

Drought Permit No.

DP2025-NE0270010009

Digley

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

Company registration number 02366682

The Water Company is authorised by the Huddersfield Corporation Act 1937 ("the Act") as varied by licence serial number NE/027/0010/009 ("the Licence") to impound water and is required to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Act and 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 Act and the Licence remain in full force and effect.

Signed Mike Dugher

Date of issue - 24 September 2025

Area Director - Yorkshire

Date effective - 24 September 2025

Environment Agency
Lateral House
8 City Walk
Leeds
LS11 9AT

Date of expiry - 24 March 2026

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 and 3.3 of this drought permit, condition 4.1 of the Licence is substituted with the following:

- (i) Unless condition 1.1(ii) of this drought permit applies, the Water Company shall make a uniform and continuous release of compensation flow as per the table below from Digley Reservoir to the Digley Brook at National Grid Reference SE 11173 06844 (or such other location as specified in writing by the Agency).

Month	Compensation flow MI/d
January	5.30
February	2.90
March	2.90
April	2.90
May	2.90
June	2.25
July	1.60
August	2.90
September	2.90
October	2.90
November	5.30
December	5.30

- (ii) If the group reservoir stocks are below the South West Reservoir Group Drought Control Line defined in the Water Company's Drought Plan 2022 dated 29 April 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 per the table below from Digley Reservoir to the Digley Brook at National Grid Reference SE 11173 06844 (or such other location as specified in writing by the Agency) until group reservoir stocks have increased to and remained at or above the South West Reservoir Group Drought Control Line for a period of six consecutive weeks or longer, upon which the Water Company shall return to the compensation flow specified in condition 1.1(i).

Month	Compensation flow MI/d
January	3.50
February	1.91
March	1.91
April	1.91
May	1.91
June	1.49
July	1.06
August	1.91
September	1.91
October	1.91
November	3.50
December	3.50

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

2. ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

- 2.1 The Water Company shall undertake the monitoring as set out in Appendix 1 to this permit.

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 impacts 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), the Agency gives written notice that there is a disruption to the ecology, the Water Company shall increase compensation flow from Digley Brook at National Grid Reference SE 11173 06844 as per the table below, or to such quantity specified in writing by the Agency.

Month	Compensation flow Ml/d
January	10.60
February	5.80
March	5.80
April	5.80
May	5.80
June	4.50
July	3.20
August	5.80
September	5.80
October	5.80
November	10.60
December	10.60

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 the compensation flow to that specified in condition 1.1 until it 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 1.1, 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 or disturbance to water users downstream or 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 compensation flow is needed to support riverine ecology, as identified in the Water Company Environmental Monitoring Plan South West Area Appendix A.3, the Water Company shall increase flow at a time, to a rate and for a duration, as specified in writing by the Agency, at National Grid Reference SE 11173 06844, or such 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:

- (i) Jack Bridge West CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15154 17340
 Ben Shaws CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15207 17533
 Kings Mill Lane No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15122 16255
 Fartown Bradford Rd CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15207 17533
 Red Doles Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 1550 1775
 Willow Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15207 17533
 Bog Green Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17776 20220
 Huddersfield Leeds Rd CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 16760 18930
 Bradley Mills 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15218 17545
 Deighton STW – Storm Overflow discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17250 19480
 Deighton STW – Storm Overflow discharging at National Grid Reference SE 16970 19080
 Carr Pit Road No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15147 16495
 Ivy Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15382 16286
 Colne Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15037 16169
 Thistle Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15207 17533
 Somerset Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 1512 1625
 Longley Park CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15052 16179
 Daisy Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference at SE 15147 16495
 Anchor Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15163 16663
 Aspley Wakefield Rd CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15122 16255
 Gasworks Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15208 17129

