

22 08 2019

Dear Scottish Salmon Watch,

Proposed water-based protest

We are writing to ask you to reconsider your proposed water-based protest and your call for swimmers, kayakers and boat operators to join you.

First and foremost, there's a real risk to the safety of those you are encouraging to join you. The currents, tides and changeable weather around the Oban and Loch Linnhe areas have resulted in several instances of people getting into unexpected difficulty, sometimes with fatal results.

There's also a risk to our own farm teams should any key equipment or infrastructure be inadvertently moved or loosened. As you point out, Scotland's Right to Roam extends to the marine environment. However, it does not extend to landing on or interfering with moored equipment or our salmon stocks, nor can the safe operation of farms be interfered with.

In addition, a water-based protest poses a risk to our salmon stocks, potentially breaching biosecurity protocol and causing stress to the fish, both of which can have devastating consequences in terms of animal welfare.

It is for all these reasons that we urge you to reconsider your proposed protest and find less dangerous means of expressing your opinion.

**Sent on behalf of all at
Scottish Sea Farms**



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Head Office:

Laurel House
Laurelhill Business Park
Stirling FK7 9JQ
+44 (0)1786 445521

www.scottishseafarms.com