# Protected areas (schemas SWB and GWB)

## Introduction

According to Article 6 and Annex IV of the WFD, Member States shall ensure the establishment of a register or registers of all areas lying within each RBD which have been designated as requiring special protection under specific Community legislation for the protection of their surface water and groundwater, or for the conservation of habitats and species directly depending on water, including the protection of Natura 2000 sites and economically significant aquatic species (e.g. shellfish).

A summary of the register of Protected Areas should be part of the RBMPs, including maps indicating the location of each Protected Area and a description of the Community, national or local legislation under which the Protected Areas have been designated. **It is expected that all Protected Areas will be reported under the surface water body (SWB) and groundwater body (GWB) schemas**, through their links to the surface and groundwater bodies[[1]](#footnote-2).

The relevant EU legislation for the protection of water with more stringent objectives includes the following directives:

* Drinking Water Directive (80/778/EEC, as amended by Directive 98/83/EC).
* Shellfish Directive (2006/113/EC)[[2]](#footnote-3).
* Freshwater Fish Directive (2006/44/EC)[[3]](#footnote-4).
* Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)11.
* Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)9.
* Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EEC)8.
* Birds Directive (2009/147/EC)[[4]](#footnote-5).
* Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)[[5]](#footnote-6).

The Freshwater Fish Directive and the Shellfish Directive were repealed on 22 December 2013. According to the WFD, the level of protection should be maintained through the inclusion of the designated areas as Protected Areas under WFD. The necessary additional objectives and measures should be included in the RBMPs and PoMs.

For water bodies which are designated as Protected Areas, the Environmental Objectives set are beyond good status, as more stringent objectives have been set for those areas in the relevant Community legislation.

Annex VII (7)(1) of the WFD requires that the RBMPs contain ‘a summary of the measures required implementing Community legislation for the protection of water’. The additional measures for Protected Areas should be an integral part of the RBMPs in order to ensure that the requirements of those Protected Areas are included in the overall management of the RBDs and to ensure the coherence of the entire water planning with the objectives already established by other Community and national legislation.

Article 4.1(c) of the WFD states that ‘Member States shall achieve compliance with any standards and objectives at the latest 15 years after the date of entry into force of this Directive, unless otherwise specified in the Community legislation under which the individual Protected Areas have been established’. Therefore, water bodies in the Protected Areas must be of good status by 2015 at the latest, and earlier if required by another piece of Community legislation. If a water body is not of good status then it would be expected that an exemption under Article 4.4 of the WFD has been applied.

The additional measures can be of the same nature as those for the WFD (e.g. measures to reduce nitrogen loss from agriculture, or measures to improve the hydromorphological status in a river) but they need to reach a higher level of improvement of status. Alternatively, they may need to address different aspects of pollution which are not included in the WFD definition of good status (e.g. microbiological standards for the protection of shellfish and bathing waters). There can also be different kinds of measures targeted towards the specific objectives for the protection of the area.

As with any other WFD Environmental Objective, exemptions may apply provided the conditions in the relevant Articles are fulfilled. In the case of Protected Areas, it needs to be ensured that the WFD exemptions do not undermine the objectives under the relevant legislation. Reporting of exemptions linked to Protected Areas refer only to the additional objectives set (e.g. based on Article 4(1)(c). Exemptions from the WFD Environmental Objectives in Articles 4(1)(a) and 4(1)b are reported in the context of the reporting of the relevant status of surface or groundwater (see relevant parts of sections 2 and 3).

### How will the European Commission and the EEA use the information reported?

The European Commission will use the information reported by Member States on Protected Areas to ensure that a register of Protected Areas has been established in the RBD, and that the appropriate levels of protection are in place. Statistics and information will be provided to the European Parliament at EU level. Information will be provided to the public through WISE.

