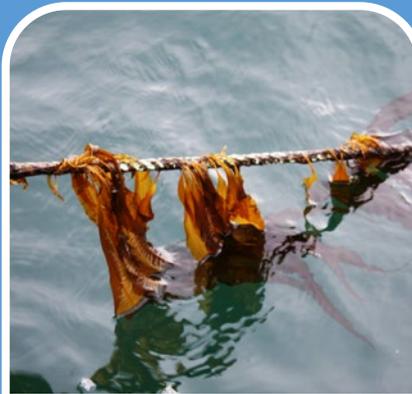




Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture



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1. Foreword



I am pleased to present our Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture, which sets out the Scottish Government's long-term aspirations for the finfish, shellfish and seaweed farming sectors, and the wider aquaculture supply chain.

We are ambitious for the future of Scottish aquaculture. It is already a significant contributor to our economy through trade, employment and investment in infrastructure such as housing, broadband and harbour facilities. It produces the UK's biggest food export – Scottish farmed salmon.

Aquaculture has a crucial role to play in contributing to our food security and meeting our commitment to becoming a Good Food Nation, producing healthy, nutritious food, with a greenhouse gas emissions profile that is lower than many other farmed sources of animal protein^{1,2}, for people in Scotland and around the world.

The sector supports a wide range of highly skilled and well-paid jobs across farming operations, supply chain businesses, research institutes and new innovative enterprises. Many of these jobs are located in some of Scotland's most fragile rural and island communities where they help to underpin valuable economic development. As a result of the growth of Scottish aquaculture and the development of the wider supply chain that serves it, aquaculture businesses can now be found across the whole of Scotland.

Aquaculture depends on Scotland's natural capital and the communities within which the sector operates. It must operate within environmental limits, to ensure that our waters are clean and safe, supporting healthy and diverse flora and fauna. As we respond to the twin crises of climate change and nature loss, we envisage a sector that leads the world through the responsible and sustainable ways in which it operates, delivering significant and lasting socio-economic benefits for Scotland and for the communities that host aquaculture businesses.

The development of Scottish aquaculture has been driven by innovation, with advances across a wide range of disciplines including animal husbandry, nutrition, genetics and engineering, supporting the growth of the sector to this point. Innovation will be fundamental in ensuring aquaculture meets the challenges of a changing environment brought about by the climate crisis, as will a streamlined regulatory framework that

1 [rpc-research-briefing-quantifying-aquaculture-greenhouse-gas-emissions.pdf \(sruc.ac.uk\)](https://www.sruc.ac.uk/research-briefing-quantifying-aquaculture-greenhouse-gas-emissions.pdf)

2 [B4-03 Case study: Mussel farming: a food system with minimal greenhouse gas emissions | Climate Smart Agriculture Sourcebook | Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations \(fao.org\)](#)

ensures high environmental standards and is recognised as an asset to businesses and our communities.

Our Blue Economy Vision has already set out the approach that will allow us to live within environmental limits and maximise the benefits that our marine environment can deliver for Scotland, its people and future generations. Scotland's aquaculture sector is key to helping realise this.

