Written submission from the Wester Ross Area Salmon Fishery Board

The Wester Ross Area Salmon Fishery Board fully endorses the response made by the Association of Salmon Fishery Boards to the Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee on the Aquaculture and Fisheries (Scotland) Bill – Stage 1 dated November 2012.

- At the same time, the board notes the following points as of particular concern:

- It is essential that fish farms are obliged under this new statute to disclose their lice and treatment figure and methods (e.g. amounts and chemicals used).

  And that, therefore, the new law should make SEPA obliged to take action to reduce biomass where the above figures are outside pre-agreed parameters.

- Despite a considerable majority of responses in favour of the consultation question relating to powers to revoke consents, the Marine Scotland response of “we do not intend to progress these proposals at this time” hardly qualifies as an explanation for its non-inclusion. WRASFB is strongly in favour of the inclusion of this power within the Act as a necessary requisite to counter-balance permanent planning permission for aquaculture sites that may not be, longer term, as well situated as at first considered.