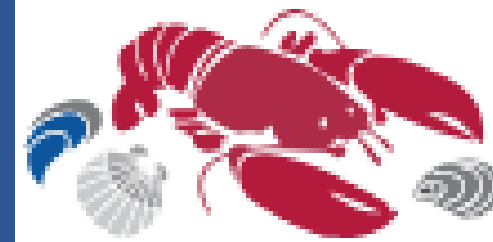




Centre for Environment
Fisheries and Aquaculture
Science



Shellfish
Association of Great Britain

Development of an 'Aquaculture Data Hub'

Update for SAGB conference

14th July 2026

POSEIDON
AQUATIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

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1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

- Why data and information matter
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3. Design of the Aquaculture Data Hub

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4. Status / Results

- Current position of project

5. Next Steps

- Future funding - legacy



1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

Why data and information matter

- Good and accessible information on the aquaculture sector is essential from a number of viewpoints:
 - **Investors** to understand the sector and the permitting environment.
 - **Regulators** to simplify permitting and licensing procedures and ensure that regulations are proportional and fit for purpose.
 - **Producer organisations** to better understand the needs of their members to support sub-sector planning and regulator engagement.
 - **Sector managers** to understand the structure of the sector so they can provide targeted support and funding.
 - Open data transparency on the sector performance will allay the fears and misunderstandings of the sector's detractors.



1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

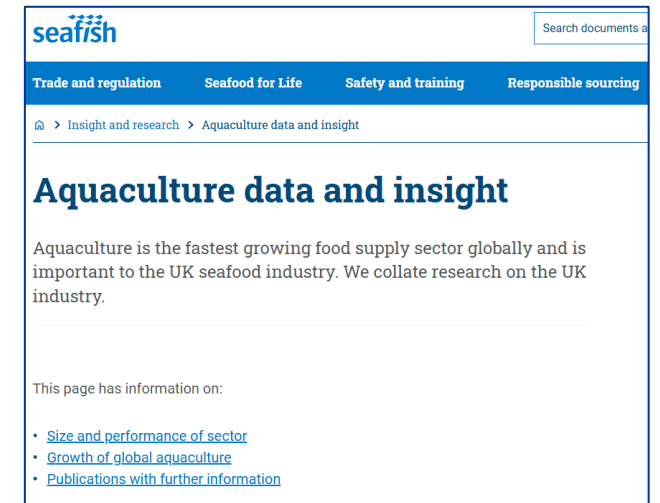
Why data and information matter

- More specifically:
 - The BTA needed such a data system when discussing compensation post-COVID with Ministers.
 - The information will allow display of spatial data in GIS form (live data through API)
 - The system will help regulators manage situations in the event of a crisis (e.g. disease outbreak or pollution incident).
 - Policy enquiries (sometimes via ministers) and public enquiries could be answered quickly via the portal.
 - Display actual environmental performance rather than perceived (e.g. Antibiotics)
 - Visual representation can demonstrate value to rural and coastal communities .

1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

Current status of information provision in aquaculture. Data are held by different agencies in various formats:

- Cefas holds a 'Public register of Aquaculture Production Businesses in England and Wales'.
- The FSA hold data on shellfish growing waters & classification.
- The EA & VMD hold data sets relating to environmental performance.
- Marine licences are held by the MMO for seaweed farms with locations.
- The Crown Estate hold information on leases & areas of CE responsibility (Duchy of Cornwall & Lancs)
- Seafish provides economic data and information on the UK sector
- Annual production statistics are collated annually by the FHI & distributed to various organisations (FAO, Defra) but there is currently no live or historical portal.

