

Environment, Climate Change and Land Reform Committee**Scottish Crown Estate Bill****Written submission from Scottish Anglers National Association****Does the Bill allow Crown Estate Scotland, or a delegated manager, to appropriately manage the Scottish assets?**

Yes. It also enables an appropriate level of oversight and, if needed, direction by Scottish Ministers. In the context of angling interests in how the assets are used and made available for public use, this is important to ensure:

- that finfish aquaculture achieves a higher standard of environmental performance;
- that access to angling opportunities are improved for both migratory and non-migratory species; and
- that conservation policies for migratory fish can be implemented, viz. that there is no transfer of CES ownership of salmon and sea trout netting rights and no new leases to third parties for as long as any populations in river systems in Scotland are judged to be failing to achieve conservation limits.

SANA also welcomes the distinction between “management” and “ownership”. Our view is that fragmentation of ownership of the assets would not be in its members’ interest.

Are the powers to allow the transfer of the management function appropriate?

Yes.

Are the managers’ powers and duties as listed in the Bill appropriate?

Yes.

Should any additional power or function of the Scottish Crown Estate not currently provided for in the Bill be included?

Don’t know. We are not aware of other powers or functions that have been excluded from the Bill. We may wish to comment if some were identified.

Any additional information

As a footnote, Members of the Committee may wish to know that SANA has commented on a specific issue in response to CES’s draft business plan.

We said: “We have a very specific request for inclusion in the section, near the top of page 10, which refers to identification of assets. Crown Estate properties which are adjacent to still and running freshwater will have fishing rights for non-migratory species. Hitherto, only fishing rights for migratory fish have been identified. We believe that the non-migratory rights could become an important resource for local

management in the interest of increased public access, e.g. through angling clubs. Their identification would be appreciated.”

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