



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

**Rural Affairs and Islands Committee**

Alistair Bally Philp  
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c/o Clerk to the Committee  
The Scottish Parliament  
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***By email only***

Dear Alistair

On behalf of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, I would like to thank you for providing evidence in support of your petition urging the Scottish Government to re-introduce a variation of the historic three-mile coastal limit on the use of mobile dredge and bottom-trawling fishing gears.

The sustainable management of Scotland's inshore waters is a matter the Committee will consider in more detail over the parliamentary session and the evidence you provided will inform this work.

Following the evidence session, the Committee discussed how to progress the petition. Members agreed to consider the issue of a potential coastal limit on the use of mobile dredge and bottom-trawling fishing gears within the wider context of inshore fisheries management rather than as a distinct piece of work. Accordingly, members agreed to close the petition but incorporate consideration into the work the Committee has already agreed to undertake around inshore fisheries issues. The Committee will consider its approach to this at a meeting in March.

Yours sincerely

**Finlay Carson MSP, Convener, Rural Affairs and Islands Committee**