

Case No: 2023-0010 Date of visit: 25/01/2023

Time spent on site: 2.5 hours Main Inspector:

Site No: FS1121 Site Name: Bight of Bellister, Dury Voe
Business No: FB0125 Business Name: Scottish Sea Farms Ltd

Case Types: 1 REP 2 ESC 3 4 5 6

Water Temp (°C): Thermometer No: FHI 045 completed

Observations: Region: SH Water type: S CoGP MA: S-5

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

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

Additional Case Information:

Mortality (recent weeks):

Wk4- 0.34%, 535

Wk3- 1.00%, 1968

Wk2-1.6%, 3992

Wk1- 1.74%, 3924

Wk52- 2.27%, 4794

Wk51-1.88%, 3594

Wk50- 3.55%, 9425

On the day of proposed inspection, inspector informed that 4 seals were observed in pen 12. Site was due to start harvesting pen 12 on day of site inspection, however due to seal observation, pen is required to be secure prior to the commencement of harvest. Divers were called immediately and inspection of the net was conducted 2.5 hours after seals were seen in pen. Efforts were made to coax seals out of the pen via the pens, however seals did not cooperate.

The stock on site are from Barcaldine Smolt Hatchery (Stofinfiskur).

The site visit was planned following recent weeks elevated mortality, above the reporting threshold. The main cause of mortality on site was attributed to PGD, CMS and AGD. Most recent health report highlighted that post FW treatment (which concluded 22/12/2022) gills have improved.

All nets on site are Seal Pro nets, dating back to 2017. The mesh size of these nets is 36mm x 36mm squares. The net in pen 12 was last inspected in 16/06/2021, with strength tests highlighting overall satisfaction by Morenot.

Divers arrived on site and conducted a dive survey the net of pen 12. Five holes were identified with the biggest whole being 2 x 2 mesh squares. Divers on 25/01/2023 patched the net using cable ties and net rope. Dive checks usually occur monthly. The nets after the production cycle are then sent back to Morenot for servicing and repair. Following the service, reports are generated to determine suitability of the net in the next production cycle.

At the start of the cycle, the site operates a double net system, with a smaller inner nylon net that is removed once maximum biomass density allowed by the RSPCA welfare standards is reached. There are plans in place for the nets provider to change to Knox nets for the next production cycle – continuing to be Seal Pro nets. In addition, the double net system will be reintroduced but with a larger and more robust inner net that will not need to be removed during the production cycle. In addition, the pen design will change to have higher poles as well as custom netting that is more durable.

From the size of holes observed from the dive report it was determined that no salmon would have been able to escape, nor did a seal enter via this route. The theory is that the seals were able to get in the pen by hauling themselves over the hand rail and under the top nets which were pushed back to allow the site to start harvesting. The site staff, prepare the site for harvest to allow well boat access to the pen. To ensure that seals are not able to access the pen again, bungee cord has been used to tie the skirt of the top net tighter to the pen net. Divers were also present on site on the 26/01/2023 and 27/01/2023 to check the condition of the remaining pens on site which are scheduled for harvest, with the exception of two pens. Two remaining pens will be on site till March 2023 when site falls.

Case No: Site No:

Date of Visit: Inspector(s):

Registration/Authorisation Details

1. Business/site details summary checked by site representative?

2. Changes made to details?

Site Details (include cleaner fish for all sections)

Total No facilities	<input type="text" value="12"/>	Facilities stocked	<input type="text" value="7"/>	No facilities inspected	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Species	<input type="text" value="SAL"/>				
Age group	<input type="text" value="2021 S0"/>				
No Fish	<input type="text" value="130,057"/>				
Mean Fish Wt	<input type="text" value="4.5kg"/>				
Next Fallow Date (Site)	<input type="text" value="March 2023"/>	Next Input Date (Site)	<input type="text" value="August 2023"/>		
Recent (last 4 wks) disease problems?		<input type="text" value="Y"/>	Any escapes (since last visit)?		<input type="text" value="Y"/>
If yes, detail:	<input type="text" value="CMS, PGD and PGD confirmed on site. 25/01/2023 4 seals were discovered in pen 12."/>				

Movement Records

1. Movement records available for inspection?

2. Date of last inspection:

3. Are records complete and correctly entered?

4. Are movement records available for dead fish and waste?

5. Are records complete and correctly entered?

6. Are health certificates for introductions (outwith GB) available?

Transport Records

1. Are any movements carried out by (or on behalf) of the business (not using a STB)?

If yes, is there a system in place for maintenance of transportation records?

Mortality Records

1. Mortality records available for inspection?

2. How are mortalities disposed of?

If other detail:

3. Mortality records complete and correctly entered?

4. Recent mortality (last 4 wks):

5. Evidence of recent increased/atypical mortalities?

If yes, facility nos/no mortality per facility/no stock per facility/reason:

6. Any other peaks in mortality during period checked?

If yes, detail:

7. Have increased (unexplained) mortalities been reported to vet or FHI?

If yes, detail action:

8. Have 'mortality events' been reported to FHI? If no, enter details on mortality events sheet.

Treatments and Medicines Records

1. Recent treatments (see comment)?

If yes, detail:

If other, detail:

2. Medicines records available for inspection?

3. Are records complete and correctly entered?

4. Are fish in a withdrawal period?

5. If yes, what treatment(s)?

If other, detail:

6. Are medicines stored appropriately?

Biosecurity Records

1. Biosecurity records available for inspection?

2. Has the manner and frequency of mortality removal, recording and safe disposal been considered?

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?

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?

5. Has the health status of aquaculture animals being stocked on the farm site been covered (equal or higher health status, certification if required)?

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.)?

7. Is documentation available regarding the measures in place to maintain the physical containment of aquaculture animals held on site?

8. Have the biosecurity procedures been adequately implemented on site?

If no, detail:

Results of Surveillance

1. Has any animal health surveillance been carried out by, or on behalf of, the business?

2. If yes, are results available for inspection?

3. Any significant results?

If yes, detail (if not detailed under recent disease problems).

Records checked between:

FISH HEALTH INSPECTORATE VISIT REPORT

SUMMARY FOR INFORMATION OF SITE OPERATOR

BUSINESS No	FB0125	DATE OF VISIT	25/01/2023
SITE No	FS1121	SITE NAME	Bight of Bellister, Dury Voe
CASE No	20230010	INSPECTOR	[REDACTED]

Escape Investigation

An inspection was scheduled, following reports from the business of mortality above the reporting threshold. However, on arrival at site, notification of circumstances which may have given rise to a significant risk of escape of Atlantic salmon on 25/01/2023 (Marine Scotland escape incident MSe25012023SAL1) was communicated, therefore an escape investigation was conducted. Initial notification of the escape incident was received 02/02/2023.

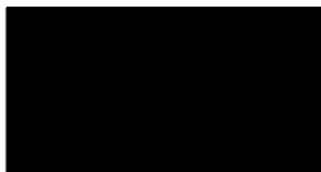
On this occasion no samples were taken for disease analysis.

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.

Mortality records were inspected and found to be adequately maintained.

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



Signed:

Fish Health Inspector

Date: 02/02/2023

The Fish Health Inspectorate Service Charter detailing standards of service is available on the Marine Scotland website at <https://www.gov.scot/publications/fish-health-inspectorate-service-charter/>