

The Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture, 8 November 2017

**RSPCA in firing line over Marine Harvest's seal-killing spree in Scotland  
- 118 seals killed by Marine Harvest's RSPCA Assured farms since 2011**



# marine harmfest

Data [published online by the Scottish Government](#) - sourced from figures supplied by salmon farming companies themselves - reveal the shocking extent of the slaughter of seals in Scotland: 825 seals killed by fish farms since 2011. [RSPCA Assured](#) Marine Harvest is now salmon farming's #1 seal killer accounting for over a quarter of all seals killed in Scotland in 2016 [1].

Since 2011 (from when official figures are [publicly available](#)), Marine Harvest has killed 118 seals shooting up from 5 seals killed in 2013 to 26 seals killed in 2016 (and 11 seals killed in the first two quarters of 2017). Marine Harvest - [the world's largest salmon farming company](#) - supplies [Sainsbury's](#) as well as [Waitrose](#) and has 100% of its salmon farming production certified as welfare-friendly via the [RSPCA Assured/Freedom Food scheme](#) [2].

Ben Hadfield, Managing Director of Marine Harvest Scotland, [told The Sunday Times](#) in June 2017: "If seals keep attacking the fish, then, like a farmer kills foxes, we shoot them."



**Photos:** Seals killed near [Marine Harvest's salmon farm in Loch Alsh Special Area of Conservation](#) (download high res images [online here](#) and [online here](#))

Last week, Marine Harvest [posted photos of an RSPCA event at the Palace of Westminster](#) showcasing their [RSPCA Assured](#) farmed salmon:



GAAIA has now written to [Theresa Villiers MP \(as host of the event\)](#) and [Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs \(a speaker at the event\)](#) asking them to intervene to end the slaughter of seals at Marine Harvest salmon farms and to ask the RSPCA to withdraw RSPCA Assured certification from seal killing salmon farms.



GAAIA has also written to the RSPCA asking that Marine Harvest and other salmon farming companies slaughtering seals are suspended immediately from the [RSPCA Assured/Freedom Food certification scheme](#).



According to the seal-killing data [published online](#) by the Scottish Government, Marine Harvest killed 26 out of the 97 seals reported as killed in [2016](#) (more than any other company and representing 27% of all the seals killed in Scotland in 2016).

| Company                                      | Total Seals Killed in 2016 |
|--|----------------------------|
| Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd                | 26                         |
| Moray Firth Seal Management Group            | 18                         |
| Scottish Sea Farms                           | 14                         |
| North and North West Salmon Management Group | 13                         |
| Cooke Aquaculture Scotland                   | 8                          |
| Loch Duart*                                  | 6                          |

\* Also includes seals killed via the North and North West Salmon Management Group

A total of 15 Marine Harvest salmon farms reported seal kills including sites in Loch Ewe, Torridon, [Greshornish](#), Linnhe, Colonsay, and [Lochalsh](#) - that represents 30% of [Marine Harvest Scotland's 49 salmon farms](#) killing seals. The Marine Harvest salmon farms - all understood to be certified via the [RSPCA Assured/Freedom Food scheme](#) - [reported by the Scottish Government as killing seals in 2016](#) included:

Eilean Grianain (FS1176); Isle Ewe (FS0767); Torridon (FS0814); Greshornish (FS0698); Maol Ban (FS0839); Cairidh (FS0252); Hellisay (FS1261); Ornish (FS0531); Marulaig (FS0865); Linnhe (FS0240); Creag an t Sagairt (FS0605); Kingairloch (FS0241); Camas Glas; Colonsay and Lochlash (sic).

