



THE
ENVIRONMENT
PARTNERSHIP



UNITED UTILITIES

**HAWESWATER AQUEDUCT RESILIENCE PROGRAMME
- PROPOSED MARL HILL SECTION**

**MARL HILL HABITATS REGULATIONS ASSESSMENT
ADDENDUM (RVBC-MH-APP-010_01)**

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Introduction

- 1.1 This document provides an Addendum to the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) produced for the Marl Hill Section of the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP), located in north Lancashire. Since the original application was submitted there have been several updates to the original scheme. This document reviews these changes and determines whether these changes affect the assessment provided within the original HRA Document submitted with the original application in June 2021 (RVBC-MH-APP-010).
- 1.2 This document should be read in conjunction with RVBC-MH-APP-010 Marl Hill Habitats Regulations Assessment.

Updates to Original Proposals

- 1.3 The proposed revisions and additions to the Proposed Marl Hill Section which update the June 2021 planning application comprise the following:
 - Confirmation of the construction traffic access proposals in the Clitheroe area and nearby villages. The June 2021 Environmental Statement (Volume 4 Appendix 3.1) referred to two transport route options to serve the main construction compounds on the Proposed Marl Hill Section. It was confirmed in the Environmental Statement that one of the two options would be selected prior to determination of the planning application for the Proposed Marl Hill Section. It is now possible to confirm that Route Option 2 (referred to in the June 2021 Environmental Statement as the Ribble Crossing) has been adopted, albeit with a need to use local roads for a short period of approximately nine months to enable construction of the temporary crossing
 - Minor alterations to the access track serving the core construction area at the Braddup Compound, resulting in five amendments to the planning application boundary at its point along the northern edge of the access track towards the main construction compound
 - Removal of seven locations (RW1 to RW7 inclusive) where off-site highways works were originally proposed in the June 2021 Environmental Statement (refer to Volume 5 RVBC_MH_V5-P1-002 Highways Works series of drawings)
 - Avoidance of some previously affected trees within the Braddup Compound through embedded mitigation proposals (i.e. avoidance through design).
- 1.4 Figures 3.1a and 3.1b within the Environmental Statement Supplementary Environmental Information (Document RVBC-MH_SEI) illustrates the updated planning application boundaries for the Proposed Marl Hill Section.

Assessment of Changes

- 1.5 Construction access proposal Route Option 2, referred to as the Ribble Crossing, was included within the assessment of impacts on European sites within the original HRA. The confirmation that Route Option 2 (Ribble Crossing) is the selected construction access proposal therefore does not alter the original HRA Assessment, as the potential impacts arising from this option have already been assessed.
- 1.6 The alterations to the access track serving the core construction area at the Braddup Compound consist of very small additional areas located either side of existing tracks. These additional areas will not impact any qualifying habitats or species associated with the assessed SPA, SAC or Ramsar sites and do not affect the assessments made in the HRA.
- 1.7 The removal of seven locations of proposed off-site highways works is a reduction of the proposed works. This will result in a reduction of ecological impact of the works and will not affect any qualifying habitats or species associated with the assessed SPA, SAC or Ramsar sites.
- 1.8 The additional avoidance of tree loss will also result in a reduction of ecological impact of the works and will not affect any qualifying habitats or species associated with the assessed SPA, SAC or Ramsar sites.
- 1.9 It can therefore be confirmed that the changes listed above will not affect the assessments made within the HRA and the original document and its conclusions therefore remain valid.



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