



**Marine Scotland Intelligence Database**

Surveillance and Enforcement Branch

**Intelligence Report**

**DISSEMINATION**

MSIR Ref:

Grading Officer:

Date and Time of Report:

SOURCE EVALUATION	INTELLIGENCE EVALUATION	HANDLING CODE
REDACTED	REDACTED	REDACTED
		REDACTED
		REDACTED
		REDACTED
		REDACTED
		REDACTED
		REDACTED

**Intelligence received on 03/02/2020 provides that:**  
Juvenile male harbour seal shot by MOWI fish farm at Loch Ewe grid ref NG 84352 81421, on grounds of welfare to animal. Animal transported to Scottish Marine Animal Stranding Scheme who question necessity of doing this claiming that "there was no clear pathological reason for this animal to have been euthanized." Photos and emails on G drive.

Advice from MS LOT appears to be that seal was shot outwith licence requirements as it was understood to not be predated at the farm therefore should not be reported under a marine licence granted to protect the welfare of farmed fish

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Notes		
User	Date	Note
██████████ ██████████	05/02/2020 13:35:53	<p>The Seal licence WS16/2019/W pertaining to this site was valid from 01/02/2019 – 31/01/2020 and authorises MOWI to kill a maximum of 4 grey seals and 2 harbour seals. The latest figures available for 2019 show that 1 grey seal kill has been reported against this licence.</p> <p>MOWI had killed the seal out with the terms of the licence as there is provision within the Marine Scotland Act to kill a seal to alleviate suffering. MOWI sought advice from SAC over concerns of the animal and were unable to contact them on the day in question. Consequently they contacted SSPCA who looked at photographic evidence provided by MOWI and passed it to their vets . It was presumed by the vet that it was an animal welfare officer that had taken the photo , the vet advised the officer to check if the injury to the animal had exposed bone and if it was the case then the animal should be euthanized and was surprised that the animal was actually shot rather than put to sleep. The animal welfare officer had provided the following advice to MOWI “ After forwarding the photos to our vets at the wildlife centre they can confirm that the seal has a substantial wound to its rear flipper and on welfare grounds would need to be put to sleep as soon as practicality possible.”</p> <p>The fish farm had taken steps to seek advice and have followed what they thought to be expert advice and shot the animal as no local vets were available .</p>
██████████ ██████████	05/02/2020 14:32:41	<p>The Seal licence WS16/2019/W pertaining to this site was valid from 01/02/2019 – 31/01/2020 and authorises MOWI to kill a maximum of 4 grey seals and 2 harbour seals. The latest figures available for 2019 show that 1 grey seal kill has been reported against this licence.</p> <p>MOWI had killed the seal out with the terms of the licence as there is provision within the Marine Scotland Act to kill a seal to alleviate suffering. MOWI sought advice from SAC over concerns of the animal and were unable to contact them on the day in question. Consequently they contacted SSPCA who looked at photographic evidence provided by MOWI and passed it to their vets . It was presumed by the vet that it was an animal welfare officer that had taken the photo , the vet advised the officer to check if the injury to the animal had</p>



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<p>██████████ ██████████</p>	<p>06/02/2020 10:32:22</p>	<p>msir Live marking removed.</p>

**Disclaimer**  
Treat personal data with care. Keep secure. Do not pass on personal information to unauthorised persons.