| 2016 Returns |                               | Quarter 1               |        |      | Quarter 2      |        |      | Quarter 3                 |        |      | Quarter 4          |        |      |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|------|----------------|--------|------|---------------------------|--------|------|--------------------|--------|------|
| Licence No:  | Licence Name:                 | Site                    | Common | Grey | Site           | Common | Grey | Site                      | Common | Grey | Site               | Common | Grey |
| W114/2016    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Hellisay FS1261           | 0      | 2    |                    | 0      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Ornish FS0531             | 0      | 2    |                    |        |      |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Marulaig FS0865           | 0      | 1    |                    |        |      |
| SW07/2016    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Eilean Griainain FS1176 | 1      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    |                           | 0      | 0    |                    | 0      | 0    |
| WS06/2016    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    |                           | 0      | 0    |                    | 2      | 0    |
| WS16/2016    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Isle Ewe FS0767         | 0      | 2    |                | 0      | 0    |                           | 0      | 0    |                    | 0      | 0    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Torrison FS0814         | 1      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    |                           | 0      | 0    |                    |        |      |
| WS21/2016    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | GRESHORNISH FS0698      | 0      | 1    | Cairidh FS0252 | 0      | 2    | Linnhe FS0240             | 1      | 0    | Lochlash           | 1      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Maol Ban FS0519           | 0      | 1    | Camas Glas         | 1      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                         | 0      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Creag an t Sagairt FS0605 | 0      | 1    | Kingairloch FS0241 | 0      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | MAOL BAN FS0839         | 1      | 0    |                | 0      | 0    | Kingairloch FS0241        | 0      | 1    | Colonsay           | 0      | 1    |

Data [published online by the Scottish Government in September 2017](#) - for the first two quarters of 2017 - reveal that Marine Harvest has killed 11 seals at seven different sites (Polle na Gille, Bagh dail nan Cean, Ardnish, Lochlash, Camas Glas, Kingainloch and Colonsay) during 2017 representing 19% of the total seals killed in Scotland:

| 2017 Returns |                               | Quarter 1          |        |      | Quarter 2          |        |      |
|--------------|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------|------|--------------------|--------|------|
| Licence No:  | Licence Name:                 | Site               | Common | Grey | Site               | Common | Grey |
| WS06/2017    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Polle na Gille     | 1      | 0    | Bagh dail nan Cean | 2      | 0    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Bagh dail nan Cean | 0      | 1    |                    |        |      |
| WS21/2017    | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | Ardnish            | 0      | 1    | Lochlash           | 1      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                    |        |      | Camas Glas         | 1      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |                    |        |      | Kingainloch        | 0      | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | MAOL BAN FS0839    |        |      | Colonsay           | 0      | 1    |

Salmon farming companies - including Marine Harvest, Scottish Sea Farms, Cooke Aquaculture, Loch Duart, the Scottish Salmon Company, Wester Ross Fisheries and Balta Island Seafare - accounted for [77% of the seals killed in Scotland in 2016](#) (76 out of 98 seals killed) with fisheries interests accounting for the rest. That's a leap from salmon farming companies killing [49% of the seals killed in Scotland in 2015](#), [39% in 2014](#) and [38% in 2013](#).

Whilst Marine Harvest continue their seal-killing spree, [Grieg Seafood](#) completely eliminated seal killing during 2016 and thus far in 2017. In 2013, Grieg Seafood killed 32 seals falling to 7 in 2014, 4 in 2015 and zero in 2016. Grieg Seafood's decision to hang up their guns comes in the wake of an [ITV News investigation](#) and the [installation of anti-predator nets at an estimated cost of £1 million per farm](#).

As Marine Harvest has cranked up the slaughter of seals other companies have also reduced the number of seals killed. The Scottish Salmon Company killed 30 seals in 2015 falling to 2 in 2016. Cooke Aquaculture killed 28 seals in 2015 falling to 8 seals in 2016. Scottish Sea Farms killed 14 seals in 2016 compared to 6 in 2015, 33 in 2014 and 33 in 2013.

Data [published online by the Canadian Government](#) also reveals that Marine Harvest has intentionally and accidentally killed over 270 marine mammals (seals, sea lions and [one humpback whale](#)) since 2011 in British Columbia [3].

