

\$camon \$cotland, 25 April 2023

FOI Exposes ‘Most Worrying’ Disposal of “Highly Odorous” Salmon Wastes in North Uist
- Proposal by Whiteshore Cockles to dump 1.27 million tonnes of ‘condensate wastes’ per year as ‘agricultural fertilizer’ branded “utter bullshit” by campaigners



A Freedom of Information disclosure ([F0194566](#)) by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (9 March 2023) exposes plans by [Whiteshore Cockles](#) to dump 1.27 million tonnes of ‘condensate wastes’ - derived from dead farmed salmon - per year over land in North Uist (including on or near Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protected Areas and Special Areas of Conservation) under the guise of agricultural fertilizer [1]. The proposed dumping grounds include vast swathes of the Island of Vallay where Angus MacDonald (owner of Whiteshore Cockles) has already dumped a salmon feed barge [2].



Last week (18 April 2023), SEPA [issued a public consultation](#) on “an application from Whiteshore Cockles for a permit to operate an installation at Kyles, Paible, Isle Of North Uist to

treat and recover putrescible fish farm mortality waste as an alternative to the historic burial of the same waste at the proposed site” with a deadline of 16 May 2023 [3]. SEPA’s [Non-technical summary](#) includes:

The applicant proposes to treat and recover putrescible fish farm mortality waste as an alternative to the historic burial of the same waste at the proposed site. The proposed activity is an Animal Waste Rendering process with a maximum capacity of 48 tonnes / day and expected to operate 5 days per week. Seasonal variations in the volume of fish morts will affect daily processing rates.

Primary Wastes & Products;

- **Fish meal** solids not required for fuel in the boiler shall be stored on site in sealed bags and removed for offsite treatment by Anaerobic Digestion.
- **Fish oil** liquid from the separation process shall be stored on site and removed by road tanker for further processing in bio-diesel production.
- **Liquid Condensate** shall initially be removed offsite for appropriate disposal. The applicant has however indicated that the waste could be permissible to be applied to land as a waste with benefit to agriculture, if the necessary Waste Management Licensing requirements can be met.

SEPA’s [Draft decision document](#) includes:

With regard to the simplest option, which would be '**removal from site**' by tankering the waste to another installation for treatment/disposal. Consideration was given to the large volumes of condensate anticipated to be produced, and as a consequence the high frequency of vehicle movements. There are no local facilities on the island that would be able to accept the waste and so large volumes would require carriage to the nearest facilities on the main land. Transportation costs were calculated as being the most significant challenges of the remote island location and considered a barrier to the regular movement of the waste. When coupled with logistical uncertainties due to the remote location and gate fees for the waste treatment/disposal this method is not regarded as the primary best available technique. The assessment does consider "*Removal by tanker from site is an option which must be available to cover very short term periods as a contingency*" – when other preferred techniques options are not viable or available.

The assessment states that '**Deployment to land (agricultural benefit)**' is proposed as the most sustainable and environmentally beneficial technique for the management of Condensate. The primary driver for this option is that the condensate is anticipated to contain a usable volume of nitrogen to provide biological benefit to soils if applied to land. The other benefits are the relatively straightforward regulatory requirements to undertake this activity (as opposed to discharging to the water or marine environment), and the comparatively low capital and operational costs of the activity. Also the activity would not rely on third parties or uncertainties in transport or other logistical challenges.

This type of activity is authorised under the Waste Management Licensing (Scotland) Regulations 2011 and would be regarded as an activity that would be 'exempt from the licensing requirements under Paragraph 7 – "*the treatment of land for agricultural benefit or ecological improvement*". Applicants are required to apply to SEPA under these regulations for consent to undertake this activity – this would not be covered by the PPC permit that this decision document considers.

As part of this consideration SEPA has had several discussions with the applicant regarding its proposal and provided further information on the regulatory requirements of a Paragraph 7 Exemption. Discussed the guidance on these requirements (Technical Guidance note, Paragraph 7 Exemption). SEPA staff have also consulted with SEPA's soil scientists that are involved in the assessment process.

At the time of writing there continues to be a number of uncertainties that may affect the 'Exemption' authorisation the applicant intends to apply for.

- Condensate analyses – the applicant has not produced actual representative samples of the waste that the activity will produce. Representative samples are necessary in order to assess the chemical properties of the waste and justify the viability of the waste to land process. The applicant has however indicative information from early test runs of the plant and which the justifications are based upon. This information may however dictate restrictions in application rates or potential accumulations in soils conditions over time limiting the lifespan of this option.
- Odour from the spreading activities and failure to meet the *Relevant Objectives* for waste management– set out in the WML Regulations i.e. 'causing nuisance through noise or odours' or 'adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest'. Odour from the waste treatment process of fish mortars is a primary concern and is discussed at length in the management techniques of this document. However, the spreading of odorous waste is not governed by the PPC permit and the management techniques of the plant. The BAT assessment provided does however consider the risks of odour and propose methodologies to minimise risk. Initially all condensate is filtered through a carbon filter during the collection process, to reduce the volatile compounds in the waste during storage and eventual application. Tanker loading will involve the malodorous displaced air from the tanker during loading being directed to odour abatement. Another activated carbon filter will be used to treat condensate the prior to it being stored. The company have also invested in a specialist subsoil / injection tanker for the spreading activity. This method of application should reduce volatilisation of compounds in the waste during the spreading to land and minimise risk of odour from the activity.
- Seasonal variations; *any fertiliser (including waste derived materials) applied to land must be done so in accordance with General Binding Rule (GBR) 18 of The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2013. Rule 18 requires that nutrient is only applied where there is a crop requirement and that the amount applied matches the need of the following crop.* The process and production of condensate waste will be a year round process, although volumes are to reduce significantly in the winter. Restrictions of the suitable conditions in which deployment to land is permitted would include frozen or waterlogged ground whereby spreading could not take place at certain times of year. Similarly the waste application can only be justified when there is nutrient requirement for the crop as per Rule 18. Over the winter months, grass growth and nutrient requirements reduce and so application of waste at this time would not be justified under this restriction. The applicant recognises in the assessment "Removal by tanker from site is an option which must be available to cover very short term periods as a contingency if deployment to land is not possible due to weather conditions and restricted application rates."

Separate to the PPC Permit, an application will be required to provide a methodology and risk assessment for the waste spreading activity under Para 7 process.

An [email from SEPA in June 2022](#) – disclosed via [F0194566](#) in March 2023 – states that “there seems to simply be too much waste” with a staggering 1,267,500 tonnes spread to land per year:

From: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>

Sent: 08 June 2022 10:07

To: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>

Subject: Whiteshore Cockles North Uist - proposed para 7

OFFICIAL - CONFIDENTIAL

Dear All,

In advance of the planned meeting on Friday, I've just been having a look at tonnages of waste to make an initial determination of whether there might be a possibility that a para 7 could be used for recycling 25% of the condensate from the fish processing site. I'm afraid that it is not looking promising as there seems to simply be too much waste for this to be viable.

