

# **Knock Fell Water Main Replacement (SI Works) Galloway: Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report



by Sarah Krischer


issued 8<sup>th</sup> April 2019

on behalf of Scottish Water Shared Solutions

**RATHMELL**   
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

## Quality Assurance

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Signed 

Date ...8<sup>th</sup> April 2019...

In keeping with the procedure of Rathmell Archaeology Limited this document and its findings have been reviewed and agreed by an appropriate colleague:

Checked 

Date ...8<sup>th</sup> April 2019...

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## Quality Assurance Data

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## Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Scottish Water Shared Solutions in support of Site Investigation works undertaken by Caledonia Water Alliance on land that is to be used for the Knock Fell Water Main Replacement project. These archaeological works were designed to mitigate the potential for adverse impact on any archaeological remains within the development area from the work.
2. A full archaeological and historical background on the Burncrooks Main is available within the *Knock Fell Water Main Replacement, Galloway: Archaeology Survey, Data Structure Report* (Krischer 2018). Cognisance of this assessment including supporting figures and appendices is assumed within this document.
3. The scope, methodologies and standards of the mitigation works was developed by Rathmell Archaeology Limited in consultation with the Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service and Scottish Water Shared Solutions and is set out within the Method Statement (Krischer 2019).
4. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Scottish Water Shared Solutions to undertake the implementation of the archaeological mitigation works set out in the Method Statement.

## Project Works

5. The program of works comprised the archaeological monitoring of selected site investigation works located along the pipe route for the Knock Fell Water Main Replacement Project. The work will consist of a 3.75km water main replacement and a further 5.5km of access track and road upgrading to be delivered on land 10 km to the east of Stranraer. The development area is located within a rural environment comprising sections of forestry and Challoghglass Moss.
6. The site investigation works consisted of slit trenches and trial pitting. Based on the recommendations of the Desk-Based Assessment (Krischer 2018), archaeological monitoring was restricted to three trial pits (TP10-12) and four slit trenches (ST1-4) (See Krischer 2019 for details).
7. The monitoring works took place from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> of March 2019. The trial pits and slit trenches were all excavated using a 360° tracked excavator.
8. In compliance with the Method Statement (Krischer 2019) any potential archaeological features were investigated and recorded. All works were conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statements.

## Findings

9. The monitored area was along a section of forestry track connecting the eastern and western sections of paved road (Figures 3 and 4). These points were all between NX 2709 54600 to NX 28276 54889.

### *Trial Pits 10-12*

10. Trial Pit 10 was located to the southeast of the track, in an area of rough pasture separated from the track by a post and wire fence (Figure 3). It was oriented northwest-southeast and measured 2.4m by 0.5m. The trial pit was 1m deep. It was excavated through dark brown peaty topsoil (005) with frequent root inclusions. This was underlain by greyish orange clay with medium to large stone inclusions (006) at a depth of 0.5m. This was in turn underlain by grey bedrock (004) at 1m (Figure 1a).
11. Trial Pit 11 was located to the immediate north of the track (Figure 3). It measured 2.8m by 0.7m and was 1.05m deep. The trial pit was oriented northeast-southwest. It was excavated through dark brown clay sand topsoil (007). This was underlain by a yellow brown clay subsoil with frequent stone inclusions (008) at a depth of 0.3m. This was in

turn underlain at 0.72m by a grey orange clay with medium to large stone inclusions (006). The full extent of this deposit is not known as the trench was terminated at 1.05m.

12. Trial Pit 12 was located to the immediate south of the track and oriented northwest-southeast (Figure 3). It measured 2.2m by 0.57m and was 0.9m deep. It was excavated through a dark brown peat topsoil with frequent root inclusions (005) to a depth of 0.3m. This was underlain by (012), a mid-orange brown clay with large stone inclusions. This was underlain by grey bedrock (004) at 0.9m.
13. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were found in any of the trial pits.

