

Report on the 2018 Marine Communities Workshop Gartmore 2



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Gartmore House, Stirling, Scotland

Workshop facilitated by
Fauna & Flora International



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List of Abbreviations

ADD	Acoustic Deterrent Device
CAOLAS	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds
CROMACH	Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat
COAST	Community of Arran Seabed Trust
ECCLR	Environment, Climate Change and Land reform Committee
FFI	Fauna & Flora International
FoSoJ	Friends of the Sound of Jura
MCSO	Marine Community Support Officer
MCS	Marine Conservation Society
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSFD	Marine Strategy Framework Directive
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RECC	Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCIO	Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA	Special Protected Area
SSACN	Scottish Sea Anglers Conservation Network
SSSi	South Skye Seas Initiative
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
VMR	Voluntary Marine Reserve

Thank you

FFI would like to thank all who participated in the workshop for your time and input. The Coastal Communities Workshop is made possible through the dedication of all of those involved. We invite ongoing feedback from both those who participated and others who may read this report.

If you have any questions or comments please contact Rebecca Plant

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1. Aim of the workshop

The workshop is part of FFI's broader marine community support project. Gartmore 2 aimed to build on the success of the initial Gartmore workshop in May 2016, by bringing coastal community groups together again to share knowledge and experiences and to build collaboration. A core focus of the workshop was discussion around the realisation of the Coastal Communities Network Scotland, how a network may function, and the ways in which a participatory design process could be taken forward.

As in 2016, a relatively small delegate count ensured there was enough time for networking and for new attendees to get to know the existing group, with the intention that the workshop would strengthen existing relationships and help to establish new contacts to be maintained in the future. 11 of the 12 groups linked into the Coastal Communities Network were represented at the workshop.

It was hoped that the workshop would give the community groups with long-standing involvement a chance to reflect on and celebrate their progress since the previous meeting in 2016; whilst also enabling the newer groups to learn more about the other communities and the network. Ultimately the main goal was for all groups to identify shared issues and priorities which they could work on together or support one another in.

2. Session Summaries

2.1. Expert-led drop-in sessions

This session was designed as an informal opening session where delegates could drop in and out of themed discussion groups, as to their interests. The Friday evening expert-led drop in sessions were led by:

1. **Marine Spatial Planning** – Howard Wood (COAST), Emilie Devenport (LINK Marine Group), Sarah Brown (C2W consultants – Crown Estate Local Management Pilots Scheme).
2. **Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** – Manuela de los Rios (COAST), Abi Entwistle (Fauna & Flora International (FFI)).
3. **Aquaculture** – Paul Chandler (COAST), David Ainsley.
4. **Monitoring** – Owen McGrath (Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)), Bryce Stewart (York University).
5. **Fundraising** – Hannah Braithwaite (FFI).



Sam King (SSACN), Neil Thomson (Fair Isle), Ron Gilchrist (Fairlie Coastal Trust) and Manuela de los Rios (COAST) discuss Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).

2.2. Community Group Updates

This session was a chance for representatives from each of the community groups present to give a short talk on the following points:

- Who their group is and where it is based;
- General background to their group (e.g. why did it come together?);
- The issues that it is currently involved in;
- The group's overall vision or aim for their local area.

There were nine talks given, along with two short film screenings which were each introduced by a representative from the relevant group. These sessions involved 11 of the 12 groups linked into the Coastal Communities Network.

Friends of the Sound of Jura

The Saturday updates were kicked off by John Aitchison from Friends of the Sound of Jura (FoSoJ). Key points:

- Friends of the Sound of Jura is focused on the area around the Sound of Jura and Loch Sween. This is home to important critically endangered Flapper Skate habitat and the Marine Protected Area was designated with skate as the Priority Marine Feature (PMF).
- In 2016/17 an application was put in for a large open-net salmon farm at Dounie Bay, near Crinan, which the local community united against. FoSoJ implemented a powerful petition and received good media coverage about the issue. SNH subsequently surveyed the area and concluded that there were sea fans present and there was likely to be significant impact on this PMF if an open-net salmon farm was placed here.
- FoSoJ was invited to give evidence to the Environment Climate Change and Land Reform (ECCLR) parliamentary committee in early 2018, as part of the wider salmon farming inquiry, and John attended as part of a panel of experts.
- They are now looking at the Loch Sunart to the Sound Of Jura MPA boundaries to assess whether it could be expanded from the current designation, with a view to improving management. In view of this they are now undertaking surveys for sea fans, maerl, and other PMFs, and will take the outputs to SNH to discuss, potentially as part of the upcoming PMF review.

Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)

The CAOLAS update was given by Dale Meegan, Mark Woombs and Andy Jackson. Key points:

- CAOLAS came together in 2015 following the designation of Loch Sunart and the Sound of Mull as Marine Protected Areas. In 2017, with the help of FFI and the West Highland Coastal Trust, CAOLAS was successful in securing funding to employ Dale to progress the group. Since then they have formalised into a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO), built a committee, set up a website and social media.
- There are two MPAs in their local area – Loch Sunart and Loch Sunart to the Sound Of Jura, and there are now four local groups in this area. There are multiple PMFs in Loch Sunart – flame shells, skate, feather stars, maerl etc.
- CAOLAS's current plans are to continue with, and to build further: local engagement, in-water monitoring, policy consultation responses, seeking funding and building capacity within and outside the group. Andy is interested in plastics and in setting up baseline and longer term monitoring for marine litter. There are plans to get Seasearch involved for regular citizen science monitoring.

Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat (CROMACH)

The CROMACH update was given by Caroline Younger. Key points:

- CROMACH is a Community Association formed to give voice to the local community to bring about effective marine management. It believes that management of the marine environment in Loch Craignish, Shuna Sound, the Sound of Jura, and the Firth of Lorn should be in the public interest and contribute to the collective benefit of the people of Craignish.
- CROMACH's wider aims are to not be a single-issue group but to campaign on a wide variety of biodiversity issues and concerns. An important long term aim is to have Loch Craignish included in the Loch Sunart to Sound of Jura MPA. Skate are also present in Loch Craignish and this is the key PMF for which the MPA was designated.
- Current activities are varied. Seasearch have helped to qualify a team for carrying out in-water surveys. Regular printed newsletters have been produced for local engagement. Local events have been planned and held for the community and support has been given by Kerri Whiteside and Mark Woombs. Hannah Grist from Co-Coast will be visiting to train people for shoreline surveys. COAST has shared their KIPPER guide (compliance within an MPA) which CROMACH has updated for their own area.
- CROMACH now have 55 members and 120 followers on Facebook, as well as a group constitution and bank account.

South Skye Seas Initiative (SSSi)

Eileen Armstrong and James Merryweather gave the SSSi update. Key points:

- The South Skye Seas initiative (SSSi) was born from a fish farm application campaign in Loch Eishort - 2 weeks of intense action which brought the community together against the application. SSSi then launched as a group in May 2016, with Lochs Eishort, Slappin and Scavaig the main focal location.
- SSSi's main aim is marine conservation – fish farming alone is too narrow a focus, so the group turned their thinking towards a wider strategy. Seabed surveys were very important – in this area valuable features include maerl and seagrass beds. Surveying is key to future plans.
- In 2016 a joint survey and sample collection took place with SNH, SSSi and the Seasearch divers, with the aim of identifying which priority features were present in the South Skye lochs. Project Seagrass is also surveying in the area and has sent a student to carry out a project on the seagrass beds.

- SSSI plans for the future include more surveys, identifying PMFs, mapping with SNH, collaborating with the Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation (SCFF) and conducting feasibility studies of seaweed farming, oysters, marine tourism etc.
- Challenges include volunteer fatigue, lack of funding, hostility from some fishers, Scottish Government policy strategies (ECCLR/REC committees) and a lack of confidence in the Highland Council.

Fair Isle (5 min MPA film)

Neil Thomson from Fair Isle introduced a [short film about the Fair Isle](#) Demonstration and Research MPA – the first of its kind in the UK – and the community efforts behind the process.



Delegates in in-depth conversation over tea and scones

Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)

COAST continued the updates session after the break, with a talk given by COAST Director Paul Chandler. Key Points:

- Paul has been in place as Director for 1 year and moved to Arran to take on this role. COAST has three employed staff: Director, Communications Officer and Marine Outreach Officer. Their aim is to ensure a diverse, productive and beautiful sea around Arran, and to be part of a network of MPAs around Scotland and internationally.