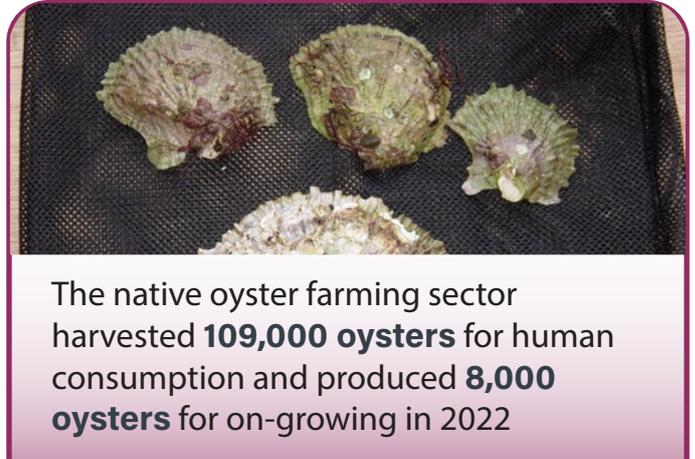
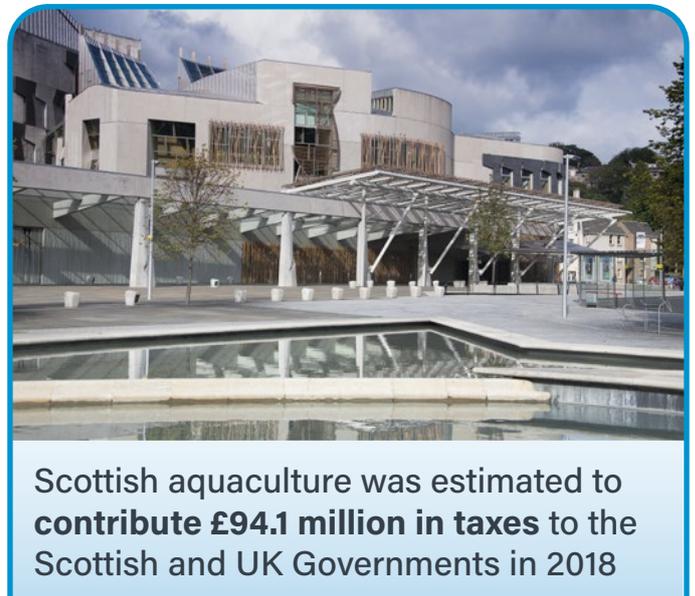
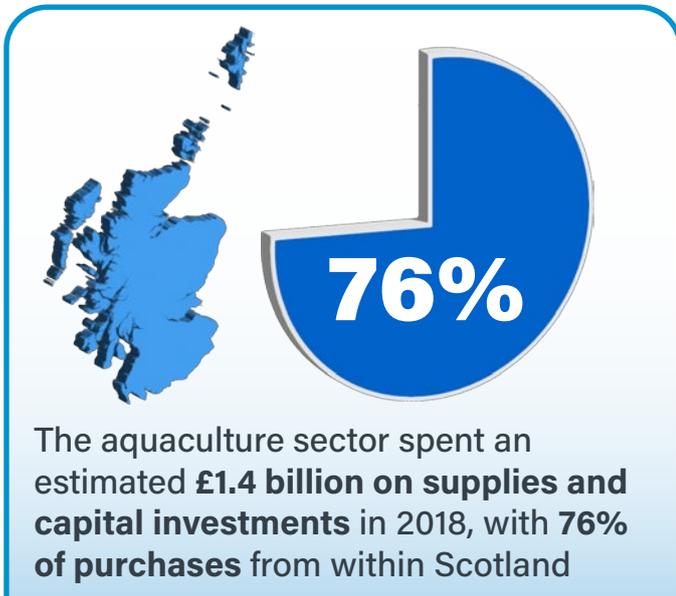
Our Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture sets out our overarching ambitions for the sector and details the key outcomes we want to see and achieve. I look forward to working with all of our partners and stakeholders to create a thriving aquaculture sector in Scotland that contributes to our Blue Economy and Net Zero ambitions and is globally recognised as innovative, productive, successful and sustainable.

Mairi Gougeon

Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Land Reform and Islands

2. Scotland's Aquaculture

The Scottish aquaculture sector and its supply chain supported an estimated 11,700 jobs in the Scottish economy and generated £885 million GVA in 2018





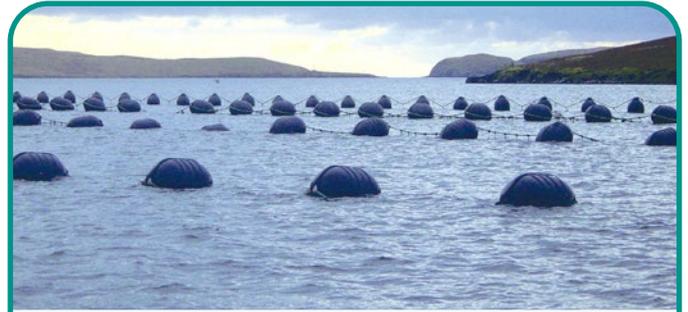
In 2021 the **salmon farming sector** harvested **205,393 tonnes** of salmon



