

## Aquaculture Development in Scotland:

### Pre-Application Regulator/Authority Consultation Guidance for Developers

The organisations listed below are those that regulate aquaculture development, routinely advise those regulators, or grant seabed and foreshore title rights. Failure to acquire the required consents listed for development, or agreement on favourable recommendations for those consents, or secure seabed/foreshore rights, will preclude any development. It is therefore essential that all those authorities relevant to the particular development proposed are consulted at an early stage to identify any significant and potentially insurmountable issues prior to proceeding with any application process.

Regulator/Authority	Regulatory/Authorising Remit	Consent/Authorisation	Applicable Species		
			Finfish	Shellfish	Seaweed
Local Authorities	Granting of development consents for fish farms	Planning Permission	Yes	Yes	No*
Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team	Licensing of fish farms where navigational hazards are deemed present (exemption no longer applies to aquaculture development)	Marine Licence	Yes	Yes	Yes
Marine Scotland Science (MSS)	Statutory consultee to planning authorities on specific environmental impacts of development proposals, and cumulative environmental impacts arising.		Yes	Yes	Yes
Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI)	Authorisation of aquaculture production businesses (APBs) under the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009	Authorisation to operate an APB	Yes	Yes	No
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	Licences waste and veterinary discharges from fin fish farms. Statutory consultees to Local Authorities for development consents Tasked to deliver water quality objectives for protected shellfish growing waters so consultees for applications for shellfish	Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) Licence	Yes	Yes	No
Crown Estate Scotland	Grant seabed/foreshore rights for aquaculture developments	Seabed/Foreshore Lease	Yes	Yes**	Yes
Northern Lighthouse Board	Navigational marking for aquaculture installations at sea to inform the mariner of the hazard (Marine Licence & Local Authorities planning permission)	Navigation marking of site	Yes	Yes	Yes
NatureScot	Government advisors on natural heritage protection, particularly designated conservation areas. Statutory consultees to planning authorities		Yes	Yes	Yes
Food Standards Agency (Scotland)	Classification and administration of shellfish harvesting areas and biotoxin monitoring.			Yes	

\* - Seaweed farms do not fall under Local Authority planning controls, and are dealt with by Marine Scotland's Licensing Operations Team. Nevertheless the relevant Local Authority should be consulted anyway in regard to other development issues that may prevail.

\*\* - Shellfish farms located on the foreshore may fall on non-Crown land, and so require permission from the landowner.

## Contact Details

Regulator/Authority	E-mail	Telephone	Website
Local Authorities - in main marine fish farming areas	Argyll & Bute: Major Applications Team <a href="mailto:centralvalidationteam@argyll-bute.gov.uk">centralvalidationteam@argyll-bute.gov.uk</a>	01546 604840	<a href="http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/aquaculture">http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/aquaculture</a>
	Highland Council: Coastal Planning Team <a href="mailto:eplanning@highland.gov.uk">eplanning@highland.gov.uk</a>	01349 886608	<a href="http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/planningservice/mmfdev.asp">Development guidance - Aquaculture   The Highland Council</a> <a href="http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/planningservice/mmfdev.asp">http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk/planningservice/mmfdev.asp</a>
	Comhairle nan Eilean Siar: Planning Service <a href="mailto:planning.advice@cne-siar.gov.uk">planning.advice@cne-siar.gov.uk</a>	01851 822690 (Stornoway) 01870 604 990 (Benbecular)	<a href="http://www.cne-siar.gov.uk">Aquaculture and Fisheries (cne-siar.gov.uk)</a>
	Shetland Islands Council: Marine Planning Service <a href="mailto:marine.planning@shetland.gov.uk">marine.planning@shetland.gov.uk</a>	01595 744293	<a href="http://www.shetland.gov.uk">Marine Planning Policy – Shetland Islands Council</a>
	Orkney Islands Council: Development Management <a href="mailto:planning@orkney.gov.uk">planning@orkney.gov.uk</a>	01856 873535 ext 2504	<a href="http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/A/Aquaculture.htm">http://www.orkney.gov.uk/Service-Directory/A/Aquaculture.htm</a>
Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team	<a href="mailto:ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot">ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot</a>	0300 244 5046	<a href="http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine">http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine</a>
Marine Scotland Science	<a href="mailto:marinescotland@gov.scot">marinescotland@gov.scot</a>	0300 244 4000	<a href="http://www.gov.scot">Marine Scotland science - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</a>
Fish Health Inspectorate	<a href="mailto:ms.fishhealth@gov.scot">ms.fishhealth@gov.scot</a>	0131 244 3498	<a href="http://www.gov.scot">Fish Health Inspectorate: Authorisation and registration - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)</a>
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	SEPA Local Offices – details on this link: <a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/about_us/contacting_sepa/regional_offices.aspx">http://www.sepa.org.uk/about_us/contacting_sepa/regional_offices.aspx</a>		<a href="http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/water_regulation/regimes/aquaculture/marine_aquaculture.aspx">http://www.sepa.org.uk/water/water_regulation/regimes/aquaculture/marine_aquaculture.aspx</a>
Crown Estate Scotland	<a href="mailto:marine@crownestatescotland.com">marine@crownestatescotland.com</a>	0131 260 6070	<a href="http://www.crownestatescotland.com/the-assets/marine/asset/aquaculture">http://www.crownestatescotland.com/the-assets/marine/asset/aquaculture</a>
Northern Lighthouse Board	<a href="mailto:enquiries@nlb.org.uk">enquiries@nlb.org.uk</a>	0131 473 3100	<a href="https://www.nlb.org.uk/ourlights/responsibility.htm">https://www.nlb.org.uk/ourlights/responsibility.htm</a>
Nature Scot	<a href="mailto:licensing@nature.scot">licensing@nature.scot</a>	01463 725364	<a href="http://www.nature.scot">Marine aquaculture   NatureScot</a>
Food Standards Agency (Scotland)	<a href="mailto:enquiries@fss.scot">enquiries@fss.scot</a>	01224 285100	<a href="http://www.foodstandards.gov.uk">Food Standards Scotland</a>