

Marine Fish Farm: **Mullach Mor**

Other Marine Users

Mowi Scotland Limited

May 2026, VF1.0

Other Marine Users: Mullach Mor Marine Pen Fish Farm

This document constitutes part of The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR) Water Permit Activity application submitted by Mowi Scotland Ltd. to SEPA to seek permission to establish a marine fish farm site in marine waters off the Isle of Rum to farm Atlantic Salmon.

Planning Permission & Considerations

The proposal is subject to the determination of multiple authorisations before it can be implemented including the issuing of planning permission. Population and health are a topic for consideration during this process. The presence of and potential interactions with other marine users e.g. recreational activities, commercial operations, and commercial fisheries are considered as part of the planning process and the Environmental Quality Standards and regulatory framework delivered by SEPA are mitigation to reduce, limit, and/or manage potential interactions.

The following summarises the baseline information derived for the planning process.

No other marine users were identified as part of the pre-application engagement under processes triggered by SEPA.

Marine Aquaculture

There are two active EASR Permits for operational finfish farms in the water body and these are farmed by the applicant: Rum Fish Farm (Ref. CAR/L/1152362, 2,850t, <1km at NG410030 & Muck Fish Farm (Ref. CAR/L/1109999, 4,069t, >20km at NM432804). Rum Fish Farm is the closest and is situated adjacent to the Development. Otherwise, other sensitivities and inputs within the water body are either distant, or have not been identified – see Table 1 & Figures 1-2 (Appendix A).

Recreational Users

The proposed farm is located more than 600m offshore in an open water highly flushed marine environment. The neighbouring coastline is absent of paths and promoted routes, viewpoints, or points of destination. The nearest settlement is located at Kinloch c.4km south of the development. This remote location limits the potential for recreational users.

Designated bathing waters, bathing points, catchments, signage, and control zones are absent and distant from the development site¹. A notable local beach is located at Kilmory Bay and more remote beaches northwest of the development (see Figure 3, Appendix A).

Rum is visited by small boats for recreational purposes (e.g. kayakers) and a number of commercial paddle guides operate e.g. tours circumnavigating the island or the wider Small Isles etc. Due to a lack of public data, it has not been possible to quantify recreational crafts, however exposure and distance from the mainland are noted as important factors that are likely to limit numbers to experienced transient mariner users.

Commercial Fisheries

Commercial fishing is present in the marine waters around the Small Isles, however this data is not available at a resolution local to the Development site. For the purposes of this assessment, the presence

¹ Data accessed via SEPA Open Data Hub 04.26 - "The Bathing Waters (Scotland) Regulations 2008 require Scottish Ministers to designate an area of surface water (coastal or inland) as a bathing water if they "expect a large number of people to bathe there, having regard to past trends and infrastructure or facilities provided, or other measures taken, to promote bathing" at that site. Each year, Ministers must also determine the period during which a large number of bathers are expected as the "bathing season".

of fishers is assumed in proximity and potentially within the Development site. However, the presence of sea pens, which are vulnerable to physical interactions with fishing equipment (Ager, O.E.D. 2003), suggests use is limited spatially at the site.

The frequency and intensity of use of this area by commercial fishing activities is uncertain, however the Scottish Government or NatureScot may have sight of confidential fisheries data as part of consultations and conversations to implement new MPA management measures in relation to capture fisheries and pressure on benthic features or general management of commercial fisheries.

Based on public data and direct engagement with Fishers we believe use may include stationary and mobile bottom contact fishing methods primarily targeting Nephrops. Mobile equipment at the site is likely to primarily relate to a proportion of the seabed offshore of the proposed pens, due to the presence of the existing fish farm.

SEPA's regulatory framework means that zones of effects to seabed features that may be relevant to commercial capture fisheries is likely to be limited spatially.

Other Marine Users

Other marine users also considered as part of the planning process include: Vessel Traffic, Ports, harbours, slipways, piers, Ferry routes, Cables, Wrecks, Navigational markers, Navigational hazards, Statutory Harbours, Designated Anchorages (berth or area), Military Exercise Area, MOD "Danger Areas", Historic munitions disposal sites, and MOD establishments.

