

Marine Cage Fish Farm Template



Introduction


Authorisations

Who we are: The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) is a non-departmental public body of the Scottish Government, established under the Environment Act 1995. Our purpose is to make sure the environment and human health are protected, and resources and services are used sustainably.

Why we issue authorisations: SEPA is responsible for preventing or controlling pollution and improving the quality of the environment. This responsibility includes regulating industrial and other processes that may be capable of causing pollution of the environment. One of the tools available to SEPA is the authorisation of certain activities that may present a risk to the environment.

Anyone who wishes to carry out one of these activities has to first apply to SEPA for an authorisation, be granted the authorisation, and thereafter carry out activities in line with conditions contained within the authorisation. It is an offence under the relevant legislation for to breach a condition of an authorisation.

When we issue authorisation: SEPA will issue an authorisation when satisfied that an applicant has put in place measures to protect the environment and is capable of carrying out activities in line with the conditions of an authorisation. Authorisations allow activities to occur and set performance outcomes based on a sites environmental risk. SEPA can amend, suspend or revoke an authorisation in response to changes in legislation, site activities or authorisation holder performance. Sites that hold an authorisation are inspected by SEPA Officers who assess compliance with the conditions of the authorisation. All authorisations and inspection reports are publicly available.

 <p>This Permit has been granted by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) in exercise of its powers under Regulation 8 of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011 (“the Regulations”) subject to the conditions contained in the Schedules attached to and forming part of this Permit.</p>	
Permit Number:	CAR/XXXXXXXXXX
Authorised Person:	
Date of effect of Permit	
Site Address(es):	Site name, shore base postal address
Site Location:	NGR at centre of cage group
Site Plan	The location and boundaries of the area in which the Authorised Activities may be carried out are shown in red on Figure 1.
Description of Authorised Activity:	The growing of fish in cages at sea, resulting in the discharge of trade effluent to the water environment.
Potential environmental harms associated with this type of activity	The discharge of trade effluent arising from a cage fish farm including, but not limited to: fish faeces; uneaten food; medicine residues; organic matter such as fish scales

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Authorised to sign on behalf of the
Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Date: ONE

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1 THE AUTHORISED PERSON

The purpose of Schedule 1– This section identifies the Authorised Person and places responsibility on them to ensure compliance with the Permit Conditions.

1.1 Duty of Authorised Person

- 1.1.1 The Authorised Person must comply with all the conditions of the Permit.
- 1.1.2 Any financial charge prescribed by SEPA's charging scheme in relation to this Permit must be paid in accordance with the scheme.

1.2 Environmental Harm

- 1.2.1 Unless specifically authorised or limited by this Permit, the Authorised Activities must not cause Environmental Harm.

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2 THE AUTHORISED ACTIVITY

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This section details the activity which may be carried out the “Authorised Activity” and the general location of the activity.*

2.1 Authorised Activity

2.1.1 The Authorised Activity is the operation of a Marine Cage Fish Farm.

2.1.2 The Authorised Activity must be located in [Waterbody Name].

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3 MARINE CAGE FISH FARM DESCRIPTION

The purpose of Schedule 3 – This section details the species, feeding regime, fallow periods and the specific location and layout of the fish farm.

3.1 Fish Species and Maximum Weight

- 3.1.1 Only [species] may be grown at the site.
- 3.1.2 The maximum weight of [species] held on site at any one time must not exceed [XX].

3.2 Fish Feed Quantities and Constituents

- 3.2.1 The feed used must adhere to the criteria and limitations in Table 1.

Table 1: Feed Quantities & Constituents

Criteria	Limitations
Maximum feed rate ([XX] percent of any growth cycle)	[XX] tonnes per [time period] (dry weight)
Maximum Carbon content	[XX]% (dry weight)

3.3 Fallow Period

- 3.3.1 There must be a minimum period of [42 consecutive days] / [6 consecutive weeks] in every 24 month period during which no fish shall be kept on site.
- 3.3.2 SEPA must be notified within [XX] days of the site being stocked.
- 3.3.3 SEPA must be notified within [XX] days of the site being fallowed.

3.3.1 [OPTIONAL CONDITION] The site must be operated in accordance with the Management Agreement concluded between [A], [B] and [C] reference [X] dated [Y].

