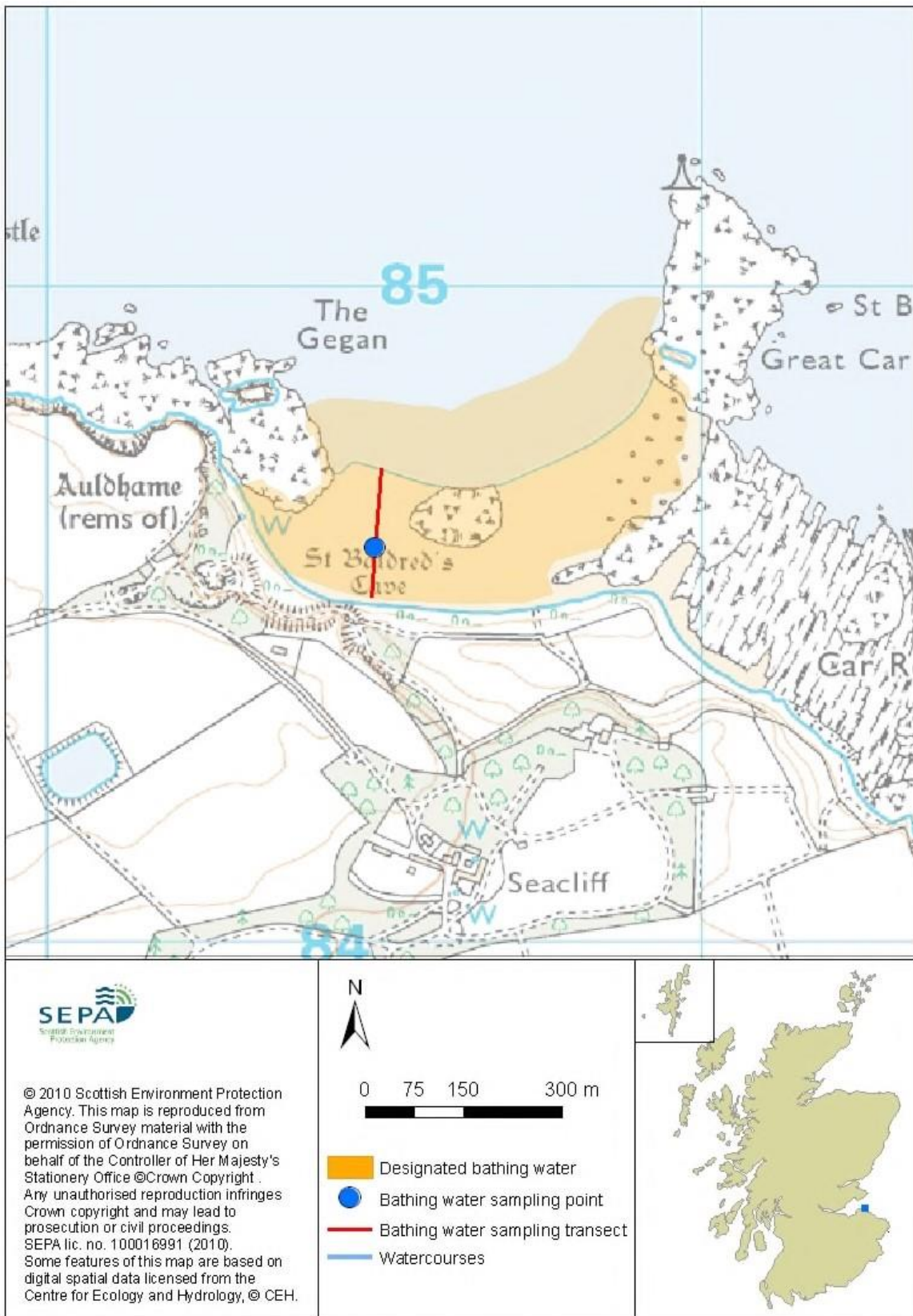
The immediate catchment draining into Seacliff bathing water is very small and extends to only 0.2 km². The area is predominantly rural (64%) with agriculture the major land use. Approximately 26% of the bathing water catchment is urban comprising of small holdings and roads.

The Firth of Forth is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, a Ramsar site and a Special Protection Area due to the internationally important bird populations it supports. The Lothian and Borders area was designated as a surface water Nitrate Vulnerable Zone in 2002.

