

ANNEX 1 (REVISED JUNE 2023)

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 towers/poles, - permanent and temporary access tracks, including watercourse crossings; - buildings including substations; - permanent and temporary construction compounds; - all watercourses; and contour lines;	Yes	Volume 3, Figure 3.1: Proposed Development for which Section 37 Consent and Deemed Planning Permission is sought. Volume 3, Figure 3.2: Tower Design Volume 3, Figure 3.3: Typical Access Track Cross Sections (Indicative) Volume 3, Figure 3.4: Typical Bellmouth Layout (Indicative) Volume 3, Figure 3.5: Indicative Public Road Improvement Works Volume 3, Figure 3.6: Typical Watercourse Crossing Sections (Indicative)	

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	No		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report. The watercourses within the vicinity of the Proposed Development comprise a small number of farm drains, and the Fithie Burn, which is heavily canalized with limited potential to support fish. There are no SACs for which Atlantic salmon is a qualifying feature within proximity of the Proposed Development nor downstream.
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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.
cases when required in the scoping advice for other reasons. In other cases, developers can assume that fish populations are present;			
3. An outline of the potential impacts on fish populations and water quality within and downstream of the proposed development area;	No		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping 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;	No		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.

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);	No		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.
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		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.

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-SECC advice, please set out reasons.
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		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.

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.
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1. Any designated area (e.g. SAC), for which fish is a qualifying feature, within and/or downstream of the proposed development area;	No		The topic of ecology was scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report. There are no SACs for which Atlantic salmon is a qualifying feature within proximity or downstream of the Proposed Development.
2. The presence of a large density of watercourses;	No	Volume 3, Figure 3.6: Typical Watercourse Crossing Sections (Indicative)	The watercourses within the vicinity of the Proposed Development comprise a small number of farm drains, and the Fithie Burn, which is heavily canalized.
3. The presence of large areas of deep peat deposits;	No		There are no large peat deposits within the Proposed Development.
4. Known acidification problems and/or other existing pressures on fish populations in the area; and	No		No known acidification problems. The land use surrounding the Proposed Development does not comprise extensive commercial forestry. The topic of ecology has been scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.
5. Proposed felling operations.	No		The topic of forestry has been scoped out of the assessment as per the Scoping Report.