1 Introduction

1.1 The Emergency Authorisation for the use of Asulam was issued on 14 April 2020 (NANUM 0765 of 2020) and started on 18 May 2020. The approval document is available on the BCG website.

1.2 Please Note that the Aquatic Buffer Zone has changed this year.

1.2.1 Whilst conditions of use in previous years required a 50m aquatic buffer zone, this year’s authorisation has changed and requires a 90m aquatic buffer.

1.2.2 CRD is, however, considering a new application for emergency authorisation, and this may change.

1.2.3 Whilst we are happy to receive Application Plans as soon as you are ready to start submitting them, the forms and supporting maps must refer to this increased 90m buffer zone.

1.2.4 Only applications supporting a 90m buffer zone can currently be accepted. CRD is in a position to issue permits making reference to the current authorisation and extended buffer zone in any documentation we issue.

1.3 Copies of the template Application Plans for 2020 are already available on the CRD website.

1.4 PLEASE NOTE that the template for Scotland incorrectly refers to the 50m buffer zone.

1.4.1 “All surface water bodies, wells, boreholes and springs will be protected by a minimum 50 metre no-spray zone”.

1.4.2 Please amend this to 90 metres in any applications you make.

1.4.3 Any applications already submitted referring to a 50m buffer zone must be amended to refer to a 90m buffer zone, as per the current authorisation, and re-submitted.
ENGLAND

2 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

2.1 Complete the template Application Plan.

2.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies and conservation areas are available by contacting the Environment Agency’s Permit Support Centre by emailing psc-waterquality@environment-agency.gov.uk. Environment Agency offices are not open during the current corona virus pandemic and the majority of our staff are working from home. There may be a delay in the response to your request for information.

2.3 A map detailing the area to be sprayed should be submitted for each job. Maps should be at a scale of 1:25000 as a minimum and of sufficient quality and detail for someone unfamiliar with the area to identify the proposed spraying locations. They should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.

2.4 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a conservation area; and not in or within 150m of a conservation area and providing Appendices in WORD format will speed up the process of issuing permits. Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan.

2.5 If you are submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc please provide three copies. The current COVID 19 crisis is making receipt of, and access to, post extremely problematic. HSE would be grateful if you could avoid sending hard copy mail wherever possible and instead send electronic versions. Please let us know by phone or email of any instances where this is not possible and hard copy mail needs urgent attention.

2.6 CRD will need to contact Natural England where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a conservation area. Permits will be copied to Natural England when issued.

3 Spraying land treated/permitted last year as part of a multi-annual programme

3.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed: was included in a permit issued in 2019 as part of a multi-annual control programme that had previously been permitted; which had not been sprayed; had not been subject to any significant change (eg burnt) since the 2019 consultation; and is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in 2019.
Complete the update template letter. Add details of the reference number of the previous permit. You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used. You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers). Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Updated permits will be copied to Natural England when issued.

SCOTLAND
Note that Scottish Natural Heritage will become NatureScot later this year.

4 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

4.1 Complete the template Application Plan.

4.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies are available by emailing Scottish Water at protectedwresources@scottishwater.co.uk. Maps showing the location of conservation areas are available at https://www.nature.scot/information-library-data-and-research/snh-data-services. A map detailing the area to be sprayed should be submitted for each job. Maps should be at a scale of 1:25000 as a minimum and of sufficient quality and detail for someone unfamiliar with the area to identify the proposed spraying locations. They should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.

4.3 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. Application Plans will be copied to Scottish Water upon receipt and permits copied to SNH upon issue.

4.4 Where the spraying is:

4.4.1 In or within 150m of a SSSI only and covered by Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options or a Management Agreement referring to bracken control, complete Appendix C of the Application Plan. CRD can permit such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy permits to SNH.

4.4.2 In or within 150m of a SSSI or a Natura site and agreement to spray has previously been given under the SEARS system, complete Appendix B of the Application Plan. CRD can permit such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy permits to SNH.

4.4.3 In or within 150m of a site which is: both a SSSI and Natura site; or solely a Natura site and covered by relevant Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options or a Management Agreement referring to bracken control, complete Appendix C of the Application Plan. CRD will notify the local SNH office of the intention to permit and this will be considered
by the local SNH officer. CRD will base its decision to permit on the advice of the local officer, copying permits to SNH.

4.4.4 In or within 150m of a site which is a SSSI or Natura site, or both, and this is not covered by relevant Agri-Environment Climate Scheme options or a Management Agreement referring to bracken control, include Appendix D of the Application Plan. CRD will notify the local SNH office of the intention to permit and this will be considered by the local SNH officer. CRD will base its decision to permit (with or without conditions) or refuse the request on the advice of the local officer and copy the permit to SNH.

4.4.5 More than 150m from the boundary of a SSSI or Natura site, complete Appendix A of the Application Plan. CRD will permit such cases without recourse to SNH, and will copy details of permits to SNH.

