Appendix 1

Seaton Port Dredge, Able UK

Water Framework Scoping Assessment

August 2018

FAIRHURST

Water Framework Directive assessment: scoping template for activities in estuarine and coastal waters

Use this template to record the findings of the scoping stage of your Water Framework Directive (WFD) assessment for an activity in an estuary or coastal water.

If your activity will:

- take place in or affect more than one water body, complete a template for each water body
- include several different activities or stages as part of a larger project, complete a template for each activity as part of your overall WFD assessment

The WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters will help you complete the table.

Your activity	Description, notes or more information
Applicant name	Able UK Ltd
Application reference number (where applicable)	Variation to existing licence L/2017/00012/3
Name of activity	Seaton Port Dredge – TERRC Basin, the Grounding Bed and Quays 7, 8 and 9 dredge box
Brief description of activity	Variation to existing licence to enable dredging of the TERRC basin including the area in front of quays 7, 8 and 9, within the existing wet basin area
Location of activity (central point XY coordinates or national grid reference)	E 452367.670, N 526795.300
Footprint of activity (ha)	Approx. 8.2ha (TERRC basin (incorporating Quays 7, 8 and 9 dredge box) = 6.6ha, Grounding Bed = 1.6ha)
Timings of activity (including start and finish dates)	As required during the licence period
Extent of activity (for example size, scale frequency, expected volumes of output or discharge)	This current variation is to enable maintenance dredging of the TERRC basin to -6.65mCD, the Grounding Bed to -6.07mCD, and capital and then ongoing maintenance dredging of the area in front of quays 7, 8 and 9 to -9.5mCD, as shown on drawing no. ASC-001-00009 Rev F 'Dredge Locations'.

	There is an immediate requirement to remove 75,000m3 (97,500 wet tonnes) of excess silt which has settled in the TERRC basin and across the Grounding Bed after channel dredging, and an ongoing maintenance requirement to dredge 12,150m3 (15, 795 wet tonnes) of silt. The area in front of quays 7, 8 and 9 requires a capital dredge comprising of 75,000m3 (165,000 wet tonnes) of clay, and an ongoing maintenance requirement to dredge 3,750m3 (4,875 wet tonnes) of silt.
Use or release of chemicals (state which ones)	None – standard pollution prevention measures proposed during dredging.

Water body[1]	**Description, notes or more information**
WFD water body name	Tees – the site is not within this water body, but directly adjacent to it
Water body ID	GB510302509900
River basin district name	Northumbria
Water body type (estuarine or coastal)	Estuarine
Water body total area (ha)	1144.05ha
Overall water body status (2015)	Moderate
Ecological status	Moderate
Chemical status	Fail
Target water body status and deadline	Moderate by 2015
Hydromorphology status of water body	Supports good – not assessed
Heavily modified water body and for what use	Yes – flood protection; navigation, ports & harbours.
Higher sensitivity habitats present	Saltmarsh 46.24ha Subtidal kelp beds 4.13ha
Lower sensitivity habitats present	Cobbles, gravel & shingle 0.77ha Intertidal soft sediment 400.13ha Rocky shore 26.93ha

	Subtidal rocky reef 4.13ha Subtidal soft sediments 610.31ha
Phytoplankton status	Good
History of harmful algae	Not monitored
WFD protected areas within 2km	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and proposed SPA extension

[1] *Water body information can be found in the Environment Agency's catchment data explorer and the water body summary table. Magic maps provide additional information on habitats and protected areas. Links to these information sources can be found in the WFD assessment guidance for estuarine and coastal waters.*

Specific risk information

Consider the potential risks of your activity to each of these receptors: hydromorphology, biology (habitats and fish), water quality and protected areas. Also consider invasive non-native species (INNS).

Section 1: Hydromorphology

Consider if hydromorphology is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find out the hydromorphology status of the water body, if it is classed as heavily modified and for what use.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Hydromorphology risk issue(s)
Could impact on the hydromorphology (for example morphology or tidal patterns) of a water body at high status	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No – see full Water Framework Directive Assessment for further details.
Could significantly impact the hydromorphology of any water body	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No – as above.
Is in a water body that is heavily modified for the same use as your activity	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	N/A – the site is not within this water body, but directly adjacent to it. No additional impacts predicted from dredging this area – see full Water Framework Directive Assessment for further details.

Record the findings for hydromorphology and go to section 2: biology.

Section 2: Biology

Habitats

Consider if habitats are at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table and Magic maps, or other sources of information if available, to find the location and size of these habitats.

