

University of Aberdeen East Caithness Cliffs MPA 10070  
student responses.

## **CONSULTATION QUESTIONS**

### **1. Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?**

Yes  No

- Network protects lots of key habitats & features which will benefit marine biodiversity in Scotland.
- Networks are more reasonable because there is a better coverage of features without upsetting stakeholders by enforcing huge restricted areas.
- Nursing grounds are protected.
- All government bodies working together for a better understanding of marine environment.

### **Individual possible Nature Conservation MPAs**

### **2. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *East Caithness Cliffs* possible Nature Conservation MPA?**

Designation: Yes  No

- No conflict with established fisheries / stakeholders.
- Easily managed
- First time black guillemot has been included in a conservation plan.
- Designation of 2km would help preserve food source.
- Preventative measure → looking to the future

Management Options:

Yes  No

- ⇒ Simple management ⇒ volunteers can be used to monitor mink populations & rat populations.
- ⇒ No fisheries present, so don't need to be monitored.  
If fishery is opened ⇒ don't use nets to catch them.
- ⇒ Possibly look at protecting butterfish as by-catch if a fishery is established.

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes  No

- ⇒ Tourism & birdwatching.
- ⇒ Doesn't negatively affect income.

All of the above:

Yes  No

- ⇒ continued research ⇒ try to find out reasons for fluctuation.

# NW Sea Lochs + Summer Isles

## CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?

Yes  No

Important to preserve and restore ecologically important areas.

To change current practices that are damaging to important key species and habitats.

## Individual possible Nature Conservation MPAs

2. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *North West Sea Lochs and the Summer Isles* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes  No

We agree it is important to preserve these habitat structuring organisms (i.e. maerl, flame shells, kelp) due to the effect on other marine communities and biodiversity.  
Considering fishermen interests we think it is most important to preserve inshore areas and reduce the size of MPA to allow fishing in the outer areas of the bay to reach a compromise if necessary.

Management Options:

Yes  No

Limit damaging fishing methods such as dredging and allow more sustainable local fishermen to take advantage of the fishing grounds by consequence.

Ensure no organic enrichment from aquaculture near maerl beds.

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes  No

Important to ~~listen~~ work with local fishermen and try to achieve mutually beneficial solutions. Try and increase value of products and tourism industry.

All of the above:

Yes  No

Open-minded about all stakeholders.  
Clear public information to the differences an MPA will make to the local economy and the environment.

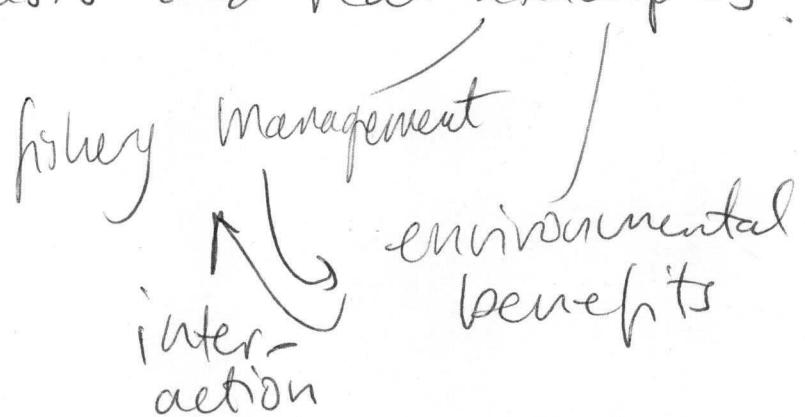
**3. Do you have any other comments on the case for designation, management options, environmental or socioeconomic assessments of the pMPAs, or the network as a whole?**

Yes  No

Good to have local marine planning partnerships, but be clear on their individual responsibilities.

## Comments on consultation presentation:

- More tailored and specific information on local MPA proposals and ~~effects~~ their impacts at each consultation location
- Answer fundamental such as why MPAs are being proposed? and what difference they will make on economy and environment? And how they will be managed?
- Difficult to understand links between the three presentations in the marine bill.
- More science basis and real examples.



# *Small Isles*

## **CONSULTATION QUESTIONS**

- 1. Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?**

Yes  No

## **Individual possible Nature Conservation MPAs**

- 2. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Small Isles* possible Nature Conservation MPA?**

Designation:

Yes  No

In terms of maintaining relations with fishermen, the relocation of disposal sites should be kept within the MPA, to ~~the~~ reduce increasing the distance travelled for disposal (if possible).

