



What is this consultation event about?

Kaly Group Ltd (Kaly) are looking at options for new seaweed farms within Loch Snizort and Loch Bracadale in NW Skye.

Whilst we previously agreed Lease Option Agreement Areas (LOAs) with Crown Estate Scotland, these have now been withdrawn. These LOAs were based on early / preliminary information only and we felt there was a need to revisit alternative options through further dialogue with local communities and consultees. We would secure LOAs for sites we intend to take forward to a marine licence application in due course informed by this consultation stage.

Kaly are committed to sustainable development and stewardship. To inform site options, we commissioned an independent environmental risk assessment to look at opportunities and constraints within each loch. Coupled with consultation with local communities, this approach seeks to identify optimal locations which minimise environmental, social and economic impacts whilst maximising the quality of seaweed harvested.

We are keen to share the information we have collected to date and seek your feedback on possible locations and local knowledge and information that would assist in optimal site selection. We wish to make a positive contribution to existing communities.

We are happy to answer your questions and receive your feedback at this consultation event. Please see the banner with further information on how to make comment.





Who are Kaly Group?

KALY are a group of entrepreneurs, seafarers and nature-lovers on a journey of discovery. Kaly Group Ltd were founded in January 2022, are management owned and operated by a multidisciplinary team bringing together a range of skills and experience. Kaly are advised by a Science Board and are supported by investment from TriCapital Investors and Scottish Enterprise.

KALY believe seaweed farming can be introduced throughout the west coast of Scotland. An **incremental approach** will build knowledge, confidence and momentum towards our vision. The journey will test best practices in seaweed farming, community empowerment and scientifically measure the environmental benefits we bring to the Scottish marine environment.

Commercial viability is at the core of our vision. To be a **sustainable industry**, many strands of the production and processing chain must come together. Companies making useful products from seaweed require a continuous supply of stabilised, high-quality biomass throughout the year. KALY can flourish by providing this **continuous supply**, supporting an integrated value chain from growing to end-market products.

We think fishing and seaweed farming are complementary. They require similar skills and knowledge of the sea to be successful. Both are cyclical but peak at different times of the year. Kelp farming and creel fishing provide an anchor for many other marine benefits. When combined with other loch users a potential framework for **loch stewardship** must be possible.

Our vision is simple: *Grow seaweed, involve local communities, improve our marine environment.*





