Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Buidheann Dìon Àrainneachd na h-Alba

For the future of our environment

P-WAT-B1

The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)

Water Permit Activity:

The operation of a marine pen fish farm

Version 1.0
August 2025

Contents

If you would like this document in an accessible format, such as large print, audio recording or braille, please contact SEPA by emailing equalities@sepa.org.uk.

How to use this activity form

Use this form to apply for:

- A **new permit** to carry out the water activity: 'The operation of a marine pen fish farm'.
- A **variation of an existing permit** that authorises the water activity: 'The operation of a marine pen fish farm'.

Before you apply

- Read the guidance for the water activity you are applying for on the relevant activity specific page on our website.
- Engage with the local community and relevant stakeholders to find out the views of those likely to be affected and to gather relevant information about the potential impacts of the proposed activity.
- Where you see the term 'document reference', enter the document reference(s) for the information you have provided. These must be submitted along with the completed form.
- For applications made with insufficient or inadequate information; we will return these to the applicant with an explanation of what additional information is required and may retain part of the application fee in accordance with our published charging scheme.

Multiple activities under a single permit

We may authorise multiple activities under a single permit, but only if the activities are connected. Activities may be considered connected if they are:

- located at the same geographical location,
- part of the same project, or
- operationally linked.

If the activities are connected, you may submit a single application for multiple activities under one permit.

If the activities are not connected, you must submit a separate application for each activity.

How to apply

Digital application service:

The quickest and easiest way to apply is via our digital application service on our website.

You will need to upload:

1. Completed activity form(s)
2. Any required supporting information

Email/Post application:

If you cannot apply using our digital application service, you can complete and submit an application via email or by post.

- For **a new permit**, your application must include:
    1. A completed APP-GEN1 form
    2. Completed activity form(s)
    3. Any required supporting information

- For **a variation of a permit**, your application must include:
    1. A completed APP-GEN1 form
    2. Completed variation form(s)
    3. Completed activity form(s) if required
    4. Any required supporting information

Email and postal addresses for submitting your application are included in the APP-GEN1 form.

You can download APP-GEN1, activity forms and variation forms from our website.

Section 1 - Location of the activity

1.1 Location description

Provide the following information about the location of the activity and include address and postcode if available.

Table 1: Location description

Question	Answer
Farm name	Tabhaigh East
Name of coastal water (as shown on Ordnance Survey 1:25,000)	Loch Erisort
Postal address of the shore base for the farm	Tabhaigh Fish Farm Keose Isle of Lewis HS2 9JT
Postcode	HS2 9JT

1.2 Farm and pen locations

Provide the national grid reference (NGR) for the centre of the farm and for the centre of each pen. You can use our SEPA NGR Tool to find the NGR.

The NGR should be in one of these formats:

- 2 letters followed by 10 digits (e.g. AB 12345 67890)
- 2 letters followed by 8 digits (e.g. AB 1234 6789)

1.2.1 Farm centre

Provide the NGR for the centre point of the fish pen group(s).

Farm centre NGR
NB 42338 23251

1.2.2 Pen centre locations

Provide the NGR for the centre point of each pen. You can add more rows to the table if needed.

Table 2*:* Pen centre NGRs

Question	Answer
Pen 1 centre NGR	NB 42215 23352
Pen 2 centre NGR	NB 42177 23259
Pen 3 centre NGR	NB 42307 23316
Pen 4 centre NGR	NB 42272 23223
Pen 5 centre NGR	NB 42401 23279
Pen 6 centre NGR	NB 42364 23187

Question	Answer
Pen 7 centre NGR	NB 42494 23244
Pen 8 centre NGR	NB 42458 23151

1.3 Location plan

Provide a location plan showing the area where the activity will take place.

The location plan must:

1. Clearly outline and identify the boundary of the areas where the activity will occur. These areas should be referenced and once authorised, they will be known as the authorised place.
2. Be based on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map with a 1:10,000 or 1:25,000 scale or the equivalent Admiralty Chart.
3. Be clear and easy to read on an A4 page, avoiding unnecessary details.
4. Include the date it was created, a scale bar and a north direction indicator.

Document reference
Document 1 – Site and Location Plan

Section 2 - About your proposed activity

2.1 Non-technical summary

Provide a non-technical summary of your application, including:

- A brief overview of the proposed activity.
- The measures you will implement to control and prevent impact on the environment from the activity.

This summary may be published on our website as part of the public consultation process. Ensure it is written in simple and plain language so that all members of the public can clearly understand the details of your application.

