

Scotland's National Marine Plan



The Scottish
Government

Statement of Public Participation (SPP)



marinescotland

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Introduction

The Marine (Scotland) Act achieved Royal assent on 10 March 2010. The Act provides a framework which will help balance competing demands on Scotland's seas. It introduces a duty to protect and enhance the marine environment and includes measures to help boost economic investment and growth in areas such as marine renewables.

The Marine (Scotland) Act provides for a marine plan in the inshore area (0-12 nautical miles) and the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 provides for a marine plan in the offshore area (12-200 nautical miles). In developing these plans, which will be published in one document, we recognise that what is referred to as "the national marine plan for Scotland" rests on two sets of legislation and statutory provisions. The Joint Ministerial Council agreement sought to provide for integrated planning in the marine area and consequently "the national marine plan for Scotland" consisting of plans covering both the inshore and offshore regions will be prepared and adopted.

Introducing a new statutory marine planning system will enable Scotland to take a more strategic approach to managing our seas. It will create a framework in which we will be able to better balance resource needs and demands on marine space whilst still protecting our marine environment. This will mean that Scotland will be able to sustainably manage the increasing, and often conflicting, demands on our seas from wildlife tourism and recreational angling to energy and fishing.

The National Marine Plan will set out Scottish Ministers' policies for sustainable development of Scotland's seas including the setting of objectives for economic, social and marine ecosystems and the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change. Scottish Ministers will also state their policies on the contribution of designated conservation sites to the protection and enhancement of the sea and will ensure that our international and EU commitments are met. The plan will identify national priorities and clarify decision making and will also include provisions relating to retained functions.

Participation Commitment

Marine Scotland, and the Scottish Government as a whole, is committed to

- involving all relevant stakeholders and members of the public in the development of policies that will impact upon them.
- arrangements for participation are inclusive, clear and transparent
- communication is provided through a range of formats and jargon free
- all representations are fully considered

Achieving involvement of our stakeholders from the beginning of this process is vital in the creation of a National Marine Plan that will benefit people not only from the individual sectors concerned with the marine environment but also people living in as well as visiting Scotland.

The participation process will involve a wide range of stakeholders including key agencies, planning authorities, private sector including fisheries representatives, tourism and recreation organisations, shipping, ports and harbours, marine renewables sector, voluntary sectors and members of the public.

Preparation and Participation Timetable

The process involved to create a National Marine Plan will follow 9 stages as set out below:

Stage 1: Initial meetings to consult stakeholders on the scope and content of the National Marine Plan: June - December 2010.

Stage 2: Preparation of pre consultation draft National Marine Plan and undertaking Sustainability Appraisal(SA), which includes Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) : October 2010 – March 2011.

Stage 3: Pre consultation of the draft national marine plan and draft SA/SEA(12 weeks) : March 2011- June 2011.

Due to The Scottish Parliament elections taking place on 5th May 2011, the dates of stages 4-8 may be subject to change.

Stage 4: Revision of the pre consultation draft National Marine Plan in response to comments made during the pre consultation and the SA/SEA pre consultation: July 2011- August 2011.

Stage 5: Consultation on the Draft National Marine Plan(12 weeks).
Consultation on the SA and SEA(12 weeks): autumn/winter 2011.

Stage 6: Revision of the Draft National Plan (including a statement on inclusion of retained functions and that the plan is in conformity with MPS) in response to comments made during the Plan consultation and the SA/SEA consultation: early 2012.

Stage 7: Laying draft National Marine Plan before Parliament and Parliamentary consideration of the proposed National Marine Plan: Spring/summer 2012

Stage 8: Final considerations, adoption and publication of the National Marine Plan. Publication of the SEA Post-Adoption Statement: Spring/summer 2012.

Stage 9: Keep National Marine Plan under review and report in line with the appropriate legalisation.

Stage 1: Initial meetings to consult stakeholders on the scope and content of the National Marine Plan.

