Scottish Environment Protection Agency
Buidheann Dìon Àrainneachd na h-Alba

For the future of our environment

P-WAT-V

The Environmental Authorisations (Scotland) Regulations 2018 (EASR)

Water Permit Variation Form



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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 water permit variation form

Use this form to apply to vary an existing permit that authorises water activities.

Variation includes the addition of a new activity.

Do not use this form to:

- Reduce the boundary of an authorised place – to do this you will need to apply for a surrender in part.
- Reduce the number of regulated activities authorised by the permit – to do this you will need to apply for a surrender in part.
- Change the authorised person of an existing permit – to do this you will need to apply for a transfer (in whole or in part).

Before you apply

- Check your permit to identify the type of authorised activities (e.g. water, waste, industrial activities).
- Use the correct variation form for the type of activity you want to vary.
  For example, use this water variation form to vary a water permit activity, the waste variation form to vary a waste permit activity, or the appropriate variation form for other activities.
- Read the guidance for the activity you wish to vary and/or to add to your existing permit on the relevant activity specific page on our website.
- 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 apply for a variation of an existing permit to add new 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 variation form(s)
2. Completed activity form(s) if required
3. 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.

Your application must include the following:

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 - Permit details

1.1 Permit reference

Please provide the reference of the permit you wish to vary.

Permit reference (e.g. EAS/P/1234, CAR/L/1234567)
CAR/L/1002327

1.2 Location description

Please provide the following information about the location of the activity.

Table 1: Location description

Question	Answer
Location description (e.g. Green Farm, Windy Hill Golf Course, Alba Whisky Distillery)	Sron Fish Farm Loch Alsh
Address	Railway Pier Ross-shire Ross-shire
Postcode	IV40 8AT
National Grid Reference (NGR) (At least 2 letters followed by 8 digits, e.g. AB 1234 6789. You can use our SEPA NGR Tool to find your NGR.)	NG 78360 25597

Section 2 - About your proposed variation

2.1 Activity-specific requirements and exceptions

Before selecting the variation type, please review the activity-specific requirements and exceptions below, as these may determine or affect your selection.

Water scarcity

If you are applying to change from a surface water abstraction to a groundwater abstraction during a period of **water scarcity** and the abstraction catchment is at least at **Alert risk level**:

- The application is treated as a **standard variation**.
- You must meet the eligibility criteria set out on the water scarcity webpage.
- You are not required to complete or submit an activity form for this type of variation.

Guidance on water scarcity and risk levels can be found on the water scarcity webpage on our website.

Marine pen fish farm

If you are applying to **change the pen layout of a marine pen fish farm**:

- You must complete the form **SERA-P-WAT-B1** only where the proposed change qualifies as an **administrative variation**.

  A change is considered an administrative variation if you answer “No” to all questions in Section 3 of the form SERA-P-WAT-B1.

  The form SERA-P-WAT-B1 is available on the marine pen fish farms webpage on our website.

- If the proposed change does not meet the criteria for an administrative variation, you must apply for a **standard or substantial variation** and comply with the requirements in Section 2.5 of this form, including completing and submitting the relevant activity form.

2.2 Variation type

There are three types of variations: administrative, standard and substantial. Please refer to our Charging guidance for examples and guidance on identifying the correct variation type on our website.

Administrative variations include correcting an error or a reduction in scale of the authorised activity (for example, a reduction in abstraction volume).

Standard or substantial variations may require SEPA to undertake an environmental risk assessment of the proposed change.

If you need assistance in determining the correct variation type, please contact waterpermitting@sepa.org.uk.

Please select the relevant box below to confirm the type of variation you are applying for.

- **Administrative variation** ☐
- **Standard variation** ☐
- **Substantial variation** ☒

2.3 Non-technical summary

Please provide a non-technical summary of your application, including a brief overview of the proposed changes and reasons to vary the permit.

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
This application is to request the addition of EmBz (Emamectin Benzoate - Slice) to the permit at Loch Alsh. EmBz is an in-feed anti-sea lice treatment widely used across the aquaculture industry. Fish will not be treated with EmBz at Alsh, however fish previously treated with EmBz will on occasion be moved to Alsh, so the addition to the permit is to account for any environmental discharge through fish waste.

2.4 Proposed variation details

Please provide details about the proposed changes to your activities, this information should include as a minimum:

- A description of the changes requiring the variation.
- An indication of the changes to any plan or document that forms part of your permit.
- An indication of any permit conditions you wish us to vary (if applicable). Please include the reference number of each condition you want to vary, if known.

If you applying to change a surface water abstraction to a groundwater abstraction during a period of water scarcity, please also include the following information:

- A National Grid Reference (NGR) for each groundwater abstraction location; and
- The maximum volume of water to be abstracted per day from each location.

Document reference

The addition of a new permit condition after 3.3., detailing the addition of In-feed Medicinal Treatments.

i.e. Table x Permitted Medicines – in-feed

Medicine name	Active ingredient
Slice or Quinafish	Emamectin benzoate

3.x.x Any treatment with the active ingredient in Table x must be carried out over a minimum 7-day period.

3.x.x Subject to 3.x.x, the total amount of the active ingredient in Table x used in any treatment must not exceed an amount equivalent to treating the Atlantic Salmon at a rate of 60 micrograms per kilogram of fish per day over a 7 day period.

3.x.x Any discharge of the active ingredient in Table x must not exceed the maximum environmental quantity of 30.96g (based on a modelled TAQ amount of 43g, multiplied by 0.72 to obtain the MAQ)

2.5 Standard and substantial variation

If you are applying for a standard or substantial variation of your existing permit, including adding a new activity, you must complete and submit an activity form for each activity you want to vary or add.

Activity forms are available on the relevant activity specific page on our website.

- If you are varying an existing oil storage activity, please submit a detailed description of the proposed changes. There is no activity form for oil storage.

- If you are applying for a standard variation to change a surface water abstraction to a groundwater abstraction during a period of water scarcity, you do not need to submit an activity form.

Please provide the relevant document reference here.

Document reference(s)
p-wat-b1_Alsh_ CAR_L_1002327.pdf

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