Document reference
Document 2 – Non-Technical Summary

2.2 Start date

Provide the proposed start date of the activity.

Start date
01.10.2026

2.3 Pre-application public engagement

Pre-application public consultation is required for this activity.

Before submitting your application, you must engage with the community to find out the views of those likely to be affected by the proposed activity and to gather relevant information about the potential impacts of the proposed activity.

Provide evidence of the engagement carried out and share the feedback received.

Document reference(s)
Document 3 – Pre Application Stakeholder Engagement Report

Document reference(s)
Document 4 – Pre Application Briefing Note

2.4 Pre-application with SEPA

Has your proposal been through the pre-application process?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If you answered 'Yes', provide the document reference(s) for the pre-application proposal form and any other relevant information.

The pre-application proposal form is available on the relevant activity specific page on our website.

Document reference(s)
Document 5 – Pre Application Proposal Form

2.5 Planning permission

If you have applied for planning permission for the proposed development, provide the name of the local planning authority and the application reference.

Table 3: Planning permission details

Question	Answer
Local planning authority	CnES
Planning application reference	Application to be submitted by EO 2025

Section 3 - Details of the farm layout

3.1 Farm configuration

Provide details of the farm configuration.

Farm configuration
8x 160m circumference circular pens, in 2x4 configuration, in 100m2 grid. Feed barge to be shared with extant Tabhaigh farm

3.2 Pen group details

Complete the table(s) below for each pen group.

You can include details for up to two pen groups in this section. If there are more than two pen groups, provide the additional information in Annex 2.

Table 4(a): Pen group 1 details

Question	Answer
Number of pens in the group	8
Circumference of pens in the group (in metres)	160m
Length of pen sides (if using non-circular pens) (in metres)	
Depth of pens (distance from the upper surface of the pens to the lowest part of the pens in group) (in metres)	35m (15m cone, 20m sidewall)
Number of pens in row 1	4
Number of pens in row 2	4
Number of pens in row 3	

Table 4(b): Pen group 2 details

Question	Answer
Number of pens in the group	
Circumference of pens in the group (in metres)	
Length of pen sides (if using non-circular pens) (in metres)	
Depth of pens (distance from the upper surface of the pens to the lowest part of the pens in group) (in metres)	
Number of pens in row 1	
Number of pens in row 2	
Number of pens in row 3	

3.3 Diagram of proposed farm layout

Provide a diagram showing the proposed farm layout. On the diagram, please mark each pen group number and pen row number as referenced in Section 3.2.

Document reference
Document 1 - Site and Location Plan

3.4 Locations of the pen corner buoys

Complete the table(s) below for each pen group. For every corner buoy, please provide:

- The 8-figure or 10-figure National Grid Reference (NGR).
- The direction of each corner buoy from the centre of the pen group (e.g. north, southeast, west, northwest).

You can include details for up to two pen groups in this section. If there are more than two pen groups, provide the additional information in Annex 3.

Table 5(a): Corner buoy locations – Pen group 1

Corner buoy	**NGR** (e.g. AB 1234 6789)	**Direction from pen group centre** (e.g. N, SE, W, NW)
Corner buoy 1	NB 42188 23417	NW
Corner buoy 2	NB 42115 23230	SW
Corner buoy 3	NB 42559 23271	NE
Corner buoy 4	NB 42487 23085	SE

Table 5(b): Corner buoy locations – Pen group 2

Corner buoy	**NGR** (e.g. AB 1234 6789)	**Direction from pen group centre** (e.g. N, SE, W, NW)
Corner buoy 1		
Corner buoy 2		
Corner buoy 3		
Corner buoy 4		

Section 4 - Information for assessing discharges of organic solids and nitrogen compounds

4.1 Fish species

Provide the species of fish that will be farmed, including both the common name and scientific name, e.g. Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*).

Fish species
Atlantic Salmon (Salmo Salar)

4.2 Maximum weight of fish

Provide the planned maximum weight of fish (biomass) to be held on the farm at any time, in tonnes.

Any reference to “weight of fish” means the weight of fish in the pens including stomach contents and body fluids. This should not be after any periods of starvation.

Please note: this figure should not include cleaner fish.

Maximum weight of fish (tonnes)
2075t

4.3 Fish food

4.3.1 Maximum feeding rate

Provide the maximum feeding rate if different from 7 kg per tonne of fish per day.

For modelling purposes, SEPA assumes a feed rate of 7 kg/t/d. This is the figure which will be used unless a different figure is specified.

