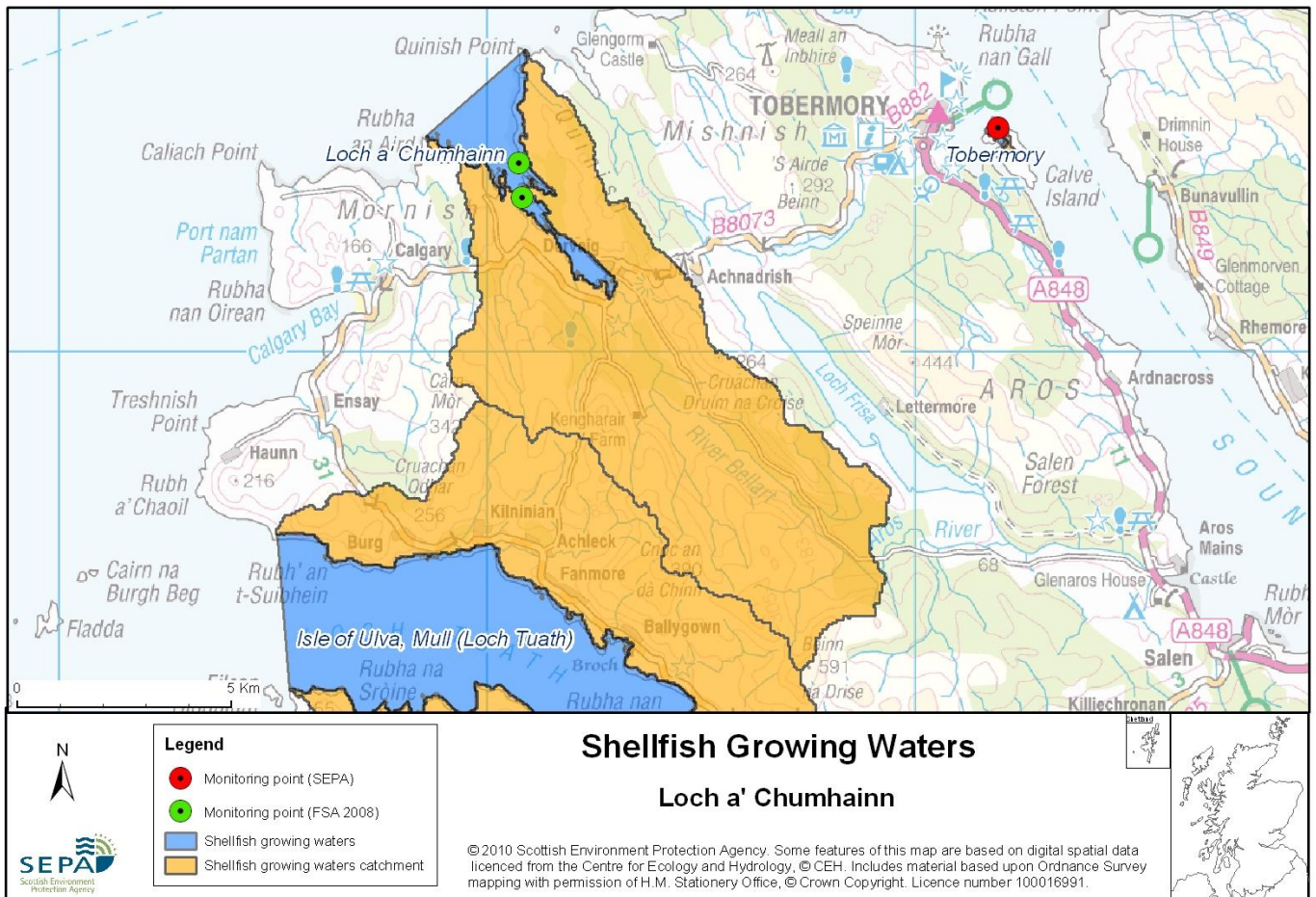


64 Loch a' Chumhainn



Name	Loch a' Chumhainn
Report Reference Number	64
WFD Code	UKS7992364
Local Information	An area inshore of a line drawn between NM3858855024 (Rubha an Aird) and NM4088857041 (Quinish Point), and extending to MHSW.
Designated Area (km ²)	4.81
Year of Designation	2002
Sampling Points	Loch a' Chumhainn - NM 40200 54000
Commencement of Monitoring	2003

64.1 Commercial Shellfish Interests

Loch a' Chumhainn is also designated by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) as a Shellfish Harvesting area for the production of Pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*), at two sites (Inner Deep Site and Outer)

Loch a' Chumhainn: All sites (Pacific oysters)
2011 = A - April to December
2012 = A - January to March

Category A sites are of the highest standard and means that shellfish can go directly for human consumption.