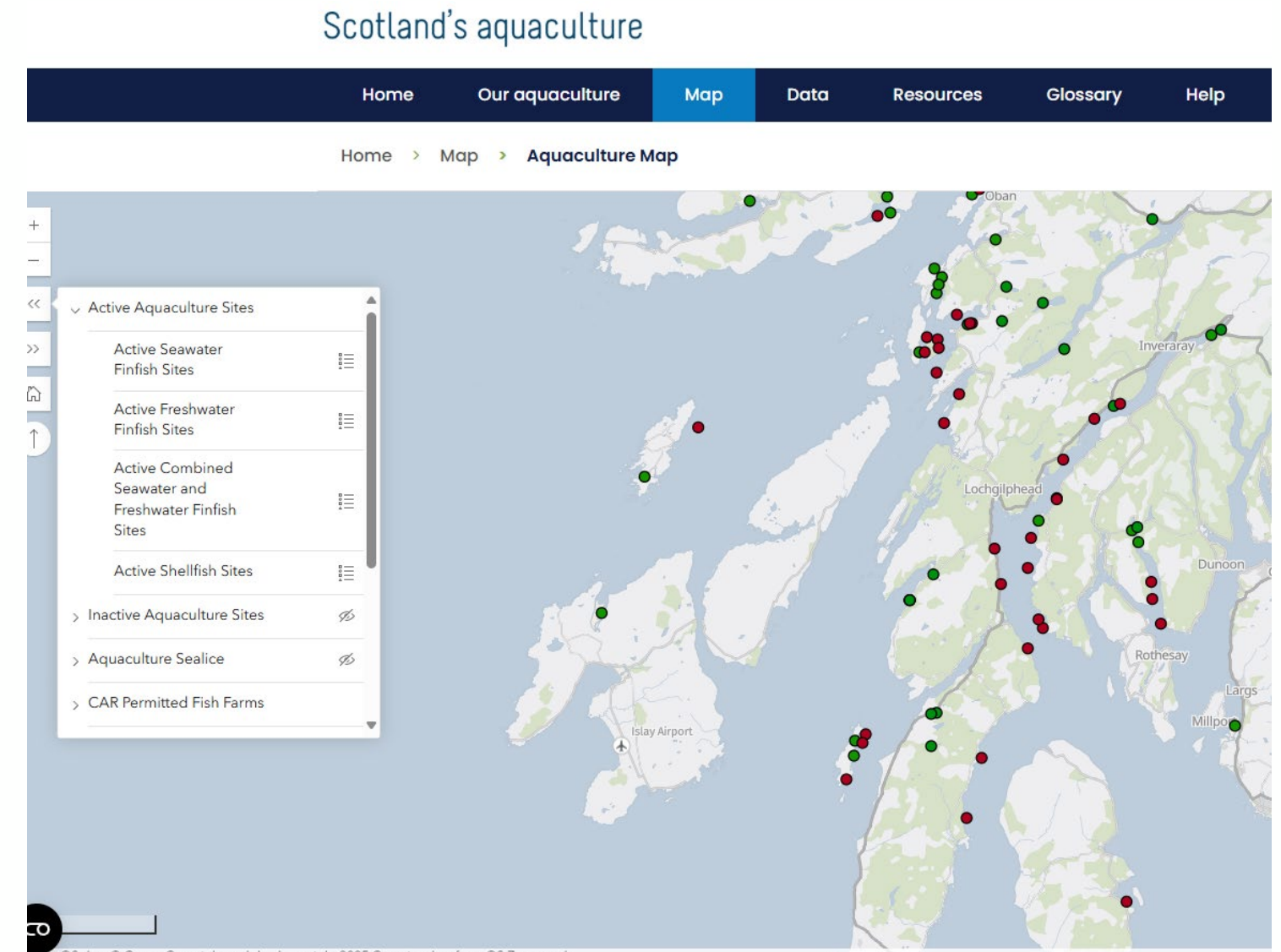


1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

In contrast Scotland is way ahead ...

Scotland's aquaculture

- **Mapping** of active & inactive sites, Shellfish water protected areas, Crown Estate lease areas & links to locational guidelines areas.
- **Data** on escapes, annual emissions, stock movements, permit conditions, site details and facilities, antimicrobial use & sea lice data.
- **Resources** including publications, linkages and a glossary.

