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Finlay Carson MSP
Convener of Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural
Environment Committee
Scottish Parliament Edinburgh
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20 November 2025

Dear Finlay,

CONSULTATION ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANS

I am writing to provide an update on the Scottish Government's work to develop Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs).

Today, the Scottish Government has published [a public consultation on proposed Fisheries Management Plans \(FMPs\) for demersal fish stocks](#) which have been jointly developed with the other UK administrations.

The consultation on 11 draft FMPs for demersal fish stocks will run for 16 weeks - from 20 November 2025 to 11 March 2026. Following the consultation, responses will be analysed and FMPs will be amended ahead of publication later in 2026.

The consultation is an opportunity for stakeholders to help shape and influence the future of demersal fisheries management policy in the UK and builds upon previous engagement with a wide range of stakeholders across the UK.

A significant amount of work on the remaining Scottish-led FMPs, including two Nephrops and eight pelagic stocks, has already been completed and consultations will be launched next year.

MAIRI GOUGEON

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See www.lobbying.scot

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