## Products from reporting

| **Nb** | **Name of product** | **Type of product** | **Scale of information\*** | **Detailed information displayed** | **Source of detailed information and aggregation rule** | **Used in 2012 reports?\*** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | **Number of Protected Areas of each type** | Table | MS | Number of Protected Areas of each type reported. | Aggregation on the basis of the reported register of Protected Areas. | Yes |
| 2 | **Number of Protected Areas**  | Chart | MS | Number of Protected Areas of each type. | Aggregation on the basis of the information reported at Protected Area level.  | Yes |
| 3 | **Status of Protected Areas** | Table | MS | Number of protected areas (by type) achieving objectives  | Aggregation on the basis of the information reported at Protected Area level. | No |

**Notes:** \* Scale of information: EU = European; MS = National, Member State; RBD = River Basin District; SU = Sub-unit; WB = water body; Site = monitoring site

## Contents of the 2016 reporting

### Schema sketch

See Annex 10.2 (for surface water bodies schema SWB) and Annex 10.3 (for groundwater bodies schema GWB).

### Data and information to be provided using the schemas

Information regarding Protected Areas associated with surface water bodies should be reported at surface water body level according to the schema SWB (see Introduction and section 5.3.4 Glossary for further explanation).

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| **Schema: SWB (continued)** |
| ***Class SWAssociatedProtectedArea******Properties****: maxOccurs = unbounded minOccurs = 0**Conditional check: report at least 1 if ‘swAssociatedProtectedArea’ is ‘Yes’* |
| **Schema element**: euProtectedAreaCode**Field type / facets:** FeatureUniqueEUCodeType **Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required[[6]](#footnote-7). Unique EU code(s) of the (water-dependent) Protected Area(s) associated to the surface water body. If applicable, report the code of the Protected Area as previously reported under other directives. If it has not been reported under other Directives, report the code reported under the GML schema ProtectedAreas (see Annex 5 GIS guidance).If not already included in the first two characters of the code when reported under other directives, prefix the unique code with the Member State’s 2-alpha character ISO country code.**Quality checks**: Element check: First 2 characters must be the Member State’s 2-alpha character ISO country code. Cross-schema check: the reported euProtectedAreaCode must be consistent with the codes reported in ProtectedArea/thematicIdIdentifier**.**  |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaType**Field type / facets:** ProtectedAreaType\_Enum:BathingBirdsFishShellfishHabitatsUrban Waste Water Treatment Directive Sensitive AreaNitratesArticle 7 Abstraction for Drinking WaterOther**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required. Report the type for each Protected Area related to the surface water body. If the Member State applies a ‘whole territory’ approach for Urban Waste Water Treatment and/or Nitrates Directive, surface water bodies should not be reported as Protected Areas. |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaOtherType**Field type / facets:** String250Type**Properties:** maxOccurs =unbounded minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. If the type of Protected Area is reported as ‘Other’, provide more information. **Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if ‘protectedAreaType’ is ‘Other’. |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaAssociationType**Field type / facets:** ProtAreaAssociationType\_Enum:Within Protected AreaOverlapping / partly within Protected AreaDynamically / hydrologically connected with Protected Area**Properties**: maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required. Report the type of association that the surface water body has with the Protected Area. The boundaries of surface water bodies and Protected Areas will not always directly coincide with each other.‘Within Protected Area’ = The surface water body is located entirely within the Protected Area. The Protected Area may be associated with more than one surface water body.‘Overlapping / partly within Protected Area’ = The surface water body overlaps or is located partly within the Protected Area, or overlaps more than one Protected Area.‘Dynamically / hydrologically connected with Protected Area’ = The surface water body is dynamically or hydrologically connected with the Protected Area without being located entirely or partly within it. |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesSet**Field type / facets:** ProtectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjective\_Enum:Yes, specific water objectives have been set to protect all water dependent habitats and species.Yes, some specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species but work is still on-going to determine needs.No, no specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species because the achievement of WFD good status is sufficient to achieve favourable conservation status.No, no specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species because additional needs are not known.