

From: [REDACTED]
Head of Aquaculture Policy Unit
18 April 2018

Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity
Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform

WILD SALMON AND AQUACULTURE INTERACTIONS WORKING GROUP: CHAIR SELECTION

Purpose

1. For the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity and the Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform to select one of the nominees at **Annex A** to be invited to chair the Wild Salmon And Aquaculture Interactions Working Group.

Priority

2. Urgent – we are working towards announcing details of the group, the Chair and the date of the first meeting before the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity provides evidence to the REC on 9 May.

Background

3. The background and suggested remit for the working group has previously been agreed, namely:

- To consider the findings from the ECCLR inquiry (including the literature review undertaken by SAMS), and any other evidence, concerning the environmental impacts of salmon farms on wild salmon and aquaculture interactions.
- In light of all of the above, evaluate current Scottish Government policy and advice governing wild/farmed salmon sea lice interactions; and,
- Review the existing and planned projects around the interactions between farmed and wild salmon (including those associated with Environmental Management Plans) to ensure they inform the implementation and adaptation of actions to monitor and mitigate the impact.
- Make recommendations, including a delivery plan of agreed actions and timescales, for a future interactions approach, including the need for any further research, changes to planning advice and environmental monitoring and potential use of ‘adaptive management’ techniques.

4. In the interim period we have been looking to identify a range of potential nominees for the role of Chair. [REDACTED]

Development of the shortlist

5. To create the list at Annex A, the suggested names were considered in the context of the following characteristics which we believe the chair will need in order to manage the various participating parties:

- Seen to have a degree of independence and able to bring together people with a wide range of positions on the environment, aquaculture and wild fisheries.
- Previous experience in a similar capacity and acknowledged ability to deliver results.
- Unaffected by the current Parliamentary debates but understanding of the wider political sensitivities at this time.

6. Annex A includes both background information on each candidate, and some analysis against these points



Next steps

7. Once identified, officials will approach the preferred candidate informally to determine whether they would be interested in taking up the appointment. If this is positive, a draft letter of invitation will be provided.

Handling

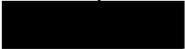
8. Once a chair has been invited to take and accepted the role, officials will work with communications officials to place information about the chair's appointment in the public domain and to organise the inaugural meeting of the group.

Recommendation

9. For the Cabinet Secretary for the Rural Economy and Connectivity and Cabinet Secretary for the Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform to invite one of the nominees at Annex A to chair the Wild Salmon And Aquaculture Interactions Working Group.

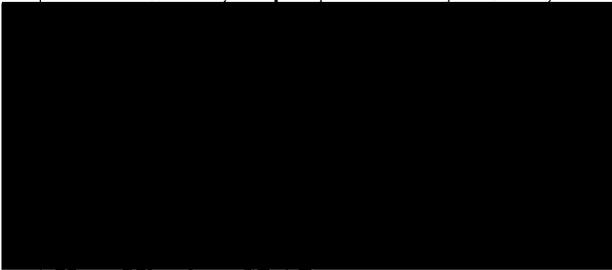


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Copy List:	For Action	For Comments	For Information		
			Portfolio Interests	Constitutional Interests	General Awareness

Director, Marine Scotland
 Bridget Campbell, Director EQD
 Mike Palmer, Deputy Director, ACRE, Marine Scotland



Kate Higgins, SPAD
 David Miller, SPAD

Potential candidates

Annex

A

2 pages redacted [exempt.]