



# Scottish Seaweed Industry Association Conference November 2023

## Scottish Seabed Leasing for Seaweed Farms

INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, COMMERCIALISM, EXCELLENCE

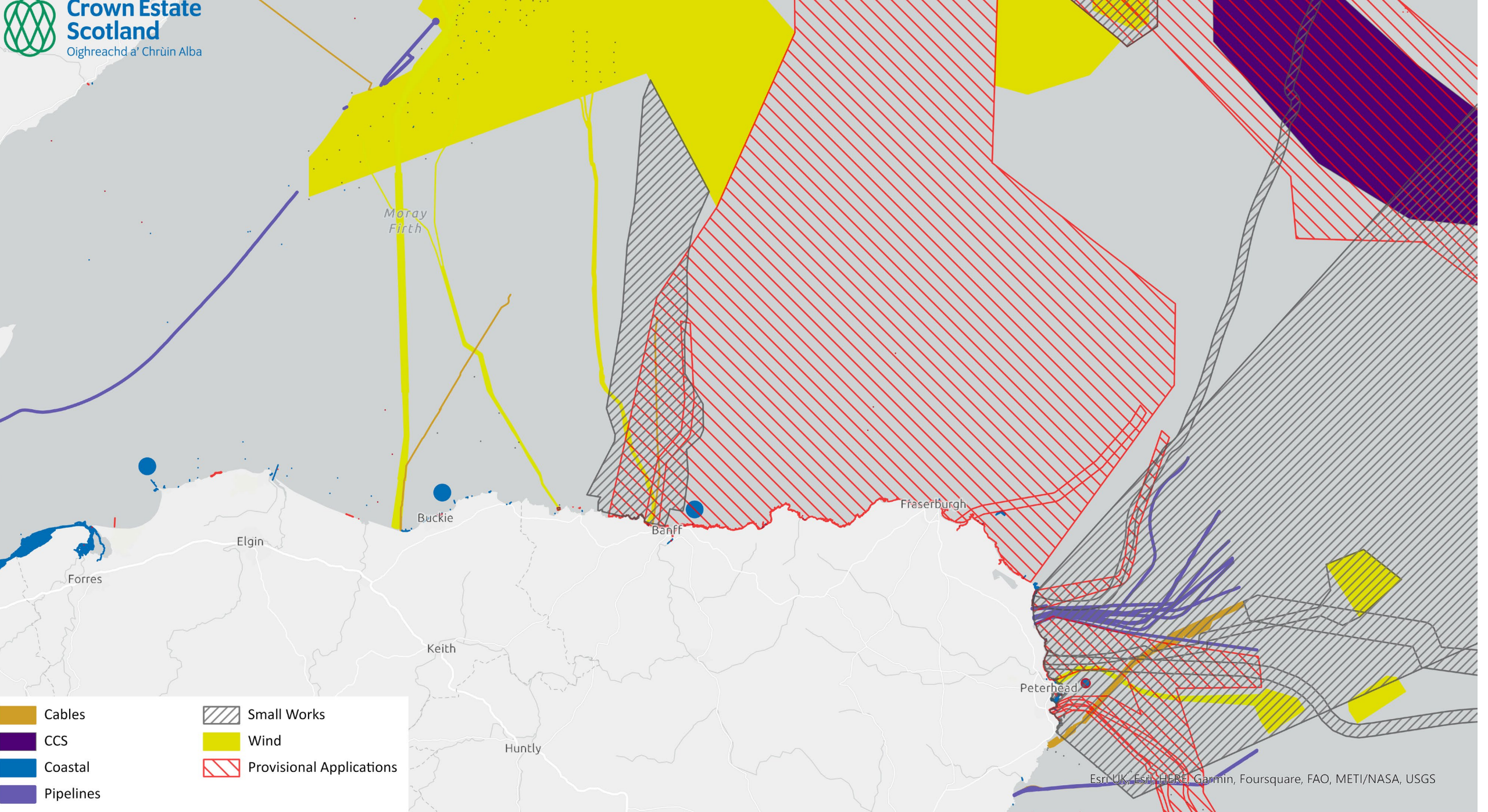
## Crown Estate Scotland, who we are and what we do



- Mandated by Scottish Crown Estate Act 2019 (following 2017 devolution)
- Scottish Crown Estate spans length and breadth of Scotland. Includes rural estates, commercial property, mineral and salmon fishing rights, just under half of the foreshore and almost all of the seabed.
- Investing in property, natural resources and people to generate lasting value for Scotland – ‘maintain and enhance’ estate value
- Return all revenue profit to Scottish Government.

