



Northern
Lighthouse
Board

MARINE LICENCE APPLICATION
Northern Lighthouse Board
Oban Pier Timber Replacement – Phase 2



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Application Document contains the relevant information required to support NLB's marine licence application for timber replacement at Oban Pier. Marine Scotland has advised NLB to use the 'Marine Licence Application for Construction Projects' form, (see copy attached at Annexe 1).

The Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses are appointed as the General Lighthouse Authority for Scotland and it's adjacent seas and islands, in addition to the Isle of Man. We are vested with responsibility for the superintendence and management of all associated lighthouses, buoys and beacons. We have provided a vital safety service to mariners since 1786 and are responsible for the superintendence and management of all lights, buoys and beacons within Scottish and Isle of Man waters. Our service makes a significant contribution to the prevention of accidents and incidents around the coastline, safeguarding not only lives and property, but also protecting our precious marine environment.

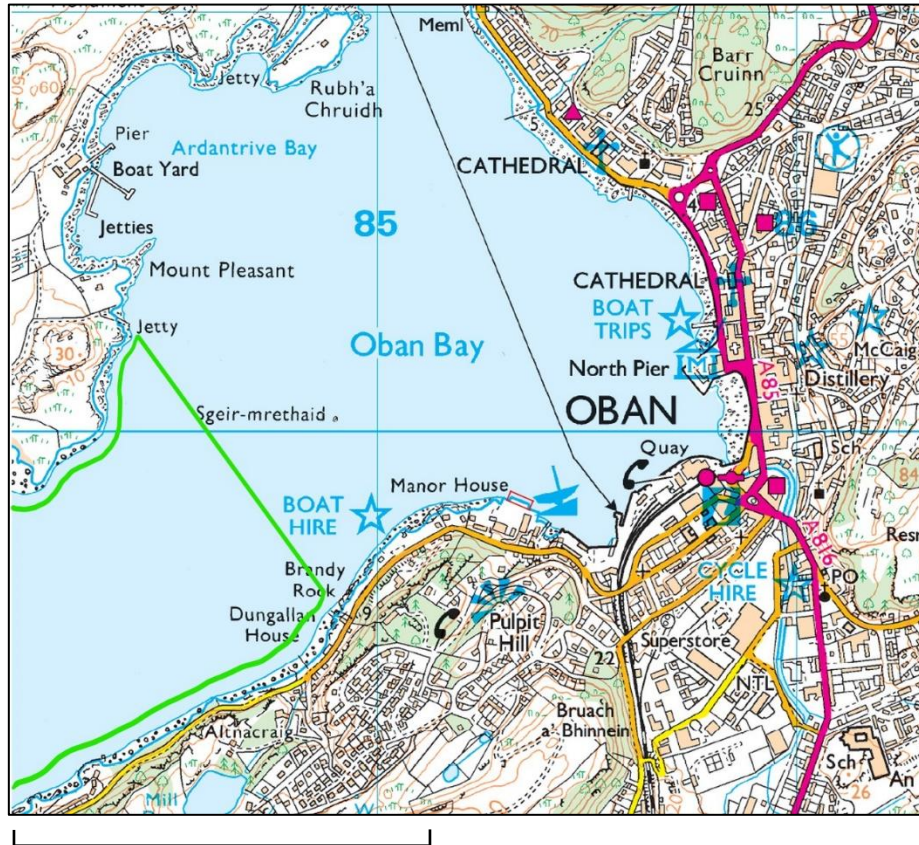
We currently operate and maintain 206 lighthouses and 170 buoys as well as providing radio aids to navigation (AtoN). We are also responsible for ensuring other AtoN providers in our area, such as port authorities, are conforming to international standards. We operate two ships NLV PHAROS and NLV POLE STAR. The ships carry out buoy work, deliver stores and supplies to lighthouses and inspect navigation aids on oil and gas rigs in the Scottish sector. They are both based at NLB Oban, and use the pier as a berth.

The central section of the pier consists of a T-shape extension to the original pier added in the 1950's. This provided a front edge of approximately 49m and allowed for berthing in deeper water. This was then extended in the early 2000's to provide NLB with a larger operational surface area, extending the central section by approximately 10m and creating new eastern and western sections to the pier. All seaward faces have timber fender piles, though only the central section is currently used for berthing.

