

Rural Affairs and Islands Committee
Wednesday 19 February 2025
6th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

Note by the Clerk on The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery (Variation) Order 2025 (SSI 2025/7)

Overview

1. At this meeting, the Committee will consider the following Scottish Statutory Instrument (SSI), which is subject to annulment by resolution of the Parliament until 6 March 2025. The Committee is invited to consider the instrument and decide what, if any, recommendations to make.
2. More information about the instrument is summarised below:

Title of instrument: [The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery \(Variation\) Order 2025](#) (SSI 2025/7)

Laid under: [Sea Fisheries \(Shellfish\) Act 1967](#)

Laid on: 17 January 2025

Procedure: Negative

Deadline for committee consideration: 3 March 2025

Deadline for Chamber consideration: 6 March 2025

Commencement: 9 March 2025

Purpose of the instrument

3. This Order seeks to extend the exclusive fishery right of Scot-Hatch Limited to catch scallops in designated parts of Little Loch Broom near Ullapool for a period of 10 years until 9 March 2035.
4. The Policy Note accompanying the instrument is included in Annexe A. It includes a summary of consultation undertaken on the instrument, impact assessments carried out, and the anticipated financial effects.

Delegated Powers and Law Reform Committee consideration

5. The DPLR Committee considered the instrument on 4 February 2025 and reported on it in its [10th Report, 2025](#). The DPLR Committee made no recommendations in relation to the instrument but—

“welcomed that the Scottish Government has undertaken to revise the Policy Note to make clear that one of the provisions of this Order corrects an error in the principal Order. It also draws [its correspondence with the Scottish Government](#) to the attention of the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee, for its information”.

Committee consideration

6. So far, no motion recommending annulment has been lodged.
7. Members are invited to consider the instrument and decide whether there are any points they wish to raise.

Clerks to the Committee
February 2025

Annexe A: Scottish Government Policy Note

The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery (Variation) Order 2025

SSI 2025/7

1. The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 1 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967(a) (as read with section 2 and schedule 1 of that Act) and all other powers enabling them to do so. The instrument is subject to negative procedure.

Summary Box

2. The purpose of the Instrument is to continue The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery Order 2015 for a period of 10 years until 9 March 2035, unchanged.

Policy Objectives

3. Several Orders allow persons to apply for the right to fish exclusively for specified types of shellfish, including scallops, in a designated area. The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery (Variation) Order 2025 extends The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery Order 2015 for a period of 10 years until 9 March 2035.
4. This Order confers on Scot-Hatch Limited, an exclusive right of several fishery for scallops in part of Little Loch Broom covering the same area as specified by the co-ordinates within the 2015 Order. The 2025 Order continues the restriction that harvesting in this area can only be carried out manually by divers. Failure to make a new Several Order could de-stabilise the existing business opportunities that the 2015 Order currently provides.

UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024 Compatibility

5. The Scottish Ministers have made the following statement regarding children's rights.
6. In accordance with section 23(2) of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024, the Scottish Ministers certify that, in their view, the The Little Loch Broom Scallops Several Fishery (Variation) Order is compatible with the UNCRC requirements as defined by section 1(2) of the Act.

EU Alignment Consideration

7. This instrument is not relevant to the Scottish Government's policy to maintain alignment with the EU. If that is the case, policy areas are not required to provide any further explanation.

Consultation

8. To comply with Schedule 1 to the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 the following bodies have been consulted. This took place between 13th December 2024 and 13th January 2025.

Marine Directorate
Crown Estate Scotland
NatureScot
North West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group

9. In addition to this the draft Order was also published in the West Highland Free Press and made available through Marine Directorate Coastal Office in Ullapool, for the duration of consultation to allow representations and objections to be made to Ministers.
10. During this time period no comments or objections were received.

Impact Assessments

11. The following impact assessments have been completed on the draft SSI and are attached. No adverse impacts were identified in relation to matters of equality, children's rights and wellbeing, or data protection and privacy. No further action is being taken as a result of these impact assessments:

[CRWIA](#)
[DPIA](#)

Financial Effects

12. A final [Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment](#) (BRIA) has been completed and is attached. No financial burdens will be placed on the applicant as a result of the Order.

Scottish Government Marine Directorate
13 January 2025