

Environmental Monitoring Plan

EMP/CAR/L/1129793

FOR

LICENCE REFERENCE NUMBER: CAR/L/1129793

ADDRESS OF PREMISES: Tabhaigh MPFF, Loch Erisort

Version: 2.0

Dated: 17/12/2024

Aim

The aim of this Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMP) is to monitor seabed environmental impacts from the marine fish farm in order to assess compliance with the environmental quality standards that are specified in the licence.

Scope of the Monitoring Plan

This plan outlines the environmental monitoring design, sampling methods, frequency and requirements for reporting of data. The plan has been developed in accordance with the following SEPA guidance:

- Performance Standard MACS-FFA-PS-01: Sampling of Soft Sediment, Version 2, dated July 2023¹;
- Performance standard MACS-FFA-PS-02: Physical and Chemical Testing, Version 1, dated March 2022¹;
- Performance standard MACS-FFA-PS-03: Biological Testing, Version 1, dated March 2022¹
- Seabed Environmental Standards - Demonstrating Compliance, Version 1, dated March 2022.

Monitoring Survey Design

Two monitoring survey designs are presented as part of this Plan:

- 1. Biological Sampling;**
- 2. Medicinal Residues Sampling¹.**

Any changes to these monitoring surveys will be agreed with SEPA prior to fieldwork commencing.

¹ Guidance accessed 2024

1. Biological Sampling

This survey is designed to collect the environmental data required to enable assessment of compliance with the environmental standards, as detailed in the licence, at pen edge and mixing zone boundary.

Monitoring will be undertaken along four transects (Figure 1), with sediment samples being collected at intervals along each transect.

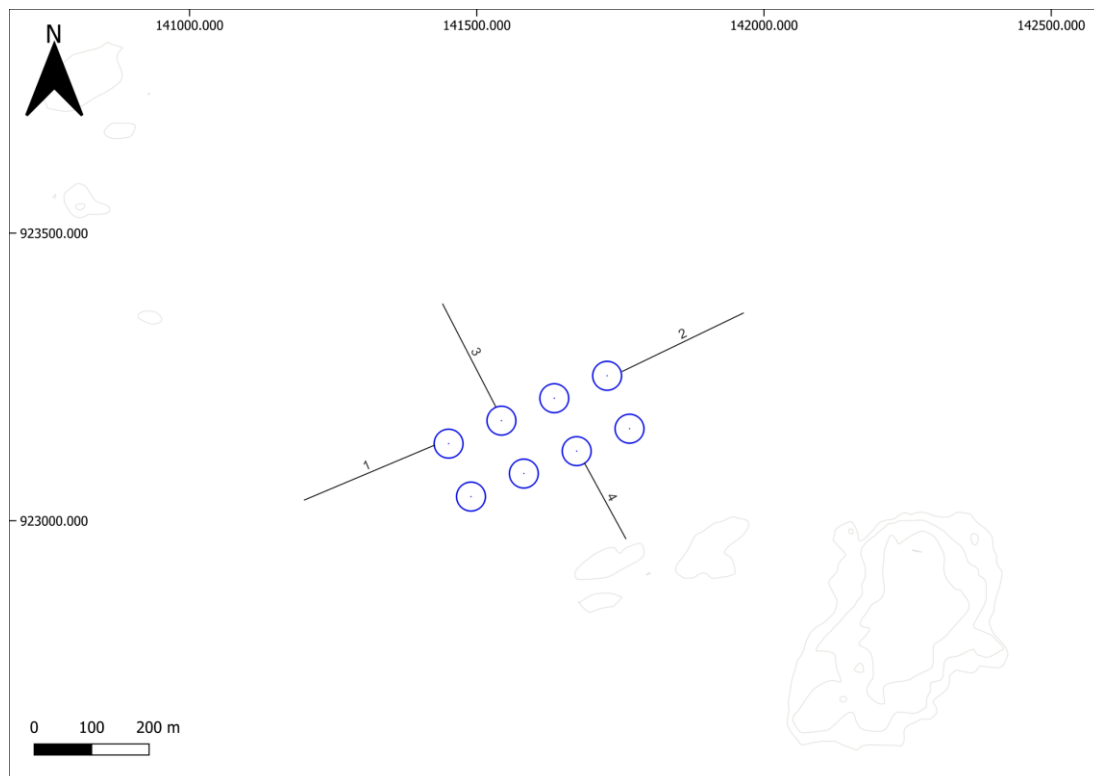


Figure 1 Biological Monitoring - Direction of Primary (T1, T2) and Secondary (T3, T4) transects.

If a suitable seabed sample cannot be collected at one or more monitoring stations on a transect:

- a) the collection of a suitable sample (or samples) will be attempted at different locations on the transect concerned.
- b) if sufficient suitable samples cannot be collected on the transect after trying to sample at different locations, the collection of samples along a replacement transect will be attempted.

Transects have been selected based on extensive knowledge of benthic sampling around the site and avoidance of hard ground and mooring lines. If it is necessary to attempt collection of samples on a replacement transect, the identification of that transect will consider:

- (i) Any relevant information about the seabed to help choose a replacement that maximises the likelihood of being able to collect sufficient samples.
- (ii) In the light of (i) above, moving the origin for the transect on the pen group.
- (iii) In the light of (i) above, orienting the transect on a different bearing within $\pm 5^\circ$ of the predominant direction of the bed current in the case of a replacement primary transect or, in the case of a replacement minor transect, within $\pm 20^\circ$ of orthogonal to the direction of the predominant bed current.
- (iv) A combination of (ii) and (iii) above.

The bearings for each of the transects are detailed in Table 1 below:

Table 1. Transect bearings

Transect	Bearing (degrees)
1	245
2	065
3	332
4	149

Sediment samples collected from each of the sample stations will be analysed for the following parameters:

- Particle size analysis;
- Benthic infauna.
- Total Organic Carbon

2. Medicinal Residues Sampling

This survey is designed to collect the required environmental data that will allow an assessment of compliance against the environmental standards for Emamectin Benzoate concentrations in the seabed sediment.

Samples will be collected at the locations specified in the licence.

At each sample stations, samples of sediment will be collected and analysed for the following parameters:

- Particle size analysis;
- Emamectin Benzoate;
- Organic Carbon.

Survey Timing

Seabed sampling will be undertaken in accordance with the periods specified in the licence. In the event of unseen circumstances impacting on survey timing, notification will be provided to SEPA.

Data Reporting

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Results from the analysis of all samples collected in accordance with this plan will be submitted to SEPA using the required reporting template in accordance with licence requirements. In the event of unseen circumstances impacting on data reporting, timelines notification will be provided to SEPA.

Quality Assurance

Sample collection and laboratory analyses will be conducted in accordance with the relevant SEPA MACS Performance Standards by competent and authorised persons (with the necessary knowledge, training, and certifications) on behalf of the Responsible Person (Mowi Scotland Ltd).