The information seems to be suggesting that weekly amounts of condensate produced will be 97,500 litres. As this is a largely liquid waste, we can assume that this is equivalent 97,500 tonnes. The operator plans to recycle 25% of this to land, which is 24,375 t per week. Assuming that the process runs continuously, the total amount of waste that will be spread to land per year would therefore be 1,267,500 t (= 24,375 * 52 tonnes). However, maximum permissible waste spread rate under para 7 is 250 t/ha per year. Therefore, the applicant is going to need at least 5,070 hectares of land to recycle all of the waste. And that's before considering that there may be restrictions on the spread rate, reducing this below 250 t/ha, depending on the concentration of nutrients (e.g. nitrogen and phosphorus) and potentially toxic elements in the waste and receiving soil and the crop being grown on the land.

Even if the waste can be spread at the maximum 250 t/ha rate, there is simply not enough suitable agricultural land available on North Uist to spread it all. Looking at a land use classification for agriculture map, I reckon that at most there are 400 hectares that are suitable, and there's possibly a further 1,000 hectares that may be suitable on Benbecula and South Uist.

The amounts of waste involved in this process are huge, I'm almost wondering if a mistake has been made in the calculations at the operator's end...?



“The waste impacts of salmon farming is spreading like a malignant cancer around the Highlands and Islands of Scotland,” said Don Staniford, Director of [Scamon Scotland](#). “Whiteshore Cockles has been illegally dumping diseased Scottish salmon for nearly twenty years and deserves to be consigned to the dustbin of history. Disposing hundreds of thousands of tonnes of ‘condensate wastes’ over sensitive habitats and protected ecosystems under the guise of agricultural fertilizer stinks to high heaven and is utter bullshit. The only stink-free solution to Scottish salmon’s rising mortality mountain is to close down all disease-ridden feedlots.”

For more information – including photos and video footage shot at Whiteshore Cockles – please see Note [4].

FOI Backgrounder (March 2023):

Whiteshore Cockles – Scottish Salmon’s Never-Ending Waste Disposal Nightmare:



SEPA’s [F0194566 EIR Response](#) (March 2023) disclosed 44 documents via [RELEASE F0194566](#) which included (in chronological order where possible):

[44 RE 20220920 Whiteshore Para7 Benefit Statement response RR](#)

SEPA wrote to IPPC consultants (and other parties – names redacted) on 20 September 2022:

- In short, presented with the current information and assessment, the consentability of a Para 7 is still not guaranteed, and may never be suitable for the proposed year round application which I believe to be questionable.
- Essential information, required by WMX-TG7 is lacking from the assessment and there are a number of questions around the proposed application that SEPA do not at this time would not consent to.
- There are also some factors that SEPA are awaiting comment on, from Nature Scot, which may depending on the response received not allow SEPA to consent the exemption and beyond our control.


At this stage I would say that application to land is still questionable and that Whiteshore should not be proceeding with any assumptions that Condensate waste to land will be the only option to ‘dispose’ of the waste year round and be the only option that would allow the operation of the Fish Mort waste treatment process to viably operate.

- Taking both the fields at Kyles Paible and Vallay, there is a total landbank for spreading of 104.7 ha. The applicant’s benefit statement notes that they plan to spread the waste at a rate of 28 t/ha per year, which means that they can spread a total of 2,931.88 t of per year. However, the benefit statement also says that estimated waste production is 3,850 tonnes per year. This means that they either need to identify more land to spread the waste upon (and carry out soil analysis for this land to determine its suitability for spreading), or increase the spread rate and provide justification for doing so, in terms of agricultural benefit delivered.
- It is concerning that the benefit statement refers to the spreading of waste on land as ‘disposal’ and that other potential risks from spreading, particularly odour, have not been considered.
■ Comment: Waste to land can only take place and be granted under WML Exemption or otherwise where there is a genuine and true benefit from the application. It was most worrying, and does not help in the justification where the Benefit Statement openly refers to this application as ‘disposal’ of waste, implying that this is the primary aim of the process and not the implied benefits later discussed.

Current overall assessment of this is that it may be okay for a para 7 for spreading this waste to go ahead, but the operator needs to do a lot more work on this, including getting new waste and soil analysis results, establishing whether they have enough landbank for what they are proposing to do and carrying out a more thorough risk assessment of potential impacts. NatureScot also should be consulted, if they say that spreading on Vallay Island is not acceptable, then the operator will need to find a lot of replacement land, as most of their currently-identified landbank is on the island.

■ Comment: I would state again that at this stage the consentability of this is still very unknown and there are a number of factors that will need addressed and considered further.

I am concerned that the impression from this information and also from discussion with ■ that the intention from Whiteshore would be to manage all Condensate under a Paragraph 7, this being a continuous 12 month production of significant volumes, and worryingly the exploration of Effluent Treatment Options (BAT Assessment) as specified in the June 2022 Further Information Notice – Point 1 may not be met.

Via:  44_RE_20220920_Whiteshore_Para...

[27_20220908_Whiteshore_SEPA_NatureScot_Para7_Assessment_RR](#)

SEPA wrote to Nature Scotland on 8 September 2022:

I am currently dealing with an application to Permit a waste treatment process at the site, under the Pollution Prevention and Control Regulations 2012 (PPC).


Nature Scot were contacted back in April as a statutory consultee for such developments, due to the location being situated with the relevant screening distances for a number of SPA, SSSI and SAC's. SEPA did not receive a response at the time, within the standard 28 days of contact, or since then.

The reasoning I am contacting you now, is that the applicant (Whiteshore Cockles) has notified SEPA that it would be their intention (pending appropriate approval) to apply some waste from the treatment process to land on North Uist.

The process waste is a liquid 'condensate' and this would require authorisation from SEPA under the Waste Management Licensing Regulations and would typically be considered a Paragraph 7 'Exemption' from the regulations – if the application of the waste is justified and can be demonstrated to provide agricultural or ecological benefit (i.e. not cause any harm) and ensure no other environmental impacts were to occur, such as pollution of the water environment or offensive odour etc.

