

Case No: 2024-0070 Date of visit: 27/03/2024

Time spent on site: 1.5hrs Main Inspector: [Redacted]

Site No: FS0675 Site Name: Ardessie B
Business No: FB0447 Business Name: Wester Ross Fisheries Ltd

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

Water Temp (°C): 8.3 Thermometer No: T152 FHI 045 completed n/a

Observations: Region: HI Water type: S CoGP MA: M-14

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:
[Redacted]

Additional Case Information:

Fish came on from Loch Duich (FMA 14a) in Dec 23. Fish were positive for PRV-1, Moritella and Piscirickettsia at time of transfer but were not showing clinical signs. Site was fallow at time of transfer, however neighbouring site, Ardessie A, was already stocked with a different yearclass of fish that came on from a different CoGP MA. SW to SW transfer RA available for inspection.

Fish have been performing well since input. Site has not done any medicinal treatments with the exception of anaesthetic use for sea lice counts. Last FW treatment was completed in August 2023.

Fish on site will be graded later in the year where some will be selected as potential broodstock and split down into Ardessie A which will be fallow, while the remaining fish will be deadhaul harvested.

Cleanerfish mortality since input: 17%

Mortality events over reporting threshold:

Wk33 2023: 1.44%

Wk40 2022: 2.43%, Wk39: 3.71%, Wk37: 2.25%, Wk32: 1.37%

Wk41 2021: 12.47%, Wk40: 2.81%, Wk39: 14.01%, Wk38: 4.49%, Wk37: 1.19%

Fish on site appeared in good physical health on inspection and were responsive to feed.

Remote inspection completed on 21/03/24. Site visited on 27/03/24.

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Registration/Authorisation Details

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

Site Details (include cleaner fish for all sections)

Total No facilities	14	Facilities stocked	10	No facilities inspected	14
Species	SAL	WRA			
Age group	22 Q4	Wildcaught			
No Fish	38,856	696			
Mean Fish Wt	5.72kg	200g			
Next Fallow Date (Site)	Jun 25		Next Input Date (Site)	Nov 25	
Recent (last 4 wks) disease problems?			Y	Any escapes (since last visit)?	N
If yes, detail:	CMS, HSMI, Yersinia - not causing elevated mortalities				

Movement Records

1. Movement records available for inspection? **Y**
 2. Date of last inspection: **15/09/2021**
 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? **Biogas - Energen, Cumbernauld**
 If other detail: **[REDACTED]**
 3. Mortality records complete and correctly entered? **N**
 4. Recent mortality (last 4 wks): **Wk12: 56 (0.14%), Wk11: 76 (0.2%), Wk10: 62 (0.16%), Wk9: 84 (0.21%)**
 5. Evidence of recent increased/atypical mortalities? **N**
 If yes, facility nos/no mortality per facility/no stock per facility/reason: **[REDACTED]**
 6. Any other peaks in mortality during period checked? **Y**
 If yes, detail: **See additional information.**
 7. Have increased (unexplained) mortalities been reported to vet or FHI? **N/A**
 If yes, detail action: **[REDACTED]**
 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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
If yes, detail: TMS		
If other, detail:		
2. Medicines records available for inspection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
3. Are records complete and correctly entered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
4. Are fish in a withdrawal period?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
5. If yes, what treatment(s)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	TMS
If other, detail:		
6. Are medicines stored appropriately?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y

Biosecurity Records

1. Biosecurity records available for inspection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
2. Has the manner and frequency of mortality removal, recording and safe disposal been considered?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
3. Has the manner and period in which the APB will notify Scottish Ministers or veterinary professional of any <i>increased (unexplained)</i> mortality at the site been included?	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 <i>how</i> and <i>when</i> that will be notified to Scottish Ministers?	<input type="checkbox"/>	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)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	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.)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
7. Is documentation available regarding the measures in place to maintain the physical containment of aquaculture animals held on site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
8. Have the biosecurity procedures been adequately implemented on site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	Y
If no, detail:		

Results of Surveillance

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

Records checked between:	15/09/2021 - 21/03/24
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Case Number:	2024-0070	Site No:	FS0675	Insp:		
Date of Visit	27/03/2024	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	0
	Number of suppliers	0	5	10	14	0
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		1
	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 Rank					14	LOW

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Site No: **FS0675**

Sea Lice Inspection (Seawater Sites Only)

- 1. Has the site experienced sea lice problems in the previous 4 years?
- 2. Is the CoGP Farm Management Area (or equivalent) followed synchronously on a single year class basis?
- 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?
- 4. Is there a signed documented farm management agreement or statement relevant to the site and CoGP Farm Management Area (or equivalent)?
- 5. Are sea lice count records available for inspection? (Legal SSI, CoGP Annex 6)
- 6. Do records adequately reflect the required standard specified in the SSI and the CoGP? (Legal SSI, CoGP Annex 6)
- 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)
- 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?
- If yes, have these been reported to the Fish Health Inspectorate? If no, FHI see comment.
- 9. Is *C. elongatus* infestation at a level which is considered to cause significant welfare problems? (CoGP 4.3.81, 5.3.50)
- 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)
- 11. Has any other action been taken (where applicable)?
- 12. Have therapeutic treatments or the actions taken had a significant impact upon the lice levels recorded?
- 13. Are treatments, where conducted, carried out in cooperation between participating farms?
- 14. Is there a harvesting strategy for the site, where fewer populations or part populations are held without treatment for sea lice?
- 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?
- 16. Do the sea lice levels observed on stocks reflect sea lice count data? If no please detail reasons.

