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**The way forward for
shellfish water quality –
consultation update**

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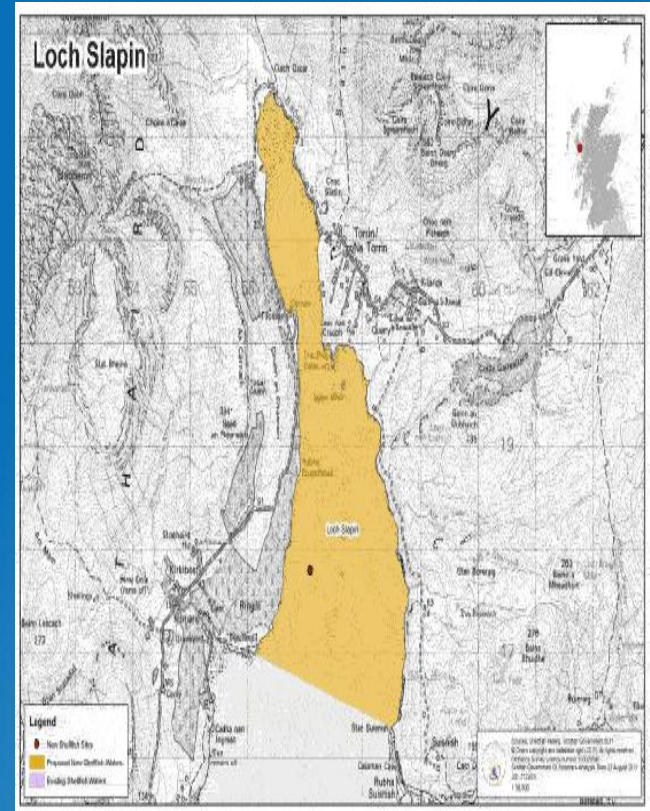
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- Consultation – ‘Delivering Scotland’s River Basin Management Plans: An integrated approach to the protection of shellfish growing waters’
- 2 parts –
 - designations/ de-designations
 - proposals beyond SWD repeal in 2013
- 4 October 2011 – 27 December 2011
- 22 responses – summary May 2012

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Part 1 – designation and de-designation

- 9 additional shellfish waters
- 4 extensions to shellfish waters
- 7 sites de-designated
- Now 80 sites in Scotland



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Part 2 - proposals beyond SWD repeal

- ensure continued protection to shellfish growing waters to help the industry grow
- propose to designate shellfish waters as protected areas within the RBMPs
- seek to align standards with Food Hygiene Regulations



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How are we going to achieve this?

- Aquaculture and Fisheries Bill
 - introduced 4 October, in force mid 2013
 - Part 4 relates to Shellfish
- Establish working group



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What does the Bill do?

- allows Ministers to designate areas of coastal or transitional water as shellfish water protected area

‘where necessary or desirable to do so for the protection or development of economically significant shellfish production.’

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How will this protect shellfish waters?

- designated shellfish areas will become protected areas within the River Basin Management Plans
- develop a framework of environmental objectives for designated shellfish waters
- introduce environmental standards via Directions to SEPA



THE SURFACE WATERS (SHELLFISH) (CLASSIFICATION) (SCOTLAND) DIRECTION 2012

Table 8: Planned improvements to the status of coastal waters (other than heavily modified coastal water bodies)

Overall status	2008		2015		2021		2027	
	Number of water bodies	Area coastal waters (km ²)	Number of water bodies	Area coastal waters (km ²)	Number of water bodies	Area coastal waters (km ²)	Number of water bodies	Area coastal waters (km ²)
High	157	15,649	157	15,649	157	15,649	157	15,649
Good	252	26,138	266	26,732	270	27,422	277	29,520
Moderate	28	3,909	14	3,316	10	2,626	3	528
Poor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bad	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	437	45,697	437	45,697	437	45,697	437	45,697
Proportion good or better (%)	94	91	97	93	98	94	99	99

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What are the next steps?

- Water Quality Coordination group –
 - industry and government bodies
 - develop designation process
 - link to on-going research
 - collaboration: data sharing and monitoring
- By Dec 2013 when SWD repealed

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What are the next steps?

- introduce environmental standards which mirror food hygiene requirements
- use of Directions provides flexibility for introduction/ development of future environmental standards