351 active finfish farms in 2021



In 2021 the **brown trout farming sector** produced a combined **23 tonnes** of trout for restocking angling waters and human consumption



167 producing shellfish farms in 2022



In 2021 the **rainbow trout farming sector** harvested **7,655 tonnes** of trout for human consumption and produced **501 tonnes** for restocking angling waters



21 active marine licences for seaweed farm development currently in place

Information sources:

[Aquaculture sector – wider economic impacts: estimates](#)

[Scottish Fish Farm Production Survey 2021](#)

[Scottish Shellfish Farm Production Survey 2022](#)



Our Vision



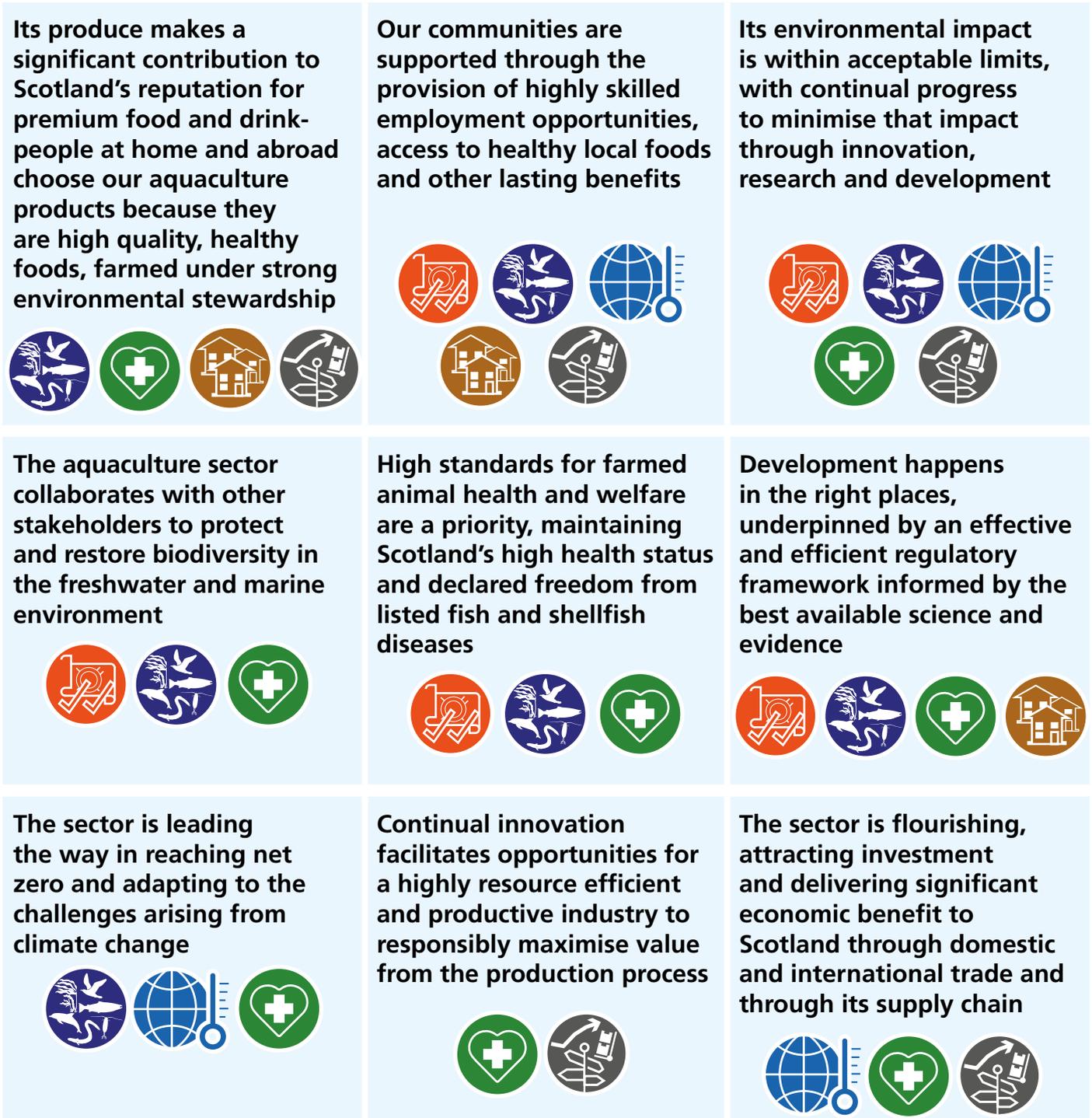
3. Our Vision

The Scottish Government supports the development of a sustainable aquaculture sector, operating within environmental limits, and recognises the considerable social and economic benefits the sector delivers today and can deliver in the future.

This Vision is for aquaculture across Scotland, and will be realised through all stakeholders working together, including industry, regulators, government, enterprise agencies, academia, NGOs and communities.



The Scottish Government's Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture in Scotland in 2045 is one where:



-  5.1 Spatial Planning & Consenting
-  5.2 Environment & Biodiversity
-  5.3 Climate Change & Circular Economy
-  5.4 Health & Welfare
-  5.5 Community
-  5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain & Infrastructure

Figure 1: Components of our Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture. Progress towards each component is supported by outcomes relating to the themes listed in the key above



Guiding Principles



4. Guiding Principles

The Scottish Government's commitment to sustainable development is reflected in the continuing support for the five guiding principles set out in Scotland's National Marine Plan:

'Achieving a sustainable economy, promoting good governance and using sound science responsibly are essential to the creation and maintenance of a strong, healthy and just society capable of living within environmental limits.'

Aquaculture is a key component of Scotland's Blue Economy. In 2022 the Scottish Government published our Blue Economy Vision which sets the vision and outcomes to guide policy development and adoption of this approach in Scotland's marine environment. Through collaborative effort to realise the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture, we will deliver across all six of the outcomes identified within the Blue Economy Vision:

Environment