Marine Scotland is working closely with the UK government, the Welsh Assembly Government and the Northern Ireland Executive to create and jointly adopt a UK Marine Policy Statement. This Statement is the first stage in the new planning systems that are implementing Primary Legislation across the UK. It will set out high level ambitions and priorities for the policies that will shape the use of marine resources and how sustainable seas can be achieved. The Scottish National Marine Plan will be developed in accordance with the policies set out in the UK Marine Policy Statement.

In order to ensure that the National Marine Plan fits with the UK Marine Policy Statement and meets the needs of Scotland Marine Scotland held a joint consultation workshop for Scottish Stakeholders. The aim of the workshop was to identify the key objectives for each of the sectors. This is currently being followed up by a series of workshops with each of the sectors individually.

Event: Joint Workshop	Audience: All sectors	Date: 29 April 2010
Details:	The event was held to consult on the UK Marine Policy Statement to ensure it met with the requirements of the Scottish marine sectors. It was also to bring awareness to the upcoming National Marine Plan and to obtain the individual sectors key objectives for the plan.	
Sectors:	Aquaculture Fish Aquaculture Shellfish Ports and Harbours Renewables Conservation Oil & Gas Ministry of Defence(MoD) Leisure and Recreation Local Authorities Historical Assets Commercial Sea Fisheries Tourism Shipping	

Event: Initial Meetings	Audience: All sectors	Date: July – Dec 2010
Details:	The meetings were held with individual sectors to build on the key objectives that were raised during the May workshop and recognize any conflicting priorities that the sector identifies.	
Aquaculture	30-Jun: British Trout Association, Scottish Salmon Producers, The British Marine Finfish Association, The Association of Scottish Shellfish Growers.	
Conservation	7-Jul: Scottish Environment Link	
Ports/Shipping/Aviation	8-Jul: Prestwick Airport, Forth Ports, Northern Lighthouse Board, chamber of shipping, Aberdeen harbour, Royal Yachting Association.	
Tourism & Recreation	14-Jul: Scottish Sea Anglers Conservation Network, Scottish Canoe Association, Real Sea Anglers, SportScotland, Royal Yachting Association	
Mixed Group	28-Jul: Scottish Coastal Forum members and Scottish Environment Link members	
Oil & Gas	29-Jul: Department for Energy and Climate Change	
Historic Assets	11-Aug: Historic Scotland, Built Environment Forum Scotland (BEFS), Headland Archaeology	
Oil & Gas	16-Aug: Oil and Gas UK	
Fisheries	18-Aug: Inshore Fisheries Co-ordinators	

MOD	25-Aug: MOD Clyde
Conservation	1-Sep and 23 Nov: Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
Conservation	3-Sep: Marine & Coastal Ecosystems Group
Fisheries	15-Sep: Scottish Fishermen's Federation(SFF),Fishermen's Association Ltd (FAL), Galloway Creelers, Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA)
Fisheries	21-Sep: Association of Salmon Fisheries Boards
MOD	18- Oct: Defence Estates
Fisheries	04-Nov: SFF
Crown Estate	19-Nov
Maritime & Coastguard Agency(MCA)	9-Dec

Stage 2: Preparation of pre consultation draft National Marine Plan and undertaking Sustainability Appraisal(SA), which includes Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Preparation of the National Marine Plan from initial sector and stakeholder meetings. The Scottish National Marine Plan will be developed in accordance with the policies set out in the UK Marine Policy Statement.

The SA/SEA is being carried out by the Scottish Government Environmental Assessment team.

Stage 3: Pre consultation of the draft national marine plan and draft SA/SEA

The objective of the third stage of consultation is to receive feedback on the pre consultation Draft National Marine Plan. The pre consultation of the Draft Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report, will run for 12 weeks.

You will be able to view both the documents on [Marine Scotland's website](#) and respond by either following the 'Consultation Responses' button on the consultation web page, by sending your representations to marineconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or by post to Marine Scotland, Marine Planning Branch, 1A-South, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ. The documents will also be available for viewing at Victoria Quay.

As required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the consultation period for the Sustainability Appraisal Report will be advertised in relevant newspapers.

