

45 Aberdour (Silver Sands)



45.1 Background Information

The very popular bathing water at Aberdour (Silver Sands) has achieved excellent quality for the past 11 years and holds a Blue Flag award. The diversion of Dalgety Bay sewage by means of a pumping station and rising main to Dunfermline STW was completed in spring 2003, removing this distant potential risk to bathing water quality.

In March 2006 the revised Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) entered into force and was enacted in the UK by Regulations in 2008. Key features are tighter microbiological standards to be met by 2015 and increased provision of public information.

Compliance and pollution improvement required for the designated EU Bathing Waters will be co-ordinated through the Water Framework Directive (WFD) programme of measures which will form part of the river basin management plan. The programme of measures will outline measures (actions) that are being taken to protect and improve the water environment in the river basin district. This EU designated bathing water (protected area) pollution reduction plan will identify measures relevant to this bathing water and associated water bodies that are being undertaken as part of the programme of measures.

1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

Table 45A: Record of Compliance for Aberdour (Silver Sands), 1997 – 2007.

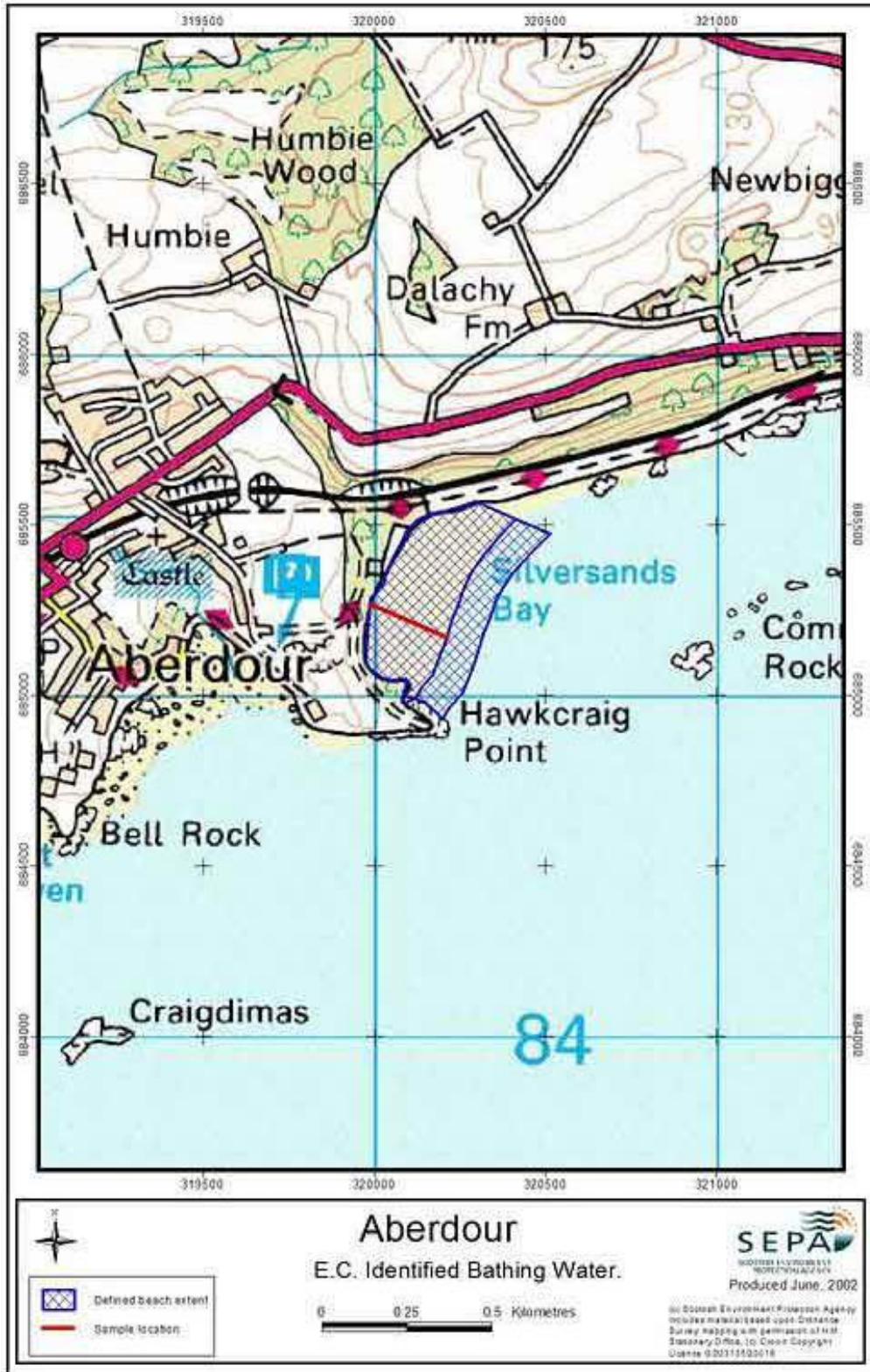


Figure 45A: Map of Aberdour (Silver Sands) designated bathing beach and surrounding local area

45.2 Results for 2007

Aberdour (Silver Sands) Results				
Date	Total Coliforms (colonies/100ml)	Faecal Coliforms (colonies/100ml)	Faecal Streptococci (colonies/100ml)	Abnormal Weather Waiver
25052007	10	4	2	-
05062007	288	288	143	-
18062007	4	4	2	-
02072007	16	16	4	-
08072007	6	4	<2	-
19072007	36	36	40	-
01082007	400	400	90	-
14082007	10	10	<2	-
23082007	28	10	<2	-
04092007	32	2	4	-
Number of Samples taken : 10				

Table 45B: Microbiological results for Aberdour (Silver Sands) bathing water, June – September 2007

45.3 Scottish Water Assets

Aberdour Silver Sands and Aberdour Golf Course STWs both discharge via long sea outfalls. Previous sewage discharges from nearby Burntisland and Dalgety Bay have been diverted to respective STWs.

