

**MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010, PART 4 MARINE LICENSING**

**LICENCE TO DEPOSIT ANY SUBSTANCE OR OBJECT IN THE SCOTTISH MARINE AREA**

Licence Number: **MS-00008878**

The Scottish Ministers (hereinafter referred to as "the Licensing Authority") hereby grant a marine licence authorising:

**Southwest Mull and Iona Development  
Columba Centre  
Fionnphort  
Isle of Mull  
PA66 6BH**

to deposit any substance or object as described in Part 2. The licence is subject to the conditions set out, or referred to, in Part 3.

The licence is valid from **15 June, 2021** until **14 June, 2027**

Signed: .....

Ellie Noble

For and on behalf of the Licensing Authority

Date of issue: 14 June, 2021

## **1. PART 1 - GENERAL**

### **1.1 Interpretation**

In the licence, terms are as defined in Section 1, 64 and 157 of the Marine Scotland Act 2010, and

- a) "**the 2010 Act**" means the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010;
- b) "**Licensed Activity**" means any activity or activities listed in section 21 of the 2010 Act which is, or are authorised under the licence;
- c) "**Licensee**" means Southwest Mull and Iona Development
- d) "**Mean high water springs**" means any area submerged at mean high water spring tide;
- e) "**Commencement of the Licensed Activity**" means the date on which the first vehicle or vessel arrives on the site to begin carrying on any activities in connection with the Licensed Activity;
- f) "**Completion of the Licensed Activity**" means the date on which the Licensed Activity has been installed in full, or the Licensed Activity has been deemed complete by the Licensing Authority, whichever occurs first;

All geographical co-ordinates contained within the licence are in WGS84 format (latitude and longitude degrees and minutes to three decimal places) unless otherwise stated.

### **1.2 Contacts**

All correspondence or communications relating to the licence should be addressed to:

Marine Scotland  
Licensing Operations Team  
Marine Laboratory  
375 Victoria Road  
Aberdeen  
AB11 9DB  
Email: MS.Marinelicensing@gov.scot

### **1.3 Other authorisations and consents**

The Licensee is deemed to have satisfied itself that there are no barriers or restrictions, legal or otherwise, to the carrying on of the Licensed Activities in connection with the licensed activity. The issuing of the licence does not absolve the Licensee from obtaining such other authorisations and consents, which may be required under statute.

### **1.4 Variation, suspension, revocation and transfer**

Under section 30 (1) of the 2010 Act the Licensing Authority may by notice vary, suspend or revoke the licence granted by them if it appears to the Licensing Authority that there has been a breach of any of its provisions. For any such other reason that appears to be relevant to the Licensing Authority under section 30(2) or (3) of the 2010 Act.

Under the 2010 Act variations, suspensions, revocations and transfers of licences are subject to the procedures set out in section 31 of the Act.

Under section 30 (7) of the 2010 Act, on an application made by a licensee, the Licensing Authority may vary a

licence if satisfied that the variation being applied for is not material.

Under section 30 (8) of the 2010 Act, on an application made by the licensee, the Licensing Authority may transfer the licence from the Licensee to another person.

### **1.5 Breach of requirement for, or conditions of, licence**

Under section 39 of the 2010 Act it is an offence to carry on a Licensable Marine Activity without a marine licence and it is also an offence to fail to comply with any condition of a marine licence.

### **1.6 Defences: actions taken in an emergency**

Under section 40 of the 2010 Act it is a defence for a person charged with an offence under section 39(1) of the 2010 Act in relation to any activity to prove that –  
the activity was carried out for the purpose of saving life, or for the purpose of securing the safety of a vessel, aircraft or marine structure ('force majeure'), and  
that the person took steps within a reasonable time to inform the Licensing Authority as set out in section 40(2) of the 2010 Act.

### **1.7 Offences relating to information**

Under section 42 of the 2010 Act it is an offence for a person to make a statement which is false or misleading in a material way, knowing the statement to be false or misleading or being reckless as to whether the statement is false or misleading, or to intentionally fail to disclose any material information for the purpose of procuring the issue, variation or transfer of a marine licence or for the purpose of complying with, or purporting to comply with, any obligation imposed by either Part 4 of the 2010 Act or the provisions of this licence.

### **1.8 Appeals**

Under Regulation 3(1) of the Marine Licensing Appeals (Scotland) Regulations 2011 a person who has applied for a marine licence may by summary application appeal to against a decision taken by the Licensing Authority under section 71(1)(b) or (c) or (5) of the Act.

## **2. PART 2 – PARTICULARS**

### **2.1 Agent**

### **2.2 Location of the Licensed Activity**

Aird Fada, Mull, within the area boundary of;

56° 20.667' N 06° 08.957' W

56° 20.824' N 06° 08.029' W

56° 20.574' N 06° 07.870' W

56° 20.407' N 06° 08.803' W

As shown in Annex One.