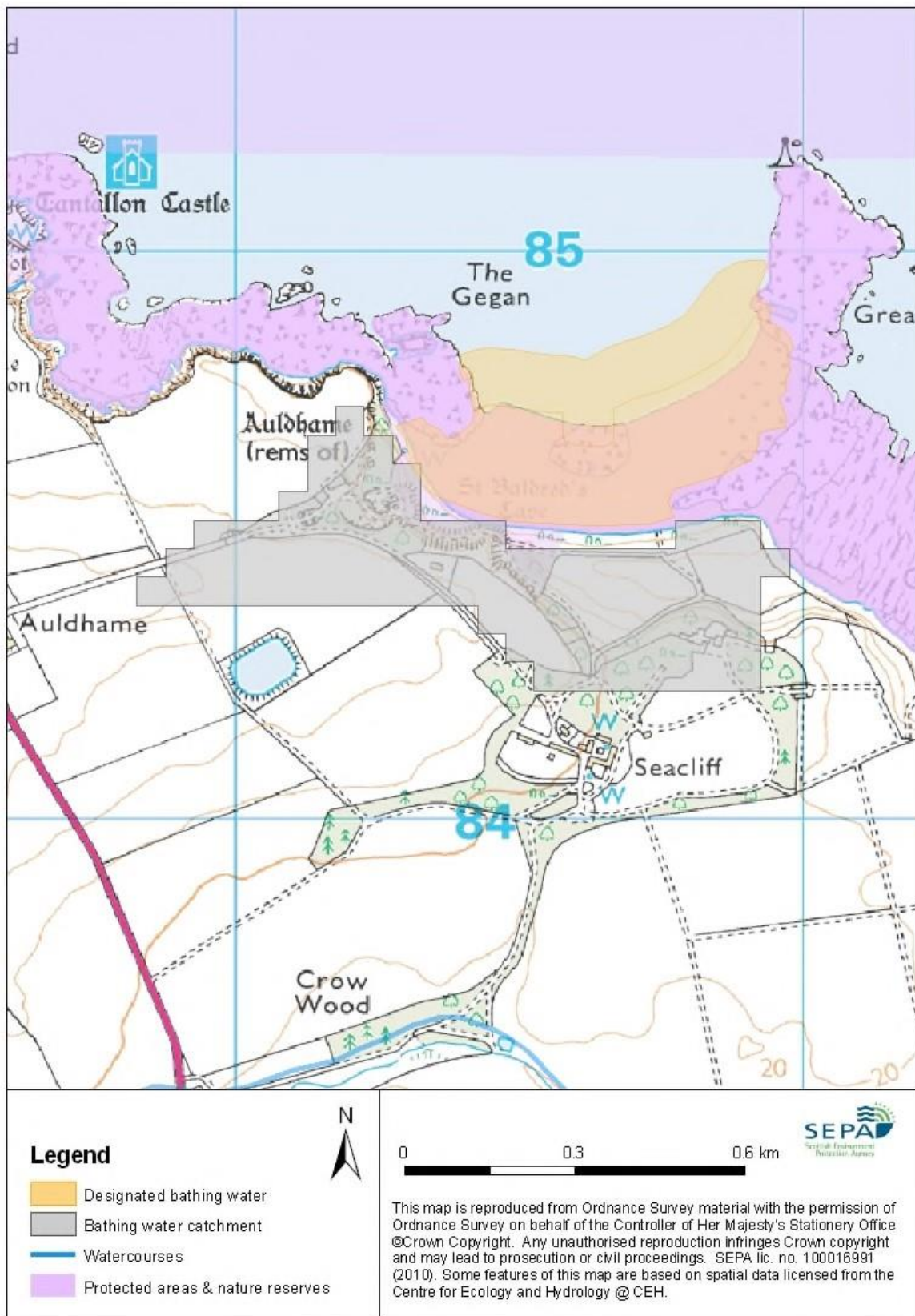
Risks to water quality

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

Map 1: Seacliff bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Seacliff bathing 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 East Lothian Council for this bathing water.

Contact details and information sources

<p>SEPA Edinburgh office 231 Corstorphine Rd Edinburgh EH12 7AT 0131 449 7296 www.sepa.org.uk</p>	<p>East Lothian Council John Muir House Haddington East Lothian EH41 3HA 01620 827827 customerservices@eastlothian.gov.uk www.eastlothian.gov.uk</p>	<p>Keep Scotland Beautiful 01786 471333 beach@ksbscotland.org.uk www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org</p>
<p>Scottish Government Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ 0131 244 0396 eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters</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	