



Water Use

Supporting Guidance (WAT-SG-90)

Application of environmental standards in assessing risks to river and loch Natura 2000 interests

Version: v1

Released: Oct 2016

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Update Summary

Version	Description
v1	First issue for Water Use reference using approved content from the following documents: <i>WLPRSG(16)17a Application of environmental standards in assessing risks to river and loch Natura 2000 interests</i>

Notes:

References: Linked references to other documents have been disabled in this web version of the document. See the References section for details of all referenced documents.

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Always refer to the online document for accurate and up-to-date information.

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1. Introduction

This document sets out how SEPA will assess whether or not a proposed controlled activity (on its own or in combination with other activities) is likely to have a significant adverse effect on any river or loch Special Area of Conservation (SAC) or on any loch Special Protection Area (SPA)¹.

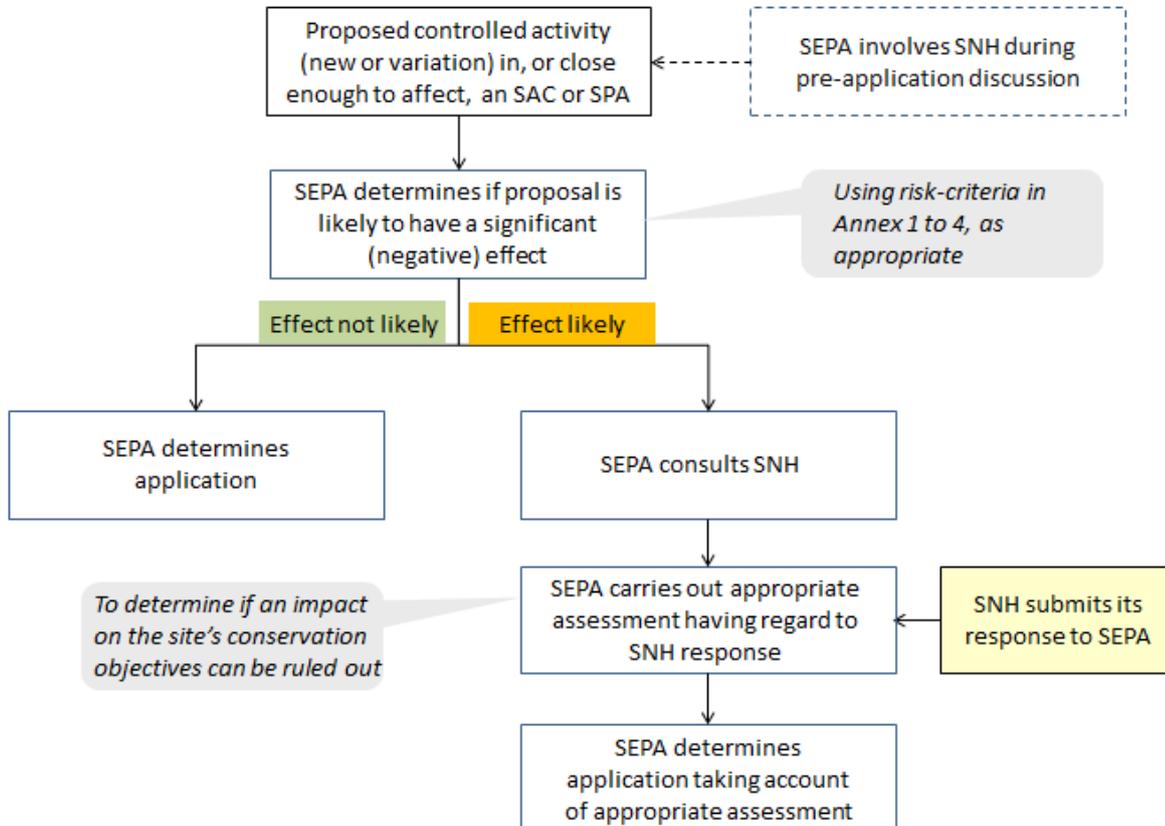
The UK Technical Advisory Group on the Water Framework Directive and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee have begun a review of the environmental conditions needed to sustain protected species and habitats. SEPA and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) are contributing to this review. Any resulting recommendations on new or revised standards will be made to the UK and devolved government administrations for their consideration.

