

Have your say on the Arran MPA!

Public Consultation: South Arran Marine Protected Area Proposal

Please complete this 2 page form and hand it in to the Brodick Tourist Information Office (or post to Marine Scotland at the address below). The questions are based on Marine Scotland's public MPA network consultation response form. You can also complete the response form online and find out more about the Arran MPA at www.arrancoast.com. The public consultation ends on 13 November 2013.

Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas with 3 MPAs in the Clyde? Yes No

The following questions are for the South Arran possible Nature Conservation MPA

What do you think about the location and size of the proposed South Arran MPA?

I would like to see all three pMPAs in the Clyde go ahead. Concerning Arran, the proposed 3 mile width round south Arran should be accepted in full and not tinkered with. There is a geographical logic in maintaining the proposed boundary; allowing entry to all in some areas would give off the wrong signals, would complicate regeneration, spillover, larval drift, lateral colonisation, would make monitoring awkward, would partly destroy the element of experimental research, and would tempt trawlers and dredgers to nibble ~~at~~ at the edges of the recovering areas.

What should the management measures be for the proposed South Arran MPA?

No bottom dredging or trawling or any activity which damages the sea bed. Creeling, diving, sea angling allowed, and leisure and tourist activities such as sailing, boating, swimming, diving and trips to observe the MPA encouraged. The MPA should be monitored and managed by marine experts (with no commercial interests) whose sole brief is the regeneration of marine life in the MPA. In considering socio economic factors, in terms of jobs and livelihoods, it should be considered

What social and economic effects do you think the South Arran MPA will have? that land-based jobs adjacent to a well maintained MPA may actually surpass the number and income of commercial fishers trawling or dredging the same areas. For example, a small take of fish by local fishermen or tourists can be supplied to local hotels, restaurants and homes in prime fresh condition and this fact would add immensely to the attractiveness of coastal communities such as surround the Clyde. Spillover from the MPA boundary, increasing exponentially, would supply towns and inland markets. Professional fishermen and industry officials should be persuaded and reassured by the government that this is not a 'winner-loser' situation; professional fishermen, anglers,

Any other comments locals, tourists and fish will all gain as fish stocks improve. I have lived on Arran for over 60 years. Sea angling and fishing from small boats was once hugely popular, herring and many species were plentiful, sharks were common. The decline in fish stocks in the period has been devastating, and urgent and determined action is needed to restore marine health. I hope that the thorough research and massive local knowledge gained by COAST.

Please hand in to Brodick Tourist Office or post to: MPA Network Consultation, Scottish Government, Marine Planning and Policy Division, Area 1-A South Victoria Quay, Edinburgh EH66QQ.

over many years, & the local trust in COAST and enthusiasm for their proposals will be recognised. In my view the MPA proposed by COAST should be adopted in full. This development could transform Scotland's coastal communities and help create a bright economic future for the benefit of everyone.