

Aquaculture in Dorset and East Devon- Barriers, Support and Innovation



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Dorset Coast Forum



Barriers to New Aquaculture Developments in the FLAG Area...

Barriers to New Aquaculture Developments in the FLAG Area

- Access to suitable sites;** How do you identify and go about setting up a farm?
- Regulation & licensing difficulties & timescales;** Where to go and who to speak to? What resources are available?
- Perceived barriers to accessing available funding;** Who provides funding; what measures are available; what is the application process?

Support for New Aquaculture Developments in the FLAG Area...

Support for the FLAG Area

- **Targeted business/technical support;** ADO and DCF to help provide expansion and diversification support.
- **Strategy Development;** A joined-up marine development strategy or plan covering sustainable development of the sector.
- **Aquaculture Film;** Film to highlight career paths into the sector as well as the availability of training.

High Potential Opportunity Aquaculture

Developing and deploying technologies in Dorset



Department for
International Trade

Note: Generic image from Draft HPO

DIT - High Potential Opportunity (HPO)

- **HPO** = A mechanism whereby the potential for aquaculture within the region will be highlighted and promoted in order to **attract overseas inward investment**.
- Launched in February 2019.
- Full support of DIT and forms part of a **National Aquaculture Offering** that is being developed.
- **Joint effort across multiple teams** including DC Economic Development / Dorset LEP / Cefas / DCF / KMC
- Dorset is one of only 10 LEPs to get the extra **overseas lead generation support**.
- First overseas investor to visit Dorset this week.
 - ❖ **For further information contact:** Joanna Rufus, Inward Investment Team, Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership



Innovations in Aquaculture - Dorset and East Devon...

➤ Seafood 2040 Strategic Framework (SF2040)

- An English strategy through which increasing aquaculture production is highlighted as a priority
- Formation of the Aquaculture Leadership Group (ALG) to implement aquaculture recommendations - DCF a core Member

England has the third longest coastline in the EU, after Scotland and Greece. Aquaculture theoretically offers the greatest opportunity for expansion of seafood output, yet English aquaculture accounts for only 4% of the total 214,345 tonnes of UK farmed seafood production²².

- **Recommendations include;**
 - ✓ *Develop an information hub that will directly improve the ability of responsible aquaculture operators to access investment and/or begin aquaculture operations*
 - ✓ *Ensure access to funding*
 - ✓ *Investigate potential for Priority Aquaculture Zones*

<https://www.seafish.org/article/seafood-2040>

SEAFOOD
2040

A strategic framework for England

Welcome to Scotland's Aquaculture website

Aquaculture is an industry of growing importance in Scotland providing valuable jobs and income for the economy. The Scottish aquaculture industry is regulated with a view to promoting food safety, compliance with legislation and sustainability.

This website has been developed in partnership by the following organisations to provide access to a range of information about aquaculture in Scotland:



Information can be found by [looking at the map](#) or by [searching the data](#). We hope that you find this a useful source of information. If you have a question or feedback about this website you can [contact us](#).