- The main PMFs present in the South Arran MPA are seagrass, kelp and maerl. COAST acts to achieve its aims through campaigning, education and outreach, including working closely as part of the local community and with school groups from the island and the mainland.
- Issues that are currently a high concern are seeing a general poor governance of the MPA and poor regulation and enforcement by the relevant agencies. These are the next challenges to address. With the community so strongly on-board, there is huge potential for getting evidence of illegal activity – the challenge is getting this addressed by Marine Scotland Compliance.
- The Octopus Centre, COASTs new head office and marine education/outreach centre, is currently being finished and is due to open in summer 2018. This realises a long term aim for COAST.

Fairlie Coastal Trust

The Fairlie Coastal Trust update was given by David Nairn. Key Points:

- Fairlie is an unincorporated group. They became a formalised coastal group recently, but there has been environmental action in this area for 50 years. They cover a coastline of seven miles on the West coast of the mainland, which includes the Southannan Sands SSSI site. Even though there are three SSSI sites in this area, habitats are being fragmented by destructive fishing, wind turbines, growing tourism, etc. and development of the coastline is restricting access.
- A big threat is development of an offshore oil/gas decommissioning unit (CessCon Decom). No cumulative Environmental Impact Assessment has been seen, and this is likely in breach of UK and international legislation.
- The area used to have flameshells, native oyster beds, horse mussels etc., but there are only remnants left due to the industrial history of the Clyde region. Fairlie Coastal Trust was inspired by the actions of COAST across the water. Although ecologically poor, there is a lot that can be done through enriching initial action with cultural activities.

Ron Gilchrist gave us a further update on the Hunterston Industrial Site. Key Points:

- The Hunterston Industrial Site has a conflict of interest with the Southannan Sands SSSI. The industrial site stretches across the Largs Channel and produces infill which impacts the SSSI foreshore. The site is also impacted by the National Offshore Wind Turbine Testing Facility – which produces infrasound radiation that affects people four miles away.

- Ron posed the question as to whether the sun is setting on the Southannan Sands SSSI and ended with a call for support to protect the valuable habitats around Fairlie and Millport, including the nationally important dolphins, porpoises, seals and waders present here.

St. Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve

Sarah Russell, Project Officer for the St. Abbs and Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve (VMR), presented the update from the VMR. Key points:

- The VMR is the only East coast community group present at Gartmore and currently the only one linked into the Coastal Communities Network. It was set up in 1984 in response to conflicts between local creel fishers, divers and fishermen. These stakeholders got together and agreed a code of conduct for use of the marine area.
- The VMR has just been successful in a funding application for a seabed interpretation project from LEADER and the Blue Marine Foundation, which includes surveys of the seabed as well as an exciting and novel technology component. There will also be work on pressure/threat mapping and surveys with local fishermen to gather population dynamics data on commercial species (brown crab, lobster).
- Main challenge: engaging with stakeholders. There is an element of stakeholder fatigue – the reserve has been in place for decades and people have become apathetic. Part of the funding application is using new technology to engage with local communities. E.g. installing a 360 degree camera, virtual reality headsets, a gaming initiative with a seabed theme, an augmented reality tour along the coastal path.

Save Seil Sound

The Save Seil Sound update was given by Ewan Kennedy. Key Points:

- Save Seil Sound was formed in 2011 in response to a fish farm application at Ardmaddy.
- Ewan explained that Ardmaddy was chosen for a government trial because Pan Fish already operated a salmon farm there with a permitted capacity of 800 tonnes and Seil locals were not actively engaged or aware of the issues at this time. Several issues followed, such as an increase to the capacity of the site to 1300 tonnes and sign off by the council's planning department, with a largely uninformed local community.
- In 2011 the site owners sought to relocate it and also to increase permitted biomass by 92%. The application attracted 814 objections, including over a quarter of the adult population of

Seil, Easdale and Luing. The poor performance of the site suggests there were serious problems and from January 2016 the site has been unstocked, with floats in place to hold planning consent.

- In Seil/Shuna/Melfort there are seven operational fish farms, three of these are in line with main tidal streams, and have seen devastating problems with sea lice in recent years.

