

# **Scottish MPA network - Parliamentary Report**

**December 2018**

## **Ministerial Foreword**

The Scottish Government has a vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive, and biologically diverse marine & coastal environment, managed to meet the long-term needs of nature and people. The creation and maintenance of the Marine Protected Area (MPA) network is an integral part of achieving that vision by safeguarding marine biodiversity. It is evident from this report that Scotland has made excellent progress against international commitments to create an MPA network.

Since 2012 the MPA network has almost doubled in size and in doing so a broader range of habitats and species are now protected. This means that as a whole the MPA network is able to make a greater contribution to maintaining the ecosystem services we all depend upon. A total of 42 MPAs have been added to the network since 2012 providing new sites for nature conservation, protection of the historic environment, and for demonstration and research purposes. Good progress has also been made with implementation of specific site management measures.

I also recognise the significant contributions made by stakeholders over the last six years. Your engagement has helped shape the MPA network into what it is today. I hope you all continue to provide that input as we attempt to complete the network and put the necessary management measures in place.

Looking forward, the next six years will focus on completing the network and implementing management measures as required. Alongside this monitoring and assessment of what the network is achieving for biodiversity will continue. I hope that by the next report the network will be complete, well managed, and results will show that the objectives of the network are being achieved.

**Mairi Gougeon MSP**

Minister for Rural Affairs and the Natural Environment

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## Purpose of report

This aim of the document is to report to Parliament on progress being made in implementing a Marine Protected Area (MPA) network. This report is a requirement of Section 103 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and Section 124 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. The MPA network supports the Scottish Government's vision of clean, healthy, safe, productive, biologically diverse marine & coastal environment, managed to meet the long-term needs of nature and people.

In addition Other Area Based Measures which contribute to the conservation of our seas are also included. These areas contribute to the spatial protection measures that meet the obligations of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive.

The previous report to Parliament in 2012 is available at:

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/MPAParliamentReport>

This report does not consider socio-economic effects, or any analysis of compliance with management measures. This was considered separately in 2016 by another report. See <https://www.gov.scot/publications/scottish-marine-protected-areas-socioeconomic-monitoring/> for details. A further analysis of this nature will be undertaken in 2019.

## Glossary

**Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)** - It has 3 main objectives; the conservation of biological diversity; the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity; and, the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources

**Ecosystem services** - Processes by which the environment produces resources utilised by humans, such as clean air, water. Can also be referred to as benefits.

**EU Habitats Directive** aims to achieve favourable conservation status for a range of vulnerable habitats and species of European importance

**EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)** aims to achieve Good Environmental Status by ensuring that adverse effects from human activities are avoided.

**EU Wild Birds Directive** aims to maintain populations of vulnerable and migratory species and ensure sufficient diversity and area of habitats essential to their conservation.

**Good Environmental Status (GES)** means seas which are clean, healthy and productive within their intrinsic conditions, and the use of the marine environment is at a level that is sustainable, thus safeguarding the potential for uses and activities by current and future generations.

**Marine Protected Area (MPA)** means one of three types of MPA in Scotland; Demonstration and research to test novel approaches to marine management; Historic to protect marine wrecks and artefacts; Nature conservation to protect biodiversity. The term can also be used generically to describe any marine protected area.

**Network of conservation sites** is used in the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 to describe sites designated to protect marine biodiversity – MPAs, Ramsar, SACs, SPAs, SSSIs,

**OSPAR** - The Convention by which fifteen Governments, together with the European Union, cooperate to protect the marine environment of the North-East Atlantic.

**Other Area Based Measures** – Spatial zones which contribute to the protection of marine biodiversity but are not set up specifically for nature conservation purposes.

**Ramsar** - the Convention for the conservation and wise use of all wetlands

**Representation** – Ensuring the MPA network covers the range of habitats and species that make up the biological diversity of our seas.

**Replication** – A feature being in more than one MPA in the network or within defined regions.

**Scottish MPA Network** – A collective term to describe all of the conservation sites plus Demonstration and Research MPAs, Historic MPAs, and Other Area Based Measures

**Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)** - protect nationally important habitats, species and geological features found above the mean low water mark.

**Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)** are protected areas for habitats and species listed in the EU Habitats Directive, such as reefs and bottlenose dolphin.

**Special Protection Areas (SPAs)** are protected areas for wild birds listed in the EU Wild Birds Directive, or for regularly occurring migratory species.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)** - A series of interconnected goals adopted by the United Nations which are designed to mobilize efforts to end all forms of poverty, fight inequalities and tackling climate change and environmental protection. Goal 14 relates to “life below water”.

**The Marine Acts** – A collective term used to describe the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

**The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009** – The Act of the UK Parliament which gives the Scottish Ministers the power to designate MPAs in Scottish Offshore Waters.

**The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010** – The Act of the Scottish Parliament which gives the Scottish Ministers the power to designate MPAs in Territorial Waters.

## Our seas

Scotland's position at the edge of the north-west European continental shelf has a huge influence on our coasts and seas. Our marine environment has been shaped by wind, water, and ice over thousands of years, creating productive and abundant marine life.

The meeting and mixing of nutrient-rich waters provides the perfect home for sea life to thrive. Scotland is of international importance for marine biodiversity providing the ideal environment for our spectacular birds, marine mammals and fish as well as for the habitats that are hidden on the seabed.

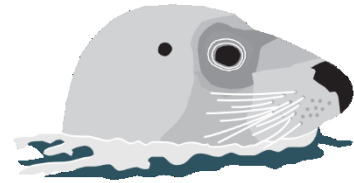
The productive nature of our marine environment also supports a wide range of industries, which benefit from the natural resources that our seas provide. Safeguarding the continued supply of these natural benefits is one of the reasons for having the Scottish MPA network.

Coastal habitats support a wealth of plants and animals including marine birds and seals. Saline lagoons and estuarine habitats mark the transition from freshwater to seawater, with specialist plants and animals able to cope with the dramatic changes in salinity and temperature. Many bird species come to these areas as a safe haven for the winter months.

The complex and variable coastline is mirrored by a diversity of productive habitat forming species such as kelps, seagrasses, blue mussels and maerl. These habitats support a rich diversity of other species and also capture and store carbon.



Seals can be found foraging in coastal waters, or hauled out on rocks all around the coast. The Moray Firth on the east coast is home to the world's most northerly population of bottlenose dolphin, whilst the Firth of Forth is globally important for breeding seabirds.



**36%** of world grey seal population breeds in Scotland



**45%** of Europe's breeding seabirds  
that's **5 million** seabirds or one per person living in Scotland

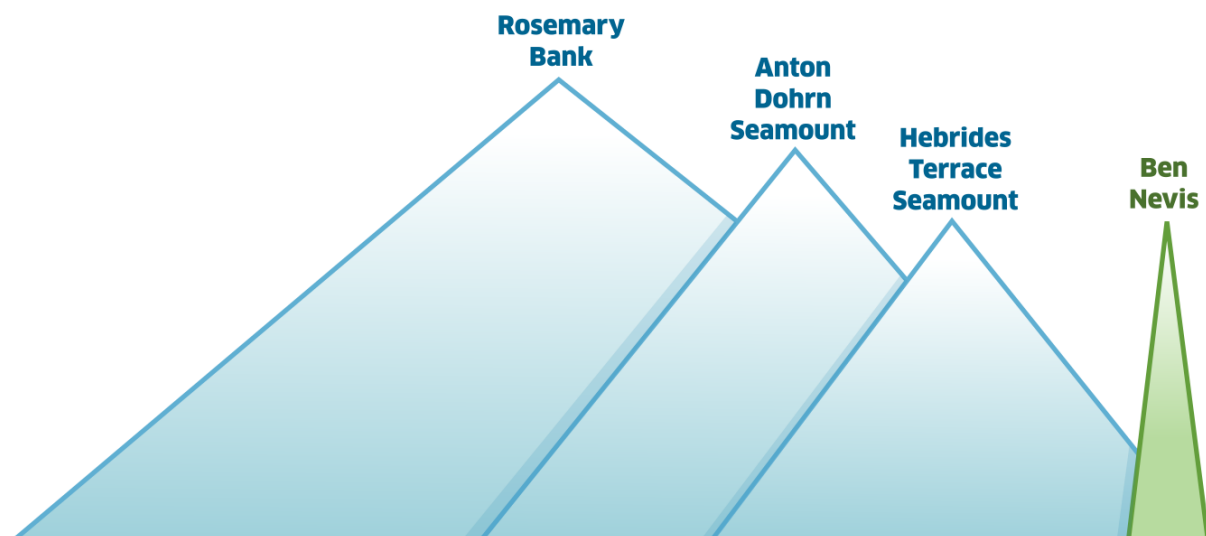
The continental shelf is dominated by large sediment plains made up of sands, gravels, and burrowed mud. These habitats are home to a wide range of species, such as the ocean quahog which is capable of living for hundreds of years.



Over **20** species of whales, dolphins and porpoise

Sandeels, a key prey species for seabirds and marine mammals, are found on sandbanks throughout our seas.

Beyond the continental shelf lies the deep sea. This vast area is divided by the Wyville-Thomson ridge which causes variation in the marine life on each side. To the north the Faroe-Shetland Channel is dominated by cold Arctic waters. To the south the Rockall Trough is dominated by warmer Atlantic waters and has three underwater mountains, known as seamounts, which are taller than Ben Nevis.





The history of Scotland's seas survives underwater in the form of wrecks of boats, aircraft, or artefacts from submerged pre-historic landscapes. This cultural heritage helps us to appreciate the importance of our seas throughout Scotland's history. This combination of natural and cultural heritage enhances the distinctiveness of our special seas.

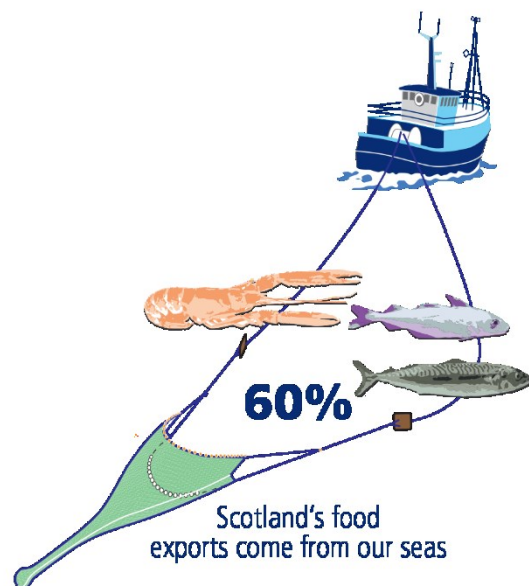


More than **2,600** records of shipwrecks and aircraft, covering **1,200** years of history

Our seas remain at the forefront of our food and energy needs, through fishing, aquaculture, oil and gas, and renewable energy. They are also important for recreation and marine tourism. The fishing industry in Scotland has strong cultural and historical links with our seas. As an island nation being able to trade goods through marine transportation provides links to other nations.

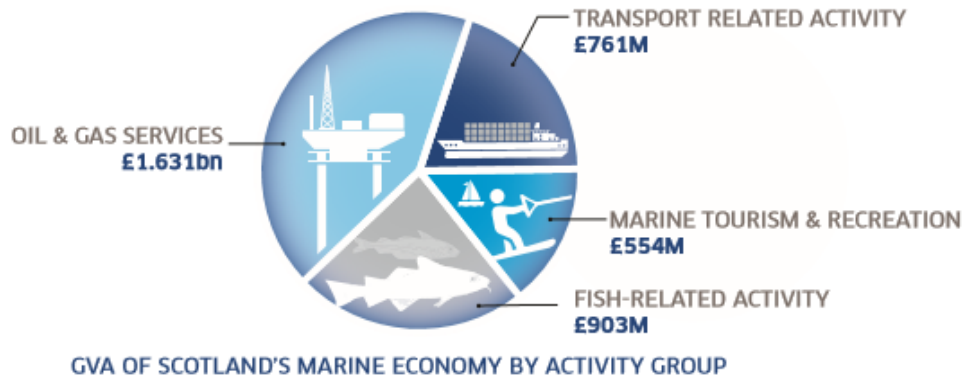
The productivity of fish stocks is closely linked to the quality of the marine environment and the supply of fresh fish and shellfish is an important service that the marine environment provides to the Scottish economy.

