

From: Contact SSACN
Sent: 12 May 2008 14:09
To: Lamlash Bay Consultation
Subject: CONSULTATION ON A PROPOSED MARINE RESERVE IN LAMLASH BAY

Attachments: COAST feedback.doc

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Dear Sir / Madam,

This is the response from the Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network (SSACN) to the CONSULTATION ON A MARINE RESERVE IN LAMLASH BAY, ARRAN being undertaken by yourselves.

Question 1. Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to establish a Marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay?

- AGREE

Question 2. Do you think there would be any (a) positive or (b) negative implications should a Marine Reserve be established in Lamlash Bay?

- Offers a suitable pilot study through minimal impact on any sectors
- Provide a focussed opportunity to study the process of regeneration
- Facilitate regeneration of marine biodiversity
- Provide an opportunity to measure magnitude of regeneration
- Provide an insight into the nature of any resulting increase in biodiversity
- Help identify potential benefits to commercial & recreational fisheries
- Provide data to support activities to regenerate other depleted areas

Question 3. Are there any other points which you would like to make in relation to the proposed Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve?

- We understand that there has been a high degree of local consultation, but now the Consultation is addressing a much larger audience, understanding the issues and providing feedback would have been much easier if the Consultation document had clearly articulated the specific purpose and objective(s) of both the Marine Reserve and the No Take Zone and provided some insights into the duration, checks and balances and any ongoing consultation process.
- Lacking these we approached COAST for clarification - see attached.
- It is hoped that all information gathered will be freely shared thus enabling groups like ourselves to have access to data which could support other programmes.

Additional Notes

We would like to make the following remarks concerning Marine Reserves and No Take Zones in general.

1. Where either will preclude any sea angling activity then ALL sea angling bodies should be amongst those consulted as a direct stakeholders.
2. SSACN are a key stakeholder - especially where the regeneration/conservation of stocks is the issue
3. The specific purpose(s) and objective(s) of both/either should be clearly documented and agreed.
4. No-Take should only apply to the objective of the NTZ, any activity (commercial or recreational) which does no harm should not be restricted - gathering bait, fishing method etc (unless it impacts 2)
5. There should be a stated initial duration supported by a programme of continual assessment regarding progress / renewal

RFI (Responder Information Form)

Name: The Scottish Sea Conservation Network

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