Potential impact pathways to the other users listed above are unlikely to be of relevance to SEPA's remit and consequently are not detailed here as part of the EASR application. If deemed relevant and necessary by SEPA further information about these activities can be provided directly to SEPA upon reasonable and justified request.

Appendix A. Supporting Information

Table 1. Baseline - Existing Operations in Coastal Water Body SEPA ID 200355 and if specified wider area²

Use	Site & Location	Distance	Biomass (T)
Salmon	Rum Fish Farm CAR/L/1152362 (Isle of Rum - NG410030) Muck Fish Farm CAR/L/1109999 (Isle of Muck -NM432804)	<1km >20km	2,850 4,069
Shellfish	Kildonan Bay (Isle of Eigg - NM487847) Cruadhlinn (Loch Slapin - NG571178) Corr Eilean - Loch Beag (NM726833) Loch Ceann Trigh	>20km >10km >20km >35km	-
Water Treatment Plants	Kinloch, Isle of Rum x1 Isle of Canna x7 Isle of Muck x1	>4km >10km >20km	Smaller Discharges (<15,000 PE)

² Scottish Government (2026). National Marine Plan Interactive. Layers Accessed 16/03/2026:

- Aquaculture - Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) Licences. Available from <https://marine.gov.scot/maps/1499>.
- Aquaculture - Active finfish sites. Available from <https://marine.gov.scot/maps/1586>
- Aquaculture - Active shellfish sites. Available from: <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=maps/70>
- Shellfish water protected areas. Available from <https://marine.gov.scot/?q=maps/1587>
- Scottish Pollutant Release Inventory (SPRI) - Industrial marine discharges (2018)
- Location and type of waste water treatment plants (2018)

Scotland's Aquaculture Website (2025-2026). Available at <https://aquaculture.scotland.gov.uk/Map/AquacultureMap>

Layers Accessed 16/03/2026: Active Aquaculture Sites, CAR Permitted Fish Farms, and Shellfish Water Protected Areas.

SEPA Open Data Hub. Available at <https://opendata-scottishsepa.hub.arcgis.com/search>. Layers Accessed 16/03/2026: Authorised Sites and Bathing Water Control Zones