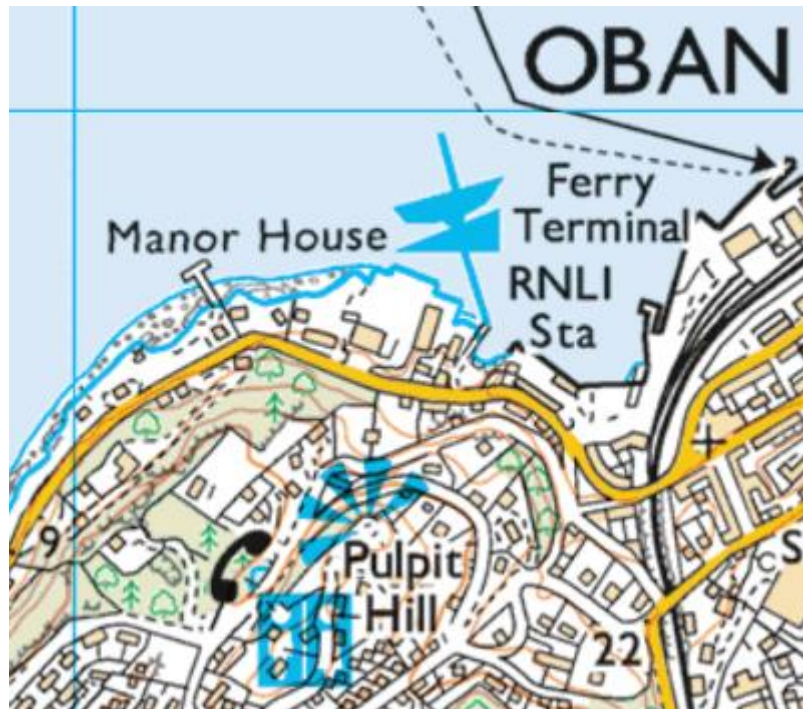
Based upon visual assessment of the timber elements, it was concluded that a number of repairs are required to bring the structure up to a satisfactory standard. The condition of the timbers is generally poorest at the lowest sections. Repairs were identified for the most critical elements, in terms of the importance of their function and the severity of the defects. These were successfully actioned in 2022, under Marine License MS-00009646. The report also highlighted less urgent repairs, which are the works that are to be covered by this Marine License application.

The pier is situated partly below Mean High Water Springs (MHWS) and therefore a marine licence is required for it's maintenance.

SITE PLAN



1000m



500m

Licence site shown in red
MLWS and MHWS shown in blue
Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA shown in green

Site co-ordinates 56°24.694N, -5°28.842W; 56°24.699N, -5°28.839W
56°24.713N, -5°28.896W; 56°24.708N, -5°28.899W

Maps reproduced in accordance with our OS Licence No.100059198

PROPOSED WORKS



Timbers to be replaced during works covered by this application shown above in **yellow** and listed below:

Item	Description	Quantity	Details
1	Replace full pile with like-for-like 360x360mm greenheart pile, replacing brackets, bolts, nuts and spacers as required.	3	Location: Piles 16, 26 & 32
2	Replace fender with heavy-duty rubber D-fender, replacing fixings as required.	3	Location: Piles 22, 23 & 26
3	Replace stair support waling with like-for-like 360x360mm greenheart waling beam, replacing brackets, nuts and bolts as required.	6	Location: Upper support waling at piles 7-8
4	Replace lower waling with like-for-like 360x360mm greenheart waling beam, replacing splice plates, brackets, nuts and bolts as required.	40	Location: At piles 4-8, 11-16 & 33-36
5	Replace cope beam with like-for-like greenheart members (300x150mm), replacing fixings as required.	24	Location: At piles 11-16 & 30-31
6	Replace cope beam with like-for-like greenheart members (210x210mm and 260x150mm), replacing fixings as required.	8	Location: At piles 18-20 & 23-24

METHOD STATEMENTS

The contract for the works has not been awarded yet, but the successful tenderer will produce written detailed method statements covering all elements of the project and will update these ensuring they meet the required standards for environmental safety and the requirements stipulated by the marine licence. All works will be carried out in compliance with the pollution control information on SEPA's website <https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/pollution-control/>

The works to replace the existing cope beam will be undertaken from the existing pier, with the section of cope beam being replaced concurrently with the corresponding marine element of works, ensuring that the pier side remains operational throughout.

