

Bathing Water Profile for Crail (Roome Bay)

Crail, Scotland

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

Description

Crail (Roome Bay) bathing water is located in the small town of Crail. The designated area is about 500 metres long and is a combination of sand and rock. There is a small pool at one end of the beach which is a wildlife haven. It was designated as a bathing water in 1999.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 0–200 metres. For local tide information see:

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



Site details

Local authority	Fife Council
Year of designation	1999
Water sampling location	NO 61926 07822

Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Crail (Roome Bay) bathing water extends to 5 km². The area is predominantly rural (93%) with arable agriculture the major land use. The main population centre in the catchment is the town of Crail. Population density outside of the towns is generally low

The main water course within the bathing water catchment is the Crail Burn, also known as Den Burn. It flows into the bathing water at the western end of the bathing beach.

Crail bathing water lies within the Firth of Forth Ramsar site, designated as a protected area due to the internationally important bird populations.

Risks to water quality

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

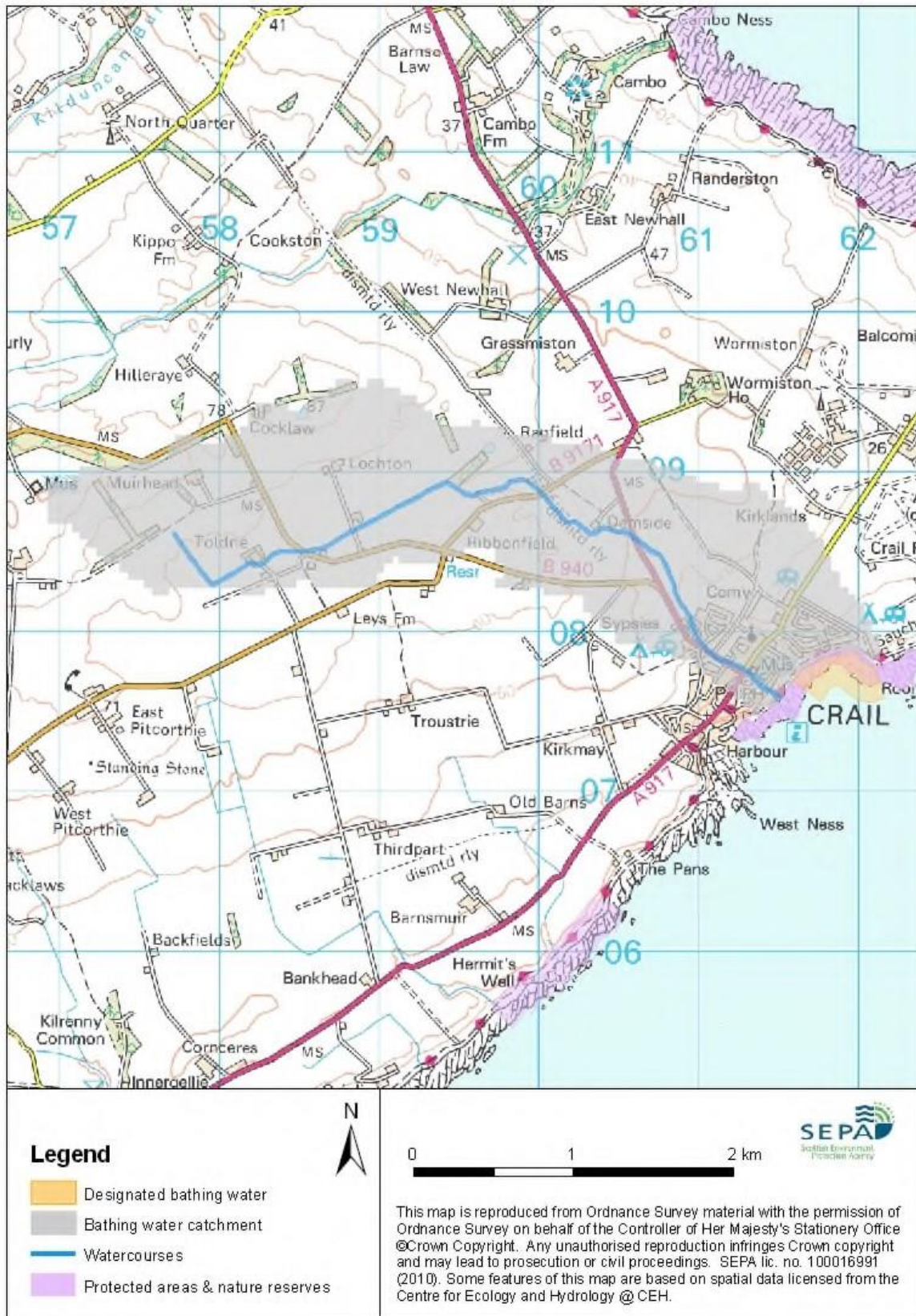
There is a risk that water pollution may occur after heavy rainfall. **Bathing is not advised during or 1-2 days after heavy rainfall. This is due to the risk to bathers' health from water pollution.**

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: Crail (Roome Bay) bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Crail (Roome Bay) 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.

Sewage from Crail is pumped to a sewage treatment works at Kilminning and discharged to the Firth of Forth via a long sea outfall. The sewer outfalls at Crail Harbour and Kirk Wynd operate under storm weather conditions.

Scottish Water have sealed up the emergency overflow from Bow Butts pumping station which used to discharge into the Crail/Den Burn.

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>SEPA Glenrothes office</p> <p>Pentland Court The Saltire Centre Glenrothes KY6 2DA 01592 776910 www.sepa.org.uk</p>	<p>Fife Council</p> <p>Fife House North Street Glenrothes KY7 5LT 08451 55 00 00 fife.council@fife.gov.uk www.fife.gov.uk</p>	<p>Keep Scotland Beautiful</p> <p>01786 471333 beach@ksbscotland.org.uk www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org</p>
<p>Scottish Government</p> <p>Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ 0131 244 0396 eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters</p>		
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1.0	Dec 2009	
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