



Sebastian Howell
MPA Network Consultation
Scottish Government
Marine Planning and Policy Division
Area 1-A South
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH66QQ

13 November 2013

Dear Mr Howell,

Consultation on 2013 Possible Nature Conservation Marine Areas

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Consultation.

The Institute for Archaeologists

The Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) is a professional body for the study and care of the historic environment. It promotes best practice in archaeology and provides a self-regulatory quality assurance framework for the sector and those it serves.

IfA has over 3,000 members and more than 70 registered practices across the United Kingdom. Its members work in all branches of the discipline: heritage management, planning advice, excavation, finds and environmental study, buildings recording, underwater and aerial archaeology, museums, conservation, survey, research and development, teaching and liaison with the community, industry and the commercial and financial sectors. IfA's Maritime Affairs Group (MAG) (to which most professional maritime archaeologists in the United Kingdom belong) and its Scottish Group (which has over 200 members practising in the public, private and voluntary sector in Scotland) advise the Institute on matters falling within their respective remits.

Furthermore, IfA is a member of the Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS), a network organisation that brings together non-governmental organisations and professional bodies that work with Scotland's built environment.

2013 Possible Nature Conservation Marine Areas

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

1.1 Yes.

Question 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?

36.1 IfA would not seek to comment on the ecological grounds for designating nature conservation MPAs. However, the socio-economic assessments of such prospective MPAs should include consideration of the marine historic environment.

If there is anything further that I can do to assist please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Tim Howard LLB, Dip Prof Arch
Policy Advisor