**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**:Conditional. Indicate whether specific water objectives have been set to protect relevant water dependent protected habitats and species by selecting the appropriate option from the enumeration list.**Quality checks**: Element check: A valid option must be selected from the enumeration list. Only one option can be selected.Conditional check: Report if ‘protectedAreaType’ is ‘Habitats’ or ‘Birds’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesMet**Field type / facets:** : YesNoNoInformation\_Union\_Enum: Yes, No, No information**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Indicate whether the objectives set to protect water dependent habitats and species in Habitats and Birds Protected Areas are met:‘Yes’: the specific water objectives set to protect water dependent habitats and species are met.‘No’: the specific water objectives set to protect water dependent habitats and species are not yet met.‘No information’**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Habitats’ or ‘Birds’ AND protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesSet is either of the two ‘Yes…’ options. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesSet**Field type / facets:** YesNo\_Enum: Yes, No**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**:Conditional. Indicate whether additional, specific standards have been set to protect drinking water by selecting the appropriate option from the enumeration list:‘Yes’: specific standards have been set in the surface water body / Protected Area for all relevant parameters to protect the drinking water quality.‘No’: no specific standards have been set in the surface water body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality. In this context, ‘standards’ mean specific quality objectives for pollutants for the protection of drinking water. Select ’No’ if it is considered that other measures taken are sufficient to protect drinking water. **Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Article 7 Abstraction for drinking water’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesMet**Field type / facets:** YesNoNoInformation\_Union\_Enum: Yes, No, No information**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Indicate whether the specific standards set to protect drinking water quality in Article 7 Abstraction for Drinking Water Protected Areas are met:‘Yes’: the specific standards set in the surface water body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality are met.‘No’: the specific standards set in the surface water body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality are not met.‘No information’**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Article 7 Abstraction for Drinking Water’ AND protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesSet is ‘Yes…’. |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaShellfishObjectivesSet**Field type / facets:** ProtectedAreaShellfishObjective\_Enum:Yes, microbiological standards have been set to protect shellfish and these are identical to those in the repealed Shellfish Directive 2006/113/EC.Yes, microbiological standards have been set to protect shellfish and these are different to those in the repealed Shellfish Directive 2006/113/EC.No, no microbiological standards have been set to protect shellfish.**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**:Conditional. Indicate whether microbiological standards have been set to protect shellfish by selecting the appropriate option from the enumeration list.**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Shellfish’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaShellfishObjectivesMet**Field type / facets:** YesNoNoInformation\_Union\_Enum: Yes, No, No information**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Indicate whether the microbiological standards set to protect shellfish in Shellfish Protected Areas are met:‘Yes’: the microbiological standards set to protect shellfish are met.‘No’: the microbiological standards set to protect shellfish are not met.‘No information’**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Shellfish’ AND protectedAreaShellfishObjectivesSet is either of the two ‘Yes…’ options. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaComment**Field type / facets:** String1000Type**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Optional. If objectives have not been set or standards have not been met for the Protected Area, provide further explanation (which objectives have not been set, which standards have not been met, reasons, etc).  |
| **Schema element**: protectedAreaExemption**Field type / facets:** ExemptionType\_Enum (see Annex 8g) **Properties**: maxOccurs =unbounded minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required. Report which type(s) of exemption(s) from the relevant Protected Area objectives or standards apply at surface water body level, or 'No exemption'. More than one exemption may apply. Provide further details in the RBMP and/or background documents. For more information see Section 5.4.4 below. **Quality checks**: Conditional check: report for each euProtectedAreaCode reported if swAssociatedProtectedArea is 'Yes'. Within-schema check: the option 'No exemption' is not compatible with any other. |