#### *Slit Trenches 1-4*

14. Slit Trench 1 ran northeast-southwest across the line of the modern forestry track between NX 27019 54627 and NX 27104 54599 (Figure 3). It was 5.2m long by 0.7m wide and 0.75m deep. The trench was excavated through road surface (001), a loose grey subangular aggregate gravel with occasional root inclusions. It was 0.15m deep and found in the southwestern 1.6m of the trench. The north-eastern 3.6m of the trench was cut through moderately loose dark brown clay topsoil with frequent root and stone inclusions (002) to a depth of between 0.2 and 0.55m (Figure 1b).
15. Both road surface (001) and topsoil (002) were underlain by disturbed subsoil (003), a moderately compact grey orange clay with small stone inclusions. This continued to a depth of 0.5m and was underlain by moderately compact greyish orange clay with frequent medium to large stones (006) to a depth of 0.75m. This was underlain at 0.75m by grey bedrock of the Gala Unit 4 – Wacke type (004).
16. Slit Trench 2 ran north-south across the track between NX 27426 54732 and NX 27425 54729 (Figure 4). It measured 3.2m long by 0.7m wide. It was 0.6m deep. The trench was excavated through road surface (001) and dark brown clay topsoil (009) with small stone and root inclusions. (001) was 0.4m thick and (009) 0.3m thick. (001) and (009) were underlain by (010), a pale yellow clay with no inclusions. It was 0.1m thick. (010) was underlain at a depth of between 0.36 and 0.46m by (011), a firm dark brown peat deposit. The full extent of this deposit was not known but it was excavated to a depth of 0.6m (Figure 2a).
17. Slit Trench 3 ran north-south across the track between NX 27899 54785 and NX 27899 54811 (Figure 4). It was 3.2m long by 0.7m wide. The trench was 0.43m deep. It was excavated through overgrown modern road surface (001) in the southern section of the trench and mid- pink brown clay topsoil (013) with small stone inclusions in the northern 0.85m. The road surface (001) was 0.3m deep while (013) measured 0.4m deep. Both deposits were underlain by clay (008), which was underlain by peat deposit (011) at 0.43m. The trench terminated when (011) was encountered (Figure 2b).
18. Slit Trench 4 ran northeast-southwest across the track between NX 28276 54897 and NX 28272 54889 (Figure 4). The area was heavily overgrown and waterlogged. The trench measured 3.3m long by 0.65m wide. It was 0.55m deep. The trench was cut through an overgrown layer of dark brown gravel (014) with frequent roots and plant matter inclusions. This was underlain at a depth of 0.1m by (001) and mid- grey brown silt topsoil (015) with small stone inclusions. (015) was found in the northeast metre of the trench and was 0.5m deep. (001) was also 0.5m deep and both contexts were underlain by firm dark brown peat (011). This was excavated to a depth of 0.8m although the full extent of the deposit was not reached.
19. No significant archaeological features or artefacts were found in the slit trenches.





Figure 1A: Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 10 from the south.



Figure 1B: Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1 from the east.





Figure 2A: Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2 from the north.



Figure 2B: Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3 from the north.



