

MPA 10045

22/10/13



18 October 2013

MPA Consultancy

Dear Sirs

**MPA CONSULTATION**

I have the following representations to the undernoted questions in your consultation proforma

Q1

I support the development of MPAs however the proposal is not coherent unless we include protected areas for seabird feeding hotspots

Q2, Q3, Q6, Q13, Q19 and Q21

All the sites listed above should be designated to protect black guillemot. Also other seabird species must be protected in these sites and added to the list of designated features.

Q28, Q29

The proposed Firth of Forth Banks Complex MPA must be designated as recommended by the Joint Nature Conservancy Council and Scottish Natural Heritage. It is also important that sandeels should be protected in the Firth of Forth MPA. Sandeels in this area are an important food source for seabirds and have a critical ecological function on which many other marine animals are dependent. Seabirds must be added to the list of designated features and be protected in this site.

Q35

Without protection for seabirds the network cannot be considered complete. The Scottish Government has committed to an international agreement to create an ecologically coherent network which is 'representative' of nationally important species and 'particularly important for highly mobile species, such as certain birds' MPAs are required to complement Special Protection Areas and offer seabirds the level of protection required to help stem the drastic and continued declines in their numbers over the last twenty years.

This is an individual response to the Planning Scotland Seas MPA consultation.

Yours faithfully

