



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Finlay Carson MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Galloway and West Dumfries

Gordon.Watson@lochlomond-trossachs.org

CC stuart.mearns@lochlomond-trossachs.org

30th September 2022

Dear Mr Watson,

Salmon Fishing on Loch Long

Although I am the Convener of the Rural Affairs, Islands and Natural Environment Committee in Scottish Parliament, I am contacting to you today as the Constituency Member of Parliament for Galloway and West Dumfries in support of the Loch Long Salmon project at Beinn Reithe.

Across Scotland there is huge potential to grow the farmed salmon sector, in turn, producing nutritious, quality food and creating jobs in areas which often suffer from higher than average unemployment and a low wage economy. As with any industry, it is important to continue to innovate to ensure the environmental and economic sustainability of rural Scotland.

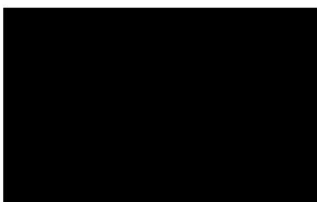
Demonstration project such as the one proposed for Loch Long will be an important and much welcome initial step in determining what improvements are possible by using semi-closed systems. Improvements including solutions to capture waste, keep out sea lice, prevent sea lice chemicals, remove the need for ADDs or seal licences and significantly reduce escape risk. Loch Long Salmon have environmental safeguarding and community benefit at the heart of their project.

With reference specifically to the creation of this new way of salmon farming, I believe this is an opportunity for the Park to show leadership in championing innovation to help transform the sector beyond its boundaries for the better, and to deliver on two of its key aims, by promoting the sustainable use of the natural resources of the area.

And by promoting sustainable social and economic development of the area's communities.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, and I hope my support for this project will urge you to give it due consideration.

Yours sincerely



Finlay Carson MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Galloway & West Dumfries