### **2.3 Description of the Licensed Activity**

New seaweed farm at Aird Fada, Mull.

As described in the application dated 04 August, 2020 and correspondence submitted in support of the application.

### **2.4 Descriptions of the substances or objects to be deposited**

The licence authorises the deposit of the undernoted substances and objects required in connection with the licensed activity, subject to the maximum amounts as specified below:

The Marine Farm must consist of:

- a) The total number of permitted longlines must be: 300
- b) The total number of permitted moorings must be: 22
- c) The total number of permitted marked buoys must be: 2
- d) The total number of permitted double headlines must be: 6

### **2.5 Contractor and Vessel Details**

### **3. PART 3 – CONDITIONS**

#### **3.1 General Conditions**

3.1.1. The Licensee must at all times deposit substances and objects in accordance with the licence, the application and the plans and programmes approved by the Licensing Authority.

3.1.2. The Licensee must ensure that only the materials listed in Part 2 of the licence are used during the execution of the Licensed Activity and that all materials, substances or objects used during the execution of the Licensed Activity are inert and do not contain toxic elements which may be harmful to the marine environment, the living resources which it supports or human health.

3.1.3. The Licensee must ensure that the Licensed Activity does not encroach on any recognised anchorage, either charted or noted in nautical publications, within the licensed area.

3.1.4. In the event of any breach of health and safety or environmental obligations relating to the Licensed Activity during the period of the licence, the Licensee must provide written notification of the nature and timing of the incident to the Licensing Authority within 24 hours of the incident occurring. Confirmation of remedial measures taken and/or to be taken to rectify the breach must be provided, in writing, to the Licensing Authority within a period of time to be agreed by the Licensing Authority.

3.1.5. The Licensee must notify Source Data Receipt, The Hydrographic Office, Admiralty Way, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2DN (e-mail: [sdr@ukho.gov.uk](mailto:sdr@ukho.gov.uk); tel.: 01823 484444), at least five days prior to Commencement of the Licensed Activity to permit promulgation of maritime safety information and upon completion of the the Licensed Activity to update nautical charts and publications through the national Notice to Mariners system. Such notification must include a copy of the licence, and wherever possible, 'as built plans', start and end date, work to be done, positions of the work area (WGS84) and marking of the work area in order that all necessary amendments to nautical publications are made.

3.1.6. If it is desired to display any marks or lights not required by the licence then details must be submitted to the Northern Lighthouse Board and its ruling complied with. The display of unauthorised marks or lights is prohibited.

3.1.7. The Licensee must remove the materials, substances or objects from below the level of Mean High Water Springs, or make such alterations as advised by the Licensing Authority, within one month of notice being given by the Licensing Authority at any time it is considered necessary or advisable for the safety of navigation, and not replaced without further approval by the Licensing Authority. The Licensee shall be liable for any expense incurred.

3.1.8. The Licensee must ensure that copies of the licence are available for inspection by any authorised Enforcement Officer at:

- a) the premises of the Licensee;
- b) the premises of any agent acting on behalf of the Licensee; and
- c) site of the Licensed Activity.

3.1.9. If governmental assistance is required (including UK governmental assistance or the assistance of any UK devolved government) to deal with any emergency arising from:

- a) the failure to mark and light the deposited objects as required by this licence;

- b) the maintenance of the deposited objects or
- c) the drifting or wreck of the deposited objects,

to include the broadcast of navigational warnings, then the Licensee is liable for any expenses incurred in securing such assistance.

3.1.10. In case of damage to, or destruction or decay of, the licensed objects or any part thereof, the Licensee must as soon as reasonably practicable and no later than 24 hours after becoming aware of any such damage, destruction or decay, notify the Licensing Authority, the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, the Northern Lighthouse Board, the Kingfisher Information Service of Seafish and the UK Hydrographic Office.

3.1.11. The Licensee must ensure that the marine environment is not artificially enriched to aid production or for any other reason.

3.1.12. The Licensee must give a copy of this licence and any subsequent variations that have been made to this licence in accordance with section 30 of the 2010 Act to any agent, contractor or sub-contractor appointed to carry out any part, or all, of the licensed activities. The Licensee must satisfy themselves that any such agent, contractor or sub-contractor is aware of the extent of the licensed activities for which this licence has been granted, the activity which is licensed and the terms of the conditions attached to this licence.

### **3.2 Prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activity**

3.2.1. The Licensee must provide the name and function of any agent, contractor, sub-contractor or vessel appointed to undertake the Licensed Activities, as soon as is reasonably practicable prior to the Licensed Activities commencing.

3.2.2. The Licensee must, prior to and no less than seven calendar days before the Commencement of the Licensed Activity, notify the Licensing Authority, in writing, of the date of Commencement of the Licensed Activity authorised under this licence.