David & Jean Ainsley

David & Jean Ainsley presented on the issue of the use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs) by the salmon farming industry and their impact on cetaceans. Key points:

- David and Jean have run a wildlife-watching tourism company near Oban for 30 years. They got involved in a lot of civil action against salmon farms, water treatment, etc. and halted the building of all salmon farms in the local SAC.
- The EU Habitat regulations make it illegal to disturb any cetacean. However, no ADD can meet the requirements of the law regarding decibel levels. ADDs have been shown to exclude porpoises from areas yet there is little action to enforce the law from government agencies.
- There are alternatives – e.g. double layer protective nets, but most salmon farms in Scotland still use the ADDs. In countries like Norway and Turkey, where ADDs are no longer used, double protective netting has proved effective and reduced the need for seal shooting.
- The Ainsley's have submitted a complaint to the EC on the basis of their interpretation of two laws being broken - they requested support from the groups present to endorse the complaint.

Sea Change Wester Ross (5 min MPA film)

Sara Nason, from Sea Change, introduced a [short film about the Wester Ross MPA](#) and highlighted the following points:

- The film is a compilation of survey footage over a number of years. Two new species were found!
- Plans are to conduct further monitoring of the recovery of the maerl beds and other habitats in the MPA.
- Sea Change recently did a socio-economic impact report on salmon farming in Wester Ross (e.g. evaluation of jobs gained vs jobs lost).



Delegates outside Gartmore House (photo credit: Ewan Kennedy)

2.3. Updates from Scottish Natural Heritage and Marine Scotland

During this session we heard from Sebastian Howell, Policy Advisor at Marine Scotland and Katie Gillham, joint Head of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems Unit at Scottish Natural Heritage, followed by a data and information workshop held by Katie and Owen McGrath, Marine Policy Officer at SNH.

Key points from Sebastian's presentation about the MPA Network:

- The MPA network consists of thirty one Nature Conservation MPAs, forty eight SACs, forty five SPAs, and sixty one SSSIs, one Demonstration and Research MPAs and eight Historic MPAs. Phase 2 of the MPA designations will shortly be underway and will be opened for public consultation in summer 2018. For each proposal the suite of papers are: Site summary, detailed assessment, data confidence, impact assessment, management options and conservation objectives.
- Designations do not automatically create a No Take Zone or create a fishery closed area and instead there must be: management on principle of sustainable use within the legal framework, some fisheries management, and in some cases, stricter measures for recovery.
- A new research programme has now begun for Blue Carbon, which also features in the 2018 Programme for Government, whose current focus revolves around measuring the ability of various habitats to sequester carbon, understanding how it is stored for the long term, and building an evidence base on the effects that human activities may have on these process.

- Once these six PhD and one post-doctorate research projects are complete, the expectation is that we will be better informed on how the marine environment can benefit the Scottish Climate Change Adaptation Programme, and the potential role of blue carbon in the Greenhouse Gas Inventory.

Key Points from Katie's presentation about the Priority Marine Feature (PMF) Review:

- The PMF review is intended to: identify where else fisheries management is needed to ensure there is no significant impact on PMFs, identify important locations outside the MPA network to inform decision makers and developers and a proactive approach focusing on seabed habitat & species PMFs most sensitive to towed bottom-contacting fishing.
- Scope of the review: 11 PMFs most sensitive to pressures from towed bottom-contacting gears, Fisheries focus (in terms of pressures & sensitivities), Parallel PMF development management guidance - ongoing for non-fishing, Restricted to within 6nm (domestic legislation only) - 6nm fits PMF distribution well.
- Broad conclusions: The eleven PMFs generally support high levels of biodiversity and provide a range of ecosystem services with evidence of decline in Scottish waters. The PMFs are generally highly sensitive to pressures associated with towed bottom-contacting gears. Towed bottom-contacting fishing may have a significant impact on the national status of the PMFs & additional management should be considered.
- Next steps include two public consultations: the first will include the SNH advice on the eleven PMFs, ask about data sources, approach etc. and run for eight weeks (summer 2018), the second will focus on proposed measures (winter 2018).

