

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?

Yes No

We support the proposals for a network of Marine Protected Areas in Scotland's inshore and offshore waters, but believe more must be done to protect, connect and actively recover the health of our seas, which has suffered long-term decline over many generations.

Individual possible Nature Conservation MPAs

2. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Clyde Sea Sill* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

3. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *East Caithness Cliffs* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

4. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *East of Gannet and Montrose Fields* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

5. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Faroe-Shetland sponge belt* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

6. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Fetlar to Haroldswick* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

7. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Hatton-Rockall Basin* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

8. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Loch Creran* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

9. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Loch Sunart* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

10. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

SSACN support the designation.

Management Options: Yes No

SSACN support the reduction / limitation of mobile towed gear but are concerned that this is dependent on further discussions with the commercial sector – the precautionary principle should be adopted and a temporary ban should be implemented as ahead of any discussions.

SSACN support the removal / avoidance of bottom set nets and long-lines.

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

A healthy and productive sea is essential to the economy of coastal communities of the area. Ensuring an increase in biodiversity will generate

enhanced revenues from the sea angling, recreational marine activities and tourism sectors – all of which are important and substantial economic contributors to the areas fragile economy.

All of the above:

Yes No

The Scottish Government has a legal obligation to achieve good environmental status in Scottish waters by 2020 and must be able to demonstrate a well-managed network of MPAs are in place by the end of 2016. MPAs should be regarded as integral to the achievement of healthy and productive seas and effective ecosystems management.

The current management proposals protect the status quo in most areas whereas we believe every effort should be made to regenerate biodiversity and would support strong management throughout MPA sites.

The Government needs to show that it is managing our seas for the benefit of everyone in Scotland and not just those who commercially benefit by extracting / depleting the very resources under threat.

11. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Loch Sween* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes No

Comments

Management Options:

Yes No

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

All of the above:

Yes No

Comments

12. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Lochs Duich, Long and Aish* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

13. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Monach Isles* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

14. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Mousa to Boddam* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

15. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *North-east Faroe Shetland Channel* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

16. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *North-west Orkney* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

17. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *North-west sea lochs and Summer Isles* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

18. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Noss Head* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

19. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Papa Westray* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

20. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Rosemary Bank Seamount* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

21. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Small Isles* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No

Comments

22. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *South Arran* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes No

We agree with the location and designation of the proposed South Arran Marine Protected Area which we believe would be an integral part of an ecologically coherent Scottish MPA network.

The area proposed around the South of Arran will help the sea bed and sea life to recover, but will only be effective if bottom trawling and dredging is prohibited from the whole area.

Management Options:

Yes No

Bottom towed trawls, dredgers and hydraulic gear should be excluded from the areas proposed by SNH plus a substantial exclusion limit to ensure the recovery of the nature conservation features throughout the proposed MPA.

Properly managed creeling, shellfish diving, and angling should be allowed.

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

A healthy and productive sea is essential to the economy of coastal communities around Scotland.

Increased biodiversity and productivity will not only benefit commercial fishermen but will generate enhanced revenues from the sea angling, recreational marine activities and tourism sectors – all of which are important and substantial economic contributors to the economy of the area.

All of the above:

Yes No

The Scottish Government has a legal obligation to achieve good environmental status in Scottish waters by 2020 and must be able to demonstrate a well-managed network of MPAs are in place by the end of 2016.

MPAs should be regarded as integral to the achievement of healthy and productive seas and effective ecosystems management.

The current management proposals protect the status quo in most areas whereas we believe every effort should be made to regenerate biodiversity and would support strong management throughout MPA sites.

The Government needs to show that it is managing our seas for the benefit

of everyone in Scotland and not just those who commercially benefit by extracting / depleting the very resources under threat.

23. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for *The Barra Fan and Hebrides Terrace Seamount* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No

Comments

All of the above: Yes No X

Comments

24. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Turbot Bank* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation: Yes No

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment: Yes No X

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No

Comments

25. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Upper Loch Fyne and Loch Goil* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes No

Comments

Management Options:

Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No

Comments

26. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *West Shetland Shelf (formerly Windsock)* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes No

Comments

Management Options:

Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No X

Comments

27. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Wyre and Rousay Sounds* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes No

Comments

Management Options:

Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No X

Comments

Choices to represent features in the MPA Network

28. Recognising the scientific advice from JNCC included alternatives for representing offshore subtidal sands and gravels, ocean quahog and shelf banks and mounds in the Southern North Sea, do you have a preference or comments on the following combinations to represent these features, bearing in mind Turbot Bank will need to be designated to represent sandeel in this region:

- Firth of Forth Banks Complex
- Turbot bank and Norwegian Boundary Sedimentary Plain
- Or Firth of Forth Banks Complex, Turbot bank and Norwegian Boundary Sedimentary Plain

Comments

29. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessments for the preference you have indicated in the question above, regarding alternatives for representing offshore subtidal sands and gravels, ocean quahog and shelf banks and mounds in the Southern North Sea?

Yes No

Comments

30. Recognising the scientific advice from JNCC included alternatives for representing the burrowed mud feature in the Fladens, do you have a preference or comments on the following combinations to represent these features, bearing in mind the part of Central Fladen (known as Central Fladen (Core)) containing tall seapen (*Funiculina quadrangularis*) will need to be designated to represent tall seapen in this region:

- Central Fladen pMPA only
- The tall sea-pen component of Central Fladen, plus Western Fladen
- Or the tall sea-pen component of Central Fladen, plus South-East Fladen.

Comments

31. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessments for the preference you have indicated in the question above, regarding alternatives for representing the burrowed mud feature in the Fladens?

Yes No X

Comments

32. Recognising the scientific advice from JNCC included alternatives for representing offshore subtidal sands and gravels, offshore deep sea mud, and burrowed mud in OSPAR Regions III and V, do you have a preference or comments on the following combinations to represent these features:

South-West Sula Sgeir and Hebridean slope
Or Geikie slide and Hebridean slope

Comments

33. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessments for the preference you have indicated in the question above, regarding alternatives for representing offshore subtidal sands and gravels, offshore deep sea mud, and burrowed mud in OSPAR Regions III and V?

Yes No X

Comments

Sustainability Appraisal

34. Do you have any comments on the Sustainability Appraisal of the MPA network as a whole?

Yes No

The current management proposals only protect the status quo in most areas and too many of them are dependent on further discussions with the commercial fishing sector.

In essence that invalidates many of the proposals put forward in the consultation, provides that sector with a 'virtual veto' and makes it impossible to determine the potential for sustainability.

Final Thoughts

35. On the basis of your preferences on which pMPAs should be designated, do you view this to form a complete or ecologically coherent network, subject to the completion and recommendations of SNH's further work on the 4 remaining search locations?

Yes No

Each MPA should be effectively managed to ensure recovery of all depleted species and habitats within a site that can benefit from spatial protection are adequately represented and appropriate measures are in place for each and every case.

Zonal management measures for single species / habitats are not enough, given the context of ecological decline documented by Scotland's Marine Atlas.

The network can only be considered ecologically coherent when sound, properly-resourced science demonstrates the ecological linkages between the different MPAs.

36. Do you have any other comments on the case for designation, management options, environmental or socioeconomic assessments of the pMPAs, or the network as a whole?

Yes No

A healthy and productive sea is essential to the economy of coastal communities around Scotland. Increased biodiversity will not only generate enhanced revenues for the commercial sectors in but will significantly increase those from the sea angling, recreational marine activities and tourism sectors – all of which are important and substantial economic contributors to the fragile economies of many coastal communities where other commercial activities such as commercial fishing have seriously declined.

Far more work is required if the assessment of the potential socio-economic costs / benefits of having a well-managed marine environment are to be really credible – delaying any decision on the proposed Demonstration / Research MPAs means opportunities to develop practical experience / evidence in those areas are being delayed, if not lost altogether.