Willow Lane Beck CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15200 17527
Neiley No 2 Stw – Storm Overflow discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14670 11530
Honley Newtown No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14002 12134
Honley Huddsfld Rd 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14042 12580
Honley Eastgate CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 13999 12140
Honley Bridge No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14045 12015
Corn Mill No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14015 12140
Brockholes Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15092 10976
Longlands Road NO 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15013 10048
Armitage Fold CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 13362 13819
Stockwell Hill CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 13573 13662
Water Street No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 13693 15139
Beaumont Park CSO discharging at National Grid Reference at SE 12642 14116
Queens Mill Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14131 15635
Lockwood Scar CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 13690 15117
Queens Square CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14130 12692
Woodhouse Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15883 21823
Elland Lowfields SPS discharging at National Grid Reference SE 112602 18001
Elland West Vale SPS discharging at National Grid Reference SE 100072 11241
Park Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11244 21795
Elland Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11094 21538
Bramston Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14488 22546
Cooper Bridge CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17599 20604
Lords Lane Brighthouse CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14997 22533
Lillands Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14057 22645
River Street CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15683 22178
Elland Millgate CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 1069 2128
Brighthouse Upper STW/3XDWF OVERFLOW discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17300 21120
Brighthouse Upper STW/6XDWF OVERFLOW discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17290 21120
Park Road Elland CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11230 21790
Birds Royd Lane NO 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14726 22552
Thornhills Beck Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 1509 2252
Dark Lane No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11985 23379
Pollard Street No 2 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 14834 22555
Eastgate Elland CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 10995 21475
Huddersfield Rd 106 CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11985 23379
South Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 10995 21475

Wistons Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 10995 21475
Gas Works Lane CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 10922 21500
Lower Edge Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11094 21538
Park Hill Farm CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 35741 21362
Halifax Stw discharging at National Grid Reference SE 09250 22390

- (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 total compensation flow to Digley Brook from Digley Reservoir is reduced under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed by the Environment Agency.</p>
Environmental Impact	<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"> • 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. • 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 flows and/or reduced dilution. • Algal blooms. • Establishment and/or expansion of invasive non-native species
Monitoring Method & Standard of Assessment	<p>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.</p> <p>For all environmental impacts identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The location of the site of environmental impacts observed. • A photo or photos should be taken of any signs of environmental impacts. • 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. <p>Where relevant to the environmental impact observed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 or 3.1.3, 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colne 4: 500m located within SE 15517 17790 to SE 15905 18094 and 500m located within SE 14983 16189 to SE15154 16606 and 500m located within SE16870 18882 to SE17238 19148. • Holme 2: 500m located within SE 1371 0784 and SE 1413 0811 • Holme 3: 500m located within SE 1423 0817 to SE 1439 0850 • Holme 4: 500m located within SE 13530 13094 to SE 13377 13662 • Holme T1: 500m located within SE 1131 0680 to SE 1180 0676 • Calder 4: 500m located within SE 1261 2229 to SE 1303 2227 (incorporating Cromwell Bottom LNR/LWS) and 500m located within SE 2408 2079 to SE 2404 2129
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"> • Monitoring data as required from Condition 2.1, <p>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.</p>
Responsibility	<p>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.</p> <p>Health and safety requirements whilst carrying out the surveys are the responsibility of the Water Company.</p>

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

Condition 3 of this drought permit has been included to mitigate against any environmental problems 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 – South West Area Reservoirs: Middle Calder Area', July 2025.

Temporary Flow Adjustments

Condition 3.3 allows for compensation flows to be temporarily increased from the quantities specified under Condition 1.1 through the range of flows up to the compensation flows required under Section 4.1 of the Licence. 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 (CSO's) and Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTWs)

Condition 3.4 (i) 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 South West Reservoirs: Middle Calder Environmental Impact Assessment dated July 2025.

The reach of watercourse identified as at risk of adverse impact through the CSO's detailed in Condition 3.4 (i) are defined in the South West Reservoirs: Middle Calder Environmental Impact Assessment dated July 2025 which, in the context of this licence is:

- Colne 4
- Holme 2
- Holme 3
- Holme 4
- Holme T1
- Calder 4

The Water Company or the Agency may be deem it necessary to implement the monitoring and maintenance measures on CSO 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 Appendix 1 are the downstream reach or reaches where monitoring is required, in accordance with Water Company South West Reservoirs: Middle Calder Environmental Impact Assessment dated July 2025, respectively termed

IDMON_WSE Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental problems.

IMPORTANT NOTES

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 is in addition to the Environmental Monitoring Plan agreed between the Agency and the Water Company.

Definition of a Day

A day means any period of 24 consecutive hours reckoned from 9.00am.

Contact details

For the purpose of condition 3.1.2 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 'Digley Reservoir Drought Permit.'

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 'Digley Reservoir Drought Permit.'