Scotland also has the largest wave, tidal and offshore wind resource in Europe.



In 2016 the Scottish Marine Economy (excluding oil and gas extraction) generated £3.8 billion GVA (Gross Value Added), providing employment for over 75,000 people.

# SCOTLAND'S MARINE ECONOMY



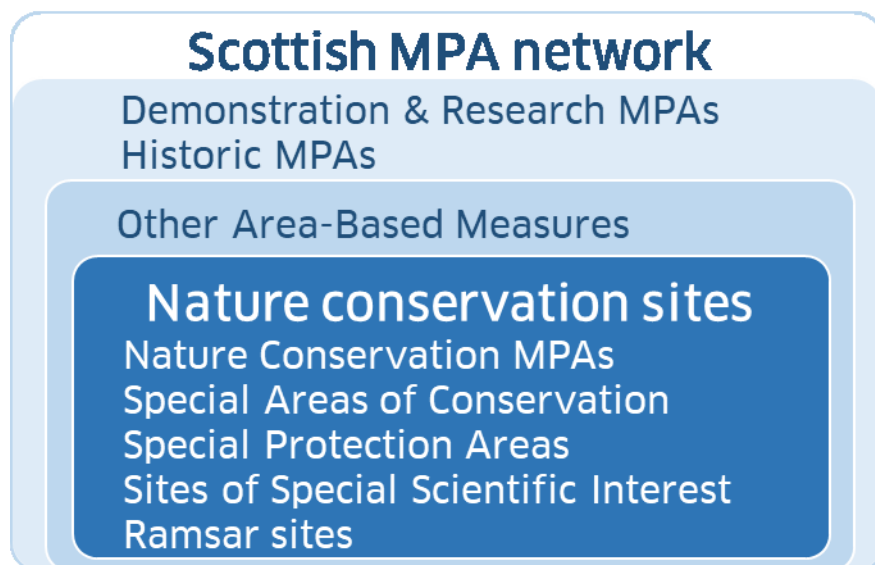
Some benefits from nature are direct - fish to eat or wildlife to watch. Others are less obvious, such as kelp forests, beaches and dunes limiting coastal erosion, or the capture and storage of carbon in seabed sediments. These services lead to substantial economic benefits to society. Our seas also sustain well-being through our physical and mental health ('the natural health service').



Looking after our seas requires a range of different management approaches. This includes marine planning and licensing together with various different statutory and voluntary codes and good practice. Doing so is vital to ensuring that society can continue to derive the many natural benefits that our seas provide.

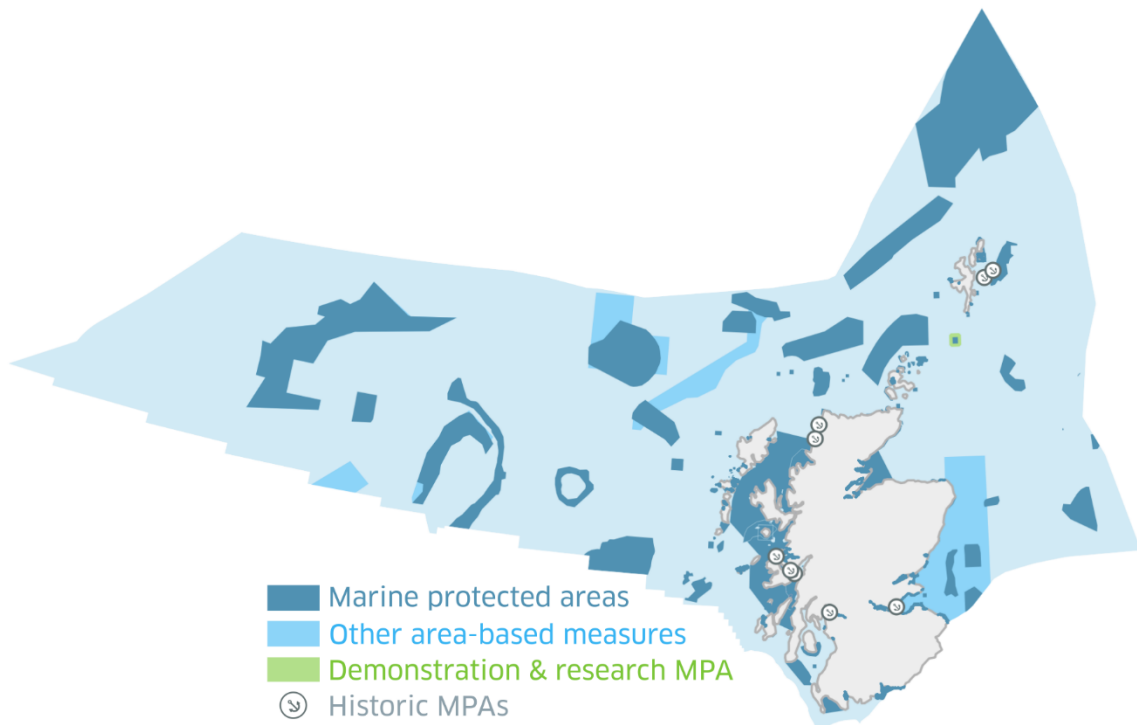
MPAs also have an important role to play in conserving our seas. They enable the focused protection of habitats and species which are essential to the marine ecosystem. This facilitates an increase in ecosystem resilience and recovery of habitats and species where required.

The Scottish MPA network consists of nature conservation sites designated under various legislative frameworks. These protect a wide range of habitats and species. It also includes other areas which deliver nature conservation benefits, known as Other Area Based Measures. Also included are sites designated to protect our historic environment and for demonstration and research purposes.



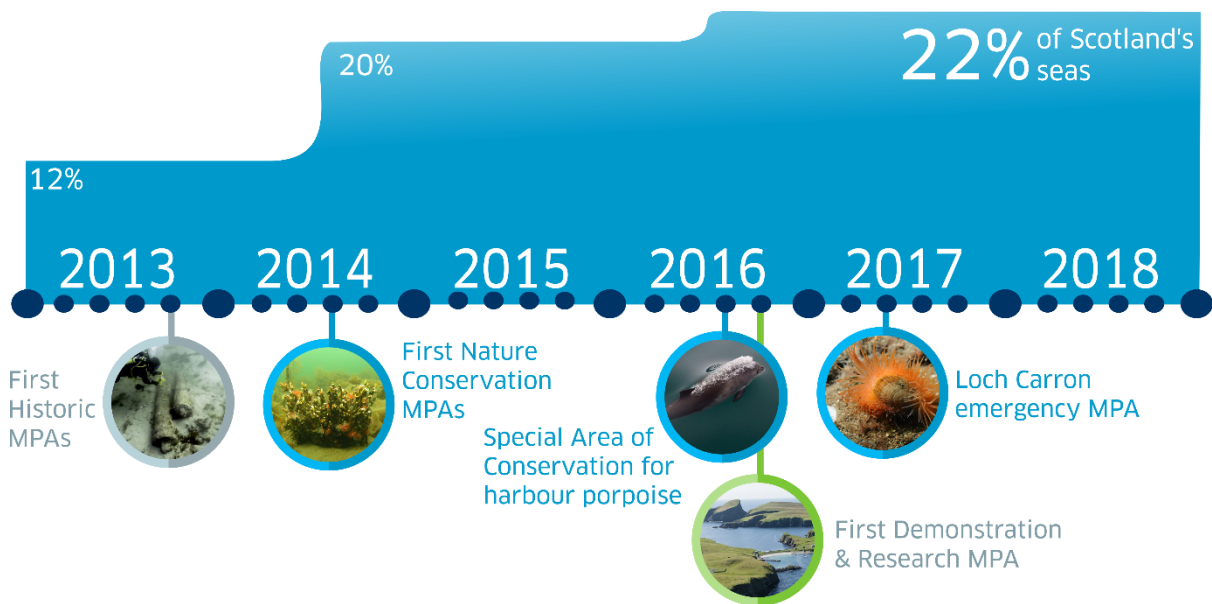
## The Scottish MPA network

There are now 217 sites in the Scottish MPA network for nature conservation purposes. In addition there is one demonstration and research MPA, eight historic MPAs, and five Other Area Based Measures recognised as part of the Scottish MPA network, making a total of 231 sites distributed across our seas.



## Changes to the Scottish MPA network since 2012 report

The Scottish MPA network has changed considerably since the last report to Parliament in 2012, and now better reflects the variety of life found in our seas. In total these 231 MPAs protect 22% of our seas, which represents a considerable step forward from the position in 2012.

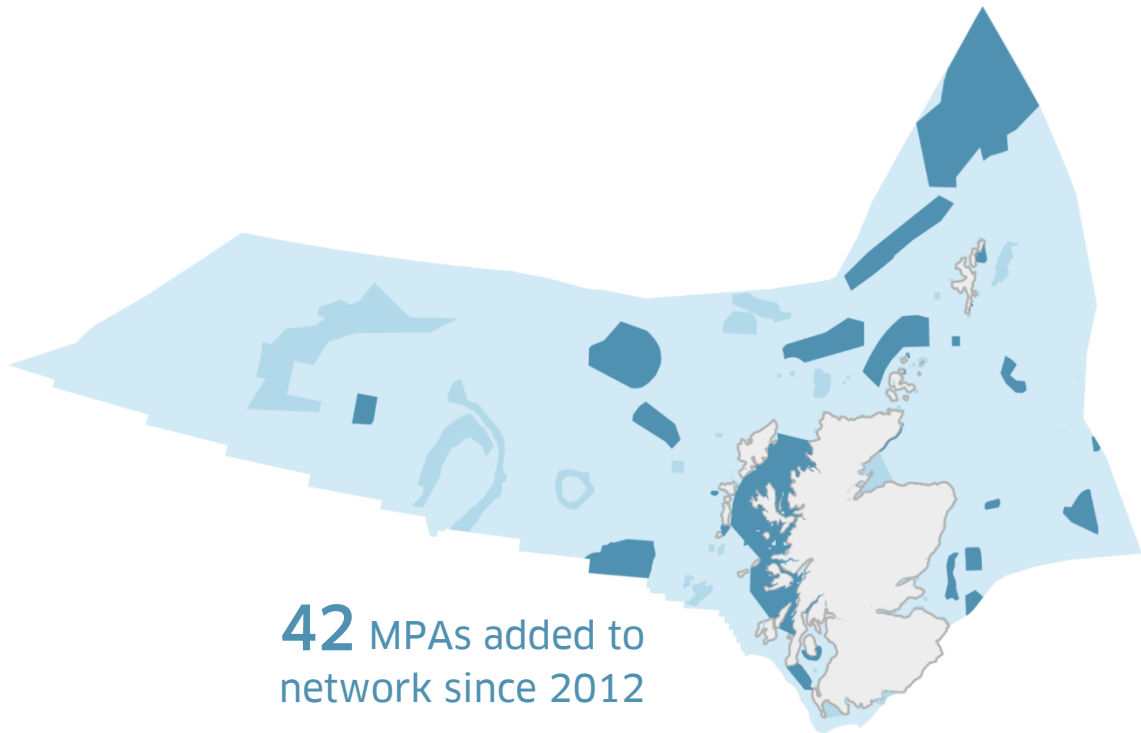


A total of 42 new MPAs have been designated to protect marine habitats, wildlife, geology, undersea landforms, historic shipwrecks, and to demonstrate sustainable management of the sea. In addition, two existing sites have been extended to better protect seabed habitats. All of the new sites and changes are listed in Annex 1.

The new sites mean that more features are now protected within the Scottish MPA network. These include black guillemot, flame shell beds, common skate, seamounts, warships and merchant trading vessels. From a nature conservation perspective this makes the Scottish MPA network more representative of the range of habitats and species found in our seas.