Additional comments

- *I agree that it is concerning that the benefit statement refers to the spreading of waste on land as 'disposal' and that other potential risks from spreading, particularly odour, have not been considered.*
- *Storage will need consideration. I am not convinced that year round spreading will be viable, due to fields potentially being waterlogged during winter and there being no/limited crop requirement for nutrients during winter. Storage for extended periods could also pose a potential odour risk.*
- *NatureScot will need to be consulted on this, particularly on whether they have any objections to spreading the waste on Vallay Island, as it's part of an SAC designated for various vegetation types – in particular, I suspect that adding more nutrients to soil from the waste spreading could potentially have a negative impact on dune grassland and machair vegetation on the island. However, some expert ecological opinion is going to be needed to check this.*

Via:  27_20220908_Whiteshore_SEPA_Na...

[40_RE_20220906_Whiteshore_Cockles_para_7_draft_\(1\)_RR](#)

SEPA wrote on 6 September 2022:

From: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 September 2022 09:40
To: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Subject: 20220906_Whiteshore Cockles para 7 draft

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Further to our previous emails below, I have now been sent information to justify the use of condensate application on farmland at North Uist. I have read through the main report which appears to be quite simplistic in its justifications, however I presume the included condensate analyses and nutrient plan will provide the technical information SEPA require to sign off a potential Para 7 (I have not the knowledge to understand this fully).

On reading the main report I do not like that the consultant refers to this use as disposal (quite frequently) and that there is absolutely no mention of other potential environmental impacts other than diffuse pollution, such as odour (particularly as they propose a year round application).

I would be very appreciative if you could let me know your thoughts on this and if it appears accurate and viable?

From: SEPA [REDACTED]
Sent: Tue, 6 Sep 2022 16:37:11
To: SEPA [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: 20220906_Whiteshore Cockles para 7 draft
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None


OFFICIAL

Ooh interesting.... that's part of our normal checks, anything near SSSI/SAC/SPA/RAMSAR we would expect to see that addressed in a risk assessment with the exemption notification. For spreading IN a designated area we would expect the applicant to consult with NatureScot prior to submitting the exemption and to enclose a copy of the correspondence & NatureScot's approval to spread [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Sent: 06 September 2022 16:39
To: [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk>
Subject: RE: 20220906_Whiteshore Cockles para 7 draft

Thanks [REDACTED], just for info part of the area at Valley Island where they want to spread in is a SSSI for machair soils (nutrient poor) so naturescot aren't too happy with the proposal (last time I heard anyway). Any improvement in soil could impact on the designations but I'm not sure how you would take that into account for determining an exemption.

Via:  40_RE_20220906_Whiteshore Cock...

[26b Whiteshore Agricultural Benefit Report RR](#)

An 'Agricultural Benefit' report justifying the spreading of condensate wastes sent by IPPC Consultants on behalf of Whiteshore Cockles on 2 September 2022 to SEPA included:



Whiteshore Condensate Agricultural Benefit Report

The Whiteshore cockles currently handles 4,200t of fish morts and the new processing facility is expected to increase through put to 7,000t of fish morts per annum within the next 2-3 years. Once at full output, this will produce 3,850t of condensate which is the water fraction left over after the drying process. This condensate will require to be disposed of with careful consideration to any environmental impacts.

Disperse to sea

The option of dispersing the condensate to sea has been investigated but to meet with the required standard as set out under the European directives would require further processing through a treatment plant. The cost of building a treatment plant would be in excess of £800k which makes the whole project unviable.


Transport to the Mainland

Transporting the waste to the mainland has been considered but there are number of barriers which would not make this option possible. The current ferry service is often at capacity with significant reliability issues and the waste product would require more than 150 artic loads to shift the annual output. Also, the transporting, storing, and spreading cost on the mainland are prohibitive due to the double or treble handling of the product. Also, this option would generate a significant carbon footprint per ton of condensate which does not fit with the low carbon approach associated with the project.

Conclusion

The Whiteshore Cockles fish Mort processing facility offers significant benefits to the local community of North Uist and the disposal of the condensate is a critical part the process which requires a viable solution. The report has looked at the disposal options and it is evident that spreading to land is the only viable and practical option as the cost associated with haulage off island and discharge to the sea are prohibitive.

The justification for disposal to land as a product which can deliver agricultural benefit has been demonstrated in the report. The condensate is a low nitrogen fertiliser product which can deliver agricultural benefit if applied to grassland or crops. As the nitrogen level is relatively low at 0.62kg/m³ compared to over livestock slurries, it also poses less of a threat in winter months from diffused pollution. It offers an alternative to purchased inorganic fertiliser and with multiple targeted applications can replace the need to apply purchased fertiliser.

Via:  26b_Whiteshore Agricultural Benefi...

[26_20220906_Whiteshore Cockles para 7 draft RR](#)


SEPA wrote on 5 July 2022:

I would be a bit concerned if it was planned to spread all of the condensate to land. If they were even considering this, the consequences would need to be considered, for example, they would need a lot of storage in case weather conditions were not suitable for spreading for an extended period (quite likely in North Uist in winter in particular!). They would also need a very large landbank...I know they own a lot of land, but the question is whether they own enough suitable land for spreading.

I'm prepared to concede that Vallay Island may have >60 ha of suitable land for spreading, but I also think it is extremely unlikely that there is 160 ha of suitable land. I think it's probably in the range 60-100 ha, what I can't tell from GIS is how easy it is or otherwise to get a spreading tanker into the fields on the east side of the island. If access is difficult, it's going to be closer to 60 ha than 100 ha. A site visit may be helpful to determine this, but as you note, organising this could be difficult...

SEPA wrote on 4 July 2022:

You were however also correct in presuming that the operator indicated that they would likely wish to spread to other areas of land on Uist if they could get the consent. In the meeting they were very 'hopeful' that all the condensate might be able to go to land, despite previous advice. This hope does worry me.

Via:  26_20220906_Whiteshore Cockles ...

[11 RE Whithore Cockles para 7 problems RR](#)

SEPA wrote on 15 June 2022:

From: SEPA
Sent: 15 June 2022 12:50:21
To: SEPA SEPA SEPA SEPA
Subject: RE: Whithore Cockles para 7 problems
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Thanks

I met with the council today and made them aware of how we regulate para 7s etc, they might come back to you directly about the Part A. What I was reminded of was that vally island is designated (as much of uist is) with SSSI, SPA and SAC primarily. Just to complicate things a bit more!

Via:  11_RE_ Whithore Cockles para 7 ...

[12 RE Whithore Cockles North Uist - proposed para 7 RR](#)

SEPA wrote on 8 June 2022:

From: @sepa.org.uk
Sent: 08 June 2022 10:07
To: @sepa.org.uk; @SEPA.org.uk;
@sepa.org.uk
Cc: @sepa.org.uk
Subject: Whithore Cockles North Uist - proposed para 7

OFFICIAL - CONFIDENTIAL

Dear All,


In advance of the planned meeting on Friday, I've just been having a look at tonnages of waste to make an initial determination of whether there might be a possibility that a para 7 could be used for recycling 25% of the condensate from the fish processing site. I'm afraid that it is not looking promising as there seems to simply be too much waste for this to be viable.

