



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:29 PM

To: Charlie Bavington <Charlie@oceanium.co.uk>; info@kelpcrofting.com



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Greetings,

Due to a change in the proposed site location, I send you a revised notification for the development of a small-scale kelp farm in Loch Melfort. The public consultation event will now take place on the 20th of May 2021 at 10:30 am.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Kilchoan Algae farm.



Marnik van Cauter

Wed 3/24/2021 8:29 PM

To: tilly.pj@hotmail.co.uk; James_pitman@hotmail.co.uk



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Greetings,

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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Revised notification Kilchoan kelp farm



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:24 PM

To: Johnmacfarlane1@hotmail.co.uk



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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Revised notification Kilchoan kelp farm

3



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:22 PM

To: fish@kames.co.uk; Lynne Coley <lynnecoley@Kames.co.uk>



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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Reply all Delete Junk Block ...

Public consultation Kilchoan Kelp farm.



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/26/2021 10:42 AM

To: macdonaldsimon@gmail.com



Dear Simon,

I got your contact details off Kyla from Kelp crofting.

My name is Marnik, and I am the rewilding officer here at Kilchoan Estate, Loch Melfort. I have been in the process of obtaining a license for a small-scale kelp farm here in Loch Melfort.

I have been in touch with the local fisherman here in Loch Melfort but in case I forgot somebody I was wondering if you could forward this notification to the involved association?

The public consultation event will be on 20th May 2021 at 10:30 AM. If anybody is interest in joining the event, they can send an email to me and in return I will provide a link to join the event.

More information regarding this development can be found on: <http://www.kilchoanestate.co.uk/seaweed-farm/>

If you have any questions, feel free to get into touch!

Kind regards,

Marnik

Reply Forward



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:11 PM

To: MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot



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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

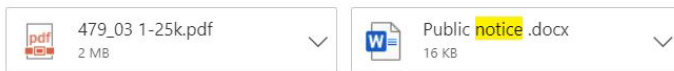
Marnik van Cauter



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:31 PM

To: infoline@mcga.gov.uk <Infoline@mcga.gov.uk>



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Greetings,

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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Revised notification Kilchoan kelp farm

3 3



MCA <mca@sqa.org.uk>

Fri 3/12/2021 3:25 PM

To: Marnik van Cauter



Good afternoon Marnik,

Thank you for your enquiry.

We would advise you to contact the Maritime and Coastguard Agency in Southampton who should be able to answer your query.

Their contact details are as follows:

Website: gov.uk/government/organisations/maritime-and-coastguard-agency

Tel : 0238 032 9100

Email: infoline@mcga.gov.uk

Kind regards,

James Chapman

MCA

Contract Operations, Business Development

t: 0345 213 5976 | e: mca@sqa.org.uk | w: <http://www.sqa.org.uk>

Scottish Qualifications Authority

The Optima Building, 58 Robertson Street, GLASGOW G2 8DQ

<https://www.sqa-mcaexams.org.uk>



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:18 PM

To: MCA <mca@sqa.org.uk>



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Greetings,

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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

Kilchoan Estate - pre-application consultation notice for the construction of an algae farm in Loch Melfort

You replied on Fri 3/12/2021 3:26 PM



Liam Wright <Liam.Wright@nature.scot>

Wed 2/3/2021 6:53 PM

To: Marnik van Cauter

Cc: Stephen Austin <Stephen.Austin@nature.scot>

Dear Marnik,

Thanks for contacting us regarding your proposal to develop a seaweed cultivation site in Loch Melfort.

I have had a look over the supporting information that you sent and I can confirm, that from our perspective, it is unlikely we would have any significant concerns about what you are proposing. However, I have set out some pre-application advice below which I hope will be helpful. If you can provide the information outlined below in support of your final application it will help to reduce any subsequent delays.

If there are any specific aspects that you would like to discuss further then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,
Liam

Loch Melfort Seaweed Cultivation Proposal – NatureScot Pre-app Advice

Protected areas

Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA: The proposal is located within the Loch Sunart to Sound of Jura Marine Protected Area. However, we do not consider that this proposal is capable of affecting, other than insignificantly, the common skate feature of the MPA. As such we will not require any further assessment in this respect.

Inner Hebrides and Minches SAC: See advice in entanglement section

Collection of reproductive material

There is currently limited information relating to the genetic diversity of seaweed populations on the west coast of Scotland. To ensure that the genetic integrity of any local seaweed populations is maintained we would recommend that any collection of reproductive material for the purposes of seeding the lines takes place as close to the farm as possible. **We would recommend that any collection should take place within the same waterbody, ideally as close to the cultivation site as possible but not beyond 25km (by sea) from the site.**

Reply all | Delete | Junk | Block | ...