Explore the Map

Search the Data

Find Resources

A-Z Look up the Glossary

I want to find

- Marine Fish Farms Freshwater Fish Farms Shellfish Producers All

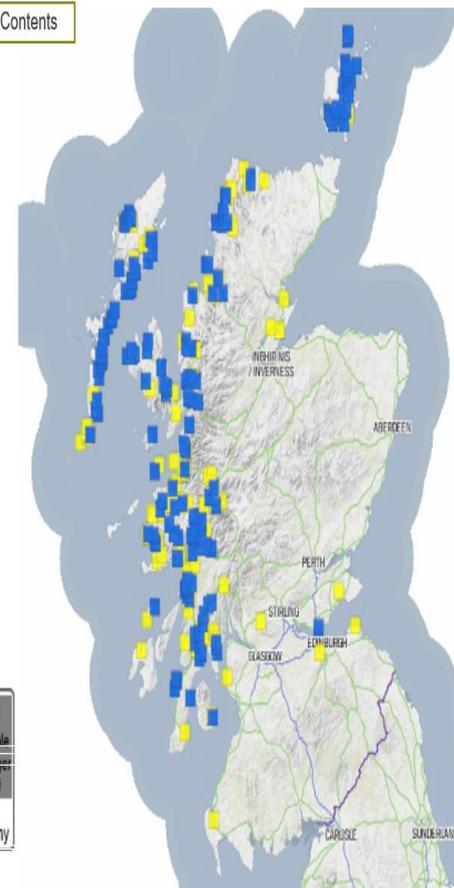
Please enter a postcode or place name in Scotland



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 - Shellfish Water Protected Areas
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 - Active Crown Estate Lease Areas
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Please choose a category you wish to search on. The next screen will allow you to further filter your search.

You can [find out what each dataset contains from our Dataset Descriptions](#).

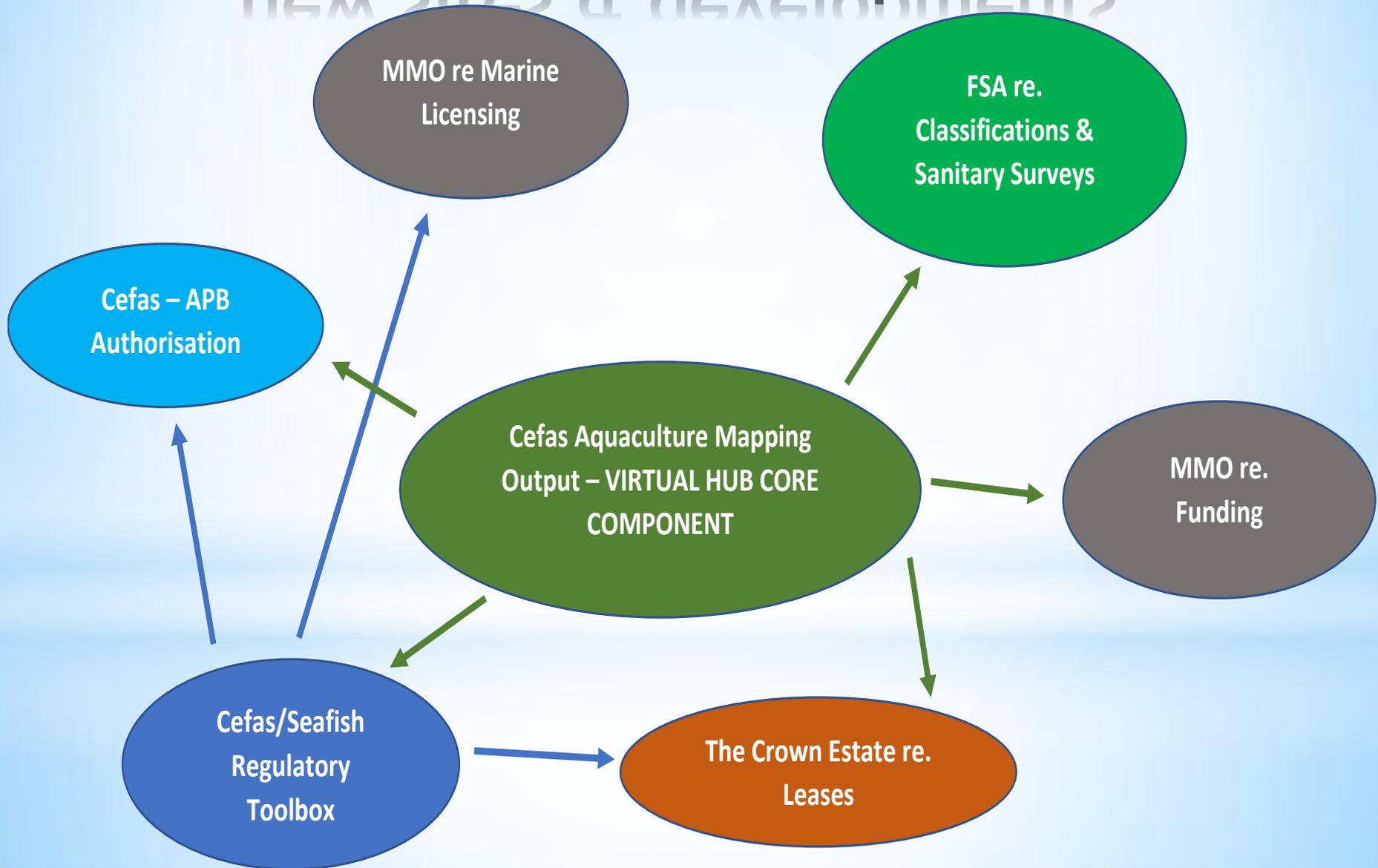
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Site Details	Operator Transfers	Site Facilities
Movement Restrictions	Fish Escapes	Lease Details
Licence Conditions	Fish Farm Annual Emissions	Sealice Incidents
Environmental Monitoring Surveys	Shellfish Harvesting Areas	Shellfish Harvesting Licences
Biotoxin Monitoring	Microhygiene Monitoring	Fish Farm Monthly Biomass and Treatments
Phytoplankton Monitoring	Temporary Shellfish Area Closures	