The physical works within each phase vary dependant on the repairs required. However, the general sequence of the works within each phase will be as follows:

- Remove existing lower waling beam
- Remove existing intercostals either side of pile
- Remove/ extract existing pile
- Drive and fix into position new pile
- Install and fix into position new waler beam
- Install and fix into position new intercostals

It is expected that the timbers will be slung out of and into position by a landbased crane, and the associated metalwork and fixings will be removed and installed working from a pontoon platform with support from crane and man basket. This element of work will require the appropriate tide levels to provide access to the bolts.

Piles will be removed and new piles installed by crane, and driven by a small hydraulic vibro hammer to achieve a nominal embedment in the seabed material.

In addition to the crane and vibro hammer, supporting plant will comprise compressor and air operated hand tools (saw, grinder, auger, impact wrench), weld set & oxy acetylene burning gear and safety boat. All fuelled plant will have appropriate oil drip trays under and spill kits in attendance.

Removing existing timbers that are being replaced will require these timbers to have temporary supports in the form of chains and slings in order that bolts and fixings can be removed by grinder, impact wrench, spanners or burning gear, with fire safety equipment in attendance. On removal of fixings, timbers can then be slung by crane, temporary chains & slings removed, and timbers hoisted to the pier deck.

Installing new timbers will require piles to be in position, brackets presented to the appropriate piles, the piles marked at bracket bolt locations and the timber piles drilled. Brackets can then be bolted to piles and walings lifted in by crane and presented to brackets, walings marked for bolt locations and waling returned to pier deck for drilling. Walings will then be lifted back to the brackets and bolted in position. A similar process will be carried out for all other elements.

PHOTOGRAPHS



East section of pier



Central section of pier



West section of pier

MARINE POLICY STATEMENT AND THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL MARINE PLAN

The works proposed do not generally impact on any of the policies outlined in Scotland's National Marine Plan, other than in supporting Section 3: Key issues for marine planning, and Section 13 Part 1; Objectives and marine planning policies, in regard to Objective 1: "Safeguarded access to ports and harbours and navigational safety".

It should be noted also that the Northern Lighthouse Board's main remit is to ensure that Aids to Navigation (AToNs) are maintained with the aim to: "Deliver in the most sustainable way practicable, a reliable, efficient and cost-effective Aids to Navigation service for the benefit and safety of all Mariners".

The works proposed do not constitute any new development but relate to the operation and maintenance of existing infrastructure and are consistent with Scotland's National Marine Plan ('SNMP'). The licensable activity which would be permitted by the proposed licence is low impact maintenance activity and is sustainable use of the marine environment which is consistent with the policies and objectives of the SNMP (GEN 1 'general planning principle').

The proposed maintenance activities provide the social benefit of a functioning Aid to Navigation service, promoting health and wellbeing that benefits not only coastal communities but also those who travel to and use the marine and coastal environment (GEN 3 'social benefit').

'Landscape and seascape are important elements of people's enjoyment of the coastal and marine environment. They are also important as the setting for coastal communities, contributing to sense of place, economic livelihoods and quality of life.' (GEN 7 'landscape/seascape'). It is not envisaged that the proposed maintenance activities would develop, change or adversely impact the landscape character and visual amenity of each site, as no new development is proposed as part of this marine licence application.

We have reviewed the site included in this application and identified it falls within 2km of a Protected Area, The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Protected Area. This MPA seeks to conserve and protect the biodiversity and geodiversity of the area by prohibiting and regulating fishing and dredging activities. It is considered that this application will therefore not impact the legally protected seabed and species in the marine environment (GEN 9 'Natural Heritage').

The proposed maintenance activities should not result in a deterioration of the quality of water (GEN 12 'Water quality and resource'). The maintenance activities do not involve any new pathways that might introduce marine non-native species (MNNS) (GEN 10 'Invasive non-native species'). The proposed activities will not result in additional marine litter (GEN 11 'Marine litter') with all removed timbers being recycled by the contractor.

As the proposed activities involve replacement of existing piles within their original locations, it is not believed that the works will introduce significant man-made noise and vibration in the marine environment (GEN 13 'Noise'). Noise monitoring can be carried out throughout the works if the conditions of the licence deem it necessary. The maintenance activities proposed for the site in this licence application would not have a significant cumulative impact that would outweigh the benefit of the activities (GEN 21 'Cumulative impacts').

