

DESIGN STATEMENT

- 1) The site will use light grey mussel floats placed at equal spacing to form a neat linear shape and reduce visual impact
- 2) The line shall be aligned with the shore as per recommendations
- 3) The site continues the similar pattern of established approved sites
- 4) The site will be serviced from an existing harbour at Scalloway. As a result, no new access roads or parking will be required and in turn, the viability, maintenance and existence of current facilities will be supported
- 5) The site will have less visual impact and much less activity than the salmon activity that also takes place in the area
- 6) The site is positioned to blend the longlines into the shore landform
- 7) Mussels provide environmental enhancement by their normal water filtration
- 8) Mussel lines provide a sheltered habitat and protection for juvenile fish and birds. This is well proven by the numbers of small fish observed on sites and fledgling birds resting on the floats whilst adapting their flying skills. Wildlife such as birds and even seals regularly use lines as a resting point and their existence preserves the seabed.
- 9) The site will provide economic development by a renewable method. The site will be designated as 'Friend of the Sea' and 'Marine Stewardship Council' as the rest of Blueshell Mussels managed sites.
- 10) The proposed equipment is a relatively small linear site.
- 11) Rather than the existing 'square' sites in the area, the site will be in keeping with the general characteristics of Clift Sound as a whole.