

59 Coldingham



59.1 Background Information

Coldingham, a very popular bathing and surfing beach, was identified as a bathing water in 1999, although it had been previously monitored. Excellent quality has been achieved each year since 1996 except for 2000, when several samples taken during or after heavy rain reduced it to good status.

Until 2004, comminuted sewage from Coldingham was discharged south east of the bathing area. There was also a small septic tank discharge at the northern edge of the bay. Occasional poorer bacteriological results at Coldingham showed that these two discharges posed a threat to water quality. In March 2004, Scottish Water completed a programme of work to collect sewage from Coldingham and pump it to the sewage treatment works (STW) at Eyemouth where it now receives full treatment before being discharged to the North Sea.

Coldingham Bay lies within the Berwick and North Northumberland Coast SAC, which has been designated for its range of important marine habitats such as mudflats, sandflats, large shallow inlets and bays, reefs and submerged caves. The bay also lies between two significant areas of the Berwickshire Coast Intertidal site of special scientific interest (SSSI).

This beach was “recommended” in the 2008 good beach guide.

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	Good	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent	Excellent

Table 59A: Record of Compliance for Coldingham, 1997 – 2007.

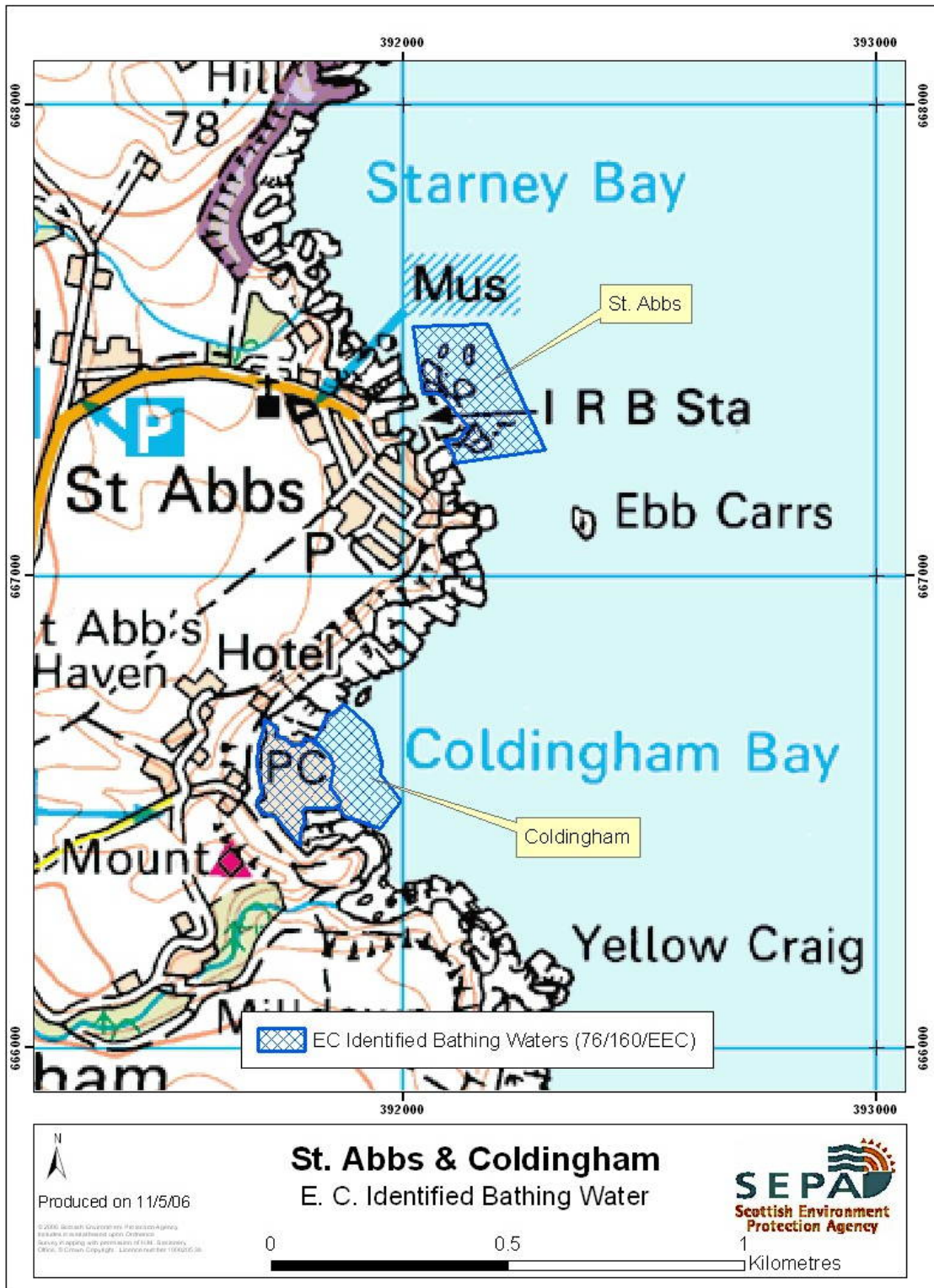


Figure 59B: Map of Coldingham designated bathing beach and surrounding local area