- » Scotland's marine ecosystems are healthy and functioning, with nature protected and activities managed using an ecosystem-based approach to ensure negative impacts on marine ecosystems are minimised and, where possible, reversed.
- » Scotland's blue economy is resilient to climate change, contributing to climate mitigation and adaptation, with marine sectors decarbonised, resource efficient and supporting Scotland's Net Zero and Nature Positive commitments.



Economy

- » Established and emerging marine sectors are innovative, entrepreneurial, productive and internationally competitive.
- » Scotland is a global leader in healthy, quality, sustainably harvested and farmed Blue Foods, for our own population and beyond.

Social

- » Thriving, resilient, regenerated, healthy communities have more equal access to the benefits that ocean resources provide.
- » Scotland is an ocean literate and aware nation.

[Annex A](#) details how the outcomes identified in the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture align with relevant Blue Economy enablers described in Scottish Government's [Delivering Scotland's Blue Economy approach](#) publication.

Clarity on the links between the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture themes and the Blue Economy enablers ensures the development of an aquaculture sector that has a focus on shared stewardship of natural capital and promotes sustainability, prosperity, innovation, resilience and inclusion. This clarity will assist the aquaculture sector to maximise the contribution to [Scotland's National Performance Framework Outcomes](#) and the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

The Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture has been developed before the duty on Ministers to have due regard to the five guiding principles on the environment has come into force³. In developing this Vision, we have reflected the intent of the principles, and the duty will apply to future development of policies under the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture for managing aquaculture in a way that protects the environment and promotes sustainable development. The five guiding principles on the environment are the:

- » principle that protecting the environment should be integrated into the making of policies
- » precautionary principle as it relates to the environment
- » principle that preventative action should be taken to avert environmental damage
- » principle that environmental damage should as a priority be rectified at source; and
- » principle that the polluter should pay.

