

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

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

Yes No

I support the development of an MPA network in Scotlands seas and the science based process of MPA designation.

However, I am saddened by the lack of provision for Scotlands nationally and internationally important seabird populations. I understand that, with the exception of black guillemot, seabirds were excluded from the selection process, based on the idea that they receive sufficient protection from Special Protection Areas (SPA's) under the EC Birds Directive. This legislation has been in place for over 30 years and yet, over that time and particularly over the last 10 years, we have seen serious and rapid declines in the population of many species protected under the EC Birds Directive. The problem is that SPA's protect mainly the breeding areas of these birds, and there is currently no protection whatsoever for the feeding areas of these birds. In some areas of Orkney kittiwake populations have decreased by over 90%.

Having excluded all except one seabird species from the MPA process, will the Scottish Government now commit to putting in place effective, properly managed protection for our seabirds, and particularly for their feeding areas, under the EC Birds Directive?

I am also very concerned that there appears to be little detail, in either the management handbook or the individual site proposals, about monitoring the performance of the MPA's. A detailed programme of monitoring, both within and outwith the MPA's, is required. Without it, appropriate management is impossible and the Scottish Government will fail in its duty to protect and recover the health of Scotlands seas.

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Management Options:

Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15years old.

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Management Options:

Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15years old

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Management Options:

Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15years old

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

Comments

Management Options:

Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No

Comments

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

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Management Options:

Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15years old

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Management Options: Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15years old

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

I support the designation of this MPA, and it should be designated to protect black guillemot. Additionally, other seabird species must be protected in this site and seabirds must be added to the list of designated features.

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

I encourage the Scottish government to make sure that the management measures for the kelp forests, which form the black guillemots main feeding grounds, are fit for purpose. Those proposed appear minimal, with no attempt made to anticipate future risks. A detailed survey of black guillemot populations is required as a matter of urgency, as the most recent detailed survey is around 15 years old

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

Comments

Management Options: Yes No

Comments

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes No

Comments

All of the above:

Yes No

Comments

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

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

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

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

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

The firth of Forth Banks Complex MPA must be designated as recommended by the JNCC and SNH. It is 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.

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

The firth of Forth Banks Complex MPA must be designated as recommended by the JNCC and SNH. It is 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

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

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

Comments

Sustainability Appraisal

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

Yes No

Comments

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

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". MPA's are required to complement SPA's and offer seabirds the level of protection required to help to stem the drastic and continued declines in their numbers over the last twenty years.

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

Comments