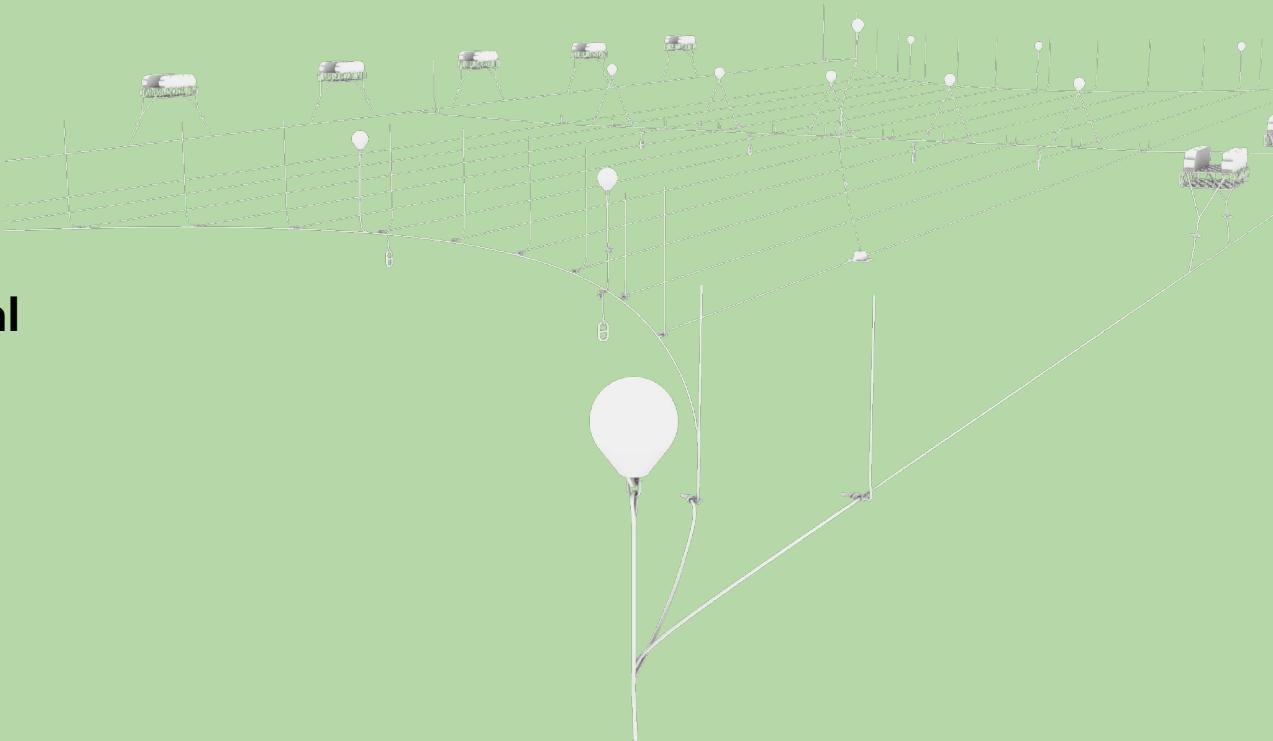




Open Climate Solutions

Farm Pilot Manual



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About the Manual

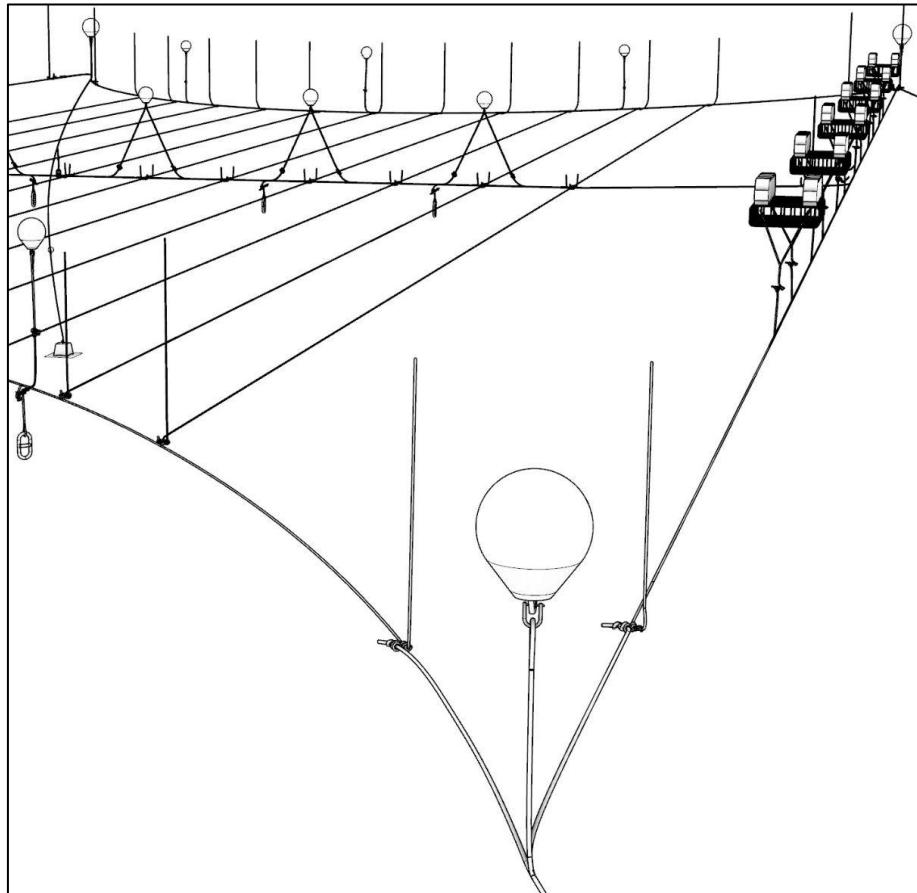
This manual should serve as a comprehensive guide for both industry professionals and individuals interested in exploring the seaweed farming space with the potential of starting their own small-scale project. Please keep in mind, that this manual is within the ethos of open source project, a working document where additional findings and community feedback is constantly added. This manual on seaweed cultivation provides an example of a seaweed farm designed for a specific location on the west coast of Scotland. It is strongly recommended to seek guidance from industry professionals when designing a farm to accommodate the unique requirements of any other site. This manual does not provide a warranty or guarantee for its content.

The legal landscape, including licensing requirements and regulations is not the main focus in this manual, since regional requirements can be very different, but it should be noted that designing an efficient and environmentally friendly farm respecting all regulations is the first crucial step. So please consult with the regulatory body or industry professionals within your region. The presented layout represents one version among many possible farm designs. Therefore, it is encouraged to explore different farm layouts that best fit regional infrastructure requirements, technology integration, and regulatory frameworks to optimize for the best results.

This exploration also involves understanding the budget and aligning it with the procurement process for seaweed farming equipment and materials. From selecting species-specific cultivation gear to sourcing sustainable construction materials, it is essential to ensure that you have the right resources for a successful operation.

The farm component section aims to provide a blueprint for turning plans into reality. Follow step-by-step instructions on constructing seaweed cultivation structures, installing equipment, and implementing efficient farm seeding techniques.

The seeding process begins at the nursery and continues through cultivation. Keep in mind the specific needs of different seaweed species and how to nurture them through their growth stages. Learn best practices for monitoring and maintaining a healthy crop.





Farm Scope:

2.76

Seabed footprint:

A-B: 209m

A-C: 79.35m

C-D: 218.35m

D-B: 825m

Mooring line length:

Line A: 66m

Line B: 67.5m

Line C: 69.1m

Line D: 70.8m

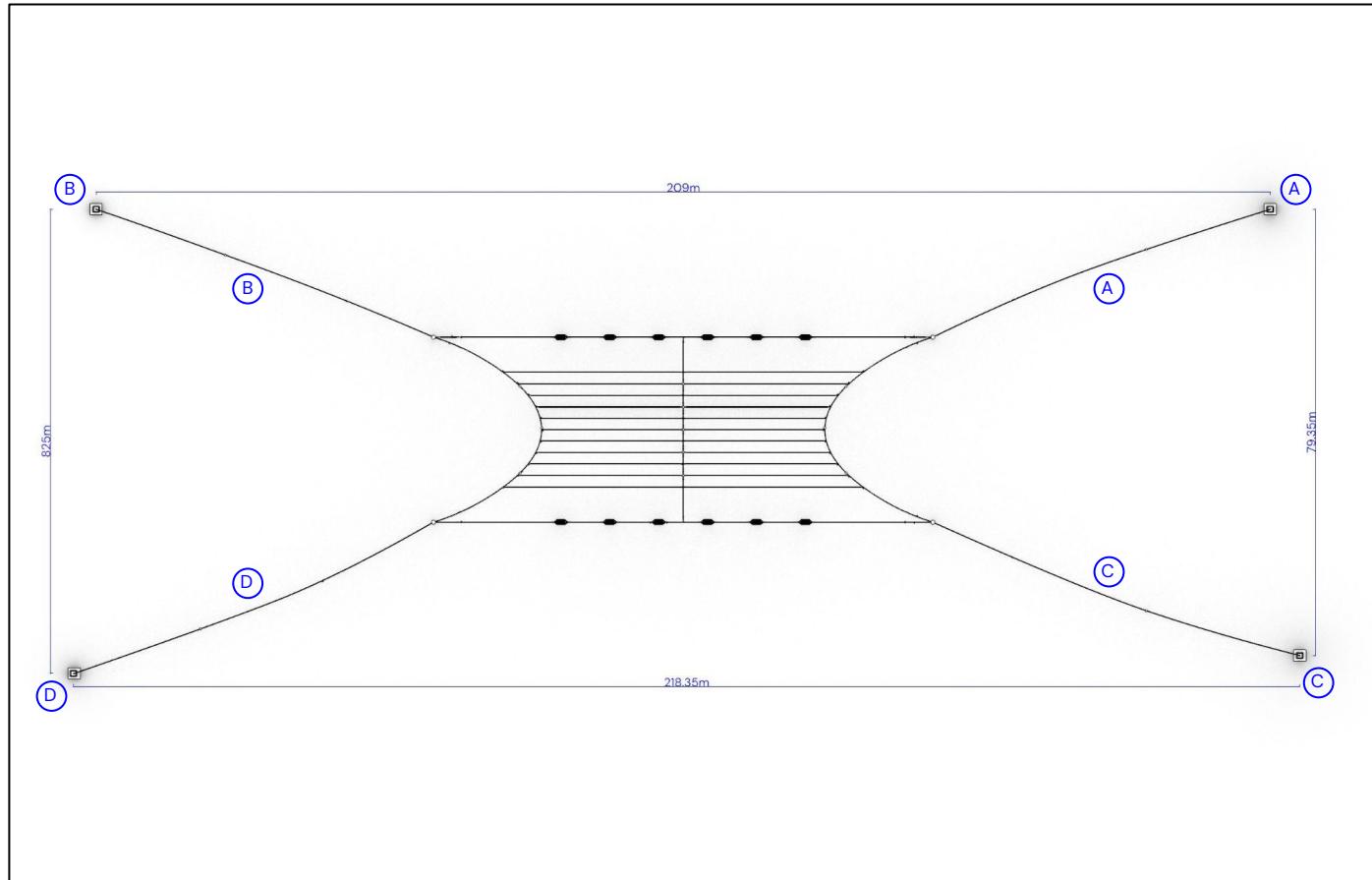
Growline length total:

Alaria esculenta: 100m

Saccharina latissima: 350m

Direct seed lines total:

Saccharina latissima: 100m





Farm Scope:

2.76

Seabed footprint:

A-B: 209m

A-C: 79.35m

C-D: 218.35m

D-B: 825m

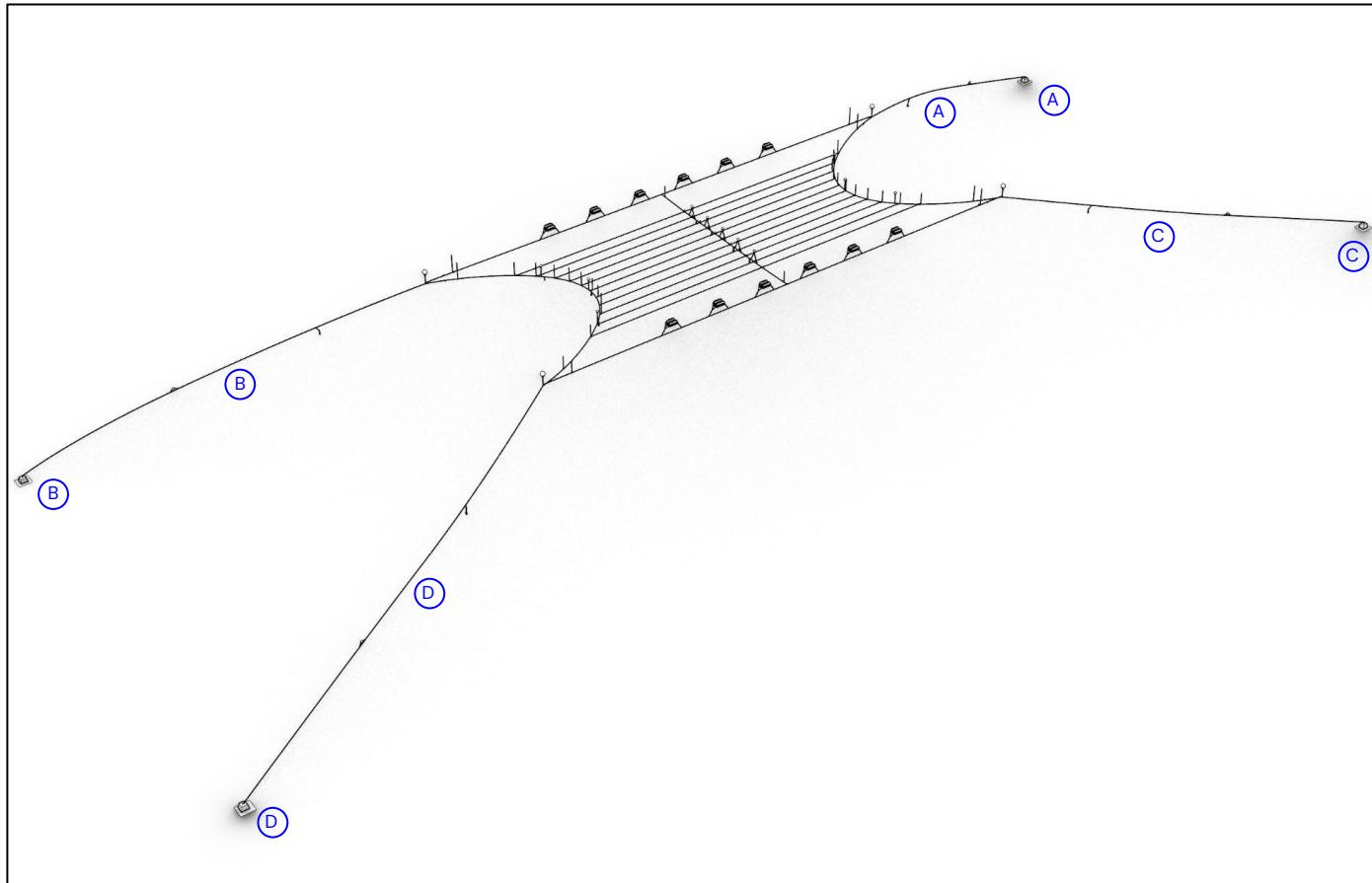
Mooring Line Length:

Line A: 66m

Line B: 67.5m

Line C: 69.1m

Line D: 70.8m



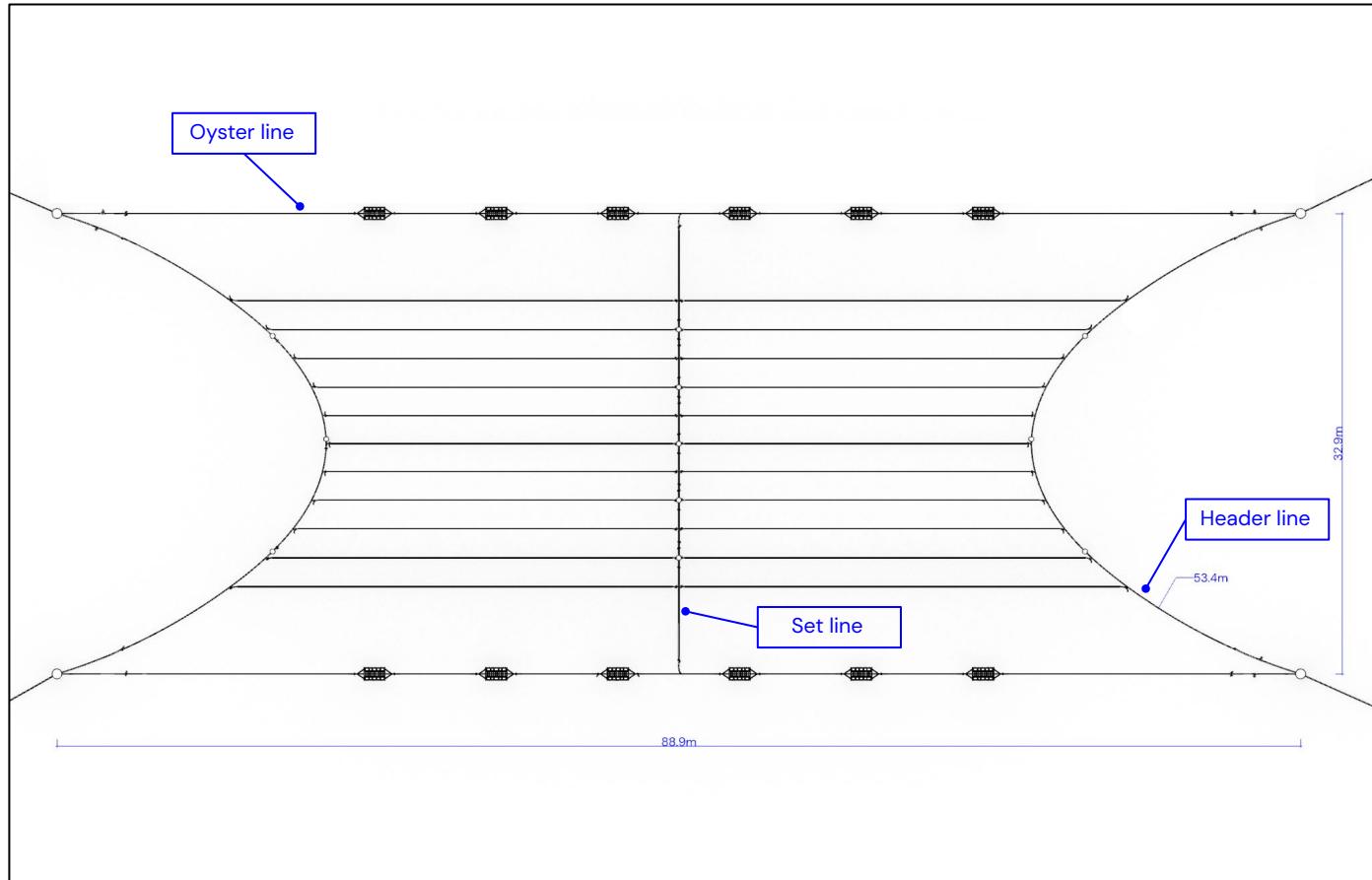


Frame lines and set line

Header line: 53.4m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

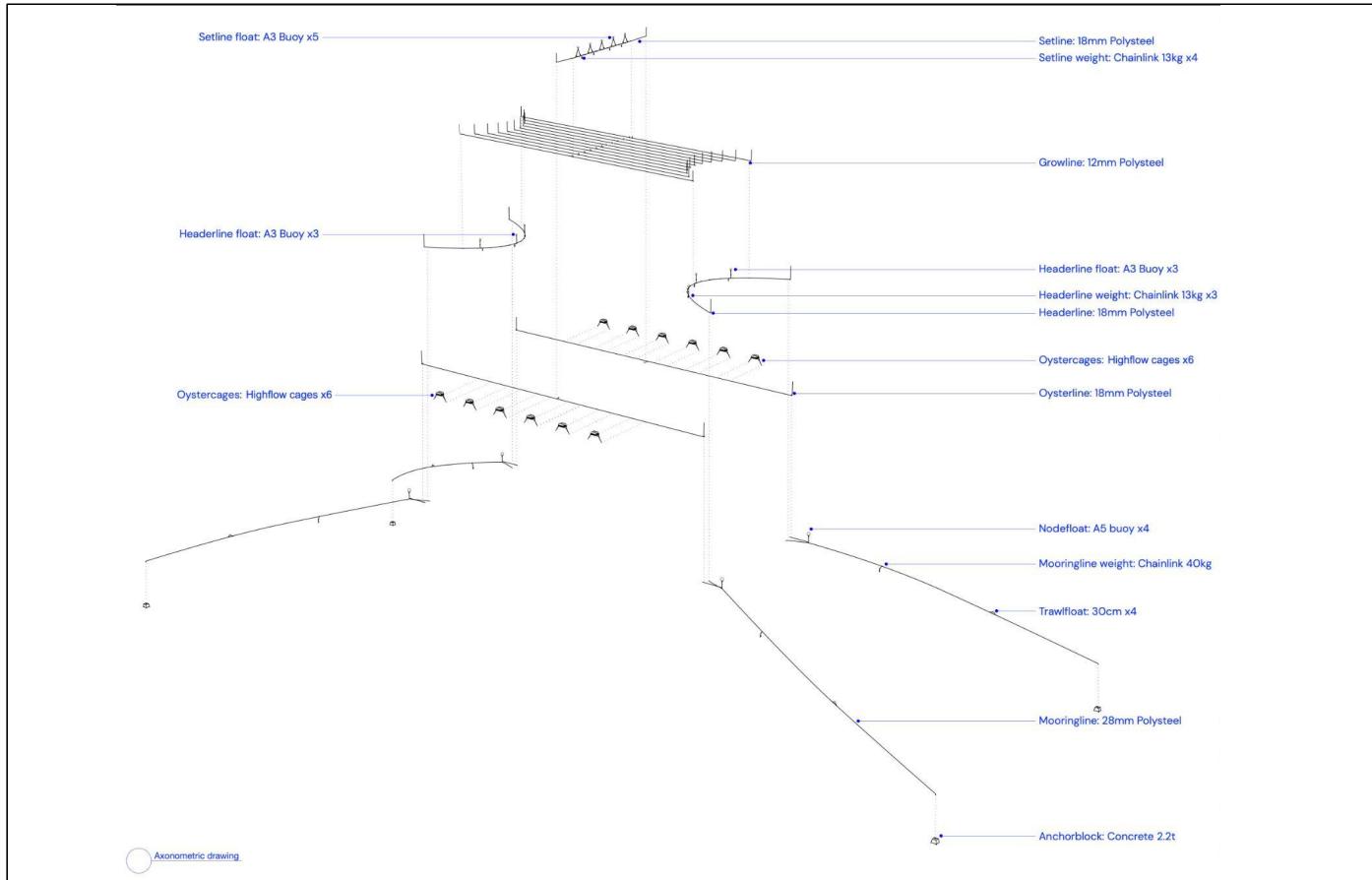
Oyster line: 88.9m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Set line: 32.9m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)