The approach set out in this document will be applied in the interim until such time as any new or revised environmental standards are adopted.

Where SEPA identifies that a significant adverse effect is likely, it will undertake an appropriate assessment of the proposal's implications for the SAC or SPA in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Use WAT-FORM-32 to record the determinations and assessments referred to in figure 1. If consulting SNH, use WAT-LETT-86.

Figure 1 Process overview



¹ SEPA maintains a register of protected areas. Details about the SACs and SPAs on the register are published by SNH and a link to the details for each site can be found in SEPA's register.

2. Risk assessment criteria for river and loch SACs and SPAs

SEPA will assess whether or not a proposal in a river or loch SAC or loch SPA, or close enough to affect a river or loch SAC or a loch SPA, is likely to have a significant effect on a protected interests as follows:

Proposed Activity	Risk Assessment Criteria ¹	Protected Interest
Discharge	Annex 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ freshwater pearl mussel ▪ lamprey species ▪ Atlantic salmon ▪ ranunculus river habitat ▪ loch habitat² & slender naiad
Water abstraction or flow increase	Annex 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ freshwater pearl mussel ▪ lamprey species ▪ Atlantic salmon, ranunculus river habitat ▪ loch habitat & slender naiad
Registration-level engineering works	Annex 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ freshwater pearl mussel ▪ Atlantic salmon ▪ lamprey species ▪ otter ▪ alluvial woodland
Licence-level engineering works	Annex 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ freshwater pearl mussel ▪ Atlantic salmon ▪ lamprey species ▪ ranunculus river habitat ▪ alluvial woodland ▪ otter ▪ loch habitat & slender naiad ▪ nesting/roosting birds

Notes:

1. The risk criteria apply to proposed new activities and proposed variations to existing activities (eg an application to increase a discharge or abstraction; undertake additional engineering works)

SEPA will assess the effects of proposed activities located anywhere within the catchment of an SAC or SPA, including locations beyond the SAC/SPA's boundaries. In the case of the latter, SEPA will assess whether or not the activity has effects within the boundaries of the SAC or SPA that are likely to be significant. For example, in the case of a discharge upstream of river SAC, SEPA will apply the risk criteria in Annex 1 to any effect of the discharge on pollutant concentrations within the downstream SAC.

² SAC loch habitats comprise oligotrophic lochs containing very few minerals of sandy plains; oligotrophic to mesotrophic lochs with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea*; hard oligo-mesotrophic lochs with benthic vegetation of *Chara* spp; natural eutrophic lochs with *Magnopotamion* or *Hydrocharition*-type vegetation; and natural dystrophic lochs and ponds.

Annex 1: Risk assessment criteria for proposed discharges

Annex 1 - relevant protected interests

Freshwater pearl mussel	Lamprey species	Atlantic salmon	Ranunculus river habitat	Loch habitat (& slender naiad)	SPA lochs
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Table 1 Criteria for assessing whether proposed discharges are likely to have a significant effect on freshwater SACs

