

# Marine Pen Fish Farm Template

**SITE NAME**  
**PERMIT NUMBER**



## 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.

### General site information:

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Site Name &amp; Location</b>  | Site name & waterbody name   |
| <b>Description of Authorised Activity:</b>                                 | The discharge to the water environment of fish excreta, uneaten food and other substances as listed in this permit resulting from the operation of a marine pen fish farm. |
| <b>Potential environmental risks SEPA has regulatory powers to control</b> | The impact on the water environment due to the discharge of organic material and medicine residues from a pen fish farm.   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|  <p><b>SEPA</b><br/>         Scottish Environment<br/>         Protection Agency</p> <p><b>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.</b></p> |  |
| <b>Permit Number:</b>   | CAR/XXXXXXXXXX   |
| <b>Permit Holder (Authorised Person):</b>   |  |
| <b>Date of Permit</b>   |  |
| <b>Authorised Activities</b>  | The discharge to the water environment of fish excreta, uneaten food and other substances as listed in this permit resulting from the operation of a marine pen fish farm. |
| <b>Site Address:</b>  |  |
| <b>Conditions applicable to this permit</b>   | The conditions in Schedules [X – X] of this permit. Terms used in this permit are, unless otherwise specified, defined in Schedule [X].                                    |

.....  
 Authorised to sign on behalf of the  
 Scottish Environment Protection Agency

Date:

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## 1 THE AUTHORISED PERSON & ACTIVITY

*The purpose of Schedule 1– This section set outs what the authorised activity is and places responsibility on the Authorised Person for ensuring compliance with the permit conditions.*

### 1.1 Authorised Activity

1.1.1 The Authorised Activity is the discharge to the water environment of fish excreta, uneaten food and other substances as listed in this permit resulting from the operation of a marine pen fish farm.

### 1.2 Duty of Authorised Person

1.2.1 The Authorised Person must ensure compliance with all the conditions of the permit.

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## 2 MARINE PEN FISH FARM DESCRIPTION

*The purpose of Schedule 2 – This section limits the size of the impact from the activity by controlling the fish, feeding regime, fallow periods and the specific location and layout of the fish farm.*

### 2.1 Fish Species

2.1.1 Only [species] may be farmed at the site.

### 2.2 Maximum Weight of Fish

2.2.1 The maximum weight of [species] held on site at any one time must not exceed [XX].

### 2.3 Fallow Period

2.3.1 There must be a minimum period of [42 consecutive days] / [6 consecutive weeks] in every 24 month period during which no [species] shall be kept on site.

2.3.2 SEPA must be notified in writing within 14 days of the site being stocked.

2.3.3 SEPA must be notified in writing within 14 days of the site being fallowed.

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

## 2.4 Pen Configuration

2.4.1 The fish pens must be configured and located as set out in Figure 1 and Table 1.

**Figure 1**

Table 1: Pen Configuration

|                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Number of pens                  | X                          |
| Circumference of pens           | Xm                         |
| Depth of nets                   | Xm                         |
| Number of different pens groups | X                          |
| Number of pens in each group    | X                          |
| Number of pens in row 1         | X                          |
| Number of pens in row 2         | X                          |
| Gap between each pen            | Xm                         |
| Gap between pen groups          | Xm                         |
| Pen Group 1 NGR at Corners      | NGR 1, NGR 2, NGR 3, NGR 4 |
| Pen Group 2 NGR at Corners      | NGR 1, NGR 2, NGR 3, NGR 4 |

### 3 MEDICINE USE

*The purpose of Schedule 3 – SEPA expects the Authorised Person to manage their site in such a way that it minimises the discharge of medicines into the water environment. Where it is necessary to use medicines the conditions control their use to meet environmental standards.*

#### 3.1 Medicine Minimisation

3.1.1 All reasonable steps must be taken to minimise the discharge of medicine residues.

#### 3.2 Medicines and Chemical Use

3.2.1 Only those medicines and chemicals specifically authorised in this Permit or in the Permitted Substance List (the PSL [REF]) may be discharged to the water environment.