4.5 Providing Appendices in Word format will speed up processing of the permit.

4.6 If you are submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc please provide three copies.

4.7 The current COVID-19 crisis is making receipt of, and access to, post extremely problematic. HSE would be grateful if you could avoid sending hard copy mail wherever possible and instead send electronic versions. Please let us know by phone or email of any instances where this is not possible and hard copy mail needs urgent attention.

5 Spraying land treated/permitted last year as part of a multi-annual programme

5.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed; was included in a permit issued in 2019 as part of a multi-annual control programme that had been permitted; which had not been sprayed; had not been subject to any significant change (eg burnt) since the 2019 consultation; and is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in 2019.

5.2 Complete the update template letter. Add details of the reference number of the previous permit. You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used. You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers). Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Letters will be copied to Scottish Water upon receipt and updated permits copied to SNH upon issue.
Wales

6 Spraying land not previously considered by permitting arrangements

6.1 Complete the template Application Plan.

6.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies and conservation areas are available by emailing: permitreceiptcentre@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk. Highlight that maps are for aerial spraying applications. A map detailing the area to be sprayed should be submitted for each job. Maps should be at a scale of 1:25000 as a minimum and of sufficient quality and detail for someone unfamiliar with the area to identify the proposed spraying locations. They should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.

6.3 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a conservation area; not in or within 150m of a conservation area and providing Appendices in Word format will speed up the process of issuing permits.

6.4 Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. Application Plans will be copied to Welsh Water - WaterSource@dwr.cymru.com - upon receipt and permits copied to Welsh Water upon issue.

6.5 If you are submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc please provide three copies. The current COVID 19 crisis is making receipt of, and access to, post extremely problematic. HSE would be grateful if you could avoid sending hard copy mail wherever possible and instead send electronic versions. Please let us know by phone or email of any instances where this is not possible and hard copy mail needs urgent attention.

6.6 CRD will need to consult Natural Resources Wales where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a conservation area. Permits will be copied to Natural Resources Wales when issued.

7 Spraying land treated/permitted last year as part of a multi-annual programme.

7.1 This would be if the first treatment had failed to reduce the canopy cover to any noticeable degree on the land to be sprayed: was included in a permit issued in 2019 as part of a multi-annual control programme that had previously been permitted; which had not been sprayed; had not been subject to any significant change (eg burnt) since the 2019 consultation; and is still covered by the same consents, agreements and management arrangements that were in place in 2019.
7.2 Complete the update template letter. Add details of the reference number of the previous permit. You will see that the template letter also includes a declaration that Best Available Technology will be used. You should also include details of any other changes to the previous permit (for example, Certificate numbers). Letters should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. CRD is not required to consult conservation authorities in such cases so will be able to permit such cases fairly readily. Updated permits will be copied to NRW upon issue.

NORTHERN IRELAND

8 For all sites

8.1 Complete the template Application Plan.

8.2 Maps showing the location of water bodies are available from the DAERA website at https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/information-requests. This includes a link to a web-based map viewer. If the applicant requires any additional water-related information, contact NIEA Water Management Unit at WaterInfo@daera-ni.gov.uk.

8.3 Maps showing protected areas of nature conservation interest can be viewed via the Natural Environment Map Viewer at https://appsd.daera-ni.gov.uk/edemapviewer/. Further information on protected areas can be found at https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/landing-pages/protected-areas and your attention is drawn to particular responsibilities for public bodies https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/assi-guidance-public-bodiescompetent-authorities and the possible need for an assent if related specifically to a protected area https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/assi-notifiable-operations. Further information can be sought by contacting NIEA Natural Environment Division at CDP@daera-ni.gov.uk.

8.4 The information shown on both map viewers is also available as digital datasets available to download at https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/daera-digital-datasets-available-download.

8.5 A map detailing the area to be sprayed should be submitted for each job. Maps should be at a scale of 1:25000 as a minimum and of sufficient quality and detail for someone unfamiliar with the area to identify the proposed spraying locations. They should include information to enable the location to be identified (for example, grid lines, annotated with eastings and northings or a point annotated with a grid reference) and a scale or scale bar.

8.6 Completing separate Plans for land: in or within 150m of a protected area; not in or within 150m of a protected area and providing Appendices in Word format will speed up the process of issuing permits. Applications should be submitted to: aerial.spraying.permits@hse.gov.uk. Please title your email: Aerial Application Plan. Application Plans will be copied to Northern Ireland Water upon receipt and permits copied to Northern Ireland Water upon issue.
8.7 CRD will need to consult the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) where spraying takes place in or within 150m of a protected area. Permits will be copied to the NIEA when issued.

8.8 If you are submitting Applications in hard copy format or on disc please provide three copies. The current COVID 19 crisis is making receipt of, and access to, post extremely problematic. HSE would be grateful if you could avoid sending hard copy mail wherever possible and instead send electronic versions. Please let us know by phone or email of any instances where this is not possible and hard copy mail needs urgent attention.