45.4 Other Discharges

Water quality monitoring results suggest that no other significant discharges are considered likely to threaten the quality of this bathing water. Septic tank discharges, such as via the Starley Burn at Bendameer House 1.5 km to the east of the bathing water, may pose a low risk to the bathing water.

45.5 Agriculture

Agriculture is not considered to have any significant impact on this bathing water.

45.6 Hydrometric Network

Figure 45B shows a map of the hydrometric network of the surface water catchment area of Aberdour (Silver Sands) bathing water.

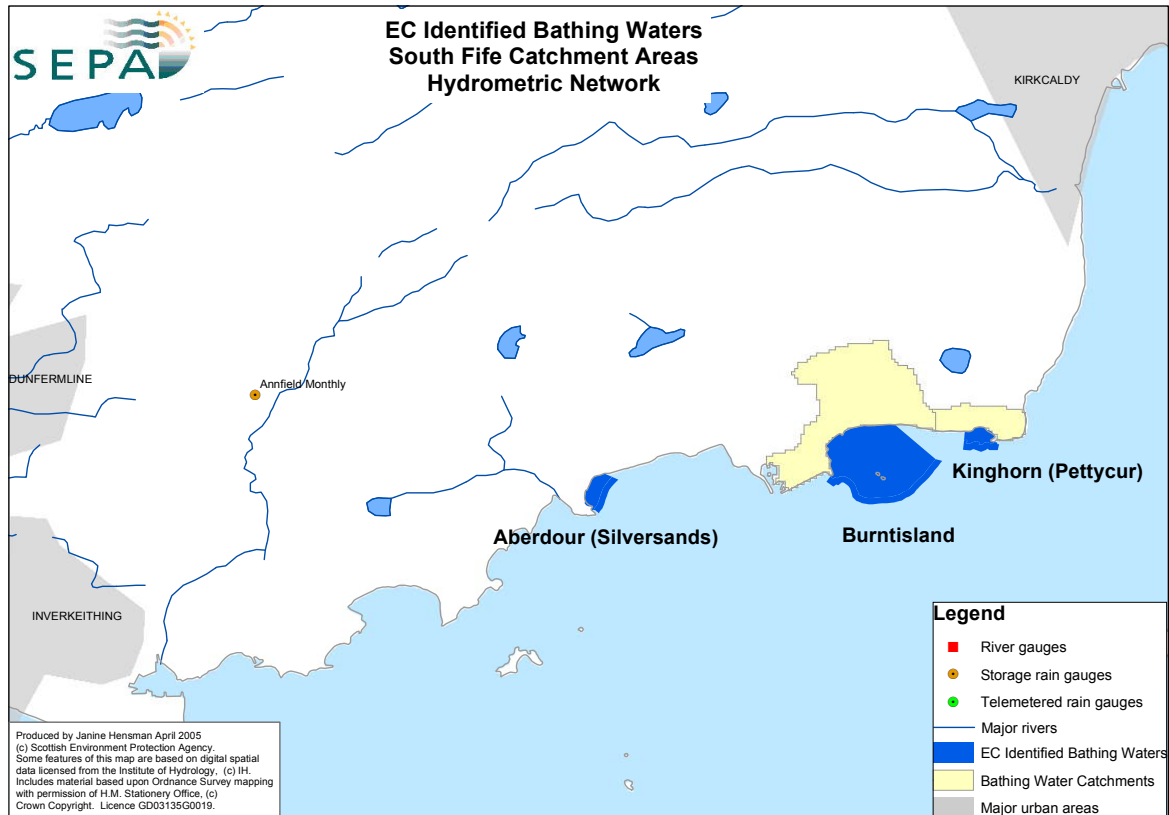


Figure 45B: Hydrometric map of Aberdour (Silver Sands) and surrounding area

45.7 Further Investigations

SEPA will continue to monitor these waters as per the requirements of the EC Bathing Waters Directive and will continue to ensure that all sewage discharge consent conditions are met.

45.8 Response to Failure

Aberdour (Silver Sands) has been assessed for the 2008 season as being of low risk of failing the mandatory standard.

Should there be a mandatory failure, there will be an immediate response to check all the relevant potential sources in the catchment area to confirm the reason, including follow-up microbiology sampling of the bathing water and nearby river inputs.

The regional Environmental Quality Unit will co-ordinate a response in conjunction with the local Environmental Protection and Improvement team and Environmental Science functions and post the result of the investigation and actions arising on the SEPA bathing waters internet site.