

Chairman
David Shiel
12 North St.
Seahouses
NE68
01665 720775
07908834444
fishingboatman@tiscali.co.uk

President
Capt. J. Evans
Dundee Ho
Harbour Rd.
Eyemouth
TD14 5JB
01890
jevans02436@jevans02436.plus.com



**ANGLO SCOTTISH
FISHERMEN'S
ASSOCIATION**

Secretary : A.B. Ritchie
25 Crumstone
Seahouses
NE68 7RJ
tel : 01665 720870
mob: 07947970969
email: sandyritchie541@btinternet.com

3/12/2013

Seaweed Policy Consultation
Marine Scotland
1-B North
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH 6 6QQ

Dear Sirs,

This Association, being a member of Scottish Fishermen's Federation, endorses the reply to your consultation sent 29th Dec 2013. As we are members of ECIFG I will recommend to its board that they also support the response.

A B Ritchie
Secretary



Our Ref: MM/fi/CR13-133

Your Ref:

5th December 2013

Scottish Fishermen's Federation
24 Rubislaw Terrace
Aberdeen, AB10 1XE
Scotland UK

T: +44 (0) 1224 646944
F: +44 (0) 1224 647058
E: sff@sff.co.uk

www.sff.co.uk

Seaweed Policy Consultation
Marine Scotland
1-B North
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

email: spsconsult@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Sirs,

Seaweed Policy Statement Consultation

The Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF), on behalf of its members, the Anglo-Scottish Fishermen's Association, the Clyde Fishermen's Association, the Fishing Vessel Agents & Owners Association (Scotland) Limited, the Mallaig and North-West Fishermen's Association, the Orkney Fishermen's Association, Scallop Association, the Scottish Pelagic Fishermen's Association Ltd, the Scottish Whitefish Producers' Association Ltd and the Shetland Fishermen's Association, together the largest organised grouping of fishing interests in Scotland is pleased to have the opportunity to respond to this consultation on a matter which seeks to operate in the same environment as the fishing industry.

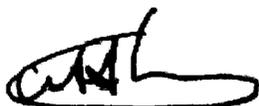
On the matter of siting seaweed farms, the SFF would expect that the requirements outlined in the UK Marine Policy Statement are adhered to, which are that planning decisions should weigh both the potential beneficial and adverse effects of any proposal. This requirement is further refined to specifically consider and measure the impacts on local communities of any reduction in fishing activity.

These matters are addressed in the proposed Scottish Marine Plan, Fisheries Policy 4, which describes the key factors which must be taken into account in any decision on planning activity in the Marine Environment, namely, the economic importance of fishing, in particular to vulnerable coastal communities and the potential for displacement of fishing activity and the socio-economic costs of such displacement.

Therefore the SFF would expect that whichever avenue for licensing is chosen, these two policies would be adhered to and that fishing interests would be paramount in the role of statutory consultees in order to be able to fulfil those requirements for considering the impacts on the fishing industry, and subsequently where the adverse affects on fishing are demonstrable no new activity should be allowed.

On the subjects of scale of farms, species, harvesting and final use of seaweed the SFF would only comment that it would be proper for the development of any new industry that the appropriate science is considered, to enable the most beneficial human socio-economic and environmental effects of any proposals for seaweed farms.

Yours faithfully,



Bertie Armstrong
Chief Executive
Scottish Fishermen's Federation