

Natural Resources Wales Consents, Registrations, Permits and Authorizations		
Type of permit, consent, authorization, registration	Approximate determination period	Overview of legal duty, examples of activities & examples of other permissions commonly associated with this activity
European Protected Species License	30 working days	European Protected Species (EPS) are covered by Section 53 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended) to protect them from harm. Examples of such licenses would be for bat handling licenses or possible disturbance to cetaceans.
SSSI Consent	Up to 4 months	Section 28(E) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, owners and occupiers of SSSIs are required to give notice to Natural Resources Wales if they propose to carry out or permit an operation which has been specified in the SSSI notification as likely to damage the special interest e.g. use of herbicides in or near water or aerial spraying of herbicides.
Waste Permit (Bespoke, Standard rules, Variation)	Up to 4 months or longer if contentious or significant additional information needed.	A requirement under Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) a permit required for activities treating, keeping or disposing of waste over certain threshold. Examples of types of sites requiring permit are transfer stations, scrap yards, composting sites.
Waste Exemptions	Registration	A waste exemption is a waste operation that is exempt from needing an environmental permit under the EPR. Exemptions can involve the use, treatment, disposal and storage of waste. Specific limits are set in each exemption. Examples include using baled tyres in construction, sorting mixed waste & storage of sludge.
Mobile Plant Deployments	25 working Days	Under EPR, Lands-spreading or land remediation activities require a permit and then a deployment each time the activity is undertaken.
Installation permit (Bespoke, Standard Rules, Variation)	Up to 5 months or longer if contentious or significant additional information needed.	Schedule 1 Activities under EPR. Activities include cement and lime, food and drink, power stations, chemicals, intensive farming etc. Non EPR include species licensing.
Category A Mining waste facilities	4 months or longer if contentious or significant additional information needed.	Mining Waste Framework Directive (MWD) implemented into Schedule 20 of EPR. The main sections of the EPR 2010 apply generally but through Regulation 35 Schedule 20 includes the specific provisions that need to be included, mainly to meet the requirements of the Mining Waste Framework Directive. {Please note this has now been renamed the Management of Wastes from Extractive Industries Directive (mainly to cover oil and gas extraction)}. Annex III of Mining Waste Directive provides criteria for Category A as follows:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A failure or incorrect operation could give rise to a major accident;</li> <li>• Contains hazardous waste above a certain threshold;</li> <li>• Contains dangerous substances above a certain threshold.</li> </ul> <p>The Legal definition of a Category A site is as follows:</p> <p>Annex III of the MWD states that a waste facility shall be classified as Category A if:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A failure or incorrect operation, e.g. the collapse of a heap or the bursting of a dam, could give rise to a major accident, on the basis of a risk assessment taking into account factors such as the present or future size, the location and the environmental impact of the waste facility; or</li> <li>2. It contains waste classified as hazardous above a certain threshold; or</li> <li>3. It contains substances or preparations classified as dangerous above a certain threshold</li> </ol> <p>Water quality discharge permits are commonly required in association with mining waste permits and also species licenses as Great Crested Newts find the surface water management systems used in mines and quarries a favourable habitat.</p>
Mining Waste Operations (also including Mining Waste Facilities)	4 months (3 months for standard rules permits)	Mining Waste Framework Directive implemented into Schedule 20 of EPR (please see section above). Includes Standard Rules for inert extractive waste, Tier 2 bespoke for inert extractive waste with integral discharge, non-inert non-hazardous mining waste operations (with or without a mining waste facility) and hazardous mining waste operations (with or without a mining waste facility). Water quality discharge permits are commonly required in association with mining waste permits and also EPS licenses as great crested newts find the surface water management systems used in mines and quarries a favourable habitat. Groundwater permits, radioactive substances regulation (RSR) permits and installation permits for flaring of gas are linked with fracking.
Radioactive substances EPR permit (non-nuclear site)	Up to 4 months	EPR (previously controlled under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993). (Some sites still have the Radioactive Substances Consent authorisations but will gradually be replaced by EPR permits).
Radioactive Substances EPR permit (nuclear site)	Up to 4 months	EPR (previously controlled under the Radioactive Substances Act 1993). The previous authorisations have been replaced by an EPR permit.

