



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

**Water extraction: Deploy high volume
pump to remove flood water**



NFCC
Fire Central
Programme Office

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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Control measure knowledge

If there is large-scale flooding, pumping operations may need to be provided for extended durations which may extend to multiple weeks.

The suitability of the receiving area for the extracted flood water will need to be assessed prior to operations. Considerations should include the environmental impact and the surrounding communities. For example, the receiving area should not be:

- Environmentally sensitive
- A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
- Susceptible to further flooding

Flood water may be contaminated with chemicals or sewage; advice should be sought from the environmental agency or hazardous materials advisor. A suitable location should be identified to carry out decontamination of equipment. A HVP Tac Ad will be able to assist with the consideration and identification of an appropriate site. Consideration should also be given to [biosecurity](#).

Further information about the use of an HVP submersible pump can be found in the control measure for [Water delivery: Deploy high volume pump \(HVP\) into open water](#). Additional consideration should be given to the likelihood of the presence of contaminants and debris.

Strategic actions

National Resilience should:

- Provide appropriate advice and resources for water extraction, including equipment and personnel as requested, for the incident type and size

Tactical actions

Specialist responders should:

- Consider appropriate locations to deploy HVPs



- Consider the environmental impact of delivering flood water to another area
- Ensure the flood water is of a minimum depth to ensure safe submersible pump operation
- Place HVP equipment in a safe area that has been made as safe as practicable
- Adopt appropriate protocols for working on or near water when deploying or retrieving the submersible pump
- Monitor the function of the submersible pump during operations
- Carry out appropriate decontamination of equipment