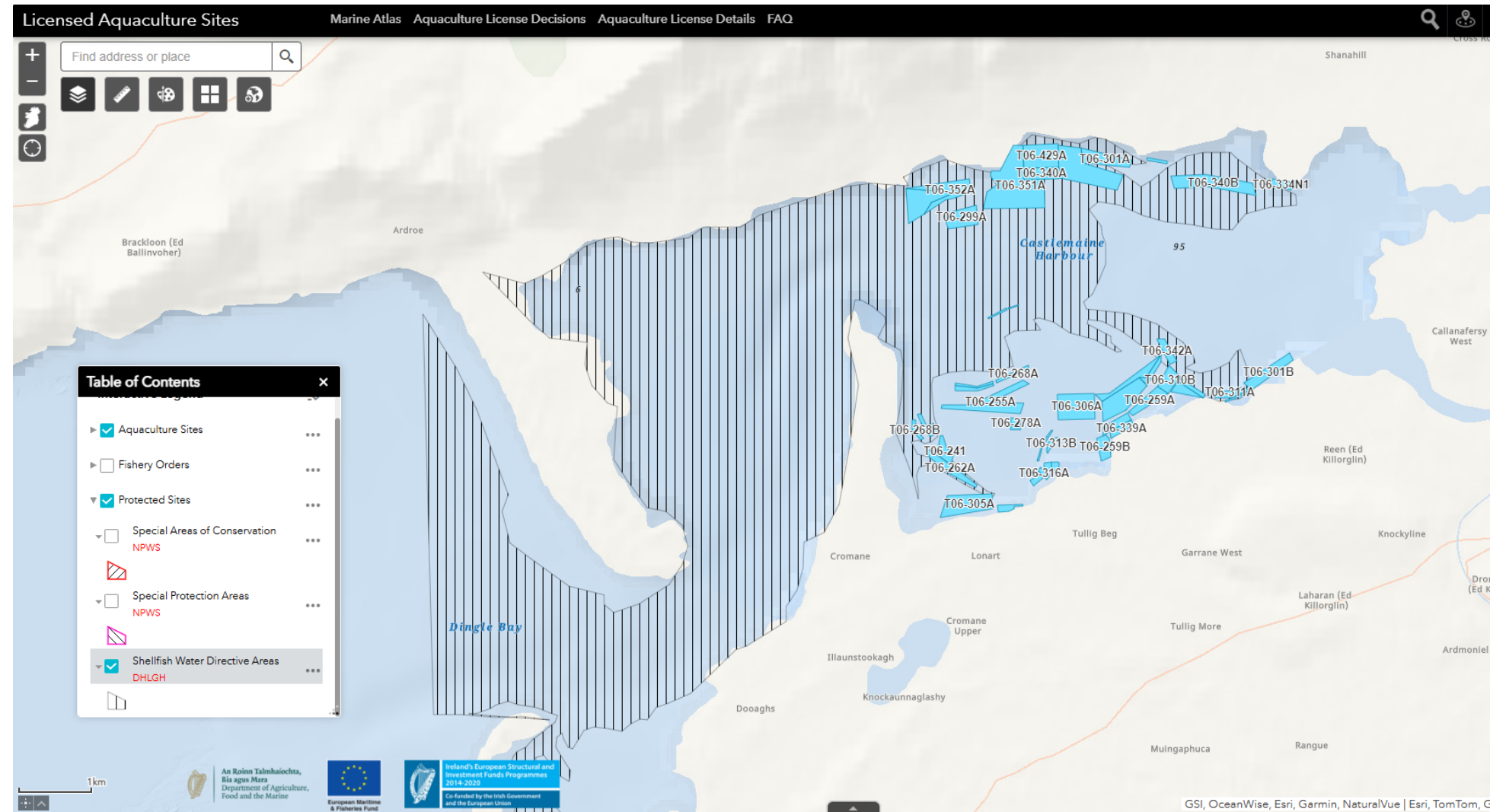


1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

Examples of online data portals

Aquaculture Information Management System in Ireland

- **Mapping** provides detailed mapping of aquaculture sites (spp., licensee, area) and associated features. AQUAMIS is linked to the Marine Institute's 'Marine Atlas' which provides spatial mapping across the maritime domain.
- **Data** is provided, but there are links to the aquaculture license and terms of operation for all sites.
- The intent is to develop AQUAMIS into a '**one-stop-shop**' for the aquaculture licence application process.

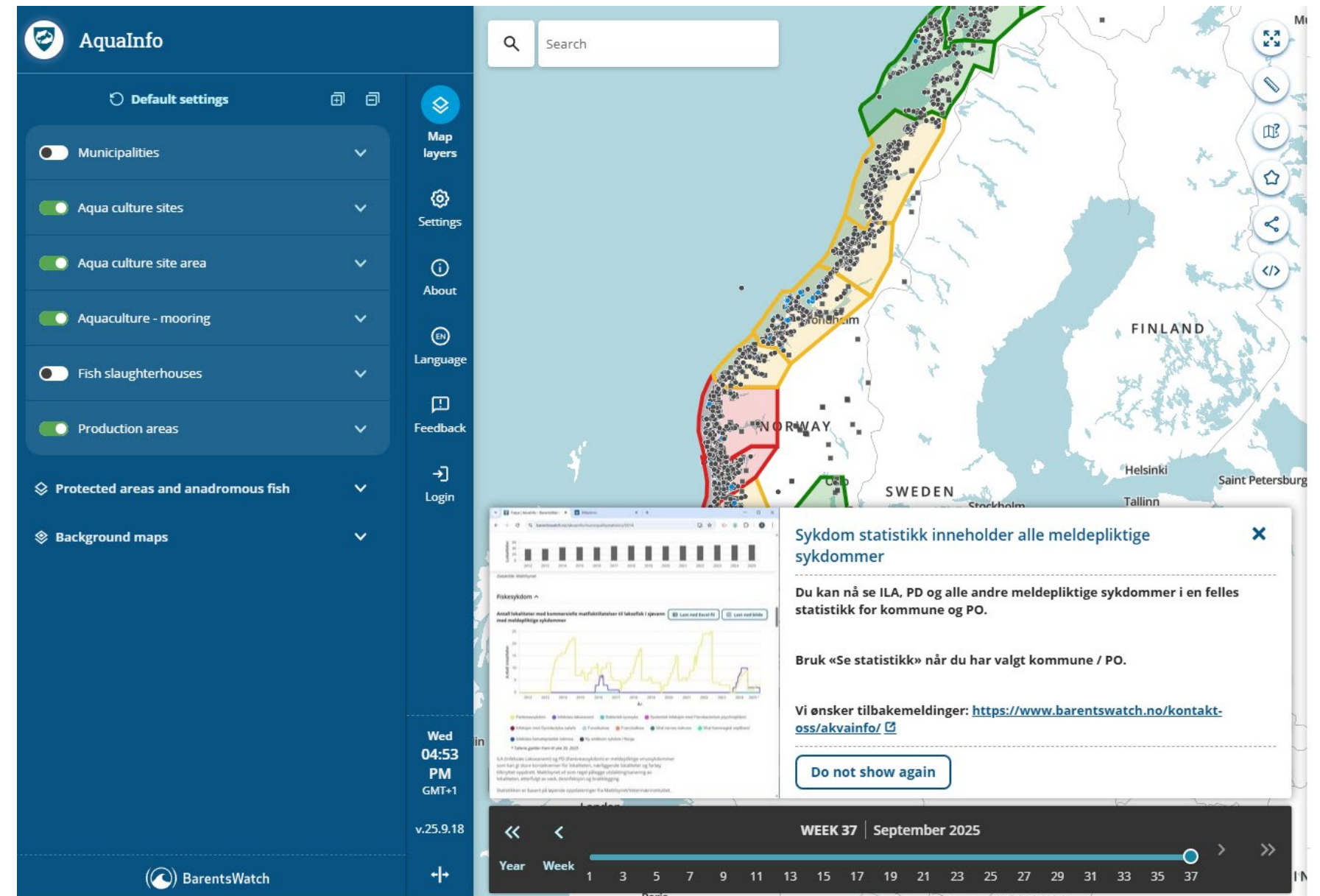


1. Background to data and information on aquaculture in the UK

Examples of online data portals



- **Mapping** of aquaculture sites, mooring areas, municipalities and protected areas.
- **Data** by production area or municipality. Includes production capacity and level, maximum permitted biomass, sea lice levels, disease incidents, and escape numbers.
- **Extensive maritime information** on fisheries, weather, tides and marine spatial management data.



2. The Project to build an Aquaculture Data Hub

Overview

- The **objective** is to deliver action (GR7) in the ministerially supported *English Aquaculture Strategy* (2020) which identified a lack of comprehensive information available to researchers, managers, policy makers and stakeholders. The website portal will provide the primary route for information relating to all aspects of marine and terrestrial aquaculture held by multiple agencies (as per Scotland's site).
- The data hub will provide **different levels of access** e.g. both public and restricted.
- The current **geographical scope** is for data currently held by Cefas & the FHI (e.g. for England and Wales) but could be widened in future.
- The project was **funded** for 2025/26 by Defra IT development
- The project is being **implemented** by Cefas in collaboration with the SAGB, BTA and Poseidon.

