

**From:** <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>  
**Sent:** 05 August 2021 12:06  
**To:** Simon Macdonald <macdonaldsimon@ymail.com>  
**Cc:** <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>; <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>; <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** RE: RFIG - ADVANCE NOTIFICATION

Hi Simon,  
Thanks for responding so quickly. I think that the consultation will slip into next week now, I want to review some of the maps we have included. So I guess this was a very early warning. I'll keep you posted on the timings.

Best regards, <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>

**From:** Simon Macdonald <[macdonaldsimon@ymail.com](mailto:macdonaldsimon@ymail.com)>  
**Sent:** 04 August 2021 18:45  
**To:** <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>  
**Cc:** <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>; <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>; <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Re: RFIG - ADVANCE NOTIFICATION

Hello <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>

Thank you for the advance notification on the renewal of the Clyde closure to Cod fishery from Feb 14th to April 30th.

<REDACTED – Regulation 10(5)(f)>

Very best regards

Simon

Simon.R.Macdonald  
Chair, WCRIFG

tel: 07494 035 275

On Wednesday, 4 August 2021, 17:47:19 BST, <<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot> wrote:

Dear Simon,

As West Coast RFIG Chair I wanted to give you confidential advance notice that the SG will be issuing a consultation on the renewal of the Clyde cod closure. The consultation letter will issued to stakeholders (including the RFIG) tomorrow afternoon or Friday **so please keep the content of this email embargoed until then.**

As you may know, since 2001 a specific area in the Firth of Clyde has been closed to fishing each year between 14 February and 30 April in order to protect spawning cod. The Scottish Government has responsibility for the closure which is implemented on a biennial basis via a Scottish Statutory Instrument (SSI). Exemptions have previously been available for Nephrops trawlers, creels and scallop dredgers in the area due to the low amounts of cod they catch

The consultation is seeking views on the continuation of the seasonal closure (14 February – 30th April each year) in the Firth of Clyde to protect spawning cod during 2022 and 2023 but we are proposing the removal of the exemptions that have been previously available. Our evidence suggests that there are alternative fishing grounds available in areas adjacent to the closure area and that there is limited shellfish caught within the closure period. As part of the consultation, we are however, open to considering any additional relevant evidence.

<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> will issue the consultation and do feel free to get back in touch with us if you want to discuss further.

Best regards, <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>

<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>, <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> International Fisheries – Demersal Stocks, Sea Fisheries Division, Marine Scotland, Scottish Government - working from home Monday – Thursday so call or email: <REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)> – [REDACTED - Regulation 11\(2\)>@gov.scot](mailto:<REDACTED - Regulation 11(2)>@gov.scot)