Management Options:

Yes  No

If trawling + dredging + static fishing are going to be managed, promotion of pelagic + hand collection of bivalves ~~should~~ fishing should be considered again to maintain / possibly improve relations with fishermen.

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes  No

→ another alternative to dredging etc.

All of the above:

Yes  No

3. Do you have any other comments on the case for designation, management options, environmental or socioeconomic assessments of the pMPAs, or the network as a whole?

Yes  No

Possibly explains localised effects  
to each stakeholder group (impact etc)

*Loch Gruinart Duich*

**CONSULTATION QUESTIONS**

1. Do you support the development of an MPA network in Scotland's Seas?

Yes  No

**Individual possible Nature Conservation MPAs**

2. Do you have any comments on the case for designation, management options and socioeconomic assessment for the *Loch Gruinart Duich, long & Alsh* possible Nature Conservation MPA?

Designation:

Yes  No

- More info needed on current fishing levels and practices and the potential impact of an MPA would have
  - Need info on plans for monitoring area.
-

Management Options:

Yes  No

- How will it be monitored & how adjustable the MPA guidelines are in response to changes in habitat health.
- 

Socioeconomic Assessment:

Yes  No

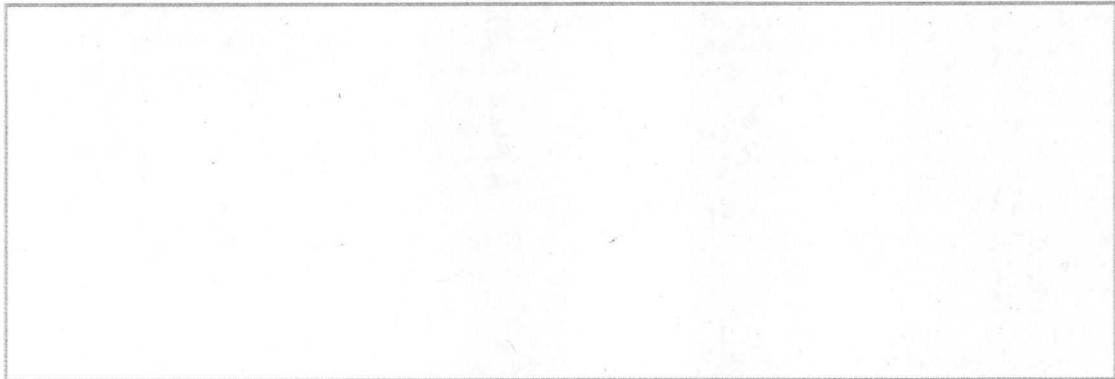
All of the above:

Yes  No

- Before publishing this document, more data should be produced on & activities that may affect the protected feature.
- Public unable to make a fair judgement on proposed MPA due to lack of data and clarity of activities and the effect of this.

**3. Do you have any other comments on the case for designation, management options, environmental or socioeconomic assessments of the pMPAs, or the network as a whole?**

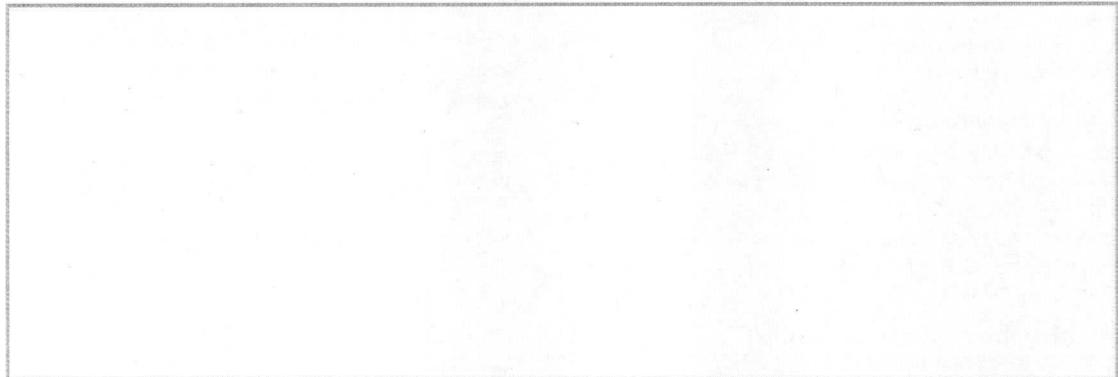
Yes  No



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**3. Do you have any other comments on the case for designation, management options, environmental or socioeconomic assessments of the pMPAs, or the network as a whole?**

Yes  No



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