Axonometric drawing





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Farm Components

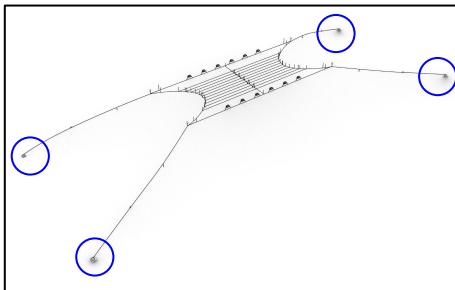
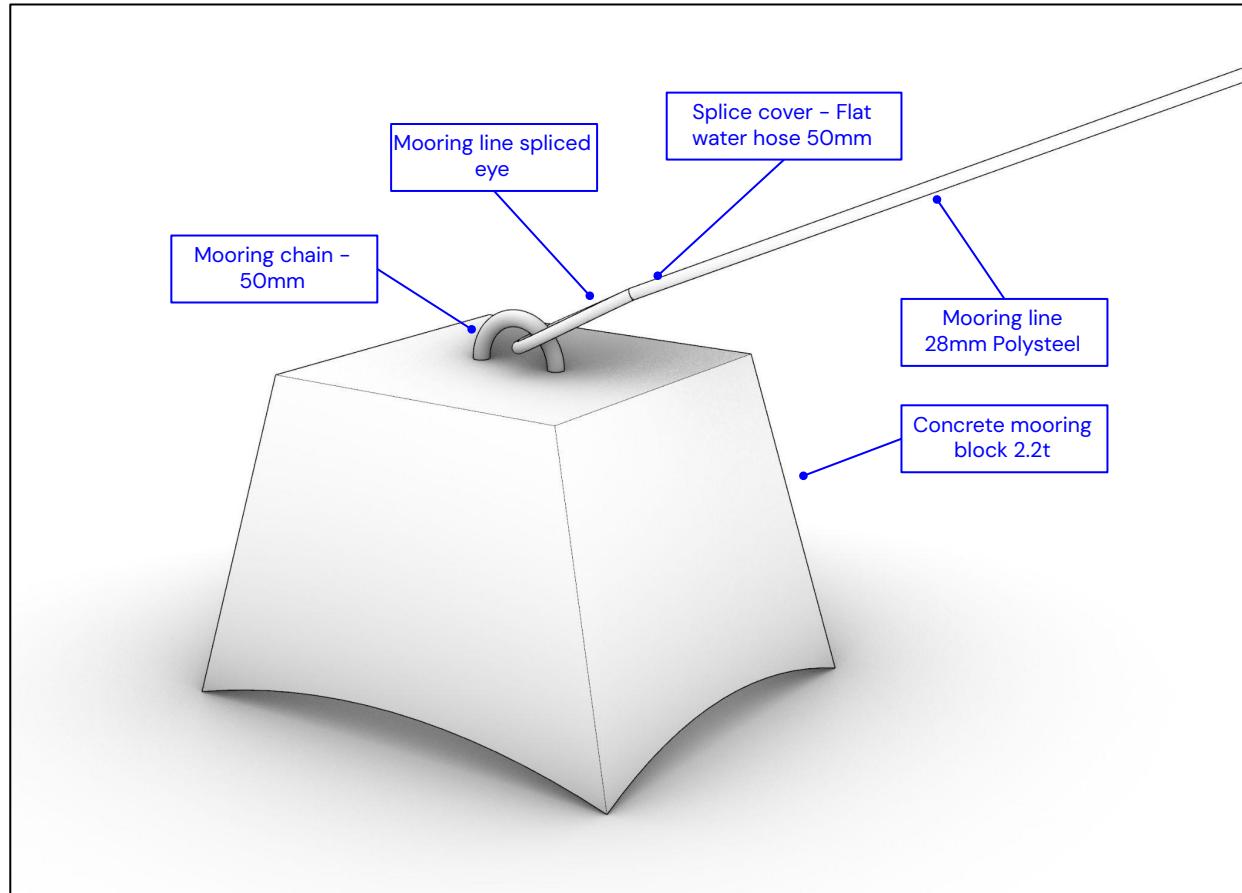


Mooring block

2.2t concrete block

Dimensions: 120x80x80cm

Mooring block





Mooring Line Length:

Line A: 66m

Line B: 67.5m

Line C: 69.1m

Line D: 70.8m

**Float attachment-
m from anchor:**

Line A 23.7m

Line B 27.1m

Line C 19.8m

Line D 25.7m

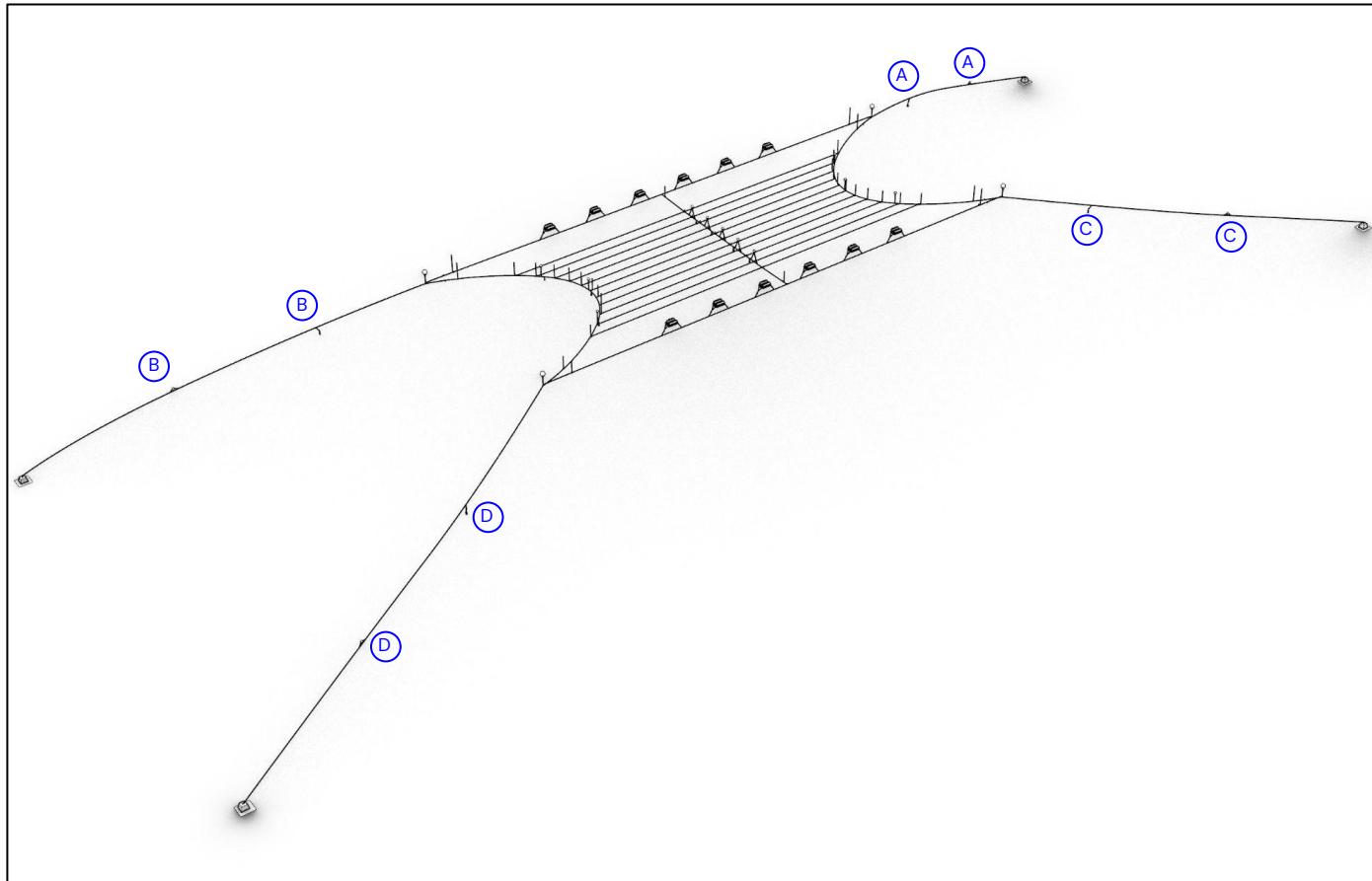
**Angel attachment-
m from anchor:**

Line A 50.4m

Line B 50.4m

Line C 50.4m

Line D 50.4m





Mooring line – Trawl float/ Chainlink weight

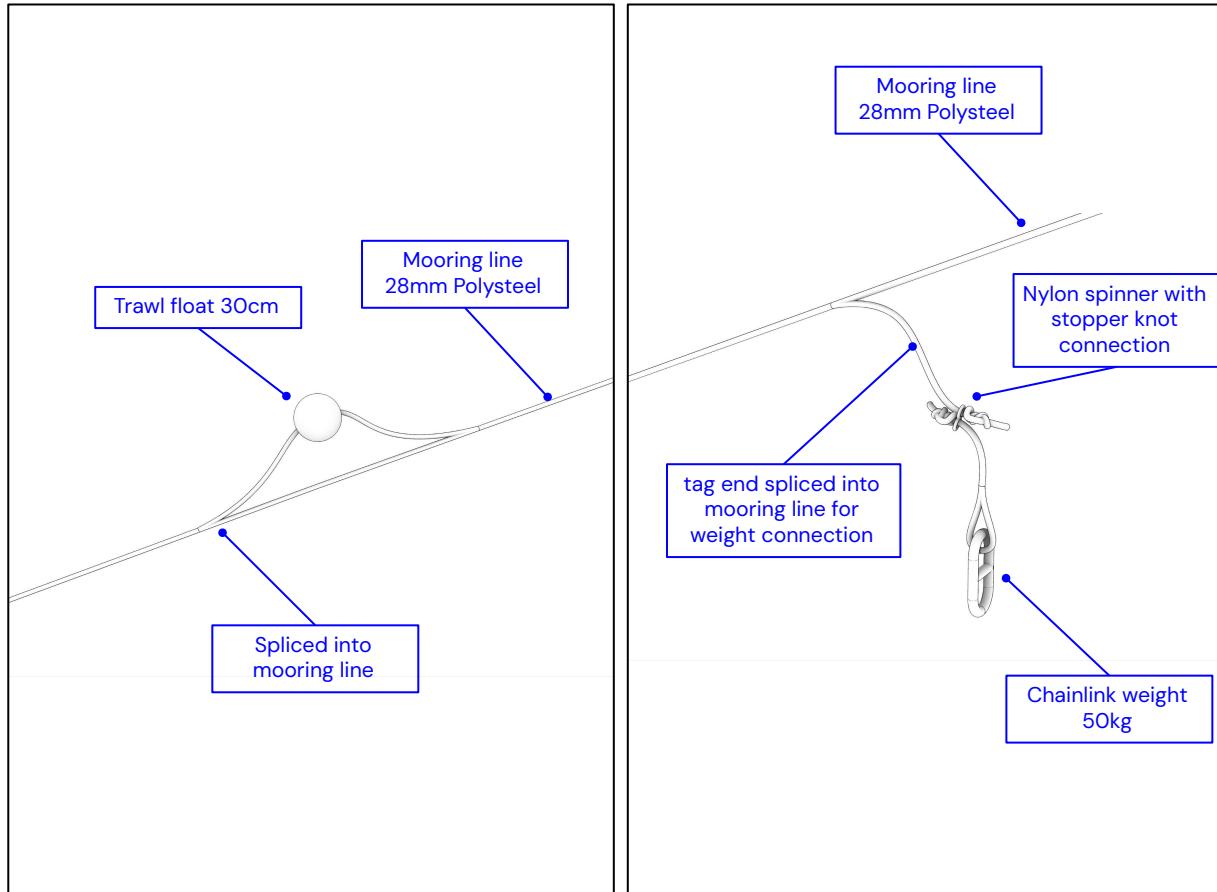
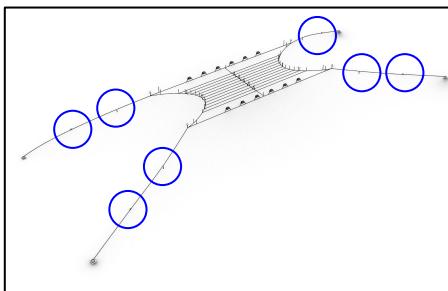
Mooring line:

28mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Trawl float: 30cm

Chainlink weight: 50kg

All four mooring lines should have a float to avoid damaging the mooring line, which can happen in low tide, by abrasion of the mooring line on the mooring block.