European Union Emissions Trading System – all application types	2 months	Natural Resources Wales is responsible for the delivery in Wales of aspects of the European Union Emissions Trading System (implemented in the UK through the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Trading Scheme Regulations 2012). Natural Resources Wales is responsible for delivering all current Greenhouse Gas Emissions permitting and compliance activities in Wales (for example, permits, variations, audits etc), addressing queries from customers and assessing reports.
Hazardous Waste Registration	Registration upon payment	The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2005 . If an applicant produces or holds hazardous waste at any premises in England and Wales it must be registered each year, unless the total quantity is less than 500kg each year or the premises is excluded by Natural Resources Wales.
Water Quality permit (Bespoke, Standard Rules, Variation, Transfer, Surrender)	Up to 4 Months	A requirement of the EPR. For example, treated trade and sewage to ground and surface water, plus sheep-dip and pesticides to ground. A flood risk activity permit from Natural Resources Wales or local authority may also be required plus SSSI Consent for owners/occupiers. If the activity abstracts >20m <sup>3</sup> /d water they will need an abstraction licence for example for a cooling water or a fish farm.
Herbicide Licence	10 days simple, 13 weeks complex	Food and Environment Protection Act 1995 (Control of Pesticides Regulations 1986, as amended) agreement to the use of herbicides to control the growth of weeds near to a water body.
Water Quality discharge Exemption	Registration	Under the EPR some water discharge activities can be exempted from needing an environmental permit. Examples, discharge from septic tank or small discharge to Groundwater for scientific purposes.
Flood Risk Activity Permit	2 months*  *If an application is for a flood risk activity that could lead to likely significant adverse effects on the environment, the application will need to be subject to public consultation with a 4 month determination period.	Flood Risk Activity Permits (FRAPs) are applicable for works in, under, over or within 8 metres of a fluvial main river or 16m of a tidal main river. They are also applicable within 8 metres of the landward toe of a flood defence asset and the requirements can extend to beyond 8m or 16m if still within the flood plain. They are derived from EPR 2010 (as amended) and Natural Resources Wales Land Drainage Byelaws. FRAPs will be required for permanent and temporary activities within the limits above and will tend to cover activities such as bridges, culverts, bank protection, dredging, outfalls, fish passes and service crossings, amongst others. FRAPs may also be associated with the need for other licences and permits such as impoundment / abstraction licences and marine licences.
An authorisation pursuant to bylaws made under Section 20 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949	On a case by case basis	Certain byelaws for the protection of nature reserves.

Licenses under section 8 of the Deer Act 1991	On a case by case basis	Natural Resources Wales has the power to grant certain licenses only. Licenses are also granted by Welsh Government. A licence may be granted to any person by Natural Resources Wales allowing said person to remove deer from area to another or of taking deer alive for scientific or educational purposes.
A licence under section 10 of the Protection of Badgers Act 1992	On a case by case basis	<p>Natural Resources Wales is a licensing authority under the 1992 Act. We are responsible for issuing licenses for the following purposes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For scientific or educational purposes or for the conservation of badgers, to kill or take badgers or interfere with a sett;</li> <li>2. For the purpose of any zoological gardens or collection, to take, possess or sell badgers;</li> <li>3. For the purpose of ringing and marking, to take or mark badgers or attach a marking device;</li> <li>4. For the purpose of any developments as defined in section 55(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, to interfere with a sett;</li> <li>5. For the purpose of preservation, or archaeological investigation, of a monument scheduled under section 1 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Area Act 1970, to interfere with a sett;</li> <li>6. For the purpose of investigating whether an offence has been committed or gathering evidence in connection with any proceedings before any Court, to interfere with a sett; and;</li> <li>7. For controlling foxes in order to protect released game or wildlife.</li> </ol> <p>In addition to these, WG has authority under Section 10(2) and (3) of the Act to issue licenses to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Interfere with badger setts for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The purpose of any agricultural or forestry operation</li> <li>○ The purpose of any operation to maintain or improve any existing watercourse or drainage works, or to construct new works required for the drainage of land, including works of defence against seawater or tidal water; and</li> <li>○ Controlling foxes in order to protect livestock and penned game;</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Kill or take badgers or to interfere with their setts for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The purpose of preventing the spread of disease; and</li> <li>○ The purpose of preventing serious damage to land, crops, poultry or any other form of property.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
A licence under section 16 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	30 working days	<p>Natural Resources Wales issues licenses for specific purposes, so that applicants can undertake legitimate work without breaking the law. Natural Resources Wales can issue licenses for the following purposes (Section 16(1) of the Act):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scientific, research or educational purposes</li> <li>• Ringing or marking, or examining rings or marks</li> <li>• Conserving wild birds</li> <li>• Re-population / re-introduction of wild birds</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserving flora and fauna</li> <li>• Protecting any collection of wild birds</li> <li>• Falconry and aviculture</li> <li>• Public exhibition / competition</li> <li>• Taxidermy</li> <li>• Photography</li> <li>• Public health, public safety, air safety</li> <li>• Preventing spread of disease</li> <li>• Preventing serious damage to crops, fisheries etc.</li> </ul>
A licence under section 10 of the Conservation of Seals Act 1970	On a case by case basis	Power to grant licenses.