The information seems to be suggesting that weekly amounts of condensate produced will be 97,500 litres. As this is a largely liquid waste, we can assume that this is equivalent 97,500 tonnes. The operator plans to recycle 25% of this to land, which is 24,375 t per week. Assuming that the process runs continuously, the total amount of waste that will be spread to land per year would therefore be 1,267,500 t (= 24,375 * 52 tonnes). However, maximum permissible waste spread rate under para 7 is 250 t/ha per year. Therefore, the applicant is going to need at least 5,070 hectares of land to recycle all of the waste. And that's before considering that there may be restrictions on the spread rate, reducing this below 250 t/ha, depending on the concentration of nutrients (e.g. nitrogen and phosphorus) and potentially toxic elements in the waste and receiving soil and

the crop being grown on the land.

Even if the waste can be spread at the maximum 250 t/ha rate, there is simply not enough suitable agricultural land available on North Uist to spread it all. Looking at a land use classification for agriculture map, I reckon that at most there are 400 hectares that are suitable, and there's possibly a further 1,000 hectares that may be suitable on Benbecula and South Uist.

The amounts of waste involved in this process are huge, I'm almost wondering if a mistake has been made in the calculations at the operator's end...?

Via:  12_RE_ Whithore Cockles North ...

[7 Re Whiteshores Cockles Paible North Uist RR](#)

Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) wrote to SEPA and Nature Scotland on 25 May 2022:

In particular, rather than on-site treatment and discharge to the sea under a Marine Licence, as was previously proposed, it is currently proposed that waste would be removed from site by tanker, with 75% of the condensate effluent taken to the mainland for use in an anaerobic digester and 25% spread on Vallay.

The volume of waste involved would be significant. The Permit application estimates that a typical week's processing would yield 97,500 litres of condensate and proposes a 50,000 litres condensate storage tank on site (amongst other storage). The condensate would be removed in 25,000 litre collections by tanker. This removal would be in addition to the removal of fish oil, excess meal and wastewater, which would also be removed by tanker, for off-site use in anaerobic digesters or treatment.

We have concerns about the potential environmental impacts and community implications of such an approach, and its longer-term feasibility and viability. However, from the response provided by SEPA, some of these matters would not be within the control of the permitting process, but may be subject to other controls, such as an 'Exempt' activity under the WML process.

SEPA staff replied internally on 26 May 2022:

From: SEPA [REDACTED]
Sent: 26 May 2022 09:21:35
To: SEPA [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Whiteshores Cockles, Paible, North Uist
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Isn't it.. I'm not sure that's sustainable


[REDACTED]
Argyll, Hebrides and South Highland Team Environmental Performance
m: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2022 9:04:16 AM
To: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Subject: RE: Whiteshores Cockles, Paible, North Uist

OFFICIAL

A lot of waste being transported off ☹️?

Via:  7_Re_Whiteshores Cockles_Paible_...

An undated & unattributed reply/response to Comhairle Nan Eilean Nan's letter dated 3 May 2022 – titled: [37a_20220513_PPC-A-5001983_AS_response_LA_consultee_comments_RR.pdf](#) – included:

OFFICIAL

Whiteshore Cockles:

PPC/A/5001983 – New Permit Application – consultation

Re. [REDACTED] (SEPA) response to [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR, letter dated 03 May 2022.

- 4. In terms of Appendix 6 (the Blackwell Water Consultancy Ltd Technical Report for treating fish rendering effluent), it is noted that removing effluent by tanker is not recommended to be considered further, due to it being highly expensive and onerous. However, the removal of effluent by tanker formed part of the details recently submitted by the applicant in respect of discharging the conditions applied to one of the recent planning permissions for the facility (Ref 20/00007/PPD).*

SEPA notes the proposed methodology for effluent treatment and disposal contradicts the information given by the appointed consultant undertaking the effluent optioneering assessment. SEPA shall be investigating this matter further as part of the permit assessment. It has however been noted on initial review that the recommended methodology for disposal within the report (Rapid infiltration for untreated effluent) would not meet the requirements of BAT for the industry or the prescribed emission limit values for effluent before discharging to the water environment. This is not a treatment process and would not be approved by SEPA.

- 5. The information provided within Appendix 7 (the Ricardo report) focusses on the potential for agricultural benefit to Vallay by the proposed discharge to land of some 25% of the condensate from the proposed facility. However, overall and given the conclusion within the report, it is not clear that the potential environmental impacts have been appropriately assessed.*

The report highlights the potential for impact pathways to lead to significant effects on the qualifying habitats of the SAC, the qualifying species of the SPA, and the features of the SSSI. Consequently, the planning authority expresses strong concerns about such an approach and would query whether consent from NatureScot has been sought and obtained, or confirmation received that consent is not necessary. It is noted that the final row of Table 17 'Risk Mitigation and Score' of the application Technical Report does not consider the potential impact on these sensitive sites.

SEPA will be seeking further information on this proposal in order to assess if a high level of environmental protection from the activities can be met. Nature Scot have also been consulted as a statutory consultee. In cases where sensitive designations are likely to be impacted, any assessment under the previously mentioned WML 2011 regulated activities will also require a separate & further detailed assessment consultation before any approval can be granted.

9. *In addition to the above, it is considered that the removal of all effluent and wastewater from the site (with the exception of wash down water) would result in significantly greater volumes of HGV movements to and from the site than previously indicated. It is anticipated that a typical processing of 150 tonnes of fish morts per week would result in 97,500 litres of condensate being produced. The on-site condensate storage capacity is intended to be 50,000 litres. Removal from the site is stated to be in 25,000 litres tanker loads. This would therefore appear to require 4 tanker loads of condensate removed per week, with storage capacity on site for only half a week's typical production. In addition, the removal of fish oil would also be regularly required, with sufficient storage capacity on site for 10 days production. Notwithstanding the conditions imposed on the planning permissions, it is considered that the level and type of traffic generation could result in detriment to the amenity of nearby residential occupiers.*

SEPA shall be seeking more detailed and accurate information on this matter and agree it requires full consideration.

SEPA recognises that the applicant will require to satisfy any planning permission requirements around traffic movements at the site in order to lawfully operate the proposed activity at the site.

10. *Furthermore, in addition to the concerns raised above concerning the viability of such a waste disposal regime and the feasibility of disposing of 25% of this waste by disposal to land in Vallay, it is also queried whether consideration has been given to the practicalities of removing this quantity of waste product from North Uist on a weekly basis? Restrictions on ferry capacity, particularly during busy summer months, can limit availability, as can technical faults or weather conditions, which regularly results in the cancellation of services at other times of the year. Consequently, it is questioned whether the condensate (and fish oil) storage capacity on site would be sufficient, given the intended method of removal and disposal.*

SEPA shall be seeking more detailed and accurate information on this matter and agree it requires full consideration, including potential storage capacities.

