

Drought Permit No.	DP2025-NE0270012052
	Scammonden Water (Black Brook)

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 1965 ("the Act") to impound water and is required to operate in accordance with the provisions of the Act. This drought permit suspends and/or modifies the provisions of the Act, and the Agency's enforcement letter to the Water Company dated 16 June 2014 ("the Letter"), 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 remain in full force and effect.

Signed Mike Dugher

Date of issue – 03 October 2025

Area Director - Yorkshire

Date effective – 03 October 2025

Environment Agency
Lateral House
8 City Walk
Leeds
LS11 9AT

Date of expiry – 03 April 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 3.1.2 and 3.3 of this drought permit, Part IV paragraph 27 (1) of the Act, in so far as it relates to the compensation flows only and not in respect of any other part of Part IV paragraph 27 (1), and the Letter, are modified as follows:

- (i) Subject to condition 1.1(ii) of this drought permit, the Water Company shall make a uniform and continuous release of compensation flow of not less than 1,750 cubic metres per day from Scammonden Reservoir to the Black Brook at National Grid Reference SE 05352 16851 (or such other location as specified in writing by the Agency).
- (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 of not less than 1,150 cubic metres per day from Scammonden Reservoir to the Black Brook at National Grid Reference SE 05352 16851 (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 must return to the compensation flow specified in condition 1.1 (i).

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 Appendices 1 and 2 attached to this permit.

3. MITIGATION CONDITIONS

3.1 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:

3.1.1 (i) upon finding any signs of environmental problems 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.

- 3.1.2 If, upon being notified of any signs of environmental impacts in accordance with condition 3.1.1 (i), the Agency gives written notice that there is a disruption to the ecology, the Water Company shall increase compensation flow from Scammonden Reservoir to Black Brook at National Grid Reference SE 05352 16851 to a rate of not less than 3,491 cubic metres per day, or a lesser quantity if agreed in writing by the Agency.

The increase in compensation flow to the Black Brook shall continue until the Agency serves a subsequent written notice stating that the reduction in compensation flow in accordance with condition 1.1 of this drought permit may be resumed.

- 3.2 The changes to the compensation flow specified in conditions 1.1, 3.1.2 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 05352 16851, 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 (CSO's) Optimisation and Maintenance for Drought Plan* and 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) Scammonden Dam WwTW discharging at National Grid Reference SE 05400 17000
 Barsey Green WwTW discharging at National Grid Reference SE 06814 20062
 Saddleworth Road CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 06574 20785
 West Vale CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 09424 21127
 WOODHOUSE LANE CSO discharging at National Grid Reference SE 15883 21823
 ELLAND LOWFIELDS SPS discharging at National Grid Reference SE 11260 21800
 ELLAND WEST VALE SPS discharging at National Grid Reference SE 10007 21124
 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 BRIGHOUSE 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

BRIGHOUSE UPPER STW/3XDWF OVERFLOW discharging at National Grid Reference SE 17300 21120

BRIGHOUSE 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

- 3.4 (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	Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental problems. 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 from Scammonden Water to Black Brook is reduced under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
Environmental Impact	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. • 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	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 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. 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, or 3.1.2 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	• Black Brook 1: Site 1: 1.3km located within SE 0687 1926 to SE 07902 20584 with focus on pond habitats (initial 700m to SE 06581 19789 to include review of pond connectivity) • Black Brook 1: Site 2: 500m located within SE 06724 18814 to SE 06875 19175 • Black Brook 1: Site 3: 500m located within SE 07880 20597 to SE 08342 20640 • Calder 4: Site 1: 500m located within SE 1261 2229 to SE 1303 2227 (incorporating Cromwell Bottom LNR/LWS) and Site 2: 500m located within SE 2408 2079 to SE 2404 2129
Survey Results	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: • Monitoring data as required from 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	Surveillance walkover surveys of habitat quality and ecological stress, recording signs of environmental problems. 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 from Scammonden Water to Black Brook is reduced under this drought permit until this drought permit expires or is revoked, unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Environment Agency.
Environmental Impact	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. • 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	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 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. 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, or 3.1.2 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	- Black Brook 1: Scammonden Dam WwTW, 10m upstream and at least 100m downstream of the outfall at SE 05400 17000 - Black Brook 1: Barsey Green WwTW, 10m upstream and at least 100m downstream of the outfall at SE 06814 20062
Survey Results	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: Monitoring data as required from 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

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 requirement specified by the Agency. 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 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 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 drought permit are:

- Black Brook 1
- Calder 4

The Water Company or the Agency may 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 and Appendix 2 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 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 drought 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.

Contact details

For the purpose of condition 3.1.1 (i) 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 'Scammonden Water Black Brook 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 that fact that this is in regard to the 'Scammonden Water Black Brook Reservoir Drought Permit.'