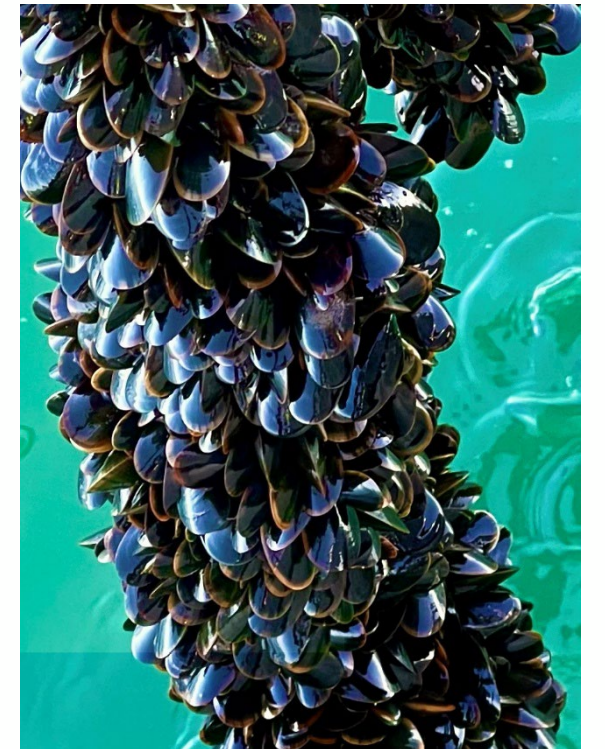
3. Design of the Aquaculture Data Hub

Stakeholder data and information needs assessment

We launched an online stakeholder survey (Survey Monkey) with the intention being to:

- Ask stakeholders to provide their views on:
 - The importance of different data and information types according to their needs;
 - What other data and information might be useful for their businesses and customers; and
 - Any concerns over putting some of this data into the public realm.

Provide a **framework / specification** of what information the hub might contain.



4. Results Year 1

Following the survey Poseidon then:

- Compiled the results as an internal report to the project partners.
- Based on this report, Cefas then designed a **framework /specification** for an online portal that
- (i) responded to stakeholder data and information priorities as revealed by the survey
- (ii) the current and planned data holdings of Cefas and other potential data providers.



Aquaculture Data Hub

Preliminary Survey Report

1 December 2025

**Internal report to the
project partners**

POSEIDON
AQUATIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Mapping and Spatial display layers

Marine management Organisation data	Extents and markers of sites	UK wide	UKRD	AUTOMATICALLY REGENERATES LAYERS ROMANALITY	Priority 2	
	anchorage	England	MMO	Explore marine plans	Priority 2	
	cable /pipelines	England	MMO	Explore marine plans	Priority 2	
	Harbours	UK wide	MMO	Explore marine plans	Priority 2	
	Ports	UK wide	MMO	Explore marine plans	Priority 2	
	Designated marine disposal sites	UK wide	MMO	Explore marine plans	For consideration	
	Windfarm areas	England	MMO	Explore marine plans	For consideration	
alised plans	Include FLAG mapping site		Dorset Coast Forum ebsite & Cefas data portal	& East Devon Fisheries Local Action Group area, 2018-2019 Cefas (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture	For consideration	
n-native species	Map known location of non-native species				For consideration	
Veterinary Medicines	Map at catchment level / sufficient level to ensure anonymity (avoid pinpointing to individual APB's).		FHL Online, Seafish		For consideration	Med; Quantity; year; month; catchment/sub-catchment
	Mixing licences		TBC		For consideration	
	Vet medicine testing results		VMD	Held by FHL. IM from HC saying data is with Jon Hulland in the FHL	Priority 2	
Seabed ownership/ responsibility	Map of crown estate responsibility			The CE have a dataset showing all the coastal areas that are their responsibility in digital form. Foreshore and Estuary Map	Priority 1	
	Map of crown estate aquaculture leases			They are in the process of creating digital boundaries for aquaculture leases	Priority 2	
	Duchy of Cornwall		TBC	Our locations Duchy of Cornwall	For consideration	
	Duchy of Lancaster		TBC	Foreshore - Duchy of Lancaster/Duchy of Lancaster	For consideration	
	Harbour authorities		Harbour orders public register	Harbour orders public register	For consideration	Harbour orders public register - GOV.UK
	Other historic legacy				For consideration	
Water flow related data	Environment agency flood mapping		EA	Flood Map for Planning - Flood Zones	For consideration	
	EA Gauging stations		EA	Find river, sea, groundwater and rainfall levels - GOV.UK	For consideration	
	Consented discharges		EA	Consented Discharges to Controlled Waters with Co	Priority 2	
	Water quality data since 2000		EA	Water Quality - API Catalogue	Priority 2	
	River catchment data explorer		EA	England Catchment Data Explorer	For consideration	