Key points from the Information Session Workshop:

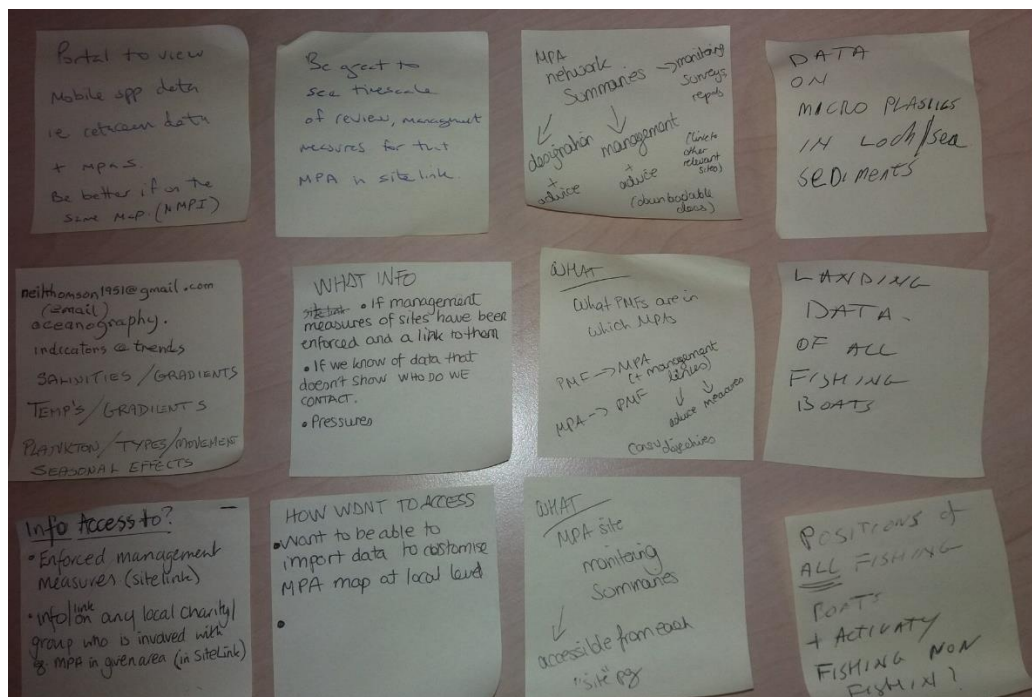
- The information session was aimed at sign-posting communities to the existing information through a number of web portals. The session also asked two basic questions of the community groups: "what information would you like to access" and "how would you like to access it". A summary of the information and data that is currently available and how to access it can be found in Appendix 4 of this report.
- Communities are interested in accessing a range of information about the MPA network, and individual sites, focused on the presence of habitats and species, policy advice, management and monitoring. There were a variety of requests as to how this information should be

collated and made accessible. Some of this information is already available via a number of information portals, though not all information is in downloadable formats or in one place.

- Communities are also interested in viewing a wider range of data including micro plastics, oceanography indicators and trends, and information on fishing activities and landings. SNH do not currently hold data on these wide ranging interests but some information on fisheries may be available via the following link:
<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive/Themes/fish-fisheries>.

Action Points:

- Owen to discuss with SNH GIS mapping team the possibility of development of a new resource where communities can easily view marine related data layers and download the relevant layers, essentially bringing the currently available data layers into the one place.
- Owen to discuss with SNH GIS mapping team whether any open source GIS platforms (QGIS), Web mapping services (WMS) or Web Feature Services (WFS) would be suitable for communities to use for viewing existing or future data.



SNH data and information session: answers to the questions posed – “what information would you like to access?” and “how would you like to access it?”

2.4. Fundraising for Community Groups

This session was presented by Hannah Braithwaite, Head of Trusts and Foundations at Fauna & Flora International and focused specifically on fundraising for community groups. Hannah has provided her presentation as a useful resource with links to support materials and this can be accessed on the [Coastal Communities Network](#) website.