Water quality determinand	River (R) or loch (L)	Proposed discharge type	Applicable environmental standards – reference is to Tables in 2014 Standards Directions [Reference in square brackets is to SEPA internal guidance]	Criteria for identifying whether a significant effect is likely				
				< 3% of class capacity remaining ¹	Pre-existing deteriorating trend	Breach of any standard	Compromise future achievement of a standard for good	Mixing zone over pearl mussel bed ²
Oxygen conditions	R	Continuous	Dissolved oxygen: Table C1.1 (salmonid river type); or, if assessment against dissolved oxygen standards is not possible, biochemical oxygen demand: Table C1.3 [GIS Pages]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	R	Short-duration, intermittent	Table C1.2 (salmonid river type); or, if assessment against dissolved oxygen standards is not possible, biochemical oxygen demand: Table C1.4 [WAT-SG-53-T2 – Table 2a]	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Phosphorus ³	R	Any	Table C1.5 [Science Advice Helpdesk]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	L	Any	Table C2.4 or C2.5 as applicable [GIS Pages]	-	✓	✓ ⁴	✓	-
River temperature	R	Any	Table C1.6 (salmonid river type) [GIS Pages]	-	-	✓	✓	-
Ammonia	R	Continuous	Table C4.1 (total ammonia) [GIS Pages]	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	R	Short-duration, intermittent	Table C4.3 (unionised ammonia) [WAT-SG-53-T2 – Table 2d]	-	-	✓	✓	✓
specific pollutants (other than	R & L	Continuous	Table C4.6 to C4.32 (annual mean standard) [WAT-SG-53-T5]	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
	R	Short-duration, intermittent	Table C4.6 to C4.32 (95-percentile standard if	-	-	✓	✓	✓

Table 1 Criteria for assessing whether proposed discharges are likely to have a significant effect on freshwater SACs

Water quality determinand	River (R) or loch (L)	Proposed discharge type	Applicable environmental standards – reference is to Tables in 2014 Standards Directions [Reference in square brackets is to SEPA internal guidance]	Criteria for identifying whether a significant effect is likely				
				< 3% of class capacity remaining ¹	Pre-existing deteriorating trend	Breach of any standard	Compromise future achievement of a standard for good	Mixing zone over pearl mussel bed ²
ammonia)			specified, otherwise annual mean standard) [WAT-SG-53-T5]					
Priority substances	R & L	Any	Table C5.1 (as amended by 2015 Amendment Directions) [WAT-SG-53-T4]	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Suspended solids	R	Continuous discharges other than from urban waste water treatment works	Annual mean standard of 25 mg/l suspended solids	-	-	✓	-	-
		Continuous discharges from urban waste water treatment works	Table C4.1 (total ammonia) & Table C1.3 (biochemical oxygen demand) [GIS Pages]	-	-	✓	✓	-
Acidity	R	Any	Table C1.7 (pH) [WAT-SG-53-T7]	-	✓	✓	✓	-
	L	Any	Table C2.2 (acid neutralising capacity)	-	✓	✓	✓	-

Notes

1. The criterion relating to remaining capacity applies to watercourses for which SEPA has monitoring or modelling data on pollutant concentrations. If the proportion of environmental capacity remaining in the applicable water quality class is already less than 3%, or would be less than 3% if a proposed discharge were authorised, the proposed discharge will be judged likely to have a significant effect.
2. Discharges to SACs designated for freshwater pearl mussels will be considered likely to have a significant effect unless, based on the tests set out in Table 1(a) below, SEPA concludes that pollutant concentrations in the effluent plume prior to that plumes full mixing are unlikely to have a significant adverse effect on freshwater pearl mussels [see Table 1(a) below].
3. For the purpose of applying the risk assessment criteria for phosphorus, monitoring results below the limit of detection will be assigned a concentration equivalent to that limit of detection unless SEPA has other data showing that the concentration of phosphorus is lower than that limit.
4. The phosphorus standards will only be applied to SPA lochs if the protected bird species are dependent on feeding in those lochs. The standard for high will not be applied.

