

Overview

This standard is about the deployment, monitoring and maintenance of spat collectors for the collection of shellfish spat, ("spat" is defined as young shellfish and shellfish seed). It relates to the work involved with the deployment, monitoring and maintenance of shellfish spat collectors. It requires that work is completed in accordance with site standard operating procedures.

This standard is for those who deploy, monitor and maintain spat collectors.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. carry out work safely in line with relevant health and safety requirements
2. assemble **spat** collection equipment ready for deployment
3. deploy spat collection equipment at specified locations, to maximise spat collection
4. **monitor and report** on spat fall
5. maintain spat collection equipment to maximise the collection of target shellfish species spat
6. maintain appropriate levels of hygiene and bio-security
7. provide information to maintain records of spat collection activities in accordance with legal and site requirements

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the relevant health and safety requirements associated with spat collection operations
2. the early life stages of shellfish being farmed
3. the development needs of spat
4. the function and structure of spat collection equipment
5. how to identify the spat of target and **non-target shellfish species**
6. how to identify **predator** and **fouling** species
7. the locations where **spat fall** is likely to occur
8. why it is important to maintain the condition of spat collection equipment during spat collection
9. site procedures for maintaining effective hygiene and bio-security
10. how environmental conditions influence shellfish reproduction and spat fall
11. the basic knots and rope work of spat collection
12. the legal and site requirements for maintaining records of spat collection activities

Deploy, monitor and maintain spat collectors

Scope/range

monitor and report on spat fall in terms of:

- target spat density
- the presence of predator species
- the presence of fouling species
- the presence of non-target shellfish species

Glossary

fouling species - animals and plants which attach to shellfish, limiting the shellfish's ability to function and affecting market acceptance

non-target shellfish species - shellfish species which you are not aiming to collect

predator species - e.g. starfish, crabs

spat - young shellfish and shellfish seed

spat fall - when shellfish spat settle out of their planktonic free swimming stage

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