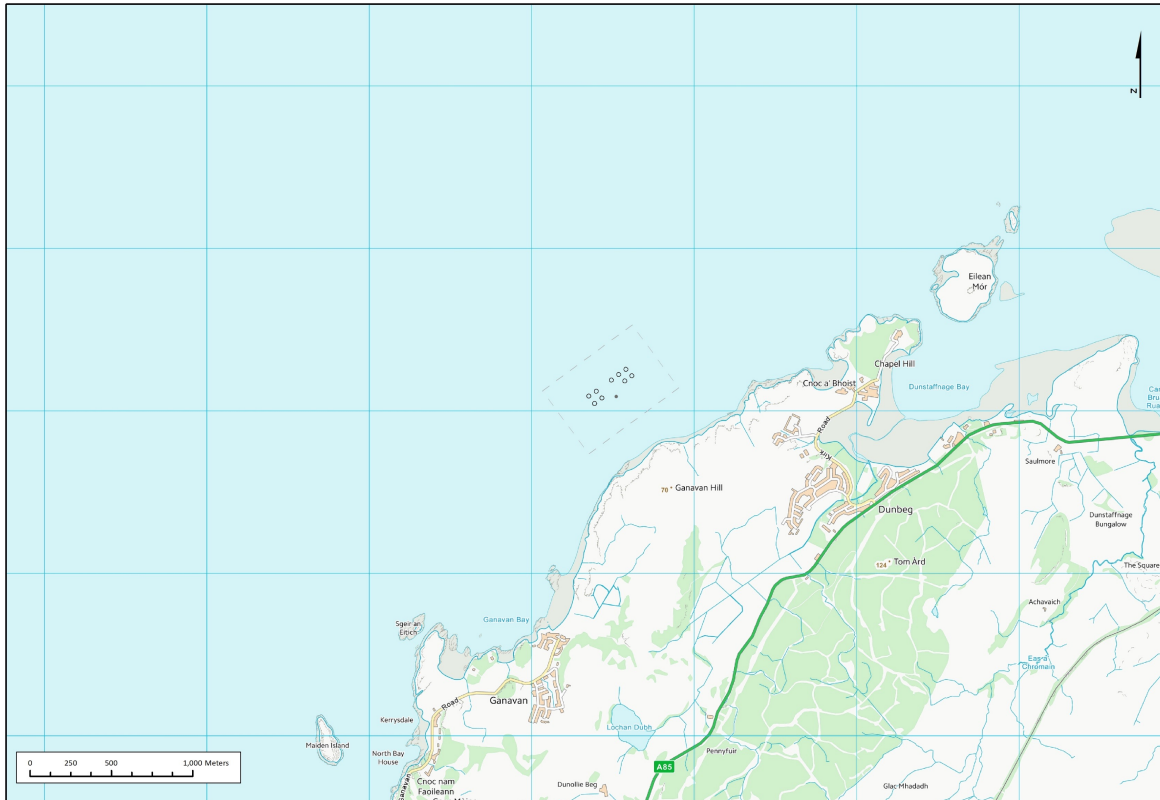


Dunstaffnage farm expansion

Current farm

9 x 80m circumference cages

1,300 tonnes maximum biomass

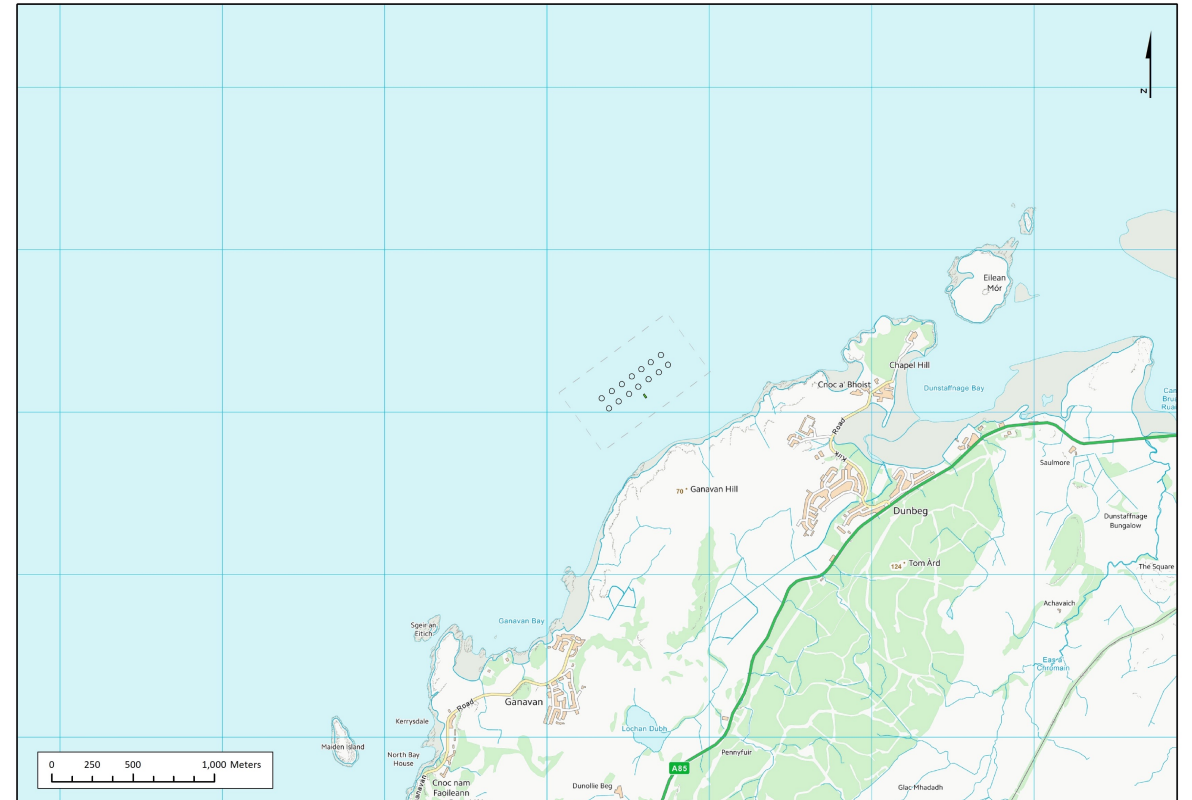


Proposed expansion

14 x 100m circumference cages

2,350 tonnes maximum biomass

Increased surface area of 6,723m²
(equivalent of 2/3 Ganavan shinty pitch)



Farm performance:

92% average fish survival and 6.1kg average weight over last three farm crops (6 years)