Key Points:

- Having an official registered charity status is a requirement of many funders and dramatically widens your options, but there are still other funding options available to groups which do not have this. Regardless of your decision the fundamentals of how you need to be organised are the same - defined roles, a separate bank account etc.
- Fundraising is an integral function of a successful organisation, not only does it raise funds for your work but will also share your vision with others and further your objectives. In a community group having a single person who is responsible for coordinating fundraising may help to keep it moving forward. Aside from preparing applications a fundraiser will also write reports, send updates and develop ongoing relationships to secure the future of the organisation.
- Tips for after a grant is secured: Thank them! Ask why they supported you – was there something in particular they liked? This will help when approaching other funders, or when you go back to this funder in the future. Find out if it is a donation or a grant. A donation is a gift and the Donor expects nothing in return and there is often no formal agreement in place. Donations generally cannot be revoked. You can have restricted donation to a specific project. A grant tends to be accompanied by a grant agreement which will outline specific terms. There are often reporting deadlines, requirements and objectives and the grantee will need to report back on spend.
- Pros and cons of community fundraising: community fundraising can have a very low return on investment compared to other fundraising, but it allows groups to promote their work locally, to connect with the local community and reach a wider audience.



Hannah Braithwaite (FFI) presenting on fundraising for community groups.

2.5. Closing Session

To bring the weekend to a close, we had an inspirational presentation from Kerri (Marine Community Support Officer at FFI) and Howard (Chair of COAST).

Kerri took us through some of the well-known issues which have pushed many of the groups into action, and commented on the challenges faced by those seeking change. “It is coastal communities who have a unique ability to transform your knowledge and relationships with the sea into meaningful action which weaves through into your everyday life”. Kerri shared some of the many successes achieved by the groups present at Gartmore 2 and highlighted some of the future opportunities present in communities coming together to develop a collective voice.

Howard then reflected on COAST’s journey for community-led marine protection, the opportunities that are currently present for community groups and the value of the efforts of those here today, as well as many others across the country.

3. Network-Focused Group Break-out Discussions

On Saturday afternoon we broke into seven small discussion groups, with the overall aim of exploring the ways in which a network could be taken forward. Questions were designed to gather insights into how a network might look – how it would function, how individuals and communities would like to be

involved in it, what kinds of benefits it would bring to communities and to marine conservation, and what kinds of issues it could speak on.

Summary of responses from community groups

FfI analysed the responses to the questions asked in the break-out discussions on Saturday and presented the top answers to the group, as an illustration of the common themes that emerged. The most popular responses from the five break-out groups made up of community group representatives are as follows:

Q1: What activities would a network be doing in 5 years' time?

- Sharing knowledge, skills and experiences to mentor others
- Enabling MPA management systems for each community and involving regional marine planning
- Providing a route for communities to lobby the government
- Supporting research and surveying/monitoring.

Q2: How would your community expect to benefit from the network?

- Advice and support
- More credibility for individual groups as part of a national network, than they are given as themselves alone
- Having access to power and influencing decisions.



Wordcloud: "What activities would a network be doing in 5 years' time?"

Q1b: What functions/resources might be needed to deliver these activities?

- Funding
- A coordinator
- Trust

Q2b: What functions/resources might be needed to deliver these benefits?

- Central pot of money to bring every group up to a basic level of capacity
- A coordinator
- A set of agreed-upon mission statements – MPAs, aquaculture etc.

Q3: How would your community want to be involved in the network?

- Sharing ideas and experiences
- Engaging in workshops and regular meetings
- Being part of decision-making for important decisions – e.g. as local experts on key issues
- Providing research information/data.

Q3a: What do you think are the best options to explore when designing the network?

- The task culture (net or grid model) was well supported and many liked the action/issue/project based nature of this model. The hosted coalition was also a popular choice and many delegates suggested that a combination of the two could be appropriate.
- The cluster model (people culture) also had a broad level of support and many delegates liked the idea of a loose group where power is shared between many.
- Overall, there was strong opinion that the current facilitation role that FFI provide is valuable and that there would be a need for facilitation of the network in the future. There was some discussion around whether this would be facilitation or coordination, with some groups interchanging these terms – however the prevailing idea was that the network would be community-led with the facilitator enabling but not doing.
- There was overall support for some level of staffing for the network – whether this was a direct network employee, a network employee embedded in, or seconded from another organisation (i.e. a hosted coalition model), or a set of local project officers sitting with various network groups. It was generally envisaged that the network would require paid staff to operate at a particular level and to drive forward future actions or ideas.
- There was general agreement of a need for groups to retain their individuality whilst forming part of a larger network, and to be able to speak both as themselves and as part of a network.

