



STEERING GROUP MEETING 6 (VC) - MINUTES

Date: Thursday 19th November 2020 - **Location:** Video Conference (VC) - **Time:** 11:30

This meeting took place by Video Conference (VC).

Present through external video link:

Adam Lewis – Northern Lighthouse Board (AL)
Amie Williams – Project Officer (AW)
Annabel Lawrence – Coastal Communities Network (CCN) (ALA)
Elaine Whyte – Community Inshore Fisheries Alliance (CIFA) (EW)
Fanny Royanez – Environment LINK (FR)
Janet Khan – Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) (JK)
Joanne Holbrook – Marine Scotland Compliance (JH)
Marina Curran-Colthart – Argyll and Bute Council (MCC)
Philip Price – Coastal Communities Network (CCN) (PP)
Philip Robertson – Historic Environment Scotland (HES) (PR)
Sarah Brown – Royal Yachting Association (RYA) Scotland (SB)
Sarah Cunningham – Chair (SC)
Simon Macdonald – West Coast Inshore Fisheries Group (WCIFG) (SMD)

Apologies:

Alan Kettle-White – Argyll District Salmon Fisheries Board (DSFB) (AKW)
Anne Anderson – Scottish Salmon Producers Organisation (SSPO) (AA)
David Adams-McGill – Visit Scotland (DAM)
Finlay Bennet – Marine Scotland Policy (FB)
Harriett Rushton – Military of Defence (MOD) (HR)
Jane Dodd – NatureScot (JD)
Councillor Roddy McCuish – Argyll and Bute Council (RM)

1. Welcome and apologies

SC welcomed the Steering Group (SG) and apologies were given. SC then invited individuals to introduce themselves, highlighting their role. The following attended in place of the lead liaison for their respective organisation, corporate body or sector:

- Marina Curran-Colthart in the absence of Fergus Murray (FM) from Argyll and Bute Council
- Fanny Royanez will be replacing Esther Brooker on the SG from Environment LINK (EB)

2. Confirmation of minutes from meeting 5

SC asked the SG if anyone had any comments about the draft minutes from meeting 5. SC highlighted two changes to the minutes and AW stated that the minutes will be recirculated along with the draft minutes from meeting 6 before being posted on the MarPAMM website as the final version. SC also highlighted that there had been issues with getting the confirmed minutes from meeting 4 uploaded to the website, but this would be rectified.

ACTION POINT: AW to request that SAMS publish the confirmed minutes from meeting 4 and 5 (once amended) and the draft minutes from meeting 6 onto the MarPAMM website.

3. Updates from previous meeting (including action points (AP))

- An update was given on the progress of the APs from the previous meeting (see **Appendix 1**).

4. Feedback session 1: Final review of the MPA leaflet

AW talked through the final amendments that had been made to the MPA information leaflet. ALA said that there was concern over the reporting suspicious activity information being removed from the leaflet and wanted to know the SG's thoughts on this. There was a general discussions on how appropriate this information was and whether or not it was appropriate to include as the leaflet was intended to be for general information and a celebration of the features within the MPAs. EW said that if a reporting mechanism was to be included it should not target a specific industry. SM agreed with this and was concerned that if the information just related to fishing that it could lead to a vigilante mentality and could promote bad press towards the fishing industry. There was a general consensus from the SG that a reporting mechanism should be included and should not focus on single activity but rather direct to a central place where people can find out more information on how to report concerns relating to activities in MPAs and that the terminology around this needs to be right.

ACTION POINT: AW and SC to discuss what text to include and what the most appropriate mechanism is to include in the leaflet for the public to get information on how to report concerns and circulate this to the SG.

5. Presentation 1: Benefits mapping exercise

AW said that there had be no real progress towards producing the outputs from the benefits mapping exercise due to capacity issues within SAMS who are leading on comms for the project. AW discussed the results will likely form two products, one which is for decision makers (likely a flow diagram) and the other an infographic aimed at the general public. This work is currently on-going. More information will be provided to the group once some progress has been made.

ALA said that highlighting the benefits of MPAs is important and that it is key to communicate what it brings to people. EW said that the outputs should consider the results of the report that evaluates the MPAs. AW will follow up with EW to clarify what report is being referred to.

ACTION POINT: AW to follow up with EW to clarify what MPA evaluation report they were referring to.

6. Presentation 2: ArcGIS StoryMaps

ArcGIS StoryMaps is an online platform that allows you to tell a narrative through the use of maps. AW discussed with the SG that MarPAMM-Argyll intend to use StoryMaps as a tool to make the information on MPAs more user friendly and accessible and would use the information on the MPA information leaflet as a template. AW then showed the SG StoryMaps, its capabilities and how it is anticipated the tool could be formatted.

The idea of StoryMaps was well received by the SG. PR raised that HES would be interested in providing input into the StoryMap so that more information could be added on the Historical MPAs in Argyll. JH liked the StoryMap and suggested that it could be the most appropriate place for the information relating to suspicious activity to be held and that this would provide a central location for the information (see section 4).

ACTION POINT: AW will continue to work on the StoryMap and provide updates to the SG.

7. Presentation 3: Project Updates

AW talk through each of the projects that are scoped into the MarPAMM-Argyll project and gave an update on each.

Argyll and Bute Council Guidance. AW and SC have been in contact with the Council to better understand their requirements in relation to guidance/training relevant to MPAs. After receiving feedback from the Council AW is now working on ways in which sign posting to existing documents and their uses can be improved.

NLB infrastructure. The NLB have drafted a statement that can be widely distributed (e.g. to public authorities, research institutes etc.) to help raise awareness of existing NLB infrastructure and the potential uses (e.g. scientists using lighthouses for passive monitoring). This was distributed to the SG on 2nd April 2020. AW is now working on amending the icons to make the map a little clearer.