Information regarding Protected Areas associated with groundwater bodies should be reported at groundwater body level according to the schema GWB (see section 5.3.4 Glossary for further explanation).

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| **Schema: GWB (continued)** |
| ***Class GWAssociatedProtectedArea******Properties****: maxOccurs = unbounded minOccurs = 0**Conditional check: report at least 1 if ‘gwAssociatedProtectedArea’ is ‘Yes’* |
| **Schema element**:euProtectedAreaCode**Field type / facets:** FeatureUniqueEUCodeType**Properties**: maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required[[7]](#footnote-8). Unique EU code(s) of the (water-dependent) Protected Area(s) associated to the groundwater body. If applicable, report the code of the Protected Area as previously reported under other directives. If it has not been reported under other Directives, report the code reported under the GML schema ProtectedAreas (see Annex 5 GIS guidance). If not already included in the first two characters of the code when reported under other directives, prefix the unique code with the Member State’s 2-alpha character ISO country code.**Quality checks**: Element check: First 2 characters must be the Member State’s 2-alpha character ISO country code. Cross-schema check: the reported euProtectedAreaCode must be consistent with the codes reported in ProtectedArea/thematicIdIdentifier |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaType**Field type / facets:** ProtectedGWAreaType\_Enum:BirdsHabitatsNitratesArticle 7 Abstraction for Drinking WaterOther**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Report the type for each Protected Area related to the groundwater body. Fewer types of Protected Area are relevant to groundwater bodies. ‘Birds’ and ‘Habitats’ are relevant if protected habitats and species rely on groundwater dependent surface waters or terrestrial ecosystems.**Quality checks**: Conditional check: report for each euProtectedAreaCode reported. |
| **Schema element**: protectAreaOtherType**Field type / facets:** String250Type**Properties:** maxOccurs =unbounded minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. If the type of Protected Area is reported as ‘Other’, provide more information.**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if ‘protectedAreaType’ is ‘Other’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaAssociationType**Field type / facets:** ProtAreaAssociationType\_Enum:Within Protected AreaOverlapping / partly within Protected AreaDynamically / hydrologically connected with Protected Area**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 1 **Guidance on completion of schema element**: Required. Report the type of association that the groundwater body has with the Protected Area. The boundaries of groundwater bodies and Protected Areas will not always directly coincide with each other.‘Within Protected Area’ = The groundwater body is located entirely within the Protected Area. The Protected Area may be associated with more than one groundwater body.‘Overlapping / partly within Protected Area’ = The groundwater body overlaps or is located partly within the Protected Area, or overlaps more than one Protected Area.‘Dynamically / hydrologically connected with Protected Area’ = The groundwater body is dynamically or hydrologically connected with the Protected Area without being located entirely or partly within it.**Quality checks**: Conditional check:report for each euProtectedAreaCode reported |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesSet**Field type / facets:** ProtectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjective\_Enum: Yes, specific water objectives have been set to protect all water dependent habitats and species.Yes, some specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species but work is still on-going to determine needs.No, no specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species because the achievement of WFD good status is sufficient to achieve favourable conservation status.No, no specific water objectives have been set to protect water dependent habitats and species because additional needs are not known.**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**:Conditional. Indicate whether specific water objectives have been set to protect relevant groundwater dependent protected habitats and species by selecting the appropriate option from the enumeration list. **Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if ‘protectedAreaType’ is ‘Habitats’ or ‘Birds’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesMet**Field type / facets:** YesNoNoInformation\_Union\_Enum: Yes, No, No information**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Indicate whether the objectives set to protect groundwater dependent habitats and species in Habitats and Birds Protected Areas are met:‘Yes’: the specific groundwater objectives set to protect groundwater dependent habitats and species are met.‘No’: the specific groundwater objectives set to protect groundwater dependent habitats and species are not yet met.‘No information’**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Habitats’ or ‘Birds’ AND protectedAreaHabitatsBirdsObjectivesSet is either of the two ‘Yes’ options. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesSet**Field type / facets:** YesNo\_Enum: Yes, No**Properties**: maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**:Conditional. Indicate whether additional, specific standards have been set to protect drinking water:‘Yes’: specific standards have been set in the groundwater body / Protected Area for all relevant parameters to protect the drinking water quality.‘No’: no specific standards have been set in the groundwater body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality.In this context, ‘standards’ mean specific quality objectives for pollutants for the protection of drinking water. Select ’No…’ if it is considered that other measures taken are sufficient to protect drinking water.**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Article 7 Abstraction for Drinking Water’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesMet**Field type / facets:** YesNoNoInformation\_Union\_Enum: Yes, No, No information**Properties:** maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Indicate whether the specific standards set to protect drinking water quality in Article 7 Abstraction for Drinking Water Protected Areas are met:‘Yes’: the specific standards set in the groundwater body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality are met.‘No’: the specific standards set in the groundwater body / Protected Area to protect the drinking water quality are not met.‘No information’**Quality checks**: Conditional check: Report if protectedAreaType is ‘Article 7 Abstraction for Drinking Water’ AND protectedAreaDrinkingWaterObjectivesSet is ‘Yes’. |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaComment**Field type / facets:** String1000Type**Properties**: maxOccurs =1 minOccurs = 0**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Optional. If objectives have not been set or standards have not been met for the Protected Area, provide further explanation (which objectives have not been set, which standards have not been met, reasons, etc). |
| **Schema element**:protectedAreaExemption**Field type / facets:** ExemptionType\_Enum (see Annex 8g) **Properties:** maxOccurs =unbounded minOccurs = 1**Guidance on completion of schema element**: Conditional. Report which type(s) of exemption(s) from the relevant Protected Area objectives or standards apply at groundwater body level (if any). More than one exemption may apply. Provide further details in the RBMP and/or background documents. For more information see Section 5.4.4 below.**Quality checks**: Conditional check: report for each euProtectedAreaCode reported if gwAssociatedProtectedArea is 'Yes'. Within-schema check: the option 'No exemption' is not compatible with any other. |

