

## Bathing Water Profile for Burntisland

Burntisland, Scotland

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

### Description

Burntisland bathing water is located on the northern shore of the Firth of Forth. It is south west of Burntisland town.

It is a long sandy bay, approximately 2 km in length, and slopes gently towards the water. The beach is popular with families due to the sandy nature of the beach and the presence of numerous rock pools.



© Copyright [Richard Webb](#) and licensed for [reuse](#) under this [Creative Commons Licence](#)

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 0 metres to 1.2 km.

For local tide information see:

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

<b>Site details</b>	Local authority	Fife Council
	Year of designation	1999
	Water sampling location	NT 24106 85699

### Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Burntisland bathing water extends to 3 km<sup>2</sup>. The area is predominantly rural (70%) with grassland (30%) and arable agriculture (21%) the main land uses. Approximately 26% of the bathing water catchment is urban. The main population centre is the town of Burntisland.

There are no major rivers within the bathing water catchment.

### Risks to water quality

The principal risks and source of wet weather driven short term pollution at this bathing water arise from agricultural run-off and combined sewer overflows.

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 potential sources of short-term faecal indicator pollution at this bathing water can originate from human or animal sources.

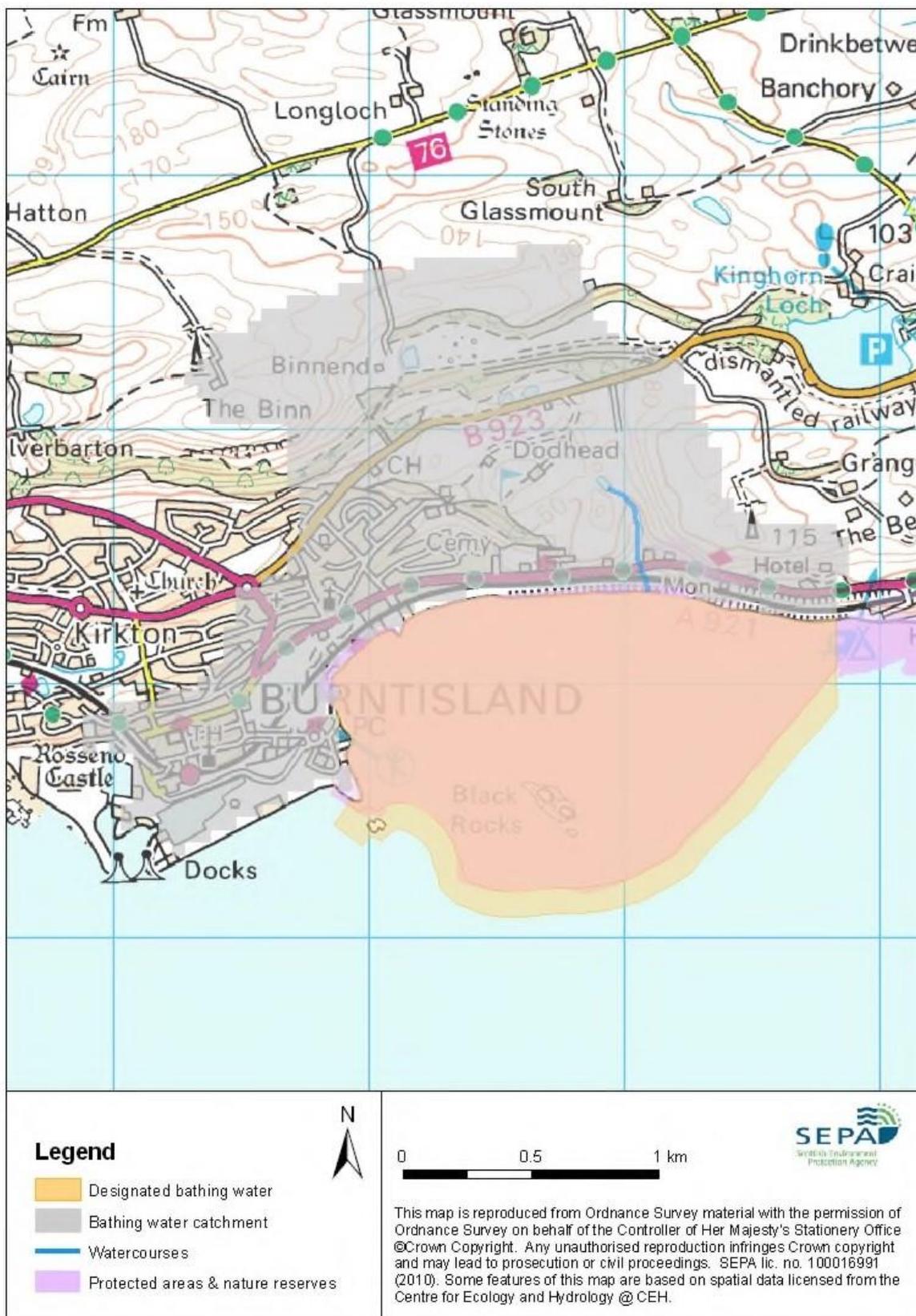
Map 1: Burntisland bathing water



© 2010 Scottish Environment Protection Agency. This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Any unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. SEPA lic. no. 100016991 (2010). Some features of this map are based on digital spatial data licensed from the Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, © CEH.

- Designated bathing water
- Bathing water sampling point
- Bathing water sampling transect
- + Combined sewer overflow
- Emergency overflow
- Sewage pumping station
- Watercourses

Map 2: Catchment draining into Burntisland bathing water



## **Improving bathing water quality**

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

Scottish Water provides most waste water collection and treatment services in Scotland.

Scottish Water has completed a series of improvements to the sewerage system in the Burntisland area. All effluent discharges in the area are taken to Burntisland sewage works for treatment. They are then discharged to the Firth of Forth via a long sea outfall.

### **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></p> <p>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></p> <p>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></p> <p>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></p> <p>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	