FSA have carried out a sanitary survey for Loch a' Chumhainn

For more information on Food Standards Agency Classification please visit:
<http://www.food.gov.uk/scotland/safetyhygienescot/shellmonitorscot/shellclassesscot/>

64.2 Bathymetric Information

Loch a' Chumhainn has a north westerly aspect, so remains relatively sheltered from prevailing winds. It has a total length of 4.2km and maximum water depth of 14m.

There are no basins in this loch thus flushing time for the loch is rapid, taking 1 day. The catchment area is 57km² and fresh/tidal flow ratio is 0.5, indicative of a moderately high influence of fresh water to the loch.

There are no morphological pressures on the waters.

64.3 Conservation Designations

To the east is Tobermory designated Shellfish Waters ([UKS792399](#)) which lies within a larger FSA Shellfish Harvesting Area.

South is Isle of Ulva, Mull (Loch Tuath) designated Shellfish Waters ([UKS79923114](#)). Parts of this are also designated by the DFSA as Shellfish Harvesting Areas.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC) – [Mingarry Burn](#)

Designated 17/03/2005 for internationally important species - Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*)

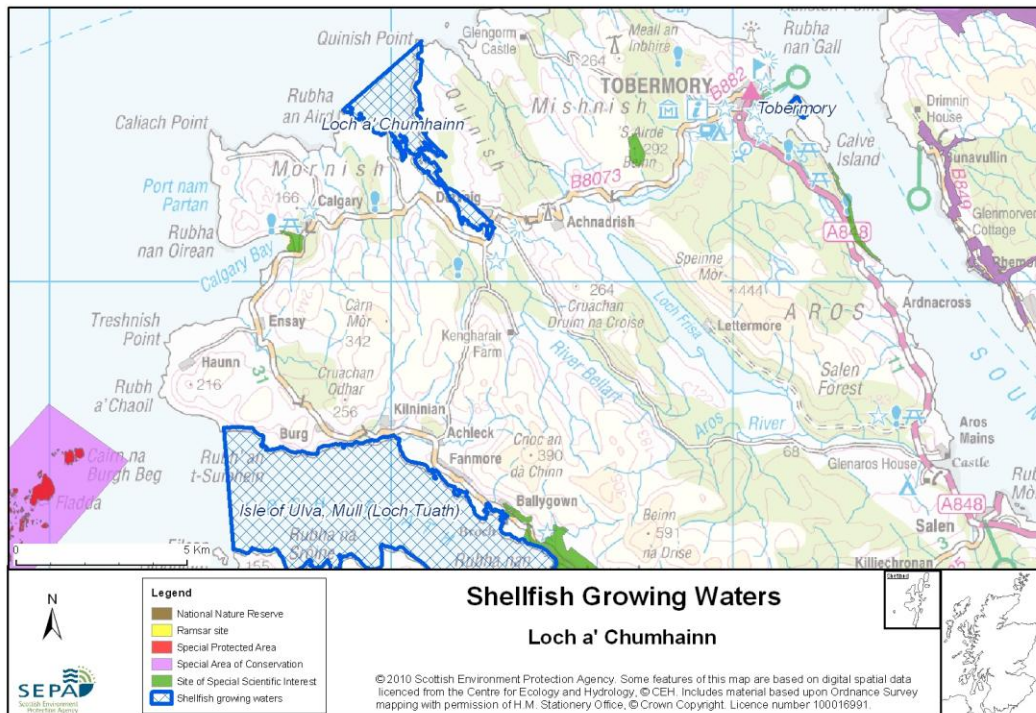
This is also a **Water Dependent SAC** and a **Groundwater Dependent SAC**

