

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Loch Duart appoints seafood industry expert as new Chairman

Alistair Erskine, a Scottish seafood industry expert, is taking over as Chairman of Loch Duart, the salmon farming business based in Sutherland and the Uists. Alistair takes over from Dr Andrew Barbour, who has been Chair since 2008 having joined as a non-exec director in 2002. It is a significant year for the independent Scottish business, which is about to mark 20 years of farming its award winning salmon.

Alban Denton, Managing Director of Loch Duart, said:

"Loch Duart is very fortunate to be appointing Alistair Erskine, whose understanding of the Scottish and UK seafood markets and the global importance of this industry, runs side by side with our growing, international ambitions. Alistair's industry insight and commercial acumen is widely known. He has long been at the forefront of the seafood sector, having previously owned the Edinburgh Salmon Company (ESC) which he built into one of the largest salmon processors in the Scottish Highlands."

Alistair's success in the seafood industry also includes managing J W Seafoods, Allen & Dey (seafood processors) and salmon farming company, Highland Fish Farmers Ltd.

Alistair Erskine, the new Chairman of Loch Duart, said:

"It's an exciting time to be joining Loch Duart and I look forward to working with them as the business continues to grow and build on its reputation for extraordinary salmon which is loved around the world. I have a passion for the seafood sector and look forward to bringing my experience of running businesses in salmon farming, salmon processing and smoking to support this amazing company and brand."

#### Alban Denton, added:

"Dr Andrew Barbour, the Chairman Alistair follows, has a real passion for sustainable farming methods, both on land and sea. He guided the business through its most successful period of growth since we started farming and passes Loch Duart on in great form, with our 2019 farming performance well set and fish health at an all-time high. Andrew's knowledge supported the business and his genuine care for the Loch Duart team was evident. He was especially proud of our recent Silver IIP award."

...Ends

For more information on Loch Duart Salmon visit www.lochduart.com

### **Further enquiries for Loch Duart:**

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#### **Notes to editors**

Loch Duart Ltd is an independent Scottish salmon farm based in North West Scotland. Producing around 5,000 tonnes per year, it employs 115 people in the Hebrides and Sutherland. The salmon is supplied to leading hotels, restaurants and retailers at home and abroad.

Loch Duart's unique farming methods include low density farming, a unique rotational fallowing system, swim-throughs and feed from sustainable sources to ensure lean, fit fish.

Loch Duart's industry leading innovations include:

- The first fish farm in the world to achieve RSPCA Freedom Food approval.
- Loch Duart's unique strategy of long term rotational fallowing optimised for each sea site according to conditions and fish numbers.
- In 2004, specifying sustainably sourced marine ingredients from traceable, identifiable lots for its salmon feed.
- Inventing a drum filter which can filter sea water down to 100 micron to collect any parasites and their eggs in the heavy water flows taken from the pens.
- In 2015 securing a source of Icelandic fishmeal to enhance the sustainability and quality criteria of Loch Duart's salmon feed.
- Practising 'environmental enrichment' in their fresh water operations to stimulate the young salmon and improve welfare.