Kilchoan Estate - pre-application consultation notice for the construction of an algae farm in Loch Melfort

We understand that the quantities of reproductive material required for the cultivation of kelp species (*Saccharina latissima*, *Alaria esculenta*, *Laminaria digitata*) are relatively low. We would not expect these quantities to result in any significant impacts on the viability of wild populations and we would not therefore require any form of formal stock assessment for the wild collection of these species. However, we would nonetheless recommend that any collection of reproductive material should follow best practice guidelines as set out below. Needless to say, if collection is taking place via boat access then a number of the recommendations below will not apply:

- Avoid disturbing wildlife such as nesting birds including seabirds, especially in the main bird nesting season and also seals, especially during the pupping season by keeping an appropriate distance away. Further guidance can be found Scottish Marine Wildlife Watching Code and the Guide to Best Practice for Watching Marine Wildlife: <https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/land-and-sea-management/managing-coasts-and-seas/scottish-marine-wildlife-watching-code>
- Vehicle access should be restricted to existing tracks and vehicles should not be used on the foreshore.
- Cut fronds (leaves) with sharp scissors or a knife, well above the point of growth and always leave the holdfast attached.
- Harvest sparsely. Take less than one third of an individual plant to allow for regrowth.
- Harvest during the active growth season and after reproduction has occurred if possible.
- Avoid denuding entire patches of any one species in one growth season.
- Rotate harvesting areas to allow ample time for recovery.
- Do not collect all the drift seaweed from a strandline. Harvest sparsely from various locations on the beach.
- Avoid or minimise trampling on other plants species and avoid taking 'bycatch' such as stalked jellyfish, brittlestars, bryozoans and blue-rayed limpets.
- If you move any rocks, replace them as you found them.
- Follow 'Check, Clean, Dry' biosecurity principles, checking, cleaning and drying all equipment and clothing when moving between sites to ensure that invasive species, pests and diseases are not spread to new areas. Further information about biosecurity principles is available here: <https://secure.fera.defra.gov.uk/nonnativespecies/checkcleandry/#>

We do not currently understand the cultivation methods for the following species mentioned in the supporting information: *Laminaria hyperborea* and *Sacchariza polyschides*. We believe these species are not currently cultivated commercially in Scotland, but trials may be underway to try and establish successful cultivation methods. We are aware that the quantities of reproductive material required to successfully culture of some of these species on a commercial scale may differ to that which is required for the commonly cultivated kelp species mentioned earlier. If you intend to cultivate *Laminaria hyperborea* and / or *Sacchariza polyschides* at a commercial scale then it is likely we would require further information. While we do not object to the cultivation of these species in principle, if they were to be cultivated at a commercial scale then it is likely we would require additional information relating to cultivation techniques including the quantities of reproductive material required. **To avoid the requirement for further information, and any subsequent delays to the determination of any future application, you may wish to remove these species from your final licence application.** Should you wish to maintain these species on your licence application, or subsequently include them on the licence in the future, then we would be happy to discuss information requirements further.

Biosecurity

We would recommend that a biosecurity plan should be developed as part of this proposal and submitted in support of your licence application. This plan should set out the measures that will be taken to ensure the operation of the farm does not result in the introduction or transportation of any invasive non-native species of pathogens to or from the site. The plan should include all operations from collection of wild material and hatchery stage through to the on-growing, harvesting and processing stages. Guidance on best practice biosecurity planning can be found online in NatureScot (formerly SNH) [commissioned report 748](#).

Reply all | Delete | Junk | Block | ...

Kilchoan Estate - pre-application consultation notice for the construction of an algae farm in Loch Melfort

processing stages. Guidance on best practice biosecurity planning can be found online in NatureScot (formerly SNH) [commissioned report 748](#).

Entanglement

The development of seaweed cultivation will create structures that may pose a threat to marine megafauna through entanglement.

Small cetacean such as harbour porpoise and dolphin species are generally considered to be at low risk of entanglement. **The proposal is located approximately 2km from the Inner Hebrides and Minches SAC, designated to protect its harbour porpoise feature. Given the low risk of entanglement posed to harbour porpoise and the relatively small scale nature of the proposal we would not expect there to be any likely significant effect on the harbour porpoise feature of the Inner Hebrides and Minches SAC.**

Minke whale appear to be particularly susceptible to entanglement in fishing gear, however there are no records of entanglement occurring in aquaculture equipment in Scotland or the UK. Seaweed cultivation is a relatively new industry in Scotland. While some parallels can be drawn between the equipment used for seaweed cultivation and that used in the well-established mussel farming industry, there remain a number of differences and so drawing direct conclusions on the risk posed to minke whale by seaweed cultivation is not possible. Given the lack of data in relation to this issue, and so that we can improve our understanding of this interaction, **we would request that should you be granted a licence in the future, that you would commit to reporting any entanglement incidences with marine mammals, including cetacean species. Should any entanglement incidents be recorded they should be reported to MS-LOT, NatureScot and the Scottish Marine Animal Strandings Scheme.**

Benthic impacts

We do not have any concerns about possible impacts on PMF habitats or species present in the footprint of the farm.