Corner nodes

Corner node:

Mooring line:

28mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Header line:

18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

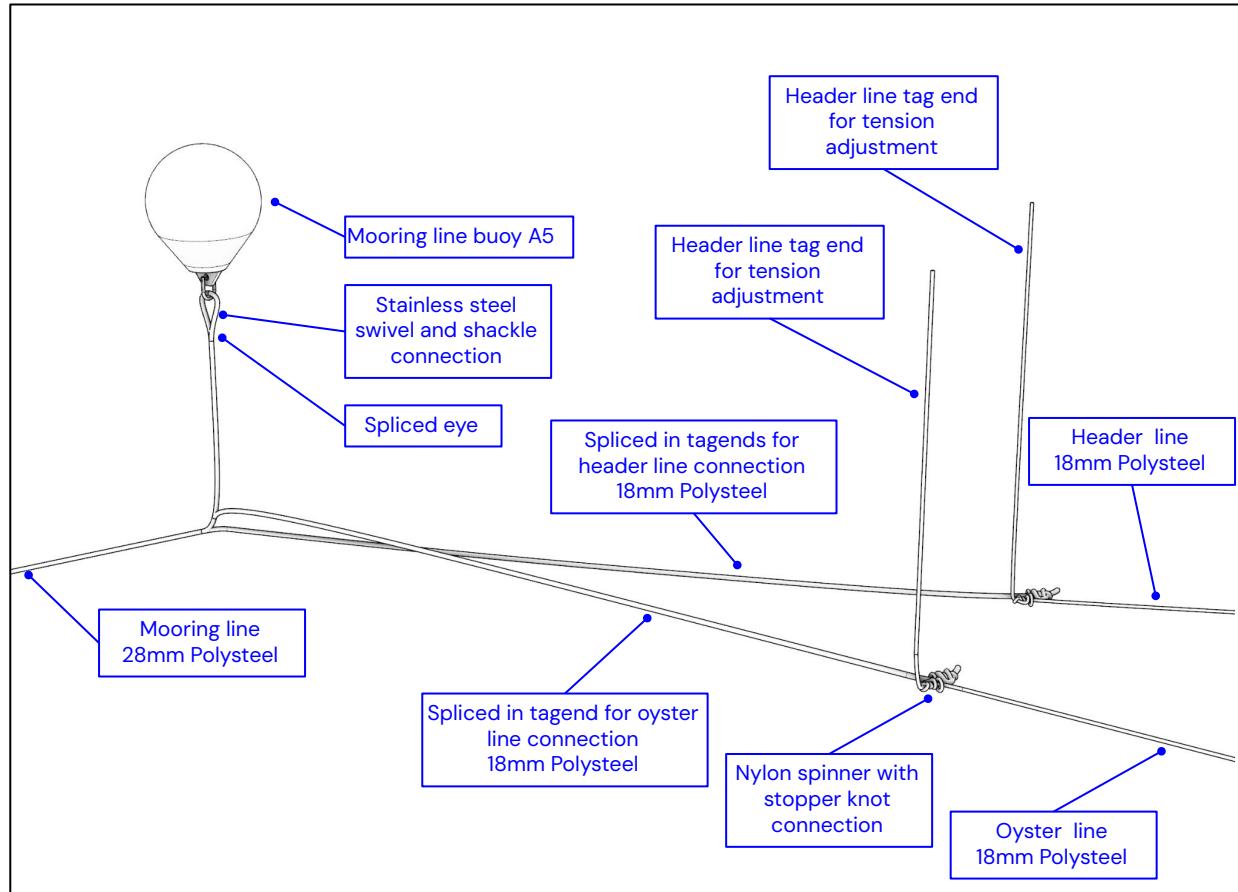
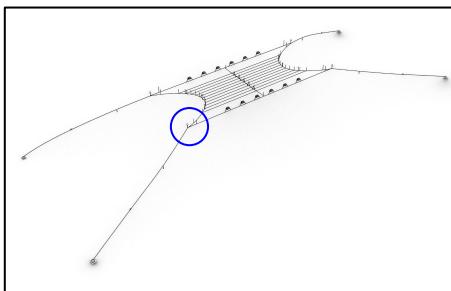
Oyster line:

18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Connections:

XL Nylon Spinner with stopper knots on both sides of connected lines

Buoy: A5





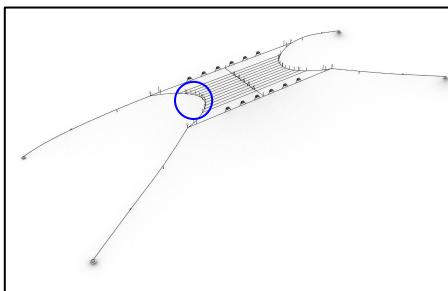
Header Line: 53.4m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Connections:

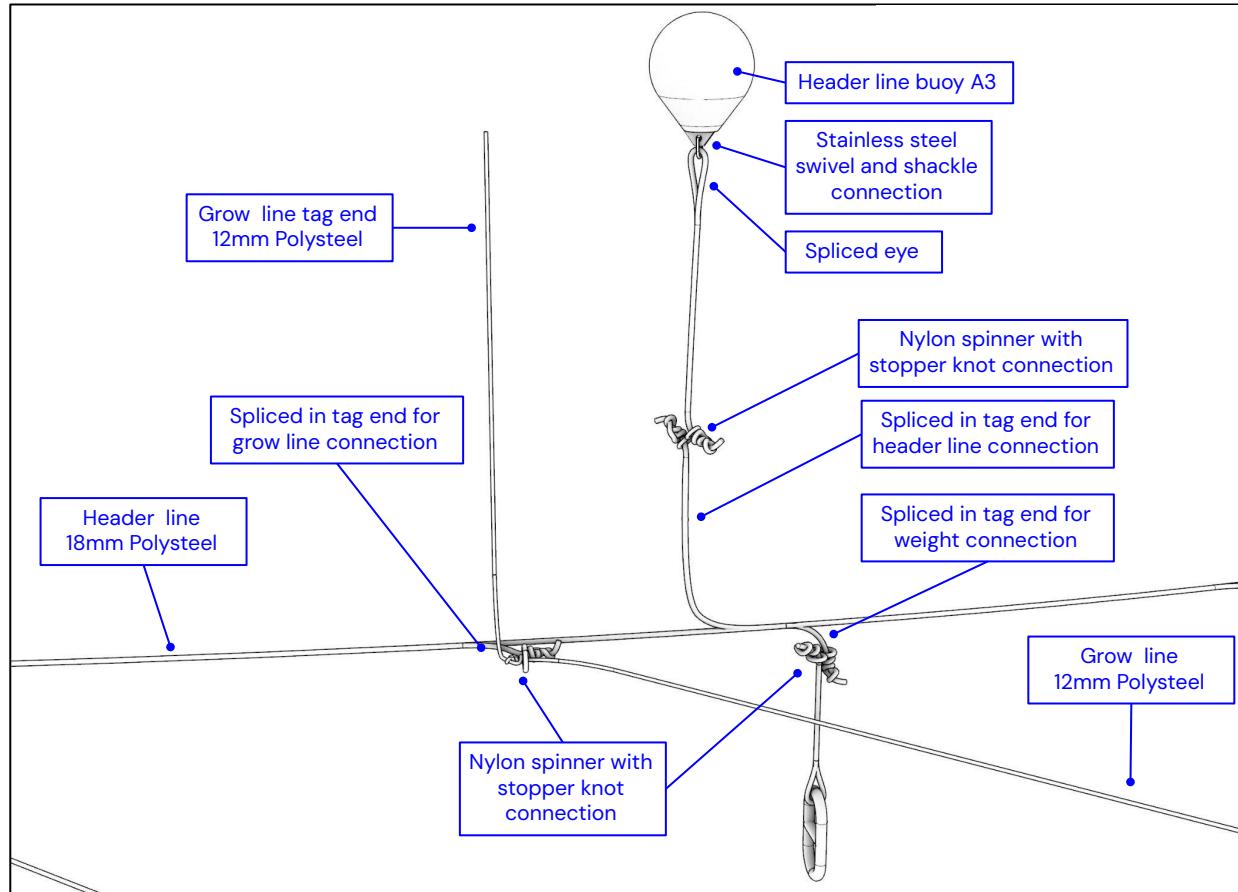
XL Nylon Spinner with stopper knots on both sides of connected lines

Buoy: A3

Weight: Chainlink 13kgx 5
Keep the chain ink weights as close as possible to the setline to avoid any interaction with the grow lines



Header line





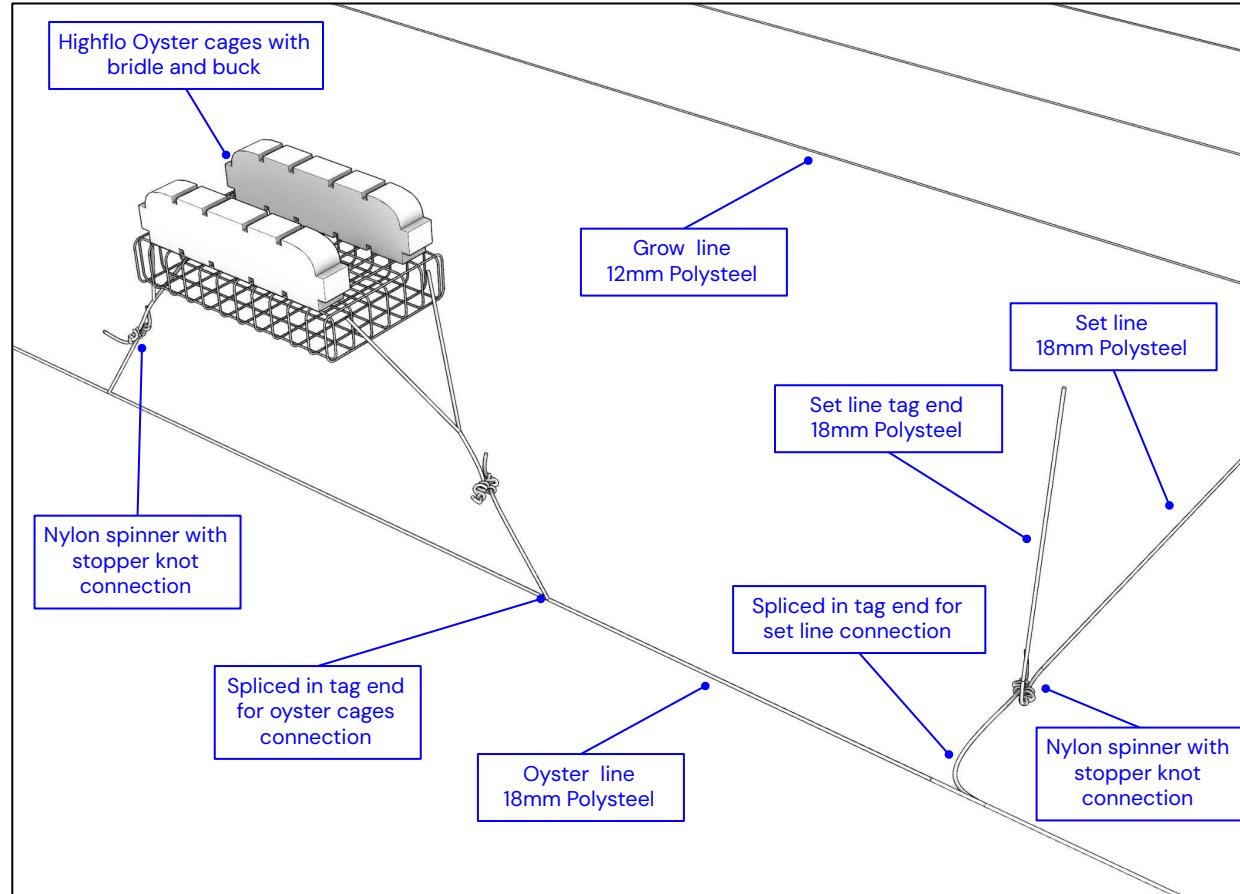
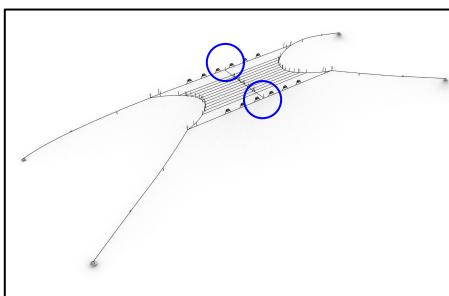
Oyster line- Oyster farming system

Oyster Line: 88.9m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Connections:

XL Nylon Spinner with stopper knots on both sides of connected lines

Oyster farming system:
[OysterGro Highflo model](#)





