

Marine Directorate – Science Evidence Data and Digital (MD-SEDD) – EIA Checklist

The generic scoping guidelines should ensure that all matters relevant to freshwater and diadromous fish and fisheries have been addressed and presented in the appropriate chapters of the EIA report. Use of the checklist below should ensure that the EIA report contains the following information; the absence of such information ***may necessitate requesting additional information*** which could delay the process:

MD-SEDD 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 MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons.
1. A map outlining the proposed development area and the proposed location of: ○ the turbines, ○ associated crane hard standing 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	Refer to Chapter 4 for full details. The Proposed Varied Development area and infrastructure is shown on Figure 4.1. Watercourse crossings are shown on Figure 13.2.	N/A

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. This should be carried out where a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is present and where salmon are a qualifying feature, and in exceptional cases when required in the scoping advice for other reasons. In other cases, developers can assume that fish populations are present.	No	N/A	Formal electrofishing surveys were undertaken by the Galloway Fisheries Trust in September 2018 and reported on for the Consented Development. Based on the 2018 results it was not considered proportionate to repeat surveys for the Proposed Varied Development.
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area.	Yes	Any scoped-in relevant impacts are discussed in Chapter 9 and Chapter 13 .	N/A
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 9 and Chapter 13 .	N/A

5. Any proposed site specific mitigation measures as outlined in MD-SEDD generic scoping guidelines and the joint publication “Good Practice during Wind Farm Construction” (https://www.nature.scot/guidance-good-practice-during-wind-farm-construction).	Yes	Industry standard good practice and embedded mitigation measures would apply, with more details provided in Chapter 4, Chapter 9 and Chapter 13 (and relevant Appendices). Additional mitigation, compensation and enhancement measures are proposed as part of the Proposed Varied Development’s outline Habitat Enhancement and Management Plan (see Appendix 9.8).	N/A
6. Full details of proposed monitoring programmes using guidelines issued by MD-SEDD and accompanied by a map outlining the proposed sampling and control sites in addition to the location of all turbines and associated infrastructure. At least 12 months of baseline pre-construction data should be included. The monitoring programme can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.	No	N/A	A detailed monitoring plan will be prepared, with reference to MD-SEDD guidelines, and agreed with the local planning authority (in consultation with relevant consultees) prior to the commencement of construction and in enough time to allow implementation of the pre-construction monitoring programme. It is anticipated that this will be secured via an appropriately worded planning condition.
7. A decommissioning and restoration plan outlining proposed mitigation/monitoring for water quality and fish populations. This can be secured using suitable wording in a condition.	No	N/A	It is expected that an outline decommissioning and restoration plan will be required prior to commencement of construction, to be agreed with the local planning authority and secured via an appropriately worded planning condition.

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 MD-SEDD advice, please set out reasons.
1. Any designated area (e.g. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area.	No	N/A	No designated site for which fish is a qualifying feature is within and/or downstream of the Proposed Varied Development.
2. The presence of a large density of Watercourses.	Yes	There are a number of watercourses on and around the site. Potential effects on the water environment and appropriate mitigation measures are discussed in Chapter 9 and Chapter 13 .	N/A
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits.	Yes	Site specific peat depth probing has shown that peat is generally absent over large areas of the site. Where peat is present, it is relatively shallow, <2.0 m for the most part, but very locally >3.0 m. The majority of the Proposed Varied Development is located in areas of no or shallower peat. Potential effects on peat and appropriate mitigation measures are discussed in Chapter 12 .	N/A
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area.	Yes	Refer to Chapter 9 .	N/A
5. Proposed felling operations.	Yes	Refer to Chapter 7 .	N/A