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**WAT-G-004**

**EASR Guidance: Registration Activity: Abstraction of seawater or groundwater under the seabed**

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# Purpose

This document provides information and guidance for anyone undertaking the abstraction of water from coastal or transitional waters or groundwater below the bed of coastal and transitional waters which requires an authorisation under The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations.

This guidance does not cover any other permissions that may be required.

# What activity does this guidance apply to?

This guidance applies to the abstraction of water from:

* Coastal or transitional waters.
* Groundwater below the bed of coastal or transitional waters.

# Understanding the activity

This activity covers the abstraction of water from [coastal or transitional waters](#_Definitions), or [groundwater](#_Definitions) below the bed of coastal or transitional waters where the total daily volume is more than or equal to 10m3 per day.

# Understanding and minimising risks to the water environment

## Risks to the water environment

The abstraction of water poses the following risks to the water environment:

* The death of fish from passing through turbines.

To minimise risks to the water environment and to help you comply with the standard conditions for this activity, you should follow the Dos and Don’ts below.

## Dos and Don’ts

* Do take all reasonable steps to secure efficient and sustainable water use.
* Do regularly check your abstraction equipment to make sure it’s in good condition and fix any leaks straight away.
* Do check what other species and habitats may be affected.
* Do consider the potential impacts on other water users.

# Glossary

A full list of terms is available in the main Glossary.

**Coastal water** means water (other than groundwater) within the area extending landward from the 3 mile limit up to the limit of the highest tide or, where appropriate, the seaward limits of any bodies of transitional water, but does not include any water beyond the seaward limits of the territorial sea of the United Kingdom adjacent to Scotland.

**Transitional water** means water (other than groundwater) in the vicinity of river mouths which is partly saline in character as a result of its proximity to coastal water but which is substantially influenced by freshwater flows.

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