Table 1(a) Assessing whether a significant effect on freshwater pearl mussels is likely from concentrations of pollutants in a mixing zone³		
Step-wise tests	No	Yes
1. Would the concentration in the proposed emission be \leq the relevant environmental standard?	Go to test 2	Significant effect not likely
2. If the discharge is to be made via a new outfall, is the outfall located in, or immediately upstream of, potential fresh water pearl mussel habitat (ie areas of riffle-type flow over beds comprised of mixtures of rocks, cobbles and fine gravel/coarse sand)?	Go to test 4 if (i) not via a new outfall or (ii) via a new outfall but not be located in or immediately upstream of pearl mussel habitat	Go to test 3
3. Is there evidence that pearl mussels are absent from the potential pearl mussel habitat that is present immediately downstream of the proposed outfall?	Significant effect considered likely	Go to test 4
4. Is the mixing zone length $< 200\text{m}$ (approximately)? <i>The mixing zone length is the distance downstream of the outfall before the discharge is mixed across the full width of the channel.</i>	Go to test 5	Significant effect not likely
5. Would the concentration in the plume be \leq the relevant environmental standard within < 200 metres (approximately) of the outfall?	Go to test 6	Significant effect not likely
6. Is the proposed emission from an existing discharge's outfall?	Go to test 8	Go to test 7
7. Would the length of mixing zone in which environmental standards are exceeded be approximately the same as it is currently if the proposed emission were authorised?	Go to test 8	Significant effect not likely
8. Within the part of the channel over which the plume would extend, is the habitat unsuitable for freshwater pearl mussels? <i>Habitat lacking areas of riffle-type flow over beds comprised of mixtures of rocks, cobbles and fine gravel/coarse sand is likely to be unsuitable.</i>	Go to test 9	Significant effect not likely
9. Within the part of the channel that would be covered by the plume, is there evidence that pearl mussels are absent?	Significant effect considered likely	Significant effect not likely

³ SEPA's Environmental and Spatial Informatics Unit should be contacted to calculate the mixing zone. Mixing zone lengths vary with flow. For the purposes of Table 1(a), SEPA will estimate mixing zone lengths at Q50 flow – the flow exceeded for 50% of the time.

Outfall design

The mixing zone length over which environmental standards are exceeded can be shortened by maximising initial mixing. SEPA will:

- (i) consider proposals to improve initial mixing where it would otherwise conclude that a discharge would be likely to have a significant effect on freshwater pearl mussels; and
- (ii) in all cases, encourage developers to take such steps as are reasonably practical to promote rapid initial mixing of continuous discharges.

Proposed new intermittent discharges should be designed to:

- operate only where river flows are expected to be high; and
- meet the appropriate standards for intermittent discharges (see Table 1)

Potential steps to improve initial mixing:

- locating discharge ports under water such that the effluent emerges at around mid-depth when river flow is at a medium to low level. This allows the discharge to mix vertically in both directions (up and down) at once;
- using appropriately protected discharge pipes that protrude into the channel so that the effluent is not discharged at the channel edge. A protruding outfall allows the discharge to mix horizontally in both directions (left and right) at the same time. However, a protruding outfall can instigate bed scour and erosion. This risk increases in higher energy rivers and needs to be taken into account at the design stage if this option is to be used;
- discharging the effluent through more than one port along a diffuser line; or
- orienting ports and designing effluent exit speeds so as to maximise shearing action between the effluent jet and river flow.

Annex 2: Risk assessment criteria for proposed abstractions

Annex 2 – relevant protected interests

Freshwater pearl mussel	Lamprey species	Atlantic salmon	Ranunculus river habitat	Loch habitat (& slender naiad)	SPA lochs
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Table 2: Criteria for assessing whether a proposed abstraction or increase in flow is likely to have a significant effect on freshwater SACs

Flow or level	Type of water affected	Applicable environmental standards reference is to Tables in 2014 Standards Directions	Criteria for identifying where a significant effect is likely			
			Breach of any standard	Compromise future achievement of a standard for good	Breach of any criterion for good ecological potential flow	Increased departure from any criterion for good ecological potential flow
River flow	Watercourses not designated as heavily modified in relation to a water storage scheme & parts of water bodies so designated whose flows are not worse than good as a consequence of the scheme	Applicable standards in Part B of Schedule 2 – Tables B1.1 to B1.7	✓	✓	-	-
	Any part of a river water body designated as heavily modified in relation to a water storage scheme whose flows are worse than good as a consequence of that scheme	UKTAG guidance on good ecological potential river flows	-	-	✓	✓ (where the relevant UKTAG mitigation for good ecological potential is not in place)
	Any watercourse	Standards in Schedule 3 – Table 2.1 for increased flow	✓	✓	-	-
Lake level	Any freshwater loch	Table B2.1	✓	✓	-	-

Note: SEPA will require that any proposed new intakes and outfalls in river SACs follow best practice in their design and location to avoid damage to, or diversion of, migrating fish.