Liam Wright | Marine Sustainability Advisor – Aquaculture and Northwest Area

NatureScot | Temporarily home-working | 0131 316 2695

nature.scot | @nature_scot | Scotland's Nature Agency | Buidheann Nàdair na h-Alba



LICENSING

Thank you for your correspondence which has now been received by the NatureScot Licensing Team. In accordance with government guid...

Fri 3/12/2021 3:14 PM



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:14 PM

To: licensing@nature.scot <LICENSING@nature.scot>



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Greetings,

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If you have any questions, feel free to contact me: [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

Marnik van Cauter

-----Original Message-----

From: Kilchoan Estate <Factor@kilchoanestate.co.uk>

To: 'Hugo Struthers' <HStruthers@savills.com>; Charles Struthers - Ardmaddy Estate <charles@ardmaddy.com>; R Atkinson <woodside56@hotmail.com>; Rory Campbell-Gibson <rorycg@gmail.com>; Matthew Anderson <moffanderson@gmail.com>; rentals@melfortvillage.co.uk <rentals@melfortvillage.co.uk>; Melfort Pier & Harbour <melharbour@aol.com>

Sent: Thu, May 20, 2021 9:22 am

Subject: Eilean Coltair Kelp Farm

Dear Neighbours,

I attach a document re: our proposed Sea Farm.

Any questions please don't hesitate to get in touch!

Kind regards,

Melissa



Fingal McKiernan <Fingal.McKiernan@nlb.org.uk>

Tue 3/16/2021 9:26 AM

To: Marnik van Cauter



Hi Marnik,

Thank you for your email.

You mention that there has been a change to the site location - can you provide me with more information on this?

NLB need to be aware of such changes, as (although unlikely) it could affect the viability of the site and the recommended navigational marking conditions.

Please do send me a link for the public consultation event in due course.

Kind regards,

Fingal.

Official - Northern Lighthouse Board Email

Fingal McKiernan
Coastal Inspection

Navigation Team, 84 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3DA
0131 473 3155, [REDACTED] fingalm@nlb.org.uk
www.nlb.org.uk

Revised notification Kilchoan kelp farm

3  

FM

Fingal McKiernan <Fingal.McKiernan@nlb.org.uk>

Wed 3/17/2021 10:36 AM

To: Marnik van Cauter

Hi Marnik,

Thank you for sending over the revised chart and co-ordinates.

I **notice** it is only a small alteration, and we have no concerns regarding the amended location.

Looking forward to hearing from you once the PAC details are confirmed.

Kind regards,

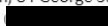
Fingal.

Official - Northern Lighthouse Board Email

Fingal McKiernan

Coastal Inspection

Navigation Team, 84 George Street, Edinburgh, EH2 3DA

0131 473 3155,  fingalm@nlb.org.uk

www.nlb.org.uk



Pre-Application Notice Seaweed Farm - Loch Melfort



FM

Fingal McKiernan <Fingal.McKiernan@nlb.org.uk>

Fri 1/8/2021 3:49 PM

To: Marnik van Cauter

Dear Marnik,

Our general enquires teams has forwarded me your email.

Thank you for your recent enquiry in regard to a pre-application consultation for Kilchoan Estate's proposed new seaweed farm in Loch Melfort.

NLB has no concerns with the development. I note in the supporting information that you intent to mark the trial site with 2 cardinal buoys, increasing to 4 once the full site in is position.

Please note, this is not necessary. Cardinal buoys are not an appropriate means of marking for aquaculture sites, and we would not approve their use in this instance.

The only navigational marking required (for the trial site) would most likely be a yellow Special Mark Buoy positioned at the Eastern mid-point or Southern seaward corner of the long-lines.

I will provide a formal response once I receive the Council Planning and Marine Licence applications.

I would like to attend the public consultation on the event, so please could you sent me through and invitation.

I hope this helps. If you need any further information, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Kind regards,

Fingal.

Official - Northern Lighthouse Board Email

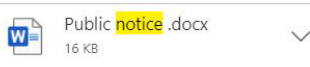
Fingal McKiernan



Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:20 PM

To: Fingal McKiernan <Fingal.McKiernan@nlb.org.uk>



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Marnik van Cauter

Revised notification Kilchoan kelp farm

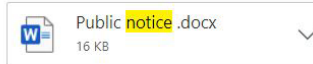
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Marnik van Cauter

Fri 3/12/2021 3:16 PM

To: registry@sepa.org.uk



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Marnik van Cauter

[Reply](#) | [Forward](#)