

THE CONSERVATION (NATURAL HABITAT, &c.) REGULATIONS 1994 (AS AMENDED)

LICENCE TO DISTURB MARINE SPECIES

Public Case Handling Report for Licence Number: EPS-00011493

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Site</b>                         | Deep Water Port, Glumaig Bay, Stornoway   |
| <b>Company</b>                      | Stornoway Port Authority<br><br>Amity House<br>Esplanade Quay<br>Stornoway<br>Isle Of Lewis HS1 2XS |
| <b>Brief Description of Project</b> | Construction and Capital dredging for deep water port improvements                                  |
| <b>Associated Licences</b>          |   |

|                         |  |
|-------------------------|--|
| <b>Species</b>          | harbour porpoise ( <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> ); bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> ); minke whale ( <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> ); Risso's dolphin ( <i>Grampus griseus</i> ); white sided dolphin ( <i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i> ); short beaked common dolphin ( <i>Delphinus delphis</i> ); killer whale ( <i>Orcinus orca</i> ); humpback whale ( <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> ) |
| <b>Inshore/Offshore</b> | Inshore  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>TEST 1</b>  | <b>Purpose of licence</b>   |
|  | Imperative reasons of overriding public interest (including those of a social or economic nature and beneficial consequences of primary importance for the environment) |
| <b>Comments</b>  |   |
| Meets test of overriding public interest in that the project which requires this licence is to develop the port area at Stornoway. This will lead to social and economic benefits to the area. |   |
| <b>Test 1 satisfied?</b>   | YES   |

|  |                                  |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <b>TEST 2</b>  | <b>Satisfactory alternatives</b> |
| <b>Comments</b>  |                                  |
| The port development requires the activities of piling and dredging. The applicant has stated the need for these activities and also considered alternative locations. As well as justifying the selection of this location the applicant has suggested mitigation to reduce impacts on cetaceans and basking sharks |                                  |
| <b>Test 2 satisfied?</b>   | YES                              |

|  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <b>TEST 3</b>  | <b>Favourable conservation status</b> |
| <b>Comments</b>  |                                       |
| NatureScot advised in consultation on 27 April 2022 that provided proposed mitigation is in place these activities will not have a detrimental effect on favourable conservation status of the species covered by this licence. NatureScot reiterated this advice on 07 January 2025 for this variation. NatureScot further re-iterated this advice on 19 November 2025 for this temporal variation. |                                       |
| <b>Test 3 satisfied?</b>   | YES                                   |

**Date application received:** 13/11/2025

**Consultation start date:** 25/11/2024

**Consultation end date:** 06/01/2025

**Notes**

| Date | title | Text |
|------|-------|------|
|------|-------|------|

National Marine Plan considerations:

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| The decision is: In accordance and no further action required  |
| Comments: Applicant has provided a lengthy discussion of the NMP plan and I am inclined to agree that the application is in line with the NMP and the MPS. There is a clear social and economic benefit that could be gained from the port and there is good policy backing behind it. |

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