# Water body information sheet for water body 10611 in Solway

#### **General details**

Water body name: River Nith (Sanquhar - New Cumnock)

Water body Identifier code: 10611 Length: 18.87 km

Water body category: River

River basin district: Solway Tweed

Area advisory group: Solway
Catchment: River Nith

Associated protected

areas:

River Nith - FRESHWATER FISH (EXISTING)

Associated groundwater: Upper Nith Valley

Responsible body: SEPA

**Dumfries & Galloway** 

Heavily modified: No Artificial: No

Typology: Mid-altitude

Medium Calcareous

National Grid Reference: NS 69541 13226

Latitude: 55.39558 Longitude: -4.06138

### **Current status of this water body**

Classification results are updated annually, as part of SEPA's commitment to monitor and assess the condition of the environment.

Once the classification is agreed, as part of river basin management planning, the pressures and measures for every water body are reviewed to ensure that they reflect this improved understanding of the environment. Objectives are reviewed as part of the six yearly planning cycle and any proposed changes to objectives will be presented in the draft river basin plans <a href="http://sepa.org.uk/water/river\_basin\_planning.aspx">http://sepa.org.uk/water/river\_basin\_planning.aspx</a>.

This worksheet was produced using the most up to date classification results but the measures, pressures and objectives shown may not yet align to these classification results. Please contact <a href="mailto:rbmp@sepa.org.uk">rbmp@sepa.org.uk</a> if you require further information on this water body.

We have classified this water body as having an overall status of Moderate with Medium confidence in 2012 with overall ecological status of Moderate and overall chemical status of Pass.

The overall classification of status is made up of many different tiers of classification data. A complete set of classification data for 2012 is shown at the end of this document.

### Targets for the future status of this water body

We have set environmental objectives for this water body over future river basin planning cycles in order that sustainable improvements to its status can be made over time, or alternatively that no deterioration in status occurs, unless caused by a new activity providing significant specified benefits to society or the wider environment.

For this water body we have set the overall environmental objectives for the first, second and third River Basin Management Planning (RBMP) cycles as:

| Year   | 2012     | 2015     | 2021     | 2027 |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|------|
| Status | Moderate | Moderate | Moderate | Good |
| Year   | 2012     | 2015     | 2021     | 2027 |
| Status | Moderate | Pass     | Pass     | Pass |

## Pressures and measures on this water body

We have established an ongoing programme of monitoring in order to identify pressures on our water bodies.

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The pressures listed below contribute to this water body's failure to meet good ecological status or potential. River basin planning allows us to plan improvements for particular parameters over time. We have collaborated with others to identify measures which will act to protect or improve our water environment in order that all water bodies reach good status over successive RBMP cycles.

The following table shows our collated information on the pressures on this water body, their causes and the measures which could be introduced to mitigate their effects. We have also indicated the current funding status of the measure; with projected measures being potentially funded and agreed measures having funding in place. Finally, we have included information on the potential or actual owner of the measure, the date it will be effective and information on the justification for extending the deadlines or for setting an alternative objective, where appropriate.

| Pressure                     | As a Result of   | Assessment Parameter            | Objective        | Reasons for Failure   |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|------------------|---|
|                              | Measure  | Funding                         | Owner            | Effective date  |
| Point Source<br>Pollution    | Sewage disposal  | Dissolved Oxygen                | High by 2015     |   |
|                              | Change timing or frequency of discharge                          | Agreed                          | Scottish Water   | 31/03/2008  |
| Point Source<br>Pollution    | Sewage disposal  | Dissolved Oxygen                | High by 2015     |   |
|                              | Increase treatment   | Agreed                          | Scottish Water   | 31/03/2008  |
| Morphological<br>Alterations |  | Multiple Pressure               | Moderate by 2015 | Implementation of<br>the measure by<br>an earlier deadline<br>would impose<br>disproportionate<br>burdens |
|                              | Improvement to condition of channel/ bed and/or banks/ shoreline | Neither Agreed nor<br>Projected | Landowner(s)     | 31/12/2026  |
| Diffuse Source<br>Pollution  |  | Unknown Organics                | Not yet set      |   |

Footnote – These results show current classification but the measures, pressures and objectives shown may not yet align to these classification results. Please contact <a href="mailto:rbmp@sepa.org.uk">rbmp@sepa.org.uk</a> if you require further information on this water body.

#### **Future work**

Additional work to identify pressures and to develop and implement measures to mitigate their impacts will continue over subsequent river basin cycles.

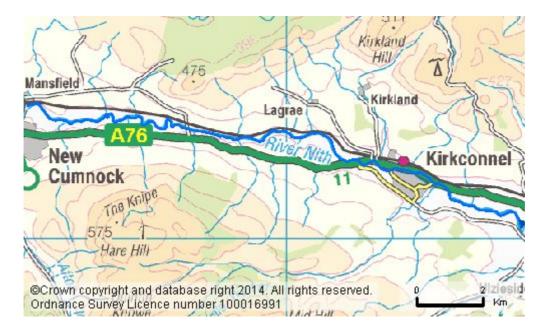
## Complete classification for this water body in 2012

| Parameter                   | Status   | Confidence of Class |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| OVERALL STATUS              | MODERATE | MEDIUM              |
| Pre-HMWB status             | Moderate | Medium              |
| Overall chemistry           | Pass     | Low                 |
| Priority substances         | Pass     | Low                 |
| Overall ecology             | Moderate | Medium              |
| Physico-Chem                | Good     | Medium              |
| Temperature                 | Good     | Medium              |
| Soluble reactive phosphorus | High     | High                |
| рН                          | High     | High                |
| Dissolved Oxygen            | High     | High                |
| Biological elements         | High     | High                |
| Phytobenthos                | High     | High                |
| Macrophytes                 | High     | Low                 |
| Benthic invertebrates       | High     | High                |
| Macro-invertebrates (acid)  | High     | Low                 |
| Macro-invertebrates (RiCT)  | High     | High                |
| Macro-invertebrates (ASPT)  | High     | High                |
| Macro-invertebrates (NTAXA) | High     | High                |
| Alien species               | High     | Low                 |
| Fish                        | High     | Medium              |
| Fish ecology                | High     | Medium              |
| Fish barrier                | High     | Medium              |
| Specific pollutants         | Pass     | High                |
| Ammonium                    | Pass     | High                |
| Hydromorphology             | Moderate | Medium              |
| Morphology                  | Moderate | Medium              |
| Hydrology                   | High     | Medium              |
| Hydrology (impoundment)     | High     | Medium              |

| Parameter               | Status   | Confidence of Class |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------------|
| Hydrology (abstraction) | High     | Medium              |
| Regulatory BOD          | High     | High                |
| Regulatory ammonium     | High     | High                |
| Water quality           | Good     | Medium              |
| Morphological pressures | Moderate | Medium              |

## Location of this water body

You can find the geographical location of this water body by searching on water body ID in the interactive maps at <a href="https://www.sepa.org.uk/water/river\_basin\_planning.aspx">www.sepa.org.uk/water/river\_basin\_planning.aspx</a>



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