Some changes have been made in how sites in the Scottish MPA network are counted since the last report, and these are listed in Annex 2. This has resulted in MPAs for otters and some intertidal areas being included in the network. These changes have not changed the protected status of any sites. The change is only one of recognition of being considered part of the Scottish MPA network.

The other area based measures contributing to the Scottish MPA network are listed in Annex 3. Although not specifically created for nature conservation purposes these sites contribute to the protection of marine biodiversity. They support progress towards delivering Good Environmental Status particularly in terms of maintaining or improving biodiversity and seafloor integrity.

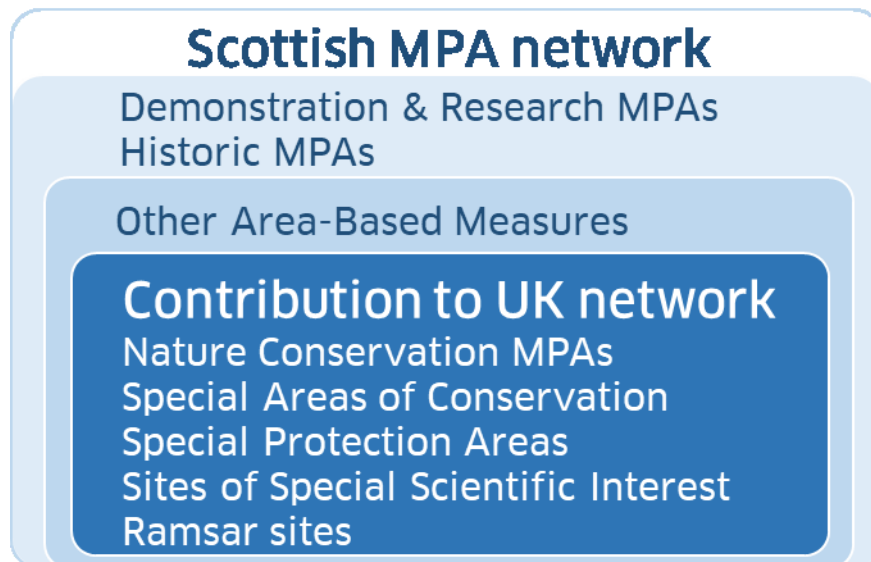


## Scotland's contribution to other MPA networks

The UK Marine Policy Statement<sup>1</sup> identifies MPAs as a tool to help achieve Good Environmental Status under the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD). It highlights that MPAs should be used to conserve, where appropriate recover, and halt the loss of biodiversity in our seas. Summary statistics regarding the contribution to MPA networks are provided in Annex 4.

This section describes the contribution made to MPA networks at various scales:

- The network of conservation sites in UK Waters<sup>2</sup>
- Spatial protection measures under MSFD consisting of conservation sites and Other Area Based Measures.
- The OSPAR MPA network in the North-East Atlantic.



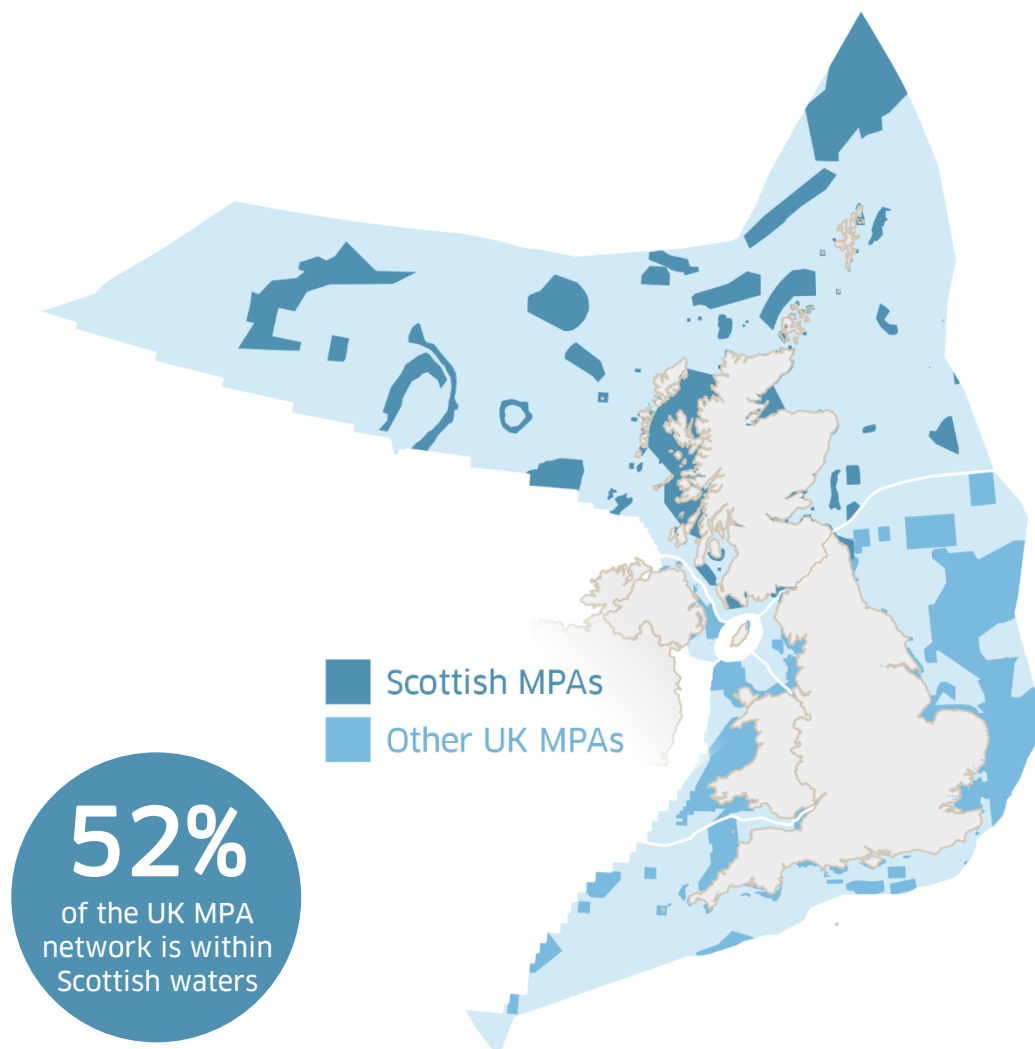
<sup>1</sup> See <http://www.gov.scot/resource/0041/00411304.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> As defined in the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 consisting of MPAs, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Sites of Specific Scientific Interest, and Ramsar sites.

## Contribution to the UK network of conservation sites

In Scottish Waters there are currently 217 MPAs for nature conservation purposes forming part of the UK network of conservation sites<sup>3</sup>, which consists of 666 MPAs in total. These numbers are different to those presented in the UK Government report, because they have excluded certain site types from their statistics that they didn't count in their previous report in 2012.

The area contributed to the UK network of conservation sites by these 217 MPAs exceeds 108,000 Km<sup>2</sup> which is approximately 18% of Scotland's seas, and represents 52% of the total UK Network.








<sup>3</sup> Does not include MPAs for demonstration & research or historic purposes, or other area based measures



The Marine Acts include three conditions that the network must achieve:

- Contribute to the conservation or improvement of the marine environment.
- Represent the range of features present in the UK marine area.
- Reflect that the conservation of a feature may require the designation of more than one MPA.

Marine Act conditions	Contribution made by Scottish MPA network	Progress
<b>Contribute to conservation or improvement of marine environment</b>	Scotland's seas host 217 out of a total of 666 MPAs UK waters and 52% by area. All MPAs contribute to towards conservation. 24 MPAs in Scotland include objectives to restore or recover features and therefore also contribute to improvement.	
<b>Represent the range of features present in Scottish waters</b>	The network includes all widely distributed habitats and all rare, threatened and/or declining habitats for which MPAs could be identified.	
	The network includes mobile species <sup>4</sup> (marine mammals, birds and fish) and fronts. Potential new MPAs are being progressed for mobile species (see <i>Looking ahead</i> section).	
<b>Reflect that the conservation of a feature may require the designation of more than one MPA</b>	There is replication of all the widely distributed habitats on a regional basis. The network has replication of all the rare, threatened and/or declining habitats.	
	There is replication of 55 of the 67 species represented in the Scottish MPA network. Potential new MPAs are being progressed for mobile species (see <i>Looking ahead</i> section).	

Key:



Achieved



work in progress to achieve this

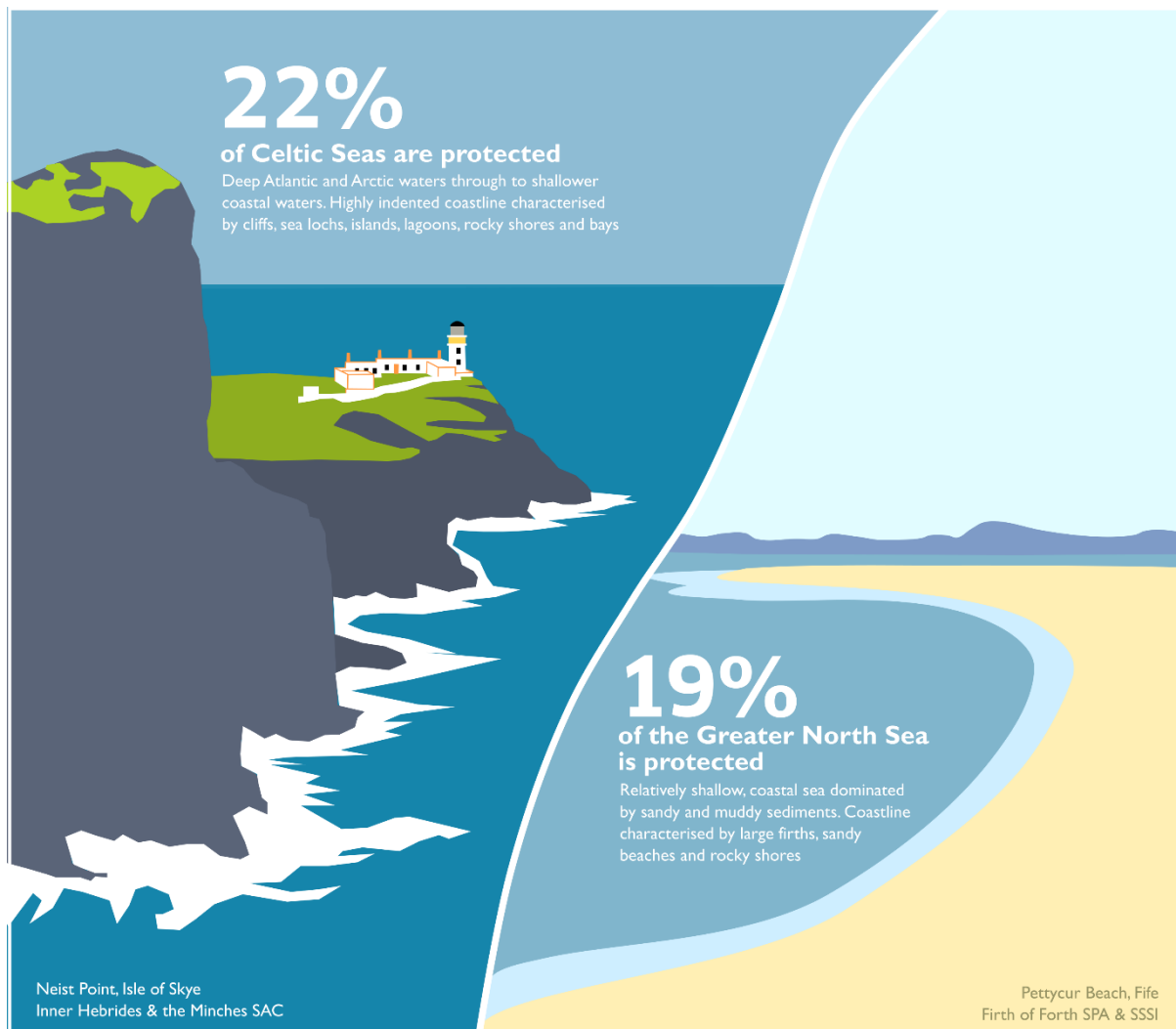
Further details on how habitats and species are represented and replicated is provided in Annex 5. This demonstrates the coherence of the Scottish MPA network, and the significant range of biodiversity now protected.

