

CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you agree with the proposals set out in the draft Scottish Marine Regions Order 2013?

Yes No

If no, please explain why not and your suggested alternative(s).

Comments

The Firth of Clyde Forum would like to commend the effort which has gone into creating the proposed boundaries for the Scottish Marine Regions and applaud the Scottish Government for its work on better management of Scotland's seas. However the majority of members of the Core Group of the Forum does not believe the boundary suggested for the Clyde/Solway regions to be the most workable or pragmatic solution.

The boundary for the Firth of Clyde Marine Region has been operationally established by the Firth of Clyde Forum and the Scottish Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative since approximately 2002 as outlined in the map adjacent. All data has been gathered on the basis of this boundary and the existing Marine Spatial Plan also works to this boundary. Similarly the Solway Firth Partnership, with whom we share the boundary has been working and gathering data for a similarly constrained region.



With regard to ecological management of the proposed marine protected areas the Clyde Sea Sill proposed MPA may be split by the establishment of the green boundary line but the orange boundary line would allow for a more ecosystem based approach to management.

Whilst the Core Group of the Firth of Clyde Forum appreciate there needs to be compromise with regard to the boundaries they would ask Marine Scotland to consider the large body of data collected on the basis of the map above and the implications for data and ecological management should the boundary substantially change. They would also ask that implications for stakeholder engagement be considered as the new boundary may mean significant changes to the key stakeholders.

The majority of the members of the Core Group of the Firth of Clyde Forum would like to propose the **orange** line in the map adjacent (which excludes Loch Ryan) be considered as the regional boundary for the Firth of Clyde.



Please note that this response does not necessarily represent the views of all Firth of Clyde Forum Core Group Members and it does not preclude members from submitting

their own responses.

2. Do you have any further comments? In particular we are seeking views on

- the drafting of the Order;
- the co-ordinates establishing the marine region boundaries;
- the boundaries outlined at paragraph 8 above;
- the names of the regions suggested; and
- the illustrative map.

Comments

The majority of the members of the Core Group of the Firth of Clyde Forum would like to note that whilst they feel the 'Clyde Marine Region' is an acceptable and

relevant name, it can be misleading to entitle areas such as the Solway Firth as 'South West Region' as this may lead to confusion for the public and duplication with the English MMO regions. Local and regionally relevant names are likely to be more effective for stakeholder engagement.

3. Do you believe that the creation of Scottish Marine Regions discriminates disproportionately between persons defined by age, disability, sexual orientation, gender, race and religion and belief?

Yes No

4. If you answered yes to question 3 in what way do you believe that the creation of Scottish Marine Regions is discriminatory?

Comments