The Scottish MPA Network

Steering Group Document 1

1. The Scottish Marine Protected Area (MPA) Network

One of the main issues when referring to Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) is the confusing terminology and legislation. The term "MPA" is "*any area of intertidal or subtidal terrain, together with its overlying water and associated flora, fauna, historical and cultural features, which has been reserved by law or other effective means to protect part or all of the enclosed environment*" (IUCN).

In Scotland we have various forms of MPA that have been designated under different legislations at both national and international levels due to international agreements and commitments the UK Government has signed-up to. **Table 1** summarises the various MPA types in the Scottish MPA Network. There are 231 MPAs in the Scottish MPA network, 217 of which are for nature conservation.

When we are referring to or discussing a site explicitly, we will use the term that is specific to that type of designation, e.g. Nature Conservation MPA or NC MPA or Special Area of Conservation or SAC. Otherwise, the term MPA is used when discussing sites or the MPA network generally.

Table 1 Summary of the types of MPA in the Scottish MPA network.

MPA Type	Acronym	Legislation underpinning the designation and jurisdiction (in brackets)
Special Area of Conservation	SAC	EC Habitats Directive (European)
Special Protection Area	SPA	EC Birds Directive (European)
Ramsar Site	Ramsar	Ramsar Convention on Wetlands (International)
Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area	NC MPA	Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (inshore 0-12 nautical miles) and Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (offshore 12-200 nautical miles) (National)
Historic Marine Protected Area	HMPA	Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (National)
Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area	D&R MPA	Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (National)
Site of Special Scientific Interest	SSSI	Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 (National)

1.1 International Designations

1.1.1 Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA)

SACs and SPAs are sites that have been designated at European level via the Habitats Directive. In Scotland, the Habitats Directive is translated into specific legal obligations inshore by the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994, commonly referred to as the Habitats

Regulations. The Offshore Marine Regulations 2017 apply in Scottish waters more than 12 nautical miles from land. SACs are designated for habitats and species listed under Annex I and II of the EC Habitats Directive and SPAs for rare and vulnerable bird species listed under Annex I of the Birds Directive and regularly occurring migratory species.

SACs and SPAs make up a network of protected sites on both land and sea across Europe and are known as the Natura 2000 network. Therefore SACs and SPAs may also be referred to as Natura sites.

In Scotland there are total of 58 SACs and 47 SPAs that form part of the MPA network and of these seven SACs and five SPAs (two of which are proposed (pSPA)) are within the Argyll Marine Region.

1.1.2 Ramsar Sites

One of the international commitments the UK is signed up to is the "Convention on Wetlands of International Importance", also known as the Ramsar Convention. The convention is committed to the wise use of wetlands, the designation of suitable wetlands and to ensure their effective management as well as committing to international coordination on transboundary and shared wetland and species.

There are 16 Ramsar sites that form part of Scotland's MPA network. All of these are also designated as part of the Natura 2000 network (as either SACs or SPAs) and many are underpinned nationally by SSSIs (see **Section 1.2.2**). Therefore for the purposes of this paper we will not be referring to Ramsar designations, instead we will be referring to their SAC, SPA or SSSI designations.

1.2 National Designations

1.2.1 Scottish Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Through the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the UK Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, Scottish Ministers have powers to designate MPAs in Scottish inshore and offshore waters. MPAs designated at a national level in Scotland fall into three categories: Nature Conservation MPAs (NC MPAs), to protect habitats and species not already protect or that warranted additional designation as well as geological features; Historic MPAs (HMPAs) to protect wrecks and artefacts and Demonstration and Research MPAs (D&R MPA) to test novel approaches to marine management. Within English and Welsh waters, national MPAs are called Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) as are the national designations in the inshore waters of Northern Ireland under their devolved legislation.

There are 31 designated NC MPAs (18 inshore and 13 offshore), eight HMPAs and one D &R MPA in Scotland. Within the Argyll Marine Region there are three NCMPAs and one HMPA. A further four NC MPAs have been proposed and are currently undergoing consultation (possible-MPAs (pMPAs)). For the purpose of the MarPAMM-Argyll project, two other HMPAs have been included within the scope of the project as they lie within the Sound of Mull but are in the Highland Marine Region boundary.

1.2.2 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

SSSIs are those areas of land and water that we consider best represent our natural heritage in terms of their flora, fauna, geology, geomorphology and/or a mixture of these natural features. SSSIs are national designations made under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004. SSSIs contributing to

the MPA network have features that generally are found above the mean low water mark (e.g. intertidal mudflats, bird and seal species. Many SSSIs are also designated as either SACs or SPAs.

In Scotland 65 SSSIs contribute to the MPA network, of which five are within the Argyll Marine Region.

