

LIST OF SCOTTISH MARINE PLANNING GROUPS – May 2015

1. Scotland's Seas Data and Assessment Group

Terms of Reference / aims

- to work together to ensure relevant and up-to-date data and information are provided to the NMPi, in an easily accessible and downloadable format, to inform the national and regional marine planning processes.
- to ensure processes for data exchange and quality assurance are agreed and implemented.
- to ensure overall assessments of the state of Scotland's seas are completed at agreed intervals to meet the requirements of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. See Assessments timetable for list of all marine type assessment due in next 10 years.
- to consider how keeping NMPi up to date" supports environmental data / information initiatives and environmental reporting.
- to evolve the associated data and information systems, as demand requires, to meet marine planning and / or other drivers.
- Review the Terms of Reference at intervals to ensure relevant and up to date and in line with Project Initiation (Definition) Document.

Members

Anna Donald, Chair	Marine Scotland
Martyn Cox	Marine Scotland
Bill Turrell	Marine Scotland
Matt Gubbins	Marine Scotland
Beth Stoker	JNCC
Nathan Critchlow-Watt	SEPA
John Baxter	SNH
Mark James	MASTS

2. Regional assessments – pilot group

Terms of Reference / aims

- take an initial look at the requirements for a regional assessment; take stock of what is already available in Scotland's Marine Atlas; and consider what further regional data/information may be required.
- Start to map a process to develop regional assessments, recognising that assessments may evolve over time as regional planning matures.

Members

Anna Donald, Chair	Marine Scotland	Fiona Mills	Firth of Clyde Forum
Martyn Cox	Marine Scotland	Tracy McCollin	PFOW / Marine Scotland
Wendy Geary	Marine Scotland	Lucy Greenhill	SAMS / MASTS
John Baxter	SNH	Matt Gubbins	Marine Scotland
Chris Leakey	SNH	Bill Turrell	Marine Scotland
Rachel Shucksmith	Shetland Marine Plan		

3. Marine Strategy Forum

Terms of Reference / aims

The Marine Strategy Forum (MSF) was established in July 2009 to provide advice on Marine Scotland's key strategies and priorities.

An integrated approach to marine management is an important function of Marine Scotland. The diverse membership of the Forum brings together the perspectives of numerous marine interests, allowing for cross-sector collaboration and integrated advice on marine issues and priorities at a strategic level. Membership includes marine leisure, conservation, aquaculture, fishing, transport, industry and public bodies.

Members

Director of Marine Scotland (chair)	Linda Rosborough
Association of Salmon Fishery Boards	Alan Wells
Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers	Dr Nick Lake
British Ports Association	Sandra Laurenson
CoSLA	Colin Wishart
David MacBrayne Ltd	Martin Dorchester
Highland and Islands Enterprise/Scottish Enterprise	Calum Davidson
Historic Scotland	Philip Robertson
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Mark Tasker
Marine Alliance for Science and Technology for Scotland	Mark James
Northern Lighthouse Board	Capt. Philip Day
Oil and Gas UK	Mick Borwell
Royal Institute Town Planning	John Esslemont
Scottish Boating Alliance	David Vass
Scottish Coastal Forum	Isabel Glasgow
Scottish Environment Protection Agency	David Pirie
Scottish Fishermen's Federation	Bertie Armstrong
Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation	Alistair Sinclair
Scottish Natural Heritage	Ron Macdonald
Scottish Renewables	Lindsay Leask
Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation	Scott Landsburgh
Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network	Steve Bastiman
Scottish Environment LINK	Lloyd Austin
The Crown Estate	Annie Breaden
UK Chamber of Shipping	David Balston
UK Major Ports Group	Derek McGlashan
Visit Scotland	David Adams McGilp

4. Scottish Coastal Forum

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/seamanagement/regional/Scottish-Coastal-Forum>

Terms of Reference / aims

The Scottish Coastal Forum was formed in 1996 to encourage debate at national level on coastal issues. Its members advise Marine Scotland, from an operational perspective, on the development of policy relating to marine planning and licensing within a sustainable marine environment. The Forum also provides a network for circulating information and best practice in coastal management amongst its own varied membership and the wider ICZM community.