"Marine Harvest is a serial seal killer," said [Don Staniford](#), Director of the [Global Alliance Against Industrial Aquaculture](#). "In the horrific world of Scottish salmon farming bullets are much cheaper than predator nets. It costs [£1 million per salmon farm](#) to install seal-friendly predator nets - as Grieg Seafood has done in Shetland leading to zero seal kills in 2016 and thus far in 2017 - yet some trigger-happy companies such as Marine Harvest, Scottish Sea Farms, Cooke Aquaculture and Loch Duart continue to slaughter seals. Shame on Sainsbury's for sourcing salmon from Scotland's #1 seal-killer Marine Harvest [4] and shame

on the RSPCA for certifying seal-killing salmon farms via their [Freedom Food/RSPCA Assured](#) scam [5]. People buying Scottish salmon have the blood of dozens of seals on their hands. If you want to stop the killing of seals please stop buying Scottish salmon."



In 2015, GAAIA [won a landmark victory](#) following a decision by the Scottish Information Commissioner to [name and shame the salmon farming companies killing seals](#).

Watch a video report from Don Staniford via "[Marine Harvest: Stop Shooting Seals!](#)":



Read more on the slaughter of seals by Scottish salmon farming companies via:

[The Scotsman: "Fish farms kill more seals as industry tries to save salmon"](#)

[Sunday Times: "Fish farms under fire for seal death toll"](#)

[Fish farms shoot dozens of seals to save salmon bound for 'ethical' Waitrose and M&S supermarkets](#)

["Marine Harvest: Scotland's #1 Seal Killer"](#)  
[Sunday Times: "Seals shot to save Waitrose salmon"](#)  
[Herald: "US warning over continued killing of seals by Scots fish farms"](#)  
[Seal-killing salmon farms caught in cross-hairs of Scottish Parliament](#)  
[Take Scotland's Seals Out of the Cross Hairs!](#)  
["All At Sea: Seal-Killing Salmon Farms"](#)  
["The Two Billion Dollar Salmon Ban"](#)  
["Concern as crucial forum for protection of seals abandoned"](#)  
["Scottish salmon exports at risk if seals keep being shot"](#)  
["Stop the slaughter now"/"Cruelty and pollution have no place in Scotland's waters"](#)  
["Sunday Herald: "Scotland's 'trigger-happy' salmon farmers risk losing £200m US export market"](#)  
["Seal of Approval for U.S. Ban on Salmon"](#)  
["Scottish Sea Farms points to progress in seal management"](#)  
["Exposed: the inhumane shooting of hundreds of seals"](#)  
["Scottish salmon has five years to cut seal deaths before NOAA action"](#)  
["Five-Year Stay of Execution for Scottish Salmon's Serial Seal Killers - U.S. outlaws killing of marine mammals by 2022"](#)  
["Campaigners claim new NOAA rules could see Scottish salmon banned from US"](#)  
["End the slaughter of seals in Scotland now"](#)  
["U.S. ban for lethal Scottish salmon- £200 million in exports killed off by seal slaughter"](#)  
["Charity makes plea to end seal shooting in Scotland"](#)  
["Seal culling in scientists' crosshairs"](#)  
["Closing the Net On 'Seal-Friendly' Scottish Salmon: last orders on the RSPCA's abuse of 'last resort' killing of seals?"](#)  
["Staniford calls on RSPCA to drop Marine Harvest, Scottish Sea Farms, SSC"](#)  
["RSPCA defend record as anti-seal cull campaigners allege salmon farms are not 'last resort' killers"](#)  
[Dear RSPCA, please wash the blood of Scottish seals off your hands!](#)  
[Video Message to the RSPCA - stop the killing of seals on salmon farms!](#)  
["Anti-salmon farm campaigners petition Queen over RSPCA's seal-shooting sanction"](#)  
[Petition to the RSPCA: End your support for the killing of Scottish seals!](#)  
["RSPCA Savaged Over Seal Killing in Scotland"](#)  
["RSPCA Assured Seal Killers!"](#)  
["Scottish Salmon Blinded by Seal Killing"](#)  
["Salmon farmers are shooting seals instead of installing non-lethal deterrents, campaigners say"](#)  
["Protests planned as number of seals killed in Scots salmon farms rises by 20 per cent"](#)  
["Stop Shooting Seals for Salmon Meals"](#)  
["Cecil the Seal Killers Named & Shamed in Scotland - Call for Boycott of "Seal Unfriendly" Scottish Salmon"](#)  
["VICTORY: Disclosure of Seal-Killing Salmon Farm Data Ordered by 21 August"](#)  
["Scottish Salmon's Secret Seal Killers! - FOI refusal prompts call for boycott of farmed salmon"](#)  
["Lethal Scottish Farmed Salmon: Serial Seal Killers Named & Shamed!"](#)  
["Scottish Salmon's Seal Killers Named & Shamed!"](#)

