

<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?	Yes
Designation	I agree with what is being proposed regarding the south Arran MPA at the very least but feel it does not go far enough and should extend around the whole coastline of Arran. Desperate situations require desperate measures. Sea birds should also be considered in the proposals as numbers are dropping at an alarming rate.
Management Options	I support COASTS management proposals entirely. After all, commercial trawling and dredging over many years have led to sea bed habitat destruction we now face. If they are given an inch, some will undoubtedly risk taking a mile. It would be simplistic to expect otherwise. Nursery seabed MUST be left to recover and protected from the excesses of commercial fishing for the benefit of all.
Socioeconomic Assessment:	I came to Arran in the mid 70's to run a sea angling boat servicing the tourist industry and did so for four years. While fish stocks were still viable in these days, it was obvious that all was not well. Each year I had to travel farther to find successful marks for my clients to fish. By 1979 I decided to call it a day for economic reasons. Other skippers I knew here also quit as the costs of running a boat soared while catches got less and less.
Other Comments	I am surprised that SNH are of the belief that the way to handle the MPA proposal is to go at it gently. I hope that the Scottish Government shows more courage in the face of Commercial pressure. In the end, the rewards will be greater and benefit all concerned.
Organisation	
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