<sup>4</sup> Species for which MPAs are considered an appropriate conservation tool

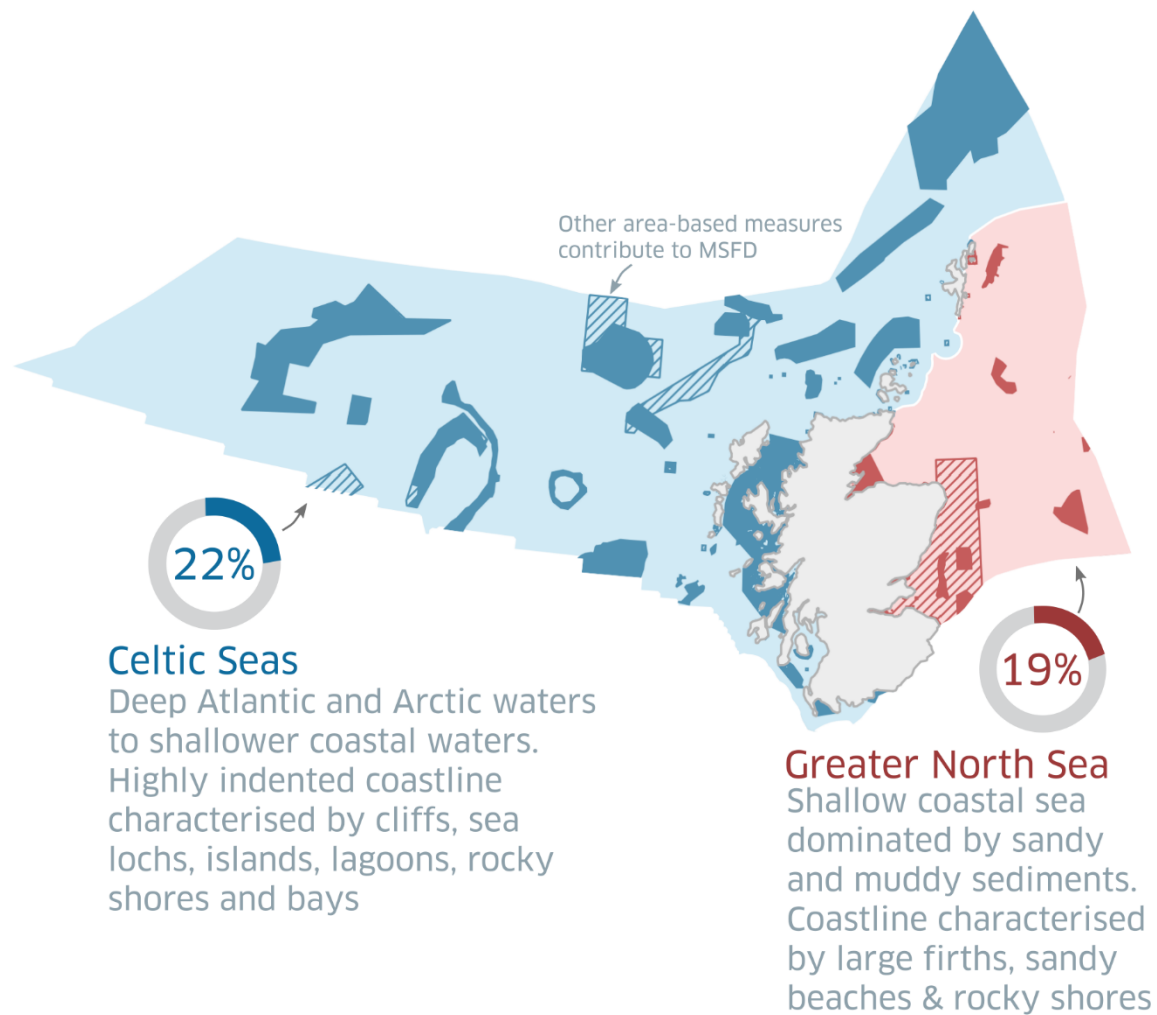
## Spatial protection measures under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

The EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) is focused on achieving Good Environmental Status by ensuring that adverse effects from human activities are avoided. There is an obligation to deliver spatial protection measures for biodiversity. Our seas are within the Celtic Seas and Greater North Sea sub-regions of the Atlantic.

For the purposes of this assessment all of the nature conservation sites are included. The five other area based measures are also included because they contribute to the conservation of marine biodiversity, and therefore help progress towards Good Environmental Status. We have implemented spatial protection measures for marine biodiversity in 22% of the Celtic Seas and 19% of the Greater North Sea.

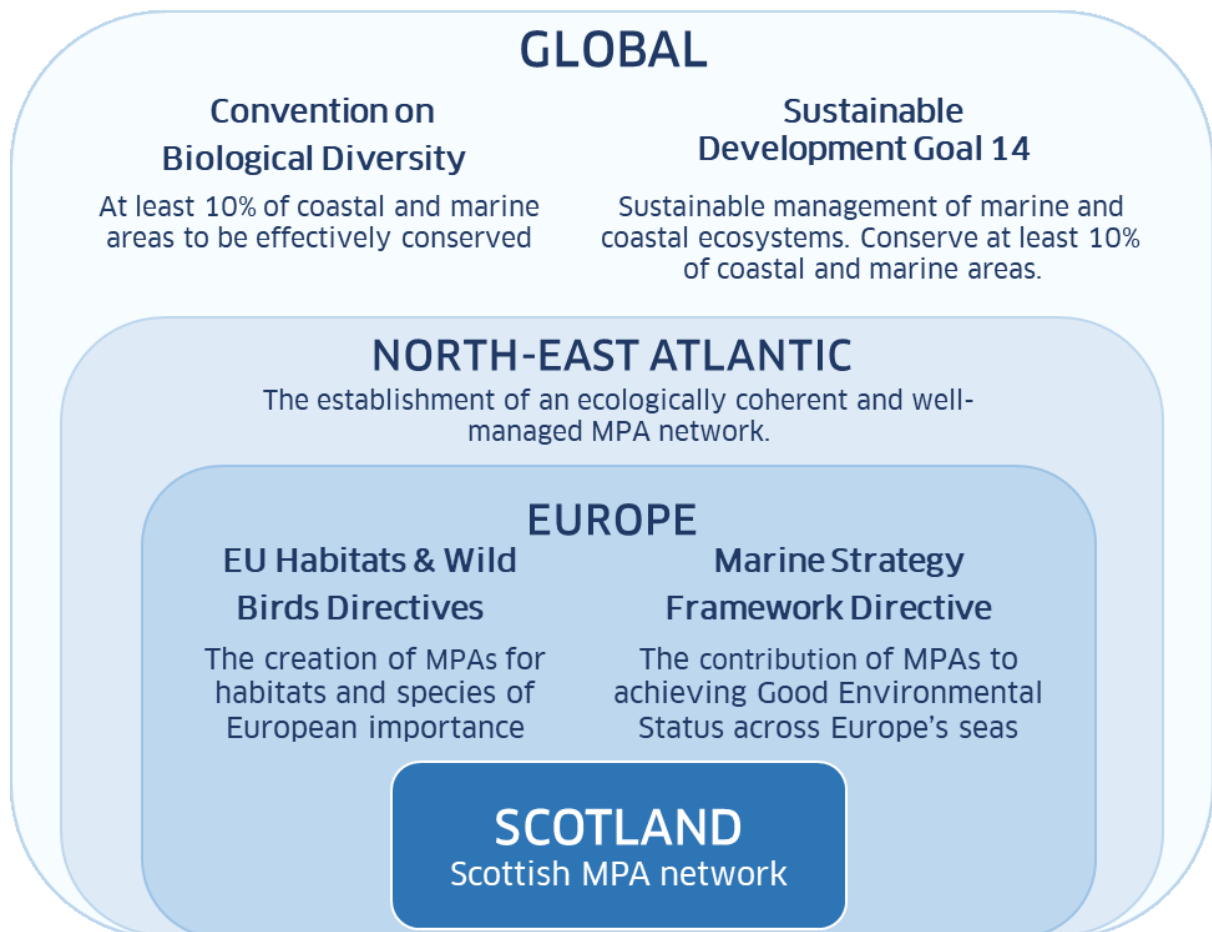


These spatial protection measures are well distributed across our seas and are representative of the wide range of habitats and species present. This is a significant contribution towards achieving Good Environmental Status, which will be further enhanced by completing delivery of management measures. Further details on representation and replication of habitats and species in the Scottish MPA network can be found in Annex 5.



## Contribution to international MPA networks





The progress that has been made over the last six years in developing the Scottish MPA network is significant. Our network contributes to international networks at European, North-east Atlantic and global scales.



Internationally there are commitments to MPAs and other spatial conservation measures under EU Directives, the OSPAR Convention, and the United Nation's Convention on Biological Diversity and Sustainable Development Goals. Together they provide a global framework that requires delivery of MPA networks by Contracting Parties.

Scotland is largely meeting or exceeding these international commitments. In area terms our network exceeds any of the targets set by a considerable margin. In addition the Scottish MPA network is broadly representative of the habitats and species found in our seas. Ongoing work to complete the network is primarily focused on improving the representation of habitats and species, and delivery of any required management measures.

Table 2: Scotland’s progress towards international commitments

Measure	Description	Progress
<b>What percentage of sea has spatial protection?</b>		
<b>10% of coastal and marine areas</b> UN Sustainable Development Goal 14 Convention on Biological Diversity Aichi Target 11	22% of Scotland’s seas are in the MPA network.	
<b>Which features are represented?</b>		
<b>Bird species</b> EU Wild Birds Directive	Once work on new MPAs for birds is complete, all but Roseate Tern will be included within the Scottish MPA network. Roseate Tern does not breed in Scotland and is therefore not a gap in the network.	
<b>Habitats and other species</b> EU Habitats Directive	MPAs designated for all seven habitats and all five species relevant to Scotland.	
<b>Threatened and declining habitats and species</b> The OSPAR list	MPAs designated for all 12 listed habitats and seven of the eight listed species relevant to Scotland. MPA proposal being progressed for the remaining species, basking shark.	

