

Laura Connelly

From: Shona Turnbull
Sent: 29 January 2018 09:14
To: 'Kaye Williamson'; Alex Turner
Cc: Epc
Subject: RE: Leinish & Gob na Hoe fish farms - Request for clarification/

Categories: Laura

Hi Kaye/Alex,
Please provide the info to us/SNH by tomorrow, thanks
Alex – please let me have your response by Friday, thanks
Shona

Dr Shona Turnbull
Coastal Planning Officer
Development and Infrastructure Service
The Highland Council



Scottish Awards for
Quality in Planning
2016: Award Winner

Wick: [REDACTED]

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From: Kaye Williamson [mailto:kaye.williamson@griegseafood.com]
Sent: 29 January 2018 08:07
To: Alex Turner; Shona Turnbull
Cc: Mark Harvey
Subject: RE: Leinish & Gob na Hoe fish farms - Request for clarification/

Dear Alex,

I am still waiting on clarification on a few points in your request from the Area Manager before I return our response and would be appreciative of a few more days to be able to complete this for you.

Best regards,

Kaye

From: Alex Turner [mailto:Alex.Turner@snh.gov.uk]
Sent: 26 January 2018 19:05
To: 'Shona Turnbull (Shona.Turnbull@highland.gov.uk)' <Shona.Turnbull@highland.gov.uk>
Cc: Kaye Williamson <kaye.williamson@griegseafood.com>; 'mark.harvey@highland.gov.uk' <mark.harvey@highland.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Leinish & Gob na Hoe fish farms - Request for clarification/

Dear Shona,

Our revised deadline for these cases is today. I briefly discussed these cases with Mark earlier in the week. Just to confirm, we are unable to provide you with a scientific appraisal to allow you to complete your Appropriate Assessments for Ascribs, Isay and Loch Dunvegan SAC and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC until we receive the information detailed below. The benthic information is not critical.

Regards

Alex

Alex Turner
Area Officer, Skye and Lochalsh

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e-mail: alex.turner@snh.gov.uk

From: Alex Turner
Sent: 19 January 2018 19:09
To: 'Kaye Williamson (kaye.williamson@griegseafood.com)'
Cc: 'Shona Turnbull (Shona.Turnbull@highland.gov.uk)'; 'andrea.dilley@sepa.org.uk'; 'Anna.M.Donald@gov.scot'
Subject: Leinish & Gob na Hoe fish farms - Request for clarification/
Importance: High

Kaye,

Thanks for sending through the USB sticks with the benthic visual footage.

I have now reviewed the rest of the information submitted for Leinish and Gob na Hoe against the information we requested at scoping. I have also considered the change in status of Inner Hebrides and the Minches candidate SAC that has occurred since EIA scoping was completed in summer 2016. We now offer more detailed guidance on ADD usage.

We will require further information in order to advise the Council on their Habitats Regulations Appraisals:

1. Secondary anti-predator nets

In our scoping responses we said:

We request that details be provided on the design, deployment and management of the additional nets. In particular:

- will they be of a curtain/skirt type or full enclosure box/bag net;
- will they surround the entire farm or individual cages;
- how will they be tensioned;
- how will the separation between the predator net and cage net be maintained;
- confirm net mesh size.
- frequency of checking for entangled animals, reporting of such entanglement and feedback loops for their continued use;
- experience of use of similar equipment at other Grieg sites.

The only information I can find is 'If the above options fail and predation continues to be an issue underwater anti-predator nets may be utilised. Anti-predator nets will be 80mm² x 5mm HDPE and will only be deployed if problematic seal predation occurs'.

Please can you provide the additional information listed above.

2. ADDs

Our standard guidance is now that:

1. If ADDs are proposed then the applicant should provide an ADD deployment plan with their final planning application / ER. The plan should include the following details;
 - a. Details of the ADD model to be used, including
 - i. The device name (and version if appropriate)
 - ii. The indicative source level
 - iii. The typical frequency content of the chosen device
 - iv. Details of any triggering method
 - v. Details of the duty cycle to be used (or the settings available), and
 - vi. The number and locations of device(s) to be deployed
 - b. How ADD use will be managed, including
 - i. Detail of the cues/triggers and decision process to activate ADDs
 - ii. How their use would be reviewed
 - iii. Criteria for deactivation or removal of ADDs
 - c. Undertaking on reporting
 - i. confirmation that a log will be kept recording
 1. the exact dates when the device was operated, how often it was operated on that date, for what duration and what the cue for its manual or auto-sensor operation was
 2. details of any predation events by seals and any predation measures (including ADD deployment) in use at that time should be logged
 3. details of the person or persons responsible for maintaining the logs.
 - ii. an undertaking that all logs will be maintained for review by the Planning Authority and/or SNH if deemed necessary by the Planning Authority.
2. In addition to the ADD deployment plan the final planning application / ER should include as assessment of how the development could combine with existing activities to increase the potential for cumulative impacts upon harbour porpoise.

Some of the above information has been provided in your EMP but more detail is required, in particular on the aspects I've highlighted above.

With reference to point 2, please confirm what ADD models are currently used, how they are used and managed, at your three farms in Loch Dunvegan. The ES states that they are currently used on an 'ad hoc' basis. Do you have a log of past usage or can you describe current usage in more detail?

Your flow chart is a good starting point for the ADD deployment plan. I suggest that it would be useful if you could consider whether it is necessary to leave the ADDs on for a month at a time before review.

Benthic

At scoping we recommended:

We also recommend that the applicant collate existing benthic data such as previous visual transects and monitoring data that relate to the depositional footprint of the proposed expansion area. These should be mapped on a chart showing the sampling locations in relation to the existing and proposed layouts and associated depositional footprints.

Is that information available?

Also, I can't find the benthic sampling tables which I think are standard for CAR? Do you have those?

Please let me know if you want to clarify any of the above.

Regards

Alex

Alex Turner
Area Officer, Skye and Lochalsh

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