Stage 4: Revision of the pre consultation draft National Marine Plan.

Revision in response to comments made during the pre consultation and the SA/SEA pre consultation.

**Stage 5: Consultation on the Draft National Marine Plan(12 weeks).
Consultation on the SA and SEA (12 weeks).**

The objective of the fifth stage of consultation is to receive feedback on the Draft National Marine Plan. The Draft Plan consultation along with the Sustainability Appraisal Report consultation will run for 12 weeks.

You will be able to view both the documents on [Marine Scotland's website](#) and respond by either following the 'Consultation Responses' button on the consultation web page, by sending your representations to marineconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk or by post to Marine Scotland, Marine Planning Branch, 1A-South, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ. The documents will also be available for viewing at Victoria Quay.

As required by the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the consultation period for the Sustainability Appraisal Report will be advertised in relevant newspapers.

Marine Scotland also intends to run a series of open meetings during the consultation, for members of the marine environment sectors and for members of the public across Scotland. The objective of these meetings is to raise awareness of, and encourage further discussion around, the Draft National Marine Plan and the SA/SEA. Representations will not be accepted verbally at these meetings but can be submitted as outlined above.

Event: Web Publication	Audience: All	Date: tbc
Details:	The draft Marine Plan and the Sustainability Appraisal Report will be published on the Marine Scotland website and the consultation will run for 12 weeks	

Event: Public meetings	Audience: All	Date: tbc
Details:	Throughout the 12 week consultation period Marine Scotland will be holding a series of open meetings to raise awareness and discussion of the draft Marine Plan and the SA/SEA. Locations and timings will be published in an updated version of this document and on the Marine Scotland web site	

Stage 6: Revision of the Draft National Plan (including a statement on inclusion of retained functions and that the plan is in conformity with MPS) in response to comments made during the Plan consultation and the SA/SEA consultation.

Scottish Ministers must consider any representations made during the consultation process.

Also as stated in the Marine (Scotland) Act and the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 Scottish Ministers must consider appointing an independent person to investigate the proposals contained in the draft and to report on them during the consultation process.

Stage 7: Laying draft National Marine Plan before Parliament and Parliamentary consideration of the proposed National Marine Plan

As required by the Marine (Scotland) Act the Draft National Plan will be laid before Parliament for a period of 40 days. A copy of the draft will also be published on the Marine Scotland website along with any representations or reports produced by Members of the Scottish Parliament during their consideration process.

Stage 8: Final considerations, adoption and publication of the National Marine Plan. Publication of the SEA Post-Adoption Statement.

Scottish Ministers will consider any recommendations made by Parliament and incorporate any changes, if necessary, into the final document. Once Scottish Ministers have agreed the final version of the National Marine Plan it is considered to be adopted and will be published as promptly as possible after adoption.

In accordance with the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 the National Marine Plan may be adopted only with agreement of the Secretary of State.

Alongside the publication of the National Marine Plan it is required by the Marine (Scotland) Act and the Marine and Coastal Access Act that the following statements are also published:

- Changes that were made to the consultation draft of the National Marine Plan and the reasons for these and;
- Recommendations made either by the independent investigator or Members of the Scottish Parliament which are not being implemented, and the reasons for that.

The Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005 also requires the publication of a Post-Adoption Statement that sets out:

- How environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan;
- How the Environmental Report has been taken into account;
- How the opinions expressed on the draft plan and the Environmental Report have been taken into account;
- The reasons for choosing the plan as adopted, in light of the other reasonable alternatives considered; and
- monitoring measures.