Key:

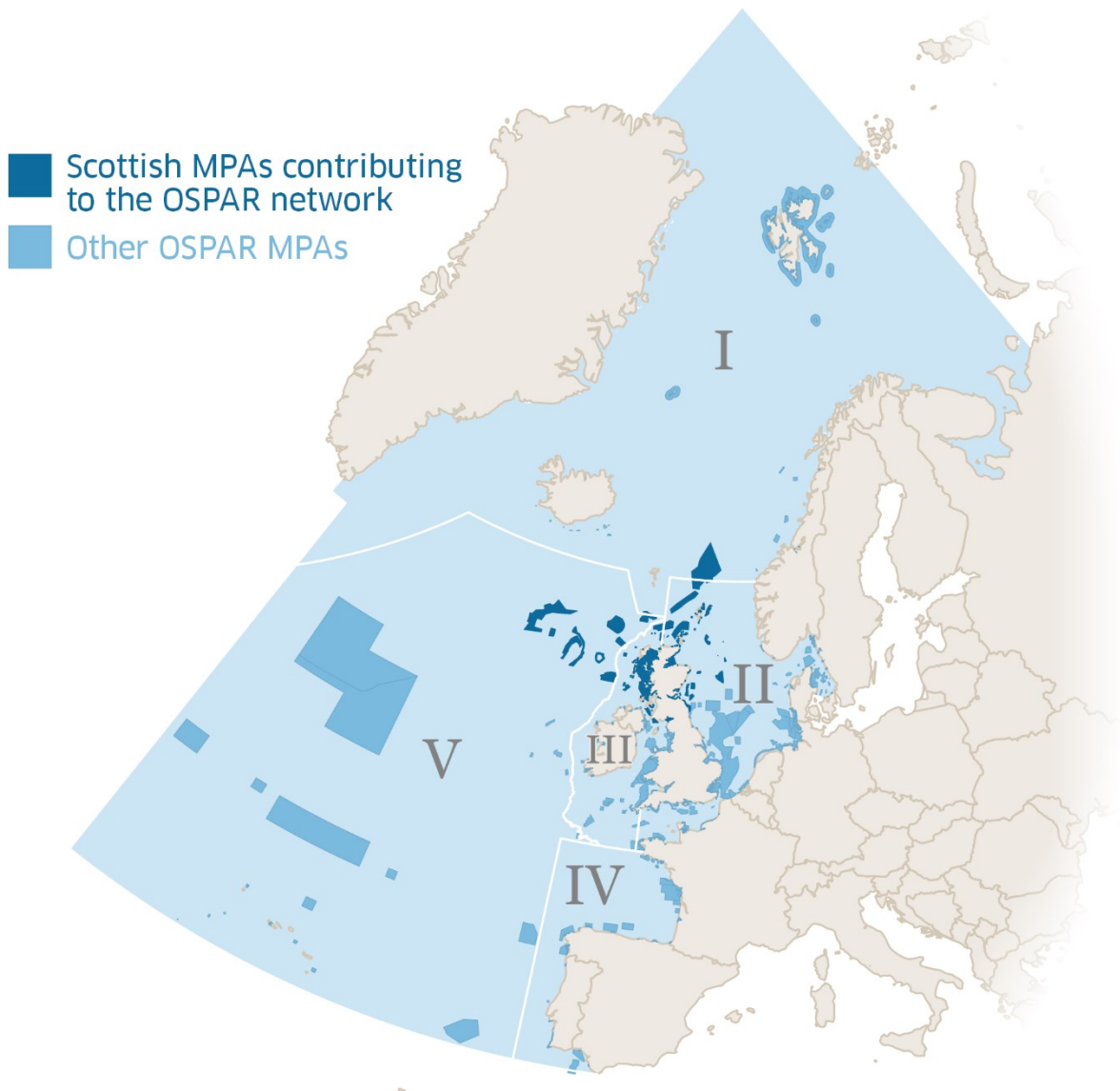
 Achieved

A key aim of the Scottish Government has been to make a significant contribution to the OSPAR<sup>5</sup> MPA network in the North-east Atlantic. The OSPAR maritime area is split up into regions which are different from those defined under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, even though the names are the same in some cases.

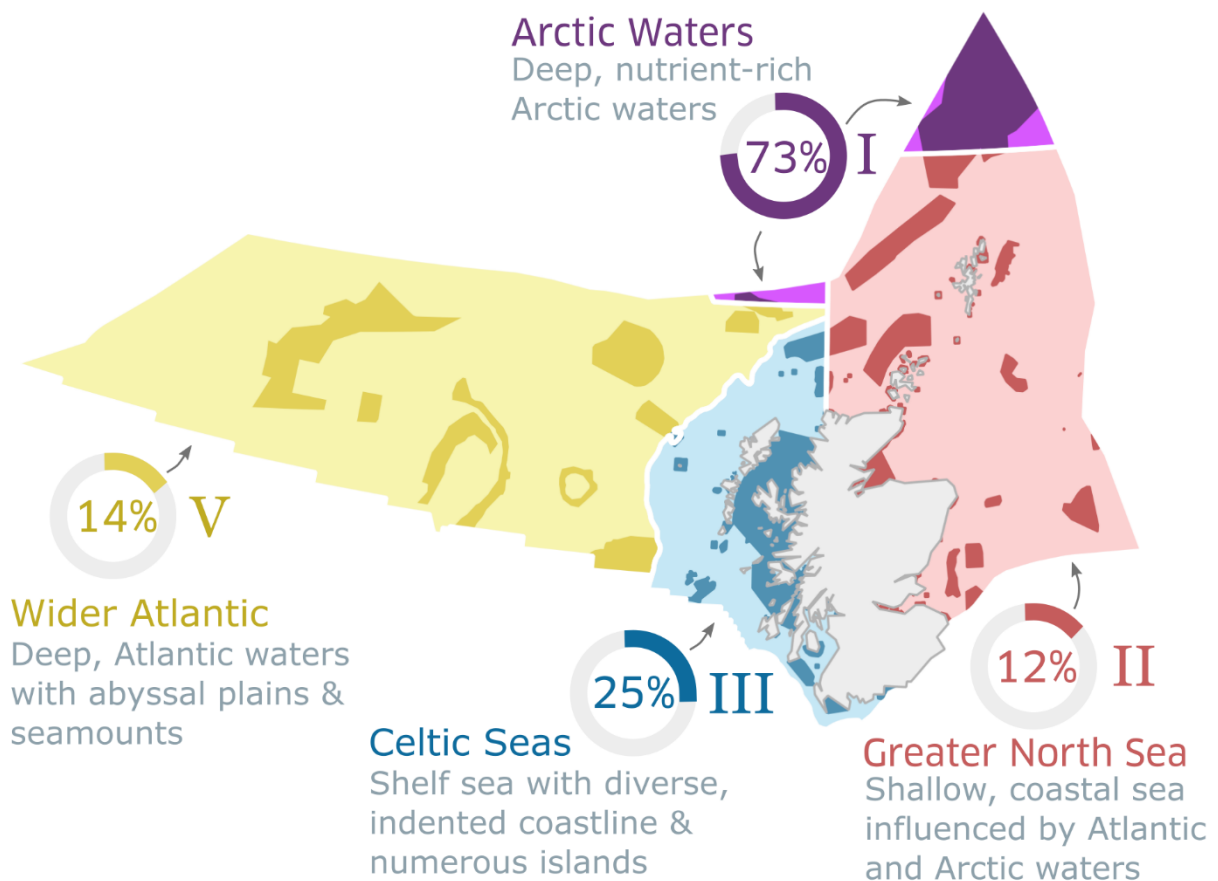
<sup>5</sup> The OSPAR Convention for the protection of the marine environment in the North East Atlantic

Scotland has waters within four OSPAR regions enabling an assessment of relative contribution of Scottish MPAs to each of those. These regions are:

- Region 1: Arctic Waters
- Region 2: Greater North Sea
- Region 3: Celtic Seas
- Region 5: Wider Atlantic



In spatial terms Scotland's seas make up a relatively small proportion of the OSPAR maritime area. Nevertheless our MPAs make a significant contribution to the OSPAR MPA network. In three of the four OSPAR regions Scotland has made a greater than average relative contribution to the OSPAR MPA network. Although no regional based target has been set for MPA coverage the Scottish MPA network covers more than 10% of our seas that fall within each OSPAR region.



## Managing the Scottish MPA network

The Scottish MPA network covers a diverse array of marine habitats, wildlife, geology, landforms and historic shipwrecks. Various approaches to management are needed to ensure we realise the benefits of these MPAs. Work continues to develop and implement any necessary management measures.

The following principles guide management of the Scottish MPA network:

- Supporting the sustainable use of Scotland's seas
- Following a risk-based approach
- Using the precautionary principle when required
- Providing opportunities for stakeholder involvement
- Adopting an adaptive approach i.e. responding as our knowledge evolves
- Adopting an ecosystem-based approach

Objectives have been agreed for the Scottish MPA network. These objectives describe what the sites are trying to achieve, and are used to determine whether new activities or development can be consented. In future the results of monitoring will help measure whether the objectives are being achieved. A summary of the objectives for each MPA designated under the Marine Acts is provided in Annex 6, along with details of progress towards achieving them.

For each site consideration of the need for specific management, over and above the general protective provisions provided by the Marine Acts, is undertaken. A total of seven Marine Conservation Orders, under s85 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, have been implemented since the last report to Parliament in 2012 as detailed in Annex 7. Currently four remain in force. No management schemes have been established for any MPA designated under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010.

The potential impact of developments and activities that require consents has been taken into account for all MPAs since before they were designated. It is the responsibility of all public authorities to ensure that MPAs are not placed at significant risk through their decision making. This applies equally to their own functions as well as when determining whether to consent activities which they regulate.

This location specific approach does not work for fisheries because licences are issued to enable activity at a broad geographic scale. Progress has been made since 2012 in implementing fisheries management measures in MPAs, using both Marine Conservation Orders and Inshore Fisheries Orders to deliver them.



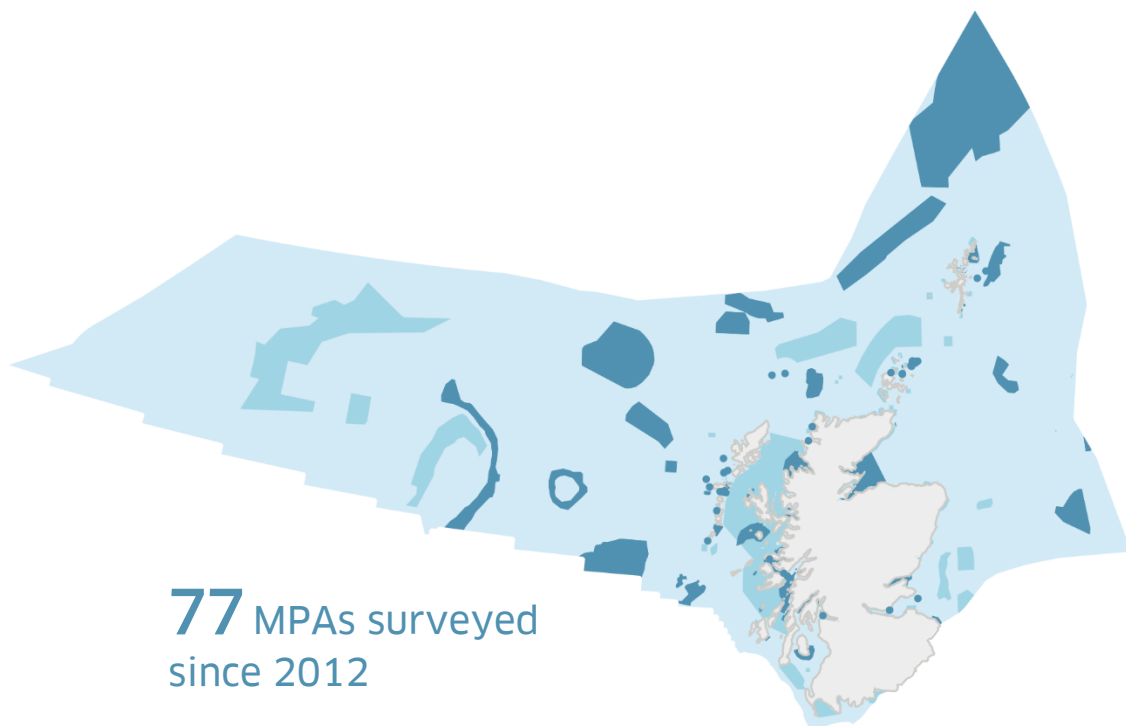
There are now 27 MPAs that have specific fisheries measures in place. Further measures are currently being developed in partnership with the fishing industry, other stakeholders, including fishermen and governments in other European countries too. In total, these new measures will cover a further 39 MPAs. Beyond this the Scottish Government anticipates receiving specific advice from Scottish Natural Heritage for a small number of the other existing sites.

Tools have been developed to help support management of MPAs and are available online via the Marine Scotland, Historic Environment Scotland, SNH and JNCC websites.

