

Combined Pollution Events Learning

Project Name:	Several
Project Number:	Several
Locations:	Warden Bridge, Wamphray, Lamington, Forteviot
Date and time of event:	Throughout 2016 to 2019
Date of issue:	June 2020
Contact:	Capital Delivery, Scotland
Ref:	Learning from Events Week



Overview

During CP5 there were several events, where water bodies were impacted by project works, which caused silt pollution, bank erosion, harm to a nature reserve that resulted in warning letters from the regulators.

The works undertaken included scour protection where the water courses had temporary diversions or over-pumping to create dry working areas for planned repairs. Another location had a temporary cofferdam for emergency repairs.

Several of those events were reported by 3rd parties, including members of the public and not by the project, or were identified during site visits.

Water courses also impacted project works, due to flooding, which resulted in a fuel spill of more than 400L at one site & other sites being stood down as those had underslung scaffolds damaged or temporary defences were over topped as a result, which caused environmental and safety risks.

Underlying causes included

- Failure to follow Permit Conditions and to adhere to Controlled Activities Regulations Schedules (Self Reporting).
- Failure to monitor silt control effectiveness and failure to stop work to address evident pollution.
- Inadequate capacity of temporary diversion channel to accommodate flow rate during high river levels.
- Over-reliance on historical data to inform potential frequency of flood risk or high river levels.

Key message; Consider the following to prevent recurrence:

What are the appropriate permit and licence conditions and control measures needed to monitor site status, including consents constraints or self-reporting schedules and plan “when to stop” works due to pollution?

Assess foreseeable risk of flooding.

Do not rely solely on historical data that indicates a low frequency of flooding. Consider the increasing frequency in extreme climate events and then assess and plan accordingly.