

# RBMP Water body information sheet for water body 23231 in North East Scotland

## General details

Water body name:	River Ythan - Methlick to Ellon
Water body Identifier code:	23231
Length:	14.28 km
Water body category:	River
Baseline:	Y
River basin district:	Scotland
Area advisory group:	North East Scotland
Catchment:	River Ythan
Associated protected areas:	River Ythan - FRESHWATER FISH (EXISTING) River Ythan (including Bronie Burn, Youlie Burn) - UWWTD SENSITIVE AREA (EXISTING) Moray / Aberdeenshire / Banff / Buchan - NITRATE VULNERABLE ZONE
Associated groundwater:	Ythan bedrock and localised sand and gravel aquifers
Responsible body:	SEPA Aberdeen North
Heavily modified:	No
Artificial:	No
Typology:	Lowland Medium Siliceous
National Grid Reference:	NJ 92144 32326
Latitude:	57.38129
Longitude:	-2.13231

## Current status of this water body

We have classified this water body as having an overall status of Poor with Medium confidence in 2008 with overall ecological status of Poor and overall chemical status of Pass.

This overall classification of status is made up of many different tiers of classification data. A complete set of classification data for 2008 is shown at the end of this document.

# RBMP Water body information sheet for water body 23231 in North East Scotland

## 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	2008	2015	2021	2027
Status	Poor	Poor	Good	Good

We have established an ongoing programme of monitoring in order to identify pressures on our water bodies. The pressures listed below contribute to this water body's failure to meet good ecological status. River basin planning allows us to plan improvements for particular parameters over time. We have collaborated with others to identify measures which will act to protect or improve our water environment in order that all water bodies reach good status over successive RBMP cycles.

## Pressures and measures on this water body

The pressures listed below contribute to this water body's failure to meet good ecological status or potential. River basin planning allows us to plan improvements for particular parameters over time. We have collaborated with others to identify measures which will act to protect or improve our water environment in order that all water bodies reach good status over successive RBMP cycles.

The following table shows our collated information on the pressures on this water body, their causes and the measures which could be introduced to mitigate their effects. We have also indicated the current funding status of the measure; with projected measures being potentially funded and agreed measures having funding in place. Finally, we have included information on the potential or actual owner of the measure, the date it will be effective and information on the justification for extending the deadlines or for setting an alternative objective, where appropriate.

Pressure	As a Result of	Assessment Parameter	Objective	Reasons for Failure
	Measure	Funding	Owner	Effective date
Point Source Pollution	Sewage disposal	Phosphorus	Poor by 2015	Implementation of the measure by an earlier deadline would impose disproportionate burdens
	Increase treatment	Agreed	Scottish Water	31/03/2013

RBMP Water body information sheet  
for water body 23231 in North East  
Scotland

Pressure	As a Result of	Assessment Parameter	Objective	Reasons for Failure
	Measure	Funding	Owner	Effective date
Diffuse Source Pollution	Mixed farming	Phosphorus	Poor by 2015	Implementation of the measure by an earlier deadline would impose disproportionate burdens
	Reduce Diffuse Source Inputs	Projected	Farmer(s)	31/12/2020

### 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 2008

Parameter	Status	Confidence of Class
OVERALL STATUS	POOR	MEDIUM
Pre-HMWB status	Poor	Medium
Overall chemistry	Pass	High
Priority substances	Pass	High
Benzo-a-pyrene	Pass	High
Anthracene	Pass	High
Atrazine	Pass	High
Benzo-(B+K)-Fluoranthene	Pass	High
Cadmium	Pass	Low
Chlorpyrifos	Pass	Low
Fluoranthene	Pass	High
Hexachlorobenzene	Pass	High
Isoproturon	Pass	High
Lead	Pass	Low
Naphthalene	Pass	High
Nickel	Pass	Low
pp-DDT	Pass	High
Simazine	Pass	High

RBMP Water body information sheet  
for water body 23231 in North East  
Scotland

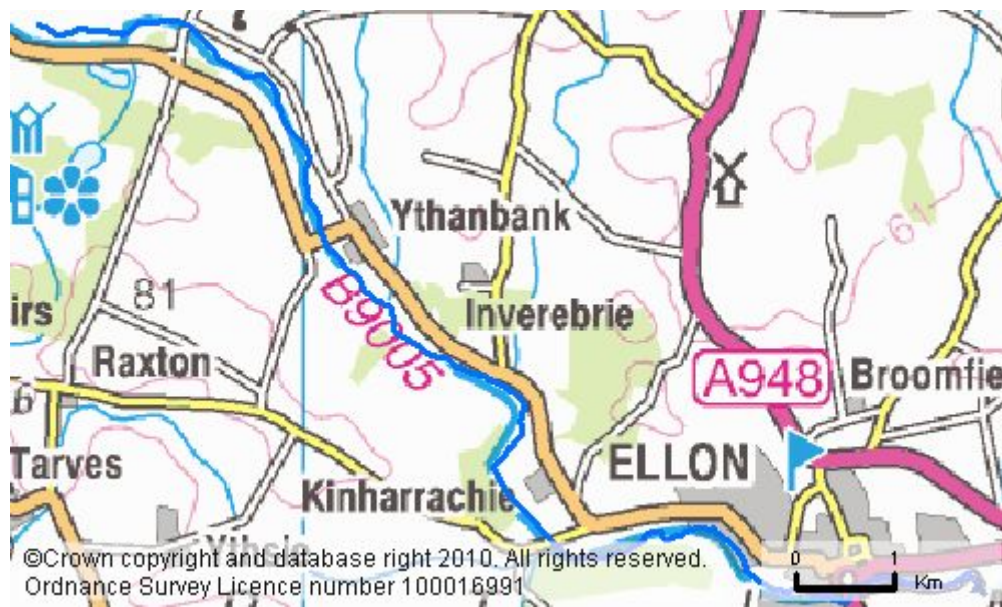
Parameter	Status	Confidence of Class
Trifluralin	Pass	High
Endosulfan	Pass	High
Total HCH	Pass	High
Diethylhexylphthalate (DEHP)	Pass	High
Chlorfenvinphos	Pass	High
Total Drins	Pass	High
Diuron	Pass	High
Total DDT	Pass	High
Overall ecology	Poor	Medium
Physico-Chem	Good	Medium
Temperature	High	High
Soluble reactive phosphorus	Good	Medium
pH	High	High
Dissolved Oxygen	High	High
Biological elements	Poor	Medium
Phytobenthos	Poor	Medium
Macrophytes	High	Low
Benthic invertebrates	Good	High
Macro-invertebrates (acid)	High	Low
Macro-invertebrates (RiCT)	Good	High
Macro-invertebrates (ASPT)	Good	High
Macro-invertebrates (NTAXA)	High	High
Alien species	High	Low
Fish	High	Low
Fish ecology	High	Low
Fish barrier	High	Low
Specific pollutants	Pass	High
Arsenic	Pass	Low
Diazinon	Pass	High
Linuron	Pass	High
Permethrin	Pass	High
Iron	Pass	High
Copper	Pass	High
Zinc	Pass	High

RBMP Water body information sheet  
for water body 23231 in North East  
Scotland

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Confidence of Class</b>
Dimethoate	Pass	Low
2,4-D	Pass	High
Mecoprop	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 ammonium	High	High
Water quality	Poor	
Morphological pressures	Good	

## 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](http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/river_basin_planning.aspx)



SEPA Contact Details: [rbmp@sepa.org.uk](mailto:rbmp@sepa.org.uk)  
© 2009 Scottish Environment Protection Agency