Tool	What the tool provides
<a href="#">FeAST - Feature Activity Sensitivity Tool</a>	Information on the sensitivity of habitats and species to pressures from human activity.
<a href="#">Fisheries Guidance Notes</a>	Evidence on the interaction between fishing gears and specific habitats and species.
<a href="#">Marine Heritage web pages</a>	Advice and support on protecting Scotland's marine heritage, including information on Historic MPAs.
<a href="#">Scottish Government MPA web pages</a>	Information on the approach taken to develop and implement MPA management.
<a href="#">Marine Scotland Maps (NMPi)</a>	Viewing the MPA network, management measures, and data on marine habitats and species.
<a href="#">Natural Spaces</a>	To download boundaries of MPAs.
<a href="#">Site Information Centres</a>	Information on the MPAs designated in Scottish offshore waters.
<a href="#">SiteLINK</a>	Information on the MPAs designated in Scottish territorial waters.

## Monitoring the Scottish MPA network

In 2017, the Scottish MPA Monitoring Strategy<sup>6</sup> was published. The Strategy sets out our approach to monitoring the Scottish MPA network. At the moment establishing condition and status baselines with MPAs is the priority. Studies to explore the effectiveness of new fisheries management measures are also underway. Historic Environment Scotland undertakes periodic monitoring work on Historic MPAs to maintain a register of survival and site condition.



A preliminary assessment of progress towards objectives of the MPAs, designated under the Marine Acts, is provided in Annex 6. We expect to be able to provide more comprehensive assessments in future reports (from 2024 onwards) once repeated surveys have taken place.

MPA monitoring includes collaboration with other stakeholders and citizen science. Examples of this are provided in the MPA Monitoring Strategy. Historic Environment Scotland receives reports from diving clubs and archaeologists who help to monitor historic shipwreck sites. Promoting sustainable visitor access is essential, with the creation of a visitor trail on the Duart Point Historic MPA<sup>7</sup> a positive example.

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<sup>6</sup> <https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/MPAmonitoring>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/duart-point-dive-trail>

## Looking ahead to the next six years

Great progress has been made in developing the Scottish MPA network over the last six years. For the next six years the focus will be on finishing ongoing actions to complete the Scottish MPA network, deliver any necessary management measures, and continue our monitoring programme. Our aim is to be able to report more authoritatively on MPA status in 2024.

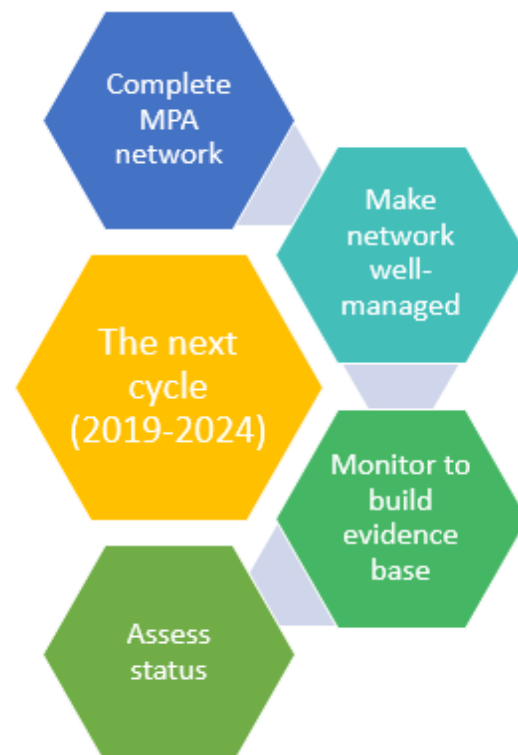
In order to complete the Scottish MPA network the following work is ongoing:

- Nature conservation proposals are being progressed for seabirds, waders and seaducks, basking shark, Risso's dolphin and minke whale.
- Progressing assessment of historic wrecks - The Queen of Sweden wreck near Shetland, and the wartime history of Scapa Flow. A small number of other assessments may be anticipated as new discoveries come to light.
- Development of a Deep Sea Marine Reserve to safeguard marine life that is under threat in deeper waters across the North-east Atlantic.

In order to ensure the Scottish MPA network is well-managed the following work is also ongoing:

- Progressing further fisheries measures as required to achieve site objectives.
- Ensuring that Public Authorities get clear advice to inform their decision making where an MPA may be affected.
- Trialing innovative approaches to MPA management planning, working with local communities and other stakeholders to develop these.

We will continue to implement the Scottish MPA monitoring strategy to improve the evidence base. Over time this will enable better assessments of progress towards achieving site objectives to be made. Additional data needs to be collected to build a time series that enables any change in condition to be determined. This means that future reports will be able to provide greater clarity on the ecological benefits of the Scottish MPA network.



## Introduction to the annexes

The tables in these annexes provide information required under Section 103 of the [Marine \(Scotland\) Act 2010](#) and Section 124 of the [Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009](#). Narrative regarding the creation of a network of conservation sites is provided in the main body text of this document.

Further information on individual MPAs can be accessed in the following ways:

- Inshore waters via SNH Sitelink pages  
<https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/>
- Offshore waters via JNCC Offshore MPA Site Information Centres  
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=6895>
- The MPAs can be viewed through the Marine Scotland Maps (NMPi) portal  
<https://marinescotland.atkinsgeospatial.com/nmpi/>
- Fully attributed GIS site boundary files for all sites in the network are available from SNH Natural Spaces  
<https://gateway.snh.gov.uk/natural-spaces/index.jsp>
- MPAs in UK waters via JNCC's MPA mapper portal  
<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5201>

## Annex 1 MPAs designated since last report

The tables below list sites designated since 01 January 2013.

Table 1.1: Sites designated under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

Purpose	Name	Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )
Nature conservation	Clyde Sea Sill	712
	East Caithness Cliffs	114
	Fetlar to Haroldswick	216
	Loch Carron	23
	Loch Creran	12
	Loch Sunart	49
	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura	741
	Loch Sween	41
	Lochs Duich, Long and Alsh	37
	Monach Isles	62
	Mousa to Boddam	13
	Noss Head	8
	Papa Westray	33
	Small Isles	803
	South Arran	280
	Upper Loch Fyne and Loch Goil	88
Wester Ross	599	
Wyre and Rousay Sounds	16	
Demonstration and research	Fair Isle	157
Historic	Drumbeg	0.05
	Mingary	0.17
	Kinlochbervie	0.22
	Out Skerries	0.19
	Dartmouth	0.008
	Duart Point	0.013
	Campania	0.07
	Iona I	0.025

Table 1.2: Sites designated under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009

Name	Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )
Central Fladen	925
East of Gannet and Montrose Fields	1,839
Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt	5,278
Firth of Forth Banks Complex	2,130
Geikie Slide and Hebridean Slope	2,215
Hatton-Rockall Basin	1,256
North-east Faroe-Shetland Channel	23,682
North-west Orkney	4,365
Norwegian Boundary Sediment Plain	164
Rosemary Bank Seamount	6,927
The Barra Fan and Hebrides Terrace Seamount	4,373
Turbot Bank	251
West Shetland Shelf	4,083

Table 1.3: Sites designated under The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994

Name	Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )
Inner Hebrides and the Minches	13,802
Sound of Barra	125

Table 1.4: Sites amended under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010

Site Name	Reason for amendment
Fetlar to Haroldswick	Both sites were re-designated to correct errors in the site boundary description. This did not change the accepted boundary, the area, or the protected features at either site.
Small Isles	

Table 1.5: Sites amended under The Conservation of Offshore Marine Habitats and Species Regulations 2017

Site name	Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Amendments
Braemar Pockmark	11	Site increased in size by 6.25 Km <sup>2</sup>
Scanner Pockmarks	7	Site increased in size by 3.39 Km <sup>2</sup>

## Annex 2 Administrative changes to the MPA network

This annex lists the administrative changes to the MPA network caused by updating the counting methodology, clarifying overlap with the marine area, and in the case of Ramsar sites completing assessment of their potential inclusion. This does not affect the protection status of any site named in the tables, and does not include the sites in Annex 1.

Table 2.1: Sites now counted in the MPA network

Site type	Names	Reason
SAC [count 10]	Rum; Taynish and Knapdale; Durness; Hascosay; Glen Beasedale; Inverpolly; Kinloch and Kyleaking Hills; Mull Oakwoods; Ardvar and Loch a' Mhuilinn Woodlands; Tayvallich and Juniper Coast	Inclusion of existing sites where otters use intertidal and/or subtidal habitat.
SPA [count 2]	Sleibhtean agus Cladach Thiriodh; Ythan Estuary, Sands of Forvie and Meikle Loch	Inclusion of existing sites where birds are using intertidal habitat.
SSSI [count 4]	Culbin Sands, Culbin Forest and Findhorn Bay; Kinloch and Kyleakin Hills; Yell Sound Coast; Southannan Sands	Inclusion of existing sites where otters or birds use intertidal habitat. Inclusion of existing site for plants in the intertidal.
Ramsar [count 16]	Cromarty Firth; Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet; East Sanday Coast; Firth of Forth; Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary; Gruinart Flats, Islay; Inner Clyde; Inner Moray Firth; Loch an Duin; Montrose Basin; Moray and Nairn Coast; North Uist Machair and Islands; Sleibhtean agus Cladach Thiriodh (Tiree Wetlands and Coast); South Uist Machair and Lochs; Upper Solway Flats and Marshes; Ythan Estuary and Meikle Loch	Work to identify Ramsar sites contributing to the Scottish MPA network was not complete in 2012.

### Annex 3 Other area based measures

These are the other area based measures considered to be part of the Scottish MPA network because they contribute to the protection of biodiversity but were not set up specifically for nature conservation purposes.

Table 3.1: Other area based measures in the Scottish MPA network

Site name	Size (Km <sup>2</sup> )	Purpose
East Coast of Scotland (Sandeels)	21,320	Conservation of sandeels
West Of Scotland (Blue Ling)	6,009	Conservation of blue ling
Rosemary Bank (Blue Ling)	8,955	Conservation of blue ling
West Rockall Mound	5,124	Conservation of vulnerable marine ecosystems
North West Rockall <sup>8</sup>	346	Conservation of vulnerable marine ecosystems

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<sup>8</sup> Excludes spatial overlap with North West Rockall SAC



## Annex 4 Scottish MPA network statistics

Area values are rounded to the nearest Km<sup>2</sup> and percentages are rounded to one decimal place.

Table 4.1: MPAs for conservation purposes

Type	Number
Marine Protected Area (MPA)	31
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	58
Special Protection Area (SPA)	47
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	65
Ramsar	16
<b>Total MPAs for conservation purposes</b>	<b>217</b>

Table 4.2: MPAs for other purposes

Type	Number
Demonstration and Research MPA	1
Historic MPA	8

Table 4.3: The Scottish MPA network

Type	Number
MPAs for nature conservation	217
MPAs for other purposes	9
Other Area Based Measures	5
<b>Total in Scottish MPA network</b>	<b>231</b>

Table 4.4: Area coverage of nature conservation sites

Region	Region area (Km <sup>2</sup> )	MPA area (Km <sup>2</sup> )	MPA coverage
Inshore	90,407	22,022	24.4%
Offshore	528,337	86,772	16.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>618,744</b>	<b>108,794</b>	<b>17.6%</b>

Table 4.5: Area coverage of spatial conservation measures

MSFD <sup>9</sup> Sub-Region	Area in Scottish waters (Km <sup>2</sup> ) <sup>10</sup>	MPA area in Scottish waters (Km <sup>2</sup> )	% cover of measures
Celtic Seas	492,439	110,543	22.4%
Greater North Sea	126,305	24,255	19.2%

Table 4.6: Contribution to the OSPAR<sup>11</sup> MPA network

OSPAR Region	Area in Scottish waters (Km <sup>2</sup> )	MPA area in Scottish Waters (Km <sup>2</sup> )	% MPA coverage Scottish Waters	% MPA coverage in whole region <sup>12</sup>
Region I - Arctic Waters	29,394	21,460	73%	1.9%
Region II - Greater North Sea	203,333	24,918	12%	18%
Region III - Celtic Seas	80,513	20,219	25%	15%
Region V - Wider Atlantic	305,503	42,197	14%	8.3%

<sup>9</sup> EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive

<sup>10</sup> Transitional waters have been included in these calculations to allow direct comparisons with the values provided for OSPAR and Scotland's seas as a whole.

