

Drought Permit No.

DP2025-NE0270014011

Leeshaw

Please quote the reference number in all correspondence



Drought Permit

- Section 79A Water Resources Act 1991 as amended by the Environment Act 1995

The Environment Agency ("the Agency") grants this drought permit to:

Yorkshire Water Services Limited

("the Water Company")

Western House
Halifax Road
Bradford
West Yorkshire
BD6 2SZ

Registered Company Number: 02366682

The Water Company is authorised by licence serial number NE/027/0014/011 ("the Licence") to impound water and is required to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Licence. This drought permit suspends and/or modifies the provisions of the Licence to the extent set out in the Schedule of Conditions.

This drought permit commences from the effective date shown below and shall remain in force until the date of expiry shown below.

All other provisions of the said Licence remain in full force and effect.

Signed Mike Dugher

Date of issue – 05 September 2025

Area Director – Yorkshire

Date effective – 05 September 2025

Environment Agency

Date of expiry – 05 March 2026

Lateral House
8 City Walk
Leeds
LS11 9AT

Note: References to "the Agency" are to the Environment Agency or any successor body.

SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

1. COMPENSATION FLOW

1.1 Subject to conditions 3.1.3 or 3.3 of this permit, condition 4.1 of the Licence is substituted with the following:

Subject to conditions 1.2 and 1.3, the Water Company shall release water from Leeshaw Reservoir created by the works so as to maintain a flow of no less than 2 megalitres per day in Dunkirk Beck immediately downstream of the works. This flow shall be known as the 'Option 1 Compensation Flow'.

1.2 Subject to conditions 3.1.3 or 3.3 of this permit, condition 4.2 of the Licence is substituted with the following:

The Water Company shall use the staff gauge in condition 4.3 of licence NE/027/0014/011 in Leeshaw Reservoir to measure the distance between the level of the water therein and the top water level of 259.1 metres above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn):

If the said distance as gauged on any Monday equals or exceeds the value shown in column 2 of the table below, as relates to the number of that Monday in column 1, the quantity of water that the Water Company shall release from Leeshaw Reservoir to Dunkirk Beck on each subsequent day shall reduce to no less than 1.38 megalitres per day, until the said distance on any subsequent Monday is equal to or less than the value in column 3 of the table below as relates to the number of that Monday in column 1, whereupon condition 1.1 shall apply. The first Monday in each calendar year is numbered 1 and each subsequent Monday is numbered consecutively thereafter.

Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
1	3.97	3.61	28	2.31	2.03
2	3.69	3.34	29	2.48	2.20
3	3.42	3.08	30	2.66	2.37
4	3.16	2.84	31	2.85	2.55
5	2.91	2.61	32	3.04	2.73
6	2.59	2.30	33	3.24	2.91
7	2.23	1.95	34	3.44	3.10
8	1.88	1.62	35	3.65	3.30
9	1.55	1.29	36	3.87	3.51
10	1.32	1.06	37	4.12	3.75
11	1.16	0.90	38	4.38	3.99
12	1.00	0.75	39	4.65	4.24
13	0.85	0.59	40	4.93	4.51
14	0.72	0.46	41	4.93	4.51
15	0.76	0.50	42	4.93	4.51
16	0.80	0.54	43	4.93	4.51
17	0.85	0.59	44	4.93	4.51
18	0.89	0.63	45	4.87	4.45
19	1.01	0.76	46	4.77	4.36
20	1.15	0.90	47	4.67	4.26
21	1.29	1.03	48	4.58	4.17
22	1.43	1.17	49	4.47	4.07
23	1.57	1.31	50	4.35	3.96
24	1.71	1.45	51	4.22	3.84
25	1.85	1.58	52	4.11	3.73
26	1.99	1.72	53	3.97	3.61
27	2.14	1.86			

- 1.3 Subject to conditions 1.4, 3.1.3, and 3.3, if the group reservoir stocks are below the North West Group Drought Control Line as defined in the Water Company's Drought Plan 2022 ("the 2022 Drought Plan") for a period of four consecutive weeks or longer, then the Water Company shall make a uniform and continuous release of compensation flow from Leeshaw Reservoir created by the works so as to maintain a flow of no less than 1.33 megalitres per day in Dunkirk Beck immediately downstream of the works. This flow shall be known as the 'Option 2 Compensation Flow'. The Water Company shall maintain the 'Option 2 Compensation Flow' until the group reservoir stocks have increased to and remained at or above the North West Reservoir Group Drought Control Line for a period of six consecutive weeks or longer, upon which the Water Company must return to the 'Option 1 compensation flow'.