3.4 Cage Configuration

3.4.1 The fish cages must be configured and located as set out in Figure 1 and Table 2.

Figure 1

Table 2: Cage Configuration

Number of cages	X
Circumference of cages	Xm
Depth of nets	Xm
Number of different cage groups	X
Number of cages in each group	X
Number of cages in row 1	X
Number of cages in row 2	X
Gap between each cage	Xm
Gap between cage groups	Xm
Cage Group 1 NGR at Corners	NGR 1, NGR 2, NGR 3, NGR 4
Cage Group 2 NGR at Corners	NGR 1, NGR 2, NGR 3, NGR 4

4 MEDICINE USE

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This intent of Schedule 4 is to ensure that medicine use is minimised and that any medicines which are used are administered within the limits set by SEPA.*

4.1 Medicine Minimisation

4.1.1 The discharge of medicine residues must be reduced by using two or more of the following control methods before administering any medicine to control sea lice infestations:

- a) Physical barriers;
- b) Biological control;
- c) Non-chemical control;
- d) Mechanical removal;
- e) Stock control.

4.2 Medicines and Chemical Use

4.2.1 Only those medicines and chemicals specifically authorised in this Permit or in the Permitted Substance Working Plan (the PSWP [REF]) may be discharged to the water environment.

4.3 Bath Sea Lice Medicines

Table 3: Permitted Medicine - Bath

Medicine name	Active ingredient
Salmosan, Salmosan Vet or Azasure	Azamethiphos
AMX or ALPHAMAX	Deltamethrin

4.3.1 The medicines in Table 3 must only be discharged following treatment of the fish within an enclosure fully separated from the sea.

4.3.2 The enclosure in which fish are treated with [Medicine Name] must be no more than [XX]% of the full cage volume.

4.3.3 The enclosure in which fish are treated with [Medicine Name] must be no more than [XX]% of the full cage volume.

- 4.3.4 The quantity of medicines in Table 3 used must not exceed:
- a) [XXX] grams of azamethiphos in any [XX hour] period.
 - b) [XXX] grams of deltamethrin in any [XX hour] period.
- 4.3.5 Only one of the medicines in Table 3 may be used for each individual treatment and must not be used at the same time as any other substance or compound which may alter the effects of the medicine on the environment.
- 4.3.6 The medicines in Table 3 must not be discharged within 24 hours of the discharge of any bath treatment medicine from a wellboat at the site.

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4.4 In-feed Sea Lice Medicines

Table 4: Permitted Medicine – in-feed

Medicine name	Active ingredient
Slice or Quinafish	Emamectin benzoate

- 4.4.1 The medicine in Table 4 must not be administered for longer than 7 consecutive days in any treatment.
- 4.4.2 The total quantity of the medicine in Table 4 used in any treatment must not exceed 60 micrograms per kilogram of fish treated per day.
- 4.4.3 Any treatment of fish with the medicine in Table 4 must not exceed the Total Allowable Quantity (TAQ) [site specific figure].

4.5 Permitted Substance Working Plan

- 4.5.1 All medicines and chemicals named in the PSWP [REF] must be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

4.6 Notification of Medicines and Chemical Use

- 4.6.1 SEPA must be given the information in Table 5 no fewer than [XX] days before using any medicine listed in Table 5.

Table 5: Medicine use notifications

Medicine type	Information required
Bath medicines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biomass at start of treatment • Biomass at end of treatment • Amount of medicine to be used
In-feed medicines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of active ingredient to be used • Duration of treatment • Explanantion for the proposed use of the medicine

5 SEABED STANDARDS

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This section details the minimum environmental standards that must be met.*

5.1 Biological Seabed Standards

- 5.1.1 At the cage edge, and up to the boundary of the 100 metre mixing zone as defined by [GUIDANCE REF], a minimum of 2 species of sediment re-worker polychaetes must be present in densities greater than 1,000 individuals per square metre at all times.
- 5.1.2 At the edge of, or beyond, the boundary of the 100 metre mixing zone as defined by [GUIDANCE REF], a standard of 0.64 EQRI_{QI} must be maintained at all times

5.2 Chemical Seabed Standards

- 5.2.1 At the edge of, or beyond the boundary of the 100 metre mixing zone as defined by [GUIDANCE REF], Emamectin benzoate concentrations must not exceed 12ng/kg (dry weight) or 763ng/kg (wet weight).

6 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This schedule requires fish farm operators to carry out environmental monitoring in line with SEPA guidance*

6.1 Environmental Monitoring Plan

- 6.1.1 An Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMP), written in accordance with [GUIDANCE REF] must be submitted to SEPA no later than [DATE].
- 6.1.2 Environmental Monitoring must be carried out in accordance with the Environmental Monitoring Plan (EMP) [name, reference number, version number, date].

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7 INCIDENTS

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This section requires the cessation, prevention and reporting of any potentially polluting situation and breach of Permit condition that may arise on the Site.*

7.1 Notification of SEPA

7.1.1 SEPA must be notified via its pollution hotline contact telephone number as soon as reasonably practicable, and in any case within 24 hours, of any of the following:

- (a) any incident which could cause Environmental Harm;
- (b) any incident that results in, or could result in, a discharge to air, water or land that is not Authorised by this Permit;
- (c) any incident that results in the breach of Permit Conditions.