3 [UK Withdrawal from the European Union \(Continuity\) \(Scotland\) Act 2021 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)



Achieving the Vision



5. Achieving the Vision

In order to achieve our Vision, the Scottish Government has identified a number of outcomes that will need to be realised.

Progress is already being made on meeting a number of these outcomes through existing workstreams and in collaboration with stakeholders. There are already several current and forthcoming policies and programmes across government which will contribute to the outcomes and a full list of these workstreams is detailed in [Annex B](#).

The Scottish Government will work with all who have a stake in the future of the aquaculture sector and the environment and communities in which it operates to achieve all the outcomes identified below.



5.1 Spatial Planning and 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.

This will be achieved by:

- improving spatial planning tools at national, regional and local level, and improving understanding and effective management of cumulative risk and impacts
- ensuring the consenting regime is efficient, effective and transparent with alignment between all regulatory processes, and delivers on national and local policy objectives
- tailoring the policy framework to individual finfish, shellfish and seaweed sectors in recognition of their different scales and social, economic and environmental impacts
- making efficient use of Scotland's marine resource, encouraging the redevelopment of farms where there is no planned production into alternative forms of aquaculture, other marine sector development, or returning the farm site to the wild
- encouraging collaboration between sub-sectors to investigate opportunities arising from the operation of multi-species farms or farm areas
- exploring development beyond coastal waters, between 3 and 12 nautical miles, including potential impacts and the associated regulatory mechanisms



5.2 Environment and Biodiversity

The aquaculture sector will continually work to minimise negative environmental impacts and collaborate with other stakeholders to protect and restore Scotland's biodiversity in the freshwater and marine environment.

Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland halting biodiversity loss by 2030, and restoring and regenerating biodiversity by 2045⁴.

This will be achieved by:

- working with freshwater and marine stakeholders to deliver Scotland's biodiversity strategy, including working to understand and reduce impacts in the water environment and on sensitive habitats and species
- creating opportunities for aquaculture to contribute to Scottish biodiversity enhancement and conservation priorities through financial or non-financial means
- accelerating the adoption of approaches which minimise, reduce or remove the discharge of medicine residues and increase the use of effective non-medicinal treatments, waste recovery and preventative measures
- managing sea lice through adaptive regulation and innovation to help protect Scotland's wild and farmed salmonid populations
- minimising the escape of farmed fish, with demonstrable progress towards the goal of 100% containment in production facilities to help protect Scotland's wild salmonid populations, with appropriate fines for fish farm escapes redistributed to support wild salmonid conservation and research
- prioritising non-lethal means of mitigating predator interactions that avoid disturbing protected species or entangling birds
- assessing the potential impacts of farmed non-native species at risk of becoming invasive in a changing climate
- controlling the spread of invasive non-native species with appropriate biosecurity management standards
- maintaining antimicrobial use at low levels and adopting innovations that reduce the need for antibiotics over time, whilst maintaining treatment efficacy when used to protect farmed fish health and welfare
- ensuring all wild caught cleaner fish are responsibly sourced, whilst seeking to increase the proportion of farmed cleaner fish used in aquaculture
- 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

4 [Scottish Biodiversity Strategy to 2045 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/biodiversity-strategy-2045)



5.3 Climate Change and Circular Economy

Understanding, mitigating and adapting to climate change impacts is essential for the future success of the sector. Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland achieving net zero emissions by 2045⁵ and transitioning to a zero waste and circular economy⁶.

This will be achieved by:

- delivering emissions reductions in line with our climate targets, ensuring resilience plans are in place and the risks of a changing environment are understood, enabling adaptation to challenges such as water scarcity, warming seas, storms and fish health issues
- producing more seafood, whilst working to reduce waste discharge below regulatory limits and capturing more organic waste for the circular economy
- partnering with innovators to explore further opportunities for the best use of aquaculture by-products, including processing waste, organic waste, mortalities and harvested cleaner fish
- using 100% responsibly sourced marine and vegetable ingredients in finfish feeds, identifying opportunities to use a greater quantity of novel ingredients, trimmings and other by-products
- taking all reasonable efforts in the design and use of equipment to prevent the loss of marine debris and to coordinate recovery and recycling of debris and end of life equipment
- minimising single-use of non-recycled materials such as expanded polystyrene and moving to reusable packaging



5.4 Health and Welfare

Improving aquaculture health and welfare is an ethical responsibility and a priority. Continuing ongoing work by businesses, government and researchers will lead to enhanced health, welfare, economic and environmental performance.