Aquaculture Virtual Hub

- **Local Development Strategy;** Developing & setting up a ‘Virtual Hub’ - an aquaculture information service to complement existing resources.
- **First Stage;** Stakeholder consultation to assess needs.
- **Funding;** Project now funded by EMFF through the FLAG. Set to deliver by December 2019
- **Core Component;**
 - Building a Virtual Hub around the output of the Cefas Aquaculture Mapping Project
 - Build in links to other existing resources like the Cefas Regulatory Toolbox, Seafish resources, DCF, MMO, TCE etc.
- **Other roles;** A Virtual Hub could also play a role in education, marketing, developing local brands as identified by local stakeholders.
- **Current Work;** To develop Functional Specifications of user types and their needs/requirements to help develop site map for the Hub.

Virtual Hub Schematic - emphasis on new sites & developments



Aquaculture Park(s) - Overview

- Identifying and gaining access to sites in a realistic timeframe is often off-putting for industry.
- ❑ **Identification:** Map and survey potential sites to develop an ‘Aquaculture Matrix’ (see *Appendix 1*) matching species/techniques against environmental and physical variables to give traffic light indication of potential aquaculture options including shellfish and macroalgae » **Cefas Mapping Project for FLAG Area**
- ❑ **Gaining Access to Sites:**
 - To help create new aquaculture opportunities for producers and to increase production » developing and promoting the concept of ‘Aquaculture Parks’ (see *Appendix 2*).
 - Help to foster co-location of compatible activities within a controlled marine space resource (e.g. Port Authority) with potential for sharing of resources (e.g. depuration facilities).

Aquaculture Parks - Blueprint for Mariculture in Controlled Water Bodies

- **Benefits to Main Stakeholder of Co-location Include:**
 - Demonstrated social good and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).
 - Shared monitoring of environmental and ecological variables.
 - Building and improvement of relations with existing marine stakeholders.
- ***But* - Perceived Drawbacks of Co-location:**
 - Interference with day to day or emergency maintenance and repair activities due to placement of aquaculture equipment.
 - Placement of aquaculture equipment over areas that will require maintenance dredging.
 - Lower standard of operational practises / lack of insurance.
 - ❖ **Issue of single activity Marine Licence**

Aquaculture Park Concept

- ‘Aquaculture Park’ - a working arrangement whereby the main stakeholder is **granted the licence or has the ability to undertake a secondary co-location activity** <mariculture ops.> within their spatial footprint;
- Also they are given or have the **right to sub-let the licensed areas** for co-location activities to selected partner organisations <aquaculture producers> ...
- whilst **providing specific services** to those partner organisations - most importantly, *central administration of licensing and permissions*
- ❖ *Services might also include supply of production equipment; hire facility for support vessels; co-operative on-shore facilities...*
- ❖ But why is service provision important?