A direction under section 24, 25 or section 26 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	Up to 16 weeks	Land management; avoidance of risk of fire or damage; nature conservation and heritage conservation; Open Access restrictions & Exclusions.
Consent under the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries Act 1975	Up to 20 days	This is regarding fish movements and stocking (section 30 for stocking, S27A use of instruments other than rod and line).
Marine licenses	<p>6 weeks for an application to undertake Benthic Grab samples</p> <p>4 months for standard Marine Licence application</p> <p>Note that EIA and complex applications could take significantly longer</p>	<p>The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 requires a Licence to be obtained for any constructions, alteration or improvements in, on, under or over the seabed and the deposit or removal of any substance from the seabed using a vehicle or vessel. The range licensable by Natural Resources Wales is below mean high water springs and out to 12 nautical miles. Examples include dredging, bridge construction, flood defence construction, benthic grab sampling &amp; deployment of marine energy devices.</p> <p>Other Natural Resources Wales consents commonly associated with a Marine Licence are SSSI Consents, EPS Licenses and Flood Risk Activity permits.</p>
SSSI Assent (for S28G authorities undertaking works)	28 days	Section 28(H) of the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 requires statutory bodies (Section 28G authorities) to obtain the <u>assent</u> of Natural Resources Wales to carry out an operation which may damage a SSSI (whether or not within the SSSI). If Natural Resources Wales declines to assent or imposes conditions the authority must explain how it has taken the advice and must minimise damage and restore where practical.
Water Resource Abstraction, Impoundment, Hydroelectric Power (HEP),	Up to 4 months	Consents under s 24, 25, 32, 79A, 109 and paragraphs 5 and 6 of Schedule 25 to the Water Resources Act 1991 (as amended), the Environment Act 1995 and Water Act 2003. Often associated with impoundment licenses and flood risk activity permits. Sometimes fish pass approval is required or if the capacity of any

Transfer, Temporary licence		existing or proposed storage reservoir is designed to hold, or capable of holding, more than 25,000 cubic metres of water above the natural level of the land adjoining the reservoir then the Reservoirs Act 1975 applies. The Act requires that these reservoirs are constructed, altered, inspected, abandoned and discontinued. The Flood & Water Management Act 2010 will reduce the capacity of a regulated reservoir to 10,000 cubic metres and will introduce other responsibilities. Natural Resources Wales advise the customer to monitor these changes as they are enacted by government.
Felling Licenses	50 working days	Requirement of Forestry Act 1967 (as amended) to obtain a licence before felling growing trees. Everyone involved in the felling of growing trees will require a licence or check to see if they are covered by an exemption. Other permissions commonly associated with this activity are SSSI consents & EPS licenses.
EIA (Forestry) determinations	28 working days	A requirement under the Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999. This applies to 4 'projects' (Afforestation, Deforestation, Forest Quarries, forest roads/tracks). No other commonly associated consents. This requirement will apply mainly to terrestrial projects on Natural Resources Wales managed land.
Statutory Plant Health Notices	30 working days	These are issued under the Plant Health Act 1967 where trees have a quarantined pest or disease. Other permissions commonly associated with this activity are SSSI consents & species Licenses.
Waste Carriers, Brokers & dealers	Registration upon payment	There is now in place a lower tier registration system for "Specified persons". This is set out in the Part 8 of the Waste (England & Wales) Regulations 2011.  This is a free registration system.
Dee Protection Zone	4 Months	Under the Water Protection Zone (River Dee Catchment) (Procedural and Other Provisions) Regulations 1999, Natural Resources Wales issues consent for the keeping and use of controlled substances on sites in the freshwater River Dee catchment.