This will be achieved by:

- improving health and welfare and reducing cumulative mortalities over the finfish production cycle to the lowest possible levels
- continuing research into the use of cleanerfish in aquaculture and developing a Code of Good Practice (CoGP) to support improved cleanerfish health, welfare and performance.

5 [Climate change - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

6 [Managing waste - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

- increasing adoption of new and innovative technologies which achieve both positive environmental and health and welfare outcomes, including exploring the potential use of semi and closed containment systems⁷
- understanding pathogen pathways and appropriate pest management options for seaweed farming



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.

This will be achieved by:

- protecting and improving the ability of, and opportunity for communities to meaningfully contribute to aquaculture planning and consenting
- embedding consideration of the protection and development of social licence across all operations and management decisions
- developing good practice principles for community benefits from aquaculture developments
- ensuring that statutory and voluntary funds that are raised from the aquaculture sector for the purpose of community benefit are of an appropriate scale and are put to best use
- working with and supporting local authorities to maximise the opportunities and benefits that are available to communities as a result of the presence of aquaculture
- developing clear pathways to support people wishing to enter the aquaculture sector, with businesses contributing to Scotland becoming a leading Fair Work nation by 2025⁸
- promoting Scottish aquaculture products to increase domestic consumption in support of Scotland's ambition to become a Good Food Nation⁹

7 The Scottish Government recognises that there will be a number of different approaches employed for aquaculture production in the future, but it seeks to see innovative technologies introduced to Scotland which can deliver on both environment and health and welfare outcomes, including but not limited to, vaccination, sea lice capture, medicine waste capture technologies or semi and closed containment, for example.

8 [Fair Work action plan: becoming a leading Fair Work nation by 2025 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

9 [Good Food Nation policy - Food and drink - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)



5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and 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 Economy¹⁰.

This will be achieved by:

- improving port and harbour infrastructure to better accommodate aquaculture
- increasing and improving housing stock in rural and island areas to benefit local communities and ensure aquaculture employees can live where they work
- ensuring businesses have access to high-speed broadband to support adoption of new technologies and data monitoring
- connecting businesses with educators and communities to raise the profile of aquaculture careers and equip more people with the skills needed to work in the modern sector
- enabling the further development of an innovative and competitive supply chain which strengthens Scottish options in all areas of aquaculture procurement
- increasing international recognition of Scotland as a leader of aquaculture innovation, creating more opportunities for inward investment that benefit Scottish businesses associated with the aquaculture sector
- identifying new market opportunities for production and supply chain businesses that attract investment and increase domestic and international trade
- identifying opportunities to increase market value of shellfish and seaweed production
- building on Scotland's position as a major producer of organic aquaculture products
- 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
- identifying effective pathways to securing greater access to finance for aquaculture production and supply chain businesses
- encouraging business collaboration across all marine sectors to identify opportunities that improve efficiencies within supply chains
- building resilience by increasing the domestic supply of fish ova, shellfish spat and seaweed seed
- exploring opportunities to diversify species farmed in Scotland

¹⁰ [Wellbeing Economy Governments \(WEGo\) - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Wellbeing-Economy-Governments-(WEGo))



Enabling the Vision



6. Enabling the Vision

Progress towards realising the Vision outcomes will be facilitated by two key enabling factors: **Innovation and Regulation**.

6.1 Innovation

New technology and approaches, underpinned by sound science, have the potential to unlock opportunities in productivity, improved health and welfare and reductions in adverse environmental impact. Innovation can help to find solutions that deliver across these priorities and promote solutions that move away from historic trade-offs.