Aquaculture Parks - Benefits

- Could provide a blueprint for co-location activities within controlled water bodies.
 - A marine licensing framework for aquaculture within controlled water bodies such as offshore marine renewable energy sites or ports.
 - Reassure the main stakeholder that conflicts with other users can be mitigated against.
 - Provide solutions to practical issues when carrying out aquaculture ops. within a closed water body whilst de-risking and lowering the capital costs associated with establishing new aquaculture ventures.
- Main stakeholder then controls aquaculture ops. (e.g. where equipment can be deployed).
- **Financial return** to the main stakeholder through a rental agreement and/or some share of profits.
- ❖ This approach is now being considered by the Milford Haven Port Authority;
<https://thefishsite.com/articles/high-hopes-for-aquaculture-in-milford-haven>

http://www.seafish.org/media/Publications/SIP_-_1_Aquaculture_Options_for_Enclosed_Water_Bodies_-_TLSB_Case_Study.pdf

Contact Details

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Appendix 1 - Aquaculture Matrix

Invertebrate Species	Method of Feeding	Production Method	Technical Feasibility	Risk Levels - Environmental
Baseline Lagoon Conditions	NA	NA	How likely is it that this species and technique could be successfully carried out based on available info?	Qualitative summary of likelihood of successful culture given combined constraints and environmental factors.
General Conditions for bottom cultured bivalves (containment)	NA	Bag & trestle, baskets etc.	High	Low
General Conditions for bottom cultured bivalves (ranching)	NA	On bottom, under predator netting	Moderate (Species specific)	Moderate (Species specific)
General Conditions for Suspended bivalves	NA	Mussel lines, lantern nets etc.	Moderate (Species specific)	Moderate (Species specific)
Blue Mussel, <i>Mytilus edulis</i>	Suspension	Bouchot poles	High	Low
	Suspension	Bottom culture	Moderate	Moderate
	Suspension	Suspended ropes	Low/Moderate	Moderate
Native Flat Oyster, <i>Ostrea edulis</i>	Suspension	Intertidal Trestles/Baskets	High	Low
	Suspension	Bottom culture	Moderate	Moderate
	Suspension	Suspended nets/cages	Moderate	Moderate

Appendix 2 - 'Aquaculture Park' overview

- Essentially, ASL propose that **Aquaculture Parks** act as a working arrangement whereby the main stakeholder (e.g. Port Authority) has the licence/capacity to undertake a secondary co-location activity (e.g. aquaculture operations) within the spatial footprint of the controlled water body. The main stakeholder also has or is granted the right to sub-let the licensed areas for co-location activities to selected partner organisations, in this case aquaculture producers, whilst providing specific services to those partner organisations. The most important service provided would be the central administration of aquaculture licensing and permissions. Other services might include supply of production equipment; hire facility for support vessels; co-operative on-shore facilities e.g. depuration;

The Aquaculture Park approach could therefore provide:

- A blueprint for co-location activities within controlled water bodies such as ports;
- A marine licensing and regulatory framework for aquaculture within controlled water bodies;
- Reassurance to the owner of the water body (e.g. Port Authority) that conflicts with other users can be mitigated against;
- Solutions to practical issues when carrying out aquaculture operations within a closed water body whilst de-risking / lowering the capital costs associated with establishing new aquaculture ventures;
- Control for the water body owner of the aquaculture operations (e.g. where equipment can be deployed, how it is maintained);
- Financial return to the water body owner/controller through a rent and/or some share of profits.