#### 3.3 Bath Sea Lice Medicines

3.3.1 The medicines in Table 2 must only be discharged following treatment of the fish within an enclosure fully separated from the water environment.

Table 2: Permitted Medicine - Bath

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

3.3.2 The enclosure in which fish are treated with [Medicine Name] must be no less than [XX]% of the full pen volume.

3.3.3 The enclosure in which fish are treated with [Medicine Name] must be no less than [XX]% of the full pen volume.

3.3.4 The quantity of medicines in Table 2 used must not exceed:

- a) [XXX] grams of azamethiphos in any [XX hour] period.
- b) [XXX] grams of deltamethrin in any [XX hour] period.

3.3.5 The medicines in Table 2 must not be combined with each other or with any other substance or compound during any treatment in a single pen.

3.3.6 When multiple pens are being treated at the same time, only one of the medicines in Table 2 may be used at the site.



3.3.7 The medicines in Table 2 must not be discharged within 24 hours of the discharge of any bath treatment medicine from a wellboat at the site.

**3.4 In-feed Sea Lice Medicines**

Table 3: Permitted Medicine – in-feed

| Medicine name      | Active ingredient  |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Slice or Quinafish | Emamectin benzoate |

3.4.1 The medicine in Table 3 must not be administered for longer than 7 consecutive days in any treatment.

3.4.2 The total quantity of the medicine in Table 3 used in any treatment must not exceed 60 micrograms per kilogram of [species] treated per day.

3.4.3 Any treatment of [species] with the medicine in Table 3 must not exceed the Total Allowable Quantity (TAQ) [site specific figure].

**3.5 Permitted Substance List**

3.5.1 All medicines and chemicals named in the Permitted Substances List (PSL) [REF] must be used in accordance with the limits specified in the PSL.

**3.6 Notification of Medicines Use**

3.6.1 SEPA must be given the information in Table 4 no fewer than 2 days before using any medicine listed in Tables 2 & 3.

Table 4: Medicine use notifications

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

## 4 SEABED STANDARDS

*The purpose of Schedule 4 – This section details the minimum environmental standards that must be met.*

### 4.1 Biological Seabed Standards

- 4.1.1 The seabed around the fish farm within an area of [X] (the “mixing zone”) must contain a minimum of 2 species of re-worker annelid worms with a combined abundance of more than 1,000 individuals per square metre.
- 4.1.2 The seabed at the boundary of the mixing zone must meet as a minimum an Ecological Quality Ratio (EQR) of 0.64 IQI at any time.

### 4.2 Chemical Seabed Standards

- 4.2.1 Emamectin benzoate concentrations must not exceed 12ng/kg (dry weight) in the seabed at the boundary of the mixing zone.

## 5 ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

*The purpose of Schedule 5 – This schedule requires fish farm operators to carry out environmental monitoring in line with SEPA guidance*

### 5.1 Seabed and Water Quality Monitoring Plan

5.1.1 A Seabed and Water Quality Monitoring Plan (SWMP), written in accordance with [GUIDANCE REF] must be submitted to SEPA no later than [DATE].  
**[Optional condition only for existing sites]**

5.1.2 Monitoring must be carried out in accordance with the Seabed and Water Quality Monitoring Plan (SWMP) [name, reference number, version number, date].

5.1.3 SEPA must be notified no fewer than 14 days before monitoring is undertaken.

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## 6 ENVIRONMENTAL EVENTS

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

### 6.1 Notification of SEPA

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

- (a) any event which has caused or could cause adverse impact to the water environment or harm to human health;
- (b) any event that results or could result in an emission to the environment that is not authorised by this permit;
- (c) A breach of any condition of this permit.

### 6.2 Management of the Event

6.2.1 All measure that are reasonably practicable must be taken to stop an event, as described in **6.1.1**, and to minimise and/or mitigate its effect on the environment.