The innovation process must be effective to produce solutions to sector challenges. Cooperative and multi-disciplinary research undertaken by parties such as Scotland's research institutes, innovative businesses and public bodies, working together with aquaculture producers can help achieve this. The Sustainable Aquaculture Innovation Centre and the Sustainable Aquaculture Forum¹¹ enable knowledge exchange and promote collaboration that can continue to support the development of crucial research, development and innovation capacity in Scottish Aquaculture.



11 The Sustainable Aquaculture Forum is hosted by [MASTS | Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland](#)

Effective research and development can improve our understanding and increase the sector's resilience to current and emerging issues. For example by minimising environmental impact and increasing biodiversity, reducing emissions and adapting to climate change, improving health and welfare, whilst continuing to deliver economic and social opportunities for Scotland.

For innovation to be an effective enabler, all stakeholders should encourage the deployment and monitoring of an increasing number of demonstrably effective technologies and approaches which can be scaled-up for application. Efforts to address barriers to upscaling of new approaches and technologies are vital to facilitate more commercially viable applied innovations.

By focusing on development in this way, Scotland will increasingly be recognised as a centre of aquaculture innovation excellence, creating opportunities for inward investment.

A collaborative approach between Scotland and international partners will enable new approaches and technology to be adopted in Scotland while helping secure opportunities to increase the export of intellectual property products, technologies and expertise in aquaculture.

6.2 Regulation

Effective and efficient regulation, informed by the best available science and evidence, will support the sustainable development of the aquaculture sector by ensuring development takes place within environmental limits and with due regard given to animal health and welfare, wildlife, marine users and the communities that host and support aquaculture businesses.

Regulatory processes will be streamlined and targeted to achieve high standards whilst continually seeking innovative ways to minimise the associated administrative burden for businesses and regulators.

Regulators will continually review standards within the context of the best available science and evidence, to ensure regulation remains proportionate and consistent whilst having the mechanisms in place to take effective enforcement action where necessary.

Information on aquaculture regulatory performance and requirements will be clear and accessible. Data on compliance assessment and guidance on all regulations that govern the aquaculture sector will be made publicly accessible online for existing businesses, new entrants into the sector, communities and all other interested parties.



Next Steps



7. Next Steps

This Vision affirms the Scottish Government's support for aquaculture that develops within environmental limits, and provides lasting social and economic benefits for Scotland.

Delivering the Vision needs collaboration, openness and strategic action to be taken by all stakeholders. Some of the Vision's outcomes will be the responsibility of government to deliver and others will require our working in close partnership and collaboration with stakeholders. There are some outcomes that will require leadership from others.

There are already several current and forthcoming policies and programmes which will contribute to the outcomes detailed in the Vision, a full list of these workstreams is detailed in [Annex B](#).

Each of these initiatives is an important part of an evolving programme of work which will help ensure that aquaculture flourishes and that this Vision is achieved by 2045.

As a priority, the Scottish Government will make further progress through the review of aquaculture consenting, with the established Consenting Task Group bringing stakeholders together to work to enable a more streamlined aquaculture consenting process.

We will progress delivering our commitments to the Salmon Interactions Working Group and continue working with the sector to support farmed fish health and welfare.

We will progress with work to reduce the risk of escapes from fish farms, including revision and publication of the Technical Standard for Scottish Finfish Aquaculture.

We will consider how we can support communities and stakeholders to realise the Vision as it relates to community benefit and participation.

We will also consider carefully future aquaculture science and evidence needs, including advice from the Scottish Science Advisory Council on the use, communication and commissioning of science and evidence in aquaculture consenting. We will work to ensure that the sustainable development of aquaculture in Scotland is underpinned by sound scientific advice.

We look forward to engaging with all parties to make this Vision real and deliver a sustainable aquaculture sector for Scotland.

