

Water body information sheet for water body 20156 in North Highland

General details

Water body name:	Alness River - Cromarty Firth to Strone
Water body Identifier code:	20156
Length:	14.44 km
Water body category:	River
River basin district:	Scotland
Area advisory group:	North Highland
Catchment:	River Alness
Associated protected areas:	River Alness - FRESHWATER FISH (EXISTING) Alness River - Cromarty Firth to Strone - DRINKING WATER PROTECTION ZONE Cromarty Firth - SSSI Cromarty Firth - SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA Alness River Valley - SSSI
Associated groundwater:	Invergordon
Responsible body:	SEPA North Highland
Heavily modified:	No
Artificial:	No
Typology:	Mid-altitude Medium Siliceous
National Grid Reference:	NH 63363 72863
Latitude:	57.72466
Longitude:	-4.29588

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 http://sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx.

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 rbmp@sepa.org.uk if you require further information on this water body.

We have classified this water body as having an overall status of Good with Medium confidence in 2012 with overall ecological status of Good 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	Good	Good	Good	Good
Year	2012	2015	2021	2027
Status	Good	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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There are currently no pressures identified on this water body; we must ensure that no deterioration from good status occurs, unless caused by a new activity providing significant specified benefits to society or the wider environment

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

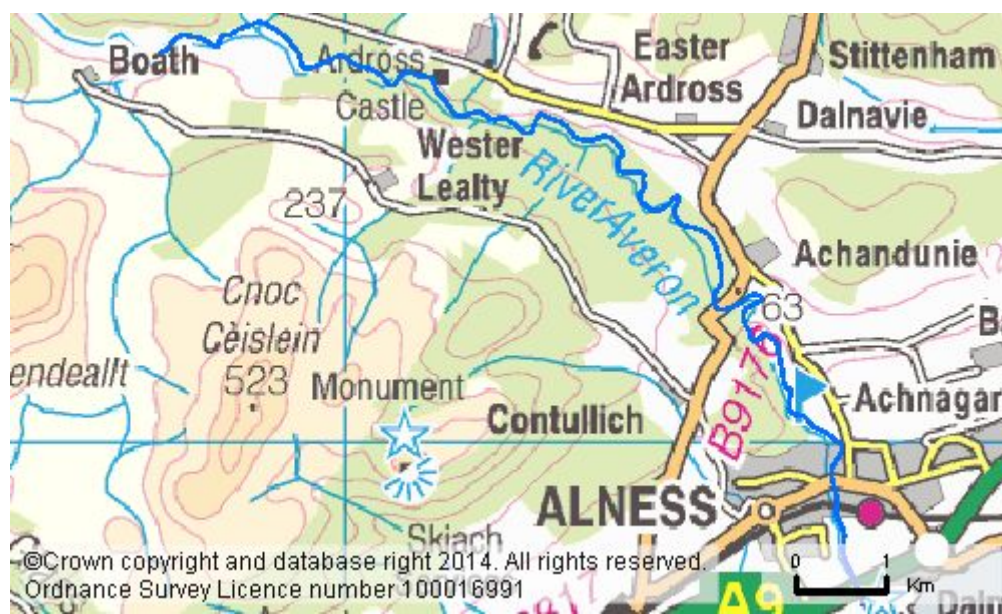
Parameter	Status	Confidence of Class
OVERALL STATUS	GOOD	MEDIUM
Pre-HMWB status	Good	Medium
Overall chemistry	Pass	Low
Priority substances	Pass	Low
Cadmium	Pass	Low
Lead	Pass	Low
Nickel	Pass	Low
Mercury	Pass	Low
Overall ecology	Good	Medium
Physico-Chem	High	High
Temperature	High	High
Soluble reactive phosphorus	High	High
pH	High	High
Dissolved Oxygen	High	High
Biological elements	High	High
Phytobenthos	High	High
Macrophytes	High	High
Benthic invertebrates	High	High
Macro-invertebrates (acid)	High	Low
Macro-invertebrates (RiCT)	High	High

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Parameter	Status	Confidence of Class
Macro-invertebrates (ASPT)	High	Medium
Macro-invertebrates (NTAXA)	High	High
Alien species	High	Low
Fish	High	Medium
Fish ecology	High	Medium
Fish barrier	High	Medium
Specific pollutants	Pass	High
Arsenic	Pass	Low
Iron	Pass	Low
Copper	Pass	Low
Zinc	Pass	High
Ammonium	Pass	High
Chromium	Pass	Low
Hydromorphology	Good	Medium
Morphology	Good	Medium
Hydrology	High	Medium
Hydrology (impoundment)	High	Medium
Hydrology (abstraction)	High	Medium
Regulatory BOD	High	High
Regulatory ammonium	High	High
Water quality	High	High
Morphological pressures	Good	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 www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx



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