

Rhona Fairgrieve, Scottish Coastal Forum

Marine Planning in Scotland: an update



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



On behalf of
marinescotland

Points to remember

- ❖ Scottish National Marine Plan under review:
Report due in March 2018
- ❖ Regional Marine Planning under way
- ❖ Devolution of management of Crown Estate assets
- ❖ Participation in SIMCelt project (2015 – 2018)
- ❖ Incorporation of data sets from other nations to facilitate trans-boundary cooperation

Legislation

- **UK Marine & Coastal Access Act 2009**
 - Covers UK waters around Scotland from 12 to 200 nautical miles
 - Executive Devolution agreement allows Scottish Ministers to plan for all waters under a single National Marine Plan (MHWS to 200 nm)
 - Secretary of State signs off on NMP and matters reserved to Westminster
- ❖ **Marine (Scotland) Act 2010**
 - Domestic Scottish legislation covering MHWS to 12 mile limit of Territorial Waters (“Inshore Area”)
 - Establishes Scottish Government as marine planning authority
 - Requires publication of a statutory National Marine Plan
 - Enables the production of Regional Marine Plans
 - Requires Public Authorities to have regard to Marine Plans in their decision making processes



Scotland's National Marine Plan

❖ General duties:

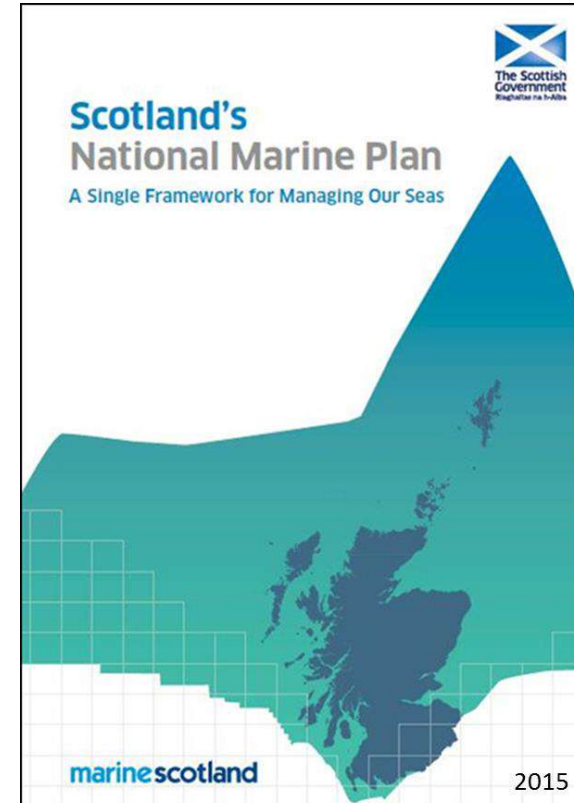
- Sustainable development & protection and enhancement of the Scottish Marine Area
- Sets objectives & policies for use of marine assets
- Mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change

❖ Accommodates:

- EU MSP Directive & UK Marine Policy Statement
- Ecosystem-based approach
- Sustainable development principles (HLMOs)
- Sectoral marine planning: offshore energy generation
- Nature conservation & protection: Marine Protected Areas

❖ Regional Marine Plans

- 11 Scottish Marine Regions



Time for review...

- ❖ 3 years since NMP was adopted
- ❖ Scottish & UK legislation requires review & reporting, within different timescales, for inshore & offshore waters
- ❖ A report at 3 years allows an opportunity to reflect on the first National Marine Plan at an early stage of implementation
- ❖ Legal obligation is to review and report on:
 - The effects of the policies in the Plan
 - The effectiveness of the policies in securing the objectives
 - The progress being made *towards* securing the objectives
- ❖ Devolution of management of assets of The Crown Estate in Scotland (1 April 2017)
- ❖ Review process under way since summer 2017



**Crown Estate
Scotland**
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

Scottish Ministers will decide whether (or not) to amend or replace the Plan

❖ Review process addresses:

- Plan implementation
- Barriers to implementation
- Plan's relevance to emerging activities
- Linkages with terrestrial plans (“land/sea interactions”)
- How changes to the policy landscape will influence marine planning, e.g. Brexit, the Islands Bill & further devolution of Crown Estate assets



❖ It is NOT about:

- The marine planning framework in general
- The process to change policy for the future

Review process

- ❖ **High level:** High level strategic review, based on the objectives for which the plan was prepared
- ❖ **Variety of approaches:** Data analysis, dialogue, Quality Management System
- ❖ **Quantitative:** Monitoring programmes & other available data of relevance, records of usage
- ❖ **Qualitative:** Dialogue & questioning
- ❖ **How?** Workshops, on-line questionnaire, bilateral meetings
- ❖ **Who?** Range of interests: from public authorities to prawn fishermen

