

Annex 1 (revised September 2023)

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	Chapter 2: Proposed Development of the EIA Report (Volume 1), and Figure 2.2: Site Layout (Volume 2a)	-

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;	Yes.	Fish habitat surveys, fish population surveys and freshwater pearl mussel surveys have been undertaken. The results are detailed in Technical Appendices 6.4 and 6.5 Location of survey effort is detailed in Figure 6.4. Information to inform HRA for the River Moriston SAC is provided in Section 6.16 of Chapter 6: Ecology	
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area;	Yes	Impacts to fish (excluding Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel in context of the River Moriston SAC) have been scoped out of detailed assessment. This is outlined in the Scoping Report and within the EIAR Chapter 6: Ecology. Potential impacts to qualifying features (Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel) of the River Moriston SAC are detailed in Section 6.16 of Chapter 6: Ecology. Potential impacts to water quality have been addressed in Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat	The potential for significant effects to fisheries fish (excluding Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel in context of the River Moriston SAC) interests is scoped out of detailed assessment on the basis of sensitive scheme design and embedded and tertiary mitigation and good practice to protect watercourses and aquatic interests during construction and operation, including provision of a Fish Management and Monitoring Plan for the pre-, during- and post-construction phases of the Proposed Development. Full details are provided in the EIA Report.

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	Impacts to fish were scoped out of assessment as detailed above. Potential cumulative impacts to qualifying features (Atlantic salmon and freshwater pearl mussel) of the River Moriston SAC are detailed in Section 6.16 of Chapter 6: Ecology. Potential cumulative impacts to water quality have been addressed in Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat	
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	Embedded and tertiary mitigation and good practice will be outlined in Chapter 2: Proposed Development, and are also summarised in relation to fish in Chapter 6: Ecology, and in relation to water quality in Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat of the EIAR	
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	A commitment to development of a Fish Monitoring and Management Plan (FMMP) is embedded in the Proposed Development. The FMMP would be implemented in the pre-, during- and post-construction phases, to monitor and prevent adverse effects to fish. For further information relating to protection plans and monitoring to protect the water environment, see Chapter 8: 'Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat Full details of monitoring programmes, including sampling locations, will be determined post-consent in collaboration with the relevant rivers and fisheries trusts, and secured by appropriately worded planning conditions.	Summaries of proposed monitoring are provided in Technical Appendix 2.1: OCEMP, Technical Appendix 2.2: Schedule of Environmental Commitments, Chapter 6: Ecology and Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat.

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		Requirements for decommissioning will be determined in the final years of operation, to take account of the most up-to-date methods and guidelines.
--	----	--	--

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;	Yes	River Moriston SAC, including information to inform HRA, is considered in Chapter 6: Ecology	N/A
2. The presence of a large density of watercourses;	Yes	Watercourses and potential impacts to them are considered in Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat	N/A
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits;	Yes	Peat, including large areas of deep peat deposits, and potential impacts and appropriate mitigation are addressed in Chapter 8: Hydrology, Hydrogeology, Geology and Peat and Chapter 6: Ecology .	N/A
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area; and	Yes	Chapter 6: Ecology and Technical Appendices 6.4 and 6.5 .	N/A
5. Proposed felling operations.	No	N/A	No felling is required for the Proposed Development.