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [Calgary Dunes](#)

Designated 30/06/1986 for supralittoral coastal sediment (Machair)

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) – [S'Airde Beinn](#)

Designated 30/04/1986 for Mineralogy of Scotland, Igneous petrology (Tertiary Igneous)



64.4 Topography and Land Use – Potential Diffuse Pollution Sources

The Loch a Chumhainn site is a bay with a coastline of approximately 15kms. The catchment is long and narrow, rising to 300 metres at the head of the main watercourse, the Bellart that discharges into the bay. There are also several minor freshwater inputs to the designated area. Neither the Bellart, nor the minor freshwater inputs are monitored by SEPA but all inputs are considered to be of at least good quality.

The land around the designated area is mainly used for extensive sheep and cattle farming. There are also large areas of semi-natural woodland and coniferous plantation, with smaller areas of blanket bog and semi-natural grassland.

There are four known farms within the catchment, one with a groundwater authorisation for the disposal of spent sheep dip. The agriculture is extensive beef and sheep production. Dervaig with a population of 130 is the only significant community in the area and is a popular tourist destination during the summer months. The remainder of the catchment is sparsely populated and has an estimated population of less than 60.

64.5 Point Source Discharge

Scottish Water has one raw sewage outfall that serves the community of Dervaig. Prior to this area being designated as a shellfish growing water, plans were finalised with Scottish Water to build a septic tank to take this sewage.

There are a number of consented private septic tank discharges to the designated area, or within the catchment.

There are no industrial discharges to the bay or within the catchment, and there are no fish farms within at least 2km of the designated area.

Type	Name	Treatment	Consent No.	NGR	PE	Additional Information
Scottish Water Asset	Dervaig	Raw	CAR/L/1000270	NM 428 518	60 - 131	Upgrading to Septic tank

64.6 Compliance Monitoring Regime

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

Year	Monitoring Regime
2005 -	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly for Sal, DO, pH, temperature, visible oil • Every third year for metals and organohalogens in mussels, next collection scheduled for 2011 • Quarterly for faecal coliforms in mussels

64.7 Compliance History

UKS7992364 - Loch a' Chumhainn				
	Compliance history for Waters and Biota, excluding faecal coliforms data			Compliance history for faecal coliforms
Year	Overall Result	Imperative	Guideline	Guideline
2003	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2004	Pass	Pass	Fail	Fail
2005	Pass	Pass	Fail ^{1,2}	Fail
2006	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2007	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2008	Pass	No Data	No Data	Pass
2009	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass
2010	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

The shellfish water has consistently failed to comply with the Guideline standard for faecal coliforms from 2003 to 2006. However the shellfish waters have passed 2007 to 2010.

A single sample in 2004 gave a result below the Guideline minimum standard for salinity. There are no anthropogenic inputs to the area that could account for a drop in salinity to such levels. The result is almost certainly due to a combination of low

tide and high run off from rainwater affecting the sampling site at the time of sampling, and is not representative of the salinity of the designated area as a whole. This being a natural phenomenon, no measures will be taken, in accordance with Article 7(3) of the Directive.

¹Failure relates to a single result in April 2005 for dissolved oxygen of 72.1% which failed to meet the Guideline standard of >80%. It did, however, comply with the Imperative standard of >70%.

²Failure relates to a single result for cadmium in 2005 of 10.73 mg/kg which breached the Guideline standard of 5.00 mg/kg. It did, however, comply with the Mandatory standard of 15 mg/kg.

64.8 Future Monitoring

The monitoring regime (85.6 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

64.9 Improvement Actions

Scottish Water is currently improving the works at Dervaig to provide additional treatment of the effluent prior to discharge. This was a late delivery of work identified under Scottish Water's Quality and Standards II programme.

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.

Objective	First Cycle 2015	Confidence	Second Cycle 2021	Confidence	Third Cycle 2027	Confidence
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

64.10 Summary of Actions

Action	Deadline
Additional treatment of effluent at Dervaig, late delivery under Q&SII.	Ongoing