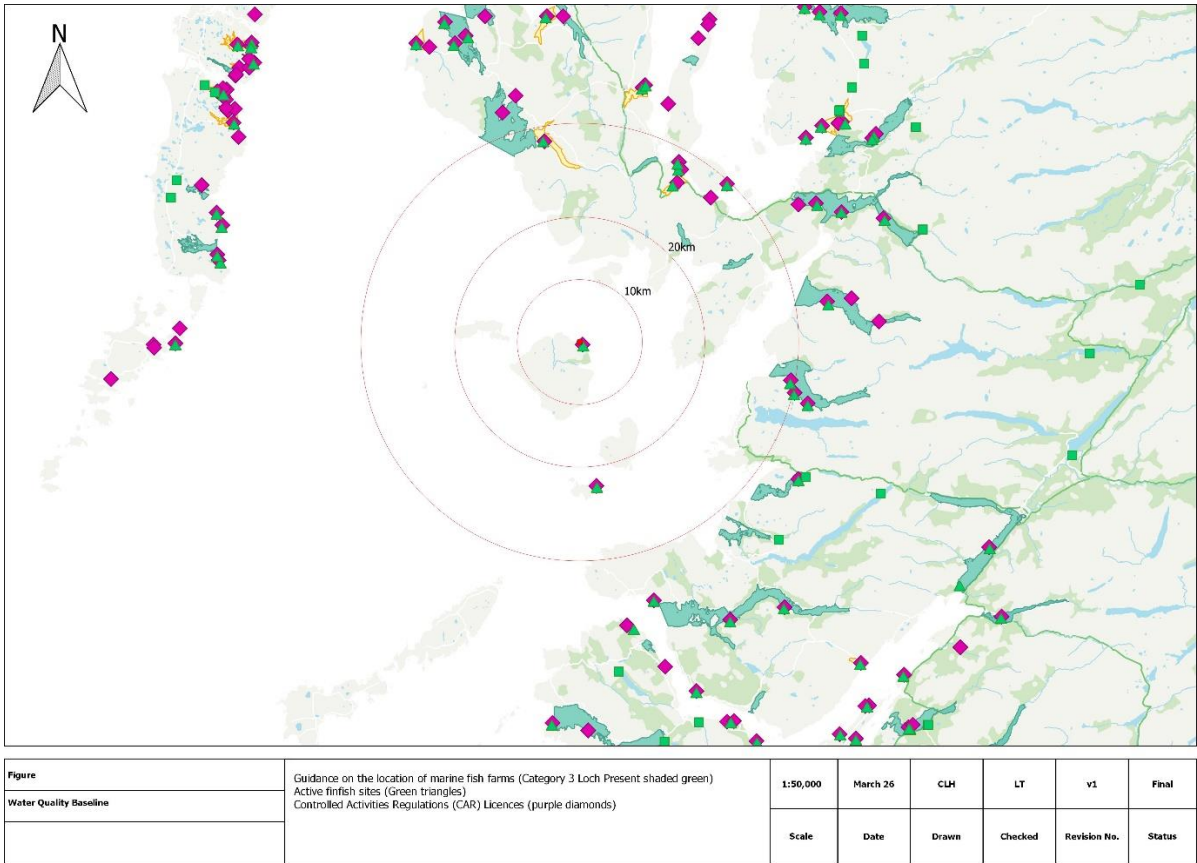


Figure 1. Baseline – Active Finfish sites in the water body (green triangles), CAR Licences (purple diamonds) & Locational Guidance for marine finfish farms

