



Aquaculture for a Thriving Future

The Vision for Scottish Aquaculture

30th November 2023

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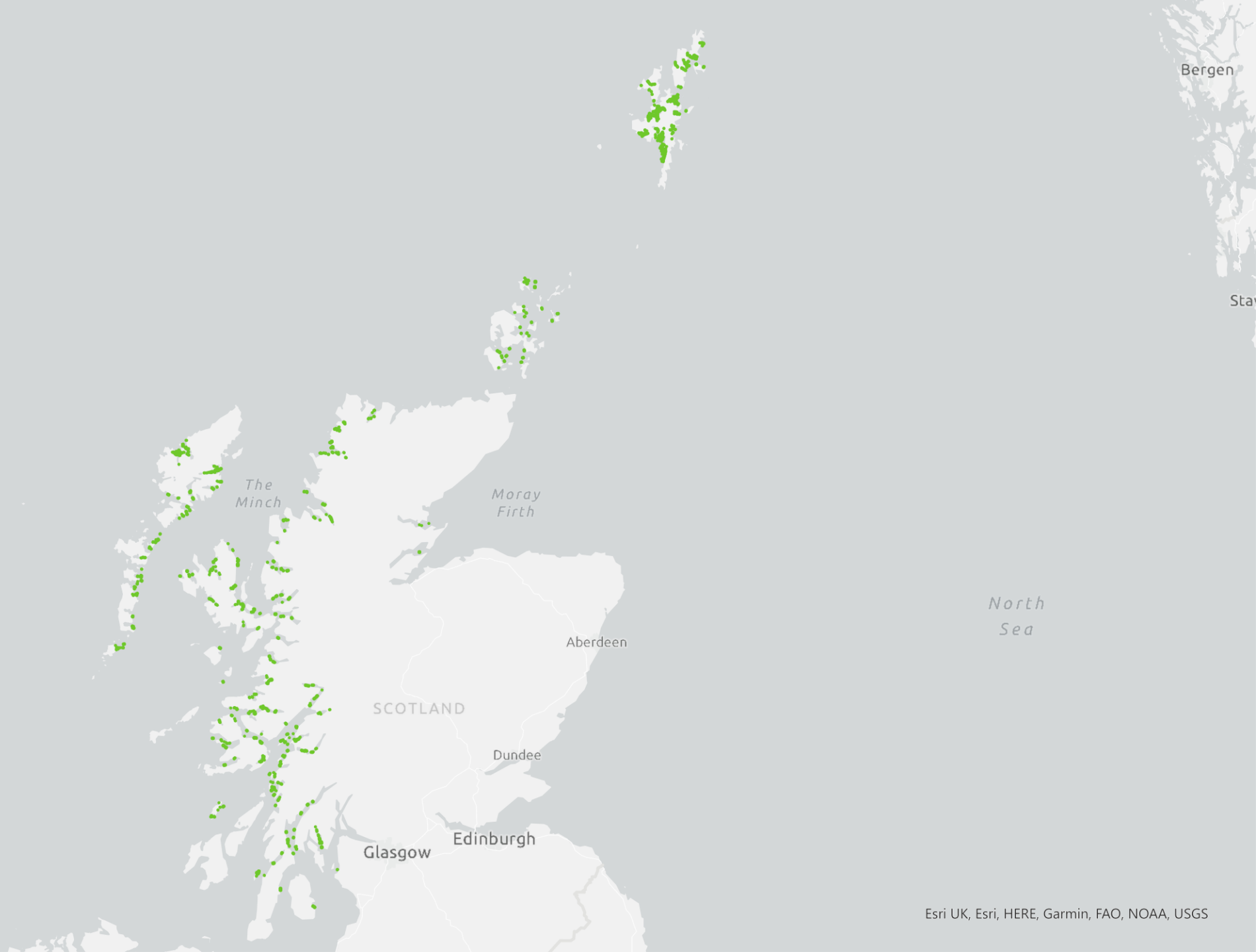
Crown Estate Scotland, who we are and what we do



- Mandated by Scottish Crown Estate Act 2019 (following 2017 devolution)
- Scottish Crown Estate spans length and breadth of Scotland. Includes rural estates, commercial property, mineral and salmon fishing rights, just under half of the foreshore and almost all of the seabed.
- Investing in property, natural resources and people to generate lasting value for Scotland – ‘maintain and enhance’ estate value
- Return all revenue profit to Scottish Government.