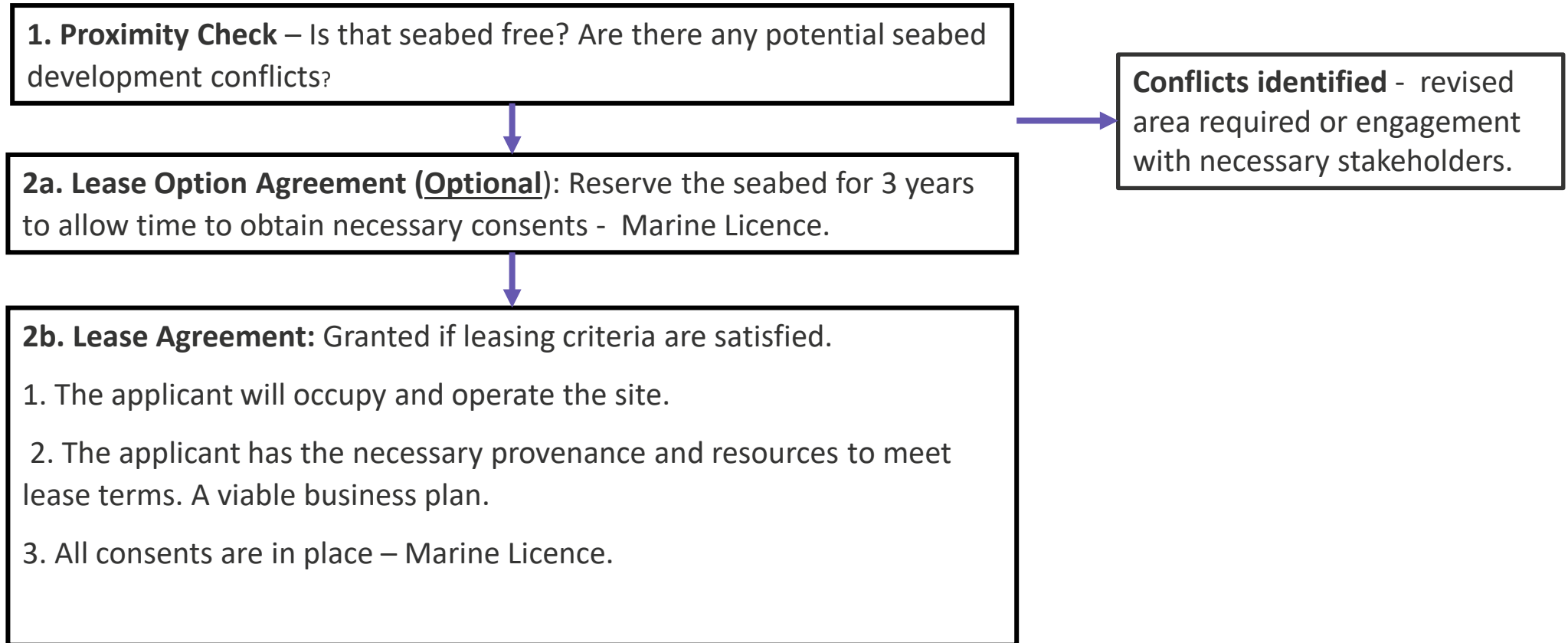
# Obtaining a Lease - Co-Existence is Key





 Cables	 Small Works
 CCS	 Wind
 Coastal	 Provisional Applications
 Pipelines	

# Obtaining a CES Seabed Lease For A Seaweed Farm – The Process



# Seaweed Leasing Requirements

## Rental Charges

Rents based upon 'value to the business', derived from

- Firstly, the business turnover for a leased site which is a function of productive capacity at the leased seabed and market price achieved for that production, and
- Secondly an appropriate percentage of that business turnover that is deemed due to the owner of the leased land (seabed) for its contribution to/enabling of the turnover achieved. In the marine environment this is generally between 1% and 2%
- Seaweed currently 'pinned' to lowest shellfish rent due to absence of clear market/market price

## Duration

Lease durations are those deemed appropriate to the status of the industry. Seaweed farm agreements as an emerging sector are 15 years (other more established aquaculture sectors are 25 years which is likely to be adopted as sector matures) Include terms and conditions relating to production requirement, maintenance and removal, among others.

