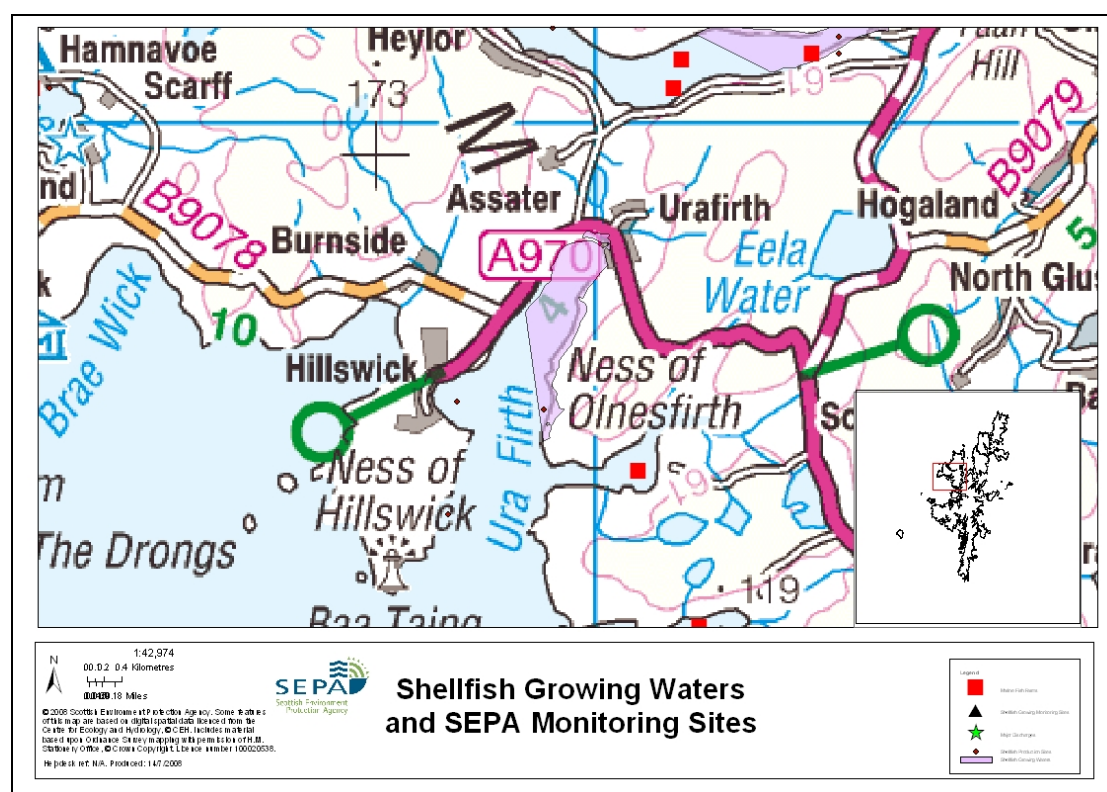


101 Ura Firth



Name	Ura Firth	
Report Reference No.	101	
WFD Code	UKS79923101	
Location Information	An area inshore of a line drawn between HU 292 777 and HU 294 763 (Fissla Taing) and extending to MLWS.	
Designated Area (Km²)	0.9	
Year of Designation	2002	
Sampling Points	Ura Firth	HU 29635 78577
	Ura Firth Mussel Site	HU 30041 78333
Commencement of Monitoring	2003	

101.1 Commercial Shellfish Interests

The waters have been de-classified for King and Queen scallops by the Food Standards Agency due to insufficient samples.

101.2 Bathymetric Information

This site is on the west coast of mainland Shetland and is approximately 2.5km in length. Due to its aspect, Ura Firth would be subject to prevailing south-westerly winds. The maximum depth is 22m and the catchment area is 10km². The fresh/tidal flow ratio is 5 and the salinity reduction of 0.2ppt suggests low freshwater influence.

Ura Firth takes 4 days to flush fully and there are no basins in the loch. There are no morphological pressures on the waters.

101.3 Conservation Designations

There are no designated conservation areas in the vicinity of Ura Firth.

101.4 Topography And Land Use – Potential Diffuse Pollution Sources

The land around the designated area, and that within the catchment of freshwater inputs to the designated area, is of improved pasture, semi-natural grasslands and of rough, rocky land. The A970 road runs along the western side of Ura Firth to the settlement of Hillswick, approximately 1km beyond the extent of the designated area.

There are a number of minor freshwater inputs to the designated area. These are not monitored by SEPA but are considered to be of at least good quality.

101.5 Point Source Discharges

Scottish Water is consented to discharge effluent from a septic tank from a population equivalent of up to 250 into the designated area.

Septic tanks at two separate school buildings are consented to discharge population equivalents of 250 each to the designated area, although the nominal population served by these septic tanks are 20 and 40 persons respectively.

Type	Name	CAR authorisation	Treatment	NGR	PE	Additional Information
Scottish Water Asset	Urafirth Outfall	CAR/L/10022 83	ST	HU3 0278 4	250	
Shetlands Islands Council	Urafirth Primary School	WPC/N/0048 794 *	ST	HU3 0078 5	250	
	Urafirth Primary School	WPC/N/0048 822 *	ST		250	

* There are no CAR authorisations for these sites at present.

There are a further two Scottish Water assets consented to discharge into Ura Firth within 2km of the designated area, one of which is an emergency overflow from a pumping station.

There are no fish farms in the designated area but there is one fish farm in the neighbouring Hamars Voe, less than 2km from the designated area, with a consented biomass of 440 tonnes.

101.6 Compliance Monitoring Regime

Year	Monitoring Regime
2005 -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quarterly for Sal, DO, pH, temperature, visible oil Twice yearly for metals in water Annually for metals and organohalogens in mussels Quarterly for faecal coliforms in mussels

This monitoring regime of the designated area was not fully implemented until the second half of 2005.

101.7 Compliance History

Year	Compliance History for Waters and Biota, Excluding Faecal Coliforms Data			Compliance History for Faecal Coliforms
	Overall Result	Imperative	Guideline	Guideline
2003	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2004	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2005	Pass	Pass	Fail ¹	Fail
2006	Pass	Pass	Fail ²	Fail
2007	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

The waters failed to comply with the Guideline standard for faecal coliforms from 2003 to 2006. There were no results for 2007 due to issues with boat work.

¹Failure relates to a result for HCH-G in February 2005 of <14.9 ng/g which exceeds the Guideline standard of 10 ng/g but complies with the Imperative standard of 30 ng/g.

²Failure relates to a result for HCH-G in February 2006 of 25 µg/kg of shellfish flesh which exceeds the Guideline standard of 10 µg/kg.

101.8 Future Monitoring Recommendations

The monitoring regime as described in section 6 will be followed. In the event of any chemistry parameter failing to meet any EQS, the site will be revisited and re-sampled for the failed parameter.

101.9 Improvement Actions

There are no improvement actions currently planned for this area.

101.10 Summary of Actions

Action	Deadline
No improvement actions currently planned.	