These are low impact activities that are essential to us being able to continue to maintain our Aids to Navigation for the benefit and safety of all Mariners.

Annexe 1: Marine Licence Application for Construction Projects

Marine Licence Application for Construction Projects

Version 1.0

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any other consents or authorisations that may be required.

Under Section 54 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, all information contained within and provided in support of this application will be placed on a Public Register. There are no national security grounds for application information not going on the Register under the 2010 Act.

Public Register

Do you consider that any of the information contained within or provided in support of this application should not be disclosed:

- (a) for reasons of national security; YES ☐ NO ☐
- (b) for reasons of confidentiality of commercial or industrial information where such confidentiality is provided by law to protect a legitimate commercial interest? YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, to either (a) or (b), please provide full justification as to why all or part of the information you have provided should be withheld.

WARNING

It is an offence under the Act under which this application is made to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information.

Target duration for determination is 14 weeks. Please note that missing or erroneous information in your application and complications resulting from consultation may result in the application being refused or delayed.

Marine licence applications will not be accepted unless accompanied by a cheque for the correct application fee, or if an invoice is requested, until that invoice is settled. Target timelines for determining applications do not begin until the application fee is paid.

Declaration

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this form and related papers is true.

Signature

<Redacted>

Date

Name in BLOCK LETTERS

Application Check List

Please check that you provide all relevant information in support of your application, including but not limited to the following:

- Completed and signed application form ☐
- Project Drawings ☐
- Maps/Charts ☐
- Co-ordinates of the boundary points of the area of harbour jurisdiction (if you are a statutory harbour authority) ☐
- Method Statement ☐
- Photographs of the location of the project ☐
- Additional information e.g. consultation correspondence (if applicable) ☐
- Noise Registry – Initial Registration Form (if applicable) ☐
- Pre-application Report (if applicable) ☐
- Environmental Statement (if applicable) ☐
- Payment (if paying by cheque) ☐

1. Applicant Details

Title: Initials: Surname:

Trading Title (if appropriate):

Address:

Name of contact (if different):

Telephone No. (inc. dialing code):

Email: <Redacted>

Statutory Harbour Authority? YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, please provide a list of the latitude and longitude co-ordinates (WGS84) of the boundary points of the area of harbour jurisdiction using Appendix 01 Additional Co-ordinates form if necessary.

2. Agent Details (if any)

Title: Initials: Surname:

Trading Title (if appropriate):

Address:

Name of contact (if different):

Telephone No. (inc. dialing code):

Email:

3. Payment

Enclosed Cheque ☐ Invoice ☐

Contact and address to send invoice to:

Applicant ☐ Agent ☐ Other ☐

If **OTHER**, please provide contact details:

Title: Initials: Surname:

Address:

Email:

4. Application Type

Is this application for a new construction site or an existing construction site:

New Site ☐ Existing Site ☐

If an **EXISTING SITE**, please provide the consent/licence number and expiry date:

Consent/Licence Number	Expiry Date

5. Project Details

(a) Brief description of the project (e.g. construction of a new sea outfall):

(b) Total area of the proposed works (in square metres):

m²

(c) Proposed start date (**Target duration for determination of a marine licence application is 14 weeks**):

(d) Proposed completion date:

(e) Cost of the works seawards of the tidal limit of MHWS:

£

(f) Location:

Latitude and Longitude co-ordinates (WGS84) defining the extent of the project (continue on Appendix 01 Additional Co-ordinates form if necessary):

Latitude										Longitude									
		°			.				' N				°			.			' W
		°			.				' N				°			.			' W
		°			.				' N				°			.			' W
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(g) Is the project located within the jurisdiction of a statutory harbour authority? YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, please specify statutory harbour authority:

(h) Method statement including schedule of work (continue on separate sheet if necessary):

(i) Potential impacts the works may have (including details of areas of concern e.g designated conservation and shellfish harvesting areas) and proposed mitigation in response to potential impacts (continue on separate sheet if necessary):

6. Deposits and/or Removals

(a) **Permanent** substance(s) or object(s) to be deposited and/or removed from below MHWS (continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