The 'North West Reservoir Group Drought Control Line' is shown labelled in Figure 2.1 in Section 2.1 of the 2022 Drought Plan marked 'DCL' in the graph for the North West Reservoir Group (with the left-hand vertical axis representing in percentage terms the reservoir stocks).

- 1.4 The Water Company shall use the staff gauge in condition 4.3 of licence NE/027/0014/011 in Leeshaw Reservoir to measure the distance between the level of the water therein and the top water level of 259.1 metres above Ordnance Datum (Newlyn):

If the said distance as gauged on any Monday equals or exceeds the value shown in column 2 of the table in condition 1.2, as relates to the number of that Monday in column 1, the quantity of water that the Licence Holder shall release from Leeshaw Reservoir to Dunkirk Beck on each subsequent day shall reduce to no less than 0.92 megalitres per day, until the said distance on any subsequent Monday is equal to or less than the value in column 3 of the table in condition 1.2 as relates to the number of that Monday in column 1, whereupon condition 1.3 shall apply. The first Monday in each calendar year is numbered 1 and each subsequent Monday is numbered consecutively thereafter.

2. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- 2.1 The Water Company shall undertake the monitoring as set out in Appendices 1 and 2.

3. MITIGATION CONDITIONS

- 3.1.1 If the monitoring identifies signs of environmental impacts, including but not limited to fish in distress, a pollution incident, water quality deterioration, algae blooms or spread of invasive non-native species the following actions shall be undertaken by the Water Company:

- 3.1.2 (i) upon finding any signs of environmental impacts the Water Company shall notify the Agency in writing and by telephone on 0800 80 70 60 and shall provide details of the signs of distress and the location;

(ii) a remedial course of action to address the signs of environmental impacts shall be formulated by the Water Company (and amended by the Agency as necessary) and implemented as directed in writing by the Agency.

- 3.1.3 If, upon being notified of any signs of environmental impacts in accordance with condition 3.1.2 (i) or at its own instigation, the Agency gives written notice that there is a disruption to the ecology, the Water Company shall increase compensation from Leeshaw Reservoir to Dunkirk Beck at National Grid Reference SE 01654 35157 back to the Compensation Flow as provided in condition 4.1 and 4.2 of the Licence, or such lesser quantity as may be agreed in writing by the Agency.

The Water Company shall commence the stated compensation flows as soon as possible and within 48 hours of receipt of written notification from the Agency.

The Water Company shall not thereafter reduce compensation flows back to those specified in condition 1 of this drought permit until the Water Company has confirmed in writing that appropriate remedial action has been taken, and the Agency has confirmed in writing that it is satisfied with this.

- 3.2 The changes to the compensation flow specified in conditions 1, 3.1.3 and 3.3 of this drought permit shall be made in a steady and controlled manner, at a rate so as not to cause any flooding of land, disturbance to water users downstream, any adverse effects on the quality of water in the inland water, or any adverse impacts on the ecology of the inland water or dependent ecosystems.

3.3 **Temporary Flow Adjustments**

Upon being notified by the Agency, or upon discovering through environmental monitoring or other evidence, that an increase in flow is needed to support riverine ecology, as identified in the Water Company Environmental Monitoring Plan North West Area Appendix 2, the Water Company shall increase flow at a time, to a rate and for such duration, as specified in writing by the Agency, at National Grid Reference SE 01654 35157, or other location as specified in writing by the Agency.

3.4 **Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTWs)**

The additional monitoring and maintenance activities specified in the (2025) Combined Sewer Overflows Optimisation and Maintenance for Drought Plan and/or the (2025) Wastewater Treatment Works Optimisation and Maintenance for Drought Plan shall be applied by the Water Company to the following assets, in accordance with Appendix A of the same plan:

- 3.4 (i) Oxenhope WwTW discharging into the Bridgehouse Beck at National Grid Reference SE 03550 35670
- South Street Keighley/CSO discharging into the River Worth at National Grid Reference SE 05920 40223
- Baildon Coach Rd/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14064 38230
- Brighton Street/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14960 38030
- Coach Road Baildon/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14460 38140
- Dockfield Road/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference at SE 015189 37959

Dockfields/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 15452 38090

Esholt Lane/NO 2 CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 17270 39570

Green Lane 125/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14461 38146

Green Lane Junction/2 discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14810 38038

Higher Coach Rd/NO 2 discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 13998 38241

Hird Street/NO 2 CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14687 37916

Metal Box/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 15830 38500

Midland Road/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 15730 38486

South Station Road/ CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 15680 39160

Towngate/NO 2 CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 15483 39698

Victoria Road Shipley/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 1405 138209

Victoria Terrace/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 14051 38209

Esholt Lane 291/CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 17928 40126

Bradford Esholt/NO 2 STW discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 18480 39830

Bradford Esholt/ NO 2STW CSO discharging into the River Aire at National Grid Reference SE 18480 39820

- 3.4 (ii) Any CSO or WwTW assets not identified in Appendix A but subsequently deemed by the Water Company or the Agency to risk adverse impact to a watercourse while compensations flows are reduced.