2. MPAs in Argyll

This section describes each of the MPAs that are suggested for inclusion in the MarPAMM-Argyll project scope (a map and summary of all site and their features can be found in **Annex 1**). For each MPA a general site summary is given along with information on the management measures currently in place, including fisheries management measures. Other management is undertaken through licensing and consenting processes. These offer protection to features within the Scottish MPA network however these are processes that apply across MPAs and are not site specific. Therefore they have not been noted in each site summary but are instead outlined in **Annex 2**.

2.1 Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

2.1.1 Firth of Lorn SAC

The Firth of Lorn SAC is famous for its tide swept rocky reefs. The rising and falling tide is squeezed between the numerous islands and skerries and through deep, rock channels into shallower water creating tidal races. The fastest and most dramatic of these are the Grey Dogs race between the islands of Scarba and Lunga and the Gulf of Corryvreckan between the islands of Scarba and Jura particularly at spring tides. While this creates extremely challenging conditions for the plants and animals that live there, the benefit is the readily available food supply passing on the constantly moving water.

The Firth of Lorn SAC covers a total area of 210.00 km^2.

Fisheries management measures for the Firth of Lorn SAC are included in the Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura fisheries management measures (see **Section 2.3.2**).

The Firth of Lorn SAC management plan was developed by the Argyll Marine SAC Forum and has been in place since 2006 but not updated.

Feature	MPA type
Reef	SAC

2.1.2 Moine Mhor SAC/SSSI

While the Moine Mhor SAC is predominately designated for the presence of terrestrial habitats under Annex II of the Habitats Directive, there are protected marine features too. The visible transition between raised bogs to intertidal saltmarshes and mudflats within the SAC is one of the most undisturbed examples in the UK. Mudflats and saltmarshes are important habitats for wading birds and wildfowl. The highly productive mudflats support a great number of intertidal animals, such as cockles, mussels and polychaete worms, and provide feeding grounds for wading birds. The saltmarshes offer refuge to the feeding birds during high tide as well as being breeding sites.

The Moine Mhor SAC and SSSI cover total areas of 11.50 km^2 and 11.73 km^2 respectively.

The Moine Mhor SAC is part of the Phase 2 fisheries management measures being considered (see **Annex 3**). Moine Mhor is managed as a National Nature Reserve (NNR) and has a management plan in place for 2017-2027.

Feature	MPA type
Intertidal mudflats and sandflats	SAC
Otter	SAC
Saltmarsh	SSSI

2.1.3 Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor (Lismore) SAC / South-East Islay Skerries SAC

Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor (Lismore) and South-East Islay Skerries SACs were designated because they are important breeding sites for harbour (or common) seals *Phoca vitulina*. Female harbour seals return to natal breeding sites (the site that they were born) to breed and give birth to their pups in July every year. In August the females and the pups are joined by male harbour seals as the adults spend more time hauled out to moult.

The Lismore SAC and South-East Islay Skerries SAC cover total areas of 11.39 km^2 and 15.00 km^2 respectively.

Feature	MPA type
Harbour Seal	SAC

2.1.4 Treshnish Isles SAC/SPA/SSSI

The Treshnish Isles have a number of overlapping designations due to the presence of marine habitats and species, birds and geomorphology of both national and international importance. The uninhabited rocky archipelago is important for breeding storm petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* who have visited the islands annually in the spring since the late 19th century and grey seals *Halichoerus grypus* who visit the site annually to pup in November – January inclusive.

The SAC, SPA and SSSI designations on The Treshnish Isles cover total areas of 19.63 km^2, 2.42 km^2 and 2.41 km^2 respectively.

Fisheries management measures prohibit the use of dredges, beam and demersal trawls and set nets within the Treshnish Isles SAC.

Feature	MPA type
Grey seal	SAC/SSSI
Reef	SAC
Storm Petrel	SPA
Maritime cliff	SSSI
Quaternary of Scotland	SSSI
Seabird colony, breeding	SSSI

2.1.5 Loch Creran SAC/ MPA

Loch Creran SAC is designated for Reef, in particular biogenic reefs built by the serpulid worm *Serpula vermicularis* (known as serpulid reefs) and the horse mussel *Modiolus modiolus* (known as horse mussel beds). Loch Creran MPA is designated for flame shell *Limaria hians* beds. *Serpula vermicularis* is commonly found in UK waters as an individual growing over rocks and shells; however in Loch Creran the worms grow up off the seabed forming bush like structures which are found in only two other countries in the world (Ireland and Italy). Loch Creran is home to the oldest known and largest extent of serpulid reef in the world and provides high rise accommodation and shelter to other plants and animals such as crabs, brittlestars and sea squirts.

Horse mussel and flame shell beds have similar ecosystem functions to the serpulid reefs. Individual horse mussels use their tough thread-like filaments known as byssus to stick to each other and the small rocks around them to stabilise the seabed. Flame shells form beds in a similar way using their byssus to form nests just under the surface of the seabed and bind gravel and shells together on the surface. By stabilising the seabed horse mussels and flame shells increase biodiversity by providing a solid substrate or habitat and/or refuge for plants and animals such as peacock worms, sponges and seaweeds. For more information on the features of the Loch Creran SAC/MPA see **Annex 3.**

The Loch Creran SAC and MPA have the same boundary and cover a total area of 12.26 km^2.