Regulatory Advice Linkages

Available on Seafish webpage	Aquaculture Regulatory Toolbox for England Seafish	Priority 2	Survey report
Available on Business Wales site	Aquaculture Regulatory Toolbox for Wales Business Wales - Marine and Fisheries	Priority 1	
Guidance on Cefas & Seafish webpages	Regulatory guidance for new and expanding marine seaweed aquaculture businesses in England	Priority 1	Survey report
Complex and varies between devolved admins	Undetermined	For consideration	Survey report work by Tew et al
On the Seafish website	Exporting Seafood from the UK Seafish	Priority 2	
On the Seafish website	Importing seafood into the UK Seafish	Priority 2	
		For consideration	Important resourcebut access to aquaculture toolbox currently not working.
Link to project with details of models	Tapas-h2020		
Brief details and report on Seafish website	Regulation for aquaculture Seafish	Priority 2	May be required for NI
provide links to local mapping project	Currently seems unavailable	For consideration	Link to mapping project no longer available
On Gov.uk	Biosecurity Measure Plans - Information and Templates - GOV.UK	Priority 2	
On Gov.uk	Fish Health Inspectorate - GOV.UK	Priority 2	
On Gov.uk	Aquatic animal health and movements guides - GOV.UK	Priority 2	
Seafish Website	Legislation on veterinary residues in aquaculture Seafish	Priority 2	
Advises Defra on the welfare of animals	Animal Welfare Committee (AWC) - GOV.UK	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Considers how central government policy takes account of animal welfare	Animal Sentience Committee - GOV.UK	Priority 2	
Update to the 2014 FAWC Opinion on the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing	Opinion on the welfare of farmed fish at the time of killing - GOV.UK	Priority 2	
on SAGB website	https://shellfish.org.uk/welfare-codes/	Priority 2	
on Seafish website	Animal sentience and welfare Seafish	Priority 2	
		Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Industry & Science based platform to improve welfare	catchwelfareplatform.com – JOIN THE PLATFORM	Priority 2	Suggested by SAGB
Include Animal Welfare Act 2006 & Animal Welfare Sentience Act 2022.		Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Shellfish Classification(and related content)	Shellfish classification Food Standards Agency	Priority 2	Suggested by SAGB
Cefas website	Shellfish depuration advice - Cefas (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science)	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
FSA protocol for shellfish sampling (microbiological classification monitoring)			Need to check which are important protocols
FSA protocol for shellfish sampling (biotoxins and chemical contaminants)	FSA shellfish sampling and transport protocol - Version 4 - July 22	Priority 2	Suggested by SAGB
Seafish Website	Delivering Safe Bivalves to the Market Seafish	Priority 2	
Seafish Website	Marine biotoxins Seafish	Priority 2	
Seafish Website	Bivalve shellfish purification Seafish	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Food Standards Agency	Shellfish production area assessments Food Standards Agency	Priority 2	Suggested by SAGB(for England , Wales & NI)
Cefas website	Sanitary surveys - Cefas (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science)	Priority 2	Suggested by SAGB (Links to Scotland for 2022)
Aquaculture Stewardship Council	ASC International - Aquaculture Stewardship Council	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Marine Stewardship Council	MSC in the UK Marine Stewardship Council	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Smart farm assurances	GLOBALG.A.P. Smart farm assurance solutions	Priority 2	Suggested by survey
Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative	GSSI - Global Sustainable Seafood Initiative	Priority 2	
Royal Society Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (assurance scheme)	RSPCA Assured: a better choice for farmed animals	Priority 2	Suggested by survey

Links to Trade Associations, Networks & Societies

Trade Associations	British Trout Association (BTA)	Representing the UK trout farming industry British Trout Association
	Shellfish association of Great Britain (SAGB)	The Shellfish Association of Great Britain
	Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers (ASSG)	ASSG
	Scottish Seaweed Industry Association	Home Ssia
	Salmon Scotland	Salmon Scotland The Voice of the Scottish Salmon Sector
	Northern Ireland aquaculture group	Home Aquaculture Representative Group Northern Ireland
	The Fishmongers Company	The Fishmongers' Company - The Fishmongers' Company
	All-Party Parliamentary group (APPG) Shellfish	Shellfish Aquaculture APPG
	Aquaculture Industry Wales	Home Aquaculture Industry Wales
	The Crown Estate regenerative aquaculture forum	No webpage as yet
Networks and Alliances	Native Oyster Restoration Alliance(NORA)	NORA – Native Oyster Restoration Alliance
	Native Oyster Network	Native Oyster Network – Facilitating the restoration of Native Oysters across the UK and Ireland
	South West Aquaculture Network (SWAN)	South West Aquaculture Network Discover Aquaculture Opportunities – Join Today
	Global Seafood Alliance	Global Seafood Alliance Building trust in seafood
	Scottish salmon	Farming - Scottish Salmon
	We AreAquaculture	WEAREAQUACULTURE
	Seafish ACIG (contacts)	Aquaculture Common Issues Group Seafish
	European Aquaculture Society(EAS)	European Aquaculture Society
	Federation European Aquaculture Producers (FEAP)	FEAP – The Federation of European Aquaculture Producers
	European Fisheries and Aquaculture Research Organisations(EFARO)	efaro.eu
European and Global	EU Aquaculture assistance mechanism	Home EU Aquaculture
	EU Aquaculture	EU Aquaculture - We work for you with passion - EU Aquaculture
	ICES Aquaculture Overviews	Aquaculture overviews
	World Aquaculture Society (WAS)	World Aquaculture Society
	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	Fisheries and Aquaculture
	Defra	Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs - GOV.UK
Government & Regulators (England)		