'Excellent' SEPA CAS rating

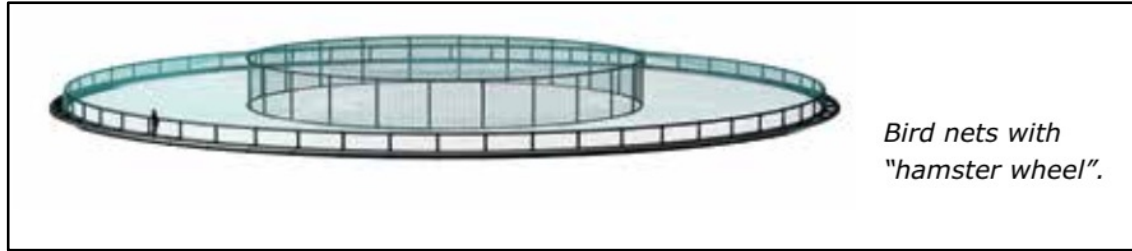
Status:

SEPA CAR Licence for proposed expansion approved 17 March 2020

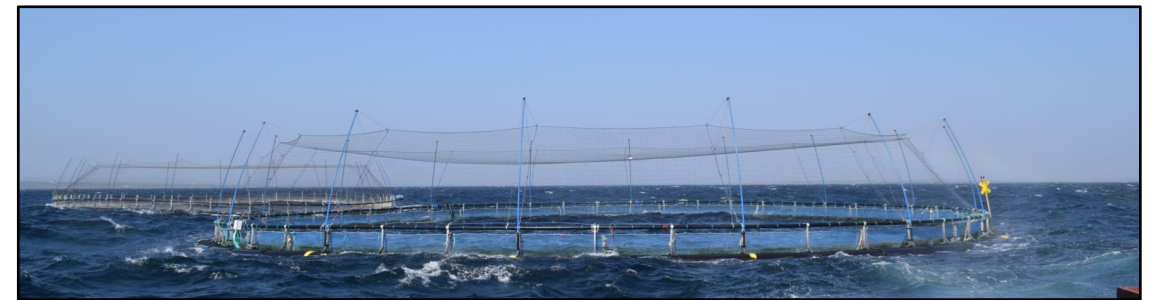
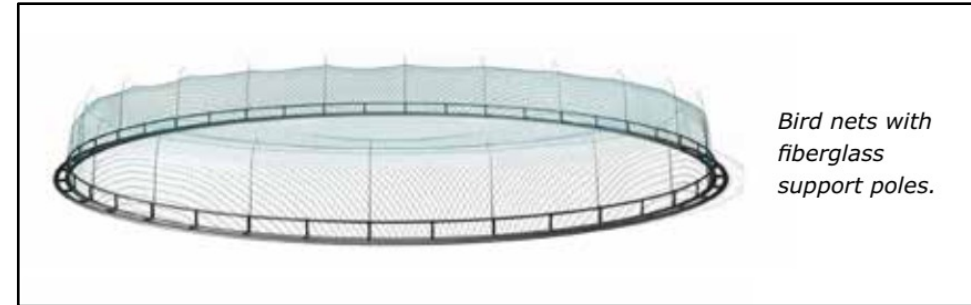
Dunstaffnage farm expansion

Cage Top Nets

Existing



Proposed



Dunstaffnage farm expansion

How will the proposed expansion affect the landscape?