# Demonstrating Responsible Tenancy

## Scottish Crown Estate Act 2019

Duty to: 'maintain and enhance value of the estate and to manage it in a way that will contribute to improvement in economic development, regeneration, social and environmental wellbeing for Scotland'.

This must incorporate measures to ensure that developers and businesses recognise Scotland's seabed as a shared public space that supports multiple diverse interests.

Its sustainable use therefore extends beyond compliance with development and sector specific regulation to include broader obligations for responsible care and treatment of that shared public asset

Best achieved through practices that recognise and demonstrate that duty of care incumbent on all who use and are supported by the resources of Scotland's marine environment.

In other words, ensuring **responsible tenancy of Scotland's territorial seabed that can support the industry's social licence to operate**

# Demonstrating Responsible Tenancy

## Demonstration of Responsible Stewardship of the Marine Environment

### 1. Signed Annual Declaration of Equipment Deployed

- Signed Annual Declaration of Equipment Deployed
- In lieu of a restoration bond
- Allows for a demonstration that the tenant knows equipment is on site and it is appropriately installed and being maintained.

### 2. Sustainability Reporting

- Management of Plastics report to be submitted annually
- Report summarises plastics procured and disposed
- Obligation on tenants to keep an inventory but do not need to submit
- Reports are published on CES's web site.





# Vision for Scottish Aquaculture

*‘Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland achieving net zero emissions by 2045 and transitioning to a zero waste and circular economy’*

*‘identifying opportunities to increase market value of shellfish and seaweed production’*

*‘Aquaculture will play its part in Scotland halting biodiversity loss by 2030, and restoring and regenerating biodiversity by 2045’.*

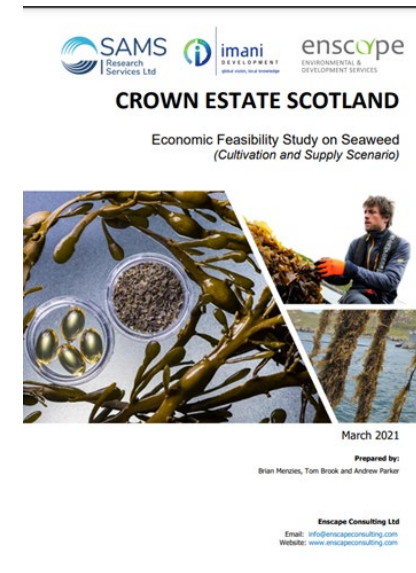
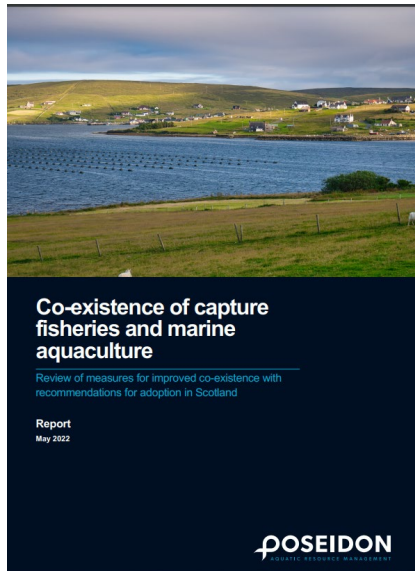
*‘further exploring the potential of shellfish and seaweed aquaculture as a means of providing beneficial environmental services, including biodiversity restoration, carbon sequestration and nutrient recycling’*

## Vision for Sustainable Aquaculture



# What is CES doing to enable the seaweed sector in Scotland?

- Past research – all available on our web site
- Scottish Seaweed Industry Association (SSIA) – co-funded with Scottish Government ‘Business Development Manager’.





# Thank you

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