Fisheries management measures for the Loch Creran MPA exclude fishing of all gear types with the exception of rod and line throughout the MPA and includes derogated areas for creel fishing.

The Loch Creran Marine SAC management plan was developed by the Argyll Marine SAC Forum and has been in place since 2006 but it has not been updated.

Feature	MPA type
Reef	SAC
Flame shell beds	NC MPA
Quaternary of Scotland	NC MPA

2.1.6 Inner Hebrides and The Minches SAC

The west coast of Scotland is an important area for harbour porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* in the UK. The Inner Hebrides and Minches SAC provides protection for approximately 32% of the population found on the west coast of Scotland.

Not only is the Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC the only MPA for harbour porpoise in Scotland but is the second largest MPA for harbour porpoise in Europe covering a total area of 13801.99 km^2.

Management options for the Inner Hebrides and The Miches SAC can be found in the Conservation Objectives and Advice to Support Management Paper. Any proposed management will be consulted on prior to Orders being introduced.

Feature	MPA type
Harbour Porpoise	SAC

2.2 Special Protection Areas (SPAs)

2.2.1 North Colonsay and Western Cliffs SPA

The breeding colony on the northern and western cliffs of Colonsay supports over 20,000 breeding birds and includes species such as common gull *Larus canus*, Artic tern *Sterna paradisaea*, razorbill *Alca torda*, guillemot *Uria aalge* and kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla*. The North Colonsay SSSI overlaps with the site but does not have marine features. The West Colonsay Seabird Cliffs SSSI also sits within the SPA and includes the same qualifying features as the SPA with the addition of razorbill (see **Section 2.5.5**).

The North Colonsay and Western Cliffs SPA covers a total area of 32.96 km^2.

Feature	MPA type
Guillemot	SPA
Kittiwake	SPA
Seabird assemblage	SPA

2.2.2 Glas Eileanan SPA

The Glas Eileanan SPA covers three small islands that sit close to the eastern entrance of the Sound of Mull. From 1993-1997 an average of 530 breeding pairs of common tern *Sterna hirundo* were recorded on the islands, representing 4.9% of the UK breeding population. The number of breeding pairs at tern sites is known to fluctuate between years, the latest site condition for Glas Eileanan is reported as unfavourable/declining.

The Glas Eileanan SPA covers a total area of 0.01 km^2.

Feature	MPA Type
Common tern	SPA

2.2.3 Coll and Tiree pSPA

The islands of Coll and Tiree are important wintering grounds for both common eider *Somateria mollissima* and great northern diver *Gavia immer*, with almost 18% of the UK population of great northern diver visiting the islands of every year. The rocky coastlines, sandy beaches and bays of Coll and Tiree as well as the shallow seabed mix of mud, sand and gravel (which support a diverse range of fish and shellfish species) provide sheltered feeding grounds for both species during the winter.

The Coll and Tiree pSPA covers a total area of 795.00 km^2.

Management options for the Coll and Tiree pSPA can be found in the Advice to Support Management Paper.

Feature	MPA Type
Common eider	pSPA
Great northern diver	pSPA

2.2.4 Sound of Gigha pSPA

The Sound of Gigha pSPA is home to ca. 1300 common eider and 100 red breasted merganser *Mergus serrator* year round and supports over 500 visiting great northern diver during the winter, accounting for 20% of the UK great norther diver population (the second largest concentration on the west coast of Scotland). Inshore rocky habitats, skerries and sheltered bays along with mixed offshore habitats of mud, sand and gravel provide rich feeding grounds for both resident and transient birds.

The Sound of Gigha pSPA covers a total area of 363.00 km^2.

Management options for the Sound of Gigha pSPA can be found in the Advice to Support Management paper.

Feature	MPA Type
Common eider	pSPA
Great northern diver	pSPA
Red breasted merganser	pSPA

2.3 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas (NC MPAs)

2.3.1 Loch Sween MPA

Loch Sween is designated for maerl, burrowed mud, sublittoral mud and mixed sediment communities and the native oyster *Ostrea edulis*. Due to the scattered distribution of this once abundant species, the Loch Sween population of native oysters is considered to be of national importance. Scotland's two most common species of maerl are both found within the Loch Sween MPA, *Phymatolithon calcareum* and *Lithothamnion glaciale*, commonly referred to as the pink branch twiglets and pink hedgehogs due to their structure. The complex structure of the maerl beds provide habitats for a range of other species including scallops, fish, sea slugs and bushy sea firs.