Links to Training, Educational and Jobs

Career information & apprenticeships	Seafish	Careers and Training in Aquaculture Seafish	Priority 2
	Lantra	Aquaculture - Lantra	Priority 2
	The Young Aquaculture Society(YAS)	YAS For Young Professionals by Young Professionals	Priority 2
Educational facilities	Stirling University	Institute of Aquaculture About University of Stirling	Priority 2
	Plymouth University	MSc Sustainable Aquaculture and Fisheries - University of Plymouth	Priority 2
	Exeter University	Fisheries and Aquaculture Exeter Marine University of Exeter	Priority 2
	Swansea University	CSAR Centre for Sustainable Aquatic Research - Swansea University	Priority 2
	Bangor University	Study Marine Biology at Bangor University	Priority 2
	Sparsholt college	BSc (Hons) Aquaculture - University Centre Sparsholt	Priority 2
	Otley	IFM Training – Institute of Fisheries Management	Priority 2
	Hadlow College	Fisheries Management Courses Hadlow College	Priority 2
	Plumpton College	Fisheries & Aquatic Science - Plumpton College	Priority 2
	Cornwall College University Centre	FdSc Marine Biology with Conservation degree - Cornwall College	Priority 2
	St Andrews University	Programme specifications (2023/2024) Master of Science Sustainable Aquaculture	Priority 2
	University of Highlands and Islands	Aquaculture Hub - Education, Training and Skills Development in Aquaculture	Priority 2
Job Opportunities	British Trout Association BTA	Fishery Job Vacancies Archives British Trout Association	Priority 2
	World Aquaculture Society	World Aquaculture Society Employment Service - Job List - World Aquaculture	Priority 2
	IFCA's	Vacancies Archives - AIFCA	Priority 2
	Salmon Scotland	Careers in Salmon Farming Salmon Scotland	Priority 2



4.0 Results Year 1

Cefas IT team developed a framework for the data hub



[Aquaculture Hub](#)[News](#)[Information](#)[Maps](#)[Guidance](#)[Careers](#)[Manage](#)

Alpha

This is a new service

Aquaculture hub

Welcome

[News](#)

More news and events, including search and subscription.

[Aquaculture sector information](#)

An overview of the aquaculture sector including policies and strategies

[Geographical data](#)

View various geographical data sets on a map

[Sectoral guidance](#)

[Careers, education and jobs](#)

[Manage](#)

Administrative functions (internal version only)

News

[Test news item](#)

This is a test news item

Updated: Thursday, 15 January 2026

[Letter from Minister of State for Housing and Planning to the Planning Inspectorate: Modifying planning obligations](#)

The Minister of State for Housing and Planning, Matthew Pennycook, has written to the Planning Inspe...

Updated: Wednesday, 14 January 2026

[Regulator publishes updated guidance to help businesses advertise non-medicinal veterinary products legally](#)

Businesses advertising non-medicinal veterinary products to benefit from updated guidance on marketi...

Updated: Tuesday, 13 January 2026

[Second news item](#)

This is another news item

Updated: Saturday, 10 January 2026

Cefas project staff can now manage the portal

Manage

[News](#)

Add/Edit/Remove news items from the site

[Pages](#)

Add/Edit/Remove static content pages from the site

[Media files](#)

Add/Remove attached files from the site

[Categories](#)

Add/Edit/Remove geodata categories

[Layers](#)

Add/Edit/Remove geodata layers

[Upload data](#)

Upload replacement data for updateable layers

[Geotile summary](#)

View how many tiles have been generated and added to the cache and the total size of the generated files

[Users](#)

Add users to system. Only listed users can be assigned roles.

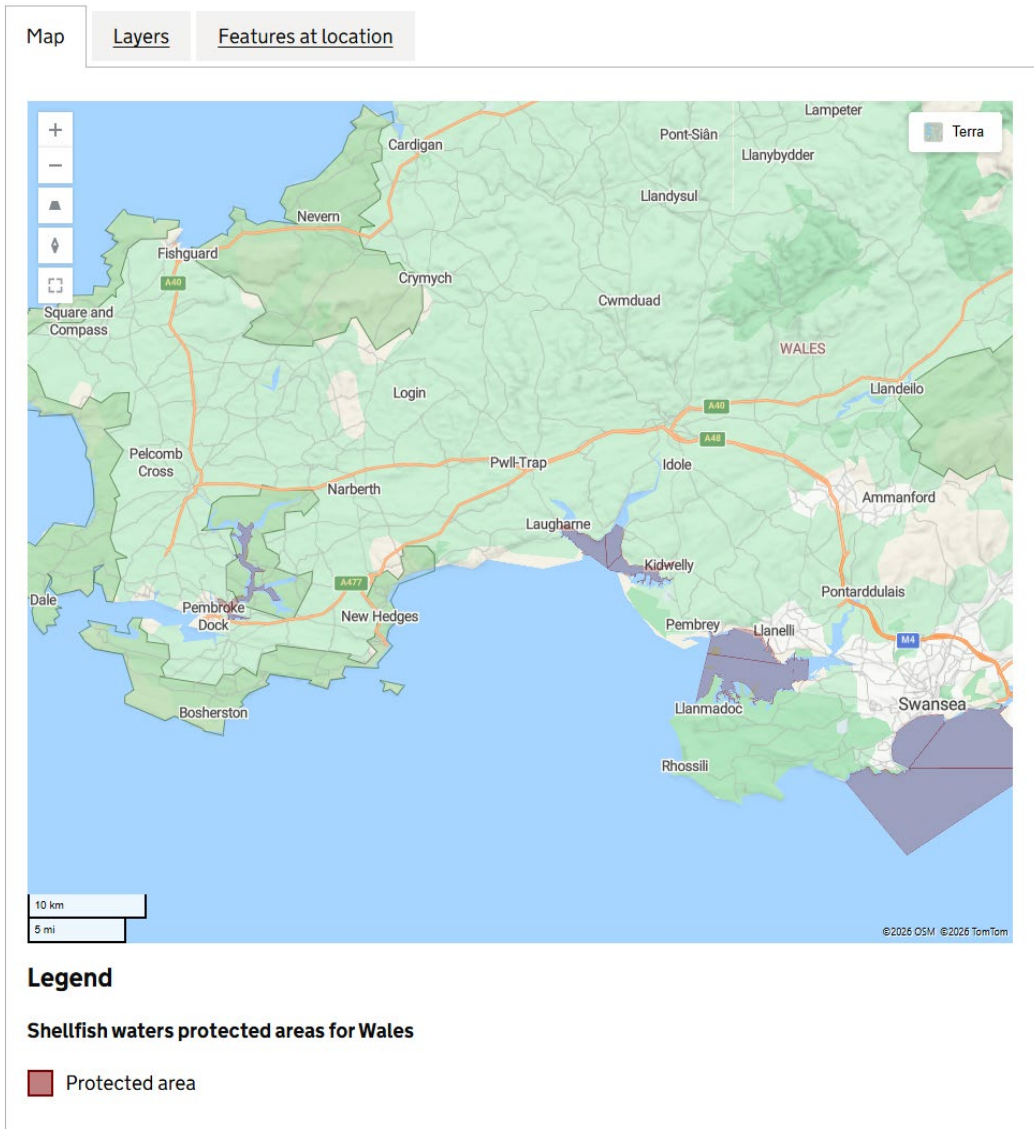
[Scheduled tasks](#)