**Contact:**

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## Notes to Editors:

[1] Annual data on the killing of seals in Scotland is [available online via the Scottish Government for the years 2011-2016](#) (and the [first six months of 2017](#)). Since 2011, Marine Harvest has killed 118 seals shooting up from 5 seals killed in 2013 to 26 in 2016 and 11 thus far in 2017 ([data for the first two quarters is only available](#)):

[2011](#): 34 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([459 in total; 241 by fish farms](#))

[2012](#): 16 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([433 in total; 208 by fish farms](#))

[2013](#): 5 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([274 in total; 105 by fish farms](#))

[2014](#): 7 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([205 in total; 80 by fish farms](#))

[2015](#): 19 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([160 in total; 79 by fish farms](#))

[2016](#): 26 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland ([97 in total; 75 by fish farms](#))

[2017](#): 11 seals killed by Marine Harvest Scotland (58 in total; 37 by fish farms)

Total (2011-2017): 1686 (825 by fish farms; 118 by Marine Harvest)

Here's site specific data for the 19 seals killed by Marine Harvest in [2015](#):

| 2015 Returns   |                               | Quarter 1 |        |      | Quarter 2 |        |      | Quarter 3 |        |      | Quarter 4 |        |      |
|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|
| Licence No:    | Licence Name:                 | Site      | Common | Grey |
| WI14/2015/W/01 | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |           | 0      | 0    | FS1261    | 0      | 1    |           | 0      | 0    | FS1263    | 0      | 2    |
| SW07/2015      | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |
| WS06/2015      | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | FS0629    | 0      | 1    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |
| "              | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | FS0859    | 3      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |
| WS16/2015      | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 1      | 0    |
| WS21/2015      | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd | FS0602    | 0      | 4    | FS0212    | 3      | 0    | FS0602    | 1      | 0    | FS0237    | 1      | 0    |
| "              | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |           | 0      | 0    | FS0602    | 0      | 1    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |
| "              | Marine Harvest (Scotland) Ltd |           | 0      | 0    | FS0519    | 0      | 1    |           | 0      | 0    |           | 0      | 0    |

Here's site specific data for the 16 seals killed by Marine Harvest in [2012](#):

| 2012 Returns |                               | Quarter 1 |        |      | Quarter 2 |        |      | Quarter 3 |        |      | Quarter 4 |        |      |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|
| Licence No:  | Licence Name:                 | Site      | Common | Grey |
| WI06/2012/W  | Marine Harvest                | FS/1033   |        |      | FS/0502   |        | 1    |           |        |      |           |        |      |
| "            | Marine Harvest                | FS/0502   |        | 1    |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |
| WI07/2012/W  | Marine Harvest                |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |
| WI13/2012/W  | Marine Harvest Ltd - Hellisay |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |
| WS16/2012/W  | Marine Harvest                |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/1084   |        | 1    |
| WS21/2012/W  | Marine Harvest                | FS/0602   | 3      | 3    |           |        |      | FS/0237   | 1      |      | FS/0015   | 1      |      |
| "            | Marine Harvest                | FS/0519   |        | 1    |           |        |      | FS/0240   | 1      | 1    | FS/0249   | 1      |      |