Annex 3: Risk assessment criteria for proposed registration-level engineering works

Annex 3 – relevant protected interests

Freshwater pearl mussel	Lamprey species	Atlantic salmon	Alluvial woodland	otter
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If any proposed registration-level engineering works would result in deterioration of morphological status, SEPA will conclude that a significant effect on the protected interest is likely. Where deterioration of morphological status would not result, SEPA will apply the criteria in Table 3.

Table 3: Circumstances in which engineering works authorised by registration will be assessed as likely to have a significant effect on a river SAC

Engineering activity (see CAR Practical guide for further details)	Designated SAC interest				
	Pearl mussel	Salmon	Lamprey	Otter	Alluvial woodland
Limited sediment removal from 1/3 of dry bars in a 1 km river length	-	-	-	-	✓
Sediment removal from <u>wet part</u> of river bed - within 10 m of a bridge	✓ ¹	-	-	-	-
Sediment removal from <u>wet part</u> of bed at an open culvert < 2 m wide	✓ ¹	-	-	-	-
Sediment removal from <u>wet part</u> of a lade	✓ ¹	-	-	-	-
Cable/pipe crossing beneath bed	✓ ¹	-	✓ ³	✓ ⁴	-
Green bank protection of < 50m where works undertaken on <u>wet part</u> of river bed	✓ ¹	-	✓ ³	✓ ⁴	✓
Bank re-profiling of < 50m where works undertaken on <u>wet part</u> of river bed	✓ ¹	-	✓ ³	✓ ⁴	✓
Bridge with < 20m bank works	✓ ¹	-	-	✓ ⁴	✓
Bridging culvert of river < 2 m wide for single track road or smaller path	✓ ¹	-	-	✓ ⁴	-
Bed reinforcement within 10m of a culvert exit	✓ ¹	-	-	-	-
Removal of sediment from previously straightened watercourses with specific impact features less than 5 metres wide	✓ ²	-	-	-	-

Notes:

- SEPA will conclude that a significant effect on pearl mussels is likely unless there is evidence that pearl mussels are absent from the location or a previous appropriate assessment has concluded that impacts on pearl mussels at the location would not have implications for the Natura 2000 site's objectives. For this purpose, evidence of absence includes evidence that habitat suitable for pearl mussels is absent
- SEPA will conclude that a proposal for this activity in an SAC designated for pearl mussels would be likely to have a significant effect on pearl mussel interests unless:
 - the channel downstream has the same characteristics (ie previously straightened with specific high impact features) until its confluence with a loch; for a distance of ≥ 2 km; or until its confluence with a river with an annual mean flow at least 5x greater; or
 - where there is channel not of the same characteristics within the downstream channel distances referred to in point (a), there is evidence that pearl mussels are absent from the location or a previous appropriate assessment has concluded that impacts on pearl mussels at the location would not have

implications for the Natura 2000 site's objectives. For this purpose, evidence of absent includes evidence that habitat suitable for pearl mussels is absent.

3. SEPA will conclude that a significant effect on lamprey interests is likely if the site proposed for the activity coincides with a discrete patch of silt known to support a significant proportion of the Natura 2000 site's lamprey population and identified to SEPA by SNH. The sites are listed in Table 4 below.

4. SEPA will only conclude that a proposal would be likely to have a significant effect on otter interests if it is to be located in one of the following SACs: Ardvar and Loch a'Mhulinn Woodlands; Glen Beasdale; Ness Woods; River Borgie; Loch Fada; or Loch Ruthven.