Scotland's Aquaculture Portfolio





 **Aquaculture Sites**
(excluding seaweed harvesting)

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

‘The Scottish Government supports the development of a sustainable aquaculture sector that operates within environmental limits and recognises the considerable social and economic benefits the sector delivers today and in the future’.

- Scotland’s Blue Economy Vision was published March 2022
- Following on from this Scotland's Aquaculture Vision was published July 2023
- The aquaculture **vision** is Scottish Government's vision for aquaculture up to 2045. It is not a strategic growth document.

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

Theme 5.1 Spatial Planning & Consenting

'The marine and freshwater spatial planning and consenting system will be streamlined and deliver on Scottish Government's environment, economic and social objectives. The system will support a sustainable, diverse and prosperous aquaculture sector where cumulative risk and impacts are managed.'

Specific Objective:

Tailoring the policy framework to individual finfish, shellfish and seaweed sectors in recognition of their different scales and social, economic and environmental impacts

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

Theme 5.2 Environment & Biodiversity

‘ Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland halting biodiversity loss by 2030, and restoring and regenerating biodiversity by 2045’.

- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture can provide habitat and enhance biodiversity.
- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture can be used as a nature-based solution, improve water quality, offers coastal protection from erosion & flooding.

Specific Objective:

- Further exploring the potential of shellfish and seaweed aquaculture as a means of providing beneficial environmental services, including biodiversity restoration, carbon sequestration and nutrient recycling

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

Theme 5.3 Climate Change & Circular Economy

- *'Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland achieving net zero emissions by 2045 and transitioning to a zero waste and circular economy'*
- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture has one of the lowest carbon footprints for food production.
- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture relies on natural processes. No need for external inputs.
- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture is arguably carbon neutral.
- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture has minimal waste.

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

Theme 5.5 Community

‘Communities which host aquaculture are engaged in the sector’s development, share in its success and are supported through a range of lasting benefits including the provision of employment opportunities’.

- Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture offers opportunity to diversify employment.
- Communities in our experience are engaged with the work of Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture.
- We have worked with communities on various community Seaweed & Shellfish aquaculture projects.

Scotland's Aquaculture Vision

5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain & Infrastructure

'A renewed national focus on innovation, supply chain and infrastructure development will support increased productivity across the sector and the growth of Scottish businesses contributing to Scotland's Wellbeing Economy'.

Specific Objectives:

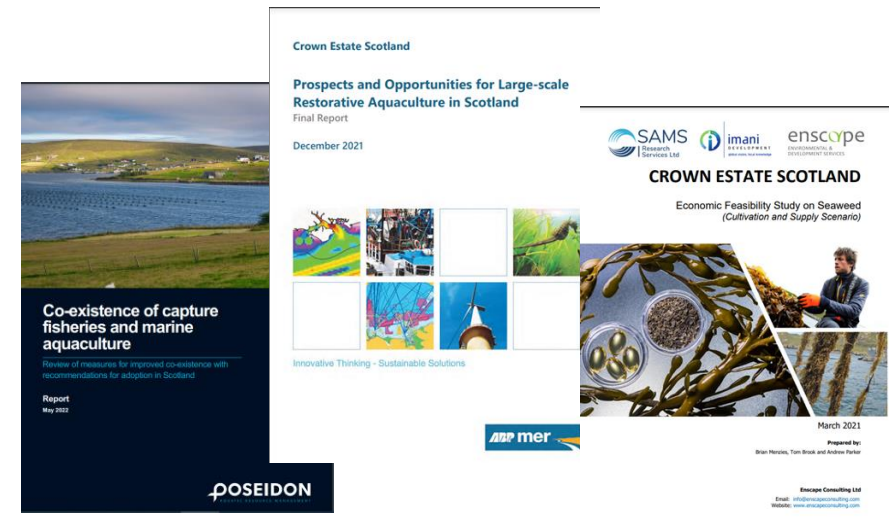
- Identifying opportunities to increase market value of shellfish and seaweed' production
- Increasing productivity and quality of farmed shellfish through the identification of opportunities to improve water quality in shellfish water protected areas
- Improving understanding of the environmental factors supporting or impeding increased productivity in shellfish and seaweed farms
- Developing a Code of Good Practice for seaweed cultivation
- Building resilience by increasing the domestic supply of shellfish spat and seaweed seed

What is Crown Estate Scotland Doing To Enable Aquaculture Development?

Leasing to optimise development prospects – We offer Lease Option Agreements to minimise risk, rental income is proportionate to the value of the business, we offer the option of a declaration of equipment deployed in lieu of a restoration bond.

Supporting Posts

Research/Enabling Projects





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