Here's site specific data for the 34 seals killed by Marine Harvest in [2011](#):

| 2011 Returns |                                   | Quarter 1 |        |      | Quarter 2 |        |      | Quarter 3 |        |      | Quarter 4 |         |      |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|--------|------|-----------|---------|------|
| Licence No:  | Licence Name:                     | Site      | Common | Grey | Site      | Common | Grey | Site      | Common | Grey | Site      | Common  | Grey |
| WI6/2011/W   | Marine Harvest (Lewis & Harris)   | FS/1042   |        | 1    |           |        |      | FS/0954   |        |      | 1         |         |      |
| WI7/2011/W   | Marine Harvest (Uist & Benbecula) |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |         |      |
| WS21/2011/W  | Marine Harvest combined           | FS/0212   | 1      |      | FS/0212   | 1      |      | FS/0413   | 3      | 4    | FS/0249   | 1       | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           | FS/0241   | 1      | 1    | FS/0240   | 1      | 1    | FS/0252   | 1      | 1    | FS/0413   | 1       |      |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           | FS/0249   | 1      |      | FS/0244   | 1      |      | FS/0519   |        |      | 2         | FS/0015 | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           | FS/0413   | 1      | 1    |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/0247   | 1       | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/0605   | 1       |      |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/0252   | 1       | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/0519   | 1       | 1    |
| "            | Marine Harvest combined           |           |        |      |           |        |      |           |        |      | FS/0602   | 1       | 1    |

[2] Extract from [RSPCA/Freedom Food & Seal Killing FOI Backgrounder \(May 2017\)](#):

It appears that 100% of Marine Harvest Scotland's salmon farms are certified as RSPCA Assured/Freedom Food (according to [Marine Harvest's 'Integrated Annual Report 2015'](#)):

CERTIFICATION TABLE

| BUSINESS UNIT | ACTIVITY           | CERTIFICATION  | % OF PLANTS CERTIFIED TO EACH SCHEME                 |
|---------------|--------------------|--|--|
| Scotland      | Juveniles          | Label Rouge, GlobalGAP, ISO 9001, ISO14001, COGP, RSPCA assured, Royal Warrant Holders                     | 100% Label Rouge                                     |
|               | On-growing         | Label Rouge, ASC, GlobalGAP, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, PGI, COGP, RSPCA assured, Royal Warrant Holders          | Approx. 20% Label Rouge dedicated farms, ASC 2 farms |
|               | Primary processing | Label Rouge, BRC, ASC CoC, GlobalGAP, ISO 9001, ISO 14001, PGI, COGP, RSPCA assured, Royal Warrant Holders | 100%   |

[3] Data [published online by the Canadian Government](#) also reveals that Marine Harvest intentionally and accidentally killed over 270 marine mammals (seals, sea lions and one humpback whale) since 2011:

| Year | Quarter | Licence Holder | Site Name     | Species             | # of Animals | Interaction         |
|------|---------|----------------|---------------|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Bickley Bay   | Harbour seal        | 4            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Chancellor    | Harbour seal        | 8            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Cleagh Creek  | California sea lion | 15           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Koskimo Bay   | California sea lion | 3            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Lees Bay      | Harbour seal        | 4            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta East  | California sea lion | 19           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta West  | California sea lion | 46           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta West  | Harbour seal        | 1            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Monday Rocks  | California sea lion | 7            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Phillips Arm  | Harbour seal        | 11           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1      | Marine Harvest | Shelter Bay   | California sea lion | 1            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Bickley Bay   | Harbour seal        | 2            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Chancellor    | Harbour seal        | 1            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Far Side      | California sea lion | 3            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Frederick Arm | California sea lion | 2            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Frederick Arm | Harbour seal        | 1            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Hardwicke     | Harbour seal        | 6            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Lees Bay      | California sea lion | 2            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Lees Bay      | Harbour seal        | 6            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta East  | California sea lion | 25           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta West  | California sea lion | 30           | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Mahatta West  | Harbour seal        | 2            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay     | California sea lion | 4            | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q2      | Marine Harvest | Raynor        | California sea lion | 2            | Authorized fatality |