### 6.3 Report of the Event

6.3.1 Within 14 days of an event as described in **6.1.1**, a report must be submitted to SEPA detailing:

- (a) the reason(s) for the event;
- (b) the action(s) taken to stop the event and minimise and/or mitigate its impacts;
- (c) the action(s) taken to prevent the event from recurring.

## 7 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.*

### 7.1 Data Recording

7.1.1 All information recorded, kept, or submitted to SEPA in accordance with a condition of this Permit must be true and accurate.

7.1.2 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) Weight of [species] at end of each sea lice medicine treatment (tonnes);
- e) Veterinary prescription for each sea lice medicine treatment;
- f) Total weight of [species] harvested per month.

7.1.3 Records must be kept for a minimum of 6 years and must be provided to SEPA upon request.

### 7.2 Data Reporting

7.2.1 The information specified in Table 5 must be submitted on a quarterly basis no later than the relevant submission deadline in Table 6 of every calendar year during which the site is operational.

Table 5: Data Reporting Requirements

|    |  |
|----|--|
| 1  | Maximum weight of (species) held on site during each month (tonnes)                      |
| 2  | Total amount of feed used per month (tonnes)   |
| 3  | Total Salmosan and/or Salmosan Vet and/or Azasure use each month (g)                     |
| 4  | Total AMX and/or ALPHAMAX use each month (litres)  |
| 5  | Total Slice and/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 use of each anti-parasiticide listed in the PSL each month [(unit of measurement)] |
| 10 | Total use of each anti-microbial listed in the PSL each month [(unit of measurement)]    |
| 11 | Total weight of mortalities of [species] each month (kg)                                 |

Table 6: 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          |

- 7.2.2 Results from the analysis of all benthic samples must be submitted to SEPA no later than [XX weeks] from the final date of each survey period.
- 7.2.3 Within [X] weeks of the end of each growth cycle a description of each of the steps taken in accordance with 3.1.1 and the dates and/or time period(s) over which they were implemented must be submitted to SEPA.
- 7.2.4 The information must be submitted via email, in the Excel Spreadsheet supplied by SEPA, to [ffbiomass@sepa.org.uk](mailto:ffbiomass@sepa.org.uk).

## 8 INTERPRETATION OF TERMS

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

| Term                    | Definition  |
|-------------------------|---|
| “Authorised Activity”   | Means the controlled activity which is authorised under this permit and subject to the conditions of this permit.   |
| “Authorised Location”   | Means the geographic location or locations at which the Authorised Activity is carried on.  |
| “Authorised Person”     | Means the person who is responsible for securing compliance with the terms of this permit and has been identified as such by SEPA in accordance with regulations 8(6) of the Regulations.   |
| “Controlled Activity”   | Means an activity to which the regulations apply, in accordance with regulation 3(1) of the Regulations   |
| “Environmental Harm”    | Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Harm to the health of human beings or other living organisms,</li> <li>(b) Harm to the quality of the water environment, including-                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) harm to the quality of the water environment taken as a whole,</li> <li>(ii) other impairment of, or interference with, the quality of aquatic ecosystems or terrestrial ecosystems directly depending on aquatic ecosystems,</li> </ul> </li> <li>(c) offence to the sense of human beings,</li> <li>(d) damage to property, or</li> <li>(e) impairment of, or any interference with, amenities or other legitimate uses of the water environment.</li> </ul> |
| “Pen”                   | Means an enclosed cage, net or other structure in which fish are kept.  |
| “Permit”                | Means an authorisation under regulation 8 of the Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011.   |
| “SEPA Officer”          | Means any person who is authorised by SEPA under <a href="#">regulation</a> 31(4) of the Regulations to exercise the powers specified in Part 1 of Schedule 6 of the Regulations for the purposes specified in Regulation 31(5) of the Regulations.   |
| “SEPA”                  | Means the Scottish Environment Protection Agency  |
| “the Water Environment” | Means all Surface Water, groundwater and wetlands   |
| “Weight of fish”        | Means the weight of fish including stomach contents and body fluids. This shall not be after any period of starvation.  |

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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