

Pre-application Consultation – Summary

West Coast Seaweed Ltd Camas na h-Airigh Seaweed Farm

Description

West Coast Seaweed LTD is formed by Emily Watson and Nick Moore to farm cultivated seaweed on a long line grid structure at Camas na h-Airigh, Gairloch.

Seaweed cultivation is a growing industry, with investment, innovation and interest in its future as a part of Scotland's National Marine Plan. The Camas na h-Airigh seaweed farm will contribute towards a cleaner marine environment, requiring no fertilizer, water or chemicals to grow. The site will enable a healthier ecosystem, provide additional habitat for marine species, whilst growing a sustainable crop of kelp that can be used in packaging innovation, agriculture feed, cosmetics, fertilizer as well as for human consumption.

West Coast Seaweed will cultivate on a six monthly cycle, beginning with deployment in March/April 2022. The farm site will be checked for damage and necessary repairs by a small boat from Badachro. The kelp will be harvested two times a year, this will be done with locally hired vessels which are suitably equipped for this kind of work. Landing the harvested crop at the pier at Charlestown, Gairloch and transported onwards by van during the 2-4 week harvest periods for further processing.

Following on from our initial trial period (April-August 2022), the number of cultivation lines will be scaled up within the grid from 4 to 25-30 lines. The installation of these is planned for October/November 2022.

West Coast Seaweed has consulted a number of industry experts to select a site with minimal effect on boat traffic and registered a Lease Option Agreement with Crown Estate Scotland. The site is also in the area of a previous mussel farm although there are no present moorings. The site location was chosen in an area outside of the usual creel fishing grounds and we will continue to seek advice regarding integration into the existing marine industry.

In the case that the lease is terminated, or the farm is unsuccessful West Coast Seaweed will be responsible for the decommissioning of the farm and removal of the infrastructure.

Species of cultivation

West Coast Seaweed will work with SAMS to use species native to the area. The primary species will be:

- Saccharina Latissima
- Alaria Esculenta



Farm Structure:

- 4 x 200m longlines suspended below water surface
- 6 x Seabed block anchors
- 6 x Mooring/marker buoys above anchors for navigation and site marking

The site location, including coordinates can be found on the below map.

A marine license will be submitted for the construction of this seaweed farm.

The pre-application consultation event will be held on the 1st February 2022 at 6pm and recorded on Zoom.

Topic: West Coast Seaweed Ltd - PAC Event

Date 1st February 2022

Time: 6pm

https://us05web.zoom.us/j/6646599992?pwd=bDkyZk5JS1pISFhEeUxITVNLL3pTdz09

Meeting ID: 664 659 9992 Passcode: **WCS2022**

Contact: Nick Moore or Emily Watson **Email:** westcoastseaweed@outlook.com

The red dotted line indicates the area plan & the yellow dots showing the visual impact of the buoys