The burrowed mud habitats of Loch Sween are particularly impressive providing a home for animals such as *Nephrops*, fireworks anemones, sea pens, gobies, brittlestars and the volcano worm *Maxmuelleria lankesteri*. The large, green volcano worm lives in a u shaped burrow in the sediment, the only visible evidence of its presence are large volcano like mounds on the seabed where it excretes sediment. The species is normally found in very deep water, up to 4000m but the deep quiet basins of Loch Sween recreate perfect living conditions for them. Loch Sween is the only sea loch in Scotland where *Maxmuellaria* has been reported. For more information on the features of the Loch Sween MPA see **Annex 3**.

The Loch Sween MPA covers a total area of 41.00 km^2.

Fisheries management measures for Loch Sween prohibit beam trawling and suction dredging throughout the entirety of the MPA, with derogated areas for mechanical dredging, demersal trawling and hand gathering for vessels of less than 75 gross tonnes, with further time restrictions on mechanical dredging.

Feature	MPA type
Burrowed mud	NC MPA

Maerl beds	NC MPA
Native Oysters	NC MPA
Sublittoral mud and mixed sediment communities	NC MPA

2.3.2 Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA

The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA is designated for both biodiversity and geodiversity features. Common skate *Dipturus batis* have been subject to decades of fishing pressure resulting in a decline in their numbers and distribution throughout the UK. Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura supports a number of resident mature common skate that may also be breeding in the area. Deep glaciated channels and troughs are present throughout the MPA and these appear to be the skate's preferred habitat demonstrating a strong affiliation between biodiversity and geodiversity features here. For more information on the features of the Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA see **Annex 3**.

The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA covers a total area of 741.00 km^2.

Fisheries management measures prohibit the use of demersal trawl, dredge, set nets and lines. In derogated areas mechanical dredge and demersal trawl without tickler chains (except beam trawl) is permitted during certain periods (1st January-31st March and 1st October-31st December). The Firth of Lorn SAC is also included in the Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA fisheries management measures, however a separate fishing order is in place for Loch Sunart SAC and NC MPA (**see Annex 3)**.

The Firth of Lorn SAC management plan has been in place since 2006 but it has not been updated.

Feature	**MPA type**
Common skate	NC MPA
Quaternary of Scotland – glaciated channels and troughs	NC MPA

2.3.3 Sea of the Hebrides pMPA

The Sea of Hebrides pMPA includes important feeding areas for basking sharks *Cetorhinus maximus* and minke whales *Balaenopera physalus*. The nutrient rich foraging grounds that attract these species are supported by fronts. Fronts occur when seawater of different temperatures and/or depths bump into each other concentrating nutrients. This increases the production of phytoplankton which provides food for the basking sharks and the fish which are the primary prey of the minke whales. When basking sharks are concentrated in the pMPA in the summer they may also be interacting socially or breeding. Within the pMPA boundary lies the Inner Hebrides Carbonate Production Area which is an important Scottish shelf seabed feature. The carbon-rich sediments of this area are produced from calcium carbonate shells of animals and dead maerl, these are pushed inshore through wave action creating sandy beaches and coastal machair.

The Sea of the Hebrides pMPA covers a total area of 10039.00 km^2.

There are currently no specific management measures for the Sea of the Hebrides pMPA because the site is currently out to consultation. Management options are detailed in the Sea of the Hebrides

Conservation and Management Advice Paper. Any proposed management will be consulted on prior to Orders being introduced.

Feature	MPA type
Basking shark	pMPA
Minke Whale	pMPA
Fronts	pMPA
Marine Geomorphology of the Scottish shelf seabed	pMPA

2.4 Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPA)

2.4.1 Duart Point HMPA / Dartmouth HMPA / Mingary HMPA

The wreck sites of three 17th century vessels lie within the waters of the Sound of Mull. The wrecks of military vessels *the Swan* (Duart Point HMPA) and *the Dartmouth* (Dartmouth HMPA) as well as the unidentified wreck of what is thought to be a Dutch vessel (Mingary HMPA) occur in the Sound.

The presence of the three wrecks in close proximity to Duart Castle illustrates how Scottish coastal castles became vulnerable to attack by seaborn artillery during the 17th century (Historic Environment Scotland).

Operation advice for the three HMPAs is available in each of the HMPA area summaries in **Annex 3**.

Feature	MPA type
Wreck	HMPA

2.5 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

2.5.1 Oronsay and South Colonsay SSSI

The Oronsay and South Colonsay SSSI is designated for grey seals. A number of islets and skerries in the site provide suitable undisturbed haul-out sites for breeding in the winter months.

The Oronsay and South Colonsay SSSI covers a total area of 21.78 km^2.

Feature	MPA Type
Grey seal	SSSI

2.5.2 Rhunahaorine Point SSSI

Rhunahaorine Point SSSI is recognised as a nationally important site for shingle and its associated flora that support bird populations. The shingle spit of Rhunaharoine Point provide suitable nesting grounds for the little tern *Sternula albifrons*, where they will remain close to the shoreline to forage for small fish and crustaceans. From 2006-2009, 9-25 breeding pairs were recorded at the site.