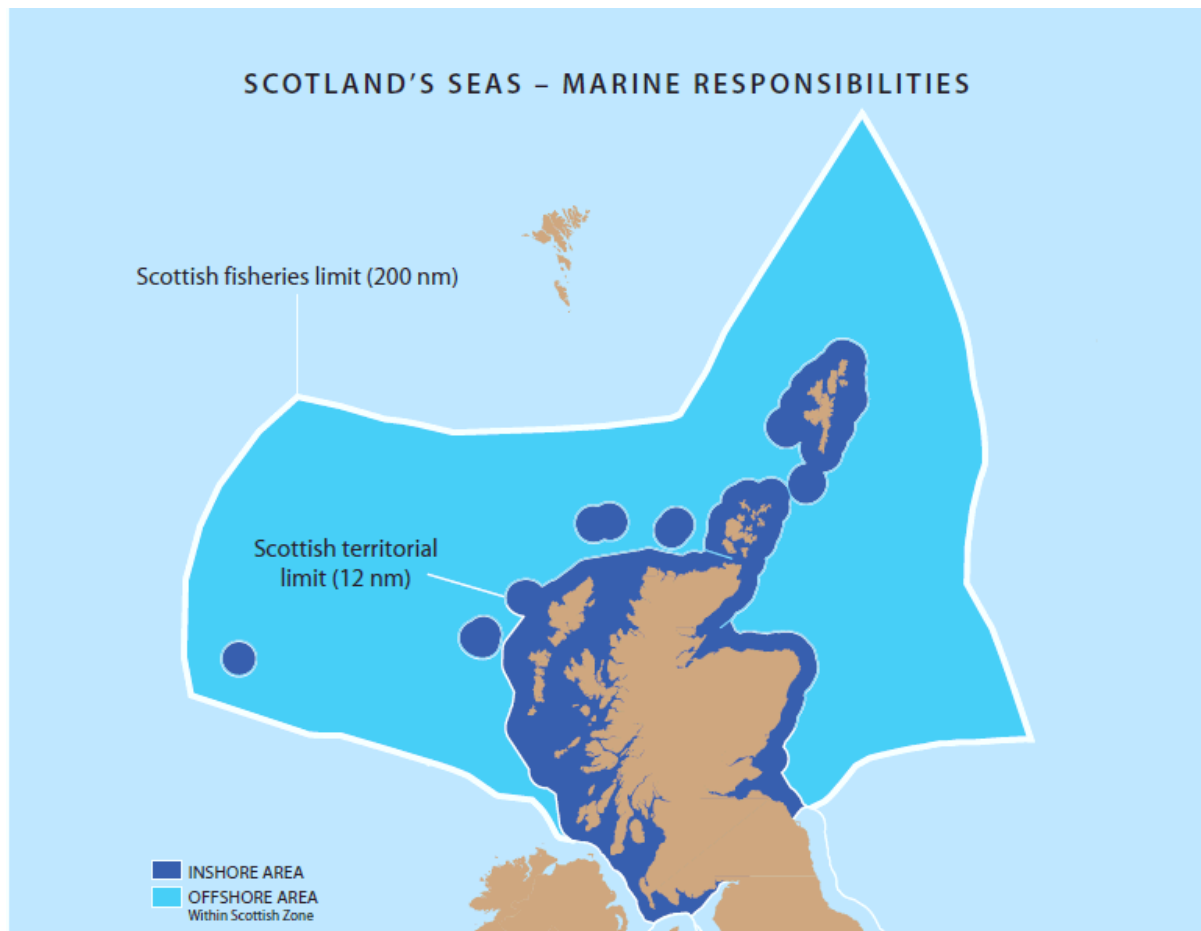
The final version of the National Marine Plan will be published on the Marine Scotland website. Hard copies will also be available if requested.

Stage 9 – Review and Amendment of the National Marine Plan

As the marine environment is constantly developing and evolving it is important that Scottish Ministers continue to review the National Marine Plan and make appropriate amendments that will ensure ongoing sustainable development and protection of Scotland's seas.

Any review and amendments to a published National Marine Plan will follow the same detailed consultation, investigation and parliamentary process as the original plan and will be outlined and published in a further Statement of Public Participation. The National Marine Plan will be reported on in line with the appropriate legislation.

Map of area for which marine plans are being developed.



Please send us your views on the SPP

Contacts details

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Website: Visit the marine planning website at
<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/seamanagement/national>

Marine Planning Team
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