Maximum feeding rate (kg/t/d)
7kg/t/d

4.3.2 Quantity of fish food

Provide the total quantity of fish food you plan to use in a year, in tonnes.

Total quantity of food (tonnes)
4684t

4.3.3 Nitrogen and phosphorus and content

Provide the nitrogen and phosphorus content of the fish food, expressed as percent composition by weight.

Table 6: Nitrogen and phosphorus content details

Question	Answer
Nitrogen percent composition (% by weight)	6 – 7 %
Phosphorus percent composition (% by weight)	1.5 – 2 %

4.4 Fish faeces

Will all fish faeces produced be discharged from the pens into the sea?

Yes ☒

No ☐

- If you answered 'Yes', proceed to Section 4.5.
- If you answered 'No', complete Sections 4.4.1 and 4.4.2 then continue to Section 4.5.

4.4.1 Proportion of faeces discharged

Provide the proportion (%) of fish faeces expected to be discharged from the pens into the sea.

Proportion of faeces discharged (%)

4.4.2 Proportion of faeces not discharged

Explain what will happen to the proportion of faeces which is not discharged.

Note: You may need further authorisation from SEPA for the management of this waste.

Document reference

4.5 Calibration and validation data

Provide required model calibration and validation data (e.g. current meter data).

Document reference
Document 6 – Hydrographic Reports

4.6 Deposition modelling of organic solids

Provide information on deposition modelling of organic solids.

Document reference
Document 7 – Solids Deposition Modelling Report

4.7 Nitrogen compound modelling

Provide information on nitrogen compound modelling, if required.

Document reference
Document 8 – ECE Calculations Report

4.8 Protected species and habitats

Provide reference to information identifying any relevant protected species and habitats within the modelled deposition footprint of the farm.

Document reference
None identified by SEPA

4.9 Other uses of coastal waters

Provide information on any other uses of the coastal waters within the modelled deposition footprint of the farm (e.g. shellfish farming or fishing).

Document reference
Document 9 – Other Marine Users

Section 5 - Information relevant to assessing sea lice interactions with wild salmon

Complete this section only if you are farming Atlantic salmon or rainbow trout.

Note: All week numbers referred to in this section are as defined in ISO 8601.

5.1 Maximum number of fish

Provide the maximum number of fish held on the farm at any one time.

Maximum number of fish
726250 – 871500* *dependent on production strategy implemented

5.2 Number of adult female sea lice

Provide the upper limit you will keep the rolling average number of adult female sea lice below for all periods of 4 weeks between week 12 and week 22.

For this purpose, the “number of adult female sea lice” in any week is calculated by multiplying the number of salmon or trout on the farm, as applicable, and the average number of adult female sea lice per fish.

Number of adult female sea lice
363,125 – 435,750* *dependent on production strategy implemented

5.3 Fallow periods

Will you time fallow periods to help manage potential interactions between sea lice from the farm and wild Atlantic salmon?

Yes ☒

No ☐

- If you answered 'Yes', provide any supporting documentation on measures to be taken on the timing of fallow period to avoid interactions between sea lice from the farm and wild Atlantic salmon.

Document reference
Document 10 - Environmental Management Plan for Loch Erisort, Isle of Lewis A regular programme of meetings are presently held with local wild salmon stakeholders under the provisions of the Mowi Scotland Loch Erisort Environmental Management Plan. This includes discussions on farming operations and mitigations, including timing of stocking and fallow periods, aimed at minimising potential for adverse interactions during the wild salmon smolt migration period. A minimum of 28 days consecutive fallow will be provided between production cycles.

5.4 Enclosure of pens

Will the pens be wholly or partially enclosed between weeks 12 and 22 in order to minimise sea lice exchanges between the farm and the surrounding coastal waters?

Yes ☐

No ☒

- If you answered 'Yes', please provide details.

Document reference

5.5 Sea lice modelling

Provide information on sea lice modelling, if applicable.

Document reference
Document 11 - Aquaculture Modelling Screening and Risk Identification Report: Tabhaigh East (TABE1) Sea lice screening modelling carried out by SEPA during pre application engagements confirmed a very small effect on exposure risk to wild salmon. No requirement for further detailed sea lice modelling was triggered.

5.6 Calibration and validation of sea lice modelling

Provide information on surveys to collect data for calibrating and validating sea lice dispersion modelling, if applicable.

Document reference

Section 6 - Information relevant to assessing discharges of anti-sea lice medicines

You must include information on discharges from the fish pens and from vessels operating at the farm.