Alasdair MacLeod,
Scottish Creel Fishermen's Association

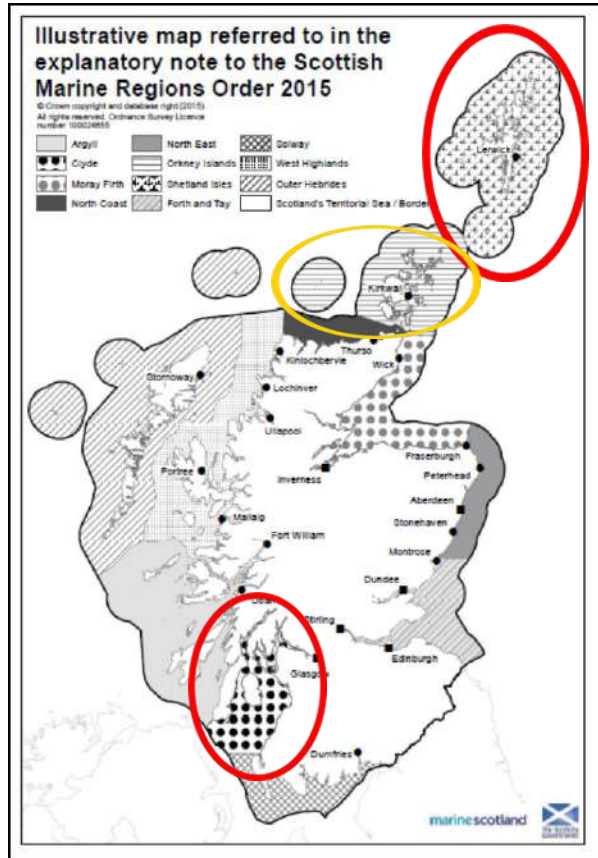


Preliminary feedback

- ❖ There is general support for the NMP and its policies across marine sectors and public authorities
- ❖ Implementation of the NMP varies across sectors and authorities
- ❖ **General feeling that 3 years is too soon to make firm conclusions about effectiveness of policies**
- ❖ The policies remain largely relevant although there would be merit in additional policies to manage emerging or increasing activities e.g. commercial seaweed harvesting
- ❖ A changing legislative framework in Scotland should influence timing of next plan and will affect policy development
- ❖ **No real appetite for change with respect to evolving policy & political landscape**

Report to Scottish Ministers in March 2018

Regional Marine Planning



❖ 11 Scottish Marine Regions

- 3 island groupings
- 1 cross-border Firth
- 1 adjacent to English waters
- 3 adjacent to Northern Irish waters
- 2 adjacent to Republic of Ireland waters

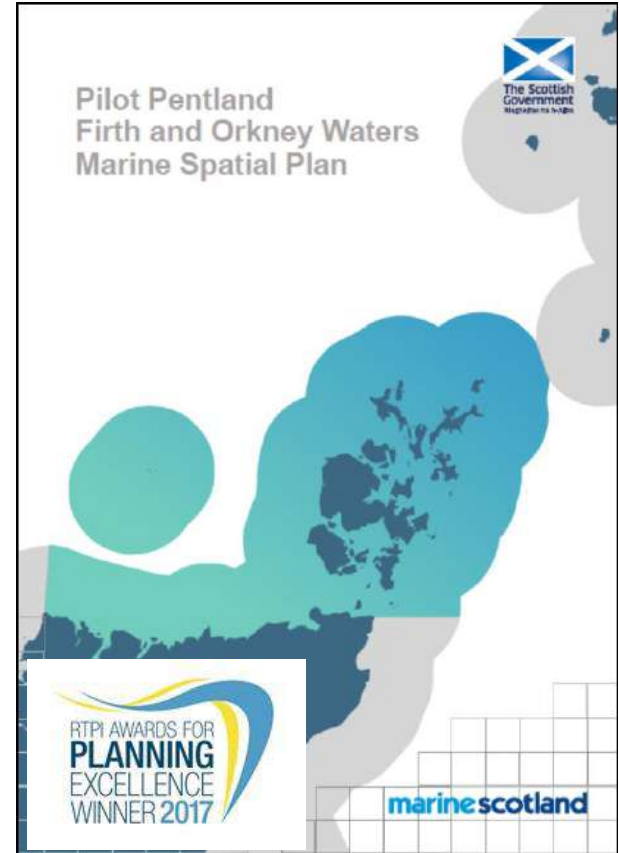
❖ Clyde & Shetland first

- Statutory Regional Marine Plans to be created by Marine Planning Partnerships under delegated marine planning powers – “Direction”
- Orkney announced as next MPP in 2017

