Case No:	2025-0099	Date of visit:	01/05/2025
Time spent on site:	3 hours	Main Inspector:	[redacted]
Site No:	FS0637	Site Name:	Stead of Aithness
Business No:	FB0095	Business Name:	Cooke Aquaculture Scotland Ltd

Case Types: 1 ECI 2 CNI 3 SLI 4 VMD 5 6

Water Temp (°C): 9.5 Thermometer No: T306 FHI 045 completed N/A

Observations: Region: SH Water type: S CoGP MA: S-8b

Dead/weak/abnormally behaving fish present?	N	If yes, see additional information/clinical score sheet.
Clinical signs of disease observed?	N	If yes, see additional information/clinical score sheet.
Gross pathology observed?	N	If yes, see additional information/clinical score sheet.
Diagnostic samples taken?	N	

UNI/REG only - if unable to carry out intended visit detail reason below:

Additional Case Information:

Mortalities transported by TWMA to Bressy.

Slice treatment: 03 Nov 2024
Thermolicer: 20-23/01/2025
Hydrolicer: 07-09/03/2025
Sea lice treatments were effective in reducing lice load on fish during previous cycle. No issues with lice at time of inspection. VMD fish were healthy when opened.

Case No: 2025-0099 Site No: FS0637

Date of Visit: 01/05/2025 Inspector(s): [redacted]

Registration/Authorisation Details

1. Business/site details summary checked by site representative?	Y
2. Changes made to details?	N

Site Details (include cleaner fish for all sections)

Total No facilities	12	Facilities stocked	10	No facilities inspected	12		
Species	SAL						
Age group	24 S0						
No Fish	657,280						
Mean Fish Wt	1.4 Kg						
Next Fallow Date (Site)	June 26		Next Input Date (Site)	September 26			
Recent (last 4 wks) disease problems?	N		Any escapes (since last visit)?	N			
If yes, detail:							

Movement Records

1. Movement records available for inspection?	Y
2. Date of last inspection:	09/03/2022
3. Are records complete and correctly entered?	Y
4. Are movement records available for dead fish and waste?	Y
5. Are records complete and correctly entered?	Y
6. Are health certificates for introductions (outwith GB) available?	N/A

Transport Records

1. Are any movements carried out by (or on behalf) of the business (not using a STB)?	Y
If yes, is there a system in place for maintenance of transportation records?	Y

Mortality Records

1. Mortality records available for inspection?	Y
2. How are mortalities disposed of?	Ensiled - on site
If other detail:	
3. Mortality records complete and correctly entered?	Y
4. Recent mortality (last 4 wks):	WK 17 - 0.02% (107), WK16 - 0.07% (485), WK15 0.11% (694), WK14 - 0.08 (568)
5. Evidence of recent increased/atypical mortalities?	N
If yes, facility nos/no mortality per facility/no stock per facility/reason:	
6. Any other peaks in mortality during period checked?	Y
If yes, detail:	2024 WK17 - WK23: Increase in mortality attributed to environmental factors and gill health 0.68% - 1.63% (in WK23). Reduced to 0.95% WK24
7. Have increased (unexplained) mortalities been reported to vet or FHI?	N/A
If yes, detail action:	
8. Have 'mortality events' been reported to FHI? If no, enter details on mortality events sheet.	Y

Treatments and Medicines Records

1. Recent treatments (see comment)?	Y
If yes, detail:	TMS
If other, detail:	
2. Medicines records available for inspection?	Y
3. Are records complete and correctly entered?	Y
4. Are fish in a withdrawal period?	Y
5. If yes, what treatment(s)?	TMS
If other, detail:	
6. Are medicines stored appropriately?	Y

Biosecurity Records

1. Biosecurity records available for inspection?	Y
2. Has the manner and frequency of mortality removal, recording and safe disposal been considered?	Y
3. Has the manner and period in which the APB will notify Scottish Ministers or veterinary professional of any *increased* (*unexplained)* mortality at the site been included?	Y
4. Has the action that will be taken in the event that the presence or suspicion of the presence of a listed disease is detected been included and *how* and *when* that will be notified to Scottish Ministers?	Y
5. Has the health status of aquaculture animals being stocked on the farm site been covered (equal or higher health status, certification if required)?	Y
6. Have the husbandry and biosecurity measures implemented between each epidemiological unit to minimise transmission of disease been covered (movement of staff, visitors, equipment, live or dead fish etc.)?	Y
7. Is documentation available regarding the measures in place to maintain the physical containment of aquaculture animals held on site?	Y
8. Have the biosecurity procedures been adequately implemented on site?	Y
If no, detail:	

Results of Surveillance

1. Has any animal health surveillance been carried out by, or on behalf of, the business?	Y
2. If yes, are results available for inspection?	Y
3. Any significant results?	N
If yes, detail (if not detailed under recent disease problems).	