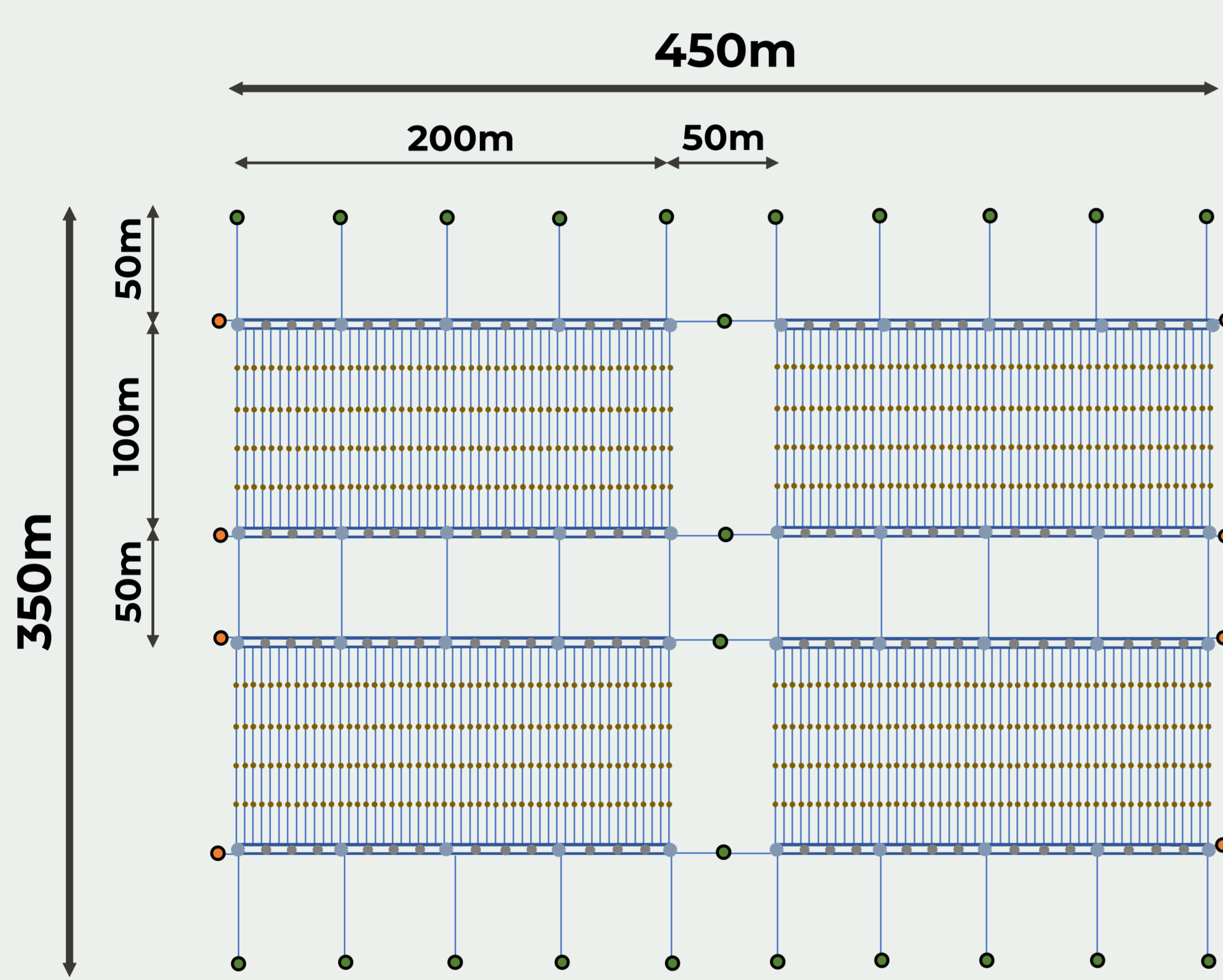
Our Consented Site at Loch Bay

Kaly secured a Marine Licence for a prototype farm at Loch Bay, NW Skye in December 2023 (MS 00010302).

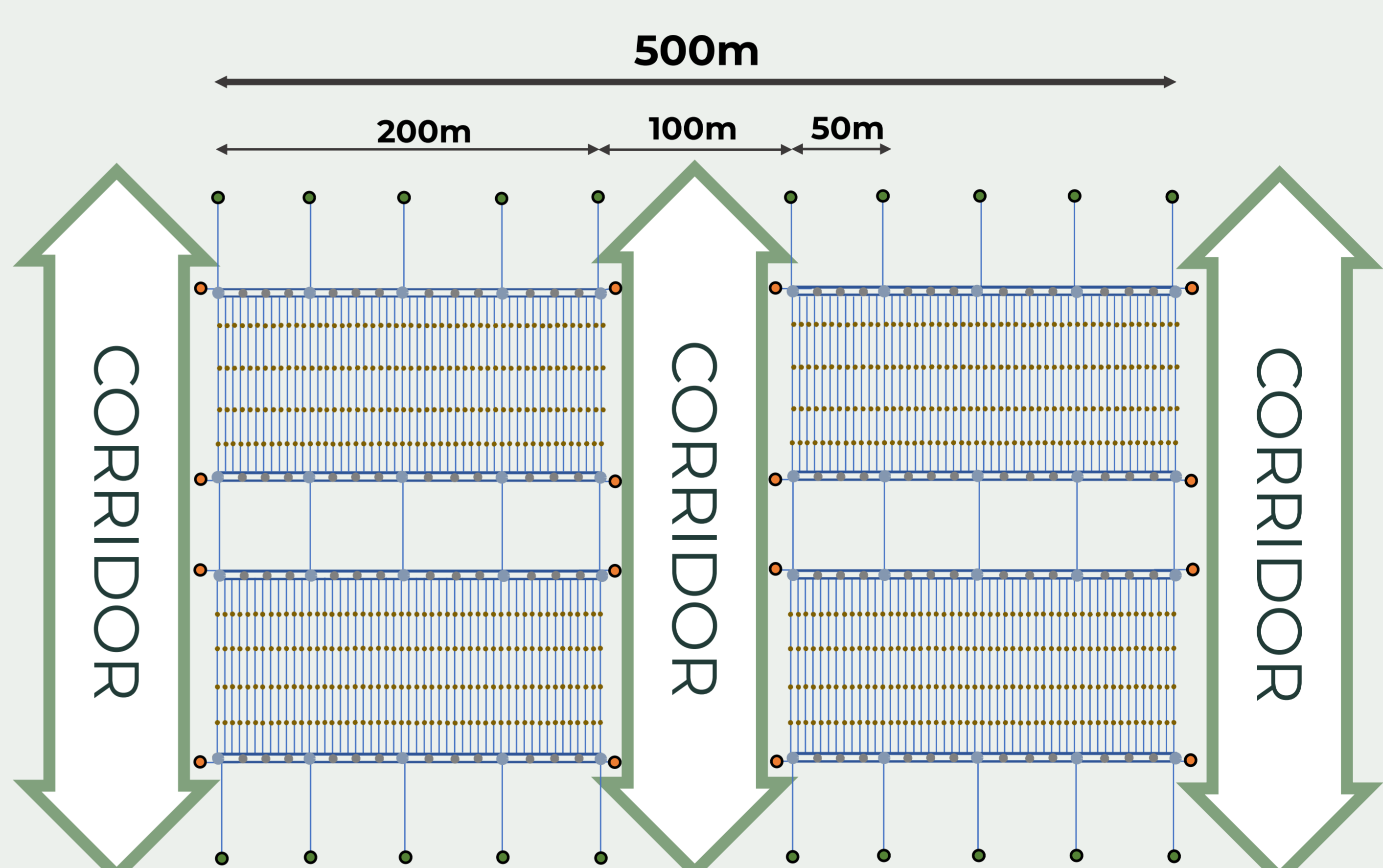
The consent is based on an 8-grid seaweed farm model and covers 35ha. Initial deployment was in February 2024 with first phase installation during May 2024. As a prototype farm, Loch Bay is also a focus for related activity:

- Training and Education
- Research & Development
- Farm Design Testing
- Marine Data Collection
- Biodiversity Data Collation
- Seeding and Harvesting

Future sites are anticipated to be smaller in scale and based on a 4 grid design as shown in the diagram below:



Standard 4 Grids Design



Kelp & Creel Integrated 4 Grids Design

200 litre Mussel floats (24 per grid):	●	Standard Anchor:	●	Mark buoys 2 per Farm 
400/620 litre buoys (10 per grid):	●	Helical Anchor:	●	
A0[28cm x 21cm] Buoys (200 per grid):	●			



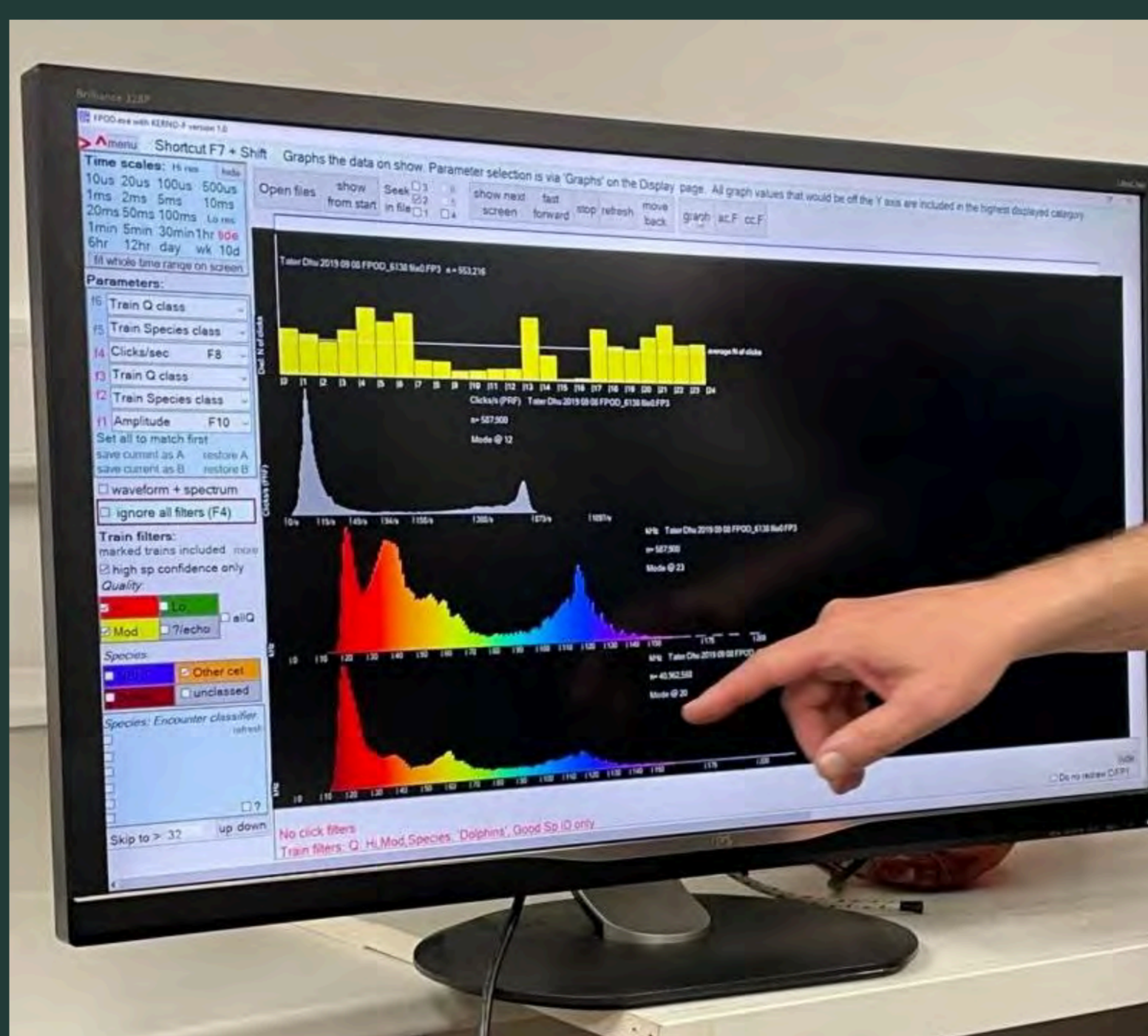
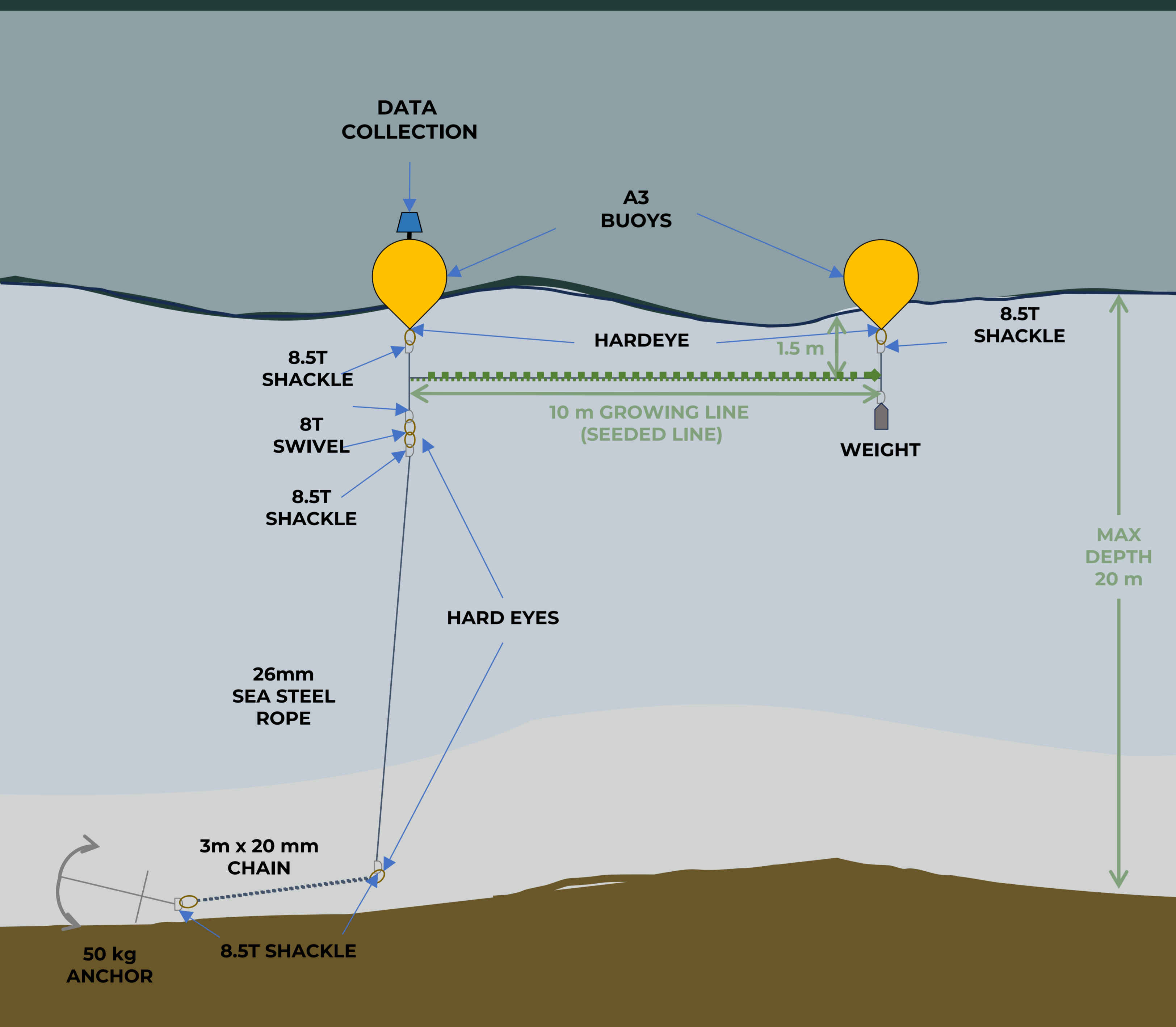
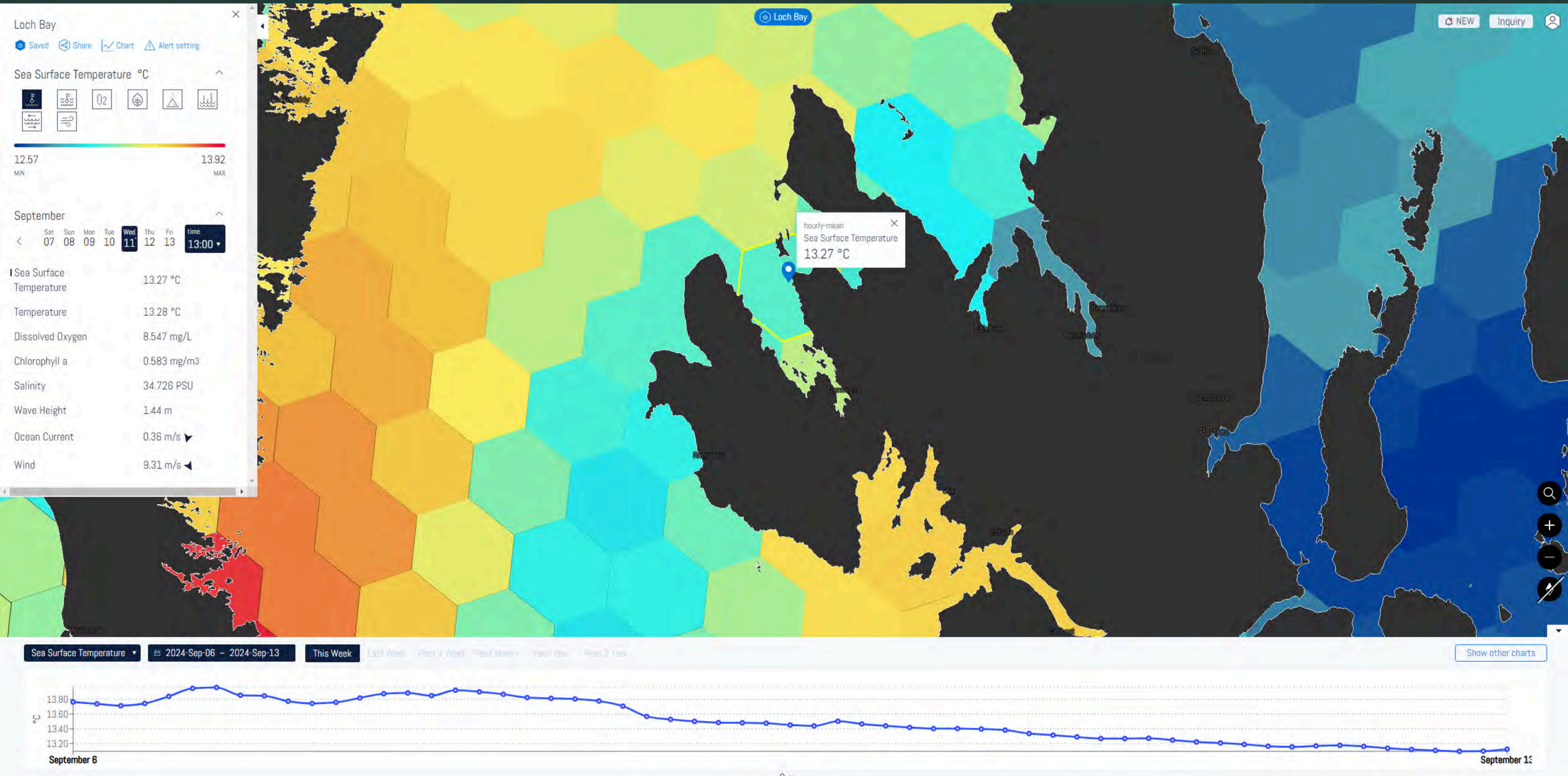