6.1 Anti-sea lice medicines to be used

Which of the following anti-sea lice medicines will be used?

- **Azamethiphos** ☒
- **Deltamethrin** ☒
- **Emamectin benzoate** ☒

6.2 Quantities of anti-sea lice medicines to be used

Provide the following information about the quantities of anti-sea lice medicines you are proposing to use.

Table 7: Anti-sea lice medicine quantities

Question	Answer
Maximum quantity of azamethiphos that will be used in any 24-hour period, if applicable (in grams)	1222
Maximum quantity of azamethiphos that will be used in any 3-hour period, if applicable (in grams)	1222
Maximum quantity of deltamethrin that will be used in any 6-hour period, if applicable (in grams)	22
Maximum environmental quantity* of emamectin benzoate that will not be exceeded, if applicable (in grams)	44

* The maximum environmental quantity is the maximum residual quantity of emamectin benzoate in the environment at any one time which, if not exceeded, will meet the environmental quantity standard at the edge of the mixing zone. It must be derived using suitable modelling.

6.3 Anti-sea lice medicines used and discharged into the sea at the farm

Will all anti-sea lice medicines used be discharged into the sea at the farm?

Yes ☒

No ☐

- If you answered 'Yes', proceed to Section 6.4
- If you answered 'No', complete Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 then continue to Section 6.4.

6.3.1 Proportion of each anti-sea lice medicine to be discharged

Provide the proportion (%) of anti-sea lice medicines that will be discharged.

Table 8: Proportion of anti-sea lice medicine to be discharged

Question	Answer
Proportion of azamethiphos used that will be discharged (%)	
Proportion of deltamethrin used that will be discharged (%)	
Proportion of emamectin benzoate used that will be discharged (%)	72

6.3.2 Proportion of anti-sea lice medicines that will not be discharged

Explain what will happen to the proportion of anti-sea lice medicines which is not discharged.

Note: You may need further authorisation from SEPA for the management of this waste.

Document reference
Remainder of emamectin benzoate absorbed by fish.

6.4 Pen volume reduction for azamethiphos or deltamethrin use

If you plan to discharge azamethiphos or deltamethrin from fish pens, provide the minimum proportion (%) of the full pen volume to which the treatment enclosure will be reduced.

Note: This proportion should normally be between 50% and 70%.

Table 9: Minimum pen volume reduction for azamethiphos and/or deltamethrin use

Medicine	Minimum proportion of full pen volume (%)
Azamethiphos	25%
Deltamethrin	25%

6.5 Model calibration and validation data

Provide information on the required model calibration and validation data (e.g. current meter data).

Document reference
Document 6 – Hydrographic Reports Document 13 – Model Description Document 14 – Modelling Method Statement

6.6 Azamethiphos discharge modelling

Provide information on azamethiphos discharge modelling, if applicable.

Document reference
Document 12 - Bath Modelling Report

6.7 Deltamethrin discharge modelling

Provide information on deltamethrin discharge modelling, if applicable.

Document reference
As per 6.6 above

6.8 Emamectin benzoate discharge modelling

Provide information on emamectin benzoate discharge modelling, if applicable.

Document reference
Included in solids modelling report

6.9 Protected species and habitats

Provide information identifying any relevant protected species and habitats (including any priority marine features) within the modelled deposition footprint of the farm.

Document reference
No PMFs identified by SEPA in screening report

6.10 Other users of coastal waters

Provide information on any other uses of the coastal waters around the farm (e.g. shellfish farming or fishing).

Document reference
Document 9 - Other Marine Users

Section 7 - Information relevant to assessing discharges of other medicines and chemicals

7.1 Medicines or chemicals to be discharged from the farm or from a vessel

Note: You must answer 'Yes' if you intend to use or discharge any medicine or chemical listed in Annex 1 in a manner that is not in accordance with the associated limit for that medicine or chemical specified in Annex 1.

Will any medicines or chemicals, other than those referred to in Section 6 and Annex 1, be discharged from the farm or from a vessel?

Yes ☐

No ☒

- If you answered 'Yes', complete Sections 7.1.1 to 7.1.5

If you have not done so already, you are strongly advised to contact SEPA as soon as possible so we can advise you on the detail of the scientific information you will need to provide.

7.1.1 Details of discharge of other medicines or chemicals

If other medicines or chemicals will be discharged, provide details in the table below.

Additional medicines or chemicals can be provided in Annex 4.

