

Bathing Water Profile for Peterhead (Lido)

Peterhead, Scotland

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

Description

Peterhead (Lido) bathing water is situated in Peterhead harbour on the east coast of Aberdeenshire. Its location is unusual in that it forms the shoreline of a boating marina which is itself situated within the outer harbour. The sandy beach is approximately 300 metres long.

During high and low tides the approximate distance to the water's edge can vary from 80–150 metres. The beach slopes gently towards the water.



Site details

Local authority	Aberdeenshire Council
Year of designation	1999
Water sampling location	NK 12489 45175
EC bathing water ID	UKS7616042

Catchment description

The catchment draining into the Peterhead (Lido) bathing water extends to 1 km². The catchment varies little in topography with elevations ranging from 45 metres in the west to an average of 5 metres along the coast.

The area is predominantly urban (65%) with some rural areas (30%) mainly in the south and west. The main population centre is the town of Peterhead, which is located within 500 metres of the bathing water. The area immediately outside of the catchment includes some intensive and large-scale commercial and industrial activity in Peterhead Bay including industrial activity within 500 metres of the bathing water. The harbour is used by fishing vessels, many of which discharge hold water to the harbour area.

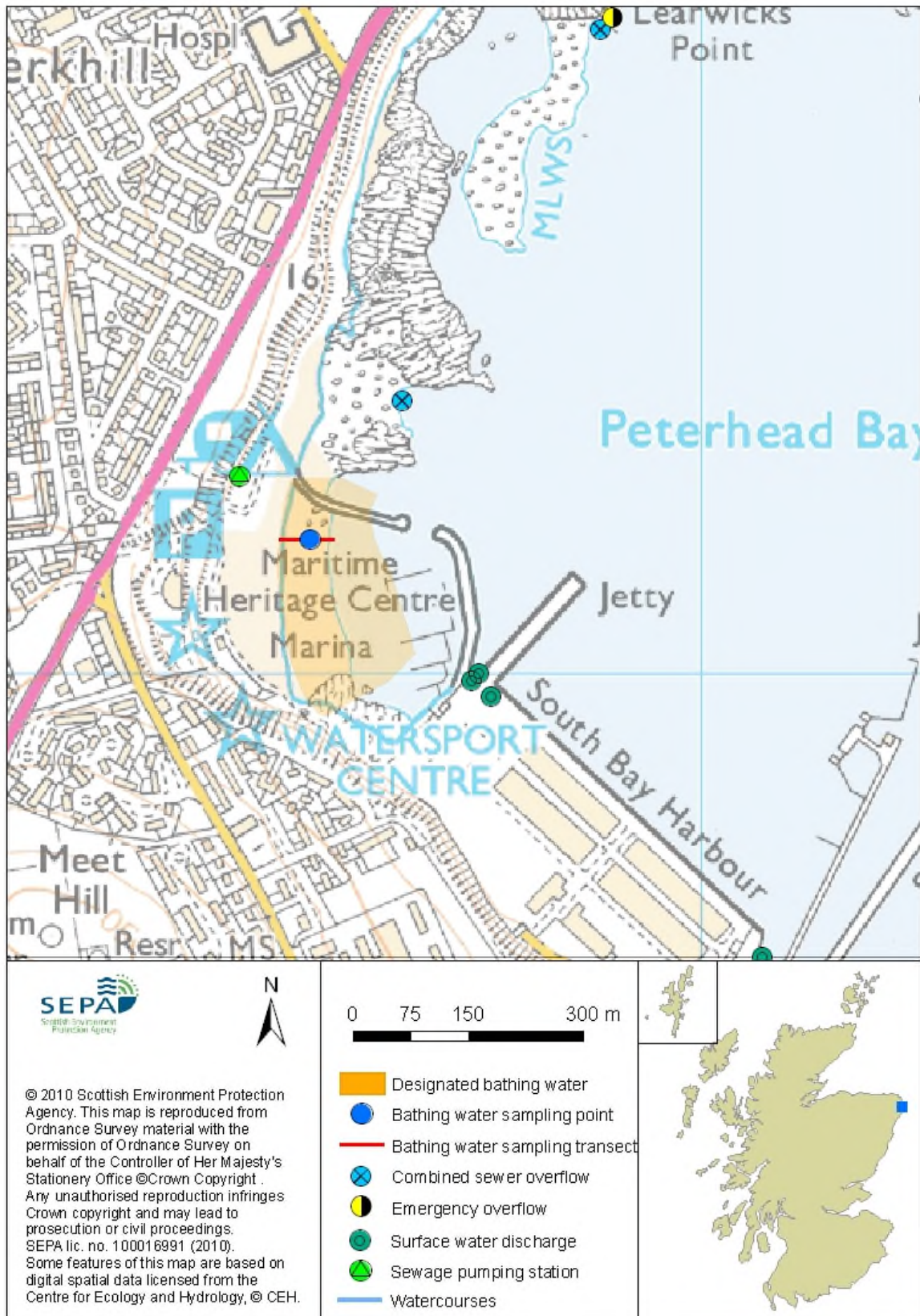
The Peterhead (Lido) bathing water is located in a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone.

Risks to water quality

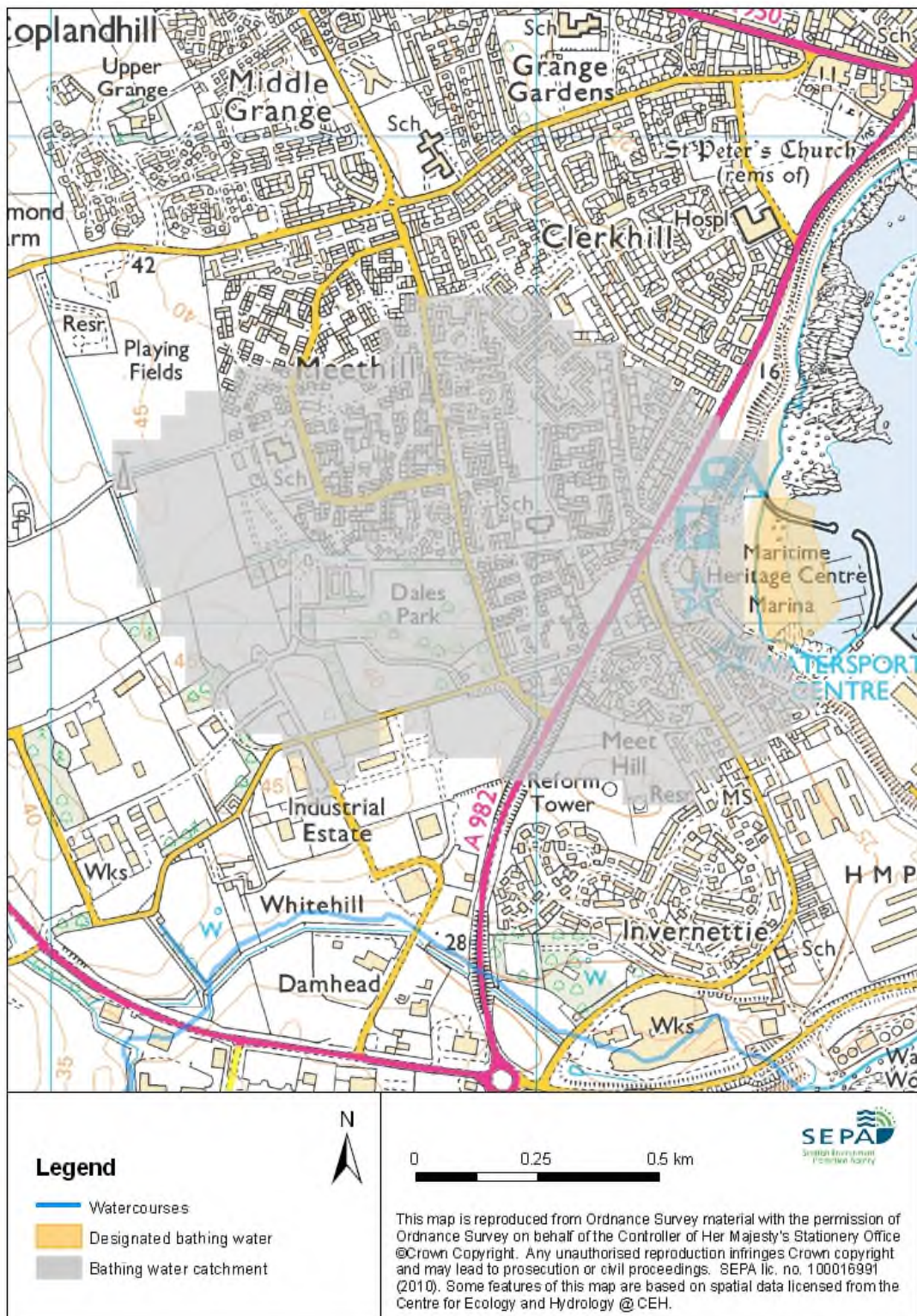
The principal risks and source of wet weather driven short term pollution at this bathing water arise from surface water urban drainage and combined sewer overflows.

Our regulatory and scientific assessment indicates that potential sources of short-term faecal indicator pollution at this bathing water can at times originate from human or animal sources.

Map 1: Peterhead (Lido) bathing water



Map 2: Catchment draining into Peterhead (Lido) 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.

Discharges from the main pumping station to Peterhead bay are only permitted under wet weather or emergency conditions. New pumps, control panels and a power supply were installed at the pumping station in 2009. There are two other combined sewer/emergency overflows near the bathing water, one just beyond the marina and the second at the northern edge of Peterhead Bay. These overflows can potentially affect the bathing water quality.

Improvements to the local sewerage system have led to a significant reduction in the level of faecal indicators in the Peterhead (Lido) bathing water. There are no continuous discharges of sewage in the immediate vicinity of the bathing water.

Improving pollution from diffuse urban sources

Urban diffuse source pollution comes from contaminated rainwater discharging to rivers and streams.

Surface water run-off from the urban area can potentially affect bathing water quality.

SEPA, local authorities and Scottish Water are working together to tackle urban diffuse pollution. Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) have been incorporated into local plans and partner organisations have been encouraged to retrofit SUDS where possible.

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 Aberdeenshire Council for this bathing water.

Contact details and information sources

SEPA Fraserburgh office Shaw House Mid Street Fraserburgh AB43 9JN 01346 510502 www.sepa.org.uk	Aberdeenshire Council Woodhill House Westburn Road Aberdeen Aberdeenshire AB16 5GB 08456 081207 www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk	Keep Scotland Beautiful 01786 471333 beach@ksbscotland.org.uk www.keepsotlandbeautiful.org
Scottish Government Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ 0131 244 0396 eqcat@scotland.gsi.gov.uk www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Environment/Water/15561/bathingwaters		

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1.0	September 2010	
1.1	March 2014	
1.2	April 2015	
1.3	April 2020	