Oyster farming system- positions

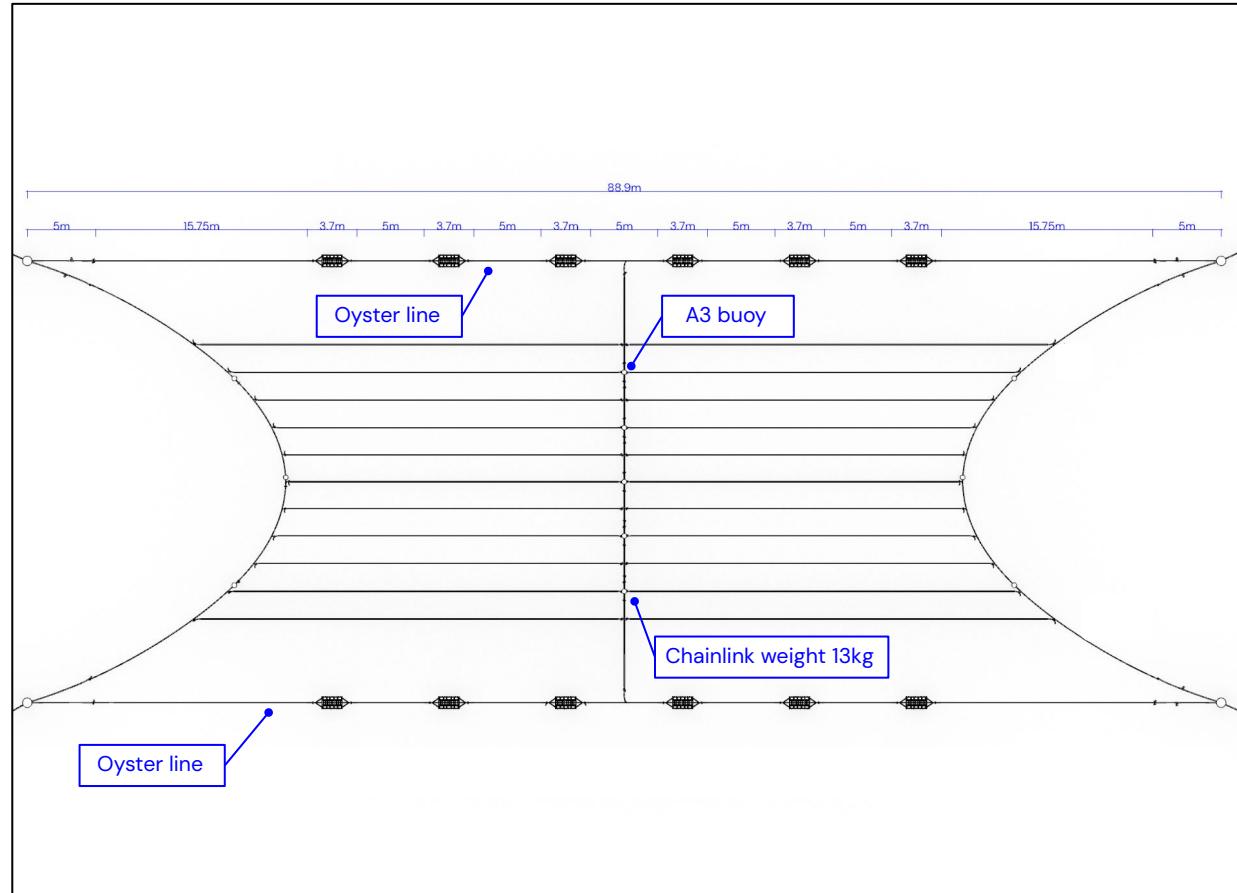
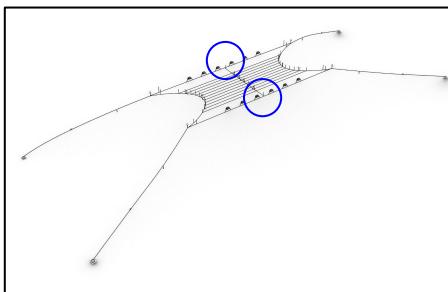
Oyster farming system:
[Oystergro Highflo model](#)

Oyster Line: 88.9m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Connections:
XL Nylon Spinner with
stopper knots on both
sides of connected lines

Buoy: A3x 5

Weight: Chainlink 13kgx 5





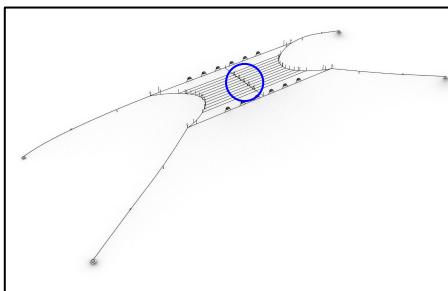
Set Line: 32.9m
18mm Polysteel (3 strand)

Connections:

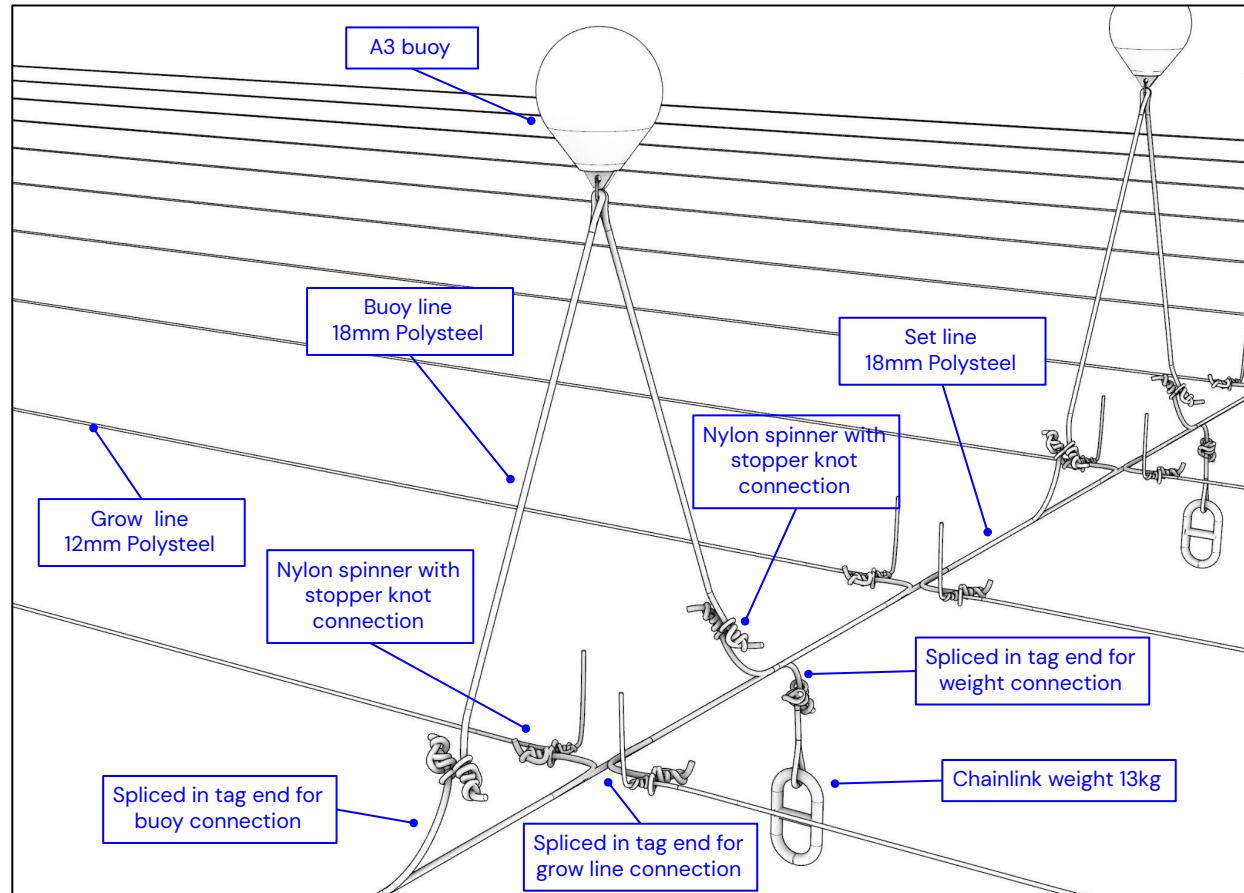
XL Nylon Spinner with stopper knots on both sides of connected lines

Buoy: A3x 5

Weight: Chainlink 13kgx 5
Keep the chain link weights as close as possible to the setline to avoid any interaction with the grow lines



Set line





Grow line:

12mm Polysteel (3 strand) x 11

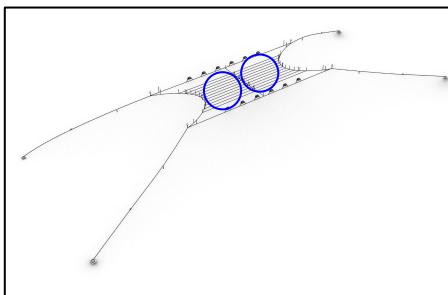
Connections:

XL Nylon Spinner with stopper knots on both sides of connected lines

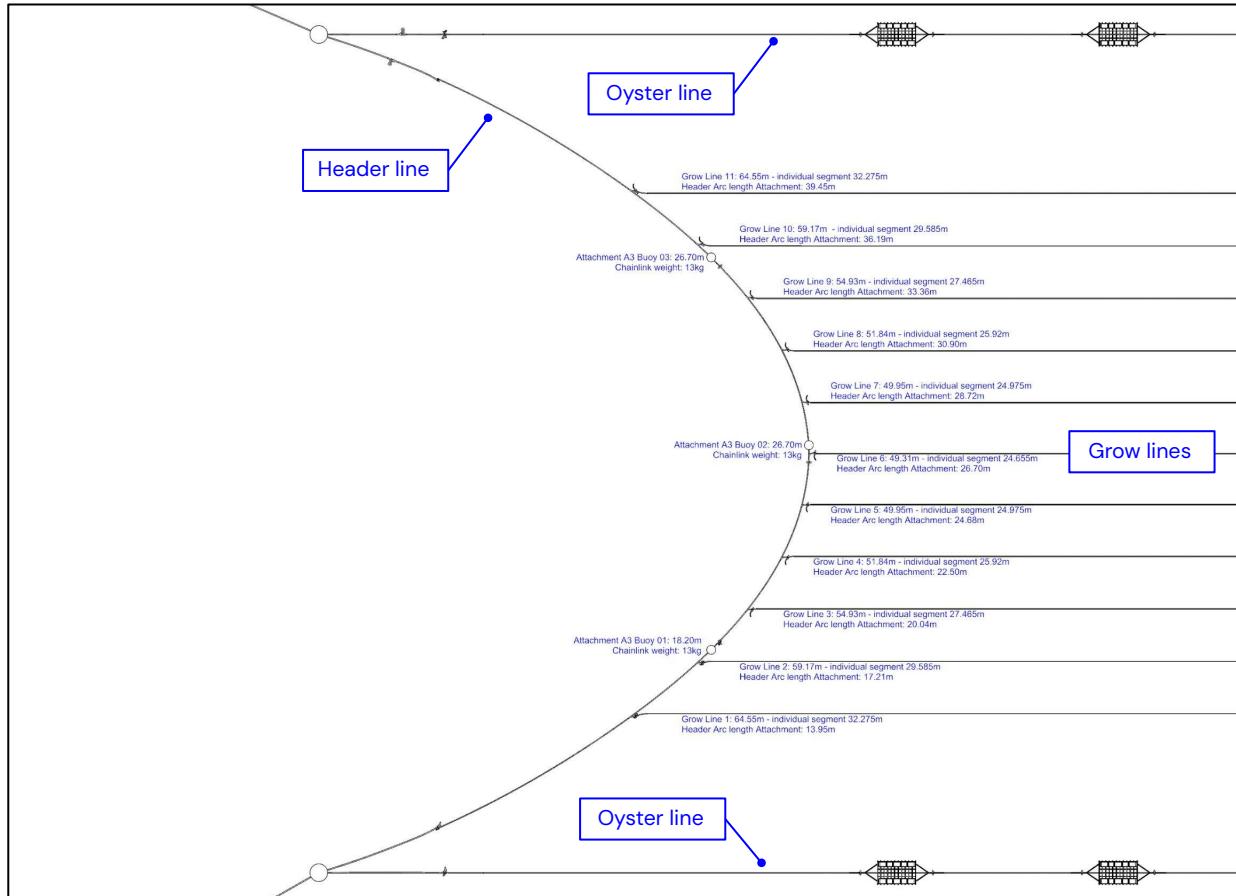
Buoy: A3 x3 , along header line

Weight: Chainlink 13kg x3 , along header line

Each grow line has a nylon spinner/stopper knot connection, which allows for easy tension adjustment and attaching or detaching of the line. The grow lines are in two individual segments, the center ends are connected to the set line.



