

Investigation of potential reservoirs

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SYNOPSIS. Following the introduction of the Water Act 2003, the Environment Agency took over the role of enforcement authority for England and Wales for the Reservoirs Act 1975 from 136 local authorities in October 2004.

As part of their responsibility to maintain a national register of large raised reservoirs, the Environment Agency commissioned Halcrow Group Ltd. to undertake a project to find currently unregistered reservoirs that should be subject to the Reservoirs Act 1975.

The project identified 121 large raised reservoirs that should have been registered. The potential risk to the general public from an uncontrolled release of water has been reduced by identifying and registering these reservoirs.

This paper provides an overview of the project to identify these 'potential' reservoirs, by explaining the legal background, the approach used, the results and future considerations.