11. *The process whereby non-conforming loads of fish would be removed from the site is queried. The supporting report does not make clear where quarantined loads would be stored prior to removal from site or the length of time the loads would be anticipated to remain on site before removal. Nor is the end location of the quarantined loads provided, or the method proposed to be used to transfer the loads out from the reception pit, if intercepted during unloading. In the absence of details to the contrary, this aspect of the proposal would appear to have the potential to result in unacceptable odour emissions.*

Any quarantined waste loads not suitable to be processed at the site would require to be stored in line with BAT, and this would include appropriate odour control measures. It is noted that planning condition 6 states that no fish morts shall be stored outwith the reception pit, within the reception building. Any wastes removed from the site would require to be disposed of at an appropriately licenced waste installation.

15. *In summary, the planning authority object to the proposed means of disposal of effluent and wastewater from the proposed facility as proposed, pending receipt of the points of clarification/further information, for the reasons given above.*

[37b 220503 - Consultee Response - LA RR](#)

A letter from Comhairle Nan Eilean Siar (Western Isles Council) to SEPA dated 3 May 2022 included:



COMHAIRLE NAN EILEAN SIAR

Balivanich, Isle of Benbecula HS7 5LA

Bail' a'Mhanaich, Beinn na Faoghla HS7 5LA

██████████
██████████
Permitting Service
SEPA

Telephone direct line : ██████████
e-mail : ██████████@cne-siar.gov.uk
Writer : ██████████
Our reference : 22/00165/CONSEP
Your reference : PPC/A/5001983
Date : 3 May 2022

By email to: registry@sepa.org.uk


WHITESHORE COCKLES: CONSULTATION RESPONSE TO PART A PPC PERMIT APPLICATION

It is noted that in the application submissions (IPPC Technical Report Supporting Document) Table 1 on page 7 refers to the storage, handling and dispatch of by-products and waste as a directly associated activity. However, in column 3 of the table, which identifies the details of the activity, the removal of effluent and wastewater from the facility by tanker is not detailed, nor is the subsequent intended disposal of those waste products to land and to AD plant elsewhere.

Reference is made throughout the report to the island's (North Uist) wastewater treatment works. Beyond small package treatment works serving a small number of houses, no such treatment works exist and the location of the intended site for the disposal and treatment of wastewater (human waste) is queried. It is also questioned whether Scottish Water have indicated that sufficient capacity exists at an identified suitable wastewater treatment facility, through their PDE process, and whether written agreement has been provided by Scottish Water and SEPA to such an approach?

It is therefore considered that further assessment should be undertaken to establish whether the proposed means of waste disposal to land is sustainable in this location in the long term and what impacts are likely to result to ecological features and nearby sensitive receptors. It is considered that any 'agricultural benefit assessment' should be undertaken by persons qualified in that science and the timing of that assessment should be established prior to it being undertaken.

The figures given within the Blackwell report are such that the removal of effluent by tanker option is considered unlikely to be financially viable for the facility. There would therefore appear to be a disconnect between the recommendations within the supporting documentation and the proposed course of action. This raises some serious concerns about whether the preferred effluent disposal system (with 75% of the total effluent removed by tanker for treatment at an AD plant on the mainland) would be sustainable in the long term and, if not, what the resulting outcome may be, particularly given the history and continued use of the wider site for waste disposal.

Via:  37b_220503 - Consultee Response ...

8_RE_Whitshore Cockles RR

SEPA wrote on 30 March 2022:

From: [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk>
Sent: 30 March 2022 16:20
To: [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk>
Cc: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>; [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk>
Subject: Whitshore Cockles

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

That's the Whitshore Cockles application in and its likely to be duly made (subject to getting all the usual related application form issues resolved).


The application is better than what was provided before but there is still a lot of work need to be undertaken to get the facility to be permissible. An extensive further information notice is almost a certainty.

Do get in touch if you need anything else.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Waste and Industry Unit
Environmental Performance
Compliance and Beyond Portfolio
Scottish Environment Protection Agency | Graesser House| Dingwall Business Park 'a0| Dingwall 'a0IV15 9XB
'a0
M: [REDACTED]
e: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk

Via:  8_RE_Whitshore Cockles RR

28_Environmental Event_Burning WasteIsle Nth Uist RR

In February 2022, SEPA reported an 'Environmental Event' at Whitshores fish dump ("again"):

A new Environmental Event has been submitted.

Submitted online at : 18-Feb-2022 17:57

Location on google maps: HGCR+68 Isle of North Uist, UK ([Click to view location](#))

Location via GIS map: HGCR+68 Isle of North Uist, UK ([Click to view location](#))

Lat: 57.57054

Long: -7.459158

Date of event: 18-Feb-2022


Time event observed: 17:30

Event status: Ongoing

Event category: Burning of Waste

Description of event: Black smoke from a large fire plastic or tyres

Event source: Whitshores fish dump again

Via:  28_Environmental Event_Burning W...

[17_RE_Whitshore Cockles - media enquiry - DRAFT \(1\) RR](#)

SEPA reported in January 2022 (following a media enquiry by The Ferret):

From: [REDACTED]@sepa.org.uk
Sent: 20 January 2022 09:15
To: [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk; [REDACTED]@SEPA.org.uk; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Whitshore Cockles - media enquiry - DRAFT

OFFICIAL

That's great. Thank you all for your help.


I would agree about avoiding any time frames and just keep it simple, sticking to the facts. The first 7 or 8 paragraphs of [REDACTED] enquiry is speculation and the 'we are still in discussions' line covers this.

Draft statement below if you're able to let me know your thoughts this morning.

A spokesperson for SEPA said: "We continue to be in discussions with Whitshore Cockle regarding their proposals for the salmon mortalities processing plant and their PPC permit application, which has not yet been received.

"SEPA can only issue a permit if, having considered all aspects of the application, it is satisfied the installation will operate within relevant environmental quality standards and comply with the conditions of the PPC permit."

Thank you again.
[REDACTED]

Via:  [17_RE_Whitshore Cockles - medi...](#)

[47a 27-10-21 - First letter to SEPA RR](#)

In October 2021, Alasdair Allan MSP raised concerns on behalf of a constituent about fish waste disposal by Whitshore Cockles in North Uist in a letter to SEPA:



Our Ref: AA7212

27 October 2021

Dear Terry,

Re: Whitshore Cockles Ltd

I am writing on behalf of a constituent, [REDACTED] who recently contacted me to raise concerns about fish waste disposal by Whitshore Cockles Ltd in North Uist.

