

# MARINE SCOTLAND IS PART OF THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING SCOTLAND'S MARINE & FRESHWATER ENVIRONMENT

Created in April 2009 Marine Scotland has three parts:

- **Marine Scotland Compliance**  
(formerly the Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency)
- **Marine Scotland Science**  
(formerly The Fisheries Research Services)
- **Marine Scotland Policy**  
(formerly The Marine Group from the Scottish Government)

These three areas are all working together to:

## CHAMPION

Scotland's interests to ensure a sustainable future for those who make a living from the sea.

## ENGAGE

with all who have an interest in the future of Scotland's Seas

## PROTECT

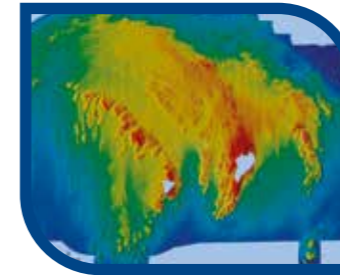
Scotland's marine environment

## RESEARCH and MONITOR

Scotland's seas to provide evidence to support sound decision making

## ADVOCATE

using Scotland's marine environment sustainably



# MARINE SCOTLAND'S NETWORK OF OFFICES



**Key to map**

- Marine Scotland HQ
- Science Laboratories and Facilities
- Compliance Fishery Offices
- ✈ Surveillance aircraft base
- Compliance Head of Coastal Operations
- Compliance vessels base

# HISTORY OF FISHERIES PROTECTION IN SCOTLAND

The British Parliament has legislated for the protection and control of fisheries in the waters around the United Kingdom since the early 19th century.

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| <p><b>1775:</b> The Highland Society of London was created, designed to champion growth in Scotland's Highlands. This was supported by a newly created House of Common's Fisheries Committee created who were particularly supportive of Scottish fisheries and encouraged the building of fishing villages and harbours.</p> | <p>Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF).</p>  |
| <p><b>1786:</b> The British Society for Extending the Fisheries and Improving the Sea Coast of this Kingdom created. This was re-named the British Fisheries Society in 1857.</p>   | <p><b>1960:</b> Reorganisation of Whitehall Government departments created the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland (DAFS).</p>   |
| <p><b>1882:</b> The Fishery Board for Scotland established for the purposes of protecting sea fisheries in the waters around Scotland and land based inspection of landed catches.</p>  | <p><b>1991:</b> Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency (SFPA) created as part of the Initiative to devolve specific activities from central Government. Headed by a Chief Executives accountable to Ministers.</p>  |
| <p><b>1889:</b> Board of Agriculture created by the Board of Agriculture Act 1889.</p>  | <p><b>1999:</b> Following devolution in Scotland, control of the SFPA transferred to the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD).</p>  |
| <p><b>1893:</b> The British Fisheries Society ceases to operate.</p>  | <p><b>2007:</b> The Scottish Executive is renamed The Scottish Government and the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) becomes the Directorate of Enterprise, Environment and Digital.</p>  |
| <p><b>1903:</b> Board of Agriculture becomes the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries.</p>  | <p><b>2009:</b> Marine Scotland is created, pulling together the collective skills and responsibilities of the SFPA, Fisheries Research Services (FRS) and the Scottish Government's Marine Group.</p>  |
| <p><b>1919:</b> Board of Agriculture and Fisheries becomes the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.</p>   | <p><b>2013:</b> Marine Scotland Compliance now has 18 area offices located all around Scotland, including a Headquarters in Edinburgh. They also have two planes and three protection vessels - the MPV <i>Hirta</i>, the MPV <i>Jura</i> and the MPV <i>Minna</i>.</p> |
| <p><b>1939:</b> Fishery Board for Scotland's responsibilities transferred to the Secretary of State for Scotland under the remit of the Home Department.</p>  |   |
| <p><b>1955:</b> Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries becomes Ministry of</p>   |   |



# HISTORY OF FISHERIES SCIENCE AND RESEARCH IN SCOTLAND

Fisheries research in Scotland dates from the late 1800s and the creation of the Fishery Board for Scotland. It was recognised that there was a need for properly organised fisheries research at a time when there was a large scale drift-net fishery for herring, and trawl fisheries were developing.

**1882:** The Fishery Board for Scotland established for the purposes of protecting sea fisheries in the waters around Scotland and land-based inspection of landed catches. The need for a dedicated laboratory to concentrate fully on the science behind Scotland's fishery resources is recognised.

**1898:** Small laboratory and hatchery built at the Bay of Nigg, near Aberdeen.

**1923:** Due to growth and expansion, staff and equipment relocated to premises previously built for the admiralty to house trainee boy riveters and Wrens at Wood Street, Torry, Aberdeen.

**1929:** The Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) set up a research station in Torry to carry out research in fish handling, storing and preservation.

**1939:** Fishery Board's responsibilities transferred to the Secretary of State for Scotland under the remit of the Home and Health Department.

**1948:** The Brown Trout Laboratory created at Faskally, Pitlochry (now the Freshwater Laboratory).

**1954:** Further expansion sees the South Block (which faces onto Victoria Road), housing the reception area, additional offices, laboratories, and a marine aquarium in the basement.

**1960:** Reorganisation of Whitehall Government departments created the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries for Scotland (DAFS).

**Early 1960s:** Library block built.

**1965:** Responsibility for Torry Research Station transferred from DSIR to the Ministry of Technology (MoT).

**1969:** East block and the largest building on the site was built.

**1972:** A specialised aquarium for fish behaviour research was completed.

**1972:** Torry Research Station transferred from the DTI to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF).

**1989:** In response to the rise of Scotland's fish farming industry, accommodation for research on fish cultivation and fish health was expanded with the acquisition of the former Institute of Marine Biochemistry on St Fittick's Road, Torry, Aberdeen.

**1991:** Fisheries Research Service (FRS) created as part of the initiative to devolve specific activities from central Government. Headed by a Chief Executive accountable to Ministers.

**1999:** Following devolution in Scotland, control of the FRS transferred to the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD).

**2007:** The Scottish Executive is renamed The Scottish Government and the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) becomes the Directorate of Enterprise, Environment and Digital.

**2009:** Marine Scotland is created, pulling together the collective skills and responsibilities of the Fisheries Research Services (FRS), Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency (SFPA) and the Scottish Government's Marine Group.

**2010:** A new state-of-art laboratory and aquarium facility named Ellis Building was opened.

**2013:** Marine Scotland Science now has a Marine Laboratory in Aberdeen, a Freshwater Laboratory in Faskally, Pitlochry and two outstations in Montrose and Shieldaig. It also has three research vessels - the MRV *Scotia*, the MRV *Alba na Mara* and the MRV *Temora*.



# HISTORY OF GOVERNMENT AND FISHERIES

Policy is a difficult thing to explain, but can be described as a set of ideas and proposals for action, which the government then discuss and agree.

In Scotland, because of devolution, the Scottish Parliament can make decisions on issues that are “Devolved”. Other decisions still have to be taken by Whitehall in London (these are called “Reserved” issues). The history of Marine Scotland policy is really the history of how the Government has looked after fisheries in Scotland.

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| <p><b>1903:</b> Board of Agriculture becomes the <b>Board of Agriculture and Fisheries</b>.</p>  | <p><b>2009:</b> Marine Scotland is created, pulling together the collective skills and responsibilities of the <b>Fisheries Research Services (FRS)</b>, <b>Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency (SFPA)</b> and the <b>Scottish Government’s Marine Group</b>. This new part of the Scottish Government is responsible for managing Scotland’s marine and freshwater environment.</p> |
| <p><b>1919:</b> Board of Agriculture and Fisheries becomes the <b>Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries</b>.</p>   |   |
| <p><b>1939:</b> Fishery Board for Scotland’s responsibilities transferred to</p>   |   |



SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE  
Environment and Rural Affairs Department

## COUNTING FISH



### So how many fish are there in the sea in Scotland?

No-one knows exactly because fish move around a lot - and they live underwater - which makes them difficult to see and even more difficult to count. Have you ever tried to count how many seagulls there are flying around the harbour? It's very tricky too, so you have to **estimate** how many fish there are.

Scientists already know which kinds of fish you would expect to find in different parts of the sea. Some fish like being where it's very cold and very deep. Other fish prefer being in shallower water that's a bit warmer. But to actually work out how many of each kind of fish there are, Marine Scotland scientists use lots of different methods. One of the main ways is by going out to sea on our ship, the MRV *Scotia*. Once they're at sea, the scientists:

- Pick an area of the sea they want to look at
- Drop a net in to the sea and catch some fish, then
- Separate the fish into different types and then add up the numbers of all the fish of the same type

Once they've worked out how many fish there are in one little area, they can work out how many fish there are in the much bigger area.

So let's say the *Scotia's* net fishes in one-quarter of the area, and catches 10 cod. It would then be reasonable to estimate that there might be around 40 cod (4 times 10) in the whole area.

Scientists can do the same sort of thing with fish that comes from fishing boats, and when everything is put together they are able to say (roughly) how many fish of different types there are in the sea.