- Many participants voiced the importance and value of trust as a core part of a network and a shared culture or vision that members can agree on.

Q2.1: What are your group's current priorities?

- Funding
- Building groups, gaining members and volunteers
- Staffing (or lack of)
- MPA compliance
- Fish farms
- Surveying/monitoring

Q2.2: Imagining that these current priorities have been met or solved, in 5 years' time, what would your priorities then be?

- Funding
- Future strategy
- Outreach & education
- Ensuring better monitoring and recording systems are in place
- Wildlife tourism



Wordcloud: "What are your group's current priorities?"

Summary of responses from other membership types

We asked the same questions to the Coastal Communities Network's Associated Organisations and Supporters, made up of NGOs and Government reps. The most popular responses from these break-out groups are as follows:

Q1: What activities would a network be doing in 5 years' time?

- Monitoring/surveying/data collection
- Information sharing/knowledge exchange and cross learning
- Engage with policy – consultation etc.

Q2: What benefits would you expect the network to deliver for marine conservation?

- Value of locally-led marine monitoring, local focus and data collection
- A stronger combined voice/bigger movement
- Better understanding from Government of community values and concerns.

Q1b: What functions/resources might be needed to deliver these activities?

- Facilitation/enabling/coordination
- Communications
- Peer-to-peer support

Q2b: What functions/resources might be needed to deliver these benefits?

- Shared resources - ability to share and compare consultation responses
- Mechanism for network to endorse/ add credibility to individual groups
- Training/capacity building.

Q3: How would your organisation want to be involved in the network?

- Providing/sharing advice, support, resources and data
- Education and awareness raising/ attendance at events (e.g. Gartmore)
- Understanding community priorities.

Q3a: What do you think are the best options to explore when designing the network?

- Community-led, community decisions for the network
- Maintain diversity; do what you can when needed
- Trust between entities

- Not too structured – ownership needs to be with communities
- Structure may change over time. At this stage hosting is beneficial, may change later
- ‘Information clearing house’ role is valuable
- Face to face meetings irreplaceable

Q2.1: What are your group’s current priorities?

- MPAs
- Regional Marine Planning
- Species and habitat conservation
- Raising awareness/ working with communities

Q2.2: Imagining that these current priorities have been met or solved, in 5 years’ time, what would your priorities then be?

- Changing policy/industry
- Climate issues
- MPA re-evaluation/review
- Increased research on specific issues

4. Workshop Conclusions

- The Coastal Communities Workshop brought together almost twice the number of community groups than the previous event, with many additional Associated Organisations also attending – there was a clear sense that the Network is an organic and growing network of trusted peers.
- A long list of successes were reported during the community group update talks and it was inspiring to reflect upon the achievements of the communities overall, and since May 2016.
- The break-out sessions indicated that there is broad support across the community groups for continuing the current dynamic of FFI’s central facilitation role, which seems to be the most realistic model, presently, for the ongoing development of the Network. There was a general agreement alongside this of a need for groups to retain their individuality whilst forming part of a larger network, and to be able to speak both as themselves and as part of a network.
- Break-out discussions also revealed that community groups currently see the Network’s main role as being a “mentor” - sharing knowledge, skills and experiences (e.g. survey work), but also offering an important route for petitioning the Government on important issues and enabling MPA and Regional Marine Planning management roles for individual communities.

- The break-out sessions with non-community groups indicated that a Network could play the role of maximising the value of locally-led marine monitoring, whilst also helping to build a stronger combined voice for communities and a better understanding by government of community values and concerns.
- Key priorities for communities currently are largely focused on development - funding, membership and volunteer management. Whilst MPAs and compliance, fish farms and surveying and monitoring are also top concerns. Looking to the future, priorities across the individual groups, and therefore likely the network as a whole, were envisaged to have more of a strategic and long-term view – with outreach and education taking a precedence as well as establishing monitoring and recording systems and opportunities as linked to wildlife tourism.