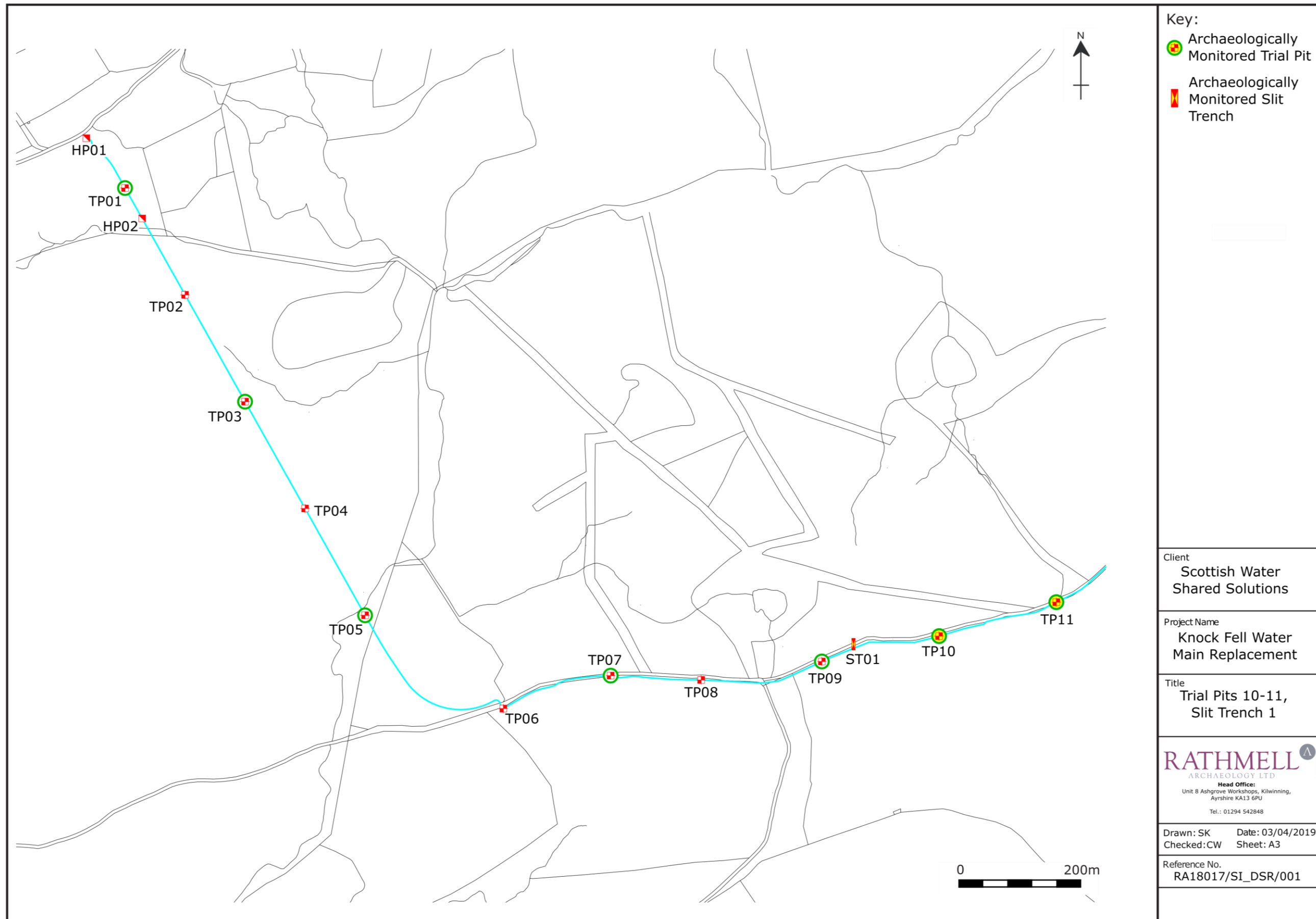


Figure 3: Plan showing locations of Trial Pits 10- 11 and Slit Trench 1.