Annex A

Aquaculture Vision Themes and [Enablers for Scotland's Blue Economy Vision](#)

Spatial Planning and Consenting

- Marine planning (Regulatory and management)
- Incentivising co-location of marine industries (Regulatory and management)

Biodiversity

- Managing ocean pollution, including from land sources (Ensuring nature is on more equal footing to economic and social considerations)
- Ecosystem restoration and conservation (Ensuring nature is on more equal footing to economic and social considerations)

Climate Change and Circular Economy

- Ocean monitoring and observation (Science and skills development)
- Scientific research and innovation (Science and skills development)
- Embedding circular economy and zero waste principles (Ensuring nature is on a more equal footing to economic and social considerations)
- Managing ocean pollution, including from land sources (Ensuring nature is on a more equal footing to economic and social considerations)

Health and Welfare

- Ocean monitoring and observation (Science and skills development)
- Scientific research and innovation (Science and skills development)
- Public-private partnerships (Collaborations and participation)
- International collaborations (Collaborations and participation)

Community

- Marine planning (regulatory and management)
- Civic engagement and participatory decision making (Collaborations and participation)
- Increasing community engagement within Blue Economy sectors (Collaborations and participation)

Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

- Building and investing in national supply chains (Investment and economic development)
- Infrastructure development (Investment and economic development)
- Maximising the cross-market opportunities for Blue Economy products and services (Investment and economic development)
- Increasing the market visibility of Blue Economy products and services (Investment and economic development)
- Sustainable finance, incentivising and de-risking investment (Investment and economic development)
- Skills, education and training (Science and skills development)

Annex B

Current and forthcoming policies and programmes relevant to Aquaculture Vision themes

[Aquaculture Regulatory Process: Review](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting

[Climate Change Adaptation Programme](#) - 5.3 Climate Change and Circular

Economy

[Climate Change Plan and Just Transition to Net Zero](#) - 5.3 Climate Change and Circular

Economy

[Commission For Land Based Learning](#) – 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Community Led Local Development](#) - 5.5 Community

[Fair Work Action Plan](#) – 5.5 Community

[Farmed Fish Health Framework](#) - 5.4 Health and Welfare

[Finfish Aquaculture Sector Plan](#) - 5.3 Climate Change and Circular Economy; 5.4 Health and Welfare; 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Good Food Nation Policy](#) - 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity Protection; 5.3 Climate Change and Circular Economy; 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Housing To 2040](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Infrastructure Investment Plan](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Long-Term Plan for Vessels and Ports](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Marine Litter Strategy](#) - 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity Protection

[National Plan For Scotland's Islands](#) - 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[National Planning Framework 4](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting

[R100 Programme](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Review Of Aquaculture Leasing](#) - 5.5 Community

[River Basin Management Plans](#) - 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Scotland's National Marine Plan](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting

[Scotland's National Strategy for Economic Transformation](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Scottish Biodiversity Strategy](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting , 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity Protection; 5.3 Climate Change and Circular Economy

[Scottish Crown Estate: strategic management plan](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting; 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Scottish Funding Council Innovation Centres Programme](#) - All themes

[Scotland's National Innovation Strategy](#) - All themes

[Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund](#) - 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity Protection

[Scottish Science Advisory Council](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting

[Scottish Wild Salmon Strategy](#) - 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity

[Scottish Wild Salmon Strategy: implementation plan 2023-2028](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting; 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity

[SEPA Sea Lice Risk Assessment Framework](#) - 5.1 Spatial Planning and Consenting; 5.2 Environment and Biodiversity

[Shell-Volution](#) - 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

[Strategy For Seafood](#) - 5.3 Climate Change and Circular Economy; 5.5 Community; 5.6 Productivity, Supply Chain and Infrastructure

Annex C

Impact Assessments

During development of the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture we have considered the need to carry out impact assessments such as a Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) and Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA). Following pre-assessment scoping it was determined that no full impact assessments would be required at this time as the Vision does not enact any new direct policies or legislation.

Subsequent policy work carried out as a result of the Vision's outcomes will consider the need for full impact assessments.

Relevant pre-assessment screening documents are available to view on the [Scottish Government publications webpage](#).



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