

Seal Killing Data (2011-2017) - Scottish Government Seal Licensing Returns

The Scottish Government has published site specific information on the numbers of seals killed by fish farms and fisheries in Scotland since 2011 via their [Seal Licensing web-page](#) (licences and returns for 2011-2016 are [online here](#) and 2017 is [online here](#)).

Operator	Seal Killing Salmon Farms (2011-2017)							Total
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	
Scottish Sea Farms	12	14	15	33	33	45	37	189
The Scottish Salmon Company	7	2	11	14	14	38	54	140
Hjaltland Seafarms (Grieg Seafood)	1			7	32	50	50	140
Marine Harvest	13	26	20	7	5	16	34	121
Loch Duart	15	12	9	13	11	20	10	90
Northern Isles Salmon						16	21	37
Balta Island Seafare		1	7	6	4	2	6	26
Dawnfresh			3	4	4	7	6	24
Meridian				1	8	12		21
Lakeland							18	18
Bound Skerries Salmon				3	4	5	4	16
Wester Ross Fisheries		2	2	4	3	1	1	13
Cooke Aquaculture	1	8	3					12
Kames Fish Farming			2		1			3
Thompson Brothers			1					1
Total	49	65	73	92	119	212	241	851

Summary:

Total Seals Killed by Fish Farms (2011-2017):

851 (827 killed by salmon farms) out of 1702 seals killed in Scotland (exactly 50% killed by fish farms and 50% killed by fisheries)

Salmon farms killed 67% of all seals killed in 2017 (up from 44% in 2015, 43% in 2014 and 42% in 2013)

The big five seal killing companies (accounting for 80% of seal kills) are:

Scottish Sea Farms: 189

Scottish Salmon Company: 140

Hjaltland Seafarms: 140

Marine Harvest: 121

Loch Duart: 90

Loch Duart was the biggest seal killer in 2017

Marine Harvest was the biggest seal killer in 2016 & 2015

Scottish Sea Farms was the biggest seal killer in 2014 & 2013 (and in total)

Hjaltland Seafarms (Grieg Seafood) was the biggest seal killer in 2012

The Scottish Salmon Company was the biggest seal killer in 2011

2017:

Total seals killed: 73 (19 Common & 54 Grey)
Seals killed by salmon farms: 49 (representing 67% of all seals killed)

Loch Duart: 15
Marine Harvest: 13
Scottish Sea Farms: 12
Scottish Salmon Company: 7
Cooke Aquaculture: 1
Hjaltland Seafarms: 1

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<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/SealLicensing/2011/returns2017>

2016:

Total seals killed: 98 (22 Common & 76 Grey)
Seals killed by salmon farms: 65 (representing 66% of all seals killed)

Marine Harvest: 26
Scottish Sea Farms: 14
Loch Duart: 12
Cooke Aquaculture: 8
Scottish Salmon Company: 2
Wester Ross Fisheries: 2
Balta Island Seafare: 1

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2015:

Total seals killed: 160 (42 Common & 118 Grey)
Seals killed by fish farms: 73 (70 killed by salmon farms)

Marine Harvest: 20
Scottish Sea Farms: 15
Scottish Salmon Company: 11
Loch Duart: 9
Balta Island Seafare: 7
Cooke Aquaculture: 3
Dawnfresh: 3
Kames: 2
Wester Ross Fisheries: 2
Thompson Brothers: 1

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2014:

Total seals killed: 205 (41 Common & 164 Grey)

Seals killed by fish farms: 92 (88 killed by salmon farms)

Scottish Sea Farms: 33

Scottish Salmon Company: 14

Loch Duart: 13

Marine Harvest: 7

Hjaltland Seafarms: 7

Balta Island Seafare: 6

Wester Ross Fisheries: 4

Dawnfresh: 4

Bound Skerries Salmon: 3

Meridian: 1

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2013:

Total seals killed: 274 (36 Common & 238 Grey)

Seals killed by fish farms: 119 (115 killed by salmon farms)

Scottish Sea Farms: 33

Hjaltland Seafarms: 32

Scottish Salmon Company: 14

Loch Duart: 11

Meridian: 8

Marine Harvest: 5

Balta Island Seafare: 4

Dawnfresh: 4

Bound Skerries Salmon: 4

Wester Ross Fisheries: 3

Kames: 1

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2012:

Total seals killed: 433 (74 Common & 359 Grey)

Seals killed by fish farms: 212 (205 killed by salmon farms)

Hjaltland Seafarms: 50
Scottish Sea Farms: 45
Scottish Salmon Company: 38
Loch Duart: 20
Marine Harvest: 16
Northern Isles Salmon: 16
Meridian: 12
Dawnfresh: 7
Bound Skerries Salmon: 5
Balta Island Seafare: 2
Wester Ross Fisheries: 1

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2011:

Total seals killed: 459 (93 Common & 366)
Seals killed by fish farms: 241 (235 killed by salmon farms)

Scottish Salmon Company: 54
Hjaltland Seafarms: 50
Scottish Sea Farms: 37
Marine Harvest: 34
Northern Isles Salmon: 21
Lakeland: 18
Loch Duart: 10
Dawnfresh: 6
Balta Island Seafare: 6
Bound Skerries Salmon: 4
Wester Ross Fisheries: 1

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