- Encourage the formation of local coastal fora, providing a point of coordination for these as well as acting as a central point to communicate their views and concerns.
- Encourage debate on coastal issues at a national level.
- Seek opportunities for better coordination of national frameworks and policies, consider the need for further advice and guidance and assist in its preparation.
- Gather information about approaches to coastal management and disseminate good practice to local Fora.

Members

7 Local Coastal partnerships make up the Scottish Coastal Forum. Isabel Glasgow (Firth of Clyde Forum) is chair.

- Firth of Clyde Forum
- Forth Estuary Forum
- Solway Firth Partnership
- East Grampian Coastal Partnership
- Tay Estuary Forum
- Moray Firth Partnership
- Coast Hebrides

As well as the co-ordinators of each of the LCPs, Marine Scotland Planning & Policy Division provides support to the partnerships and attends the SCF Steering Group meetings.

Membership of the SCF -

- Scottish Government - (represented by Marine Scotland)
- Scottish Natural Heritage
- Scottish Environment Protection Agency
- Historic Scotland
- sportscotland
- Scottish Enterprise
- Defence Infrastructure Organisation
- The Crown Estate
- Convention of Scottish Local Authorities
- British Ports Association (represented by Aberdeen Harbour Board)
- CoastNET (represented by Forth Ports)
- British Marine Federation (Scotland)
- Scottish Fishermen's Federation
- Scottish Salmon Producers' Organisation
- Recreational Sea Anglers' Federation
- Royal Yachting Association

- British Geological Survey
- Scottish Local Coastal Partnerships (represented by Chair of Solway Firth Partnership)
- Aberdeen Institute for Coastal Science and Management
- National Trust for Scotland
- Marine Conservation Society
- Scottish Environment LINK (represented by National Trust for Scotland and Marine Conservation Society)
- Scottish Renewables Forum
- Scottish Association for Marine Science
- Highland Council
- Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers
- Scottish Water

Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters

Aim: Ahead of future statutory regional marine spatial plans being developed around Scotland, a non-statutory pilot marine spatial plan in the Pentland Firth and Orkney Waters area is being developed by Marine Scotland, Orkney Islands Council and Highland Council. The Plan is likely to be ready to go out for consultation in summer 2015 and completed by the end of 2015.

The Plan aims to put in place a planning policy framework in advance of statutory regional marine planning to support sustainable decision making on marine use and management. It is anticipated that this Plan will establish a useful basis for the preparation of the two separate regional marine plans for Orkney and the North Coast Scottish Marine Regions.

5. Marine Spatial Planning Forum

Terms of Reference / aims

The Marine Spatial Planning Forum is an informal group that aims to provide an opportunity for marine spatial planners to get together and discuss on-going work and to provide a way in which ideas can be exchanged and any common issues and problems discussed.

The idea for a Forum such as this was a result of a discussion during a marine spatial planning discussion session at a conference where it was noted that despite all the work being undertaken in Scotland there were few, if any, opportunities for everyone to get together to have an informal discussion.

Marine Scotland offered to organise and host the first session in May 2014. It is intended that each of the members take turns in hosted the Forum and the meetings will be held on an ad-hoc basis as required. Marine Scotland has offered to collate the agendas and minutes of the meetings. The members of the group are listed below but as the Forum is informal other interested parties are welcome to attend.

Members

Marine Scotland
 Highland Council
 Orkney Islands Council
 NAFC Marine Centre
 Scottish Natural Heritage
 Heriot Watt University
 Scottish Association for Marine Science
 Clyde Forum

6. Marine Spatial Planning Community Project / Forum (MASTS)

<http://www.masts.ac.uk/masts-research/community-projects/msp/>

Terms of Reference / aims

The MASTS Marine Spatial Plan Community Project aims to develop a focussed, interdisciplinary approach of Scotland's marine science to support marine spatial planning (MSP) in Scotland.

The project serves two broad functions:

- Provide a forum by which strategic actions can be identified to support co-ordination of MSP-related research across MASTS institutions;
- Develop collaborative proposals to access wider funding mechanisms and increase MASTS research to support marine planning.