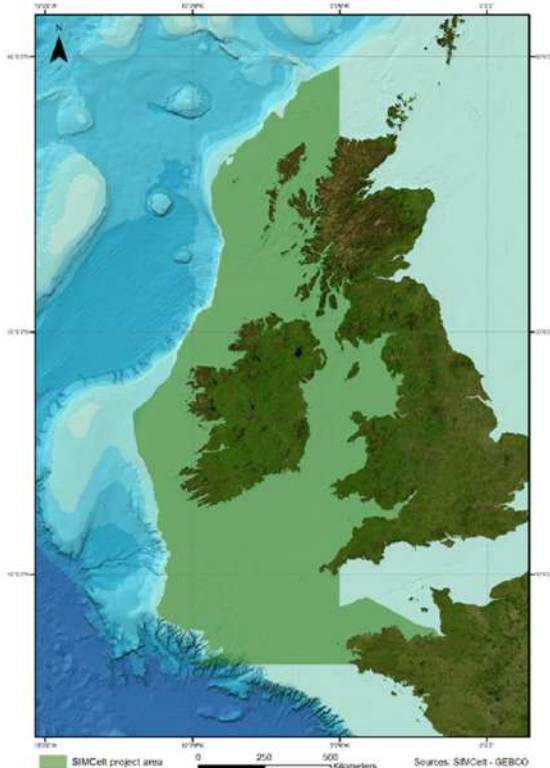
Pentland Firth & Orkney Waters MSP

- ❖ Pilot project 2013 – 2016
- ❖ Joint working between Marine Scotland, Orkney Islands Council & Highland Council
 - ❖ To guide the location of all marine areas and activities, ensuring they occur in the most suitable & least sensitive areas
 - ❖ To minimise conflicts of interest and encourage compatible uses
 - ❖ To develop a policy framework that supports integrated marine and terrestrial planning & development

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/seamanagement/regional/activity/pentlandorkney>



Cross-border & transboundary marine planning – EU SIMCelt project



- **Based on OSPAR Region III:** the Celtic Seas
- **3 EU Member States:** UK, Republic of Ireland, France

- **7 Partners:**

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POUR LA BIODIVERSITÉ

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Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs

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Centre for Marine and
University College Cork, Ireland
rcraig

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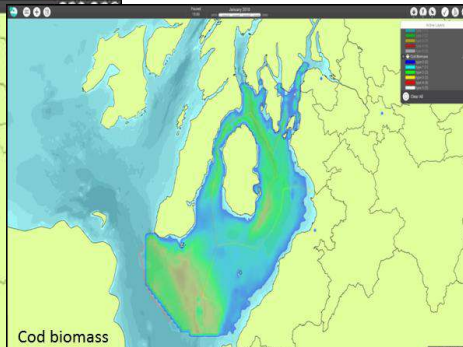
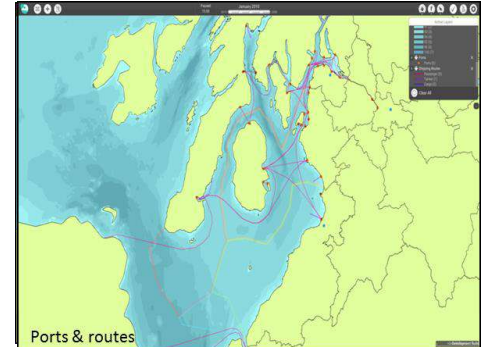
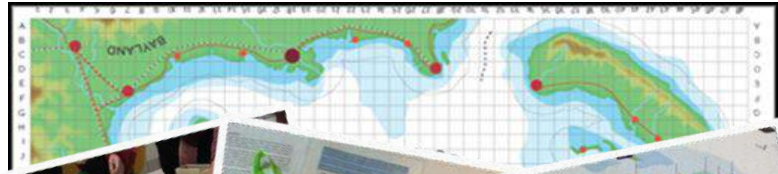
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LIVERPOOL

- **Key topics:**

- Understanding spatial demands & scenarios
- Data requirements for MSP
- Stakeholder engagement

Stakeholder engagement – MSP Challenge

- Invented in NL (2011) to help build MSP community through ‘serious gaming’
- All versions make players think, talk and interact!



Marine Planning data

- MS Maps NMPi
 - 900+ data layers
 - 100+ data sources
 - Overseen by a collaboration of Marine Scotland, SNH, SEPA, JNCC and MASTS
- Now looking for ways to incorporate data sets from other nations to facilitate trans-boundary cooperation
- www.gov.scot/nmpi

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MA SCOTSI

maps.m

Open Data Network

marine.gov.scot

What is NMPi ?
■ Online interactive map
■ GIS-based

How do I access it ?
■ The webpage at www.gov.scot/nmpi the background on NMPi portal and related information.

marine scotland INFORMATION marine.gov.scot

marine scotland MAPS NMPi maps.marine.gov.scot

marine scotland DATA data.marine.gov.scot

Working in Partnership with SEPA

OPEN DATA NETWORK

Looking ahead

- Rolling-out of Marine Regions
- Marine litter
- Budgetary challenges & staffing changes

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