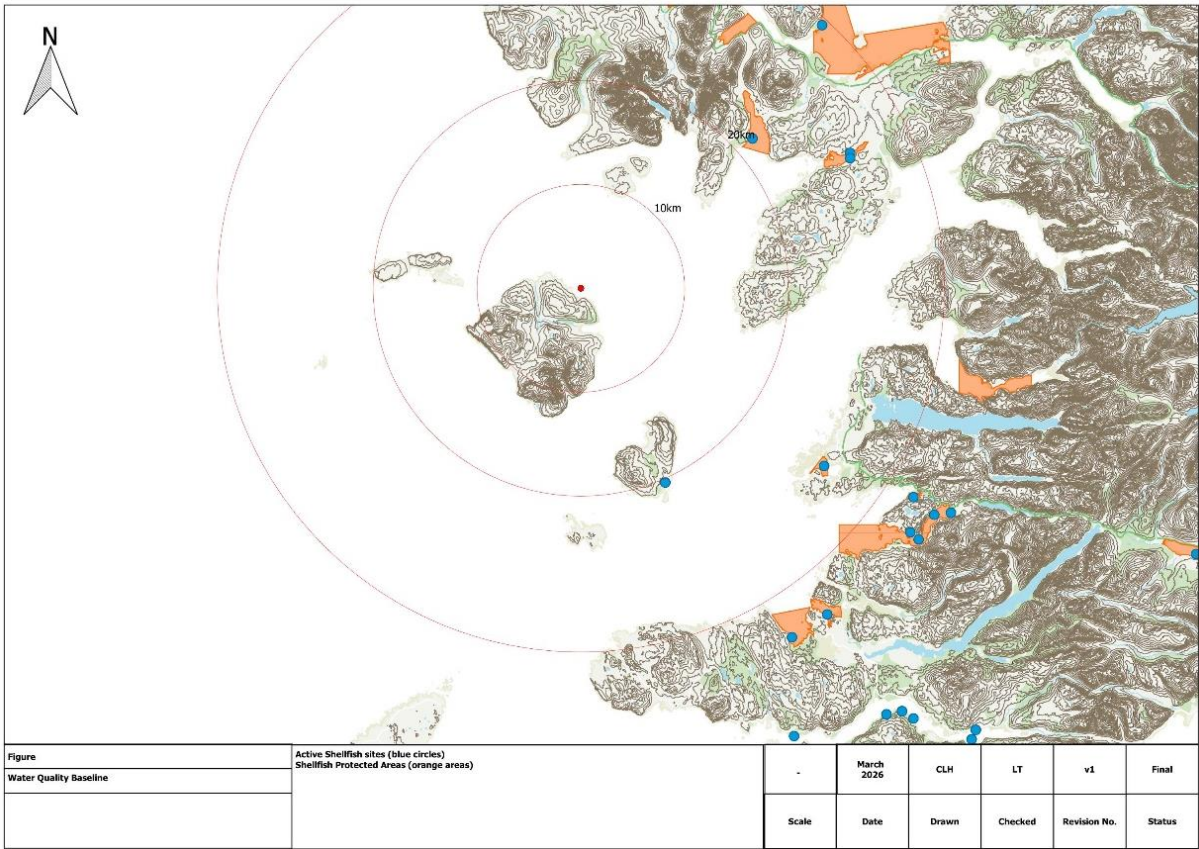


Figure 2. Baseline - Shellfish Sites and Shellfish Protected Areas in the water body

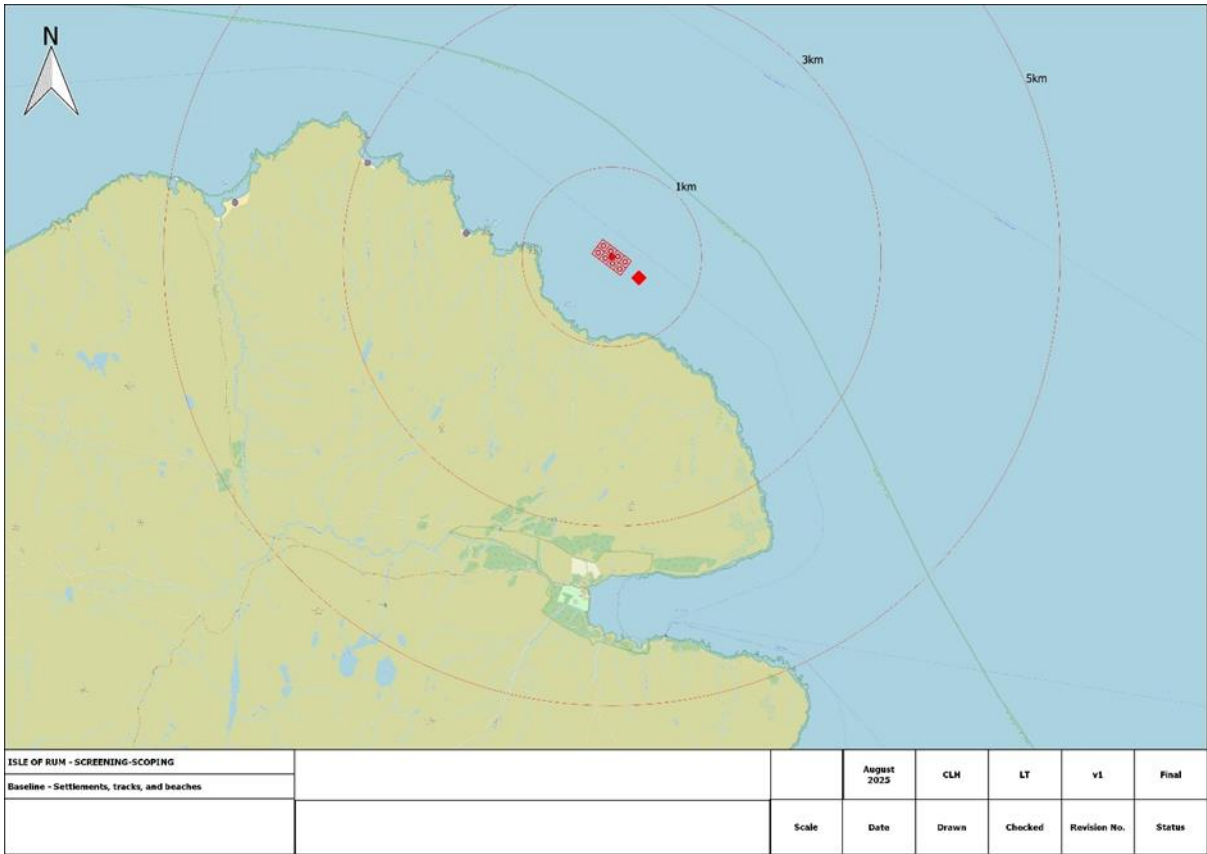


Figure 3. Baseline - Settlements, Tracks and Beaches