



National Unit Specification: general information

UNIT Scottish Sea Fisheries: An Introduction (SCQF level 4)

CODE F6TE 10

SUMMARY

This Unit is designed to provide candidates with an introductory level of understanding of the scope of the Scottish sea fisheries industry, whilst developing candidate knowledge of the main fishing methods adopted by specific fishing fleets within this industry. This Unit is suitable for candidates with an interest in aquatic industries.

OUTCOMES

- 1 Describe Scottish fishing sectors.
- 2 Outline commercial fishing and processing methods.

RECOMMENDED ENTRY

Entry is at the discretion of the centre.

CREDIT VALUE

0.5 credit at SCQF level 4 (3 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 4*).

**SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

CORE SKILLS

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills in this Unit.

There are opportunities for Core Skill development; these are highlighted in the Support Notes of this Unit Specification.

Administrative Information

Superclass: SJ

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National Unit Specification: statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this Unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the Unit Specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

OUTCOME 1

Describe Scottish fishing sectors.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Describe the habitats of commercially fished marine species.
- (b) Identify the major groups of commercially fished marine species.

OUTCOME 2

Outline commercial fishing and processing methods.

Performance Criteria

- (a) Identify the types of fishing vessels used by given fisheries.
- (b) Describe the capture techniques used by given fisheries.
- (c) Outline ways to maintain the quality of captured fish onboard finfish fishing vessels.
- (d) Identify fish processing operations for given marine species.

EVIDENCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS UNIT

Evidence is required to demonstrate that candidates have achieved all Outcomes and Performance Criteria

Outcome 1 — Written and/or recorded oral evidence

The candidate must:

- ◆ describe the habitat preferences of a minimum of four commercially fished marine species
- ◆ state the three main Scottish fisheries sectors
- ◆ match a minimum of five marine species to their fisheries sector

Outcome 2 — Written and/or recorded oral evidence

The candidate must:

- ◆ match a minimum of three fishing vessel types to their fishery
- ◆ describe two modern finfish capture techniques
- ◆ outline the handling and refrigeration methods used by finfish fishermen to conserve the quality of the catch
- ◆ state a minimum of two fish processing operations for four given marine species

Centres must be satisfied that the evidence submitted is the work of individual candidates.

National Unit Specification: support notes

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This part of the Unit Specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 20 hours.

GUIDANCE ON THE CONTENT AND CONTEXT FOR THIS UNIT

This is an optional Unit in the NPA Aquaculture (SCQF level 4), but is also can be used as a free-standing Unit.

Outcome 1

The candidate will be introduced to the three main Scottish fisheries sectors — demersal, pelagic and shellfish. Examples of the demersal sector could include haddock, cod, plaice and whiting; examples of the pelagic sector could include mackerel, herring and blue whiting. Examples of the shellfish sector could include lobsters, crabs, Langoustine and scallops. The candidate will gain an insight into the importance of fisheries sectors, habitat preferences and, where relevant, migratory patterns of fish stocks.

Outcome 2

The candidate will investigate the main types of fishing gear used by the Scottish fishing fleet, which would cover the vessels used to catch demersal and pelagic finfish species and shellfish species. Fishing vessel types could include those rigged for seine netting, trawling (single trawling, pair trawling, beam trawling, etc.), line fishing, jig fishing, gill netting, scallop dredging and creel fishing.

The candidate will then be introduced to the various catching methods and equipment used for a variety of fishing techniques (which could include trawling, jigging and seine netting).

It is important that the candidate develops an understanding of the factors that can influence the quality of the catch (eg gutting, icing and refrigeration) to maximise sales revenue.

The candidate could be made aware of the different production processes used to produce different end products and could also be made aware of the use of industrial fisheries products for animal feed markets.

GUIDANCE ON LEARNING AND TEACHING APPROACHES FOR THIS UNIT

This Unit lends itself to a range of approaches to teaching and learning, although for SCQF level 4, visual and interactive resources will be of great assistance and should be utilised. Initial concepts regarding the scope of the Scottish fisheries industry could be delivered through classroom based knowledge development, although video and field trips should play an active role in the learning experience, especially with regard to Outcome 2.

It is important that site visits are organised to allow candidates to view demersal and pelagic fish vessels, which would develop an understanding of how these boats differ in design, layout and size.

Ideally, candidates will be introduced to local techniques adopted by fishing fleets.

National Unit Specification: support notes (cont)

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Where possible, candidates should undertake site visits to processing factories and/or a fish market, which would create a clearer understanding of the differences between selling whitefish and pelagic fish species and the differences in the production processes.

Videos and site visits are likely to give candidates a better appreciation of how catching methods are undertaken and the different equipment needed to adopt such catching methods.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORE SKILL DEVELOPMENT

This Unit provides the opportunity to develop a range of Core Skills including *Communication* and *Problem Solving*.

GUIDANCE ON APPROACHES TO ASSESSMENT FOR THIS UNIT

Outcomes 1 and 2 could be assessed using restricted response questioning, matching questions or multiple choice questioning.

Time should be allowed for any necessary re-assessment.

Opportunities for the use of e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this Unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or e-checklists. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all candidate evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. Further advice is available in *SQA Guidelines on Online Assessment for Further Education (AA1641, March 2003)*, *SQA Guidelines on e-assessment for Schools (BD2625, June 2005)*.

DISABLED CANDIDATES AND/OR THOSE WITH ADDITIONAL SUPPORT NEEDS

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering whether any reasonable adjustments may be required. Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements