

Marine Scotland Science – EIA Checklist

MSS Standard EIA Report Requirements	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MSS advice, please set out reasons.	ECU/MSS use – comments
1. A map outlining the proposed development area and the proposed location of: the turbines, associated crane hardstanding areas, borrow pits, permanent meteorological masts, access tracks including watercourse crossings, all buildings including substation, battery storage, permanent and temporary construction compounds, all watercourses, and contour lines.	Yes	See Chapter 2: Proposed Development for details and associated Figure 2.3 for Proposed Development layout.		
2. A description and results of the site characterisation surveys for fish (including fully quantitative electrofishing surveys) and water quality including the location of the electrofishing and fish habitat survey sites and water quality sampling sites on the map outlining the proposed turbines and associated infrastructure.	Yes	Fisheries baseline characterisation information and locations of contemporary electrofishing sampling sites are detailed and presented in Chapter 6: Ecology, Appendix 6.4: LLFT Fish Survey Report and Figure 6.10 . Water quality data published by SEPA has been used to characterise surface water quality. See Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat .		
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and	Yes	Chapter 6: Ecology and Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat		

downstream of the proposed development area.				
4. Any potential cumulative impacts on the water quality and fish populations associated with adjacent (operational and consented) developments including wind farms, hydro schemes, aquaculture and mining.	Yes	Any scoped-in relevant cumulative impacts are discussed in Chapter 6: Ecology and Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat		
Any proposed site-specific mitigation measures as outlined in MSS generic scoping guidelines and the joint publication “Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction”	Yes	<p>Industry standard good practice and embedded mitigation measures would apply, with more details provided in Chapter 2: Proposed Development, Chapter 6: Ecology and Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat.</p> <p>Additional mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures are proposed as part of the Proposed Developments Outline Biodiversity Enhancement & Management Plan (OBEMP) (see Appendix 6.6). The OBEMP includes extensive proposals on peatland enhancement/restoration and woodland and scrub creation and enhancement (including of riparian areas) which collectively would have multiple beneficial effects on fisheries and water quality interests.</p>		
6. Full details of proposed monitoring programmes using guidelines issued by MSS and	No		Detailed monitoring proposals are not included at this stage. It is expected any fisheries/invertebrate or water quality	

accompanied by a map outlining the proposed sampling and control sites in addition to the location of all turbines and associated infrastructure (see wording suggested by MSS for planning conditions).			monitoring requirements will be a condition of consent. Therefore, due to the typical timescales in application determination and taking account of feedback from relevant consultees, detailed monitoring plans would be prepared post-consent and pre-construction during the discharge of conditions process in order to take account of any further contemporary information or changes to the Proposed Development.	
7. A decommissioning and restoration plan outlining proposed mitigation/monitoring for water quality and fish populations.	No		A decommissioning and restoration plan is not included at this stage. It is expected such a plan would be a condition of consent. Given the long timescales involved in reaching the decommissioning phase it is more appropriate to prepare this plan closer to the time of decommissioning in order to account for and consider up to date relevant policy, guidance and standards.	

Developers should specifically discuss and assess potential impacts and appropriate mitigation measures associated with the following	Provided in application YES/NO	If YES – please signpost to relevant chapter of EIA Report	If not provided or provided different to MSS advice, please set out reasons.	ECU/MSS use – comments
8. Any designated area (i.e. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area.	Yes	The Endrick Water SAC is over 6.8 km from the Proposed Development and is considered in Chapter 6: Ecology		

9. The presence of a large density of watercourses.	Yes	Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat discusses watercourses and drainage patterns.		
10. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits.	Yes	Chapter 8: Geology, Hydrogeology, Hydrology and Peat presents the results of a detailed programme of peat depth probing.		
11. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area.	No		<p>Specific additional Site pressures not known, although acidification is unlikely to be a factor given the low coniferous tree cover at the Site. General catchment and regional pressures may exist, for instance due to barriers and climate change. Murroch Burn appears to be underutilised by salmon (Appendix 6.4) but exact reasons are not known and there may be several contributing factors.</p> <p>The OBEMP (Appendix 6.6) includes proposals on peatland enhancement/restoration and woodland and scrub creation and enhancement (including of riparian areas) which collectively would have multiple beneficial effects on fisheries and water quality interests. Following further consultation with the Loch Lomond Fisheries Trust (LLFT) the finalised BEMP may also include provision for further riparian enhancement works to increase utilisation of the Murroch Burn by salmon.</p>	

12. Proposed felling operations.	Yes	Very minimal felling is predicted as part of the Proposed Development – see Chapter 6: Ecology and Appendix 14.1		
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