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THE WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981 (as amended)

LICENCE TO DISTURB BASKING SHARKS (*Cetorhinus maximus*)

This licence is granted under Part I, section 16(3)(i) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) by the Scottish Ministers who, after consultation with and having been advised as to the circumstances in which they should grant such licences by Scottish Natural Heritage are satisfied that the activities authorised by this licence gives rise to or contributes towards a significant social, economic or environmental benefit and that there is no other satisfactory solution; and unless revoked by the Scottish Ministers is valid from 9 June 2020 to 31 December 2021 and authorises:

RJ McLeod (Contractors) Ltd
McLeod House
Dingwall Business Park
Strathpeffer Road
Dingwall
IV15 9XB

Or any person authorised in writing by RJ McLeod (Contractors) Ltd to disturb (intentionally or recklessly) basking sharks (*Cetorhinus maximus*) located at St. Ola Pier, Scrabster, as detailed in the application for a basking shark licence and supporting documents dated 23 April 2020, but only subject to the under-noted conditions:

PURPOSE AND CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH ACTION IS REQUIRED

This licence is granted for the purpose of permitting the disturbance of basking sharks (*Cetorhinus maximus*), at St. Ola Pier, Scrabster, for any social, economic or environmental purpose in connection with the redevelopment of the St. Ola Pier, Scrabster at the following location within the area bounded by joining the points:

58° 36.672' N 003° 32.885' W
58° 36.705' N 003° 32.833' W
58° 36.718' N 003° 32.843' W
58° 36.730' N 003° 32.802' W
58° 36.748' N 003° 32.722' W
58° 36.766' N 003° 32.730' W
58° 36.773' N 003° 32.709' W
58° 36.807' N 003° 32.589' W
58° 36.823' N 003° 32.503' W
58° 36.863' N 003° 32.405' W
58° 36.842' N 003° 32.385' W
58° 36.822' N 003° 32.432' W
58° 36.710' N 003° 32.429' W
58° 36.636' N 003° 32.441' W

58° 36.525' N 003° 32.351' W
58° 36.564' N 003° 32.673' W
58° 36.663' N 003° 32.752' W
58° 36.661' N 003° 32.852' W

This licence is granted for permitting disturbance of the above named species as a result of the following activities:

Impact piling

During the period this licence is valid section 9(4A) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 does not apply to the undertaking of the aforementioned licensed activities by either the licensee or any person authorised in writing by them, which involves or results in the intentional or reckless disturbance of Basking Sharks (*Cetorhinus maximus*), located at St. Ola Pier, Scrabster, provided that such activities are done under and in accordance with the terms of this licence.

Licence Conditions

1. The licensee must ensure that all works are carried out in strict accordance with the mitigation and working methods proposed in the application for this licence, together with supporting information and all works must be carried out within the timescales given within the application and any subsequent written correspondence between Marine Scotland – Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) and the applicant, but subject to the following modifications or amendments made within this licence.
2. The Licensee must ensure that all works are carried out in strict accordance with the Marine Mammal Mitigation Plan Rev 2, dated 08 May 2020.
3. The licensee must ensure that Acoustic Deterrent Devices are not employed at any time while carrying out works.
4. In the event of the licensee becoming aware that any of the information on which the issue of this licence was based has changed, the licensing authority must be notified as soon as reasonably practicable.
5. The licensee must ensure that, if any aspects of the proposed activities differ from the detail submitted in the Noise Registry - Initial Registration Form, a new Initial Registration Form must be completed and submitted to the Scottish Ministers and the JNCC no later than one week prior to commencement of the licensed activity.
6. Except where it is not relevant to the provisions of this licence, the licensee must ensure that the Scottish Marine Wildlife Watching Code is adhered to at all times.
7. The licensee must ensure that copies of the licence are available for inspection by any person authorised by the Scottish Ministers at the office of the licensee and at all sites where licensed activities are taking place.
8. Any person authorised by the Scottish Ministers must be permitted to inspect the operations relating to the licence at any reasonable time. The licensee must allow appropriate assistance to facilitate inspection.

9. The licensee must, no later than one month after the expiry date of this licence, submit to MS-LOT, a written report detailing all actions taken in accordance with the specified terms and conditions of the licence. This report must detail the procedures, visual observations and include the original Marine Mammal Recording Form(s). Any difficulties encountered, or recommendations should also be noted.

10. The licensee must, no later than 12 weeks after completion of the noisy activity, complete a 'close-out' noise registry form. This is available from the JNCC website <https://mnr.jncc.gov.uk/>.

Authorised on behalf of Scottish Ministers
By a member of staff of the Scottish Government

Anni Mäkelä
Marine Scotland
Marine Planning and Policy
Licensing Operations Team
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