The Rhunahaorine Point SSSI covers a total area of 3.26 km^2.

Feature	MPA Type
Shingle	SSSI
Little Tern	SSSI

2.5.3 Staffa SSSI

The iconic island of Staffa is home to extraordinary geology and nationally important seabird colonies for fulmar, shag and puffin. The basalt columns of Staffa were formed by cooling lava flows, which came from the once volcanic Isle of Mull, and are topped with rich soils and a variety of maritime heath communities.

The Staffa SSSI covers a total area of 0.46 km^2.

Feature	MPA Type
Fulmar	SSSI
Shag	SSSI
Puffin	SSSI
Maritime cliff	SSSI

2.5.4 Ulva, Danna and the McCormaig Isles SSSI

This group of small, uninhabited islands lie at the mouth of Loch Sween and support a number of features of national importance. The tidal rapids between the saline lagoons of Linne Mhuirich are home to sponge communities, while the mudflats where the water moves more slowly are home to eelgrass beds. The skerries around the McCormaig Isles support the largest breeding site for shag and cormorant in Mid-Argyll.

The Ulva, Danna and the McCormaig Isles SSSI covers a total area of 7.37 km^2.

Feature	MPA Type
Mudflats	SSSI
Saline lagoon	SSSI
Tidal rapids	SSSI
Shag	SSSI
Cormorant	SSSI
Maritime cliff	SSSI

2.5.5 West Colonsay Seabird Cliffs SSSI

The West Colonsay Seabird Cliffs SSSI sits within the North Colonsay and Western Cliffs SPA (see **Section 2.2.1**) and it is recognised for supporting internationally important numbers of guillemot and kittiwake. The maritime cliffs of west Colonsay also support nationally-important populations of breeding razorbill (approximately 1% of the GB population).

The West Colonsay Seabird Cliffs SSSI covers a total area of 0.43km^2

Feature	MPA Type
Razorbill	SSSI
Guillemot	SSSI
Kittiwake	SSSI
Seabird colony	SSSI
Maritime cliff	SSSI

