

Dear Sir/Madam

Regarding the consultation about citing a Marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay, Aran

1. I would like to voice my very strong support for a Marine Reserves in Lamlash Bay

2: I think the outcome of this would be entirely positive

3: It is not in anyone's interest for fishing to be allowed everywhere in UK waters. At present only one small area around Lundy Island is fully protected from all forms of fishing. This is woefully inadequate both in terms of biodiversity conservation and for the long-term benefit of the fishing industry. The UK urgently needs to create a national network of protected areas that are fully protected from all forms of extractive use including fishing, and is under international obligations to do so. The proposal for a reserve at Lamlash Bay has great local support and is highly worthy of protection on biological grounds. The circumstances leading up to this proposal have received international attention in the scientific and conservation communities and I believe that it would be a tragedy and an embarrassment for Scotland if this application does not proceed.

Yours faithfully

Dr Julie Hawkins  
Lecturer in Marine Environmental Management

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