



Esther Brooker
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Our Reference: 202200289468

19 April 2022

Dear Esther Brooker,

Thank you for your email to the Cabinet Secretary with a note of the meeting held on 16 March 2022.

As the process for the National and Regional Marine Plans develops we will be able to provide you with updates.

Any consultation that is undertaken as part of the ScotWind application process will be available online and we welcome any responses you submit to those. We also welcome any comments you have on the Future Catching Policy, Remote Electronic Monitoring and Joint Fisheries Statement consultations.

We have a meeting scheduled with representatives of Whale and Dolphin Conservation with the Cabinet Secretary to discuss the planned trials of technical solutions for bycatch and look forward to hearing more detail.

We note that you have received an invitation from officials to discuss ongoing work on Highly Protected Marine Areas and hope you find those discussions informative and productive.

We welcome your comments following the publication of Professor Griggs' review of aquaculture consenting. We are committed to ensuring the regulatory process for aquaculture is more responsive, transparent and efficient. Cabinet Secretary has welcomed the recommendations and accepted them in principle and will make a formal announcement shortly regarding the next steps following this first phase of work.

We also welcome Scottish Environment Link members' interest in engaging with the Scottish Government in the production of the Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture. The Vision will indeed place sustainability at its heart, reflected in the Programme for Government and Bute House Agreement

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commitments to enhance environmental protection and the benefits to host communities. It is expected that the Vision will be published at the end of 2022. Ministers will announce further detail on this soon.

Yours sincerely

Jayne Burns
MPP : Marine Conservation

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