Testing and Trialling - Innovative Approach

Kaly Group is committed to innovation through a programme of scientific testing and trialling that will inform future site selection. Like any crop, seaweed growth is linked to a range of variables.

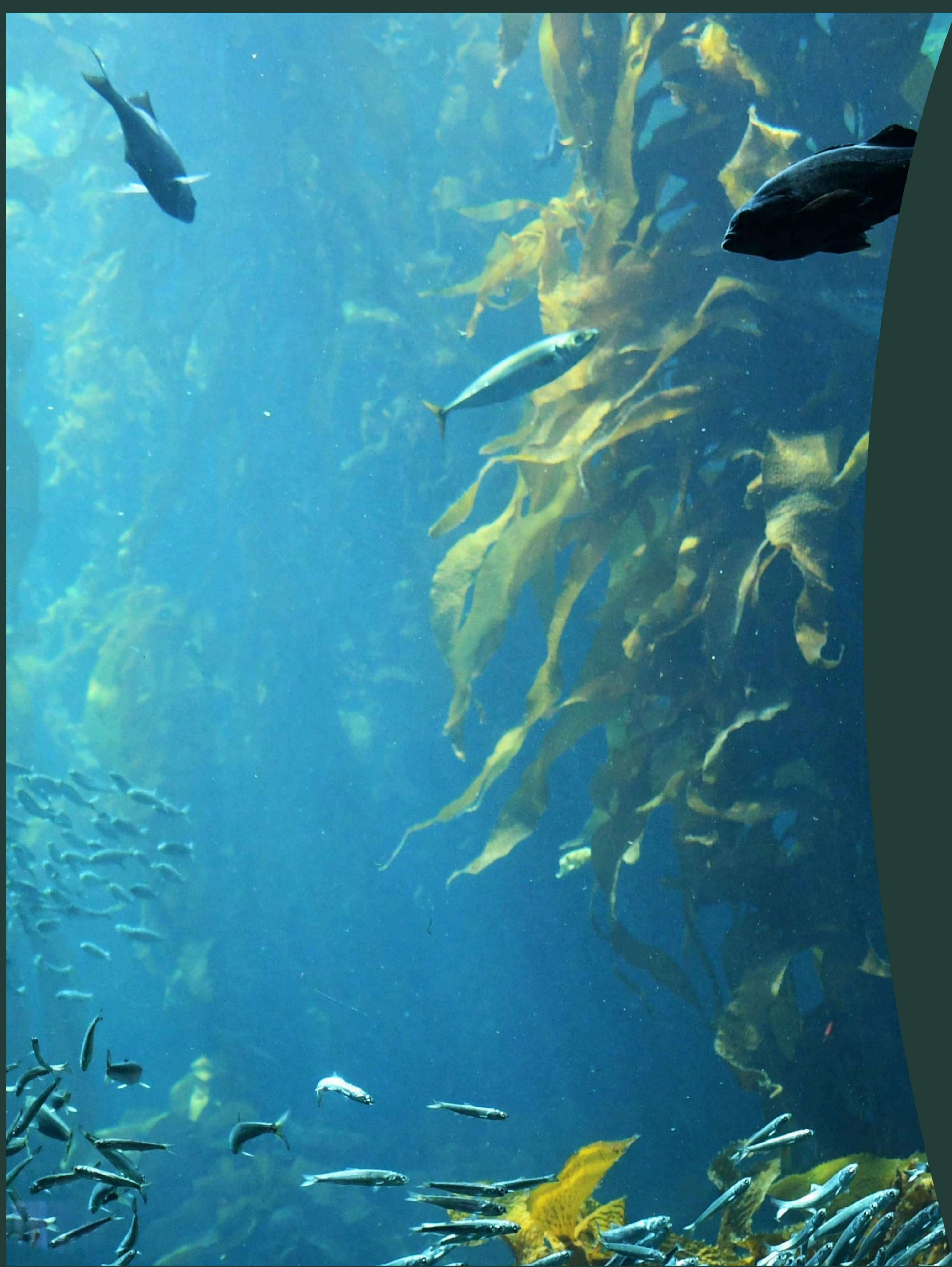
Careful analysis of data gathered will hopefully provide valuable insights into seaweed growth rates and drivers as well as changes in chemical composition throughout the season.

At Loch Bay, Kaly has partnered with UMITRON in the usage of satellite data, providing us daily data on 8 variables (sea surface temperature, temperature, dissolved oxygen, chlorophyll A levels, salinity, wave heights, ocean currents and wind). In subsequent phases we hope to link satellite data with actual local data buoys, further enhancing data quality. Ongoing biodiversity study at Loch Bay using state of the art underwater camera real time monitoring and eDNA data collection.





Benefits of Kelp Farming?



Environmental

- Sustainable natural resource - no need to wild harvest kelp
- Requires water and sunlight – nothing added in the process
- Absorbs nitrates and phosphates
- Supports marine biodiversity including habitat for juvenile fish

Social

- Opportunity to engage with all Marine interests
- Science led - Hortimare/Stirling University/James Hutton Institute
- Loch Bay - Educational Program
- Seaweed Protocol – Scottish Creel Fishing Federation (SCFF)
- Farming Partnership Model
- Opportunity for R&D and scientific research
- Marine Conservation Initiatives and Citizen Science



Economic

- Local economic benefits - direct and indirect including local supply chain
- Local job creation
- Training and new career routes
- Supplementary income through Partnership Model
- Community Marine Projects
- Local Supply Chain





Kelp Partnership Model

Local creel fishers and other interested parties including local communities will be invited to enter into commercial agreements with KALY to jointly undertake training programmes, develop farm design techniques, farm deployment, the seeding of growing lines, farm and environmental monitoring, and the eventual harvest of cultivated kelp.

Our unique **Kelp Partnership Model** will involve partnership with local fishermen whose livelihoods and identity are linked to the sea. This provides a guaranteed Annual Management Fee for a range of activities including seeding, data collection and monitoring.

Community Marine Fund

KALY will use the Loch Bay site to establish a format for community engagement and we will work with the local communities to identify other potential environmental projects which protect and restore coastal lochs.

There may be wider community projects that would benefit from funding and partnership.

KALY also intend to develop a processing hub to connect sites at sea with a facility on land that serves as a collection point for the kelp harvest. Its function is to undertake pre-processing of kelp including washing, chopping, freezing and/or drying to stabilise the biomass. The hub will contain R&D and training facilities, equipment storage, a kelp seeding lab and a data and water quality monitoring centre. No decision has been made on a hub location although there is a preference to have this on Skye.

The Community Marine Fund is estimated at £360,000 each year from 2028 from a NW Skye cluster.