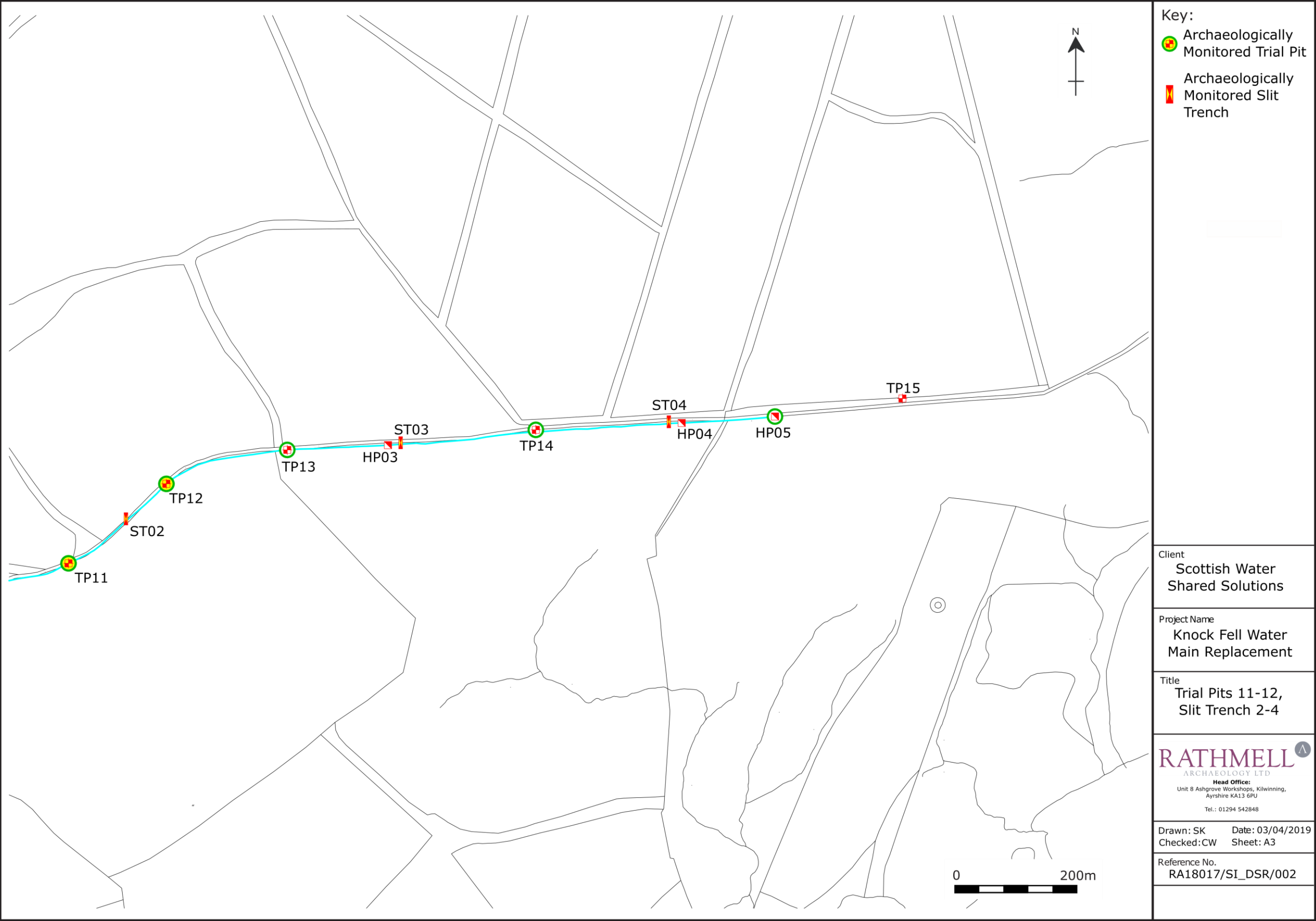


Figure 4: Plan showing locations of Trial Pits 11-12 and Slit Trenches 2-4.

## Discussion

20. No significant archaeological features were uncovered during the course of the monitoring works. The slit trenches uncovered a single layer of modern aggregate as the body of the road. In Slit Trenches 2-4 the road was floating over a thick deposit of peat, separated by a layer of clay subsoil. In Slit Trench 1 the road was constructed over a layer of redeposited natural clay overlying bedrock. No evidence of roadside ditches could be found. As such there was no evidence for earlier roads underlying the line of the current road in this section.
21. The three monitored trial pits were either in unimproved fields (Trial Pit 10) or the verge along the forestry track (Trial Pits 11-12). None of the pits recorded archaeological deposits, but instead revealed a simple stratigraphy of topsoil overlying natural subsoil.

## Recommendations

22. The series of slit trenches recommended in the Desk-Based Assessment (Krischer 2018) were carried out as part of these site investigation works. As no evidence of an earlier Roman or Post-Medieval Road could be found underneath the existing road, no further archaeological mitigation is recommended for this site.
23. However, this programme of monitored Site Investigation works only covered the road (S4, see Krischer 2018). Therefore the two other elements proposed in the initial Desk-Based Assessment for monitoring still remain. The two other sites with recommendations attached were S2 White Loch Enclosure and S3 White Loch Settlement (Krischer 2018). We continue to recommend that an Archaeological Watching Brief is carried out on all ground breaking works within the development corridor that may impact these sites to mitigate any potential adverse impact. This corridor extends from NGR 227032 554606 to NGR 227529, 554819 (See Figure 1, Krischer 2018).

## Conclusion

24. A programme of archaeological works was required by Scottish Water Specialist Services in support of site investigation works on land that is to be used for the Knock Fell Water Main Replacement Project on land 10 km to the east of Stranraer. These archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area from the work.
25. Three trial pits and four slit trenches required monitoring during this phase representing only a very small sample of the overall development area. Within these trial pits, no significant archaeological remains were uncovered. In addition, no earlier phases of the road were located underneath the existing east-west forestry track.

## Acknowledgements

26. We are grateful to our client Scottish Water Shared Solutions for giving us the opportunity to carry out these works and to everyone at Caledonia Water Alliance who helped us while on site.
27. The author would like to thank Claire Williamson, Senior Archaeologist at Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, for her extensive help with the writing and editing of this report.

## References

### *Documentary*

Krischer, S. 2018 *Knock Fell Water Main Replacement, Galloway, Archaeology Survey, Data Structure Report* (Unpublished report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd)

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## Appendix 1: Trial Pit Details

Within this appendix a standardised set of data pertaining to the trial pits and slit trenches is presented.

