# BUTE BOATBUILDERS LTD

# EST. 2018

## Method Statement

### Introduction

The operation of the slipway at Bute Boatbuilders Ltd is presently being hindered by the accumulation of natural siltation/gravel deposits from the intertidal and beyond MLWS from the shoreline at low water. This is primarily to provide adequate depth for launching of our new build aqua-culture vessels.

Bute Boatbuilders Ltd are looking to carry out the removal of approximately 100 – 500 cum annually to maintain depths of approximately 1.5M (chart datum).

It is proposed to deposit all dredged material/sediment into deep water. Samples of the dredge area were taken on 6th May 2025, these samples have been included in the Marine Licence Application for Dredging and Sea Disposal.

### Dredging Methodology

Due to the stiff nature of the material at this location a combination of backhoe and plough dredging would be used.

A spud barge mounted backhoe excavator with a 3D dig system would be utilised initially. The dig system backhoe would be loaded with design to ensure finish depths are not exceeded unnecessarily.
The backhoe would solely be used to loosen the material and no material would be removed or indeed break the surface.
When it's confirmed as much of the material has been loosened up as possible a plough vessel will be mobilised and the loose material in the dredge area will be ploughed into deeper water where it will be deposited.
The backhoe/plough vessel will continue this process until design level has been achieved.
The backhoe will periodically check the dredge level against the design at various points throughout this process and again to confirm levels at completion.

Proposed plant to be utilised:

16M Spud Barge "Pillar Bank"
26T long reach excavator
21M Plough vessel " Hunter Owl".

### Sample Types

Action Levels 1 – see BPEO Statement for full analysed list of material samples.

Number of Samples

There are three samples to be taken at three separate locations with the dredge area as per attached chart. As per guidance on Marine Scotland sampling guidance table.

Laboratory

Socotec Marine ISO: 17025 accredited - Samples taken and Results form received from Socotec in June 2025. Forms attached for your attention, showing the samples to be predominantly gravel, sand and silt, with a breakdown of minerals in the charts. See BPEO for full breakdown of samples.