

East Balvica Seaweed Farm – Method Statement

Algae harvesting

Removal of lines

Jun to Oct

Duty of care over lines.

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Where points A and C are the outer seaward edges of the works. Points B and D are where the works boundary reaches OD low water. P points E and F, points G and H, points I and J, points K and L are the north and south ends of the 4 x 220 metre lines respectively. The links in the above table lead to map of the site.

In water equipment

We will continue to use the same header floats, ropes and anchors, same type of dropper lines and same shore infrastructure as is already in place at the site of the established, chartered mussel/algae farm with appropriate orange, flashing special marks denoting their limits at points A and C.

There are no chemical additions or treatments used for the seaweed growing process. The seeded stock is harvested from local shore sites and grown at the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) at Dunstaffnage. The harvest for seeding plants will be very small volumes (<10 wet kg) and by taking no more than around 25% in any given patch on a shore. The species to be farmed are all found locally at the farm sites.

The species planned for use are Atlantic Wakame (*alaria esculenta*) Dulse (*palmaria palmata*) and Sugar Kelp (*saccharina latissima*) if growing conditions suit. Other locally present species may be trialled, but these will be in very small quantities and the same biosecurity precautions used as with the main volume species.

Seeded seaweed lines will be deployed in Oct-Dec and harvest them in Mar-Jun using the existing shore infrastructure, staff and small mussel harvest vessels. Small amounts of algae may be left for monitoring the regrowth or fouling of lines.

The lines will be deployed by existing mussel farm vessels. Regular monitoring will decide the optimum harvest periods. Harvesting will be a reversal of the process using the same vessels.

Timetable of works

Oct to Dec

Deployment of seeded media laced lines onto lines.

Dec to Mar

Monitoring of seaweed growth and duty of care over lines.

Mar to Jun

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Point	Grid Reference	Lat dig/min	Lon dig/min	Lat dig/deg	Lon dig/deg	Point Link	Link For All Points
Point A	NM 77912 17160	56 17.683 N	5 35.441 W	56.29472	-5.59068	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point B	NM 78030 17123	56 17.667 N	5 35.325 W	56.29444	-5.58875	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point C	NM 77718 16551	56 17.350 N	5 35.598 W	56.28917	-5.59330	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point D	NM 77868 16519	56 17.337 N	5 35.451 W	56.28895	-5.59085	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point E	NM 77905 17084	56 17.642 N	5 35.444 W	56.29404	-5.59073	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point F	NM 77851 16875	56 17.528 N	5 35.486 W	56.29214	-5.59143	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point G	NM 77858 16816	56 17.497 N	5 35.476 W	56.29161	-5.59126	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point H	NM 77773 16599	56 17.377 N	5 35.547 W	56.28962	-5.59245	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point I	NM 77952 17076	56 17.639 N	5 35.398 W	56.29399	-5.58997	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point J	NM 77893 16868	56 17.525 N	5 35.445 W	56.29209	-5.59075	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point L	NM 77814 16588	56 17.373 N	5 35.507 W	56.28955	-5.59179	Link	Link for All 12 Points
Point K	NM 77898 16810	56 17.495 N	5 35.437 W	56.29158	-5.59061	Link	Link for All 12 Points

Introduction

Argyll Aquaculture, acting as agents for J MacGregor and Sons Ltd, apply to Marine Scotland to correct an error in the relicensing of their site in East Balvicar Bay, Seil, Argyll and Bute. The site previously held license No. 04700/13/0 for mussels, the license No. 04700/17/0 for algae and mussels, license No. 06833/19/0 for algae and mussels, applied for in late 2018 and currently holds license No. 06833/19/1 for algae and mussels, reissued by MS in April 2019.

The application made in late 2018 accidentally requested 2 longlines be consented. Marine Scotland issues a license No. 06833/19/0 which contained clerical errors made by the applicant and by Marine Scotland. Marine Scotland corrected their own clerical errors without reconsulting the Statutory Consultees and issued license No. 06833/19/1. They have since informed us that we must reapply (and repay) to correct our clerical errors. We reapply with coordinates of 4 longlines for your consideration.

The East Balvicar Bay Farm has been active in growing algae since licensing was completed in March 2017 and it is our intention to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. We also wish for the underlying consent to grow mussels to also continue. If the change is made from algae back to mussels, we will inform Marine Scotland through the FEP5 route.

To facilitate this relicensing, Marine Scotland will receive a completed algae license application submitted to them by the license holder, Jack MacGregor and Sons. Argyll Aquaculture will appear as agents for the license holder.

The algae/mussel license application will have the critical information required of the currently consented site from the algae/mussel license consented in Mar 2019. As none of the meaningful details originally presented during the application for algae/mussel consent have changed, we have not approached any of the original statutory consultees

This Method Statement will be submitted along with the Algae License Application by the license holder and site owner and paid for immediately by BACS or Cheque to begin the process.

All equipment, lines and anchors are already onsite, using the old raft moorings and floats from the heavier settings of the mussel farming to provide floatation for the algae farming, so costs are £0, so the marine licence application fee will be £56.

The works will be bounded within the coordinates of the existing licensed mussel farm under consented License Number 06833/19/0 (attached).

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These are;