Table 10: Product to be discharged

Question	Answer
Product trade name	
Intended purpose of the product	
Number of expected uses of the product per year	
Total quantity of product that will be discharged per use	
Chemicals present in product and their proportions (%)	

7.1.2 Fate and behaviour in coastal waters

Provide information on the fate and behaviour in coastal waters of the medicines or chemicals listed in Section 7.1.1 and Annex 4 (partitioning – water vs sediment; persistence; bioaccumulation risk).

Document reference

7.1.3 Ecotoxicity information

Provide ecotoxicity information about the medicines or chemicals listed in Section 7.1.1 and Annex 4, including a calculated predicted no effects concentration, if applicable.

Document reference

7.1.4 Dispersion and/or deposition modelling

Provide information about any dispersion and/or deposition modelling about the medicines or chemicals listed in Section 7.1.1 and Annex 4, if applicable.

Document reference

7.1.5 Model calibration and validation data

Provide the required model calibration and validation data about the medicines or chemicals listed in Section 7.1.1 and Annex 4 (e.g. current meter data), if applicable.

Document reference

Annex 1: Permitted substances list

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Anaesthetics

  Associated limit: Prior to discharge, anaesthetics must be diluted to an appropriate working strength. Where the quantity of dilute anaesthetics is greater than 150 litres, it must be discharged over a minimum period of 15 minutes.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Antifoulants

  Associated limit: Antifoulants must only be used for the purposes of protecting fish farm infrastructure and equipment from excessive growth of marine flora and fauna. Discharge of antifoulants to the water environment must only be because of leaching or erosion from previously treated surfaces. Removal of antifoulants must not be carried out at the authorised place. Application of antifoulants must not be carried out at the authorised place.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Anti-microbials

  Associated limit: Anti-microbials must only be discharged to the water environment following treatment of fish with an in-feed formulation of the medicine.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Anti-parasitics

  Associated limit: Must only contain hydrogen peroxide as the active ingredient. Must only be discharged following treatment of fish within an enclosure fully separated from the water environment or following treatment of fish within a vessel. When carrying out treatments in a pen, the enclosure in which fish are treated must be reduced by a minimum of 70 % of the full pen volume.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Detergents

  Associated limit: Discharge of detergents to the water environment must only be as a result of wash off from treated surfaces.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Disinfectants

  Associated limit: Discharge of disinfectants to the water environment must only be as a result of wash off from treated surfaces.

- **Medicine/chemical category**: Lubricants of fish contact surfaces

  Associated limit: Must only contain tetrasodium EDTA as the active ingredient. Prior to discharge, products containing tetrasodium EDTA must be diluted to 0.2 mg/l.

Annex 2: Additional pen groups

Table A2(a): Pen group 3 details

Question	Answer
Number of pens in the group	
Circumference of pens in the group (in metres)	
Length of pen sides (if using non-circular pens) (in metres)	
Depth of pens (distance from the upper surface of the pens to the lowest part of the pens in group) (in metres)	
Number of pens in row 1	
Number of pens in row 2	
Number of pens in row 3	

Table A2(b): Pen group 4 details

Question	Answer
Number of pens in the group	
Circumference of pens in the group (in metres)	
Length of pen sides (if using non-circular pens) (in metres)	
Depth of pens (distance from the upper surface of the pens to the lowest part of the pens in group) (in metres)	
Number of pens in row 1	
Number of pens in row 2	
Number of pens in row 3	

Add more entries, if needed

Annex 3: Additional corner buoy locations

Table A3(a): Corner buoy locations – Pen group 3

Corner buoy	**NGR** (e.g. AB 1234 6789)	**Direction from pen group centre** (e.g. N, SE, W, NW)
Corner buoy 1		
Corner buoy 2		
Corner buoy 3		
Corner buoy 4		

Table A3(b): Corner buoy locations – Pen group 4

Corner buoy	**NGR** (e.g. AB 1234 6789)	**Direction from pen group centre** (e.g. N, SE, W, NW)
Corner buoy 1		
Corner buoy 2		
Corner buoy 3		
Corner buoy 4		

Add more entries, if needed.

Annex 4: Additional medicines or chemicals

Table A4(a): Product to be discharged

Question	Answer
Product trade name	
Intended purpose of the product	
Number of expected uses of the product per year	
Total quantity of product that will be discharged per use	
Chemicals present in product and their proportions (%)	

Table A4(b): Product to be discharged

Question	Answer
Product trade name	
Intended purpose of the product	
Number of expected uses of the product per year	
Total quantity of product that will be discharged per use	
Chemicals present in product and their proportions (%)	

Add more entries, if needed.