Table 4: Locations of discrete patches of silt known to support a significant proportion of Natura 2000 site's lamprey population (see Table 3)

Eastings	Northing	Radius (m)	Description	River bank
334370	862998	75	Extensive Backwater beside Essil Pool	Left
334266	859777	25	Backwater, 300m downstream from Fochabers Bridge on right bank	Right
333211	855690	50	Backwater beside Lord March Pool, Brae Water Beat 3	Left
333275	856843	25	Backwater at lower end of Aultdearg Pool, Brae water Beat 3	Left
331790	852500	80	Backwater at Upper end of Orton Beat	Left
329018	850843	75	Large backwater at upper end of Sourden pool, Delfur	Left
324800	842900	50	Extensive sand/silt deposit in Pike Hole, WesterElchies	Left
323822	841734	60	Backwater at Horse Hole, directly downstream from Green Burn Mouth, Delagyle	Left
318061	838190	80	Backwater approx 500m upstream from Blacksboat Bridge, Pitchroy	Left
316165	836937	150	Upper end of backwater behind island.	Left
307027	829166	80	Backwater 200m upstream from Cromdale Burn	Right
299500	822333	60	"U/S of Nethy Bridge". In side channel midway between River Nethy confluence and Broomhill Bridge	Left
294650	819200	70	"D/S of bridge at Boat of Garten". C.100 metres downstream of Garten Bridge	Left

Annex 4: Risk assessment criteria for proposed licence-level engineering works

Part 1 Annex 4 - relevant protected interests							
Lamprey species	Freshwater pearl mussel	Atlantic salmon	Alluvial woodland	Otter	Ranunculus river habitat	Loch habitat (& slender naiad)	SPA lochs with nesting/roosting birds

Figure 2 Procedure for identifying whether or not a proposed licence-level activity would be likely to have a significant effect

