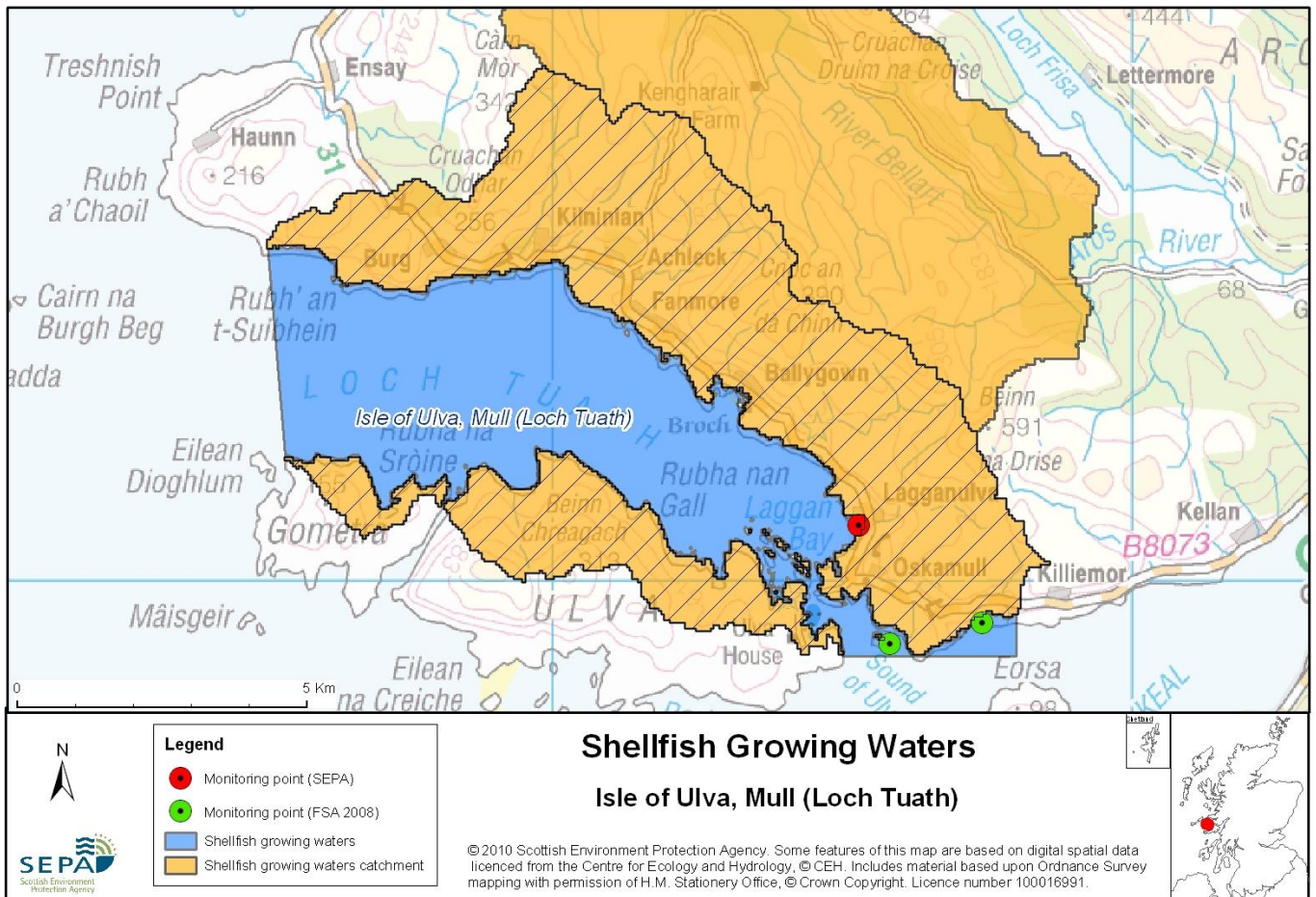


## 114 Isle of Ulva, Mull (Loch Tuath)



Name	Isle of Ulva, Mull (Loch Tuath)
Report Reference Number	114
WFD Code	UKS79923114
Local Information	An area east of a line drawn between NM3509345725 and NM3538842149, and between NM4500338700 to NM4800038700 and between NM48000387000 and NM4800039403, extending to MHWS
Designated Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	31.35
Year of Designation	2000
Sampling Points	Loch Tuath, Mull at Laggan Bay Mussel Site - NM 45292 40955
Commencement of Monitoring	2000

Formally site 30, designation modified in 2005.

### 114.1 Commercial Shellfish Interests

There are three areas (Loch Na Keal - Eilean Liath, Loch Na Keal West - Eilean Casach, Ulva: Loch Tuath Soriby Bay) within this designated Shellfish Waters that area designated by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) for the production of Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*), all sites are classified as below.

