



Site: Cawthorne TW

Document: Precautionary Working Method Statement

Client: Yorkshire Water

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Author	Date
Ben Brown BSc (Hons) ACIEEM Senior Ecologist	04 October 2023
Reviewed	Date
Jenny Clarke BSc (Hons) MSc MCIEEM Director	04 October 2023
Approved	Date
Jenny Clarke BSc (Hons) MSc MCIEEM Director	04 October 2023

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BL Ecology Ltd, First Floor, Office 2, Briar Rhydding house, Otley Rd, Baildon, BD17 7JW
 Tel: 01274 816 800 Email: ben@bl-ecology.co.uk Web: www.bl-ecology.co.uk

1 Introduction

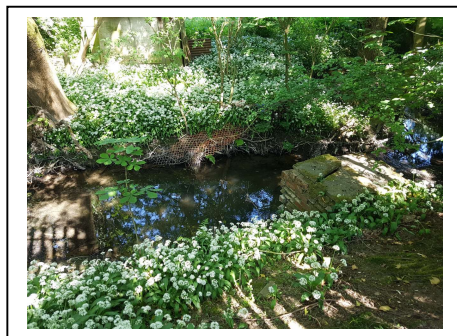
1.1 General

- 1.1.1 This method statement has been produced to accompany the latest Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) Report completed by BL Ecology Ltd in 2023 (report reference 029_23_RE01) as part of the planning submission (planning reference 2023/0593) for works to be carried out at Cawthorne Treatment Works (TW).
- 1.1.2 In order for the planning application to be granted, Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council require that *“No development shall take place until a Precautionary Working Method Statement (PWMS) to include measures to protect adjacent watercourses from impacts during site clearance and construction has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The PWMS will be completed by a suitably qualified ecologist and the approved PWMS shall be implemented in full according to the specified timescales, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Local Planning Authority.”*.
- 1.1.3 This document collates all information contained within the PEA report, and previous PEA report (report reference 006_20_07_RE01), undertaken by BL Ecology in 2020, relating to watercourses around the site and sets out precautionary measures to be put into place to prevent any impacts during the development. A brief description of the watercourses in question is provided below.

2 Baseline

2.1 Watercourses

- 2.1.1 **Tanyard Beck** – this small watercourse flows along the east boundary of the TW site, approximately 2m wide with water of variable depth, averaging 30cm. Substrate of silt and pebble/cobble with sloping earth banks and vegetation mostly comprising ramsoms (*Allium ursinum*). The stream was bounded by mature trees on both banks, creating shaded conditions. No aquatic vegetation observed.



- 2.1.2 **Ditch** – a shallow earthen ditch runs along the east boundary of the site, adjacent to the site access track. The ditch was partially dry with pools of water and vegetation dominated by lesser celandine (*Ranunculus ficaria*) in dry areas, with all tall forbs and ruderals present.



- 2.1.3 The proposed works will not directly impact Tanyard beck and will be contained within the TW site and on land to the west of the TW, the opposite side to where

the beck is located. The ditch will be crossed for access during the construction phase. The following precautionary measures should be followed and adhered to.

3 Protection Measures

3.1 Pollution Prevention

3.1.1 The following pollution prevention measures are adapted from the Environment Agency's Pollution Prevent Guideline Series *Works or Maintenance in or Near Water (PPG5)* and *Working at Construction and Demolition Sites (PPG6)*. Both documents have been redacted but contain useful and relevant information and are widely available for viewing online.

3.1.2 Site traffic/Deliveries

- Ensure that any tanks, drums or containers arriving at the site are in a satisfactory condition and have been checked for damages or leaks.
- Reduce dust from vehicles through reduced speed limits (10mph) and damping down haul roads.

3.1.3 Stored materials

- Ensure that any materials stored on site are designated suitable storage areas away from Tanyard beck. With secondary containment considered for any potentially hazardous materials/chemicals.
- Ensure any runoff from stockpiled material does not enter the watercourse – maintain vegetated buffer along watercourse.
- Locate stockpiles on level ground to prevent slippage.
- Impermeable surfaces under stockpiled materials.
- Cover to prevent drying out and excessive dust release.

3.1.4 Preventing silty water release

- Ensure there is a vegetated buffer between Tanyard beck and any construction areas.
- Install silt traps or interceptors where water may run from the site into Tanyard beck.

3.1.5 Excavations

- Excavations not to be dug too far in advance so as to reduce the risk of excessive water collection with open excavations.
- Do not pump water from filled excavations into the Beck.
- Ensure excavations will not allow silty water to flow directly into the beck.

3.1.6 Oil use, storage and refuelling

- All refuelling and servicing of vehicles should be carried out within a designated area with an impermeable base, at least 10m away from the watercourses. To prevent spillages, refuelling should be carried out by pumping through a trigger delivery nozzle.
- Fuel and oil should be stored within bunded tanks to 110% of the volume stored. The designated area should be maintained in a secure and clean manner.
- An adequate quantity of oil absorbent material should be stored on site and spillages cleared up immediately.

3.2 Vegetation Removal

- 3.2.1 Vegetation removal should only be carried out where ground works are required in the near future, to prevent runoff and soil leaching into Tanyard beck. It is not considered that any vegetation removal will be required within close proximity to the watercourse. All trees shading the beck, and vegetation along the banks will be retained within its entirety.
- 3.2.2 Vegetation removal along the banks of the ditch will be required to facilitate a temporary access track into the site, this is not expected to impact Tanyard beck due to the small scale nature of the works.

3.3 Temporary Access Track Across Ditch

- 3.3.1 Measures to be in place (as above in sections 3.1) to prevent materials from the temporary access track entering the watercourse. Consider placement of a pipe under the track to allow water to pass along the ditch unaffected during times of heavy rain. Once works are completed, all materials should be removed from the ditch and it should be reinstated to pre-development conditions where natural recolonisation of vegetation can occur.

3.4 Potential for Impacts to Fauna

- 3.4.1 The PEA report considered impacts from the works to all protected/notable fauna. Due to the distance from the watercourse of the proposed works, together with the low impact nature of the works, direct impacts were considered to be **negligible** for otter, water vole, white-clawed crayfish, fish and birds. If the measures outlined in this document are adhered to, no indirect impacts to the channel, or these species, will be incurred.