View scheduled tasks and manually trigger execution

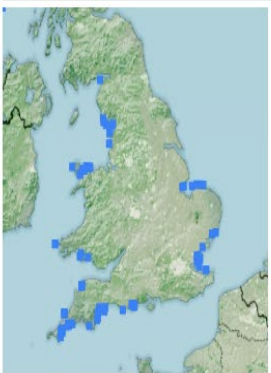
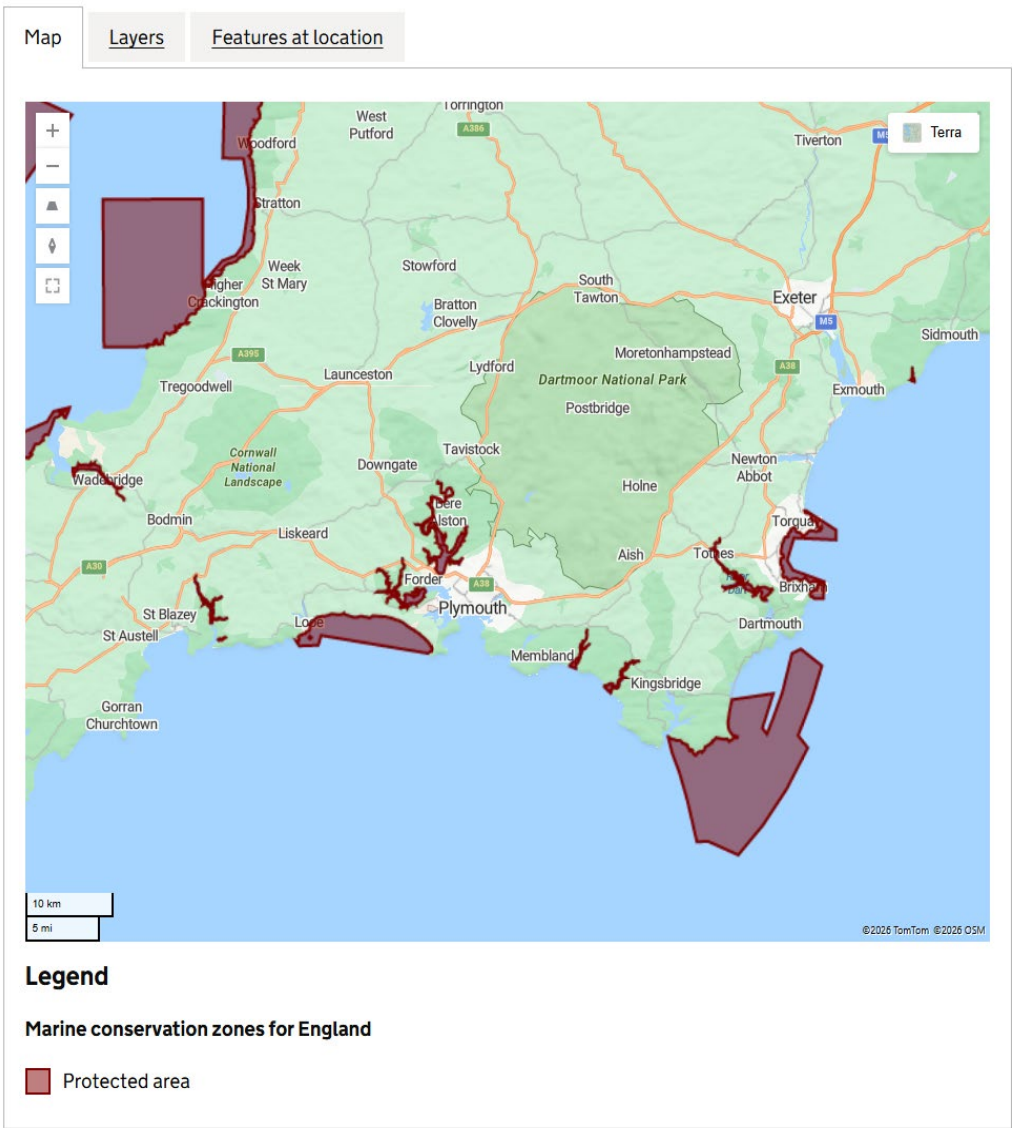
SAGB, 14th July 2026 13

Aquaculture Portal now has active mapping and GIS functionality has been populated with some test data.