|      |    |                |                |                     |   |                     |
|------|----|----------------|----------------|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| 2011 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Shelter Bay    | California sea lion | 6 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Hardwicke      | California sea lion | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Hardwicke      | Harbour seal        | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Lees Bay       | Harbour seal        | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Raynor         | Harbour seal        | 2 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q4 | Marine Harvest | Koskimo Bay    | California sea lion | 5 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q4 | Marine Harvest | Monday Rocks   | California sea lion | 2 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q4 | Marine Harvest | Shelter Pass   | Harbour seal        | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2012 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Lime Point     | Harbour seal        | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2012 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 2 | Authorized fatality |
| 2012 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Brougham Point | Harbour seal        | 4 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 2 | Authorized fatality |
| 2012 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Sonora Point   | Harbour seal        | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Koskimo Bay    | California sea lion | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Monday Rocks   | California sea lion | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Thurlow        | Harbour seal        | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2012 | Q4 | Marine Harvest | Mahatta West   | Harbour seal        | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2013 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Mahatta East   | California sea lion | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2013 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Raynor         | California sea lion | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2014 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Doctor Islets  | Harbour seal        | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2014 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Kid Bay        | Harbour seal        | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2014 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Shelter Bay    | California sea lion | 6 | Accidental drowning |
| 2015 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 4 | Accidental drowning |
| 2015 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Okisollo       | Harbour seal        | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2015 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Sargeaunt Pass | Harbour seal        | 5 | Accidental drowning |
| 2015 | Q2 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2015 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Marsh Bay      | California sea lion | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2016 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Doyle Island   | California sea lion | 2 | Accidental drowning |
| 2016 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Lime Point     | Humpback whale      | 1 | Accidental drowning |
| 2016 | Q3 | Marine Harvest | Lime Point     | Humpback whale      | 1 | Other               |
| 2011 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Arrow Pass     | Harbour seal        | 1 | Authorized fatality |
| 2011 | Q1 | Marine Harvest | Wicklow Point  | Harbour seal        | 4 | Authorized fatality |

[4] "Animal welfare is vital to us at Sainsbury's – and that applies as much in water as it does on land. That's why all our farmed salmon is RSPCA Assured," [claims Sainsbury's](#) who refer to "our Scottish supplier Marine Harvest".

In 2015, Marine Harvest [poached a £100 million Sainsbury's contract from Young's Seafood \(racking up huge losses in the process\)](#).

Sainsbury's [Aquaculture & Fisheries Manager Ally Dingwall](#) has since 2008 had "responsibility for fish sourcing policy in line with Sainsbury's business commitment to sourcing with integrity" (ally.dingwall@sainsburys.co.uk; Tel: 0207 695 2414). Ally Dingwall used to work for Marine Harvest - a company which has Freedom Food (RSPCA Assured) certification on all the farms which supply Sainsbury's (watch video [online here](#)).

In 2005, Jamie Oliver was [asked to apologize after promoting Marine Harvest's polluted salmon farm in Loch Hourn in an advert for Sainsbury's](#) (read more via "[Campaigners want polluted salmon farm endorsed by Oliver to be shut](#)" and "[Fat Lady calls Naked Chef 'whore' over Sainsbury's salmon](#)").

In 2005, Marine Harvest was [shamed over the slaughter of seals in Loch Alsh](#) (a Special Area of Conservation).



Watch a video report via "[Marine Harvest's Slaughter of Seals in Loch Alsh, Scotland](#)".

In 2005, [environmental campaigners attended an EGM of Nutreco \(then the owners of Marine Harvest\) urging Marine Harvest to stop shooting seals](#):



In 2008, The Guardian [reported](#): "The retailer Sainsbury's has also promised it will phase out suppliers associated with seal shooting". Andy Ottaway of the Seal Protection Action Group [said in a press release](#): "We are calling on Sainsbury's and other major retailers to use their considerable purchasing power to persuade Scottish salmon producers to stop shooting our seals".

