

Drought Permit No.	DP2025 – 22719129R01
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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 grants this drought permit to:

Yorkshire Water Services Limited (‘the Water Company’)  
Western House  
Halifax Road  
Bradford  
West Yorkshire  
BD6 2SZ

Company registration number 02366682

The Water Company is authorised by licence serial number 2/27/19/129/R01 (Lobwood) (‘the Licence’) to abstract 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.

<b>Signed</b> Mike Dugher	<b>Date of issue</b> .....22 August 2025
Area Director, Yorkshire	<b>Date effective</b> .....22 August 2025
Environment Agency Lateral House 8 City Walk Leeds LS11 9AT	<b>Date of expiry</b> .....22 February 2026

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

## SCHEDULE OF CONDITIONS

### 1. MAXIMUM QUANTITY

#### 1.1 Condition 9.4 of the Licence is replaced with the following;

The aggregate daily abstraction authorised under this licence and licence serial number 2/27/20/196/R01 (Arthington) shall be equal to or less than the quantity of water released from Grimwith Reservoir at National Grid Reference SE 065 645 to the River Dobb at SE 05906 64009 and shall not exceed 88.6 megalitres per day when the flow in the River Wharfe as gauged by the Agency at its flow gauging station at Addingham Low Mill at National Grid Reference SE 09147 49299 is equal to or less than 252 megalitres per day (2.917 cumecs) as may be notified by the Agency. The Agency's said gauging of the flow shall be conclusive.

### 2. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

#### 2.1 The Water Company shall undertake the monitoring as set out in Appendix 1.

### 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.

#### 3.2 **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;

- i) Ebor Way CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference SE 44070 45290  
Tadcaster West CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference SE 48848 43374  
Tadcaster East (Britannia Inn) CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference SE 48770 43450  
Billams Hill CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference SE 20099 45880

Rivadale View CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference SE 11924 48068

Wyvill Road CSO discharges into the River Wharfe at National Grid Reference at SE1340248106

- ii) Any CSO or WwTW 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	<p>Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental impacts.</p> <p>The Water Company shall not make any changes to this monitoring schedule without the Agency's prior written agreement</p>
Duration of Monitoring	<p>The environmental monitoring surveys shall take place from the first day that the licence is modified under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.</p>
Environmental impacts	<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fish in distress, for example gasping at the surface or leaping out of the water.</li> <li>• Dead fish.</li> <li>• Concentration of fish in restricted areas/pools which could increase susceptibility to predation or poaching.</li> <li>• Inhibition of movement of fish past river structures or other barriers.</li> <li>• Reduced habitat availability for adult and juvenile life stages (including spawning/nursery areas).</li> <li>• Reduced depth of flow over brown trout redds.</li> <li>• Signs of polluting discharges during walkover surveys, problems exacerbated during lower flows and/or reduced dilution.</li> <li>• Algal blooms.</li> <li>• Establishment and/or expansion of invasive non-native species.</li> </ul>
Monitoring Method & Standard of Assessment	<p>The water company shall measure and record the following information. For all environmental impacts identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The location of the site of environmental impacts observed.</li> <li>• A photo or photos should be taken of any signs of environmental impacts.</li> <li>• Weather conditions at the time of the observations.</li> <li>• Dissolved oxygen concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified</li> <li>• Ammonium concentration measurements shall be taken and recorded anywhere in the survey area where signs of environmental stress are identified</li> </ul> <p>Where relevant to the environmental impact observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approximate number of dead fish.</li> <li>• Any signs of damage or disease.</li> <li>• Approximate number of fish in distress, gasping at the surface or leaping out of the water.</li> <li>• Whether the fish are being stranded in shallow pools.</li> <li>• Depth of water over brown trout redds</li> <li>• Description of structures and stretches of any watercourses that have no flow or significantly reduced flow.</li> <li>• Approximate size of the fish affected.</li> <li>• The species affected.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signs of pollution.</li> <li>• Presence of algal blooms/scums.</li> <li>• Species, location and extent of invasive non-native species.</li> </ul>
Frequency of monitoring	On the day of any flow changes implemented under conditions 1.1, the day after and then weekly thereafter until no further flow changes are made. If no signs of environmental impacts are noted from two consecutive walkover surveys no further walkover surveys are necessary until there are further flow changes.
Location of Monitoring	The River Wharfe (Wharfe 1) between SE 07550 51963 to SE 0804 5182.
Survey Results	<p>At the same time each week 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring data as required from Condition 2.1,</li> </ul> <p>The report shall be sent to <a href="mailto:drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk">drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Note: a calendar week is a period of 7 consecutive days beginning on a Monday.</p>
Responsibility	<p>Unless otherwise discussed and agreed in writing, the water company will be responsible for all of the costs associated with this monitoring programme.</p> <p>Health and safety requirements whilst carrying out the surveys are the responsibility of the water company.</p>

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

### REASONS FOR CONDITIONS

#### Mitigation

Condition 1.1; to allow additional abstraction for 'public water supply' from the river, to preserve stocks in the reservoir(s) for future abstraction.

Condition 3 of this drought permit has been included to mitigate against any environmental impacts that may be caused by or affected by the water company increasing abstraction.

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 – Wharfe at Lobwood', dated June 2025

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

Condition 3.2 identifies the CSO assets where the risk of adverse impact has been established. The implementation of the measures detailed in this plan are referred to as **IDMON\_WSWQ2** CSO Monitoring in the River Wharfe at Lobwood Environmental Assessment dated June 2025.

The reach of watercourse identified as at risk of adverse impact through the CSO's detailed in Condition 3.2 are defined in the River Wharfe at Lobwood Environmental Assessment dated June 2025 which, in the context of this permit is:

- Wharfe 1

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 Appendix A of the above mentioned plan. Condition 3.2 (ii) provides for this possibility.

#### Monitoring Locations

The Monitoring Locations referred to in Appendix 1 are the downstream reach or reaches where monitoring is required, in accordance with Water Company Environmental Monitoring Plan River Options dated June 2025, respectively termed **IDMON\_WSE** Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental impacts.

### IMPORTANT NOTES

#### 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.

#### 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.

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**Contact details:**

For the purpose of condition 2.1, the Water Company shall notify the Agency via email to: drought.yorkshire@environment-agency.gov.uk and by telephone on 0800 80 70 60 and make reference to that fact that this is in regard to the 'River Wharfe at Lobwood Drought Permit.'