59.2 Results for 2007

Coldingham Results				
Date	Total Coliforms (colonies/100ml)	Faecal Coliforms (colonies/100ml)	Faecal Streptococci (colonies/100ml)	Abnormal Weather Waiver
24052007	<2	2	<2	-
14062007	192	76	165	-
27062007	66	38	30	-
07072007	104	48	6	-
11072007	8	2	<2	-
23072007	10	2	6	-
30072007	70	28	8	-
16082007	10	8	6	-
24082007	242	76	6	-
30082007	8	4	14	-
Number of Samples taken : 10				

Table 59B: Microbiological results for Coldingham bathing water, June – September 2007

59.3 Scottish Water Assets

In March 2004, Scottish Water completed a programme of works to collect sewage effluent from Coldingham and pump it to Eyemouth STW where it receives secondary treatment before being discharged to the North Sea.

59.4 Other Discharges

No other significant discharges are considered likely to threaten the quality of this bathing water.

59.5 Agriculture

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

60.6 Hydrometric Network

Figure 59B shows a map of the hydrometric network of the surface water catchment area of Coldingham bathing water.

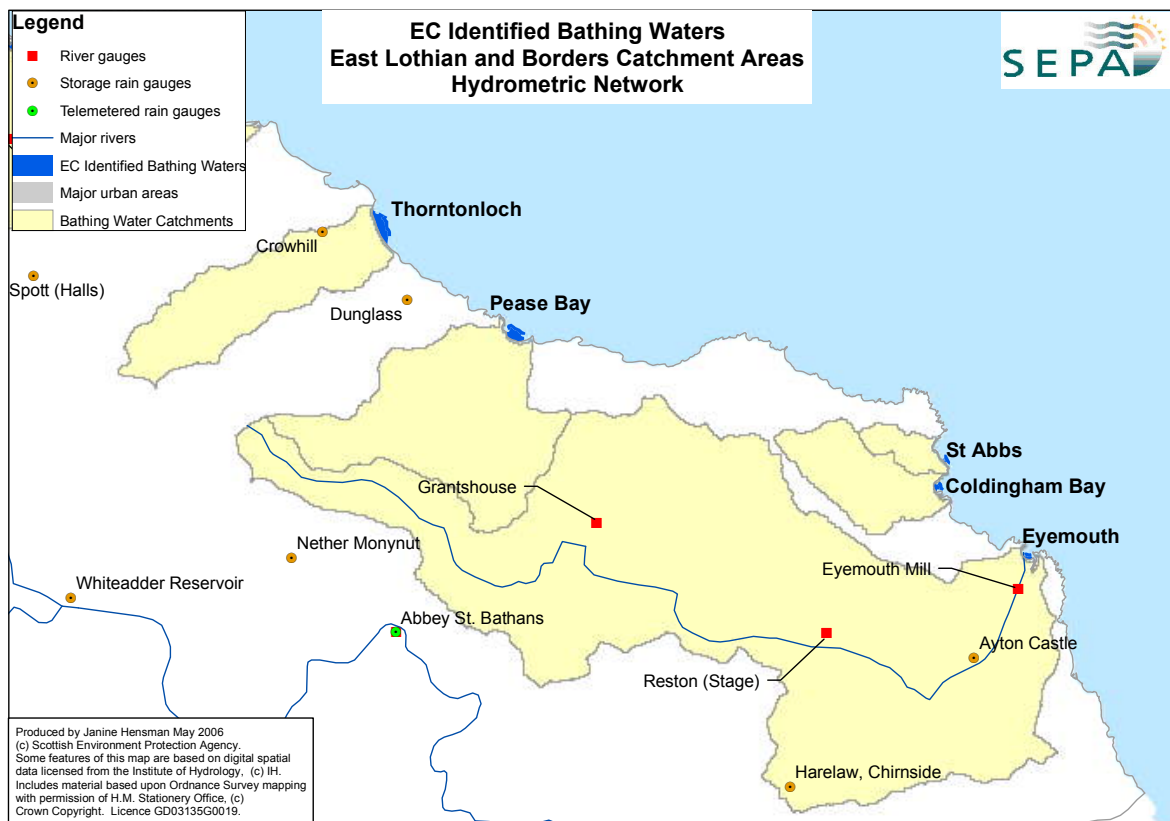


Figure 59B: Hydrometric map of Coldingham and surrounding area

59.7 Further Investigations

SEPA will continue to monitor these waters as per the requirements of the EC Bathing Waters Directive.

59.8 Response to Failure

Coldingham 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.