[REDACTED] who [REDACTED] has complained of foul odours emanating from the site, is upset by the negative environmental impacts which the fish waste disposal is having on the machair. [REDACTED] is concerned by the large amount of waste being processed and buried by the company and by sand extraction in the area.

██████████ pointed out that this is a long-standing issue and that the company has had six years of derogations to construct the necessary processing plant to properly deal with the waste. ██████████ is concerned that little has happened in this time and would like an update whether the company has made an application to SEPA for a license for the plant.

I would be grateful if you looked into this matter and I look forward to your reply.


Yours sincerely,

██████████

Alasdair Allan MSP

Cc: ██████████

20 Kenneth Street, Stornoway, Isle of Lewis, HS1 2DR
20 Sràid Choinnich, Steòrnabhagh, Eilean Leòdhais, HS1 2DR
Phone /Fòn 01851 700357
Email/post-d: alasdair.allan.msp@parliament.scot
website/làrach-lìn: www.alasdairallan.scot

Via:  47a 27-10-21 - First letter to SEPA ...

Read more via:

[EXPOSED: Whithore Estimates 97,500 Litres of Mort Wastes PER WEEK \(with 25,000 litres of 'condensate effluent' spread on Isle of Vally & tankers to the mainland\)!](#)
[FOI disclosure on Whithore Cockles from Western Isles Council \(31 January 2023\)](#)
[FishyLeaks: Videos Expose Disease-Ridden Scottish Salmon \(as certified by RSPCA Assured\)!](#)
[The Ferret: "‘Illegal’ dumping of dead fish in Outer Hebrides continues despite ban vow"](#)
[Media Backgrounder: Leaked Video & Photos from Whithore Cockles CIWF Investigation](#)
[Stinky Scottish Salmon: FOI reveals "the stench of rotten fish blowing on the wind....something foul, clearly death and decay"!](#)
[Closing the Net on Diseased Scottish Salmon - Whithore Cockles Finally Dumped in March!](#)
[The ‘illegal’ dumping of dead fish in Hebridean beauty spot set to end](#)
[FOI disclosure on Whithore Cockles by the Scottish Government \(202100254831\) on 8 December 2021](#)
[The Times: "Tougher curbs for island salmon graveyard in Outer Hebrides"](#)
[FOI disclosure on Whithore Cockles by the Scottish Government in August 2021](#)
[Exposed: 'Legal' Salmon Dump in North Uist Caught Importing Diseased Fish From the Mainland \(& they've still not applied to SEPA for a pollution permit\)!](#)
[Taking the Fish - Illegal Salmon Dump Caught Taking Diseased Fish from the Mainland Despite 'Derogation'!](#)
[Scottish Government ‘exploring strategies’ for mort burial site](#)
[P&J: "Lives of Western Isles residents ‘severely hampered by rotting fish dump’"](#)
[The Times: "Fish graveyard ‘severely hampers’ life for islanders, officials claim"](#)
[FOI Lifts Lid on the Stench of Scottish Salmon: Government Legal Department Target Illegal Dumping of Diseased Salmon](#)

[Appeal to Scottish Information Commissioner re. FOI refusal by Western Isles Council on Whiteshore Cocks](#)

[Letter to Scottish Ministers on Illegal Dumping of Diseased Scottish Salmon in North Uist Daily Mail: "Dumped into the dunes....thousands of rotten, disease ridden salmon"](#)

[Independent: "Scottish islanders raise a stink over vast salmon graveyard"](#)

[Video Exposes Mass Graves of Millions of Diseased Scottish Salmon](#)

[The Times: "Islanders raise a stink over vast salmon graveyard"](#)

[Sunday National: "The Millions of Dead Salmon Dumped, Burnt or Destroyed"](#)

[Revealed: Burned, Buried & Ensiled Scottish Salmon](#)

[Media Backgrounder: Mort Disposal of Scottish Farmed Salmon - Ewan Kennedy - The €10 Million Mort Man](#)

[European Commission complaint over dead fish dumping forces rule change](#)

[Where have all the dead fish gone?](#)

[Fears raised by salmon dump](#)

[Diseased fish dumping continues](#)

Contact:

Don Staniford: 07771 541826 (salmonfarmingkills@gmail.com)

Notes to Editors:

[1]



[Return to SEPA homepage](#)

SEPA Disclosure Log

F0194566	Salmon Farming	09/03/2023
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Description: including photos, videos, Cabinet Briefings, letters, emails, correspondence with the Scottish Government, Salmon Scotland, Mowi, Loch Duart, Bakkafrøst Scotland/The Scottish Salmon Company, CalMac, Western Isles Council, APHA and any other information since 12 November 2021. Please also include any discussions and information on the legality of dumping diseased salmon in Scotland with respect to EU, Scottish and UK law. Please also include any discussion and information in relation to the dumping, ensiling, burning and transport of dead/diseased Scottish salmon.Information: Please refer to response letter and release information.Related documents:<ul style="list-style-type: none">F0194566 EIR ResponseRELEASE F0194566		

SEPA's [FOI response letter dated 2 March 2023](#) includes:



RESPONSE TO F0194566

Request Timeline

Date	Status
17/09/2022	EIR Request received [statutory deadline 14/10/2022]
02/03/2023	EIR Response issued

Requested Information

Please provide information on Whiteshore Cockles in North Uist - including photos, videos, Cabinet Briefings, letters, emails, correspondence with the Scottish Government, Salmon Scotland, Mowi, Loch Duart, Bakka Frost Scotland/The Scottish Salmon Company, CalMac, Western Isles Council, APHA and any other information since 12 November 2021.

Please also include any discussions and information on the legality of dumping diseased salmon in Scotland with respect to EU, Scottish and UK law.

Please also include any discussion and information in relation to the dumping, ensiling, burning and transport of dead/diseased Scottish salmon.

Response

We can confirm that we have handled your request under the terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

We apologise for the delay in providing this response.

SEPA conducted searches and found several documents to be assessed. These are detailed on the attached Document Schedule, file name **F0194566_Schedule**.

Some documents were assessed to be not in scope of this request, and so, have not been released. Documents that were found to be duplicates have also not been released.

In total, 44 documents have been provided along with the document schedule. Filters can be used on the Document Schedule to show only those documents withheld or released. Each of the 44 documents have had personal data removed – please see Regulation 11(2) of the Application of Regulations/Exceptions section below for more details.

Please refer to the 44 attached files, which are listed in the table below.

