

Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee

Edward Mountain MSP Highlands and Islands Region c/o Clerk to the Committee The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

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By email only

4 October 2022

Dear Edward

Salmon Farming

Thank you for your letter, dated 6 September 2022, regarding salmon farming in Scotland and the recommendations stemming from the report conducted by the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee (RECC) in session 5.

As you are aware, the Committee has undertaken some work around salmon farming and will consider its next steps as part of a wider work programme discussion in November.

With regards to aquaculture more generally, the Committee's work to date has predominantly focused on Professor Grigg's independent review of the current regulatory framework for Scottish aquaculture. The Committee held an evidence session with Professor Griggs on 22 June 2022 and the official report is available here: https://www.parliament.scot/api/sitecore/CustomMedia/OfficialReport?meetingId=138

The Committee had also planned a fact-finding visit last month to the Scottish Sea Farms facility in Loch Creran but unfortunately, this had to be postponed.

You may wish to note that the Committee is holding a roundtable discussion on inshore fisheries issues with key stakeholders on 26 October and salmon farming will likely feature in these discussions.

Yours sincerely

Finlay Carson MSP.

Convener, Rural Affairs, Island and Natural Environment Committee