



Proposed eight-grid seaweed farm in Loch Snizort, Isle of Skye

Appendix 9 - Biosecurity Plan

1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 Kaly Group Ltd have previously developed a Biosecurity Plan for the already consented site at Loch Bay. The Biosecurity Plan has been produced following Best Practice Guidance¹.

2 Marine Non-Native Species

- 2.1.1 Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS) are one of the biggest global threats to biodiversity, undermining the inherent resilience of ecosystems and causing significant economic costs for sectors such as agriculture and fisheries. Along with disease transfer, INNS cost £billions per year globally in harvest and infrastructure damage and the loss of local biodiversity presents an incalculable threat to future generations.
- 2.1.2 INNS are considered a low risk for seaweed aquaculture, as there is no cross-transfer to other sites, and no equipment (e.g. feeding barges, cages) are used in cultivation.
- 2.1.3 Kaly are committed to only using native species taken from the Skye Shoreline only, so no seed stock of non-native species will be used during operations. The main species Kaly intends to cultivate are large brown kelps that have a proven track record of line cultivation in Scotland - Atlantic wakame (*alaria esculenta*) and sugar kelp (*saccharina latissima*) primarily for the human food market. A third large brown kelp, oar weed (*laminaria digitata*), will be included in the Marine Scotland licence process in readiness should market demand or technologies change to such an extent that its cultivation becomes commercially viable.
- 2.1.4 All equipment used will be thoroughly washed before and after use to prevent the potential spread of INNS. All laboratories that Kaly will invest with the duty of seaweed seed production will be fully accredited and work to hygiene standards to ensure no cross contaminated of seaweed stock (or diseases) are brought back to Kaly's site.
- 2.1.5 All Kaly staff and contractors will be trained in INNS recognition via ID cards placed on vessels, shore bases and at the Kaly's processing Hub and an effective reporting process put in place. In the event of the positive identification of an outbreak, staff will ensure that no product affected leaves the site. Any equipment and ropes affected will be taken ashore and will be treated and Nature Scotland informed immediately.

3 Pollution Events

- 3.1.1 The site has been carefully sited away from any direct sewage / chemical outflows at the coastline.
- 3.1.2 Kaly will ensure that all harvest taken from the farm site will be washed ashore in fresh water at their processing Hub. The waste water from their processing is disposed through the areas' traditional Sewage Treatment Works (or septic tank system). Plant waste from the processing will be taken to be composted locally.

¹ <https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-07/Publication%202014%20-%20SNH%20Commissioned%20Report%20748%20-%20Marine%20biosecurity%20planning%20-%20Identification%20of%20best%20practice%20-%20A%20review.pdf>

4 Equipment

- 4.1.1 No equipment or ropes based at the Loch Snizort site will be moved to another site and no equipment or ropes used on another site will be brought in. Any equipment or ropes brought ashore from the Kaly farm site will be treated by cleaning with fresh water above the high tide mark. All equipment stored ashore will be kept separate from equipment from any other sites.
- 4.1.2 Any equipment that has accumulated crustaceans or algae on them that is brought ashore will be washed down with fresh water and along with air exposure cause the demise of sea grown fouling.

4.2 Line Deployment and Harvesting

- 4.2.1 The vessels used to deploy the seaweed lines onto the farm site and harvest the resultant seaweed are based on the Skye coast and work locally. They will antifoul their hulls annually as a part of their own maintenance schedule. It is therefore unlikely that non-native invasive species will be brought to site (or to shore) by this route. Regular monitoring of seaweed growth will be done via visits to the seaweed farm by small vessels. These vessels will be stored out of the water when not in use, their hulls washed in fresh water each time they are retrieved.
- 4.2.2 All harvesting equipment and vessel decks will be washed down at site with seawater hoses. All equipment and ropes brought ashore will be washed thoroughly with fresh water and stored ashore.

4.3 Lost Lines and Site Waste

- 4.3.1 Any waste generated from the project will be disposed of ashore through local, certified commercial waste disposal. All ropes and equipment will be stored ashore during fallow periods of the farm (May to Oct). And all cleaning of ropes and equipment will be done ashore. There are no Special Waste requirements envisaged.
- 4.3.2 Kaly are committed to development low-waste options for their seaweed farm equipment. They are currently undergoing talks with various partners regarding, for example, low-plastic buoys and biodegradable growing lines, thereby reducing the end-waste produced by the proposed development. This is an ongoing project and subject to further design detail and commitments.

MARINE BIOSECURITY PLAN

Site Name	Loch Snizort Seaweed Farm
Site / Operation Location	Loch Snizort (approx.. 5km south of Uig, northwest Skye)
Plan Period	2025-2026
Biosecurity Manager	Iain Matheson

Site features affecting biosecurity:

Salinity	Full
Submerged Structure	2 x Special Marks (2 anchors and risers)
	50 x 8 x 100m Growing Lines
	47 anchors and risers
Non-native species known to be present	None

Vessel types used in operation:

Vessel Type	Risk Factors	Risk
Multi-cat	Local Harbour used; 8 knot speed; vessel anti-fouled annually.	Low
Landing craft	Local Harbour used; 8 knot speed; vessel anti-fouled annually.	Low
Creel Boar	Local Harbour used; 8 knot speed; vessel anti-fouled annually.	Low

Site activities which have a significant risk of introducing / spreading non-native species:

Activity Description
None

Biosecurity control measures – instruction for staff / contractors / site users:

Who	What	Where	When
Charter Vessels	Kaly Biosecurity Plan	Given to Chartered company by Kaly	Before contract commences
Farm staff	Kaly Biosecurity Plan	Training given to Kaly staff by Farm Manager	On induction, annually reviewed
Processing staff	Kaly Biosecurity Plan	Training given to Kaly staff by Processing Manager	On induction, annually reviewed

Site surveillance and reporting procedure

Site reporting log	All activities relating to the farm site to be logged. This includes (but not
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	limited to) debris entanglement, damaged lines, any wildlife interaction (including sightings of cetations), vessel interactions, suspected INNS
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Contingency plan

Action	Responsibility	Location of Equipment
Suspected INNS – structure	Farm Manager	On vessels
Suspected INNS – growing lines	Farm Manager	On vessels
Suspected INNS – amongst harvest	Processing Manager	In Processing Hub

Location of Biosecurity Logbook:

With Farm Manager

Plan review date:

01/08/2026