The project is building an understanding of the capacity, expertise and experience across MASTS institutions, and engaging directly with planning authorities (including Marine Scotland) to understand their needs. Interim activities were identified to support marine planning activity (such as a MASTS hosted web-based portal for knowledge exchange) and possible priority research topics were discussed, under the three following themes:

1. Data and information for planning (e.g. tourism and recreation, bathymetry, etc.)
2. Methods, techniques and tools for planning (e.g. cumulative impact assessment, planning for optimised resource use, co-location, etc.)
3. Approaches to governance, stakeholder participation and communication (e.g. integrating non-licensable activities, testing consultation techniques, etc.)

The Project held its first workshop in June 2014. Download the workshop final report and presentations from Lucy Greenhill and Matt Gubbins on MASTS web site. At a second workshop in September 2014, progress of the Community Project was discussed and a decision made to develop a forum (leader currently being sought).

Further details contact Lucy Greenhill.

7. Strategic Issues Group

Terms of Reference / aims

To discuss matters of strategic importance to member organisations.

Members

Marine Scotland
SNH
SEPA
JNCC
Historic Scotland

8. MSFD Scottish monitoring group

Terms of Reference / aims

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive group leader coordinates the science and advice carried out within the Environment Monitoring and Assessment Programme that is supporting the Scottish input to the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).

Members

Simon Greenstreet – MSS	Colin Moffatt – MSS
Bill Turrell – MSS	Matt Gubbins - MSS
David Palmer – MS	Anna Donald - MS
Sarah Smith – MS	David Mallon - MS
John Baxter – SNH	Roger Owen – SEPA
Charlotte Johnston – JNCC	Jane Hawkridge – JNCC

9. Scottish Offshore Renewables Research Framework (SpORRAn)

The aim of the new Scottish Offshore Renewables Research Framework (SpORRAn) is to provide a mechanism to create a co-ordinated strategic research programme needed to facilitate the sustainable development of the Marine Renewable sector in Scotland. The SpORRAn framework will be structured to include a high level coordination group, and specialised research groups for a number of important receptors e.g. marine mammals and birds.

The Framework has three strategic Objectives:

1. Coordinate, prioritise and address evidence needs to:
 - support Marine Scotland’s risk based licencing and consenting approach.
 - increase understanding of the environmental, social and economic interactions of renewables development in Scotland; including interactions with species and habitats protected though European and national legislation.
2. Provide a mechanism for
 - Project level and post consenting impacts to inform the strategic planning for offshore renewables.
 - Monitoring, review and update of the offshore renewable Sectoral plans for Wind, Wave and Tidal Energy.
 - Interacting with relevant UK, EU and International Renewable Energy groups.
3. Ensure most efficient and effective use of expert time.

The TORs for the groups have not been finalised.

9. Marine Scotland Fishing Focus

Aim: To provide a strategic and co-operative forum to ensure commercial fishing interests are considered in the development of Marine Scotland policy in relation to marine planning, marine renewables and marine conservation. To provide for an integrated approach to information dissemination and discussion.

The Marine Scotland Fishing Sector Focus Group provides a forum to discuss a range of strategic marine issues that are relevant to the fishing sector.

Made up of representatives from both Marine Scotland and the fishing sector, the forum is designed to offer a cooperative forum where commercial fishing interests are considered in the development of marine planning, renewables and conservation policy. In addition, it will also provide a more integrated approach to information dissemination and discussion.

Members

Ross Dougal - SFF
Bill Hughes - Pittenweem FMA
Bertie Armstrong - SFF
Patrick Stewart – Clyde Fishermen
David Donnan – SNH
Declan Tobin – JNCC
Duncan MacInnes - WIFA
Katie Gilham - SNH
Kenny Coull - SFF
Malcolm Morrison - SFF
Mark Tasker - JNCC
Roddy McColl - FAL
Mike Park - SWFPA
Alistair Philip - SCFF
Tom Blasdale - JNCC
Tom Bryan-Brown - MNWFA
Alistair Sinclair - SCFF
George White – Scottish IFGs
Nick Lake – Scottish IFGs
John Hermse – The Scallop Association
Marine Scotland:
Linda Rosborough
David Palmer
Anna Donald
David Mallon
Phil Gilmour
Bruce Buchanan
Jim McKie
Matt Gubbins
Eamon Murphy
Michael Mcleod
Andronikos Kafas