File Name
1_Whitashore Update RR
3_Whitashore Cockles PPC application update RR
4_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - future conditions for the burial of fish waste RR
5_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - burial waste conditions - draft meeting notes RR
5a_Task and Finish Group - meeting with WCL - notes - IM (003) RR
6_Scoping F0193316 RR
7_Re_Whitashores Cockles_Paible_North Uist RR
8_RE_Whitashore Cockles RR
9_RE_Whitashore Cockles PPC application update RR
11_RE_Whitashore Cockles para 7 problems RR
12_RE_Whitashore Cockles North Uist - proposed para 7 RR
13_Re_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - future conditions for the burial of fish waste RR
15_RE_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - for comment by 19 November RR
16_Re_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - draft meeting notes RR
17_RE_Whitashore Cockles - media enquiry - DRAFT (1) RR
18_Re_Task and Finish Group - Whitashore Cockles future fish waste burial RR
21_RE_OME ID_1957 - Whitashore Cockles Ltd fish waste - Case Ref AA7212 (1) RR
22_RE_Fees for paragraph 4_RR
23_RE_Fees for paragraph 4_(1) RR
25a_Condensate RR
26_20220906_Whitashore Cockles para 7 draft RR
26a_Whitashore Cockles RR
26b_Whitashore Agricultural Benefit Report RR
26c_WS Condensate 2020.09.16 (SW Rep. 00991038) RR
26d_Condensate Nutrient Plan (002) RR
27_20220908_Whitashore_SEPA_NatureScot_Para7_Assessment RR
28_Environmental Event_Burning Wastelsie Nth Uist RR
29a_220401_PPC-A-5001983_Whitashore Cockles - Request to Advertise RR
30_Fees for paragraph 4_RR
31_Freedom of Information request - Whitashore Cockles RR
32_FW_Whitashore Cockles - media enquiry - DRAFT RR
33_FW_Whitashore Cockles - media enquiry RR
34_FW_Whitashore Cockles - Task and Finish Group - future conditions for the burial of fish waste RR
36_FW_Whitashore Update RR
37_FW_Whitashores Cockles_Paible_North Uist RR
37a_20220513_PPC-A-5001983_AS_response_LA consultee_comments RR
37b_220503 - Consultee Response - LA RR
40_RE_20220906_Whitashore Cockles para 7 draft (1) RR
42_RE_20220908_Whitashore Cockles para 7 draft (1) RR
43_RE_20220908_Whitashore Cockles para 7 draft RR
44_RE_20220920_Whitashore_Para7_Benefit Statement_response RR
46_Re_Application update RR
47_OME - Whitashore Cockles Ltd fish waste - Case Ref AA7212 RR
47a_27-10-21 - First letter to SEPA RR

Further information regarding the regulations/exceptions applied to this information can be found below.

Application of Regulations/Exceptions

Section 39(2)

We have applied the exemption under Section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as we have determined that the information sought in your request is environmental information. We are therefore handling your request under the terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs). In this case the public interest in maintaining this exemption and in dealing with the request in line with the requirements of the EIRs outweighs any public interest in disclosing the information under FOISA.

Regulation 9 – Advice and assistance

Where we have issued additional information or advice this is provided in line with SEPA's duty to advise and assist under Regulation 9 of The Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004.

Regulation 11(2) – Personal data

Personal data relating to SEPA staff and private individuals has been redacted from the released documents in accordance with Regulation 11(2) of the EIRs and Data Protection Principles. SEPA has not withheld complete documents which contain such personal data and have released all other information within the document.

Download the 44 documents via [RELEASE F0194566](#)

[2] Photos of a salmon feed barge dumped on Vally (planning documents [online here](#)):





A whistleblower told Scottish Salmon Watch in May 2021:

“The planning conditions for this by SEPA were that it had to be used for storage of grain within 2 years or it was to be removed. The island of Vallay is a SSSI.

It must be over 4 yrs since it was ‘installed’ and is in nowhere near the same condition as implied with the photographs submitted to planning.

It has not and will never be used for grain storage. That end of the island has never been cultivated for grain, certainly hasn’t in recent years.

The story in the local grape vine is that the land owner was paid a vast amount of money to take them away from the fish farm as it would cost even more to decommission them properly.

You know the land owner that was paid to do this as he features in the BBC one show and already ‘does business’ with the fish farms.

I was there last year and the hand rails and the exteriors are crumbling in to the sea, literally. I nearly fell through one when it fell apart.

SNH will never enforce the planning conditions because the land owner is too ‘well connected’ and who would want to upset the precious salmon farming industry. He’s not even challenged when the fish pits mean school kids can’t open windows in the classrooms because the stench is too bad. Locals were devastated about these monstrosities. It’s clearly seen from the roadside and also our stunning beach of traigh iar. Not to mention they will soon be washing around the beaches and our shore causing who knows what damage to the environment as they continue to crumble...

I don’t wish to publically comment on any of this and please do not use my name or profile but I do think this story should be shared, at least those parts that are known in fact and writing re the

planning consent. SNH could be asked to comment or better still enforce the condition. I doubt that will ever happen though!”

[3]



Home Find Activities We Asked, You Said, We Did

Search



PPC/A/5001983 - Whiteshore Cockles Ltd: Whiteshore Cockles Salmon Morts Processing Facility, Bayhead, North Uist - PPC Permit Application

Overview

It is part of SEPA's remit to maintain a high-quality environment by setting permit conditions which limit the impacts associated with installations operating under Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) Part A regulations.

Application details

We received an application from Whiteshore Cockles for a permit to operate an installation at Kyles, Paible, Isle Of North Uist to treat and recover putrescible fish farm mortality waste as an alternative to the historic burial of the same waste at the proposed site.

Closes 16 May 2023

Opened 18 Apr 2023

Contact

registry@sepa.org.uk

A summary of their application is available below:

- [Non-technical summary](#)

Why your views matter

SEPA have assessed the application and has drafted new permit conditions. These, along with the decision document, are available below:

- [Draft permit conditions](#)
- [Draft decision document](#)

This is your opportunity to let us know your views on the proposed conditions. The consultation will be open for 28 days from date of publication. SEPA will consider any comments received between 18 April and 16 May 2023 before issuing the final decision.

Your comments will be published to our public register unless you ask us not to, in which case we will publish a note saying that we received a response but have not made it publicly available.