Higher sensitivity habitats [2]	Lower sensitivity habitats [3]
chalk reef	cobbles, gravel and shingle 0.77ha
clam, cockle and oyster beds	intertidal soft sediments like sand and mud 400.13ha
intertidal seagrass	rocky shore 26.93ha
maerl	subtidal boulder fields
mussel beds, including blue and horse mussel	subtidal rocky reef 4.13ha
polychaete reef	subtidal soft sediments like sand and mud 610.31ha
Saltmarsh 46.24ha	
subtidal kelp beds 4.13ha	
subtidal seagrass	

[2] *Higher sensitivity habitats have a low resistance to, and recovery rate, from human pressures.*

[3] *Lower sensitivity habitats have a medium to high resistance to, and recovery rate from, human pressures.*

Consider if the footprint[4] of your activity is:	Yes	No	Biology habitats risk issue(s)
0.5km^2 or larger	Yes to one or more – requires impact assessment	No to all – impact assessment not required	No
1% or more of the water body's area			No
Within 500m of any higher sensitivity habitat			No – over 500m away from saltmarsh and subtidal kelp beds
1% or more of any lower sensitivity habitat			No – not within any lower sensitivity habitat areas due to being in the dry dock/wet basin area outwith the WFD classification.

[4] *Note that a footprint may also be a temperature or sediment plume. For dredging activity, a footprint is 1.5 times the dredge area.*

Fish

Consider if fish are at risk from your activity, but only if your activity is in an estuary or could affect fish in or entering an estuary.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Biology fish risk issue(s)
Is in an estuary and could affect fish in the estuary, outside the estuary but could delay or prevent fish entering it or could affect fish migrating through the estuary	Continue with questions	Go to next section	No – dredge pockets are within the dry dock/wet basin area outwith the main channel of the estuary.
Could impact on normal fish behaviour like movement, migration or spawning (for example creating a physical barrier, noise, chemical change or a change in depth or flow)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No – see above
Could cause entrainment or impingement of fish	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No – see above

Record the findings for biology habitats and fish and go to section 3: water quality.

Section 3: Water quality

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity.

Use the water body summary table to find information on phytoplankton status and harmful algae.

Consider if your activity:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
Could affect water clarity, temperature, salinity, oxygen levels, nutrients or microbial patterns continuously for longer than a spring neap tidal cycle (about 14 days)	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
Is in a water body with a phytoplankton status of moderate, poor or bad	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
Is in a water body with a history of harmful algae	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No

Consider if water quality is at risk from your activity through the use, release or disturbance of chemicals.

If your activity uses or releases chemicals (for example through sediment disturbance or building works) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	No
It disturbs sediment with contaminants above Cefas Action Level 1	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	Yes – sampling undertaken in 2017 and 2018 (SAM/2017/00066 and NLS analysis spreadsheet) showed some trace metals above AL1. See full Water Framework Directive Assessment for

			impact assessment.

If your activity has a mixing zone (like a discharge pipeline or outfall) consider if:	Yes	No	Water quality risk issue(s)
The chemicals released are on the Environmental Quality Standards Directive (EQSD) list	Requires impact assessment[5]	Impact assessment not required	N/A

[5] *Carry out your impact assessment using the Environment Agency's surface water pollution risk assessment guidance, part of Environmental Permitting Regulations guidance.*

Record the findings for water quality go on to section 4: WFD protected areas.

Section 4: WFD protected areas

Consider if WFD protected areas are at risk from your activity. These include:

- special areas of conservation (SAC)
- special protection areas (SPA)
- shellfish waters
- bathing waters
- nutrient sensitive areas

Use Magic maps to find information on the location of protected areas in your water body (and adjacent water bodies) within 2km of your activity.

Consider if your activity is:	Yes	No	Protected areas risk issue(s)
Within 2km of any WFD protected area[6]	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	Yes – Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA and proposed SPA extension – see full Water Framework Directive Assessment for further details.

[6] *Note that a regulator can extend the 2km boundary if your activity has an especially high environmental risk.*

Record the findings for WFD protected areas and go to section 5: invasive non-native species.

Section 5: Invasive non-native species (INNS)

Consider if there is a risk your activity could introduce or spread INNS.

Risks of introducing or spreading INNS include:

- materials or equipment that have come from, had use in or travelled through other water bodies
- activities that help spread existing INNS, either within the immediate water body or other water bodies

Consider if your activity could:	Yes	No	INNS risk issue(s)
Introduce or spread INNS	Requires impact assessment	Impact assessment not required	N/A

Record the findings for INNS and go to the summary section.

Summary

Summarise the results of scoping here.

Receptor	Potential risk to receptor?	Note the risk issue(s) for impact assessment
Hydromorphology	No	None
Biology: habitats	No	None
Biology: fish	No	None
Water quality	No	Contaminants above Cefas Action Level 1
Protected areas	No	Teesmouth and Cleveland Coast SPA
Invasive non-native species	No	None

If you haven’t identified any receptors at risk during scoping, you don’t need to continue to the impact assessment stage and your WFD assessment is complete.

If you’ve identified one or more receptors at risk during scoping, you should continue to the impact assessment stage.

Include your scoping results in the WFD assessment document you send to your activity’s regulator as part of your application for permission to carry out the activity.