Records checked between:	09/03/2022 - 01/05/2025

Case no:	2025-0099	Site No:	FS0637	Date of visit/ Sampling:	01/05/2025	01/0							
Priority samples:	VI		BA		PA		MG		HI				
Time sampling starts/ends:	13:00:00	13:00:00	Inspector:		VMD No.	4							
Environmental conditions:	1	Indoors	2		3		4		5				
Summary samples	HIST		BA		MG		VI		PA		Total Samples		

Add Fish/Pools - click

	Pool/Fish No												
	Fish nos	F1											
	Pool Group												
Stock Details	Species	SAL											
	Average weight	1.4 Kg											
	Sex	N/A											
	Water Type	SW											
	Stock Origin	Furnace (FS0339)											
	Facility No	4											

05/2025 Additional Sample Information:

0 Total Tests assigned 0

Case Number:	2025-0099		Site No:	FS0637	Insp:	
Date of Visit	01/05/2025					

		No of movements/supp./dest.				Score
Live fish movements		**0**	**1-5**	**6-10**	**>10**	
Movements on (from out with GB) of susceptible species	Frequency of movements on from equivalent MS	0	5	10	14	0
	Frequency of movements on from equivalent zone or compartment including third country	0	9	18	26	
	Number of suppliers	0	5	10	14	
Movements off	Frequency of movements off	0	3	6	10	3
	Number of destinations	0	3	6	10	3

Exposure via water	**Site contacts**	**0**	**1-5**	**6-10**		
Water contacts with other farms (holding species susceptible to same diseases)	Farm is protected (secure water supply through disinfection or borehole)	0				
	Farm is on-line or in a coastal zone with category I farms upstream or within 1 tidal excursion	1	2	4		2
	Farm is on-line or in a coastal zone with category III farms upstream or within 1 tidal excursion	1	3	6		
	Farm is on-line or in a coastal zone with category V farms upstream or within 1 tidal excursion	1	4	8		

Management practices		None	Secure	Unsecure		
Water contacts with processors	Any processing plant discharging into adjacent waters	0	1	2		0
On farm processing within the rules of the directive	No on farm processing	0				
	Processing own fish (re-cycling risk)	1				1
	Processing fish from MS of equivalent status	2				
	Processing fish from zone or compartment of equivalent status	4				
	Processing fish from Category III farm	8				
	Processing fish from Category V farm	10				
Disposal of fish and fish by-products	Site's own waste only processed.	0				
	Common processes with other farms	3				3
	Collection point for waste from other farms	5				
Use of unpasteurised feeds	No feeding of unpasteurised feed	0				0
	Feeding unpasteurised feed	5				

Biosecurity	**Number of sites**	**1**	**2 or 3**	**≥ 4**		
Contacts with other sites	Sites operating from single shorebase	0	1	2		2
	Sites sharing staff and equipment	0	1	2		1
Disinfection of equipment between sites, use of footbaths etc	Yes	0				0
	No	1				
CoGP/Regulator						
Practices in accordance with regulator or industry code of practice	Yes	0				0
	No	3				
Platform access to cages	Yes	0				0
	No	2				

Total	**15**
Rank	**LOW**

Case No: 2025-0099 Site No: FS0637

Sea Lice Inspection (Seawater Sites Only)

