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Mark Ruskell MSP
Convener Rural Affairs Committee
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

7 October 2026

Dear Mark,

CONSULTATION ON FISHERIES MANAGEMENT PLANS

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

On 29 September, the Scottish Government has published a public [consultation](#) on three proposed FMPs for pelagic fisheries which have been jointly developed with the other UK administrations.

The consultation on these draft pelagic FMPs will run for six weeks until 10th November 2026. A consultation on five front-runner pelagic FMPs was already launched earlier on in July and will end on 14th October. Following the consultation responses will be analysed and the FMPs will be reviewed ahead of publication later in 2026.

Both consultations are an opportunity for stakeholders to help shape and influence the future of pelagic fisheries management policy in the UK and build upon previous engagement with a wide range of stakeholders across the UK.

A significant amount of work on the other Scottish-led FMPs, including eleven demersal and two Nephrops FMPs, is currently underway. In line with statutory obligations the Scottish Government plans to publish all twenty-one Scottish-led FMPs by the end of 2026

Yours sincerely,

JIM FAIRLIE

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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