

Bathing Water Profile for Gullane

Gullane, Scotland

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

Description

The Gullane bathing water is located close to the small town of Gullane in East Lothian. It is a large, sandy bay, approximately 2 km in length. It is a popular family beach ideal for sunbathing, walking, picnics, windsurfing and canoeing.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 30–250m. The beach slopes gently towards the water. For local tide information see:

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



Site details

Local authority	East Lothian Council
Year of designation	1987
Water sampling location	NT 47491 83319

Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Gullane bathing water extends to 2.8 km². The area is predominantly rural (87%) with grassland the major land use. Approximately 5% of the bathing water catchment is urban. The main population centre is Gullane.

There are no major rivers within the bathing water catchment.

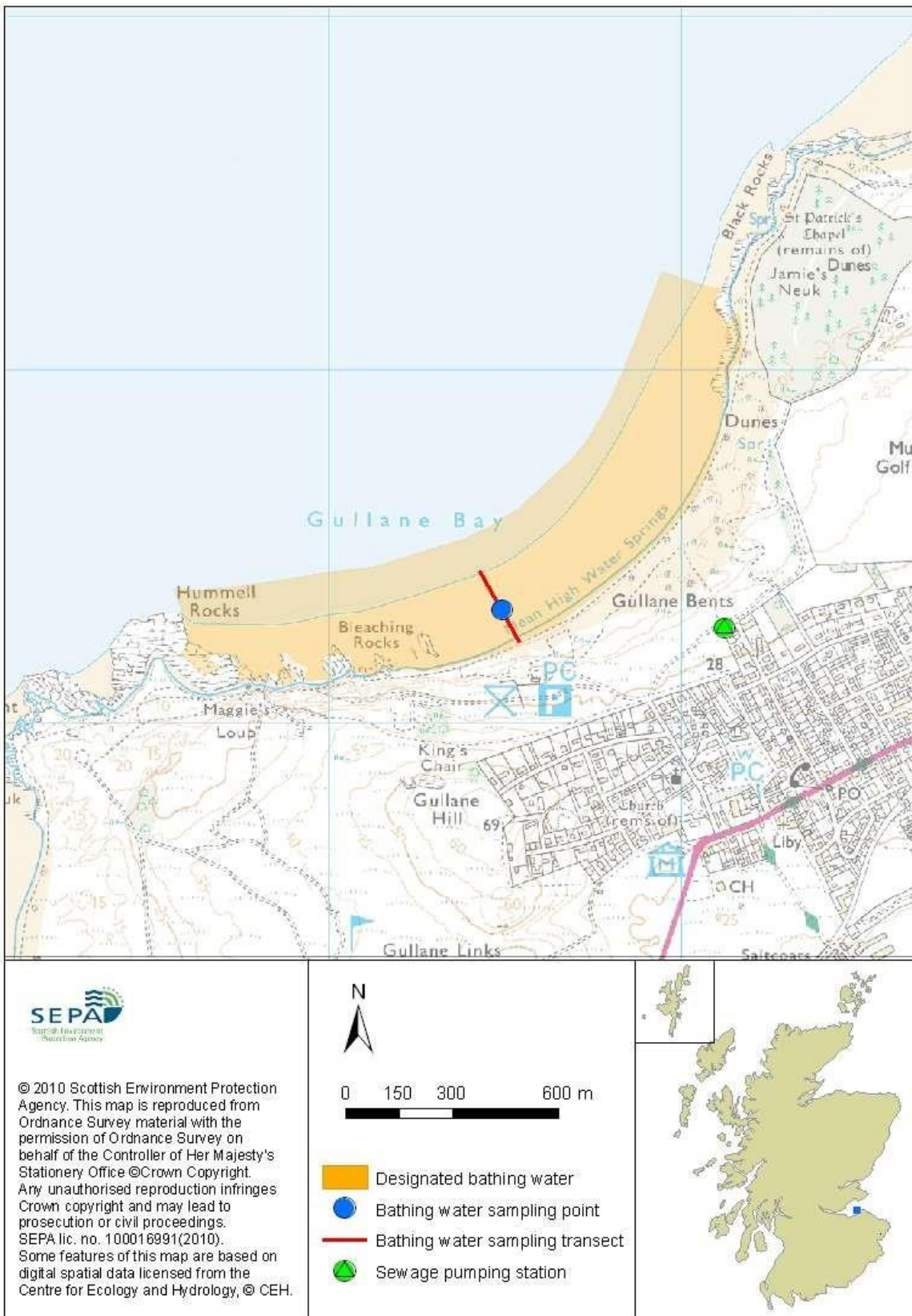
Risks to water quality

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

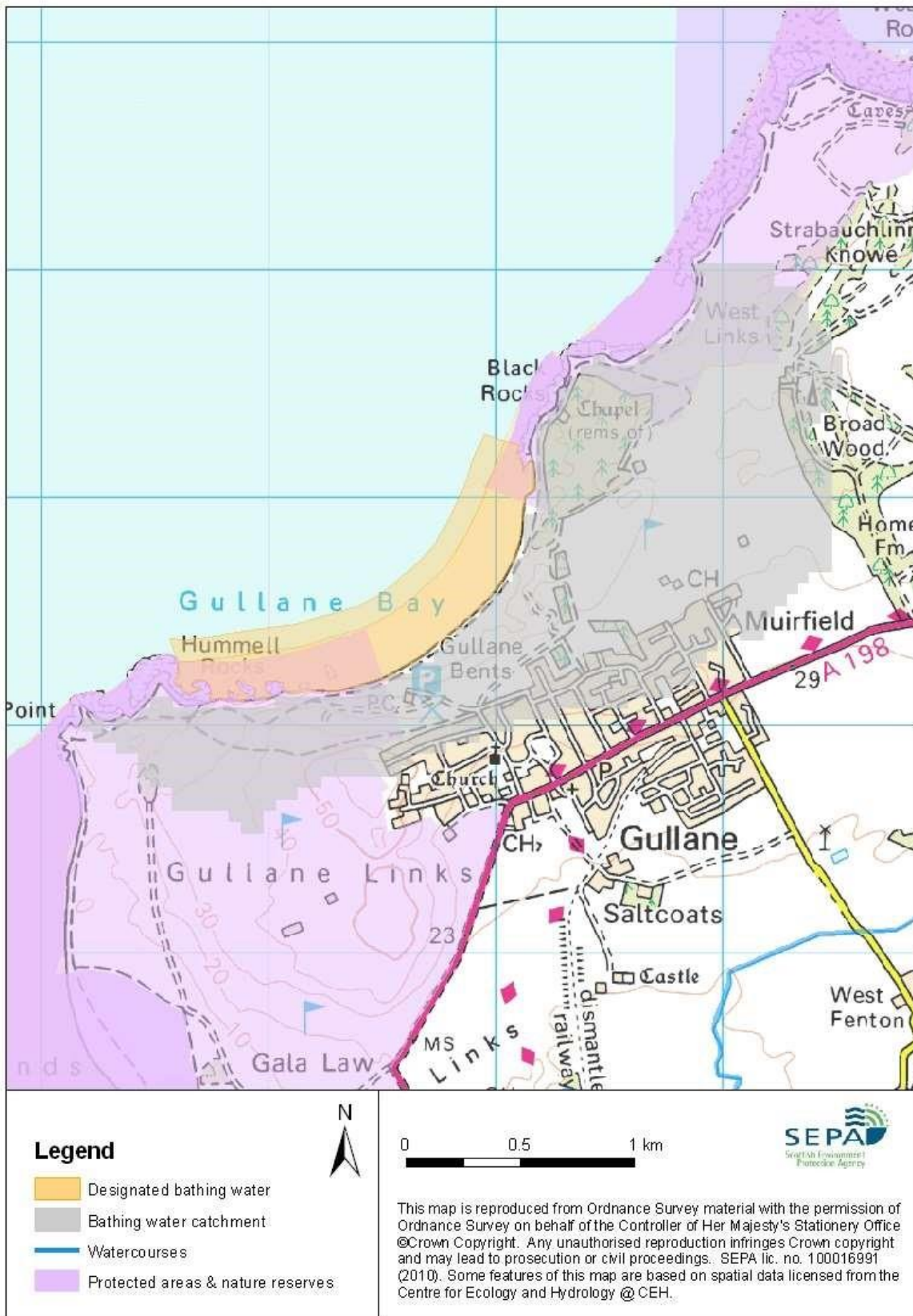
Our regulatory and scientific assessment indicates that there are no significant pollution inputs to this bathing water under normal situations, including after rainfall.

There is a risk that water pollution may occur after very extreme rainfall, but we do not currently have any evidence of this.

Map 1: Gullane bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Gullane 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.

All sewage from the Gullane area is taken to the local sewage treatment works. Treated sewage is discharged 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 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>City of Edinburgh Council City Chambers High Street Edinburgh EH1 1YJ 0131 200 2300 www.edinburgh.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 egcat@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	