### GIS Information

GIS information in GML file format should be reported for Protected Areas according to the specifications of the guidance for reporting spatial data (see Annex 5 GIS Guidance). If the Protected Areas are already reported under other directives (e.g. Natura 2000 Protected Areas under the Habitats Directive, bathing waters under the Bathing Water Directive, sensitive areas under UWWTD or vulnerable zones under the Nitrates Directive) they do not need to be reported again under the WFD.

### Glossary: clarification of terms and reporting requirements

*WFD Article 7 Drinking Water Protected Areas:*

According to Article 7.2 of the WFD, Member States should ensure that, under the water treatment regime applied, the resulting water will meet the requirements of the Drinking Water Directive. For this purpose, Member States are expected to set additional standards in the water bodies used for the abstraction of drinking water. Reporting requests information on whether this is the case and whether these standards are met.

*Bathing Water Directive:*

In general, Member States would not be expected to provide information on the status of bathing waters under the WFD as there is an annual reporting exercise that provides this information and this has been successfully integrated into WISE.

*Birds and Habitats Directives:*

‘Favourable conservation status’ of protected habitats and species is not assessed at site level but at national level per biogeographic region, taking into account the overall situation. Water dependent habitats and species may require more stringent protection than that afforded by the WFD objective of good status, i.e. more stringent standards for some physico-chemical parameters, high status for specific hydromorphological parameters or specific quantities of water. In the context of the WFD reporting, therefore, Member States would be expected to report whether the specific and additional needs of water dependent habitats and species have been evaluated and set as objectives under the WFD Article 4(1)c. The status of the Protected Area is then assessed against these specific additional water objectives and the result of such assessment reported. Note that there may be cases where the WFD relevant objectives are met but still the habitats and species are not in favourable conservation status, due to other non-water dependent requirements. In addition, the schema element CommentValueStatusProtArea can be used to provide additional information about the habitats or species that are relevant in the Protected Areas overlapping with each particular water body.

*Shellfish Directive:*

Microbiological standards are essential for the quality of shellfish water. It is requested to report if these standards have been set (or maintained from the shellfish water directive) and if they are met.

*Fish Directive:*

It is considered that the WFD objective of good ecological status integrates fully the objectives of the Fish Directive, so no further information is requested as regards specific objectives and status for this type of Protected Area.

*Nitrates Directive:*

It is considered that the WFD objective of good ecological status integrates fully the objectives of the Nitrates Directive of protecting from eutrophication, so no further information is requested as regards specific objectives and status for this type of Protected Area. In addition, there is a regular reporting exercise under the Nitrates Directive.

*Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive:*

This type of Protected Area is reported in the Register of Protected Areas (schema PA) but status information is not relevant in this context. Eutrophication status is captured by WFD ecological status.

1. If the Member State applies a ‘whole territory’ approach for Urban Waste Water Treatment and/or Nitrates Directive, it should not report surface water bodies as Protected Areas. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Directive 2006/113/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 12 December 2006 on the quality required of shellfish waters <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32006L0113&from=EN> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Directive 2006/44/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 6 September 2006 on the quality of fresh waters needing protection or improvement in order to support fish life <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32006L0044&qid=1439559844301&from=EN> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32009L0147&qid=1439559916722&from=EN> [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:31992L0043&qid=1439559990883&from=EN> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. Please note that the multiplicity of the Class SWAssociatedProtectedArea is 0 to many. Therefore, if there are no associated protected areas to report for the relevant water body, this whole class does not need to be reported [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. Please note that the multiplicity of the Class GWAssociatedProtectedArea is 0 to many. Therefore, if there are no associated protected areas to report for the relevant water body, this whole class does not need to be reported [↑](#footnote-ref-8)