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Consultation on Proposed Marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay

1. We wish to record our full agreement with the proposal to establish a Marine Reserve and No Take Zone in Lamlash Bay.
2. We feel that the proposed Reserve will have very positive implications for the future with regard to the regeneration of both the marine vegetation (esp. the maerl beds) and the rebuilding of fish stocks.
3. We have for years watched as night trawlers have systematically swept the Bay for hours on end. We would welcome the NTZ and the establishment of the Marine Reserve and feel sure that the conservation provided by the NTZ will protect the spawning in the Bay and in the longer term (as has been found in the Isle of Man's protected areas) will contribute to the advantage of the fishing industry itself.

In this context we must add that the proposed siting of a huge fish farm near Clauchlands Point can only be deleterious due to pollution and disease already experienced in the Bay, and we would trust that the appeal against NAC's decision to refuse planning permission will be rejected.

Yours sincerely,

James & Margaret MacGregor

James MacGregor

E. M. MacGregor