

Our Ref: CJS/PJH
ORG13-A2185
Your Ref: CON004

Daniel Brown
Sea Fisheries Management, Fishing Communities and
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Marine Directorate
DG Environment
Scottish Government
Room 511
Pentland House
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5 June 2008

Dear Mr Brown

Consultation on a Proposed Marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay [CON004]

Thank you for providing the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) with the opportunity to comment on the above consultation document.

We would support the principles of the marine reserve to create a no take zone and fisheries management area.

This should not necessarily preclude any future discharges to the marine environment from land or sea into the area provided they comply with the legislative standards imposed to protect the water environment.

SEPA's response to the questions posed are contained within the attached Annex

As a public body committed to openness and transparency, SEPA feels it is appropriate that this response be placed on the public record. If you require further clarification on any aspect of this correspondence, please contact Peter Holmes, Head of Marine Science at the SEPA East Kilbride Office, at the address shown below;

SEPA East Kilbride
5 Redwood Crescent
Peel Park
East Kilbride
G74 5PP

Yours sincerely



Peter Holmes
Head of Marine Science

Enc: ANNEX 1

**Consultation on a Proposed Marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay [CON004]
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ANNEX 1

Answering the questions posed

Q1 Do you agree or disagree with the proposal to establish a marine Reserve in Lamlash Bay?

Yes - SEPA welcomes the creation of carefully selected no take zones especially where there has been wide consultation.

Q2 Do you think there would be any a) positive or b) negative implications should a Marine Reserve be established in Lamlash Bay?

a) Positive – The sea is under increasing pressure from a number of activities and having protected areas encourages the resumption of natural balance of species. The larvae of this protected population may help stock areas under more pressure. This zone will act as a test bed to see whether the positive benefits are realised.

b) Negative - SEPA see no real problems with this.

Q3 Are there any other points which you would like to make in relation to the proposed Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve?

SEPA has licensed the discharge from the Scottish Water Lamlash WwTW located to the north of the proposed reserve and we are currently considering an application for a cage salmon farm on the Brodick side of Claulchlands Point.

There are already a few small private sewage discharges into the proposed marine reserve the largest of which is probably from the Tibetan Retreat on Holy Island.

The overlap of the recreational waters with the southern end of the proposed marine reserve does not pose us any issues. There is also a shellfish harvesting area located within the boundary although this is a matter for the Food Standards Agency.