<b>Trial Pit</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>NGR</b>	<b>Stratigraphic sequence (top to bottom)</b>	<b>Modern/ Agricultural Features</b>	<b>Significant Features</b>
TP10	NW-SE	2.5m by 0.4m 1m deep	NX 27416 54615	(005) – 0 (006) – 0.5m (004) – 1m	None	None
TP11	NE- SW	2.8m by 0.7m 1.05m deep	NX 27337 54670	(007) – 0 (008) – 0.3m (006) – 0.7m	None	None
TP12	NW-SE	2.2m by 0.57m 0.9m deep	NX 27592 54798	(005) -0 (012) – 0.3m (004) – 0.75	None	None

<b>Slit Trenches</b>	<b>Orientation</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>NGR</b>	<b>Stratigraphic sequence (top to bottom)</b>	<b>Modern/ Agricultural Features</b>	<b>Significant Features</b>
ST1	NE-SW	5.2m by 0.75m 0.7m deep	NX 27019 54627 to NX 27014 51599	(001)/(002) – 0 (003) – 0.15 to 0.55m (004) – 0.5 to 0.7m	(001) Modern aggregate road surface found to a depth of 0.15m	None
ST2	N-S	3.2m by 0.7m 0.6m deep	NX 27426 54732 to NX 27425 54729	(001)/(009) – 0 (010) – 0.3 to 0.4m (011) – 0.36 to 0.46m	(001) Modern aggregate road surface found to a depth of 0.4m	None
ST3	N-S	2.95m by 0.7m	NX 27899 54785 to NX 27899	(001)/(013) – 0 (008) – 0.3m to 0.4m	(001) Modern aggregate road surface found to a	None

Slit Trenches	Orientation	Size	NGR	Stratigraphic sequence (top to bottom)	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features
		0.43m deep	54811	(011) – 0.43m	depth of 0.3m	
ST4	NE-SW	3.3m by 0.65m 0.55m deep	NX 28276 54897 to NX 28272 54889	(014) – 0 (001)/ (015) – 0.1 (011) – 0.5m	(001) Modern aggregate road surface found underlying overgrown topsoil to a depth of 0.5m	None

## Appendix 2: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site during the watching brief.

### *Context Register*

Context No.	Trial Pit/ Slit Trench No.	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	ST1, ST2, ST3, ST4	Deposit	Loose grey subangular aggregate gravel with occasional root inclusions. Deposit has a thickness of between 0.15m and 0.55m and found as the body of the track surface in all slit trenches.	Modern aggregate road surface, heavily overgrown in some places.
002	ST1	Deposit	Moderately loose dark brown clay with frequent root and stone inclusions. Deposit is 0.55m deep and found to the northeast of the track in Slit Trench 1.	Topsoil in Slit Trench 1.
003	ST1	Deposit	Moderately compact grey orange clay with small stone inclusions. Underlying (001) in Slit Trench 1, deposit is 0.4m thick. Deposit overlies bedrock (004).	Disturbed subsoil underlying (001) in Slit Trench 1.
004	ST1, TP10, TP12	Deposit	Dark grey angular bedrock. Underlies (003) in Slit Trench 1, (006) in Trial Pit 10 and (012) in Trial Pit 12.	Bedrock – Gala Unit 4 - Wacke.
005	TP10, TP12	Deposit	Dark brown peaty topsoil with frequent root inclusions, deposit is between 0.3m and 0.5m thick. Overlies (006) in Trial Pit 10 and (012) in Trial Pit 12.	Topsoil in Trial Pits 10 and 12.
006	TP10, TP11	Deposit	Moderately compact greyish orange clay with frequent medium to large stones. Underlies (005) in Trial Pit 10, and (008) in Trial Pit 11. Full extent of deposit was not reached but it has a minimum thickness of 0.35m.	Subsoil in Trial Pits 10 and 11.
007	TP11	Deposit	Moderately compact dark brown clay with frequent inclusions of sand, stone, bricks and roots. Deposit overlies (008) and is 0.3m thick.	Topsoil in Trial Pit 11
008	TP11, ST3	Deposit	Moderately compact yellowish brown clay with frequent stone inclusions. Underlies (007) in Trial Pit 11 and (001) in Slit Trench 3. Deposit is found at a depth of between 0.3	Subsoil in Trial Pit 11 and Slit Trench 3.