Grow line





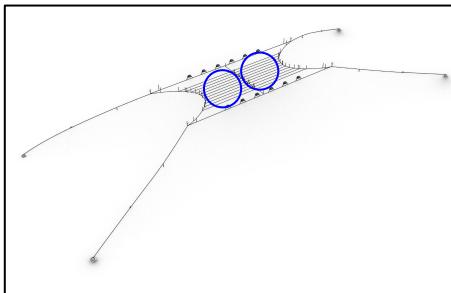
Grow line:

12mm Polysteel (3 strand) x 11

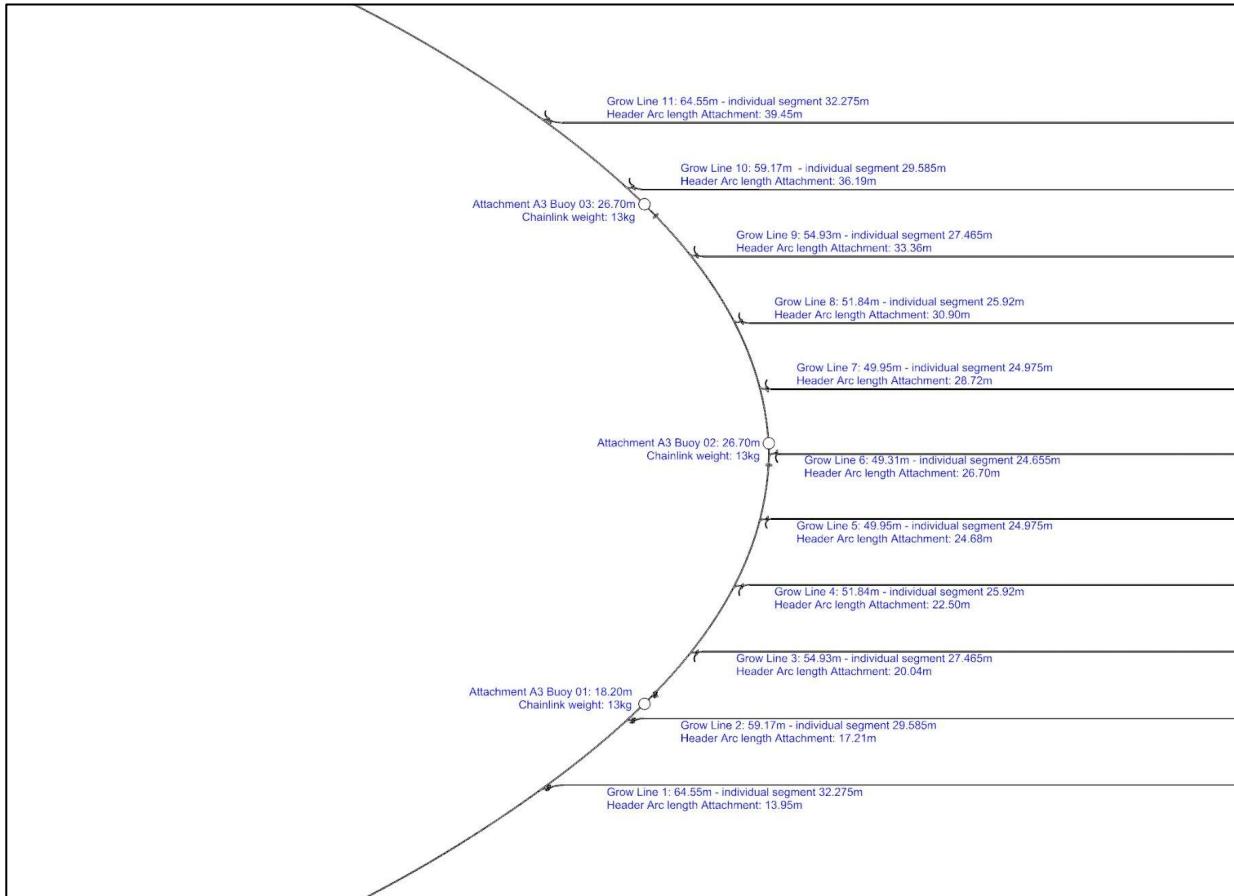
Growline length total: 550m

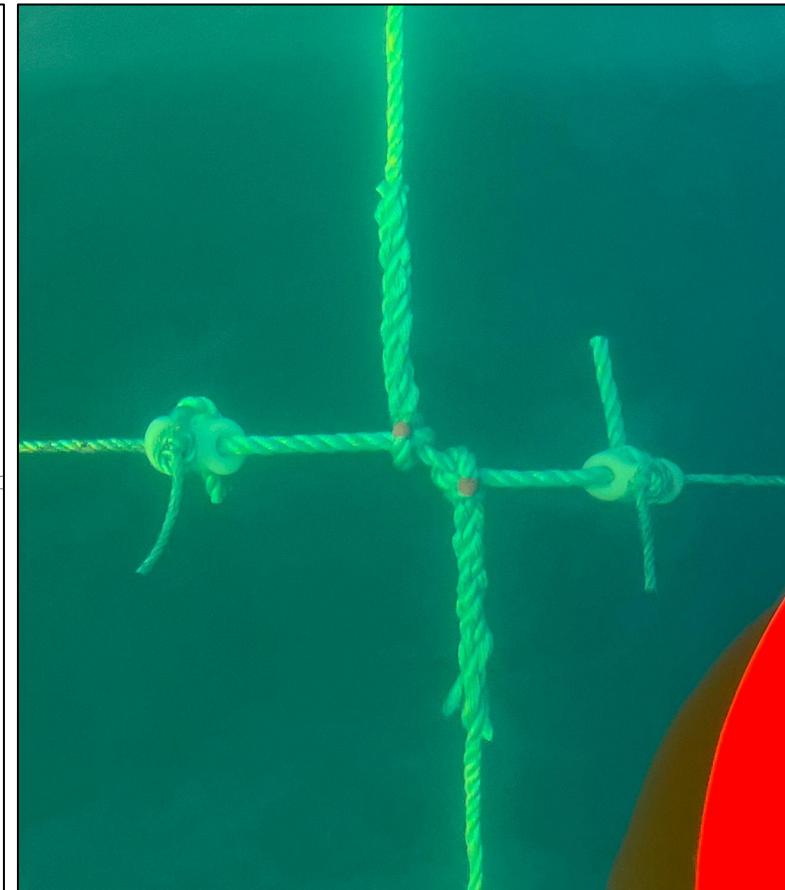
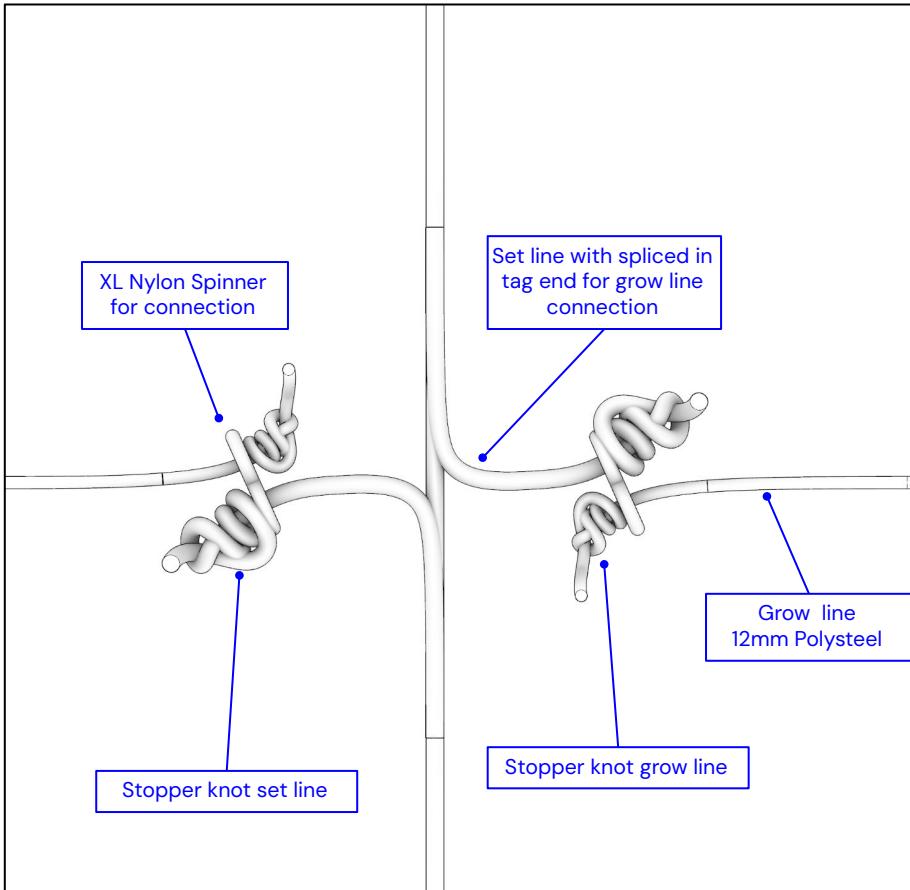
The design works for both standard seeded line with twine or direct seed lines.

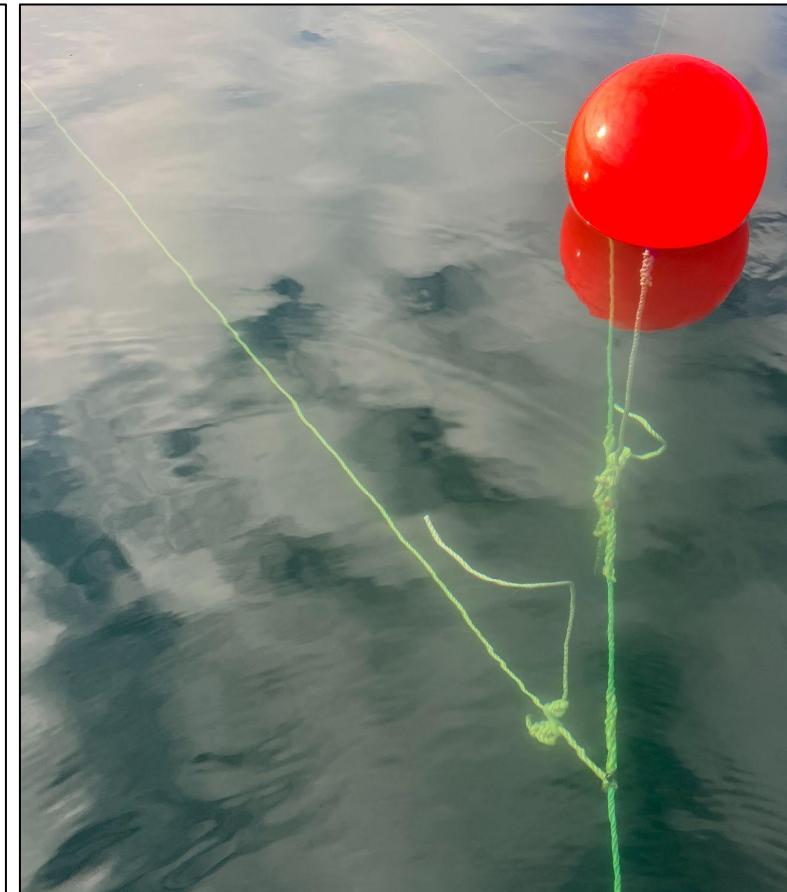
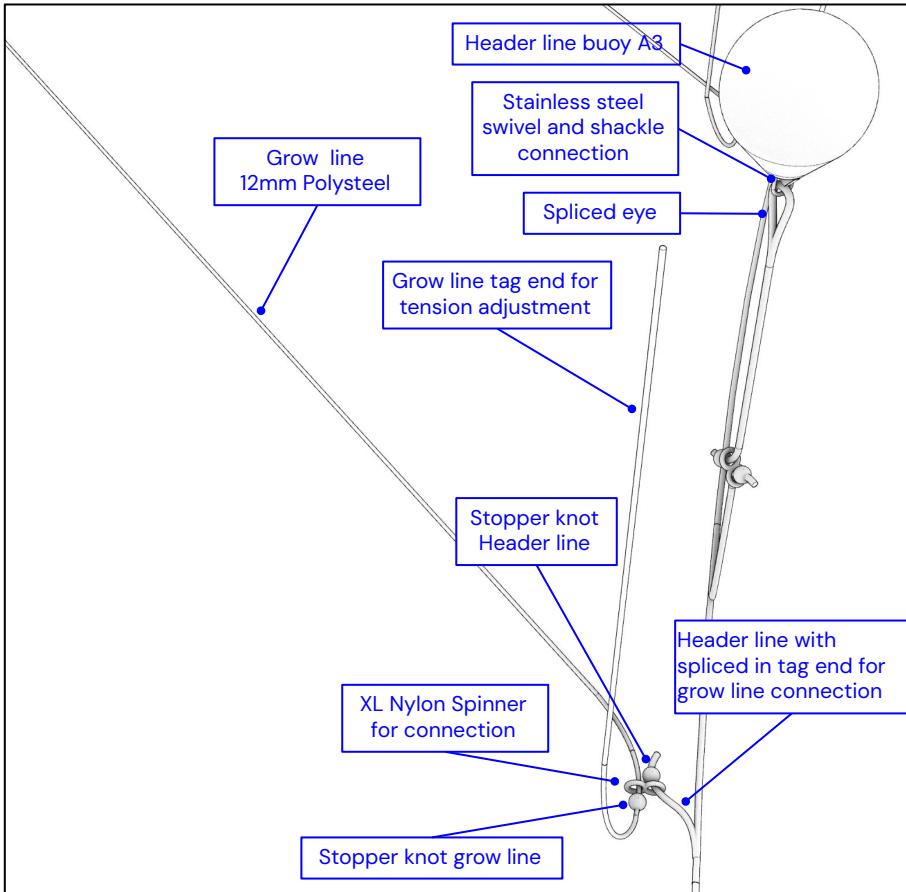
Each grow line has a nylon spinner/stopper knot connection with the header line, which allows for easy tension adjustment and attaching or detaching of the line. The grow lines are in two individual segments, the center ends are connected to the set line.



