

If telephoning ask for:

8 November 2019

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request, received by SEPA on 17 October 2019 in which you asked for the following information:

I would like to make the following request for salmon farming data under the Freedom of Information acts and regulations please: The quantity of hydrogen peroxide used by each salmon farm site in Scotland in 2018 and year to date 2019.

We have applied the exemption under Section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 as we have determined that the information sought in your request is environmental information. We are therefore handling your request under the terms of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs). In this case the public interest in maintaining this exemption and in dealing with the request in line with the requirements of the EIRs outweighs any public interest in disclosing the information under FOISA.

Response

Please refer to attached spreadsheet for figures for hydrogen peroxide use reported in 2018 for marine pen fish farms.

Please note that SEPA will not receive figures for 2019 until the end of January 2020. This information is therefore excepted under Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs. The text of which is reproduced below;

- (4) *A Scottish public authority may refuse to make environmental information available to the extent that:-*
 - (a) *it does not hold that information when an applicant's request is received.*

The exception in regulation 10(4)(a) is subject to the public interest test in regulation 10(1)(b) of the EIRs. As SEPA does not hold the information in question there is no conceivable public interest in requiring that the information be made available.

Under the terms of Regulation 9 of the EIRs, SEPA has a duty to provide advice and assistance. We advise the supplied figures do not include treatments carried out in well-boat's, these are reported to Marine Scotland, therefore Regulation 10(4)(a) of the EIRs applies.

In accordance with Regulation 14(1)(b) of the EIRs, we advise you to contact Marine Scotland directly for this information. The contact details are;

Marine Scotland
Mailpoint 11
1B South
Victoria Quay
EDINBURGH
EH6 6QQ

marinescotland@gov.scot

<https://www.gov.scot/about/contact-information/how-to-request-information/>

If you are not satisfied with our response, you have 40 working days to request a formal review from SEPA at:

Access to Information
SEPA
Strathallan House
Castle Business Park
Stirling
FK9 4TZ
Email: foi@sepa.org.uk

If you are still not satisfied, you can appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

www.itspublicknowledge.info/appeal

Your unique reference number is F0191054. Please quote this in any future contact with us about your request.

If you have any queries in the meantime, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

SEPA Access to Information Team

What to expect when making a Request for Information

Each request for information, under The Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 or the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, is formally logged by the authority. The request falls within a process that has two internal stages carried out by the authority; a right of appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner followed by an appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

- Stage 1 – Request for information
- Stage 2 – Formal Review
- Stage 3 – Appeal for decision by Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC)
- Stage 4 – Appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

Each enquiry will have a unique Reference Number which should be quoted when you contact us.

How you will be kept informed

You will receive an acknowledgement for your request and Formal Review. We aim to reply to all enquiries promptly, within 20 working days. You will receive a response along with the requested information and/or an explanation regarding any withheld information. We may also contact you if we require clarification or if we are issuing a fees notice.

What happens once your enquiry has been responded to?

If you are not happy with the response or have failed to receive a response, you have the right to request a Formal Review from SEPA.

Guidance on your rights and how to ask for a review is on the Scottish Information Commissioner's website; <http://itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Askingforareview.aspx>

We will ensure that all personal data is processed, recorded and retained in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 throughout the handling of each request. You have a right to see information about yourself via submitting a Subject Access Request under the Data Protection Act 2018.

What to do if you are not happy with how your enquiry and review were handled

If you are unsatisfied with our Formal Review response or have failed to receive a response, you can then appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner via the links below.

www.itspublicknowledge.info/appeal

<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/home/ContactUs/ContactUs.aspx>

Should you wish to appeal against the Scottish Information Commissioner's decision, you have the right to appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only. Any such appeal must be made within 42 days after the date of intimation of the decision.