

For the Love of the Sea Ltd (Câr-Y-Môr)

Aquaculture Environmental Management Plan

Love of the Sea Ltd (Câr-Y-Môr) is committed to ensuring that our presence in Ramsey Sound has minimal effect on the flora, fauna and marine life of Pembrokeshire.

By adopting this Aquaculture Environmental Management Plan we hope to continue our co-existence within the unique and varied ecosystem of Ramsey Sound

Câr-Y-Môr acknowledges that we use various marinas and slipways around St Davids. We also regularly operate in two SACs. By effective use of our limited resources, funds and manpower we will address the following issues.

- Control of Pollutants
- Wastewater Management
- Repairs and maintenance of Boats
- Monitoring and Maintenance of Farm Infrastructure
- Emergency Situation Procedures
- Record keeping
- Reporting Procedures
- **Micrositing of anchors using Drop Down Video**

Control of Pollutants and Wastewater Management

Câr-Y-Môr has a multicat, twin engine, petrol driven work barge. We also operate a smaller single engine petrol driven tender to this vessel. These two vessels are used for all farming operations. Câr-Y-Môr also has a petrol driven high pressure water blast washer that effectively removes marine growths and antifouling materials.

Pollutants generated through maintenance on the farm site (e.g. spare rope or disused buoys) are contained within plastic drums on the vessel. They are then disposed of using a local service that recycles old fishing gear and equipment.

All natural growth on farm gear is periodically pressure washed. No chemicals are used for pressure washing. To date no non-native species have been seen on vessel equipment. If non-native species are found on equipment it is removed from the water and taken to shore for cleaning with fresh water and air drying.

Repairs and maintenance of Boats

Vessels, engines, and lifting equipment are serviced according to manufacturer recommendations of hours used. A log is kept on the vessel. The vessel is taken out of the

water once a year for servicing. It is also inspected once every five years for categorization.

Monitoring and Maintenance of Farm Infrastructure

Regular monitoring and maintenance

Farm infrastructure such as ropes, chains and shackles near the surface are regularly monitored during usual farm operations when lines are lifted using the crane. Any worn/broken infrastructure is reported to the Farm Manager who will arrange repairs as soon as possible. At least once a month, and additionally before any predicted big weather events, essential farm infrastructure such as shackles, chains and buoys integral to holding the farm in place are checked thoroughly and repaired/replaced if needed. Shackles are checked and replaced once excessive wear has occurred. New shackles are additionally welded shut so vibrations from the farm cannot unscrew them. Ropes are checked and replaced once wear is observed and mussel floats are checked and ropes re-tied if loose or replaced if worn. Navigational buoys are checked for damage and replaced or rewelded as needed and navigational lights are replaced if they stop working. Any loose/broken bits of rope are cut from the farm and brought back to land to be recycled and other bits such as old shackles or chain are brought back and stored at Car-Y-Mor headquarters at Upper Clegyr. Farm infrastructure near the seabed such as chains and shackles attached to anchors are inspected by divers every 6 months and a report is made for any worn chain/shackles to be replaced.

Emergency Severe Damage Protocol

In the unlikely event that a severe weather event destroys some or all of the farm, there are always 3 members of staff on standby ready to recover the infrastructure to avoid marine littering. During the bad weather, the farms are monitored by staff members from the coastal path - the close proximity to shore and accessible pathways means we can keep an eye on the farms even when it isn't safe to go out to sea. If the farm needed emergency repairs or recovery of infrastructure which had broken loose farm team members would go out on the work barge and retrieve this debris and either bring it back to land to repair and reuse if possible, or it would be reattached to the farm and the point at which it was broken would be repaired. At no point would it be deemed appropriate to abandon any part of the farm which had become unattached from the main infrastructure.

Emergency Situation Procedures

Oil/Fuel/Pollutant spill

In the event of a spill, the farm team would ensure rapid and effective deployment of the oil spill kit and any extra cleanup/absorbing materials as needed. These are all stored in the work vessel in an easily accessible locker.

Record keeping

Câr-Y-Môr recognises the importance of record keeping as a key to effective risk management.

A record book is maintained on the vessel containing detailed information on any spills, pollution or other event that impacts on the environment. Further information may include maintenance schedules as preventative measures, any identified deficiencies and legislative requirements.

Reporting Procedures

If a pollution event occurs it will be reported to Natural Resources Wales through their incident hotline on 0300 065 3000 or email icc@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk.

Câr-Y-Môr will keep records in the event of the following situations arising that have potential to cause an environmental incident including plant equipment breakdown or malfunction, storage container or vessel fracture, a physical or chemical reaction, or vandalism, sabotage or misuse/damage by persons unknown.

Micrositing of anchors using Drop Down Video

As stated in the *DEML2540 Environment Information to inform HRA* and *DEML2540 Baseline Benthic Habitat Survey Report* documents submitted with the application, the use of drop down video will be used to help microsite the anchors and therefore ground chains to areas which do not contain reefs or sensitive habitats. This will be done in collaboration with PEBL using their ROV to provide a live feed of the seabed whilst the anchors and chains are undergoing deployment. PEBL will also undertake the ongoing monitoring of the anchors and chains as part of the Monitoring Plan also submitted during the discharge of condition application. Jon Moore, a Marine Biologist and Consultant, will also assist with reviewing the footage and providing ID for any species which could be of interest to NRW.