Containment Inspection

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

Tension nets, top

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?
- 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)

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Inspector: [REDACTED]

Point of Compliance

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

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?

3. Is the current FMAg/S available for inspection?

4. Does the FMAg/S identify the relevant farm management area?

5. Does the FMAg/S identify the fish farm site(s) to which it applies?

6. Does the FMAg/S identify the date of commencement of the agreement or statement?

7. Does the FMAg/S identify the date of review?

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?

9. Does the FMAg/S identify the vaccination requirements for stocks held in the area or farm?

10. Does the FMAg/S identify the species of fish which may be stocked into the area or farm?

11. Does the FMAg/S identify the maximum stocking density of any pen on any farm in the area or the individual farm?

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?

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?

14. Does the FMAg/S identify the availability and the use of medicines on farms covered by the agreement of statement?

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?

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?

17. Does the FMAg/S identify the arrangements for synchronous treatments on farms within the area?

Live Fish Movements

18. Does the FMAg/S identify the circumstances when live fish may be introduced or removed from the area or farm?

19. Does the FMAg/S identify the arrangements for the movement of live fish on and off sites in the area or individual farms?

Harvesting

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

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?

22. Does the FMAg/S identify whether one or more year classes may be stocked onto sites covered by the agreement or statement?

23. Does the FMAg/S identify whether broodstock or potential broodstock are to be kept on any site covered by the agreement or statement?

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?

Management and operation

25. Is the fish farm being managed and operated in accordance with the agreement or statement?

26. What is the version no/date of issue of the FMAg/S?



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

Report Summary			
Case Type	Date	Insp	2 nd Insp
ECl, CNI, SLI	08/04/2024		
ECl (re-issued)	09/09/2024		
Case completion	09/09/2024		



FISH HEALTH INSPECTORATE VISIT REPORT

SUMMARY FOR INFORMATION OF SITE OPERATOR

BUSINESS No	FB0447	DATE OF VISIT	27/03/2024
SITE No	FS0675	SITE NAME	Ardessie B
CASE No	20240070	INSPECTOR	

Case completion report

Recommendations in relation to the above case were made for implementation within 30 days of the date of the original report, dated 08/04/24. Following submission of the required documentation, evidence has now been provided to the Fish Health Inspectorate to demonstrate that the recommendations have been implemented.

This case will now be closed. This site may be subject to further inspection and recommendations in the future.

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



Signed:

Date: 09/09/2024

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 \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/fish-health-inspectorate/)



AMENDED FISH HEALTH INSPECTORATE VISIT REPORT

SUMMARY FOR INFORMATION OF SITE OPERATOR

BUSINESS No	FB0447	DATE OF VISIT	27/03/2024
SITE No	FS0675	SITE NAME	Ardessie B
CASE No	20240070	INSPECTOR	██████████

Inspection under the Aquatic Animal Health (Scotland) Regulations 2009

This report replaces the fish health report R25 dated 08/04/24. The previous report should be discarded. Two of the issues were incorrectly assessed following miscommunication of the stock details during a census of stocks held on site. This section has been updated following clarification of the stock census.

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 inadequately maintained.

It was not possible to determine if mortality levels had exceeded the reporting criteria from records available at the time of inspection. I would like to remind you of the industry agreement in relation to mortality reporting as detailed in A Code of Good Practice for Scottish Finfish Aquaculture (CoGP).

R25



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.

The following point was raised with the site representative during the inspection:

- Discrepancies were noted between mortality records available on site and data submitted to FHI. Accuracy of records on site could not be confirmed at the time of inspection. APB must provide accurate mortality records going back to the last inspection.

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.

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 and containment and escapes. However, the farm management agreement/statement (FMAg/FMS) was inspected and found to be inadequately maintained.

- FMS does not identify if broodstock will be kept on any site covered by the statement. FMS also doesn't identify if one or more year classes are to be stocked onto sites covered by the statement. FMS to be updated and submitted.

Please see the attached annex detailing the points that must be addressed.

Records or documentation demonstrating that these points have been addressed were submitted to the Fish Health Inspectorate within 30 days of the date of the original report, dated 08/04/24.

Please contact myself or the duty inspector should you require any assistance or clarification in implementing any requirement or recommendation detailed in this report.

Signed:



Date: 09/09/2024

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 \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/policies/fish-health-inspectorate/)



Annex - The Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007

Section 4A of the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007, as amended, introduces the requirement for a person carrying out the business of fish farming within a farm management area⁽¹⁾ to;

(a) be party to a farm management agreement, or prepare and maintain a farm management statement, in relation to the fish farm, and

(b) ensure that the fish farm is managed and operated in accordance with the agreement or statement.

To ensure compliance with the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Act 2007, as amended, the farm management agreement/statement must include arrangements for;

Fallowing of the farms after harvesting - This must include the dates for fallowing of the area, the earliest date of restocking, identify whether one or more year classes may be stocked onto sites covered by the agreement & identify whether broodstock or potential broodstock are to be kept on any site covered by the agreement.