

Regulation of Marine Pen Fish Farms

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Purpose

- Progress
- New permit applications
- Variation of existing permits
- Wellboats
- Digital Permitting System

Simple, outcome focused permits

- Background
- Finalised
- Supporting Guidance

<https://www.sepa.org.uk/regulations/water/aquaculture>

SCHEDULE 2: MARINE PEN FISH FARM DESCRIPTION

▶ 2.1 Fish species

▼ 2.2 Maximum Weight of Fish

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

This condition controls the scale of the discharge from the fish farm. The figure used in each permit is site specific and is set at a level to prevent a breach of environmental standards.

Only the species which is being grown for cultivation is included in conditions 2.1.1 and 2.2.1. Some farms use 'cleaner fish', such as wrasse, which are kept in the same pens as the cultivated fish in order to feed on any sea-lice which may be present.

SEPA encourages the use of non-medicinal strategies to control sea-lice and 'cleaner fish' are an important part of these strategies at many fish farms. We do not currently control the number of cleaner fish present at fish farms. We will continue to monitor the use of cleaner fish and if there is evidence that they have a significant contribution to loading of waste discharged to the water environment we may revise our position.

▶ 2.3 Fallow Period

▶ 2.4 Pen Configuration

SCHEDULE 3: MEDICINE USE

▶ 3.1 Medicine Minimisation

▶ 3.2 Medicines and Chemical Use

▶ 3.3 Permitted Substance List OR Permitted Substance Working Plan

▶ 3.4 Bath Sea Lice Medicines

▶ 3.5 In-feed Sea Lice Medicines

▶ 3.6 Notification of Medicines Use

SCHEDULE 4: SEABED STANDARDS

▶ 4.1 Biological Seabed Standards

▶ 4.2 Chemical Seabed Standards

Transitional: New Applications

- Applications received after 1st January 2020
- New pre-application process
- Public participation
- Modelling
- Baseline Monitoring
- Monitoring Plan

Transitional: Existing Permits

- Existing permits on new regulatory framework by end of 2022
- Plan to start transferring farms to new template in 1st Quarter 2020
- Phasing of regulatory framework dependent on:
 - Growth cycle/monitoring window
 - Failing sites

Existing Permits - Phasing I

	2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4
Production Cycle																
Permit Variation																
Sampling period																
Monitoring Plan submission																



9 months

Existing Permits - Phasing II

	2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4
Production Cycle	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange		Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange			
Permit Variation	Blue															
70 day sampling window				Red							Green					
Monitoring Plan submission								Yellow								

Existing Permits - Phasing II

	2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4
Production Cycle																
Permit Variation																
70 day sampling window																
Monitoring Plan submission																

Existing Permits - Failing Sites

	2020				2021				2022				2023			
	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4	Qu.1	Qu.2	Qu.3	Qu.4
Production Cycle																
Permit Variation																
Sampling period																
Monitoring Plan submission																

Wellboats

- We are likely to become regulator of discharges from...
- Possibly from January 2020
- No time-limited expiry
- Similar conditions to bath treatments

Digital Permitting Development

- Discovery
- New application system for low risk activities
- Undertaking a pilot on a new Customer Relationship System

Questions?