Type of Deposit/Removal	Deposits		Removals	
	Description	Quantity & Dimensions (metric)	Description	Quantity & Dimensions (metric)
Steel/Iron		No.		No.
		Dimensions		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Timber		No.		No.
		Dimensions		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Concrete		No.		No.
		Dimensions		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Plastic/Synthetic		m ²		m ²
Clay (< 0.004 mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Silt ($0.004 \leq \text{Silt} < 0.063$ mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Sand ($0.063 \leq \text{Sand} < 2.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Gravel ($2.00 \leq \text{Gravel} < 64.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Cobbles ($64.0 \leq \text{Cobbles} < 256.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Boulders (≥ 256.0 mm)		Volume (m ³)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)		Weight (kg/tonnes)

Pipe		Length (m)		Length (m)
		External Diameter (cm/m)		External Diameter (cm/m)
Other (please describe below):				

(b) Method of delivery of substance(s) or object(s):

(c) For work involving salt marsh feeding, beach replenishment or land reclamation please provide the following information relating to the substance(s) or object(s) to be deposited:

Quantity (tonnes):

tonnes

Nature of substance(s) or object(s) (e.g. sand, silt, gravel etc.):

Source (if sea dredged state location of origin)

Particle size:

**Have the substance(s) or object(s) been chemically analysed?
If YES, please include the analysis data with your application**

YES ☐ NO ☐

(d) **Temporary** substance(s) or object(s) to be deposited below MHWS (continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

Type of Deposit	Description	Quantity & Dimensions (metric)
Steel/Iron		No.
		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Timber		No.
		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)

Concrete		No.
		Dimensions
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Plastic/Synthetic		m ²
Clay (< 0.004 mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Silt ($0.004 \leq \text{Silt} < 0.063$ mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Sand ($0.063 \leq \text{Sand} < 2.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Gravel ($2.00 \leq \text{Gravel} < 64.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Cobbles ($64.0 \leq \text{Cobbles} < 256.0$ mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Boulders (≥ 256.0 mm)		Volume (m ³)
		Weight (kg/tonnes)
Pipe		Length (m)
		External Diameter (cm/m)
Other (please describe below):		

7. Disposal of Dredged Substance(s) or Object(s) at Sea

(a) Do you intend to apply for a marine licence for sea disposal of dredged substance(s) or object(s) as part of the project?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, please specify nature of substance(s) or object(s) (e.g sand, gravel, silt, clay, rock etc.):

(b) Quantity of substance(s) or object(s) (wet tonnes):

wet tonnes

A separate marine licence application will be required to be submitted for sea disposal.

8. Noise Monitoring

Will loud, low to mid frequency (10Hz to 10kHz) impulsive noise be produced by the project?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, which please indicate the noise generating activities and sound frequencies:

Noise Generating Activity	Sound Frequency (Hertz)
Use of Explosives	
Use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices	
Piling	
Other (please describe below):	

If you have ticked **YES**, please complete the Noise Registry – Initial Registration form located at:
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive/Themes/noise-reduction>

Marine licence applications will not be accepted until this form has been completed and submitted.

9. Statutory Consenting Powers

Do you, or (if appropriate) your client, have statutory powers to consent any aspect of this project?

10. Scotland's National Marine Plan

Have you considered the application with reference to Scotland's National Marine Plan?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, provide details of considerations made with reference to the policies, including but not limited to General Policies 7 and 13 (GEN 7 and GEN 13), that have been considered:

If **NO**, please provide an explanation of why you haven't considered the National Marine Plan?

11. Pre-Application Consultation

Is the application subject to pre-application consultation, under The Marine Licensing (Pre-application Consultation) (Scotland) Regulations 2013?

YES ☐ NO ☐

If **YES**, please indicate the date of the public notice for the pre-application consultation event and the type of consultation event held (a copy of the public notice must be supplied with this application):

Event Type	Date

12. Consultation

List all bodies you have consulted and provide copies of correspondence:

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13. Environmental Assessment

(a) Does the project fall under Annex I or II of the EIA Directive?

Annex I ☐Annex II ☐Neither ☐

If **ANNEX I** or **ANNEX II**, please provide the screening opinion issued to you in relation to the project.

(b) Has an EIA been undertaken:

for the marine licence application to which this application relates
for any other EIA regulator (e.g local authority)

YES ☐ NO ☐

YES ☐ NO ☐

14. Associated Works

Provide details of other related marine projects, including reference/licence numbers (if applicable):

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