ACTION POINT: AW to amend the icons on NLB infrastructure statement to make the map clearer.

Familiarisation Day. This event was scheduled for 30th March 2020, however due to Covid-19 was postponed and will hopefully be held in 2021 instead.

Management measures workshop. The information event that aimed to discuss the MPA designations in Argyll and how activities are managed has unfortunately also been postponed until 2021 due to Covid-19. AW is currently looking at ways in which the information from this event could be made digital (e.g. through video or animation).

EW highlighted concerns that the events focused too much on fishing and asked if other activities would be included. AW said that the events would include all management/guidance that is currently in place for a range of activities and that only one of the sessions would focus on fishing. This would allow for individuals to better understand what fishing is allowed to take place inside each of the MPA in Argyll and that the session would include information on how to identify vessels and gear types. SM said that identifying boats accurately isn't straight forward and there was concern over including information like this. AW said that it isn't a perfect solution but it is a step in the right direction to enable people to understand what fishing activities are allowed in MPAs and how to identify them. SC said that the feedback from both SG members was appreciated and that the SG was set-up in order to get input like this from the relevant sectors.

ACTION POINT: As the project progresses, AW will work with the SG to ensure that the management measures event are balanced and contain appropriate content.

KIPPER Guide. During the last SG meeting the development of a regional KIPPER guide was discussed. The development of the guide will complement the work being done at the management measures event; empower local communities and help to improve compliance with the fisheries management measures in place in the Argyll Marine Region. This work is currently on-going.

Q: ALA asked what impact the KIPPER guide has had.

A: JH said it has helped to reduce the number of suspicious claims and that the most important part of the guide was "know your MPA".

SiteLink. Colleagues within NatureScot are now using the feedback from the SiteLink survey that was distributed to SG to help guide the future development of the platform. This work has

currently been delayed but there is plans to take it forward in the new year, however, work is currently being done to remove barriers for those with accessibility issues (e.g. those using screen readers).

CAPITEN Project. Over the last few months AW has been liaising with the CAPITEN Project so that information on the MPAs on the west coast of Scotland would be included in their digital map. AW has been advising the project on what information to include and coordinating with colleagues within NatureScot to assist with fact checking. An update will be given to the SG once the map has been published.

MPA Video. Last year the team involved in the MarPAMM MPA Management Plans workpackage agreed, along with the comms team SAMS, that a series of three MPA information videos would be produced. The topics would be: what is an MPA, the benefits of MPAs, and information on how to get involved. This work is currently on-going and an update will be given to the SG once progress has been made.

Fisheries Management Paper. AW has put together a paper that describes what the current issues are with respect to fisheries and understanding fisheries management in Argyll and across Scotland that has emerged through the online survey, community events and SG discussions. The key issues are:

- Some fishing stakeholders not feeling represented by West Coast Inshore Fisheries Group (WCIFG);
- Poor knowledge and understanding of the fisheries management measures in place for MPAs;
- Poor understanding of where information on fisheries management measures can be found;
- Poor understanding of wider fisheries management measures.

EW and SM highlighted that they were concerned that the focus was once again on fishing and questioned why other activities hadn't been considered. AW said that this exercise was undertaken in order to understand what solutions might need to be considered in order to overcome these issues. It has also become clear that there is a need to understand where the management of fisheries within MPAs sit within the context of wider fisheries management. SC said that EW was correct and that this is something that could be done for other activities if a need was identified but this was the first step.

Coll community. A community member from the Isle of Coll has been in touch to ask what the options are in order for the local community to take more control of the waters around Coll. AW is currently putting together an options paper and has encouraged that they engage with the MarPAMM-Argyll project.

8. AOB

JH told the SG that in August 2020 Marine Scotland Science undertook a survey in Loch Creran looking at the presence of *D.vex* and that a controlled removal of the species had taken place. JH said that discussions are currently still on going about the presence of *D.vex* in Loch Creran and that management measures are being considered.

9. Summary of Action Points

Action Points	Person
Request that SAMS publish the confirmed minutes from meeting 4 and 5 (once amended) and the draft minutes from meeting 6 onto the MarPAMM website.	AW
AW and SC to discuss what text to include and what the most appropriate mechanism is to include in the leaflet for the public to get information on how to report concerns and circulate this to the SG.	AW & SC
Follow up with EW to clarify what MPA evaluation report they were referring to.	AW
Continue to work on the StoryMap and provide updates to the SG.	AW
Amend the icons on NLB infrastructure statement to make the map clearer.	AW
As the project progresses, AW will work with the SG to ensure that the management measures event are balanced and contain appropriate content.	ALL

Appendix 1 – Summary of action points from meeting 5

Action Points	Person	
Request that SAMS publish the confirmed minutes from meeting 4 and the draft minutes from meeting 5 onto the MarPAMM website.	AW	On-going
Amend leaflet text on the basis of comments from the meeting and the online comments (fact check, addition and deletion of some text).	AW	Completed
Discuss what to include in the leaflet with respect to suspicious activity.	AW & SC	Completed
Provide the designer with feedback on the leaflet from SG.	AW	Completed
Circulate the results of the benefits realisation exercise to the SG.	AW	Completed This was distributed to the SG on 23 rd June 2020.
Provide further comments and feedback to AW about the benefits realisation exercise by Friday 26 th June 2020.	ALL	Completed
Circulate the SiteLink survey information to the SG.	AW	Completed This was distributed to the SG on 6 th July.
Discuss the feedback mechanisms for reported fisheries incursions.	AW & JH	On-going