In 2010, Shetland News [reported](#): "Salmon farmers, retailers and animal welfare groups have formed a unique coalition to tackle the problem of seals being killed at salmon farms. In what is believed to be a world first, Marine Harvest, one of the world's largest salmon farming

companies will work with the Seal Protection Action Group alongside Sainsbury's, Freedom Food, the RSPCA, the Sea Mammal Research Unit and International Animal Rescue."

Intrafish [reported](#) in 2010:



## Marine Harvest, Sainsbury's to find alternative to killing seals

Marine Harvest has partnered with retailer Sainsbury's and NGOs to find solutions to stop the killing of seals at fish farms.

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by IntraFish Media  
September 27th, 2010 05:07 GMT Updated May 8th, 2016 15:52 GMT

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The world's largest salmon farmer and U.K. retailer Sainsbury's are joining forces with animal welfare groups to bring to an end the killing of problem seals at salmon farms, as quickly as possible.

In what is believed to be a world first, Marine Harvest, the world's largest salmon farmer will work with the Seal Protection Action Group as part of the newly formed Salmon, Aquaculture and Seals Working Group, alongside Sainsbury's, Freedom Food, the RSPCA, the Sea Mammal Research Unit and International Animal Rescue.

“We appreciate that this has always been a difficult issue for us,” Alan Sutherland, managing director of Marine Harvest Scotland, said. “Animal welfare and conservation groups are keen to see an end to the shooting of problem seals and we are keen to find alternative ways to stop problem seals taking fish, damaging nets and releasing farmed salmon into the wild.”

The best solution is to focus on the common aim, rather than arguing about differences, said Sutherland.

Ally Dingwall, Aquaculture and Fisheries Manager at Sainsbury’s said: “We welcome the formation of the group and the opportunity to support it through our Responsibly Sourced Salmon initiative. Ground breaking projects such as this are what our Responsibly Sourced Salmon is all about.”

In 2015, [GAAIA wrote to retailers](#) including Sainsbury's urging an immediate ban on seal killing on salmon farms.

In 2016, [Sainsbury's came under fire](#) for breaking a promise not to sell salmon from farms infested with lice in breach of guideline limits. [Salmon & Trout Conservation Scotland challenged Sainsbury's](#) to live up to their claims of ‘environmental responsibility’ and stop putting Scottish farmed salmon on their shelves from regions in the west Highlands and Islands where sea lice infestation is still rampant.

[5] For background on RSPCA Assured/Freedom Food salmon farms killing seals please read [RSPCA/Freedom Food & Seal Killing FOI Backgrounder \(May 2017\)](#):

## 7. During 2015 the greater number of seals shot were by:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| <b>1. Moray Firth Management Group:</b>                  | <b>28</b> |
| <b>2. Usan Fisheries (Scottish Wild Salmon Company):</b> | <b>22</b> |
| <b>3. Marine Harvest (FF accredited)</b>                 | <b>18</b> |
| <b>4. Scottish Seafarms: (FF accredited)</b>             | <b>15</b> |
| <b>5. Scottish Salmon Company: (supply Waitrose)</b>     | <b>11</b> |

1. The biggest individual seal shooting companies in 2015 were both RSPCA - FF accredited salmon producers that supply both Sainsbury’s and Waitrose
2. In 2014, (number to be provided by FF) almost 70% of seals shot by aquaculture were at FF accredited sites.

In 2017, GAAIA filed a formal complaint against Freedom Food with regard to the killing of seals at salmon farms in Scotland with the Charity Commission and Scottish Charity Regulator (email [dstaniford@gaaia.org](mailto:dstaniford@gaaia.org) for a copy).



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**SALMON  
FARMING  
KILLS  
SEALS**

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**SALMON FARMING  
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**SALMON FARMING  
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