Annex 1 – Summaries of the MPAs in the Argyll Marine Region

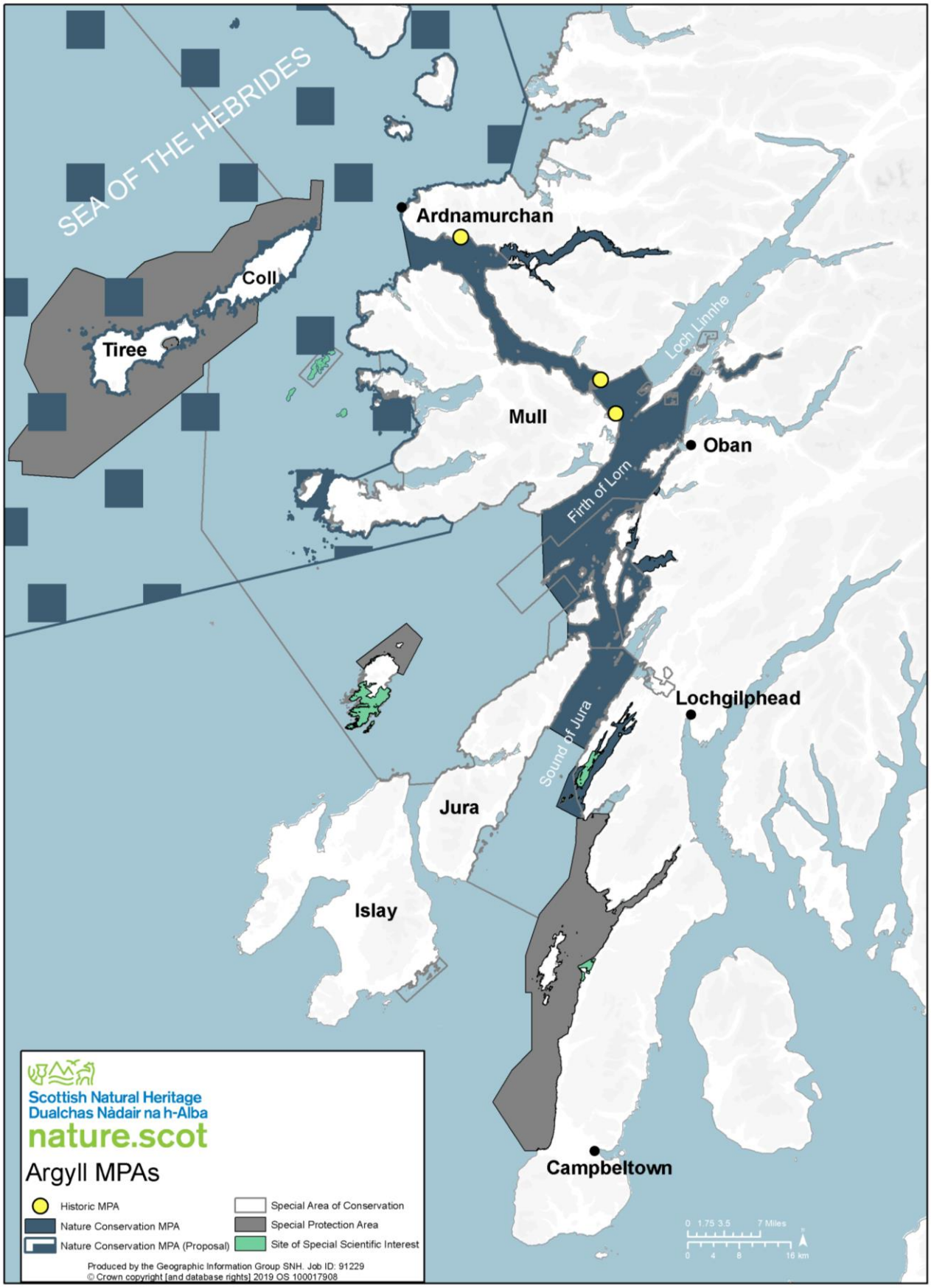

Figure 1 Map of the MPAs included in the MarPAMM-Argyll project scope.

Table 1 Summary table MPAs and their features included in the MarPAMM-Argyll project scope.

MPA	MPA type	Area	Feature
Firth of Lorn	SAC	210.00 km^2	Reefs (rocky reefs)
Moine Mhor	SAC/ SSSI	11.50 / 11.73 km^2	Intertidal mudflats and sandflats, otter (*Lutra lutra*), saltmarsh
Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor	SAC	11.39 km^2	Harbour seal (*Phoca vitulina*)
South-East Islay Skerries	SAC	15.00 km^2	Harbour seal (*Phoca vitulina*)
Treshnish Isles	SAC/SPA/ SSSI	19.63 / 2.42 / 2.41 km^2	Grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*), reef, storm petrel (*Hydrobates pelagicus*, breeding), maritime cliff, quaternary of Scotland, seabird colony, breeding
Loch Creran	SAC/MPA	12.26 km^2	Reef (horse mussel beds; *Modiolus modiolus*, serpulid aggregations; *Serpula vermicularis*), flame shell beds (*Limaria hians*), quaternary of Scotland
Inner Hebrides and the Minches	SAC	13801.99 km^2	Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)
North Colonsay and Western Cliffs	SPA	32.96 km^2	Guillemot (*Uria aalge*, breeding), kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*, breeding), seabird assemblage (breeding)
Glas Eileanan	SPA	0.01 km^2	Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*, breeding)
Coll and Tiree	pSPA	795.00 km^2	Common eider (*Somateria mollissima,* non-breeding), great northern diver (*Gavia immer*, non-breeding)
Sound of Gigha	pSPA	363.00 km^2	Common eider (*Somateria mollissima,* non-breeding), great northern diver (*Gavia immer*, non-breeding), red breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*, non-breeding)
Loch Sween	NC MPA	41.00 km^2	Burrowed mud, maerl beds, native oysters (*Ostrea edulis*), sublittoral mud and mixed sediment communities
Loch Sunart to Sound of Jura	NC MPA	741.00 km^2	Common skate (*Dipturus batis*), quaternary of Scotland - glaciated channels/troughs
Sea of the Hebrides	pMPA	10039.00 km^2	Basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*), minke whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*), fronts, marine geomorphology of the Scottish shelf seabed
Duart Point	HMPA	-	Wreck (the *Swan*)
Dartmouth	HMPA	-	Wreck (Dartmouth)
Mingary	HMPA	-	Wreck (unconfirmed)
Oronsay and South Colonsay	SSSI	21.78 km^2	Grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*)
Rhunahaorine Point	SSSI	3.26 km^2	Shingle, Little tern (*Sternula albifrons*)
Staffa	SSSI	0.46 km^2	Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*), shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, breeding), puffin (*Fratercula artica*, breeding), maritime cliff
Ulva, Danna and the McCormaig Isles	SSSI	7.37 km^2	Mudflats, saline lagoon, tidal rapids, shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*, breeding), cormorant (*Phalacrocorax, carbo*, breeding), maritime cliff
West Colonsay Seabird Cliffs	SSSI	0.43 km^2	Razorbill (*Alca torda,* breeding), guillemot (*Uria aalge*, breeding), seabird colony (breeding), maritime cliff