- The existing Dunstaffnage farm has been in its current location since 1987, approximately one kilometre north of Ganavan Sands. The southern end of the existing farm and the farm's feed barge are currently visible from the central part of the beach at Ganavan, with the northern farm cages out of view behind the rocky coastline.
- The proposed expansion will involve extending the site at the northern end of the farm, so that any additional cages will be out of view from the central part of the beach, and the closest cages at the southern end of the farm will be no closer than currently. In addition the new feed barge proposed will be located further north than the current barge and will be just out of site from the central part of Ganavan beach. Farm cages, nets and the feed barge will be of dark matt colours.
- The site will continue to be viewed by walkers on the coastal path between Dunbeg and Ganavan and is visible but not dominant from elevated viewpoints on the Ben Lora forest paths some 6km away.
- A landscape and visual appraisal (Appendix 9 of the EIA report) has concluded that additional landscape and visual effects from the proposed expansion, compared to the existing farm are expected to be minimal. The following landscape visualisations show a before (Existing) and after (Proposed) view of the farm from Ganavan slipway and from first viewpoint on the public footpath up Ben Lora.

Dunstaffnage farm expansion

Landscape visualisation from Ganavan slipway

Existing



Proposed



Dunstaffnage farm expansion

Landscape visualisation from Ben Lora

Existing



Proposed



Dunstaffnage farm expansion

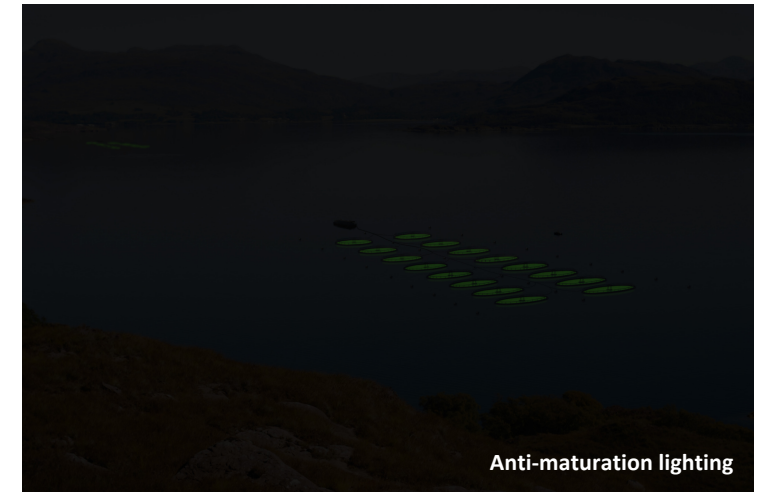
Will the expanded farm result in an increase in farm lighting?

Existing farm

- The existing Dunstaffnage farm has been in its current location for 34 years (since 1987), approximately one kilometre north of Ganavan Sands.
- Lighting on the current farm includes the following:
 - Navigational lights as required by the Northern Lighthouse Board - a marker buoy on the north and west corners of the cage group and a fixed all-round light on the feed barge with a nominal range of 2 nautical miles.
 - Underwater cage lighting used during the winter months (December to April) every second year. These downward facing lights are installed 6m below the water surface and result in a slight underwater illumination with minimal visibility from the surface.
 - Occasional use of downward facing deck safety lighting on visiting vessels and the feed barge would be limited to normal working hours for a farm (8am to 5pm) and very occasional activity outwith these hours. In the winter months there would be some, but limited overlap between normal working hours and periods of dark or low lighting where safety lighting may be necessary on vessels.



Marker buoy



Anti-maturation lighting

Proposed farm

- There will be no obvious difference in navigational lighting for the proposed expanded farm as the same number and type of navigational lights would be in use.
- The proposed expanded farm would use the same type of underwater cage lights as currently used but with 14 cages instead of the current 9.
- The proposed expansion of the farm would not result in any change to the normal working hours for farm operations or frequency of vessels and therefore no change in lighting levels or duration is anticipated.
- **The proposed expansion is therefore not anticipated to result in significant change in lighting levels or duration, compared to the operation of the existing farm.**

Dunstaffnage farm expansion

Will the expanded farm result in an increase in noise?

- The existing Dunstaffnage farm has been in its current location for 34 years (since 1987), approximately one kilometre north of Ganavan Sands.
- Sources of noise from a farm include cranes, generators and associated hydraulic systems, and feed blowers on supporting vessels and the farms feed barge. The same vessels that service the existing farm will service the proposed expanded farm and the same feeding system will be used, other than it being housed within a new and higher specification feed barge than the existing barge. Generators and feed blowers used in the feeding system will be housed within the new barge within sound-proofed compartments.
- The frequency of site vessels bringing site staff to and from the farm and visits from supporting maintenance and treatment vessels will not change. The frequency of feed deliveries and wellboat visits for harvesting will also not increase despite the increase in biomass as the feed barge has an increased capacity to store feed and wellboat harvesting visits will collect a larger tonnage of salmon in each visit.
- **The proposed expansion is therefore not anticipated to result in any increase in noise levels compared to the operation of the existing farm.**