

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cùisean Dùthchail agus na h- Àrainneachd  
Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and the Environment  
Ridseard Lochhead BPA  
Richard Lochhead MSP

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Rob Gibson, MSP  
Convenor  
Rural Affairs and Environment Committee  
c/o Clerk to the Committee  
Room T1.01  
The Scottish Parliament  
Edinburgh  
EH99 1SP

24 July 2014

Dear Rob

I am writing to inform you of new conservation measures for Scotland's marine environment .

Following the Scottish Government's Report on progress to Parliament on the development of a Marine Protected Area (MPA) network in 2012, and the Scottish Government's public consultation on Marine Protected Areas in 2013 & 2014, the following 30 Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas have been designated as of the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2014:

Inshore (17)	Offshore (13)
Clyde Sea Sill	Faroe-Shetland sponge belt
East Caithness Cliffs	North-east Faroe Shetland Channel
Fetlar to Haroldswick	Central Fladen
Loch Creran	East of Gannet and Montrose Fields
Loch Sunart	Firth of Forth Banks Complex
Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura	North-west Orkney
Loch Sween	Turbot Bank
Lochs Duich, Long and Alsh	West Shetland Shelf
Monach Isles	Geikie Slide and Hebridean slope
Mousa to Boddam	The Barra Fan and Hebrides Terrace Seamount
Noss Head	Hatton-Rockall Basin
Papa Westray	Rosemary Bank Seamount
Small Isles	Norwegian Sedimentary Boundary Plain
South Arran	
Upper Loch Fyne and Loch Goil	
Wester Ross	
Wyre and Rousay Sounds	



These have been designated using the powers and in the fulfilment of duties under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

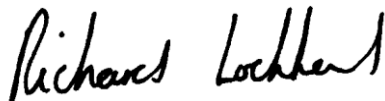
Full details of the MPAs and the Designation Orders are available on both the Marine Scotland webpages as well as those of our Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies.

[www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork](http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork)

[www.snh.gov.uk/mpa-advice](http://www.snh.gov.uk/mpa-advice)

[www.jncc.gov.uk/scottish-mpa-consultation](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/scottish-mpa-consultation)

Work is now underway to consider the four remaining MPA search locations to further the protection of certain features, in particular mobile species.



**RICHARD LOCHHEAD**