4. FURTHER CONDITIONS

- 4.1 Unless the Agency otherwise specifies in writing, this drought permit shall have no effect unless the Water Company has imposed Temporary Use Ban restrictions from the 2022 Drought Plan for the Grid Resource Zone, and such restrictions remain in force.

APPENDIX 1**ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SCHEDULE: STANDARD SCHEDULE**

Assessment Type	Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental impacts. The Water Company shall not make any changes to this monitoring schedule without the Agency's prior written agreement.
Duration of Monitoring	The environmental monitoring surveys shall take place from the first day that the total compensation flow to Dunkirk Beck from Leeshaw Reservoir is reduced under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency
Environmental Impacts	The following are suggested signs of environmental impacts but are not exhaustive. If advice is required then the Agency can be contacted on 0800 80 70 60. • Fish in distress, for example gasping at the surface or leaping out of the water • Dead fish • Concentration of fish in restricted areas/pools which could increase susceptibility to predation or poaching • Inhibition of movement of fish past river structures or other barriers • Reduced habitat availability for adult and juvenile life stages (including spawning/nursery areas) • Reduced depth of flow over brown trout redds • Signs of polluting discharges during walkover surveys, impacts exacerbated during lower and/or reduced dilution • Algal blooms • Establishment and/or expansion of invasive non-native species
Monitoring Method & Standard of Assessment	The Water Company shall measure and record the following information For all environmental impacts identified: • The location of the site of environmental impacts observed • A photo or photos shall be taken of any signs of environmental impact • Weather conditions at the time of the observations • Dissolved oxygen concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified • Ammonium concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified
Frequency of Monitoring	On the day of any reductions in compensation flow implemented under conditions 1.1, 3.1.3 or 3.3, the day after and then weekly thereafter until no further reductions are made. If no signs of environmental distress are noted from two consecutive walkover surveys no further walkover surveys are necessary until there are further reductions.
Location of Monitoring	• Aire 1 between SE 13123 38376 and SE 13675 38239 • Aire 2 between SE 17481 39782 and SE 18025 40113 • Bridgehouse Beck 1 between SE 03620 35976 and SE 03498 35618

	• Bridgehouse Beck T1 between SE 01874 35186 and SE 02346 35195 • Worth 2 between SE 05105 38813 and SE 05304 39241
Survey Results	Weekly, for the duration of the Drought Permit, the Water Company shall provide to the Environment Agency in the form of a calendar week report the following details: • Monitoring data as required by condition 2.1 The report shall be sent to drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk Note: A calendar week is a period of 7 consecutive days beginning on a Monday
Responsibility	Unless otherwise discussed and agreed in writing with the Agency, the Water Company will be responsible for all of the costs associated with this monitoring programme. Health and safety requirements whilst carrying out the surveys are the responsibility of the Water Company

APPENDIX 2**ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SCHEDULE: SHORT-TERM POLLUTION SCHEDULE**

Assessment Type	Targeted surveillance walkover surveys of water quality and ecological stress local to 'significant' water quality pressures', to include water quality spot sampling in priority areas such as pools and weirs where aquatic species may become isolated during low flows
Duration of monitoring	The environmental monitoring surveys shall take place from the first day that the total compensation flow to Dunkirk Beck from Leeshaw Reservoir is reduced under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency
Environmental Impacts	The following are suggested signs of environmental impacts but are not exhaustive. If advice is required then the Agency can be contacted on 0800 80 70 60. • Fish in distress, for example gasping at the surface or leaping out of the water • Dead fish • Concentration of fish in restricted areas/pools which could increase susceptibility to predation or poaching • Inhibition of movement of fish past river structures or other barriers • Reduced habitat availability for adult and juvenile life stages (including spawning/nursery areas) • Reduced depth of flow over brown trout edds • Signs of polluting discharges during walkover surveys, impacts exacerbated during lower and/or reduced dilution • Algal blooms • Establishment and/or expansion of invasive non-native species
Monitoring Method & Standard of Assessment	The Water Company shall measure and record the following information in priority areas such as pools and weirs where aquatic species may become isolated during low flows For all environmental impacts identified: • The location of the site of environmental impacts observed • A photo or photos shall be taken of any signs of environmental impact • Weather conditions at the time of the observations • Dissolved oxygen concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified • Ammonium concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified Where relevant to the environmental impact observed: • Approximate number of dead fish • Any signs of damage or disease • Approximate number of fish in distress, gasping at the surface or leaping out of the water • Whether the fish are being stranded in shallow pools • Depth of water over brown trout redds