1. Has the site experienced sea lice problems in the previous 4 years?	N
2. Is the CoGP Farm Management Area (or equivalent) fallowed synchronously on a single year class basis?	Y
3. Does the site have access to a range of licenced in-feed and bath sea lice medications (including deltamethrin, azamethiphos and emamectin benzoate) as well as access to suitable biological and/or mechanical control measures, and can these be deployed in a reasonable period of time?	Y
4. Is there a signed documented farm management agreement or statement relevant to the site and CoGP Farm Management Area (or equivalent)?	Y
5. Are sea lice count records available for inspection? (Legal SSI, CoGP Annex 6)	Y
6. Do records adequately reflect the required standard specified in the SSI and the CoGP? (Legal SSI, CoGP Annex 6)	Y
7. Are sea lice (*L. salmonis*) record levels below the suggested criteria for treatment in the CoGP during the period that records are inspected? (CoGP Annex 6)	N
8. Have average adult female sea lice (*L. salmonis*) numbers per fish been at a level of 3 or above (prior to w/b 10/6/19) or 2 or above (from w/b 10/6/19) during the period that records are inspected?	Y
If yes, have these been reported to the Fish Health Inspectorate? If no, FHI see comment.	Y
9. Is *C. elongatus* infestation at a level which is considered to cause significant welfare problems? (CoGP 4.3.81, 5.3.50)	N
10. Have therapeutic treatments been administered or other actions taken when *L. salmonis levels* have exceeded the suggested criteria for treatment or where *C. elongatus* is considered to have welfare implications? (CoGP 4.3.82, 5.3.51)	Y
11. Has any other action been taken (where applicable)?	N/A
12. Have therapeutic treatments or the actions taken had a significant impact upon the lice levels recorded?	Y
13. Are treatments, where conducted, carried out in cooperation between participating farms?	Y
14. Is there a harvesting strategy for the site, where fewer populations or part populations are held without treatment for sea lice?	Y
15. Is there a site specific written lice management procedure with waypoints describing set actions to deal with recognised scenarios during the escalation of a sea lice infestation?	Y
16. Do the sea lice levels observed on stocks reflect sea lice count data? If no please detail reasons.	Y

Containment Inspection

1. Has the site experienced equipment damage due to predators in the current or previous production cycles?	N
2. Are measures in place to mitigate against the predation experienced on site? (Detail below)	Y

Seal nets, tensioned nets, top nets

If other, detail below:

3. Have escape incidents or events been experienced on or in the vicinity of the site since the last FHI inspection?	N
If Yes proceed with questions 4 – 9. If No skip to question 10	
4. Have these been reported to Scottish Ministers?	
5. Have these been reported to local DSFB forthwith (where they exist)? (CoGP – 4.4.37, 5.4.17)	
6. Have these been reported to the SSPO and local fisheries trusts forthwith (where they exist)? (CoGP – 4.4.37, 5.4.17)	
7. Were methods (if any) used to recover escapees? If yes give detail	
8. If gill nets were deployed was this action agreed with local wild fish interests and was permission given by Scottish Ministers? (Legal, CoGP – 4.4.38, 5.4.18)	
9. What action was taken to prevent and minimise the risk of further escapes? (Not covered in code but could be considered under satisfactory measures of the Act)	
10. Is the site inspected as satisfactory with regards to containment? If no, please detail reason(s)	Y

Case No: 2025-0099 Site No: FS0637

Date of Visit: 01/05/2025 Inspector: [redacted]

Point of Compliance

1. Is the farm under inspection located within a farm management area?	Y

If N, no further questions require completion.

Points of Compliance for Both Farm Management Agreements and Statements

2. Has a current farm management agreement or statement (FMAg/S) been prepared?	Y
3. Is the current FMAg/S available for inspection?	Y
4. Does the FMAg/S identify the relevant farm management area?	Y
5. Does the FMAg/S identify the fish farm site(s) to which it applies?	Y
6. Does the FMAg/S identify the date of commencement of the agreement or statement?	Y
7. Does the FMAg/S identify the date of review?	Y

Arrangements for Fish Health Management

8. Does the FMAg/S identify the minimum health standards for the stocks to be introduced to the area or farm?	Y
9. Does the FMAg/S identify the vaccination requirements for stocks held in the area or farm?	Y
10. Does the FMAg/S identify the species of fish which may be stocked into the area or farm?	Y
11. Does the FMAg/S identify the maximum stocking density of any pen on any farm in the area or the individual farm?	Y
12. Does the FMAg/S identify the arrangements for the storage and disposal of any dead fish from any fish farm in the area or the individual farm?	Y