Annex 2 – MPA Management Measures

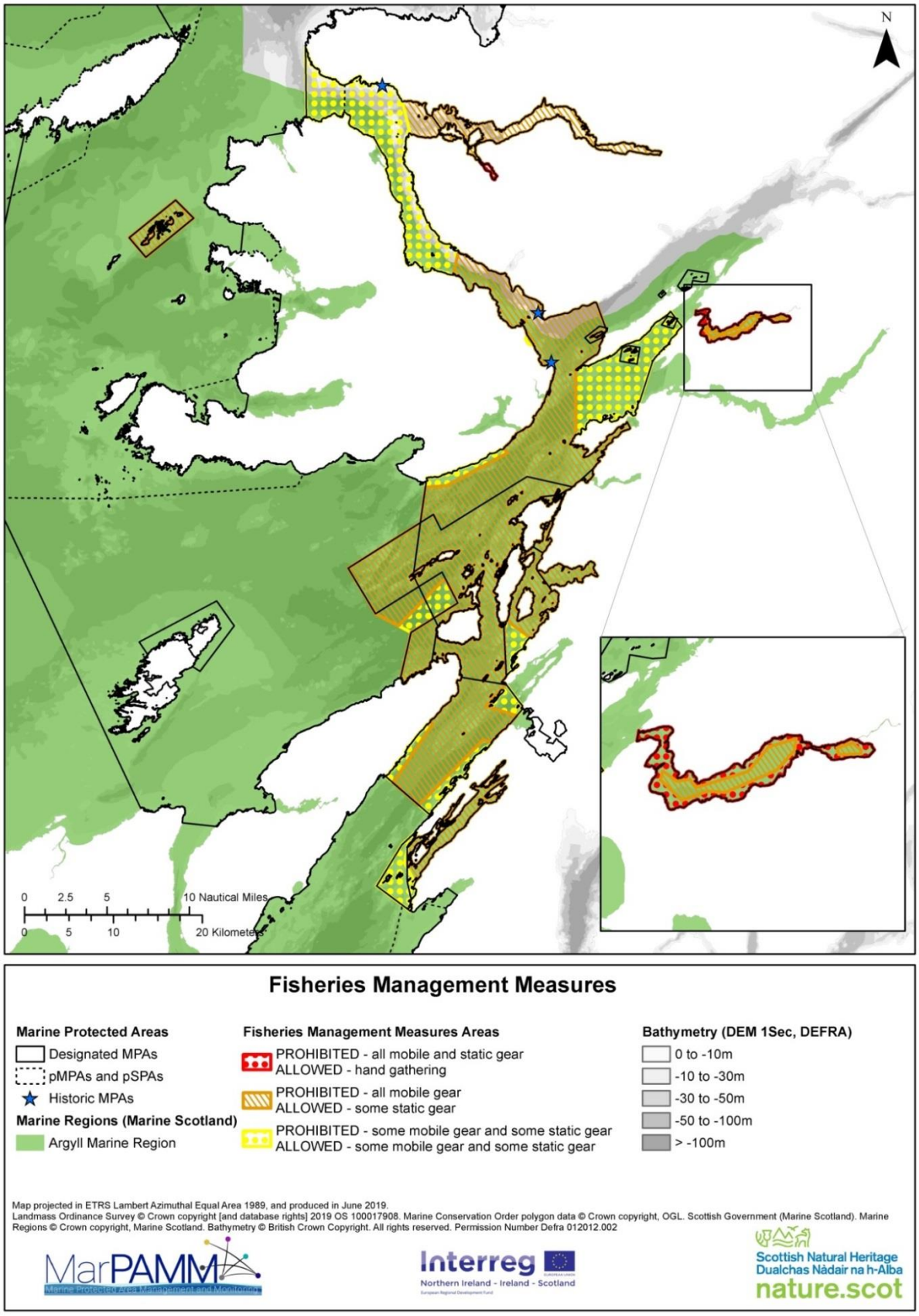

Figure 2 Map of the fisheries management measures in place for the MPAs in Argyll.

Table 2 General MPA management measures

General MPA management measures
- A Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA) must be carried out for any plan or project that has the potential to adversely affect the integrity of a Natura site (SAC or SPA).
- Under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended) all species of whales, dolphins and porpoises are given protection as European Protected Species (EPS). Any activity could cause disturbance or injury to cetaceans in Scotland must have a license.
- Under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, it is an offense to intentionally kill, injure, take, possess, sell, intentionally or recklessly disturb or harass basking sharks. Any activity that has the potential to do so must have a license.
- Certain activities require a marine licence as set out by The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. Licenses and consents are issued by the Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT). Examples of activities that require a marine licence include walkway/pontoons, aquaculture, deposition on the seabed and submarine cables. A full list can be found at: https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/activities. For information on marine licensing exemptions (i.e. those activities not requiring a license) please see The Marine Licensing (Exempted Activities) (Scottish Inshore Region) Order 2011 at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2011/204/contents/made.
- Shooting seals for the protection of farmed fish and wild salmon requires a licence from Marine Scotland. Certain seal haul outs have also been designated for additional protection under the Marine (Scotland) act 2010. At these haul outs it is illegal to “recklessly or intentionally harass”seals while they are hauled out in the site. All of the seal SACs have been granted this additional protection.
- Consents additional to marine licenses may be required before an activity can be carried out, e.g. a marine finfish farm must obtain planning permission, a Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) license, Aquaculture Production Business (APB) Authorisation and a seabed lease as well as a marine licence.
- For NC MPAs, HMPAs and D&R MPAs, authorities must determine whether if by carrying out their duties, e.g. permitting an activity to take place, it would hinder the achievement of the Conservation Objectives, stated preservation objectives or stated purpose.

