

**Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005
00705 – Scottish Canals Heritage Strategy 2013-28 – SEA Determination**

This statement sets out Scottish Canal's determination under Section 8(1) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 on whether or not a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is required for the above strategy.

Screening process

Scottish Canals has consulted Historic Scotland (HS), Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) on their views as to whether the strategy is likely to have significant environmental effects.

HS considered that the strategy is likely to have significant positive environmental effects and the SEA process will help to manage potential conflicts between cultural heritage benefits, tourist activity and biodiversity. SNH agreed that significant environmental effects were likely and given the known contribution of the waterways to biodiversity and access, they recommended a SEA as a precaution. SEPA considered that the plan was not likely to have significant effects for their areas of interest (air, water, soil, human health and climatic factors).

The Determination

Scottish Canals, as the Responsible Authority, has determined that the Heritage Strategy 2013–38 is likely to have significant environmental effects and will be subject to strategic environmental assessment prior to its adoption.

This determination has been sent to the Consultation Authorities and a notice will be published in the national press. Our determination is also available for public inspection at Scottish Canals, Canal House, 1 Applecross Street, Glasgow, G4 9SP and on our website: www.scottishcanals.co.uk/history--heritage/draft-heritage-strategy/environmental-report.

Scottish Canals
26 November 2012