Grow line









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Farm seeding



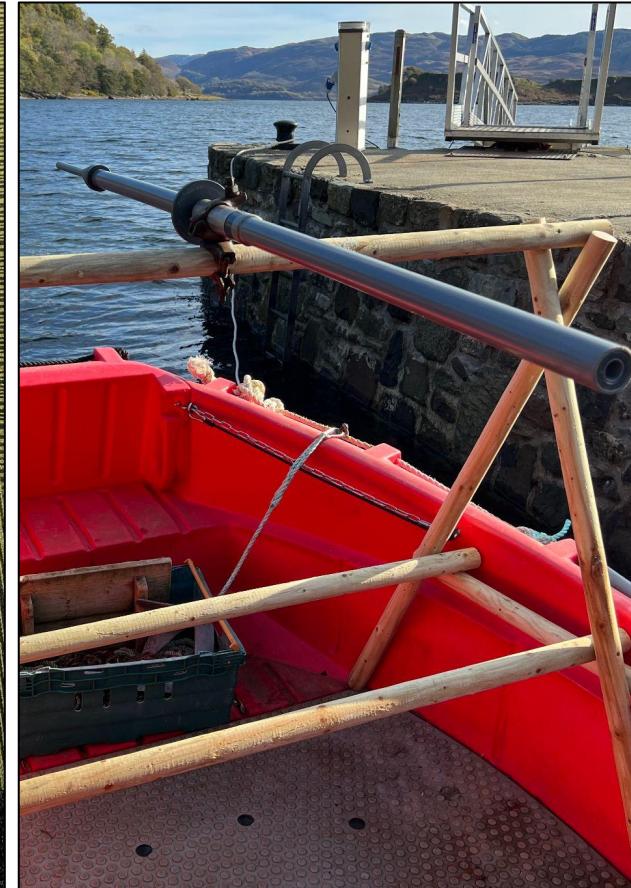
Farm seeding- Seeding tool

Seeded twine:

For the application of the seeded twine we recommend a seeding tool, see image on the left. A seeding tool can be any tube which allows the seeded twine spool to be mounted onto it. The combined seeding tool tube with the seeded twine spool should be able to rotate around another tube. This will help to release some initial tension from the seed lines when applied onto the grow lines, additionally the seeded twine will wrap nicely around the grow lines during the application.

left image:
seeded twine wrapped around a plastic tube.

right image:
seeding tool without a seeded twine tube on it.





Seeded twine:

left image:

seeding tool with a seeded twine tube placed on it. The grow line runs through the tool, at the beginning of it the seeded twine should be attached. Keep an offset of roughly 2m for tag ends and stopper knot.

right image:

seeded twine is wrapped nicely around the grow lines, the ends of the twine should be again fixed with a knot onto the grow line.





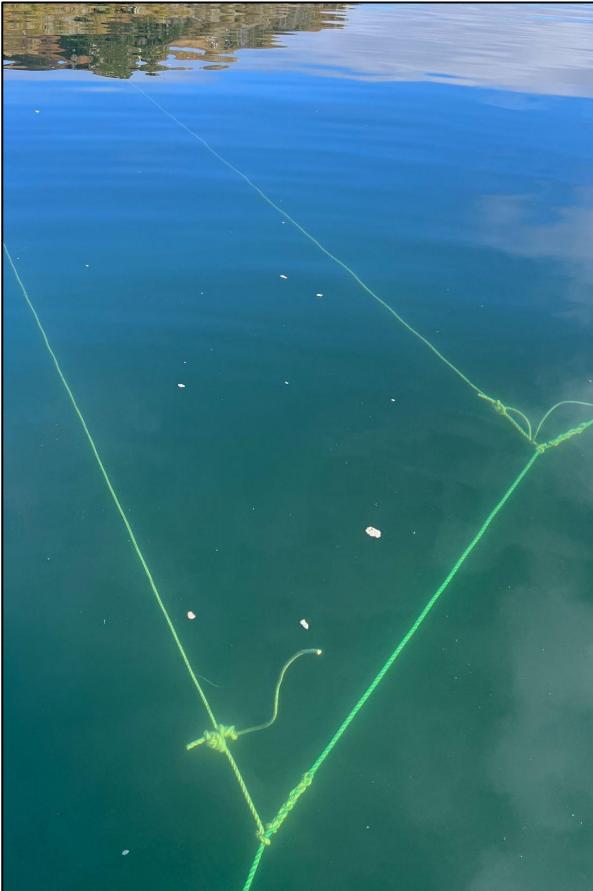
Seeded twine:

left image:

Grow lines with already applied seeded twine, the twine is visible close to the stopper knot connection of the grow line and the header line.

right image:

Grow lines with seeded twine wrapping around them.





Farm marine engineering



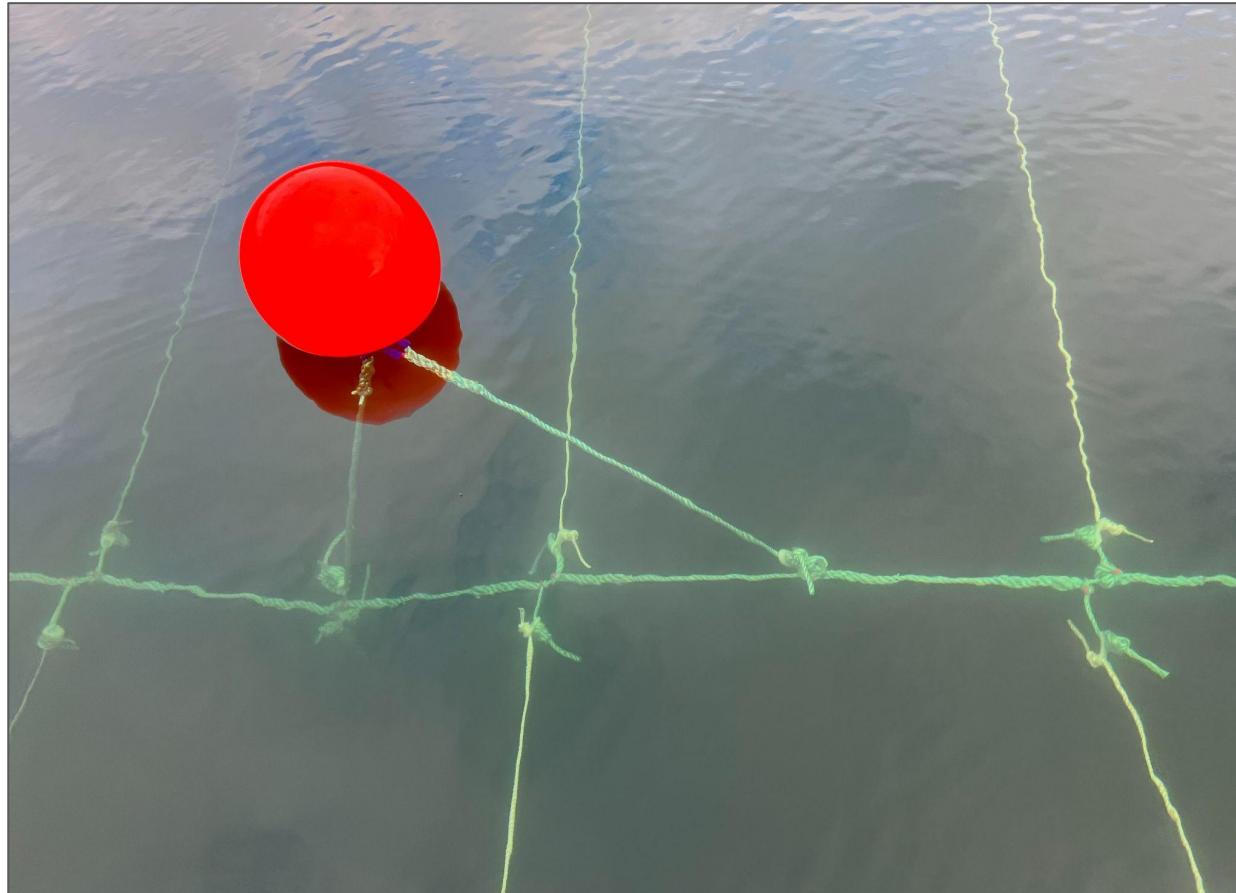
Introduction to engineering report:

This report is calculated and simulated for a specific site on the west coast of Scotland, it is highly advisable to consult an engineer while designing a farm to address all specific structural conditions of a farm.

The report should include simulations of various characteristic load cases to analyze how the proposed system would respond to fluctuations in current, wave, wind, and tidal conditions to optimize the performance and operability of the envisioned aquaculture farm system.

The engineering report should entail the computation of extreme current, wave, and wind conditions associated with a storm that has a 50-year recurrence interval (referred to as the 50-year storm). This calculation utilizes a hindcast model based on current and wave data, which has been validated through comparisons with nearby ocean observations.

This report was developed by Kelson Marine, all materials in the following section are published with allowance by Kelson.