<sup>11</sup> OSPAR Convention for the protection of the marine environment in the North East Atlantic

<sup>12</sup> [https://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1378/assessment\\_sheet\\_mpa\\_status\\_2017.pdf](https://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1378/assessment_sheet_mpa_status_2017.pdf)

## Annex 5 Feature replication in the MPA network

This annex details the replication of features within the MPA network. It considers broad scale habitats, as well as habitats and species listed by EU Directives and the OSPAR convention.

The symbols in the “replication in network” column mean the following:

✓	Protected in more than one site in Scottish waters
●	Protected in more than one site in UK waters
✗	Not replicated in UK waters

Table 5.1: Replicates of EUNIS level 3 habitats by MSFD sub-region<sup>13</sup>

Broad-scale habitat	EUNIS Code	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
High energy littoral rock	A1.1	14	4	✓
Moderate energy littoral rock	A1.2	15	3	✓
Low energy littoral rock	A1.3	17	5	✓
Littoral coarse sediment	A2.1	8	3	✓
Littoral sand and muddy sand	A2.2	20	11	✓
Littoral mud	A2.3	11	8	✓
Littoral mixed sediments	A2.4	8	6	✓
Littoral sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms	A2.6	5	10	✓
Littoral biogenic reefs	A2.7	11	8	✓
High energy infralittoral rock	A3.1	14	3	✓
Moderate energy infralittoral rock	A3.2	18	4	✓
Low energy infralittoral rock	A3.3	19	4	✓
High energy circalittoral rock	A4.1	13	5	✓
Moderate energy circalittoral rock	A4.2	16	4	✓
Low energy circalittoral rock	A4.3	12	3	✓
Sublittoral coarse sediment	A5.1	13	4	✓
Sublittoral sand	A5.2	14	5	✓
Sublittoral mud	A5.3	20	5	✓
Sublittoral mixed sediments	A5.4	20	2	✓
Sublittoral macrophyte-dominated sediment	A5.5	17	2	✓
Sublittoral biogenic reefs	A5.6	13	5	✓
Deep-sea rock and artificial hard substrata	A6.1	8		✓

<sup>13</sup> Greyed cells indicate that the feature is not characteristic of the region. Count includes OABMs

Broad-scale habitat	EUNIS Code	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
Deep-sea mixed substrata	A6.2	11		✓
Deep-sea sand	A6.3	5		✓
Deep-sea muddy sand	A6.4	6		✓
Deep-sea mud	A6.5	6		✓
Deep-sea bioherms	A6.6	10		✓
Raised features of the deep-sea bed	A6.7	8		✓

Table 5.2: Replicates for relevant listed<sup>14</sup> seabed habitats by MSFD sub-region<sup>15</sup>

Habitat	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
Blue mussel beds	10	9	✓
Carbonate mounds	1		✗
Coral gardens	3		✓
Deep-sea sponge aggregations	6		✓
Flame shell beds	6		✓
<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> reefs	7		✓
Maerl beds	10	1	✓
<i>Modiolus modiolus</i> beds	7	3	✓
Northern sea fan and sponge communities	4	1	✓
<i>Ostrea edulis</i> beds	1		●
Seagrass beds / <i>Zostera</i> beds	18	12	✓
Seamounts	3		✓
Sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities	11	1	✓
<i>Serpulid</i> reefs/aggregations	2		✓
Coastal lagoons	7	0	✓
Estuaries	1	2	✓
Large shallow inlets and bays	4	0	✓
Mudflats and sandflats	6	2	✓
Reefs	24	5	✓
Sandbanks	6	3	✓
Submarine structures made by leaking gases	0	2	✓
Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	3	2	✓

<sup>14</sup> Listed as Priority Marine Feature, or Annex II of EU Habitats Directive, or OSPAR threatened and/or declining list

<sup>15</sup> Greyed cells indicate that the habitat is not present in the region

Table 5.3: Replicates for relevant listed<sup>16</sup> species by MSFD sub-region<sup>17</sup>

Species	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
Bottlenose dolphin - <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	0	1	●
Harbour porpoise - <i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	1	0	●
Risso's dolphin - <i>Grampus griseus</i>	0	0	✗
Minke whale - <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	0	0	✗
Grey seal - <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	7	3	✓
Harbour seal - <i>Phoca vitulina</i>	7	5	✓
Otter - <i>Lutra lutra</i>	15	4	✓
Basking shark - <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	0	0	✗
Common skate - <i>Dipturus</i> spp. complex	1	0	●
Orange roughy - <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i>	1		✗
Blue ling - <i>Molva dypterygia</i>	2**		✓
Sand eels - <i>Ammodytes marinus</i> / <i>A. tobianus</i>	1	2	✓
Sea lamprey - <i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	1	1	✓
Smelt (Sparling) - <i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>	1	0	✗
Ocean quahog - <i>Arctica islandica</i>	10	4	✓
Fan mussel - <i>Atrina fragilis</i>	1	0	●
Flat/native/European oyster - <i>Ostrea edulis</i>	1	0	●
Spiny lobster - <i>Palinurus elephas</i>	0	0	●

Table 5.4: Replicates for relevant bird species<sup>18</sup> by MSFD sub-region<sup>7,19</sup>

Bird species	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
<i>Alca torda</i> - Razorbill	11	8	✓
<i>Anas acuta</i> - Northern pintail	1	1	✓
<i>Anas crecca</i> - Eurasian teal	1	2	✓
<i>Anas penelope</i> - Eurasian wigeon	-	6	✓
<i>Arenaria interpres</i> - Ruddy turnstone	3	4	✓
<i>Aythya marila</i> - Greater scaup	2	6	✓
<i>Branta bernicla</i> - Brent goose	1	-	●

<sup>16</sup> Listed as Priority Marine Feature, or Annex II of EU Habitats Directive, or OSPAR threatened and/or declining list

<sup>17</sup> Greyed cells indicate that the species is not present in the region. Count includes OABMs.

<sup>18</sup> Listed in EU Wild Birds Directive, migratory or MPA search feature

<sup>19</sup> - Species not a significant presence in sub-region

Bird species	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
<i>Bucephala clangula</i> - Common goldeneye	4	5	✓
<i>Calidris alba</i> - Sanderling	3	1	✓
<i>Calidris alpina</i> - Dunlin	3	6	✓
<i>Calidris canutus</i> - Red knot	1	4	✓
<i>Calidris maritima</i> - Purple sandpiper	2	3	✓
<i>Cephus grylle</i> - Black guillemot	4	3	✓
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> - Ringed plover	5	2	✓
<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> - Black-headed gull	1	1	✓
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i> - Long-tailed duck	4	4	✓
<i>Fratercula arctica</i> - Atlantic puffin	15	5	✓
<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i> - Northern fulmar	19	10	✓
<i>Gavia arctica</i> - Black-throated diver	2	-	✓
<i>Gavia immer</i> - Great northern diver	6	2	✓
<i>Gavia stellata</i> - Red-throated diver	7	5	✓
<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i> - Eurasian oystercatcher	4	7	✓
<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> - European storm-petrel	8	2	✓
<i>Larus argentatus</i> - Herring gull	3	7	✓
<i>Larus canus</i> - Common gull	1	1	✓
<i>Larus minutus</i> - Little gull	-	1	●
<i>Limosa lapponica</i> - Bar-tailed godwit	2	6	✓
<i>Limosa limosa</i> - Black-tailed godwit	-	1	●
<i>Melanitta fusca</i> - Velvet scoter	1	4	✓
<i>Melanitta nigra</i> - Common scoter	1	3	✓
<i>Mergus merganser</i> - Goosander	1	2	✓
<i>Mergus serrator</i> - Red-breasted merganser	6	7	✓
<i>Morus bassanus</i> (syn. <i>Sula bassana</i> ) - Northern gannet	7	4	✓
<i>Numenius arquata</i> - Eurasian curlew	1	6	✓
<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i> - Leach's storm petrel	6	-	✓
<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> - European shag	9	7	✓
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> - Great cormorant	4	5	✓
<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i> - Grey plover	1	2	✓
<i>Podiceps auritus</i> - Slavonian grebe	5	4	✓
<i>Podiceps cristatus</i> - Great crested grebe	1	1	✓
<i>Puffinus puffinus</i> - Manx shearwater	2	2	✓
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i> - Black-legged kittiwake	22	10	✓

Bird species	Celtic Seas	Greater North Sea	Replication in network
<i>Somateria mollissima</i> - Common eider	7	8	✓
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i> - Arctic skua	9	2	✓
<i>Stercorarius skua</i> - Great skua	8	3	✓
<i>Sterna dougallii</i> - Roseate tern		1	●
<i>Sterna hirundo</i> - Common tern	1	6	✓
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i> - Arctic tern	11	6	✓
<i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> - Sandwich tern	-	4	✓
<i>Sternula albifrons</i> - Little tern	3	2	✓
<i>Tadorna tadorna</i> - Common shelduck	1	3	✓
<i>Tringa totanus</i> - Common redshank	4	9	✓
<i>Uria aalge</i> - Common guillemot	26	12	✓

Table 5.5: Replication of OSPAR listed habitats and species<sup>20</sup>

Feature name	OSPAR T&D regions	Region I: Arctic Waters	Region II: Greater North Sea	Region III: Celtic Seas	Region V: Wider Atlantic	Replication in network
Carbonate mounds	V				1	✗
Coral gardens	V				3	✓
Deep-sea sponge aggregations	I, V	1	1		4	✓
Intertidal mudflats	II, III		9	10		✓
Intertidal <i>Mytilus edulis</i> beds on mixed and sandy sediments	II, III		9	9		✓
<i>Lophelia pertusa</i> reefs	I, II, III, V	-	-	1	6	✓
Maerl beds	III		2	9		✓
<i>Modiolus modiolus</i> beds	II, III		4	6		✓
<i>Ostrea edulis</i> beds	III			1		●
<i>Sabellaria spinulosa</i> reefs	II, III		-	-		●
Seamounts	V				3	✓
Sea-pen and burrowing megafauna	II, III		2	8	2	✓

<sup>20</sup> Greyed out cell denotes the habitat or species does not occur within the Scottish part of the OSPAR Region. “-” indicates that the feature occurs in the region but there is currently insufficient information to warrant consideration of MPAs as a viable conservation tool.

Feature name	OSPAR T&D regions	Region I: Arctic Waters	Region II: Greater North Sea	Region III: Celtic Seas	Region V: Wider Atlantic	Replication in network
communities						
<i>Zostera</i> beds	II, III		15	15		✓
<i>Arctica islandica</i> - Ocean quahog	II		6	8		✓
<i>Ostrea edulis</i> - Flat oyster	II		-	1		●
<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i> - Basking shark	I, II, III, V	-	-	0	-	✗
Common skate	I, II, III, V	-	-	1	-	●
<i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> - Orange roughy	V				1	✗
<i>Petromyzon marinus</i> - Sea lamprey	II, III		1	1		✓
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i> - Harbour porpoise	II, III	-	0	1	-	●
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i> - Black-legged kittiwake	I, II	-	19	10	-	✓
<i>Sterna dougallii</i> - Roseate tern	II, III, IV, V		0			●



## Annex 6 MPA objectives and progress towards them

The table below provides a description of the symbols used in this annex.









































Symbol	Meaning	Application in terms of implementation of measures and achievement of objectives
	<b>Yes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific fisheries measures are implemented. Other licensable activities controlled through regulatory processes.</li> <li>• Protected features are improving in condition or have achieved conservation objectives.</li> </ul>
	<b>Partial</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specific fisheries measures are in the process of being implemented. Other licensable activities controlled through regulatory processes.</li> <li>• Some protected features are improving in condition or have achieved conservation objectives. Others are not improving in condition or status is unknown.</li> </ul>
	<b>Unknown</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is uncertain if there is sufficient management in place to address identified threats or pressures.</li> <li>• There is not sufficient data to determine if there is progress towards achieving the conservation objectives.</li> </ul>









Table 6.1: Progress towards MPA<sup>21</sup> objectives for nature conservation

MPA name	Objectives (COs)	Are measures in place	Have COs have been achieved?	Comments including any further steps required
Central Fladen	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve conservation status of burrowed mud.
Clyde Sea Sill	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			Black guillemot declining since site designation. The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve feature status.
East Caithness Cliffs	<b>Conserve</b> -			Monitoring required to assess progress towards objectives.

