



On target :

Environment and Land Use

***NFU Scotland – fighting for your
interests***

During 2011, NFU Scotland has:

1. Successfully lobbied to stop the introduction of a 2 metre inorganic fertiliser application buffer strip and a 2 metre cultivation exclusion buffer strip within GAEC (these currently form parts of GBRs 18 and 20, respectively).
2. Been at the forefront of efforts to keep the Bracken herbicide, Asulam, available for use despite a decision to 'ban' it at the EU-level.
3. Influenced SEPA to examine how the Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) – which regulate dredging and abstraction amongst other things – can be made more proportionate and risk-based. This contributed to the introduction of simpler and cheaper regulation of the dredging of smaller gravel bars.
4. Worked with SEPA to produce a 'Farmers Guide to Dredging Regulation' – for the first time this distilled down the important, need-to-know information into one concise and clear document.
5. Convened an 'expert group' to make a clear and concise statement on the safety of new fertilisers (compost and anaerobic digestate).
6. Advised Scottish Water on the design of a forthcoming and straightforward environmental grant scheme for farmers in drinking water priority catchments.
7. Influenced SEPA regarding regulation of intensive (PPC) pig and poultry sites, in particular:
 - Secured adoption of a proportionate method for assessing the potential for dust and odour.
 - Ensured that EU-regulators are aware of the particular characteristics of Scottish pig and poultry farms – to reduce the risk of inappropriate standards being imposed.