[4] [Media Backgrounder: Leaked Video & Photos from Whiteshore Cockles CIWF Investigation](#) (January 2023)

Here's leaked video footage taken in October 2020 by an investigator working for Compassion in World Farming:



More leaked video footage shot for CIWF in October 2020:



Here are leaked photos taken in October 2020 by an investigator working for Compassion in World Farming:











In March 2021, CIWF [published two photos from Whiteshore Cocks](#) (the last two photos above):




Salmon Investigation 2020

Title: Salmon Investigation 2020

Show more details: © Compassion in World Farming

Download

Source file:

 **Original file**
(2575.0KB)




Salmon Investigation 2020

Title: Salmon Investigation 2020
Show more details: © Compassion in World Farming

Download

Source file:

 Original file
(2697.0KB)

When Compassion in World Farming [published a 3-minute compilation of video footage in March 2021](#) a few brief clips from Whiteshore Cocks were included but CIWF has refused to publish the extensive video footage shot in October 2020:



Salmon farming in Scotland: Compassion in World Far... Watch Later Share



MORE VIDEOS Play (k) **Factory farms can also poison the local environment**

1:52 / 2:50 YouTube

Salmon farming in Scotland: Compassion in World Far... Watch Later Share



MORE VIDEOS Play (k) **Investigators found dead fish dumped in open pits and bins**

2:06 / 2:50 YouTube



In May 2021, Scottish Salmon Watch [published video footage from Whiteshore Cockles \(Don Staniford visited the site late in the evening on 3 May 2021\)](#):



Don Staniford
@TheGAAlA · [Follow](#)



Video Exclusive: Salmon farming in Scotland is a disease-ridden dump! vimeo.com/554460315

When will burial at Whiteshore Cockles be stopped & the law be followed not flouted?

[@_KateForbes](#) [@MairiMcAllan](#) [@cne_siar](#) [@ScottishEPA](#)
[@salmon_scottish](#) [@LochDuartSalmon](#) [@WHFP1](#)



9:02 AM · May 27, 2021





Scottish Salmon's Illegal Graveyard Still Stinks!

Don Staniford



02:30

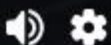


Restricted Access: Scottish Salmon's Secret Graveyard

Don Staniford



05:13



In June 2021, Scottish Salmon Watch [published photos taken by a tourist walking along the beach next to Whiteshore Cockles:](#)





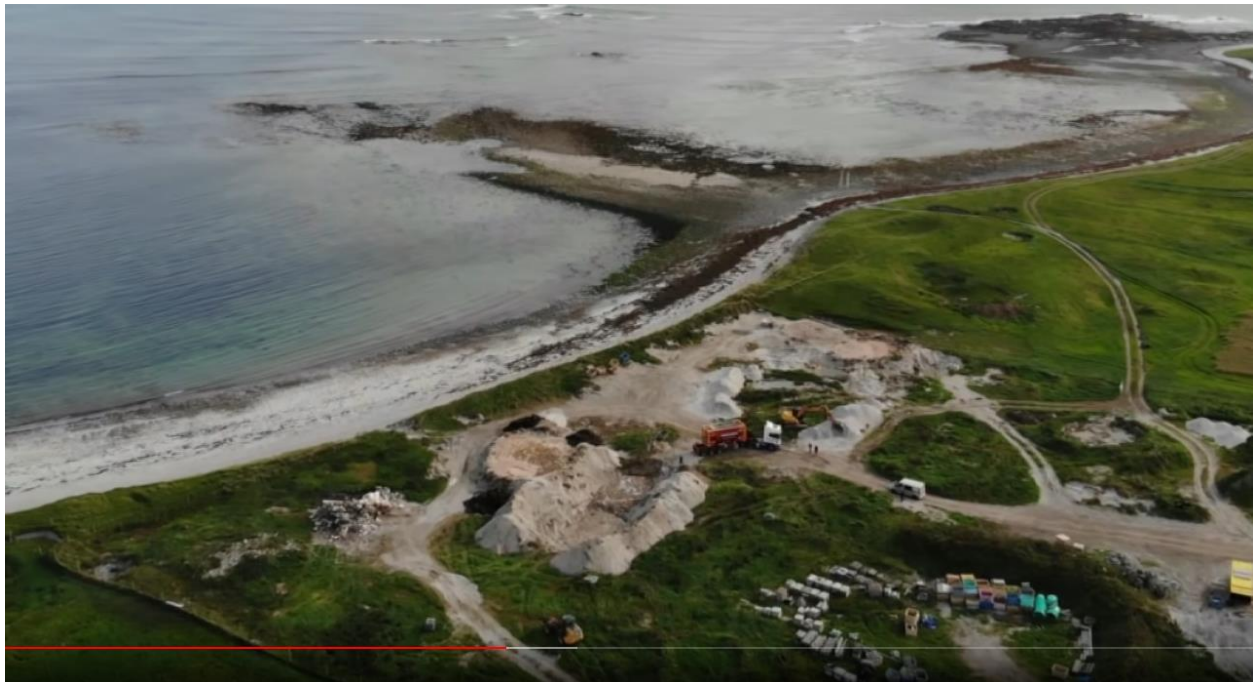
Watch [video footage taken by a tourist walking along the public beach next to Whiteshore Cockles in June 2021](#) (the same tourist took the photos above):



In August 2018, [Joe Crowley and the BBC One Show](#) visited [Whiteshore Cockles](#) with Angus Macdonald claiming in an interview that the dumping of diseased salmon would stop soon:



Watch the gruesome video footage on the 'BBC One Show' in September 2018 [online here](#)









Here's [Scottish Minister Kate Forbes visiting Whiteshore Cockles in October 2019](#) (listening to Angus Macdonald of Whiteshore Cockles):



Scottish Government Finance and Economy · Oct 2, 2019



@scotgoveconomy · **Follow**

Digital Economy Minister @KateForbesMSP visited Whiteshore Cockles in North Uist earlier this week to hear how they've used digital disruption as an opportunity to diversify and thrive



This photo – [obtained from the Scottish Government via FOI in June 2021](#) – is understood to be of Scottish Minister Kate Forbes during her visit to Whiteshore Cockles in October 2019:



Don Staniford
@TheGAAIA · Follow



When @_KateForbes visited Whiteshore Cocks was the illegal dumping of disease-ridden salmon raised? Did @marinescotland inspect the leaching cess-pit or did @ScotGovNetZero look the other way? tinyurl.com/4nuk8ez7 @cne_siar @APHAgovuk @ScottishEPA @SSPOsays @MairiGougeon



Here are more photos of Whiteshore Cockles [obtained by Scottish Salmon Watch from the Scottish Government via FOI in June 2021](#):









From: MS FishHealth
Sent: 11 September 2018 09:20
To: <redacted>
Subject: RE: Our Ref: 658-26282 / 65506 – Salmon

Morning

I don't know if you saw the report on The One Show last night about Vacasay, but below is a still image from Whiteshore Cockles, the waste disposal site, which is identical to the photo that was sent to Visit Scotland and reported to have been taken at a beach on Bernera.

It might be worth forwarding this to APHA and the LA in case they didn't see the show

Cheers

<redacted>