<sup>21</sup> This table only considers MPAs that have been designated under the Marine Acts.

MPA name	Objectives (COs)	Are measures in place	Have COs been achieved?	Comments including any further steps required
East of Gannet and Montrose Fields	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures is expected to improve the conservation status of the protected features. At present it is unknown whether the conservation objectives are being achieved.
Faroe-Shetland Sponge Belt	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve the conservation status of the habitats protected within the site.
Fetlar to Haroldswick	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			Some fisheries measures already in place for some fisheries which are helping some features to meet their objectives. Additional measures are being progressed and should further improve feature status.
Firth of Forth Banks Complex	<b>Conserve</b> – all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve the conservation status of the habitats protected within the site.
Geikie Slide and Hebridean Slope	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve the conservation status of the habitats protected within the site.
Hatton-Rockall Basin	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Fisheries is managed under regulation by the North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission. Whilst all management measures are in place, there is limited information to comment on the degree to which conservation objectives are being achieved.
Loch Carron	<b>Recover</b> - flame shell beds			Loch Carron MPA was designated on an urgent basis in May 2017 with associated management measures. Recovery of the flame shell beds feature is expected to take up to 10 years.

MPA name	Objectives (COs)	Are measures in place	Have COs been achieved?	Comments including any further steps required
Loch Creran	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Required measures were implemented in 2016 enabling the achievement of objectives.
Loch Sunart	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The serpulid aggregations have significantly declined likely due to natural processes. Required measures were implemented in 2016 enabling the achievement of objectives for other features.
Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Required measures were implemented in 2016. Research and monitoring activities are ongoing to determine progress towards objectives.
Loch Sween	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Required measures were implemented in 2016 and the features are considered to be achieving their objectives.
Lochs Duich, Long and Alsh	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Required measures were implemented in 2016 and the features are considered to be achieving their objectives.
Monach Isles	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Black guillemot declining since site designation. The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve feature status.
Mousa to Boddam	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Features are considered to be meeting their objectives. Management measures being progressed for overlapping SAC.
North-east Faroe-Shetland Channel	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve the conservation status of the habitats protected within the site.
North-west Orkney	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The protected features are considered to be in favourable condition.

MPA name	Objectives (COs)	Are measures in place	Have COs been achieved?	Comments including any further steps required
Norwegian Boundary Sediment Plain	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures is expected to improve the conservation status of the protected features. At present, it is unknown if the conservation objectives for Ocean quahog aggregations are being achieved.
Noss Head	<b>Conserve</b> - horse mussel beds			Required measures were implemented in 2016 and the features are considered to be achieving their objectives.
Papa Westray	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Black guillemot declining since site designation. The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve feature status. Geodiversity features achieving their objectives.
Rosemary Bank Seamount	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve the conservation status of the habitats protected within the site.
Small Isles	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The implementation of fisheries management measures should improve feature status.
South Arran	<b>Recover</b> - maerl beds <b>Conserve</b> - all other features			Measures were introduced in 2016 and features progressing towards achieving objectives. Recovery of maerl beds is likely to take a considerable period of time.
The Barra Fan and Hebrides Terrace Seamount	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			The EU deep-sea trawling ban is considered sufficient to enable the protected features of the site to reach favourable condition.
Turbot Bank	<b>Conserve</b> - sandeels			The absence of a sandeel fishery means the site is likely to be in favourable condition.








MPA name	Objectives (COs)	Are measures in place	Have COs been achieved?	Comments including any further steps required
Upper Loch Fyne and Loch Goil	<b>Recover</b> - flame shell beds <b>Conserve</b> - all other features			Management is in place and working towards the objectives. It remains unclear how long flame shell bed recovery with take. Future monitoring will determine progress towards objectives.
West Shetland Shelf	<b>Conserve</b> -			Existing fisheries measures are contributing towards achieving conservation objectives although habitat status needs to be confirmed through monitoring.
Wester Ross	<b>Recover</b> - flame shell beds, maerl beds <b>Conserve</b> - all other features			Management is in place and working towards the objectives. The recovery of maerl beds and flame shell beds is likely to take considerable time.
Wyre and Rousay Sounds	<b>Conserve</b> - all features			Required measures were implemented in 2016 and the features are considered to be achieving their objectives.

Table 6.2: Progress towards purpose of the Demonstration and Research MPA

MPA name	Purpose	Comments on progress
Fair Isle	<p>To demonstrate and research the use of an ecosystem approach, which includes the following -</p> <p>(a) the environmental monitoring of seabirds and of other mobile marine species;</p> <p>(b) the environmental monitoring of the factors which influence the populations of seabirds and of other mobile species;</p> <p>(c) the development and implementation of a local sustainable shellfish fishery;</p> <p>(d) the development of a research programme into local fisheries which includes research on species composition, size, distribution and temporal and spatial changes in fish stocks;</p> <p>(e) based upon the research undertaken under sub-paragraph (d), the development of a sustainable-use management programme for local fisheries.</p>	<p>A Steering Group has been set up including the local community and representatives of other stakeholders. A research sub-group has been established to help prioritise and co-ordinate research and monitoring relating.</p>

In addition to the specific preservation objectives set out in table 6.3 which vary between MPAs depending on what is appropriate and practicable; all Historic MPAs have the following objectives:

- to prevent the removal, wholly or partly, of the marine historic asset from within the Historic MPA, except where the Scottish Ministers are satisfied that this is desirable for the purpose of making a significant contribution to the protection of the marine historic asset or to knowledge about marine cultural heritage; and
- to prevent the commercial exploitation of the marine historic asset for trade, speculation or its irretrievable dispersal other than provision of professional archaeological or public access which is consistent with other preservation objectives.

Table 6.3: Progress towards preservation objectives of Historic MPAs<sup>22</sup>

MPA name	Preservation Objectives (POs)	Current indicator	Trajectory in survival/site condition <sup>23</sup>
Drumbeg	To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;	Survival <20%	Stable - the site condition of a marine historic asset with localised problems such as erosion is stable, provided the damage remains constant. Monitoring undertaken in September 2012 - see <a href="https://canmore.org.uk/event/993803">https://canmore.org.uk/event/993803</a>
	to maintain site condition	Generally satisfactory but with significant localised problems	
Mingary	To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;	Survival unknown but on the basis of available evidence, thought likely to be <20%	Stable - inspection by Cotswold Archaeology in December 2014 - report archiving in progress.
	to maintain site condition	Generally satisfactory but with minor localised problems	
Kinlochbervie	To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;	Survival unknown but on the basis of available evidence, thought likely to be <20%	Unknown - it is not possible to assess the trend in site condition or survival since 2000-2002, the date of the last assessment –see <a href="https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1128045">https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1128045</a> . A field assessment was commissioned in 2018 but was postponed due to weather risk.
	to maintain site condition	Generally satisfactory but with minor localised problems	

<sup>22</sup> Explanation for the terms used is set out in <https://www.historicenvironment.scot/media/2829/historic-mpa-guidelines.pdf>

<sup>23</sup> Based on site monitoring. This helps to determine whether preservation objectives can and are being met, and to improve provision of management advice and decision-making

MPA name	Preservation Objectives (POs)***	Current indicator	Trajectory in survival/site condition <sup>24</sup>
Out Skerries	<p>To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;</p> <p>to maintain site condition</p>	<p>Survival &lt;20%</p> <p>Generally satisfactory but with minor localised problems</p>	<p>Stable - i.e. the extent of survival/ site condition of a marine historic asset(s) shows little or no sign of active deterioration either recent or mid-term. The site condition of a marine historic asset with localised problems such as erosion is stable, provided the damage remains constant. Monitoring and interventions since 2016 have addressed localised exposures of potentially vulnerable material at some locations on this site.</p> <p>For June 2014 monitoring inspections see - <a href="https://canmore.org.uk/event/1030846">https://canmore.org.uk/event/1030846</a> and <a href="https://canmore.org.uk/event/1030783">https://canmore.org.uk/event/1030783</a>.</p> <p>May-June 2016 - Monitoring and artefact recording/recovery operation by Wessex Archaeology (report archiving in progress).</p>

<sup>24</sup> Based on site monitoring. This helps to determine whether preservation objectives can and are being met, and to improve provision of management advice and decision-making



MPA name	Preservation Objectives (POs)***	Current indicator	Trajectory in survival/site condition <sup>25</sup>
Dartmouth	To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;	Survival - estimated at 10-20%	Stable/declining - monitoring visit in 2014 identified evidence of a small extent of exposed hull structure around the main anchor which may lead to the degradation of the surviving hull. December 2014 monitoring inspection by Cotswold Archaeology (report archiving in progress).
	to maintain site condition	Optimum condition	
Duart Point	To maintain the extent of survival of the marine historic asset;	Survival 21-40%	Stable. December 2014 monitoring inspection by Cotswold Archaeology (report archiving in progress).
	to maintain site condition	Optimum condition	
Campania	To minimise loss of the marine historic asset within the area;	Survival - estimated at 41-60%	Unknown - it is not possible to assess the trend in site condition or survival since 2004 as a field assessment has not been made since then. August 2004 monitoring report see - <a href="https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1319203">https://canmore.org.uk/collection/1319203</a>
	to minimise deterioration of site condition	Generally unsatisfactory with major localised problems	
Iona I	To minimise loss of the marine historic asset within the area;	Survival - estimated at 41-60%	Unknown - it is not possible to assess the trend in site condition or survival since 2009 as a field assessment has not been made since then. March 2009 monitoring report see - <a href="http://canmore-pdf.rcahms.gov.uk/wp/00/WP000733.pdf">http://canmore-pdf.rcahms.gov.uk/wp/00/WP000733.pdf</a>
	to minimise deterioration of site condition	Extensive problems	

<sup>25</sup> Based on site monitoring. This helps to determine whether preservation objectives can and are being met, and to improve provision of management advice and decision-making

## Annex 7 Management measures

This annex details the specific management measures implemented to further the objectives of nature conservation sites in the Scottish MPA network. These measures are either Marine Conservation Orders or Inshore Fisheries Orders. There are no current Marine Conservation Orders specifically to support Preservation Objectives for Historic MPAs or the stated purpose of demonstration and research MPAs

Table 7.1: Marine Conservation Orders for nature conservation sites

SSI <sup>26</sup> number	Name	Notes	Status
2014/260	The South Arran Marine Conservation Order 2014	Amended by SSI 2014/297 and continued by SSI 2015/303	All revoked by SSI 2015/437
2105/302	The Wester Ross Marine Conservation Order 2015		Revoked by SSI 2016/88
2015/437	The South Arran Marine Conservation Order 2015		In force
2016/88	The Wester Ross Marine Conservation Order 2016		In force
2016/90	The Loch Sunart to Sound of Jura Marine Conservation Order 2016		In force
2017/158	The Loch Carron Urgent Marine Conservation Order 2017		Revoked by SSI 2017/205
2017/205	The Loch Carron Urgent Marine Conservation (No. 2) Order 2017	Continued by SSI 2018/100	In force

Table 7.2 Inshore fisheries orders which are in force

SSI <sup>27</sup> number	Name
2015/435	The Inshore Fishing (Prohibition of Fishing and Fishing Methods) (Scotland) Order 2015
2105/436	The Inshore Fishing (Prohibited Methods of Fishing) (Luce Bay) Order 2015

<sup>26</sup> Scottish Statutory Instrument



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