Farm budget

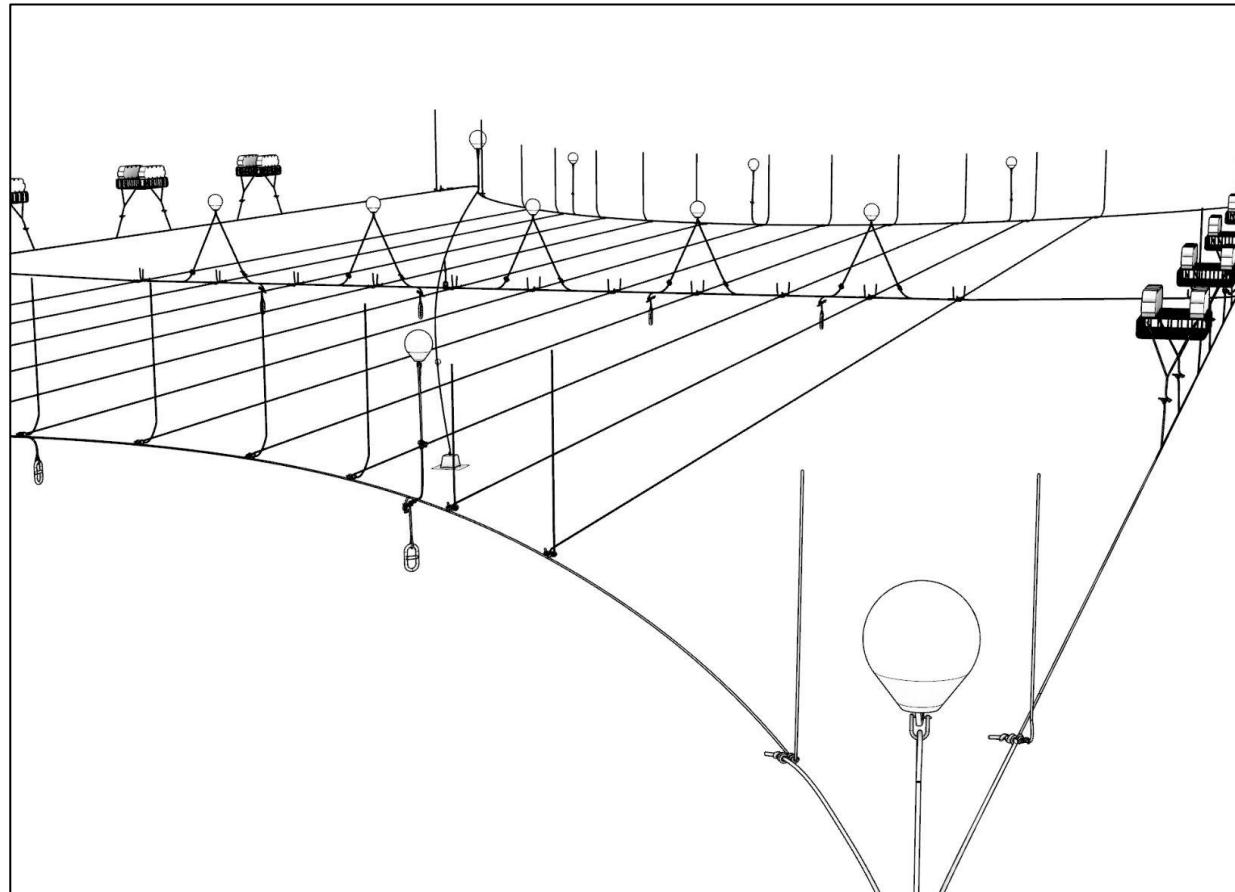


Introduction to the budget sheet:

This comprehensive budget sheet should help to assist in planning, managing and controlling the procurement process of a seaweed farm. The figures presented here serve as a usable reference point, but it's essential to acknowledge local price differentiations, which are inherent and can significantly impact the budget.

The budget sheet, ranges from administrative costs such as the application, the anchor components, listing additional farm components used in this specific design, the different ropes needed and the seeded twine for the grow lines.

Certain elements, such as the quantity of specialized marker buoys or oyster baskets, may be subject to variation within the budget and depends upon factors such as the specific site, the design of the farm, and the extent to which it aligns with regulatory requirements. To get a better understanding of the process and costs to receive a license we highly recommend the [European maritime homepage](#) for a clear regulatory pathway within the european regulatory framework.





Budget sheet

Budget sheet:

Consider the budget sheet as a comprehensive guide for the procurement and budget planning process. This particular sheet can also serve as a model to ensure the timely acquisition of all deliverables. It is organized into lines and seeded lines, all other farm components from anchors to nylon spinners, components for one specific marker buoy, and administrative costs like licensing and engineering fees. It is strongly recommended to conduct independent research on the costs associated with each farm design component, as this budget sheet does not provide any guarantees regarding budget accuracy.

Farm Pilot Manual- Equipment list		Planning		Budget					Procurement status								
Item Name	3d model	total		Unit lengths	Units needed	Unit price £	price/ m	Price total + VAT £	Note	Vendor	Vendor Link	ordered	Order date	Est. delivery date	Delivered	Received	Status
Lines																	
Anchor line 28mm 3-strand polysteel in m		274		220m Coil	1.5	664.4	3.02/m	827.48 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Header line 18mm 3-strand polysteel in m		127		220m Coil	1	245	1.11/m	140.97 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Oyster line 18mm 3-strand polysteel in m		172		220m Coil	1	245	1.11/m	190.92 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Set line 18mm 3-strand polysteel in m		54		0	0		1.11/m	59.94 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Buoy line 18mm 3-strand polysteel in m		23	376	0	0		1.11/m	25.53 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Grow line 12mm 3-strand polysteel in m		520		220m Coil	3	97	0.44/m	228.8 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
DS Growline 12mm in m		100		0	1	-	unknown	£	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Seeded twine in m		452		100	4.5		3.26/m	1475.12 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Components																	Done
Anchor Block- Concrete- selfmade		4		x	x	100		400 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Anchor Block- Chain		4		x	4	80		320 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Rope Spinners		103		x	110	0.9		90 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Angels 50kg Chainlink		4		x	4	80		320 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Angels 13 kg Chainlink for Set line		11		x	11	20		220 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
A5 Corner/Node buoy		4		x	4	167		668 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Buoys A3 Set line and Header line		11		x	11	51		561 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Trawl float 30cm		4		x	4	32.49		129.96 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Flat water hose 25mm diameter		5x50cm		x	x	-		30 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Flat water hose 50mm diamtere		5x50cm		x	x	-		60 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Stainless steel shackle- Setline		5		x	5	9		45 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Stainless steel swivel- Cornerfloat		4		x	4	35		140 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Stainless steel shackle- Cornerfloat		4		x	4	15		60 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Oyster basket HighFlo- OPTIONAL		12		x	12	296		3552 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Special Marker buoy																	Done
Anchor Block- Concrete- selmade		1		x	x	100		100 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Anchor Block- Chain		1		x	1	80		800 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Anchor line 28mm 3-strand polysteel		120		220	1	362.4	3.02/m	362.4 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Trawl float 30cm		1		x	1	32.49		32.49 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Angels 50kg Chainlink		1		x	1	80		80 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Stainless steel shackle		1		x	1	15		15 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Stainless steel swivel		1		x	1	35		35 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Yellow special marker buoy		1		x	1	1374		1374 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Admin Costs																	Done
Licensing Fees		1		x	1	750		750 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Marine Engineering work		1		x	1	6500		6500 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Drawing Fees		1		x	1	600		600 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Big boat rental/ day		1		x	1	1200		1200 £	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	Done
Farm TOTAL								21393.61 £									



Farm maintenance

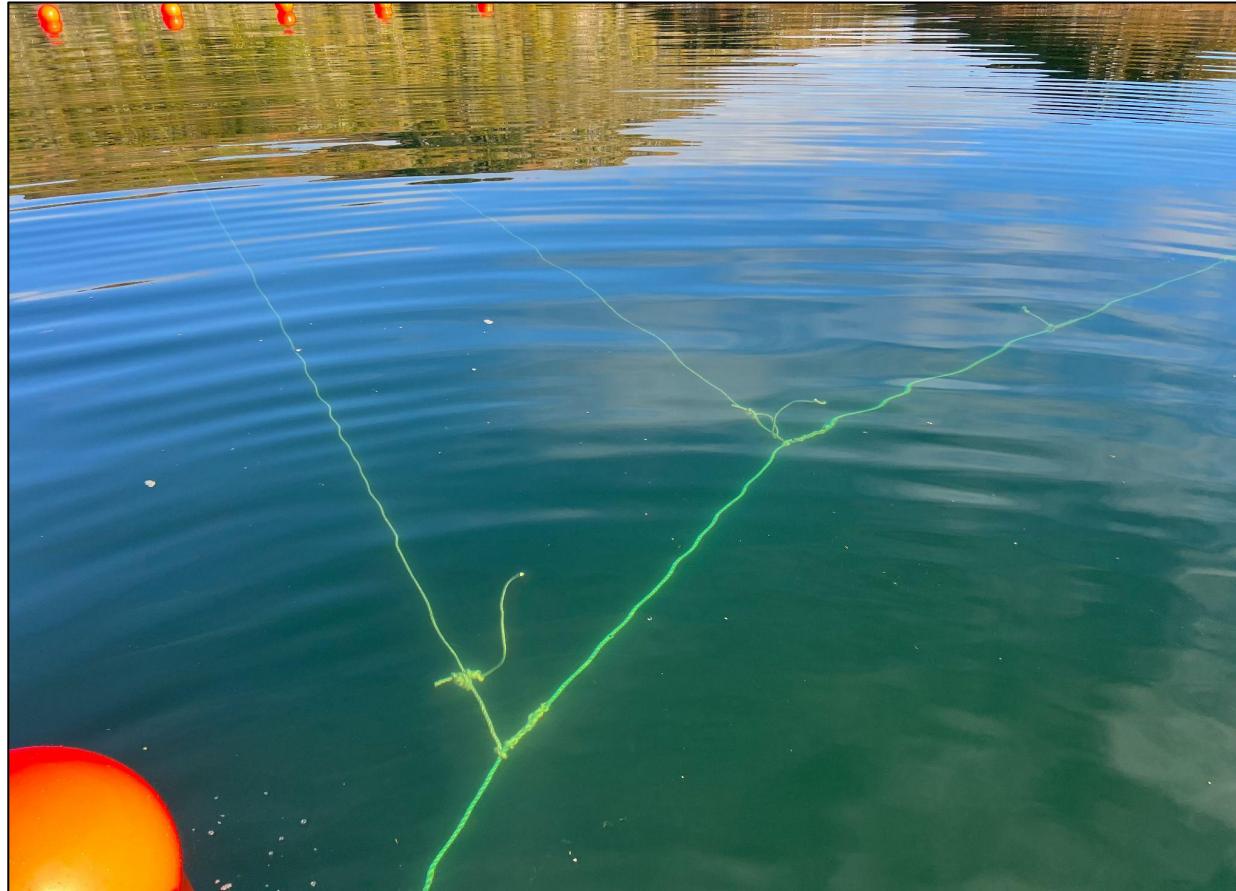


Introduction to the farm maintenance:

Seaweed farming demands careful attention to various factors, while specific circumstances may vary, the principles outlined here provide a foundational framework that can be adapted to suit the unique requirements of the farm. It is crucial to conduct regular maintenance checks to ensure optimal growth, health, and productivity of the seaweed farm.

Preliminary assessment:

This should be a thorough examination of the overall farm installation including diving for inspecting the anchors, all lines from mooring lines to grow lines, floatations, and all connections. Take note of any signs of damage, wear and tear to prevent damage, or potential environmental stressors. An installation of a monitoring sensor such as an underwater data logger to access data like water temperature, salinity or light exposure is highly recommended. The data logger should be placed as central as possible to achieve representable data. The retrieved data logs can be used as environmental monitoring, scientific research or industrial purposes.





Introduction to the farm maintenance:

Water quality analysis:

Regular assessment of the water quality parameters to guarantee an ideal environment for seaweed growth. Test for salinity, pH levels, temperature, light and nutrient concentrations. Adjustments may be necessary to maintain an optimal condition for seaweed cultivation.

Seaweed health inspection:

Examine the seaweed blades for any signs of discoloration, pests, or disease. Monitor growth rates and evaluate overall seaweed health. If anomalies are detected, prompt action is essential to prevent the spread of issues throughout the farm.

Infrastructure Check:

Especially after big events such as storms or a potential boat damage, inspect all farm infrastructure, including buoys, ropes, connections and anchor points. Ensure that they are secure and functioning as intended. Address any wear and tear promptly to prevent damage to equipment and potential disruptions to farm operations.





Introduction to the farm maintenance:

Harvesting Readiness Assessment:

Evaluate the readiness of seaweed for harvesting. Consider factors such as size, color, overall quality and targeted market. Implement a systematic harvesting plan to optimize yield while ensuring the sustainability of the seaweed.

Documentation:

Maintain detailed records of all observations, measurements, and corrective actions taken during the maintenance check-in. This documentation is essential for tracking the farm's performance over time and making informed decisions for future cultivation cycles. As always, "what gets tracked, gets improved."





Farm harvest



Open Climate Solutions

Farm harvest