Table 3 Further information on the fisheries management measures in place for MPAs not within the Argyll Marine Region but overlap with MPAs that are within the Argyll Marine Region.

MPA	More information
Loch Carron MPA	Loch Carron Marine Conservation Order 2019 http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2019/101/pdfs/ssi_20190101_en.pdf
Lochs Duich, Long and Alsh MPA	Map of fisheries management measures (page 7) https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00491370.pdf OMNIBUS Inshore Fisheries Order 2015 https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00491504.pdf
Wester Ross MPA	Map of fisheries management measures https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00491431.png The Wester Ross Marine Conservation Order 2019 https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00493554.pdf
Small Isles MPA	Revision pending
Loch nam Madadh SAC	Phase 2, currently ongoing
The Sound of Arisaig (Loch Ailort to Loch Ceann Traigh) SAC	Phase 2, currently ongoing

Annex 3 – List of links to further information on the various MPAs in Scotland

MPA Type	Further information
General	**SNH** Marine Protected Areas https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-designations/marine-protected-areas/scottish-marine-protected-0 Different types of MPA in Scotland https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2018-10/Marine%20Protected%20Area%20-%20Different%20types%20of%20MPAs%20in%20Scotland.pdf MPA FAQ https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-11/Marine%20Protected%20Area%20-%20What%20is%20a%20Marine%20Protected%20Area.pdf Sitelink: https://sitelink.nature.scot/map **JNCC** MPAs http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/marineprotectedareas The MPA Network http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-4549 **Marine Scotland** MPAs in Scotland https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork MPA FAQ: https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/faqs Guidelines on the selection of MPAs and development of the MPA network https://www2.gov.scot/resource/doc/295194/0114024.pdf Nature Conservation MPAs – Draft Management Handbook https://www2.gov.scot/resource/0042/00428637.pdf Scottish MPA Network – Parliamentary Report https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/progress-report/2018/12/marine-protected-area-network-2018-report-scottish-parliament/documents/00544750-pdf/00544750-pdf/govscot%3Adocument/00544750.pdf
SAC	**SNH** https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/international-designations/natura-sites/special-areas-conservation-sacs https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2018-03/Publication%202018%20-%20Natura.pdf

	JNCC Website http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-23
SPA	**SNH** https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/international-designations/natura-sites/special-protection-areas-spas https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2018-03/Publication%202018%20-%20Natura.pdf **JNCC** http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-162 **Marine Scotland** https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive/Themes/SpecialProtectedAreas
Ramsar Sites	**Ramsar** https://www.ramsar.org/ **SNH** https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/international-designations/ramsar-sites **JNCC** http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-161 **Scottish Government** https://www.gov.scot/policies/biodiversity/ramsar-sites-and-nature-reserves/
NC MPA	**SNH** https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-designations/marine-protected-areas-mpas Loch Creran Site Summary https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-11/Marine%20Protected%20Area%20-%20Site%20Summary%20-%20Loch%20Creran.pdf Loch Sween Site Summary https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-11/Marine%20Protected%20Area%20-%20Site%20Summary%20-%20Loch%20Sween.pdf Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Site Summary https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/2017-11/Marine%20Protected%20Area%20-%20Site%20Summary%20-%20Loch%20Sunart%20to%20the%20Sound%20of%20Jura.pdf **JNCC** http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5269

	http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/pdf/Introduction_to_the_Project_Web_Ready.pdf **Marine Scotland** https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork
HMPA	**Historic Environment Scotland (HES)** http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/hes/web/f?p=1505:200:::NO:RP:SEARCH_UNDERWAY:1 Duart Point HMPA http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/HMPA7 Dartmouth HMPA http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/HMPA6 Mingary HMPA http://portal.historicenvironment.scot/designation/HMPA2 **Marine Scotland** https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/historicmpas
D&R MPA	**Marine Scotland** https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/DandRMPAs
SSSI	**Registers of Scotland** SSSI register https://www.ros.gov.uk/our-registers/register-of-sites-of-special-scientific-interest **SNH** https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-designations/sites-special-scientific-interest **Marine Scotland** https://www2.gov.scot/Publications/2011/03/16182005/44
Fisheries management measures	**Marine Scotland** Fisheries management measures (phase 1) https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/inshorempas Fisheries management measures (phase 2) https://www2.gov.scot/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/inshorempas/Management Fisheries management measures (Loch Sunart-Sound of Jura) https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00491429.png Portion of sites impacted by measures https://www2.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00491507.pdf