Seagrass Restoration



Reintroducing Native Oysters



Collecting Data



Community Marine Fund
£360,000 each year
from 2028



Coastal Protection



Marine Debris Removal



Improvement to Jetties and Piers



Vertically Integrated Business



Kelp Farming - Economic Impact

Scale of Operations	Full-time Jobs	Part-time Jobs	Indirect Jobs	Income	Direct Annual GVA
Kelp Farm	2	4	0.5	£30k	£0.12m
Skye Cluster	12	18	4	£300k	£2.3m

Kelp Industry - Economic Impact

From 2028	Skye Cluster Farming	Processing	Supply Chain	TOTAL
Turnover (£m)	£5.4	£46.7	-	£52.1
Direct GVA (£m)	£2.3	£19.5	£21.0	£42.8
Employment (FTE)	18	91	85	194

End-products

Food and Beverage

Bioplastics and Packaging

Textiles and Fabrics

Beauty and Health

Paper

Cosmetics and Skincare

Agriculture and Gardening

Home



Our Approach to Future Site Selection / Option Appraisal

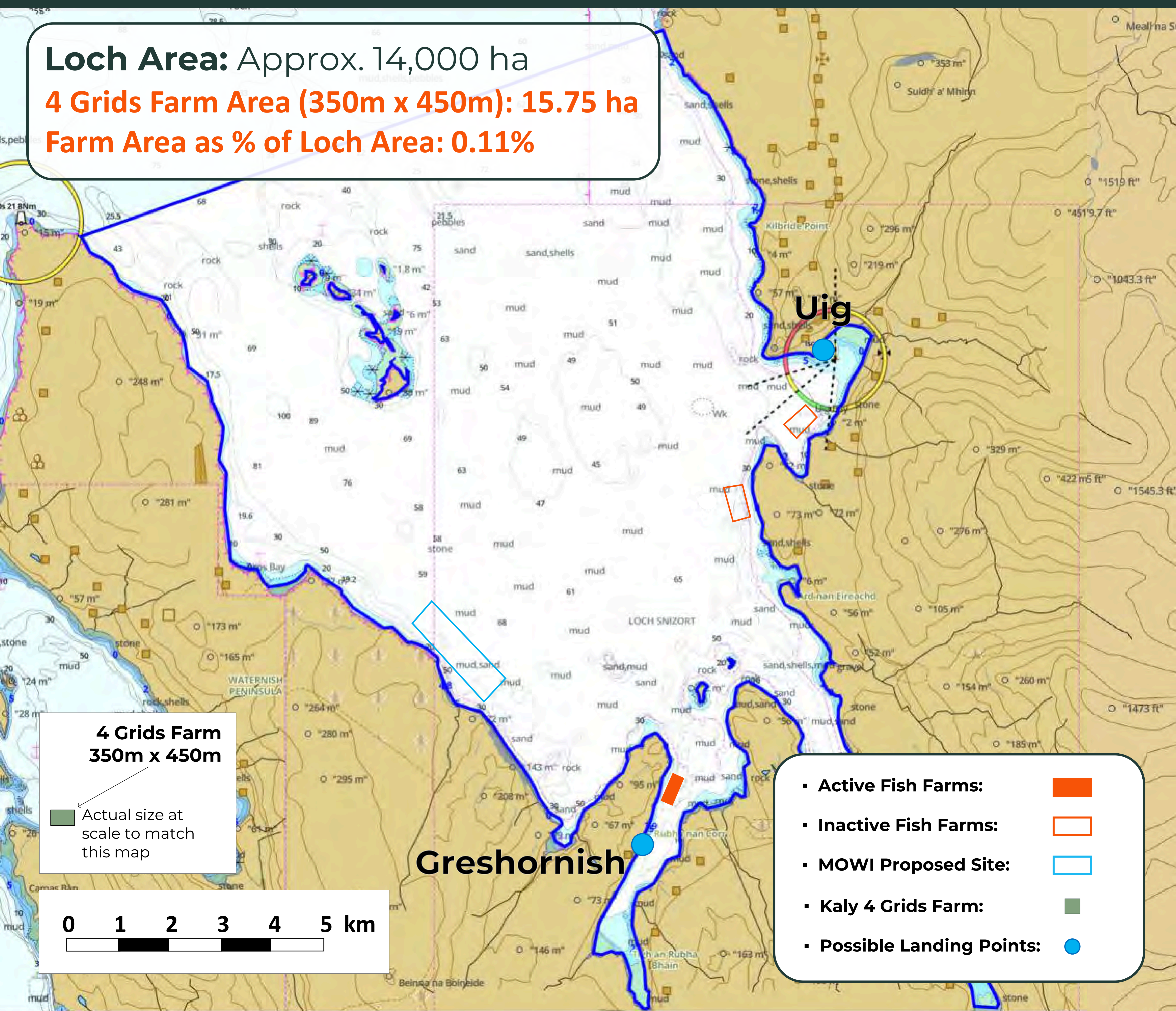
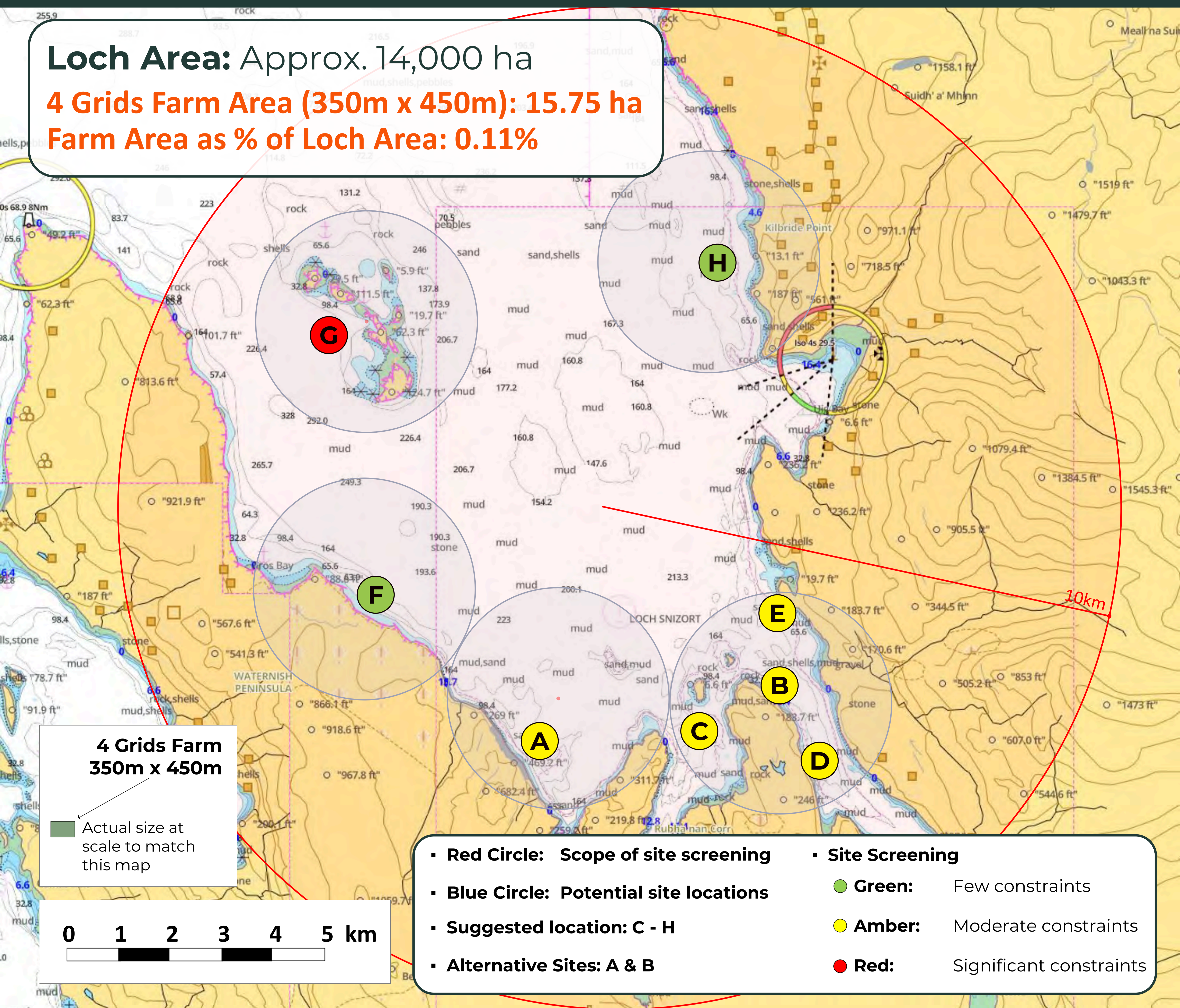
We commissioned independent environmental consultants to undertake an environmental risk assessment covering a whole range of topics looking at Loch Snizort and Loch Bracadale:

- Planning Policy – Scottish Government and Marine Scotland Directorate and Highland Council
- Local Context – review of local settlements, tourism, local businesses etc
- Water Environment – water quality and classification
- Seascape and Visual Impacts – key viewpoints and sensitivities
- Habitats and Protected Species – Priority Marine Features, Designated Sites, baseline surveys
- Seabed Conditions, benthic information and shoreline features – identifying sensitive features
- Cultural Heritage – wrecks and other features recorded
- Marine and Terrestrial Transport – existing activities, possible landing points and road access
- Marine User Impacts – Designated areas, marine tourism and fishing and aquaculture
- Cumulative Impacts – interactions with other consented or planned development including fish farms and other activities.

This exercise, plus consultation to date has allowed a level of ‘testing’ of sites and highlighting those with potential constraints and where further consultation and more detailed assessment is required ahead of site selection.



Loch Snizort Sites Screening





Project Timeline



How to Comment

We would welcome feedback on the information presented at this pre-application consultation event. There are feedback forms which can be filled out and placed in a comment box or alternatively, comments can be submitted electronically using the QR code provided.

Postal comments can be sent to Kaly Consultation c/o Ironside Farrar, 111 McDonald Road, Edinburgh, EH7 4NW.

Following the event, Kaly will provide FAQ's and responses and a summary of how comments have been taken into account as part of site selection.