Ulva: All Sites (Pacific oysters)  
2011 = A - April to December  
2012 = A - January to March

FSA have not completed sanitary surveys for any of these sites.

For more information on Food Standards Agency Classification please visit:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/scotland/safetyhygienescot/shellmonitorscot/shellclassesscot/>

### 114.2 Bathymetric Information

Loch Tuath, is situated on the west coast of Mull. It has no sill but consists of an open mouthed bay with a north westerly/westerly aspect bounded by the northern shores of the islands of Ulva and Gometra. Loch Tuath has a total length of approximately 10 km and a maximum water depth of approximately 23 m.

There are no morphological pressures on the area.

### 114.3 Conservation Designations

To the North is Loch a' Chumhainn designated Shellfish Waters ([UKS7992364](#)), which is also designated by FSA as a Shellfish Harvesting Area.

Loch Scridain designated Shellfish Water ([UKS7992386](#)) is situated south and has two designated FSA Shellfish Harvesting Areas.

#### **Special Protected Areas (SPA) – [Treshnish Isles](#)**

Designated 30/08/1994 for internationally important aggregations of breeding birds - Storm Petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*) and aggregations of non-breeding birds - Greenland Barnacle goose (*Branta leucopsis*)

This is also a **Water Dependent SPA**

#### **Special Protected Area (SPA) – [Cnuic agus Cladach Mhuile \(Mull Coast and Hills\)](#)**

Designated 20/12/2002 for aggregations of internationally important breeding birds (Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*))

This is also a **Groundwater Dependent SPA**

#### **Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – [Treshnish Isles](#)**

Designated 17/03/2005 for internationally important species - Grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*) and habitat - Inshore marine sublittoral rock (Reefs)

This is also a **Water Dependent SAC**

**Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – [Ardmeanach](#)**

Designated 17/03/2005 for internationally important habitat - Species-rich grassland with mat-grass in upland areas, Tall herb communities, Vegetated sea cliffs  
This is also a **Water Dependent SAC**

**Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [Treshnish Isles](#)**

Designated 04/08/1986 for breeding Seabird colony, non-breeding Greenland Barnacle goose (*Branta leucopsis*), Grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*), Quaternary geology and geomorphology of Scotland, supralittoral coastal rock (Maritime cliffs)

**Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [Lagganulva Wood](#)**

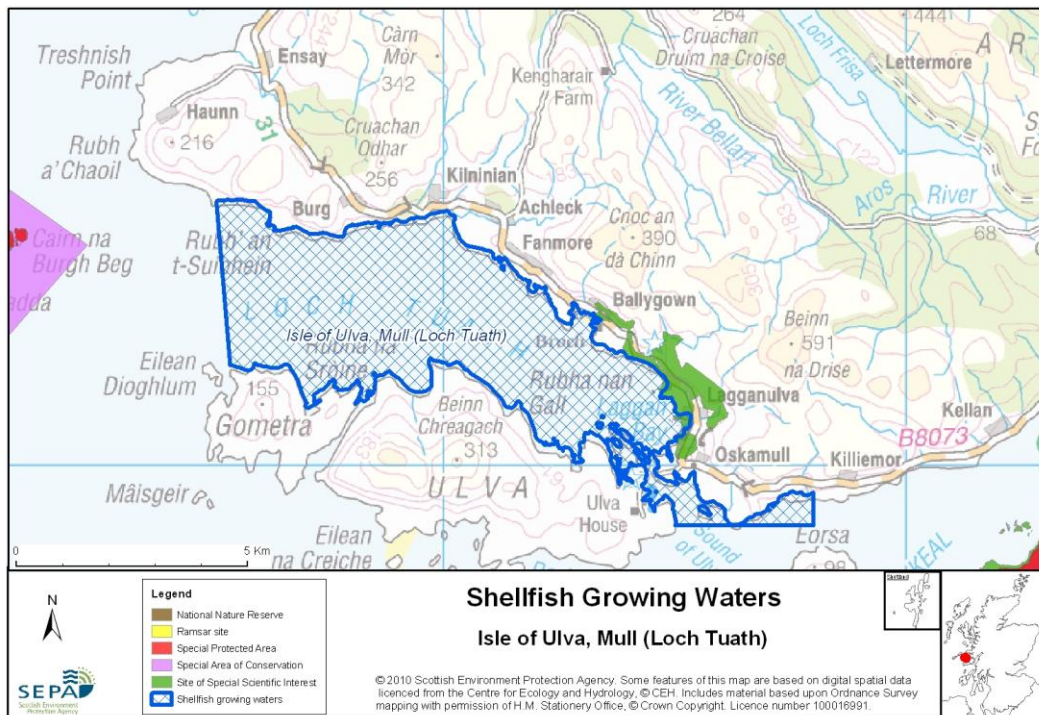
Designated 17/06/1988 for Igneous petrology (Tertiary Igneous), Upland oak woodland

**Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [Gribun Shore and Crags](#)**

Designated 24/10/1988 for Stratigraphy (Cenomanian – Maastrichtian and an Triassic (red beds)), supralittoral coastal rock (Maritime cliffs), Rocky slopes (includes inland cliff, rocky outcrops, chasmophytic vegetation), Subalpine calcareous grassland

**Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [Ben More - Scarisdale](#)**

Designated 28/02/1990 for Mineralogy of Scotland, Quaternary geology and geomorphology of Scotland, Igneous petrology (Tertiary Igneous), Upland oak woodland



#### 114.4 Topography and Land Use – Potential Diffuse Pollution Sources

Loch Tuath is located between the islands of Ulva and Gometra and Mull's western coast. Grassland, heather, bracken and some areas of forest cover the land on Mull surrounding Loch Tuath. The B8073 coastal road follows along the banks of Loch Tuath. Much of Ulva and Gometra are also covered by heather and rocky crags, with some woodland near the shore. There are no significant freshwater bodies. There are a handful of houses and some very small settlements alongside the coastal road.

#### 114.5 Point Source Discharge

Point source discharges are limited to <100 individual Septic Tanks.

There is one marine cage fish farm within the designated shellfish water of Loch Tuath. The site has a consented salmon biomass of 850 tonnes. There are two other fish farms south of the designated area with a combine biomass of 2000 tonnes.

Category	Name	Consent No.	NGR	Biomass (t)	Additional Information
Fish Farm	Tuath (Rubha na Gall)	CAR/L/1015868	NM41904130	850	-

#### 114.6 Compliance Monitoring Regime

The following monitoring regime for the designated area was implemented in July 2005.

Year	Monitoring Regime
2005 -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Quarterly sampling for faecal coliforms in mussels at Laggan Bay</li><li>• Quarterly for salinity, DO, pH and temperature</li><li>• Every three years for metals and organohalogens in mussels at Laggan Bay, next collection scheduled for 2011</li></ul>

## 114.7 Compliance History

UKS79923114 - Isle of Ulva, Mull (Loch Tuath)				
	Compliance history for Waters and Biota, excluding faecal coliforms data			Compliance history for faecal coliforms
Year	Overall Result	Imperative	Guideline	Guideline
2000	Pass	Pass	Fail <sup>1</sup>	Fail
2001	Pass	Pass	Fail <sup>2</sup>	Pass
2002	Pass	Pass	Fail <sup>3</sup>	Fail
2003	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2004	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2005	Pass	Pass	Fail <sup>4,5</sup>	Fail
2006	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2007	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2008	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2009	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2010	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

<sup>1,2</sup> Failures relate to low results for salinity in water taken at Laggan Bay in Aug 2000 and Oct 2001 with values of 5.9‰ and 11.8‰ respectively. These results are entirely natural, but fail the Guideline standard of 12-38‰. They may have been due to fresh water inputs or heavy rainfall at time of sampling.

<sup>3</sup> Failure relates to low results for salinity in water taken at Kilninian Bay in Sept 2002 with a value of 7.8‰, below the Guideline standard of 12-38‰.

<sup>4,5</sup> Failures relate to low salinity results in water taken from Kilninian Bay in May 2005 and Laggan Bay in August 2005 with values of 10.52‰ and 1.37‰ respectively.

The waters mainly failed to comply with the Guideline standards for faecal coliforms with only one pass in 2001, until 2007. From 2007 to 2010 Guideline faecal coliforms have passed.

## 114.8 Future Monitoring

The monitoring regime (114.6 Compliance Monitoring Regime) will be followed. In the event of any chemistry parameter failing to meet any EQS, the site will be revisited and resampled for the failed parameter.

Samplers are asked to identify any evidence of visible harm to the shellfish population at the site.

### 114.9 Improvement Actions

There are currently no improvement actions planned for this designated Shellfish Water.

### WFD Objectives

Under the Water Framework Directive, the target objectives expect this shellfish water to Pass by 2015 (first River Basin Management Plan Cycle) for Imperative and Guideline Shellfish Growing Water Standards, with high confidence.

<b>Objective</b>	<b>First Cycle 2015</b>	<b>Confidence</b>	<b>Second Cycle 2021</b>	<b>Confidence</b>	<b>Third Cycle 2027</b>	<b>Confidence</b>
Imperative Shellfish Growing Waters Standard	Pass by 2015	High	Pass by 2021	High	Pass by 2027	High
Guideline Shellfish Growing Waters Standard	Pass by 2015	High	Pass by 2021	High	Pass by 2027	High

### 114.10 Summary of Actions

<b>Action</b>	<b>Deadline</b>
No improvement actions currently planned	N/A