



marine scotland

## MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010: PART 6 – CONSERVATION OF SEALS

### Seal Management Licence

*Licence to shoot seals to protect the health and welfare of farmed fish in Scotland*

Licence Number: WS18/2011/W/0

The Scottish Ministers, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 110 (1) (f) of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, and after consultation with the Natural Environment Research Council, hereby license The Scottish Salmon Company Ltd (hereinafter referred to as "the licensee") to have up to a maximum of 9 Grey and 17 Common Seals shot by the nominated marksmen named in **Annex A** in waters within 150 metres of the fish farms named in **Annex B** to protect the health and welfare of farmed fish on those farms during the period 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012 (both dates inclusive) subject to the conditions specified below.

Marine Scotland will issue a reminder to each licensee that a record of any seal killed under this licence be sent to this office on a quarterly basis. Returns should be despatched on the statutory form covering the most recent three month period so as to reach this office within 10 days of the end of each period. If no seal is killed a "nil" return shall be sent. The return shall be addressed to Seal Licensing, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, PO Box 101, 375 Victoria Road, ABERDEEN, AB11 9DB.

For and on behalf of the Scottish Ministers

Licensing Operations Team  
Marine Planning and Policy



## GENERAL LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. The only means by which seals may be killed in terms of this licence is by shooting with a rifle using ammunition with a muzzle energy not less than 600 foot pounds and a bullet weighing not less than 45 grains.
2. Any person shooting under the authorisation conferred by this licence must be in possession of a current firearm certificate for the rifle being used and valid for the purpose and area specified in the licence.
3. Nominated marksmen must not shoot more than the maximum number of each species of seal given on the licence. It is the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that maximum limits are adhered to.
4. All reasonable steps should be taken to ensure against a prolonged and painful death including locating and humanely dispatching injured animals.
5. Seals should only be shot in suitable weather conditions when there is sufficient visibility and sea conditions are such as to allow a clear shot in the opinion of the nominated marksman or licensee on a reasonable assessment.
6. Seals should be shot from a range of no more than 150 metres.
7. Seals must not be shot from anything which might, in the opinion of the nominated marksman or licensee, on a reasonable assessment, be considered an unstable platform.
8. The licensee should take all reasonable steps to recover the carcasses of shot seals provided it is safe to do so.
9. The licensee shall produce this licence on demand to a constable or Marine Scotland Marine Enforcement Officer or, if required, to the occupier of land entered upon for the purpose of shooting seals.
10. This licence may be revoked at any time by written notice sent by recorded delivery post to the licensee at the address given by him in the application for the licence or by written notice delivered personally to the licensee by an officer of Marine Scotland in which case the licence must immediately be surrendered to Marine Scotland.
11. The licensee and nominated marksmen must adhere to the Scottish Seal Management Code of Practice.

## SPECIFIC LICENCE CONDITIONS

1. Seals should not be shot when they are hauled out on land.
2. Seals should only be shot at fish farm sites which are currently stocked with aquaculture animals.

**Failure to comply with a licence condition is an offence.**

**It is a defence for the person charged to prove that the person took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.**

### Notes

- a. Nothing in this licence may be taken to absolve the licensee from compliance with any act of Parliament, Rules or Regulations, Orders or byelaws relating to the use and/or possession of firearms.
- b. This licence does not confer any authority to enter land for the purposes authorised by the licence.

**Annex B**  
Fish Farms Included

Kenmore – FS0050  
Camas an Eilean – FS0049  
Aird – FS0594