3.2.3. The Licensee must ensure that HM Coastguard, in this case [zone35@hmcg.gov.uk](mailto:zone35@hmcg.gov.uk), is made aware of the Licensed Activity prior to Commencement.

3.2.4. The Licensee must ensure that only those agents, contractors, sub-contractors and vessels notified to the Licensing Authority are permitted to undertake the Licensed Activity.

3.2.5. The Licensee must issue local notification to marine users – including fisherman's organisations, neighbouring port authorities and other local stakeholders – to ensure that they are made fully aware of the Licensed Activity at least five days before commencement of the Licensed Activity.

3.2.6. The Licensee must complete the Maritime and Coastguard Agencies Marine Emergency Action Card and send it to [oelo@mcca.gov.scot](mailto:oelo@mcca.gov.scot)

### **3.3 During the Licensed Activity**

3.3.1. The Licensee must ensure that the Licensed Activity is maintained at all times in good repair.

3.3.2. The Licensee must ensure that any debris or waste materials arising during the course of the Licensed Activity are removed for disposal at an approved location above the tidal level of Mean High Water Springs.

3.3.3. In the event of the Licensed Activity being discontinued the substances and objects deposited under the authority of the licence shall be removed and the site cleared to the satisfaction of the Licensing Authority.

3.3.4. The Licensee must ensure that:

- a) The site is marked with 2 lit yellow buoys fitted with yellow 'X' topmarks.
- b) Each light displays a character of flash one yellow every five seconds (FI Y 5s) with a nominal range of 2 nautical miles and is installed above the 'X' topmark.
- c) In the first instance, the buoys are to be positioned at the East and West seaward corners of the longlines during the two-hectare phase one development stage. The buoys are then to be re-positioned North; to the East and West seaward corners of the new longline positions, once the site is in the six-hectare phase two development stage.
- d) The buoys are approximately 1 metre in diameter at the waterline with the focal plane of the light 2 metres above that level, the 'X' topmark is greater than or equal to 50cm length by 7.5cm width.

3.3.5. The Licensee must ensure that the navigation marking and lighting given in condition 3.3.4. are installed at the same time as the licensed objects and continued unless and until the Licensing Authority rescind this direction.

3.3.6. The Licensee must ensure the best method of practice is used to minimise re-suspension of sediment during the Licensed Activity.

3.3.7. The Licensee must ensure appropriate steps are taken to minimise damage to the foreshore and seabed by the Licensed Activity.

3.3.8. The Licensee must ensure the foreshore and seabed are returned to the original profile, or as close as reasonably practicable, following the completion of the Licensed Activity.

3.3.9. The Licensee must ensure that a weekly check of the marking and lighting equipment and deposited objects is made and records kept of its physical state for audit purposes.

3.3.10. The Licensee must monitor for any entanglement incidences involving marine mammals and site equipment, even when the animals have freed themselves, and report any incidents as soon as reasonably practicable to the Licensing Authority, NatureScot and the UK Cetacean Stranding Investigation Programme.

3.3.11. Any person authorised by the Licensing Authority must be permitted to inspect the site at any reasonable time.

3.3.12. The Licensee must adopt measures to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species as a result of the Licensed Activities and must, at all times, act in accordance with the Aird Fada - Biosecurity Plan document submitted to the Licensing Authority on 22 December 2020.

3.3.13. The Licensee must ensure activities are carried out without unreasonable harm to wild seaweed populations during collection of reproductive material and must at all times use the best practice guidelines set out by NatureScot.

3.3.14 The Licensee must ensure the deployment remains secure to the seabed with a programme of regular inspections and maintenance of the works.

3.3.15 The Licensee must ensure all equipment or components of the seaweed farm remain within the licensed area.

### **3.4 Upon Completion of the Licensed Activity**

3.4.1. The Licensee must, no later than 14 days following the Completion of the Licensed Activity notify the Licensing Authority, in writing, of the date of the Completion of the Licensed Activity.

3.4.2 The Licensee must ensure appropriate recovery of all the equipment and components of the seaweed farm to decommission the site if a new licence is not to be sought at least 14 weeks before the expiry date of this licence.

3.4.3. If a new licence is required, the Licensee must make an application at least 14 weeks before the expiry date of the licence. This licence shall not continue in force after the expiry date of 14 June 2027.

3.4.4. The Licensee must submit a written report regarding the deposit of the licensed objects to the Licensing Authority. The written report must be submitted on the forms provided by the Licensing Authority no later than 31 July 2028.



## **NOTES**

1. You are deemed to have satisfied yourself that there are no barriers, legal or otherwise, to the carrying out of the licensed activity. The issue of the licence does not absolve the licensee from obtaining such authorisations, consents etc which may be required under any other legislation.
2. In the event that the licensee wishes any of the particulars set down in the Schedule to be altered, the licensing authority must be immediately notified of the alterations. It should be noted that changes can invalidate a licence, and that an application for a new licence may be necessary.