Shellfish waters protected areas for Wales



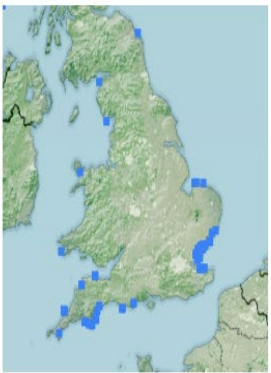
Marine conservation zones for England



Public
Mussels (*Mytilus* spp.)
Mussels (*Mytilus* spp.)
Updated: Friday, 27 February 2026



Public
Native Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)
Native Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)
Updated: Friday, 27 February 2026



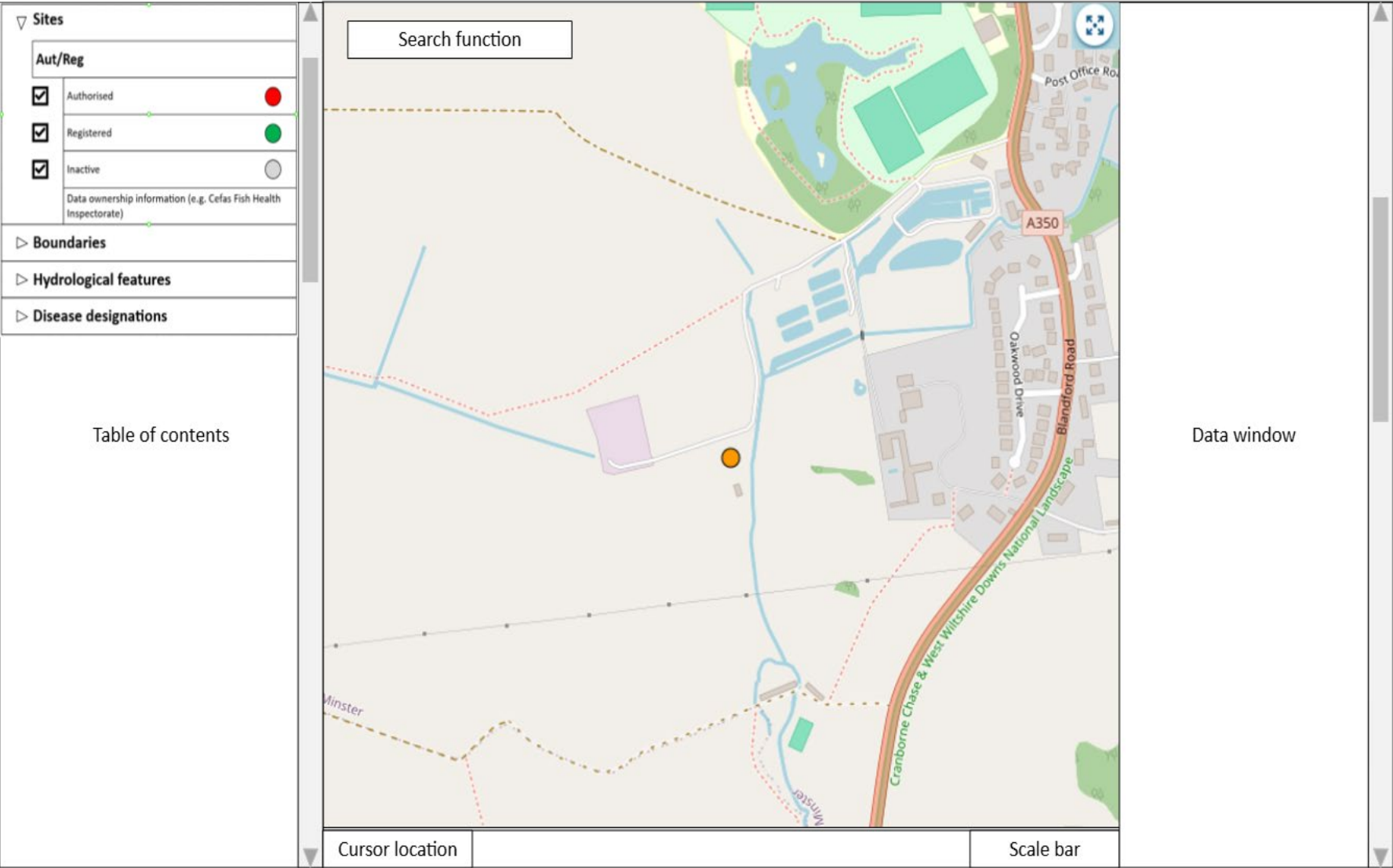
Public
Pacific Oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*)
Pacific Oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*)
Updated: Friday, 27 February 2026

GIS points linked to site data

NOTE, restrictions will be placed on the level of access for different users

Farm level detail available in case of crisis

Mock data on a particular site



Map

FHI Holdings

Map	Layers	Features at location
Found 3 features at or near 50°38'.70N 002°27'.45W		
Code	EW000-D-003	
Name	Jeff's Stock Ponds 1 and 2	
Code	EW000-J-009	
Name	Broadway Fishery	
Code	EW000-L-011	
Name	Aquarium Unit	

5. Summary / Next steps for 26/27

- Location and Input of data as agreements progress with ALB's resulting in a final working prototype.
- Test the prototype with key sector stakeholders and representatives to fine tune before it goes live.
- The portal design and contents will continue to be developed and expanded in future years.
- However, funding for year 2 didn't materialise (a 10% reduction became 100%) due to other spending priorities.
- But, our collaboration agreed to continue working together on the project – looking for alternative funding sources (1 in progress)
- Thanks for time on survey !
- Expectation management
- Later than planned





Centre for Environment
Fisheries and Aquaculture
Science



Thank you

Keith Jeffery

Keith.Jeffery@Cefas.gov.uk

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