

**Navigational Risk Assessment  
West Coast Seaweed, Camas Na H'arigh Algae Farm**

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<b>Business number</b>	<b>TBC</b>
<b>Business name</b>	<b>West Coast Seaweed</b>
<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Camas na h'arigh</b>
<b>Site Number</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Biosecurity Manager</b>	<b>Nick Moore</b>
<b>Contact details (Phone)</b>	<b>Redacted</b>
<b>Email address</b>	<b><a href="mailto:info@westcoastseaweed.co.uk">info@westcoastseaweed.co.uk</a></b>

**Site Description:**

The site of the algal farm is in Camas na h-airigh bay, Gairloch in close proximity to Fraoch Eilean on the site of a historic mussel farm. The site is overlooked by a small collection of dwelling houses, and not visible from public roads that run between Leacnasaide and Badachro. Along the coast line (west) from the site there is an additional anchorage for Badachro harbour (Birds Nest) and then the harbour area itself. To the North is Charlestown pier and the Gairloch harbour authority. There is no objection from either party to the installation of the site on the proposed coordinates. To the east the site runs along side Fraoch Eilean and a rocky outcrop that makes the channel impassable to craft and the south lies the shoreline.

**Hazards/Potential Hazards:**

Potential hazard of the algal farm include:

- Recreational use
- Recreational & commercial fishing
- Other marine traffic

**Risk/Mitigation:**

Following consultation through PAC application process with:

- Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB):
  - o Recommendation: Guidance on positioning, size and lighting pattern for navigational buoy
- Wester Ross Fisheries Trust
  - o Recommendation: no further comment
- Local harbour authorities (Badachro & Gairloch)
  - o Recommendation: no further comment
- Local creel fishing association
  - o Recommendation: Support the proposed site, area to be treated as a no take zone through mutual benefit to marine ecosystem

**Very low risk to recreational users/fishing through recommendations made by NLB on buoyage and lighting being implemented.**

**Equipment deployed:**

**A subsurface grid will be used similar to that outlined and recommended by SAMS in previous studies. Large corner floats will be visible on the surface of the outer farm – these will be yellow marker buoys. The long lines themselves will be suspended with floats every 10-12metres. The anchoring system will be as recommended from Gael Force Marine (Inverness) to ensure a robust and stable site, whilst reducing seabed disruption.**

**The seaweed will be grown on the longlines suspended 1.5-2m below the surface and grow downwards from there.**

**Monitoring & Maintenance:**

**During the growing season the site will be monitored on a bi-weekly cycle, and on ad hoc basis following inclement weather systems. The monitoring will be carried out of Badachro. During this monitoring, a Hazard log and sites details will be recorded for future learning**