	• Description of structures and stretches of any watercourses that have no flow or significantly reduced flow • Approximate size of the fish affected • The species affected • Signs of pollution • Presence of algal blooms/scums • Species, location and extent of invasive non-native species
Frequency of Monitoring	On the day of any reductions in compensation flow implemented under conditions 1.1, 3.1.3, or 3.3 the day after and then weekly thereafter until no further reductions are made. If no signs of environmental distress are noted from two consecutive walkover surveys no further walkover surveys are necessary until there are further reductions.
Location of Monitoring	Bridgehouse Beck 1 and Worth 2: 10 metres upstream and at least 100 metres downstream of the Oxenhope WwTW discharge outfall at SE 03550 35670
Survey Results	Weekly, for the duration of the Drought Permit, the Water Company shall provide to the Environment Agency, in the form of a calendar week report, the following details: • Monitoring data as required by condition 2.1 The report shall be sent to drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk Note: A calendar week is a period of 7 consecutive days beginning on a Monday
Responsibility	Unless otherwise discussed and agreed in writing with the Agency, the Water Company will be responsible for all of the costs associated with this monitoring programme. Health and safety requirements whilst carrying out the surveys are the responsibility of the Water Company

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Note: the following information is provided for information only. It does not form part of the permit.

REASONS FOR SUSPENSIONS AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

Mitigation

Conditions 3 of this drought permit have been included to mitigate against any environmental impacts that may be caused by or affected by the Water Company reducing compensation flows

The Agency will take into consideration any other actions the Water Company are taking or plan to take in order to mitigate effects on the environment, such as mitigation actions identified in their 'Drought Plan: Environmental Assessment Report – North West Area Reservoirs', May 2025

Temporary Flow Adjustments

Condition 3.3 allows for compensation flows to be temporarily increased from the quantities specified under condition 1 through the range of flows up to the compensation flows required under NE/027/0014/010. The 'In Drought Mitigation Options' of Yorkshire Water's Environmental Monitoring Plan identifies these alterations in flows in the context of this drought permit as:

IDMIT_E1 Gradual or temporary adjustments to abstraction or compensation flows to prevent stranding, displacement, or stress in sensitive aquatic species (e.g. fish, macroinvertebrates, white-clawed crayfish)

Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs) and Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTWs)

Condition 3.4 (i) identifies the CSO and WwTW assets where the risk of adverse impact has been established. The implementation of the measures detailed in the plan are referred to as:

- **IDMON_WSWQ2** CSO Monitoring in the North West Reservoirs Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2025
- **IDMIT_WQ1** WwTW Monitoring in the North West Reservoirs Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2025.

The reach of watercourse identified as at risk of adverse impact through the CSOs and WwTWs detailed in condition 3.4 (i) are defined in the North West Reservoirs Environmental Impact Assessment dated May 2025 which, in the context of this permit, are:

- Aire 1
- Aire 2
- Bridgehouse Beck 1
- Worth 2

The Water Company or the Agency may deem it necessary to implement the monitoring and maintenance measures on CSO and WwTW assets that are not listed in the above mentioned plan. Condition 3.4 (ii) provides for this possibility

Monitoring Locations

The Monitoring Locations referred to in Appendices 1 and 2 are the downstream reach or reaches where monitoring is required, in accordance with Water Company Environmental Monitoring Plan North West Area dated May 2025, respectively termed IDMON_WSE Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental impacts.

IMPORTANT NOTES**Definition of a day**

A day means any period of 24 consecutive hours.

Temporary Use Ban

You must follow your 2022 drought plan and implement a Temporary Use Ban (under sections 76 and 76A – C of the Water Industries Act 1991) before using the powers granted by this permit, unless the Agency agrees that such ban is not necessary due to the circumstances at the time

Environmental Monitoring Plan

The conditions and monitoring incorporated on this permit are in addition to the Environmental Monitoring Plan agreed between the Agency and the Water Company

Contact details

For the purpose of condition 3.1.2 the Water Company should contact the Agency by email to drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk including the drought permit number in any correspondence

For the purpose of condition 3.3, the Water Company shall, prior to making any increase in compensation flows, first seek agreement of the Agency via email to: drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk and by telephone on 0800 80 70 60 and make reference to the fact that this is in regard to the 'Leeshaw Reservoir Drought permit.'