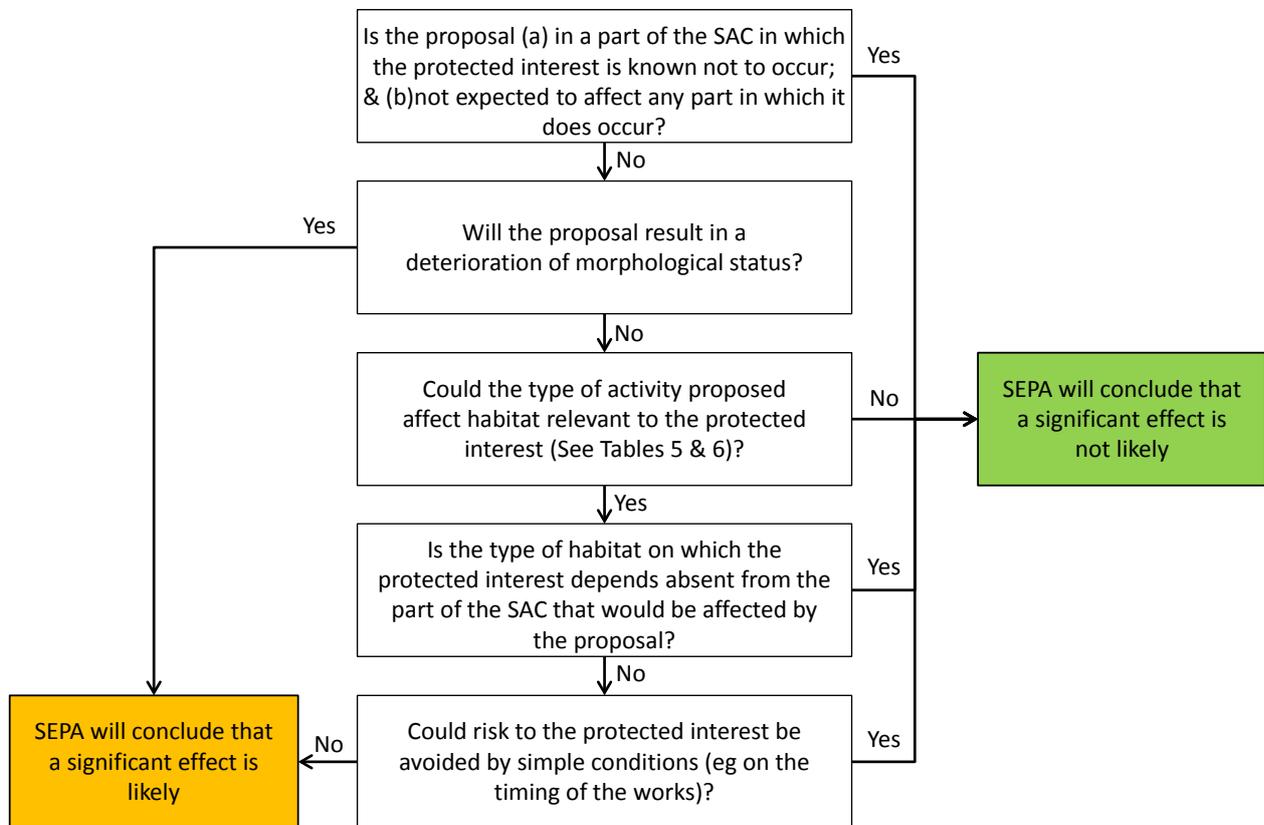


Table 5: Activities in river SACs that could affect habitat relevant to a protected species or habitat						
Activity (as listed in 2014 Standards Directions)	Freshwater pearl mussel	Atlantic salmon	Lamprey	Ranunculus habitat	Alluvial woodland	Otter
1. Construction of artificial walls, artificial earth banks or other artificial structures which are: (i) on land which is >10 metres or one channel width (whichever is the greater) but < 50 metres distant from the channel; and (ii) higher than the highest land between the structure and the channel.	-	-	-	-	✓	✓
2. Construction of artificial walls, artificial earth banks or other artificial structures, excluding revetments, which are: (i) on land which is ≤10 metres or one channel width (whichever is the greater) distant from the channel; and (ii) higher than the highest land between the structure and the channel.	-	-	-	-	✓	✓
3. Alteration of the structural complexity of vegetation within 2 metres of the channel, ranging from complete removal of vegetation to a partial change to the density of one structural component of the vegetation, such as woody vegetation.	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓
4. Bank revetment using vegetation; geotextiles; wood placed at the toe of the bank; or non-grouted stone rip-rap placed at the toe of the bank.	✓ ¹	✓ ²	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓	✓
5. Bank revetment using materials or methods other than vegetation; geotextiles; wood placed at the toe of the bank; or non-grouted stone rip-rap placed at the toe of the bank where:						
5a. no structure is placed between revetments on opposite banks so as to span the channel width and create a culvert through which the river flow passes;	✓ ¹	✓ ²	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓	✓
5b. (i) the revetment is applied to the bank faces of each bank; and (ii) a structure is placed	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓

	between the revetments and joined or abutted to them so as to span the channel width and create a culvert through which the river flow passes;						
5c.	(i) the revetment is applied to the bank faces of each bank; (ii) the channel bed is altered to increase its resistance to erosion, such as by lining it, or replacing it, with concrete; bricks; wood; sediments larger than those typically capable of being transported by the river; or any other materials resistant to erosion; and (iii) a structure is placed between the bank revetments and joined or abutted to them so as to span the channel width and create a culvert through which the river flow passes.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓
	6. Removal of sediment from the channel bed where the sediment is removed from ≤ 50 % of the channel width.	✓ ¹	✓ ²	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓	✓ ⁴
	7. Removal of sediment from the channel bed where the sediment is removed from > 50 % of the channel width.	✓	✓ ²	✓ ³	✓ ³	✓	✓ ⁴
	8. Alterations to the channel bed which increase its resistance to erosion, such as the lining of the bed, or the replacement of the bed, with concrete; bricks; wood; sediments larger than those typically capable of being transported by the river; or any other materials resistant to erosion.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓ ³	✓	✓ ⁴
	9. Placement of any structure on the bed of the channel such that the structure abuts one of the banks and deflects part of the river flow to another part of the channel.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓
	10. Placement of a structure on the bed of the channel such that the structure deflects part of the river flow to another part of the channel and, on its own or combination with other in-stream structures, occupies more than 10 % of the	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓

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channel width						
11. Construction of any dam, weir or other works by which water is impounded.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓
12a. Alteration of the channel length or the channel width which pose a high risk of destabilising the balance between erosion and deposition of sediment and hence the structure and condition of the bed or banks.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓
12b. Alteration of the channel length or the channel width which pose a low risk of destabilising the balance between erosion and deposition of sediment and hence the structure and condition of the bed or banks.	✓	✓ ²	✓	✓	✓	✓
<p>Notes:</p> <p>1. The activity should be considered relevant unless (i) the part of the channel affected is dry at the time of the works; and (ii) in the case of activity 6, the removal of sediment is not of a scale likely to result in sediment starvation and consequent bed erosion downstream⁴.</p> <p>2. The activity should be considered relevant if (a) it affects the wetted part of the channel in spawning areas during spawning periods or during the period prior to the emergence of juvenile fish from the river gravels; or (b) the works will involve prolonged periods of blasting or pile driving during times during which migratory fish are likely to be in passage</p> <p>3. The activity should only be considered relevant if the works are undertaken in the wetted part of the channel</p> <p>4. The activity should only be considered relevant if the works are likely to affect instream islands or access to undertake the works is likely to damage riparian zone habitats</p>						

⁴ SEPA's Ecology Partnership & Development Unit should be contacted for advice on the scale of sediment removal likely to produce habitat change downstream.

Table 6: Activities in loch SACs or SPAs that could affect habitat relevant to a protected species or habitat			
Activity (as listed in 2014 Standards Directions)	Loch habitats & slender naiad	Otter	Nesting/roosting birds
1. Impounding works or works causing the lowering of the river bed immediately downstream of the loch outlet.	✓	✓	✓
2. Bank revetment using materials other than vegetation; geotextiles; or soil.	✓	✓	✓
3. Bank revetment using vegetation; geotextiles; or soil.	✓	✓	✓
4. Any structure on the bed of a loch that extends from the shore into the loch other than an outfall, pipe, cable or part of a structure referred to in alteration 1, 5 or 6.	✓	✓	✓
5. Any structure which: (i) is suspended above the surface of a loch between foundation structures on the bed of the loch; and (ii) extends from the shore out into the loch.	✓	✓	✓
6. In-filling by any means of a part of a loch with the effect of extending the adjacent terrestrial land surface into the area previously occupied by loch water.	✓	✓	✓
7. Depositing of any material containing bedrock, boulders, gravel, sand, silt, mud or any mixture thereof on the bed of a loch other than as part of alterations 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6.	✓	_1	_2
8. Removal of bed material by excavation from the bed of a loch.	✓	_1	_2
9. Alteration of the structural complexity of vegetation on land within 10 metres of the loch edge, ranging from complete removal of vegetation and replacement with impermeable surfaces to a partial change to the density of a structural component of the vegetation.	✓	✓	✓
<p>Notes:</p> <p>1. Not to be treated as relevant unless the carrying on of the activity is likely to cause damage to otter holts in the shore zone or prevent/limit the use of the loch by otters for a significant period of time.</p> <p>2. Not to be treated as relevant unless the carrying on of the activity is likely to cause damage to nests or nesting sites in the shore zone or prevent the use of the loch by the birds for a significant period of time.</p>			

Key References

NOTE: Linked references to other documents have been disabled in this web version of the document See the Water >Guidance pages of the SEPA website for Guidance and other documentation (<http://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/engineering/engineering-guidance/>). All references to external documents are listed on this page along with an indicative URL to help locate the document. The full path is not provided as SEPA can not guarantee its future location.

Key Documents

- *WAT-FORM-32: SEPA Natura Procedure Assessment Record (under CAR)*
- *WAT-LETT-86: SNH Consultation Letter*
- *WAT-SG-53: Environmental Quality Standards and Standards for Discharges to Surface Waters*

Other Information

- *2014 Standards Directions August 2014 (www.gov.scot/publications/Scotland River Basin District (Standards) Directions 2014)*
- *Science Advice Helpdesk (SEPA Intranet page)*
- *GIS Pages (SEPA GIS Intranet page)*
- *UKTAG guidance on good ecological potential river flows (wfd.co.uk)*

- End of Document -