

UK Research and Innovation as represented by National Geoscience Data Centre (NGDC) Terms and Conditions

To deposit data with the National Geoscience Data Centre you must confirm that you are either the owner of the data or that you have permission from the owner to deposit the data. This allows the NGDC to grant to others the use of the data

Licence

It is policy of the National Geoscience Data Centre for the ownership of the data to remain with the owner and that by completing this deposition process National Geoscience Data Centre is granted "a non-exclusive, in-perpetuity licence" to use and disseminate the data for all uses and re-uses, which may include commercial use.

The data is licensed 'as is' and the Data Provider and/or Licensor will exclude all representations, warranties, obligations and liabilities in relation to the data to the maximum extent permitted by law.

NGDC prefer to hold the data as "open" with no access or use constraints what we often term "Open Data". Open Data will be made publically accessible as part of NGDC's data holdings with an appropriate Open Government Licence "OGL" statement. If your data has any restrictions you must justify these on the 'Data Access' page/tab when depositing it on the Portal. Freedom of Information (FOI) and Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) mean the NGDC is unable to respect all restriction requests.

If you would like to discuss possible deposit under another type of licence please e-mail ngdc@bgs.ac.uk. If a copyright/acknowledgement statement is required, this can be added on the Data Access stage of your deposit on the Portal, although we cannot always guarantee this will appear with the data when re-use has been extended to third parties.

Liability for data deposited with/or re-used from the NGDC

The National Geoscience Data Centre collects and preserves geoscientific data and information, making them available to a wide range of users and communities. Data will be made available to other users as originally supplied alongside the relevant metadata provided to aid discoverability and re-use. Data supplied should be of good quality and accurate at the time of creation.

Data deposited with the NGDC and made available by UK Research and Innovation as represented by The British Geological Survey (BGS) is provided with the following caveats:

- The use of information provided by the NGDC is at the user's own risk. Where NGDC is providing 3rd party information deposited via sources outside the British Geological Survey (BGS), neither BGS nor our data creators or donors can give any warranty as to the quality or accuracy of that information or its suitability for any use. Therefore all implied conditions relating to the quality or suitability of that information, and all liabilities arising from the supply of the information are excluded to the fullest extent permitted by law.
- The data, information and related records supplied by NGDC should not be taken as a substitute for specialist interpretations, professional advice and/or detailed site investigations. You, as user, should seek professional advice before making technical interpretations on the basis of the materials provided.
- Data, information containing land contamination is likely to relate to a historical, pre-development state. These would be a material consideration in any subsequent remediation works that would have been approved by the local authority and/or NRW (Environment Agency). Land contamination data should therefore be re-used accordingly with full consideration that remediation processes may have been undertaken and the current ground conditions may therefore be different than those outlined in these historical documents/datasets.

When using NGDC information, NGDC draws customers' attention to the following considerations that may also affect the quality or accuracy of information supplied:

- Scientific observations are made according to the prevailing understanding of the subject at the time. The quality of such observations may be affected by subsequent advances in knowledge, improved methods of interpretation, or better access to sampling locations.
- Raw data may have been transcribed from analogue to digital format, or may have been acquired by means of automated measuring techniques or data processing/analysis. Although such processes and techniques are subjected to quality control to ensure reliability where possible, some raw data may have been processed without human intervention and may in consequence contain undetected errors.
- Detail clearly defined and accurately depicted on large-scale maps may be lost when small-scale maps are derived from them.
- Although samples and records are maintained with all reasonable care, there may be some deterioration in the longer term.
- The most appropriate techniques for copying original records are used at the time of digitisation/scanning, but there may be some loss of detail and dimensional distortion when such records are copied.
- Data, information and related records, which have been donated to BGS by 3rd parties have been produced for a specific purpose, and that may affect the type and completeness of the data recorded and any interpretation. The nature and purpose of data collection, and the age of the resultant material may render it unsuitable for certain applications/uses. You must verify the suitability of the material for their intended new usage.

Retention Policy

The NGDC recognises the value of scientific data and the importance attached to its long-term professional management and preservation as both an evidence base for existing scientific projects and future re-use.

The NGDC's role as the national geoscience data centre assumes an indefinite retention of the data in its care. The present UKRI data policy states that all research data should be retained at the minimum for 10 years after it was last used.

Data deposited to fulfil statutory requirements will be retained on a long-term basis to ensure compliance with UK legislation. Where stored data was funded by the UK Government, the data may be held in perpetuity under the Public Records Act. These two points take precedence over the UKRI 10-year retention policy. The withdrawal and/or disposal of datasets by the NGDC would only be carried out in qualifying circumstances in line with NERC EDS policy and through a process of appraisal. Qualifying circumstances for disposal could include:

- Proven copyright violation or plagiarism
- Falsified research
- Legal requirements
- National security
- Planned deaccession for data that are no longer needed
- Data are found to contain errors
- Identified/planned data obsolescence (e.g. by subsequent replacement versions)
- Technological changes that prevent the online delivery of data
- To reduce overall environmental impact of the assets

UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR)

NGDC has a duty to manage and protect personal data as set out in law. Please see our privacy policy at <https://www.ukri.org/who-we-are/privacy-notice/>

Document Control

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