**Compliance and Declaration**

Please sign below once you are satisfied that you have completed the form correctly. Your application will not be valid if you do not enclose all the correct and requested information and sign the form.

I, as the applicant, declare that I have read and understood the Marine Fund Scotland Application Guidance Note (e-system guidance), General Guidance Note, Business Case Template and Guidance, and application form. In particular, I confirm that I have read and understood the appeals process set out in the Marine Fund Scotland Application Guidance Note (e-system guidance).

I declare that the information given in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

If an agent or someone acting on my behalf has completed this application or submitted documents in support of the application, I confirm that I have checked the information provided in the application form and its supporting documents and I am satisfied that it is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I confirm that all quotes for work that accompany this application have been supplied by the parties concerned and have been provided independently and as part of a genuine competitive tendering process. If any quotes have been obtained through a third party such as a project manager, I confirm that I am satisfied that they have been supplied in this manner.

I declare that I have permission from any other partner(s) in the project to sign the application form on their behalf.

I understand that all Marine Fund Scotland offers of grant funding are discretionary and there is no automatic entitlement to any funds.

I know of no reason why I (or my organisation) should not be offered Marine Fund Scotland funding.

I confirm that I (or my organisation) will comply with the eligibility criteria in the Marine Fund Scotland General Guidance Note. I confirm that I will immediately notify the Scottish Ministers if I or any other partner(s) in the project (or my organisation) is found to have committed a fraud or a serious infringement (as both terms are defined in the Marine Fund Scotland General Guidance Note) prior to submitting this application or at any time up to five years from the date of receiving the final instalment of the Grant.

I confirm that I do not have (or my organisation does not have) and that no close relative of mine nor any other partner(s) in the project has any financial or other material interest in the companies that will supply goods and services to the project. If that is not the case I confirm that I have explained this in full within the application form, including the nature and extent of any interest (financial or material non-financial) in the companies that will supply goods and services to the project. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, I confirm that I have explained any controlling interest that I (or my organisation), my close relative or partner(s) in the project have in said companies and whether my organisation and such a company are part of the same company group. I accept that where there is a close connection between myself (or my organisation) or my close relative or partner(s) in the project and a company or companies that will supply goods and services to the project, the eligibility of the project costs associated with said company or companies shall be entirely at the Scottish Ministers’ discretion.

I understand that Marine Fund Scotland funding cannot given retrospectively but that there are exceptions to this rule. I understand that if this application for grant funding results in a formal Offer of Grant, costs incurred prior to the acknowledgement by the Scottish Ministers of this application and up to a value of 10% of the total eligible costs can be considered eligible for reimbursement. I understand that such costs must be directly related to the project which is the subject of this application and must be considered essential to bringing this application to submission stage. I understand that the eligibility of these costs is entirely at the Scottish Ministers’ discretion and is not guaranteed. I accept that any such costs are undertaken entirely at my (or my organisation’s) own risk.

I understand that the project which is the subject of this application can commence after receiving a written acknowledgement from the Scottish Ministers of this application for grant funding. However, I accept that any costs incurred between receiving a written acknowledgement from the Scottish Ministers and receiving a formal Offer of Grant are incurred at my (or my organisation’s) own risk, as applying to the Marine Fund Scotland does not guarantee approval of funding even if the project may meet the scheme objectives and priorities. I understand that while costs incurred by me (or my organisation) during this period are potentially eligible for funding, the eligibility of such costs is not guaranteed. I understand that the decision on the eligibility of such costs is entirely at the Scottish Ministers’ discretion.

I understand that all grant funded work carried out in connection with the project which is the subject of this application must be completed no later than 31 March 2022.

I accept that if the project which is the subject of this application has been physically completed or fully implemented prior to receiving a written acknowledgement from the Scottish Ministers the project cannot be funded even if it may meet the Marine Fund Scotland objectives and priorities.

I undertake to inform the Scottish Ministers in writing of any change in circumstances which may affect the accuracy of the information given whilst this application is being considered by the Scottish Ministers.

I understand that Marine Fund Scotland funding may be withheld or any paid monies recovered if it is found to have been obtained by the provision of false, misleading or inaccurate information or due to the withholding of or a failure to disclose material facts, it was not used for the purpose for which it was granted or if any grant condition was not complied with.

I understand that responsibility for ensuring that the project which is the subject of this application is technically viable, complies with all relevant health and safety legislation and any other project specific safety requirements, is my responsibility and not the responsibility of the Scottish Ministers.

I understand that information given by me will be treated in confidence, but may be submitted for checking against records held by other government departments, other agencies, local authorities and the police, for the purposes of assessing eligibility for Marine Fund Scotland funding or for the purposes of the prevention or detection of crime.

I authorise HM Revenue and Customs to provide the Scottish Ministers with any information relevant to this application, and with any information needed to check the information I have provided if necessary.

I understand that any information provided to the HM Revenue and Customs in connection with this application may be used by them for the purpose of their statutory functions.

I, as the applicant for a grant on this project declare that I am (or my organisation is) (delete as appropriate):

 registered for VAT

 not VAT registered

 in the process of registering for VAT

I understand that if I am not (or my organisation is not) registered for VAT, I must complete the VAT Declaration at page 12 below.

I understand that when examining the above-mentioned claim and the below VAT Declaration (if applicable), the Scottish Ministers may have to ask HM Revenue and Customs about my (or my organisation’s) VAT registration status, and I have no objection to any such enquiry.

**Please sign below once you are satisfied that you have completed the form correctly. Your application will not be valid if you do not enclose all the correct and requested information and sign the form.**