7.2 Management of the Incident

7.2.1 In the event of an incident as described in **7.1.1**, all measures that are reasonably practicable must be taken to stop the incident and minimise or mitigate the impact on the environment.

7.3 Report of the Incident

7.3.1 Within 14 days of an incident as described in **7.1.1**, a report must be submitted to SEPA detailing:

- (a) the reasons for the incident;
- (b) the action taken to stop the incident and minimise or mitigate the impacts;
- (c) the action taken to prevent the incident from recurring.

8 RECORD KEEPING AND DATA SUBMISSION

*The purpose of Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.** – This schedule requires the Authorised Person to keep records of specific activities carried out on site and to provide SEPA with specified information at regular intervals, or upon request.*

8.1 Data Recording

8.1.1 All information recorded, kept, or submitted to SEPA must be true and accurate.

8.1.2 Records must be kept of the following:

- a) All medicine use notifications;
- b) Start and finish dates of each sea lice medicine treatment;
- c) Quantities of medicine used during each sea lice medicine treatment;
- d) Biomass of fish at end of each sea lice medicine treatment (tonnes);
- e) Veterinary prescription for each sea lice medicine treatment;
- f) Maximum Nitrogen content of fish feed (percentage of dry weight);
- g) Maximum Phosphorus content of fish feed (percentage of dry weight).

8.1.3 Records must be kept for a minimum of 5 years and must be provided to SEPA upon request.

8.2 Data Reporting

8.2.1 The information specified in Table 7 must be submitted on a quarterly basis no later than the relevant submission deadline in Table 8 of every calendar year during which the site is operational.

Table 7: Data Reporting Requirements

1	Maximum biomass held on site during each month (tonnes)
2	Total amount of feed used per [time period] (tonnes)
3	Total Salmosan, Salmosan Vet or Azasure use each month (g)
4	Total AMX or ALPHAMAX use each month (litres)
5	Total Slice or Quinafish use each month (g)
6	Total azamethiphos use each month (g)
7	Total deltamethrin use each month (g)
8	Total emamectin benzoate use each month (g)
9	Total anti-parasiticide use each month [(unit of measurement)]
10	Total anti-microbial use each month [(unit of measurement)]
11	Total weight of mortalities each month (kg)
12	Copper from weekly feed use (kg)
13	Zinc from weekly feed use (kg)
14	Nitrogen from weekly feed use (kg)
15	Phosphorus from weekly feed use (kg)
16	Carbon from weekly feed use (kg)

Table 8: Data Reporting Submission Deadline

Quarter	Reporting Period	Submission Deadline
1	1 January – 31 March	28 April
2	1 April – 30 June	28 July
3	1 July – 30 September	28 October
4	1 October – 31 December	28 January

8.2.2 Results from the analysis of all benthic samples must be submitted to SEPA no later than 16 weeks from the date on which the samples were collected.

8.2.3 The information must be submitted either:

- a) Electronically using [name and web address of possible new SEPA system]
- b) Via email, in the Excel Spreadsheet supplied by SEPA, to ffbiomass@sepa.org.uk.

9 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS

For the purposes of this Permit, and unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions shall apply.

Term	Definition
“Authorised Person”	Means the holder of this Permit from time to time.
“Environmental Harm”	Means: (a) harm to the health of human beings or other living organisms, (b) harm to the quality of the environment, including- (i) harm to the quality of the environment taken as a whole, (ii) harm to the quality of air, water or land, and (iii) other impairment of, or interference with, ecosystems, (c) offence to the senses of human beings, (d) damage to property, or (e) impairment of, or interference with, amenities or other legitimate uses of the environment.
“Permit”	
“SEPA Officer”	Means any person who is authorised in writing under Section 108 of the Environment Act 1995 to carry out duties on behalf of SEPA
“SEPA”	Means the Scottish Environment Protection Agency

“the Water Environment	Means all Surface Water, groundwater and wetlands
“Unauthorised Access”	Means access by any person who is not permitted to enter the Site.

Except where specified otherwise in these Conditions:

- “day” means any period of 24 consecutive hours,
- “week” means a period of 7 consecutive days,
- “month” means a calendar month,
- “year” means any period of 12 consecutive months, and

any derived words (e.g. “monthly”) shall be interpreted accordingly.

Except where specified otherwise, any reference to an enactment or statutory instrument includes a reference to it as amended (whether before or after the date of the Permit) and to any other enactment, which may after the date of the Permit replace or amend it.

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