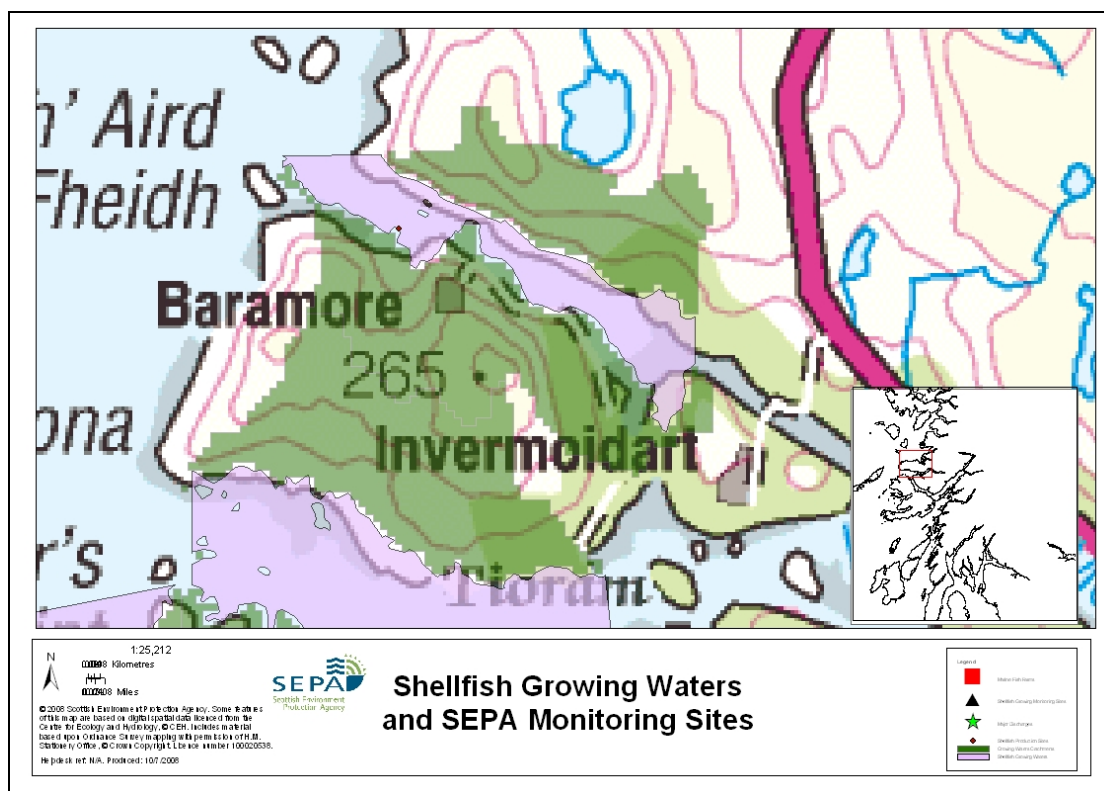


82 Loch Moidart, North Channel



Name	Loch Moidart, North Channel	
Report Reference No.	82	
WFD Code	UKS7992382	
Location Information	An area bounded by lines drawn between NM 634 756 (Rubh' Aird an Fheidh) and NM 641 756 (Rubha nan Clach Dearga) and between NM 662 742 and NM 662 746.	
Designated Area (Km²)	1.1	
Year of Designation	2002	
Sampling Points	Loch Moidart North	NM 64958 74868
Commencement of Monitoring	2003	

82.1 Commercial Shellfish Interests

There are no classified waters in this area but commercial growing takes place at one unit.

82.2 Bathymetric Information

The North Channel would be subject to northwest winds due to its aspect. The length of this section of the loch is 2.8km with a maximum depth of around 29m. The catchment area is 6km² and it has a low fresh/tidal flow ratio of 4 and a salinity

reduction of 0.1ppt. These values point to little freshwater influence or salinity variation. There are no morphological pressures on the waters.

82.3 Conservation Designations

The designated area lies within the Sound of Arisaig SAC, an area of unusually high diversity of sublittoral sediment habitats including maerl beds with very rich associated communities that include several rare and scarce species.

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0019802>

The designated area adjoins the Loch Moidart and Loch Shiel Woods SAC/SSSI. This complex is one of a number of sites representing the Mid-west Highlands Atlantic bryophyte zone. The composite site includes extensive oak woodlands and, in places, has a diverse flora due to outcrops of basic rock.

<http://www.jncc.gov.uk/ProtectedSites/SACselection/sac.asp?EUCode=UK0030209>

http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/portal/page?pageid=53,854555,53_854604&dad=portal&schema=PORTAL&PA_CODE=1013

The designated area also lies within the Morar, Moidart and Ardnamurchan National Scenic Area.

82.4 Topography And Land Use – Potential Diffuse Pollution Sources

The designated area constitutes a narrow channel between Eilean Shona and the Moidart mainland. There are no roads either side of the channel and only one house. The land around the designated area is mainly of heather moorland, semi-natural woodland and coniferous plantation.

Freshwater inputs directly to the designated area are limited to minor streams, none of which are monitored by SEPA but are considered to be of at least good quality. Much of the freshwater flowing through the N and S channels comes from the River Shiel and the River Moidart. Both these rivers are classified by SEPA as being of good quality.

82.5 Point Source Discharges

There are no point source discharges to the designated area.

There are no fish farms within at least 2km of the designated area. Historically a cage fish farm trial unit for halibut existed in Loch Moidart.

82.6 Compliance Monitoring Regime

Year	Monitoring Regime
2005 -	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly for Sal, DO, pH, temperature, visible oil• Every three years for metals and organohalogens in mussels, next collection scheduled for 2008• Quarterly for faecal coliforms in mussels

This monitoring regime of the designated area was implemented in the second half of 2005.

82.7 Compliance History

	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	Pass	Fail
2005	Pass	Pass	Pass	Fail
2006	Pass	Pass	Pass	No result
2007	Pass	Pass	Pass	Pass

Of the six samples analysed for Faecal Coliforms in 2003 and 2004, four gave results above the Guideline standard. In 2005 two samples gave results above the Guideline standard. No samples were taken in 2006 or 2007 due to safety issues with the site.

82.8 Future Monitoring Recommendations

The monitoring regime as described in section 6 will be followed. In the event of any chemistry parameter failing to meet any EQS, the site will be revisited and re-sampled for the failed parameter.

82.9 Improvement Actions

There are currently no improvement actions planned for this site.

82.10 Summary of Actions

Action	Deadline
No improvement actions currently planned.	