Context No.	Trial Pit/ Slit Trench No.	Type	Description	Interpretation
			and 0.4m deep and has a maximum thickness of 0.4m.	
009	ST2	Deposit	Moderately compact dark brown clay with frequent small stones and root inclusions. Found in Slit Trench 2 and is 0.4m thick.	Topsoil in Slit Trench 2
010	ST2	Deposit	Moderately compact pale grey yellow clay with no inclusions. Found in Slit Trench 2 underlying (001) and (009) and is 0.06m thick	Subsoil in Slit Trench 2
011	ST2,3, and 4	Deposit	Firm dark brown peat with no inclusions, found underlying (010) in Slit Trench 2, (008) in Slit Trench 3 and (001) / (015) in Slit Trench 4. Depth of deposit is not known.	Subsoil in Slit Trenches 2, 3, and 4/
012	TP12	Deposit	Moderately compact mid- orange brown clay with large stone inclusions. Underlying topsoil (005) in Trial Pit 12 and is 0.45m thick.	Subsoil in Trial Pit 12
013	ST3	Deposit	Compact mid pinkish brown clay with small stones. Topsoil is 0.4m thick and found in Slit Trench 3.	Topsoil in Slit Trench 3.
014	ST4	Deposit	Dark brown gravel with frequent roots and plant matter inclusions. Overlying gravel (001) in Slit Trench 4, deposit is 0.1m thick.	Overgrown road surface at Slit Trench 4
015	ST4	Deposit	Mid-grey brown silt with small stone inclusions. Topsoil at the northeast end of Slit Trench 4. The deposit is overlain by (014) and 0.4m thick.	Topsoil in Slit Trench 4

### Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
1	439	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	NE	20/03/2019
2	440	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	E	20/03/2019
3	441	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	S	20/03/2019

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
4	442	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	S	20/03/2019
5	443	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	NW	20/03/2019
6	444	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	E	20/03/2019
7	445	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	E	20/03/2019
8	446	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	SW	20/03/2019
9	447	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	NE	20/03/2019
10	448	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 1.	S	20/03/2019
11	449	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 10.	NW	20/03/2019
12	450	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 10.	S	20/03/2019
13	451	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 10.	N	20/03/2019
14	452	Pre-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11.	S	20/03/2019
15	453	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11.	S	20/03/2019
16	454	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11.	SE	20/03/2019
17	455	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11 - with drainage ditch.	SE	20/03/2019
18	456	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11.	NE	20/03/2019
19	457	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 11.	E	20/03/2019
20	458	Slit Trench 2- interface between aggregate and peat subsoil.	NE	20/03/2019
21	459	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	N	20/03/2019
22	460	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	N	20/03/2019
23	461	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	NE	20/03/2019
24	462	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	NE	20/03/2019
25	463	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	SE	20/03/2019
26	464	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	SE	20/03/2019

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
27	465	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	N	20/03/2019
28	466	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	NE	20/03/2019
29	467	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	NE	20/03/2019
30	468	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 2.	N	20/03/2019
31	469	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 12.	NW	20/03/2019
32	470	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 12.	N	20/03/2019
33	471	Post-excavation shot of Trial Pit 12.	NE	20/03/2019
34	472	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	N	21/03/2019
35	473	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	NE	21/03/2019
36	474	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	NE	21/03/2019
37	475	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	S	21/03/2019
38	476	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	SE	21/03/2019
39	477	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	NE	21/03/2019
40	478	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	N	21/03/2019
41	479	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	N	21/03/2019
42	480	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 3.	N	21/03/2019
43	481	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	NE	21/03/2019
44	482	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	E	21/03/2019
45	483	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	SW	21/03/2019
46	484	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	S	21/03/2019
47	485	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	SW	21/03/2019
48	486	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	W	21/03/2019
49	487	Post-excavation shot of Slit Trench 4.	SW	21/03/2019



## Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Dumfries and Galloway
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Knock Fell Water Main Replacement (SI Works)
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	RA18017
<b>PARISH:</b>	Old Luce
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Sarah Krischer
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b> (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NX 2738 5467
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	19 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	21 <sup>st</sup> March 2019
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b> (incl. DES ref.)	Desk-based assessment and walkover survey
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of archaeological works was required by Scottish Water Specialist Service in support of site investigation works on land that is to be used for the Knock Fell Water Main Replacement Project on land 10km to the east of Stranraer. These archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area from the work.</p> <p>Three trial pits and four slit trenches required monitoring during this phase representing only a very small sample of the overall development area. Within these trial pits, no significant archaeological remains were uncovered. In addition, no earlier phases of the road where located underneath the existing east-west forestry track.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Watching Brief
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Scottish Water Specialist Services
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
<b>E MAIL:</b>	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Report to Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service and archive to National Record of the Historic Environment

End of Document