Arrangements for The Management of Sea Lice

13. Does the FMAg/S identify arrangements for the sharing of data on sea lice numbers and treatments?	Y
14. Does the FMAg/S identify the availability and the use of medicines on farms covered by the agreement of statement?	Y
15. Does the FMAg/S identify any requirements for the sensitivity testing of available treatments for sea lice on farms in the area or individual farms?	Y
16. Does the FMAg/S identify the circumstances under which biological controls and cleaner fish are to be used on farms in the area or individual farms?	Y
17. Does the FMAg/S identify the arrangements for synchronous treatments on farms within the area?	Y

Live Fish Movements

18. Does the FMAg/S identify the circumstances when live fish may be introduced or removed from the area or farm?	Y
19. Does the FMAg/S identify the arrangements for the movement of live fish on and off sites in the area or individual farms?	Y

Harvesting

20. Does the FMAg/S identify acceptable harvest practices on farms in the area or individual farms?	Y

Fallowing

21. Does the FMAg/S identify the dates by which the area or individual farm will be fallow and the earliest date when a farm or area may be restocked?	Y
22. Does the FMAg/S identify whether one or more year classes may be stocked onto sites covered by the agreement or statement?	Y
23. Does the FMAg/S identify whether broodstock or potential broodstock are to be kept on any site covered by the agreement or statement?	Y

Point of Compliance for Farm Management Agreements Only

24. Does the farm management agreement include arrangements for persons to become, or cease to be, parties to the agreement?	N/A

Management and operation

25. Is the fish farm being managed and operated in accordance with the agreement or statement?	Y
26. What is the version no/date of issue of the FMAg/S?	12/09/2024

Case No: 2025-0099 Date of visit: 01/05/2025

Site No: FS0637 Inspector: [redacted]

Results Summary	Freq.	Date of Notification						
		Database	Insp	Phone	Insp	Writing	Insp	2nd Insp

Report Summary			
Case Type	Date	Insp	2nd Insp
ECI, CNI, SLI, VMD	18/05/2026		

Fish Health Inspectorate visit report

Summary for information of site operator

Business no:	FB0095	Date of visit:	01/05/2025
Site no:	FS0637	Site name:	Stead of Aithness
Case no:	20250099	Inspector:	[redacted]

Inspection under the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009

The above site was inspected in accordance with the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009.

All epidemiological units were inspected. On this occasion no samples were taken for disease analysis. The Inspector did not observe any clinical signs associated with the listed diseases as described in the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009

Records

The surveillance frequency category of the site was assessed as low. An inspection under the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009 will be conducted every third year. The category of the site will be reassessed on a routine basis and updated as required.

The information required for the public record of aquaculture production businesses regarding this site was verified and where necessary updated. The following records were also inspected to ensure that the conditions of authorisation for your Aquaculture Production Business (APB) are being met:

Aquaculture animal and aquaculture animal product movement records were inspected and appeared to be adequately maintained.

Records in relation to aquaculture animals transported by the business were inspected and found to be adequately maintained.

Mortality records were inspected and found to be adequately maintained.

Mortality levels had exceeded the reporting criteria since the last inspection and had been reported to the Fish Health Inspectorate as required.

UKAS Accredited Inspection Body - Type C No. 0269
Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB
Telephone – 0131 244 3498
Email – ms.fishhealth@gov.scot
Fish Health Inspectorate Website

Reports detailing the results of animal health surveillance carried out by or on behalf of the business and/or Marine Directorate were available for inspection.

The biosecurity measures plan for the site was inspected and found to be adequately maintained and implemented.

Inspection under the Animals and Animal Products (Examination for Residues and Maximum Residue Limits) (England and Scotland) Regulations 2015

Medicine records were inspected and found to be adequately maintained.

Samples were taken to be analysed for veterinary residues.

Inspection under the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007

The site was also inspected in accordance with the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007, as amended, with respect to section 3 regarding parasites (sea lice), section 4A regarding fish farm management agreements and statements and section 5 regarding containment and escapes.

On this occasion the site was found to be satisfactory with regards to parasites, fish farm management agreements and statements and containment and escapes

Please contact myself or the duty inspector should you require any further information or have any queries regarding this report.

Signed: [redacted] Date: 18/05/2026

Fish Health Inspector

The Fish Health Inspectorate Service Charter detailing standards of service is available on the Scottish Government website at Fish Health Inspectorate Service Charter - gov.scot (www.gov.scot)

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