5. Next Steps

- FFI to continue to identify isolated community groups active on relevant issues which could benefit from the network, as well as linking the network into relevant Associated Organisations and Supporters, whose insight and scope could benefit the goals of the communities.
- FFI to actively facilitate communities to take ideas forward and share concerns, responses etc. to coordinate shared action on important issues (e.g. Aquaculture Inquiry, Priority Marine Feature review) as presented by Network members.
- In consultation with Community Groups, FFI to develop detailed options for the onward development of the Coastal Communities Network - helping to bring it into a sustainable and independent network.
- FFI to set up a Facebook group for network members to aid communication between groups and others, to more easily share information, and to link in with the individual pages that many of the groups have.
- FFI will continue to maintain the Coastal Communities Network website as a resource base – and produce newsletters, blogs, updates and other relevant resources.
- Planning and organisation for a third coastal communities’ workshop “Gartmore 3” to take place during 2020.

Appendix.1. Delegate List

Appendix.2. Workshop Agenda

Appendix.3. Delegate Profiles

Appendix 4. Data and Info Online Locations (SNH session)

Any questions or comments on this report please contact

Rebecca Plant: rebecca.plant@fauna-flora.org

Appendix.1. Delegate List

	Name	Group/Organisation
1	Abigail Entwistle	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
2	Alice Bucker	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
3	Alison Lomax	Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust
4	Amie Dow	Knoydart Foundation Ranger Service
5	Andy Jackson	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)
6	Bryce Stewart	York University
7	Calum Duncan	Marine Conservation Society
8	Caroline Younger	Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat (CROMACH)
9	Charles Millar	Scottish Inshore Fisheries Trust (SIFT)
10	Charlotte Hopkins	Glasgow University
11	Dale Meegan	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)
12	David Ainsley	Individual/Save Seil Sound
13	David Nairn	Fairlie Coastal Trust
14	Eileen Armstrong	South Skye Seas Initiative
15	Emilie Devenport	Scottish Environment Link, Marine
16	Ewan Kennedy	Save Seil Sound
17	Hannah Becker	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
18	Hannah Braithwaite	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
19	Howard Wood	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
20	James Merryweather	South Skye Seas Initiative
21	Jean Ainsley	Individual/Save Seil Sound
22	Jenny Stark	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)

23	Joe Richards	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve
24	John Aitchison	Friends of the Sound of Jura
25	Katie Gillham	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
26	Kerri Whiteside	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
27	Kirsty MacColl	Scottish Islands Federation
28	Lydia Murphy	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
29	Lyle Boyle	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve
30	Lynn Schweisfurth	Scottish Salmon Think-tank
31	Manuela de los Rios	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
32	Mark Woomb's	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)
33	Natalie Hirst	Seasearch Scotland
34	Neil Burns	Glasgow University
35	Neil Thomson	Fair Isle
36	Nick Underdown	Open Seas
37	Owen McGrath	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
38	Paul Chandler	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
39	Rebecca Plant	Fauna & Flora International (FFI)
40	Rich Lilley	Project Seagrass
41	Ron Gilchrist	Fairlie Coastal Trust
42	Russ Cheshire	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
43	Sam King	Scottish Sea Anglers Conservation Network (SSACN)
44	Sara Nason	Sea change
45	Sarah Brown	C2W
46	Sarah Russell	St Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve
47	Sebastian Howell	Marine Scotland

Appendix.2. Workshop Agenda

Friday 25th May

17:00 – 18:00	Arrival (refreshments available)
18:00	Expert-led drop-in sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Marine Spatial Planning2. Marine Protected Areas3. Aquaculture4. Monitoring5. Fundraising
19:30	<i>Dinner</i>
20:30	Move to the Bar

Saturday 26th May




08.00	<i>Breakfast</i>
09:00	Housekeeping and Introduction to the day
09:15 – 12:00	<u>Session One: Community Group Updates</u>
09:15	Friends of the Sound of Jura
09:30	Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS)
09:45	Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat (CROMACH)
10:00	South Skye Seas Initiative (SSSi)
10:15	Fair Isle (5 min MPA film)
10:25 - 10:45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:45	Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
11:00	Fairlie Coastal Trust
11:15	St. Abbs & Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve
11:30	Save Seil Sound; David & Jean Ainsley
11:50	Sea Change Wester Ross (5 min MPA film)
12:00 - 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 15:30	<u>Session two: Break-out groups (Network Development and Group Priorities)</u>




- 13:00 Intro to break-outs and groupings
- 13:15 Break-out questions
- 15:15 - 15.45 *Coffee and Cake Break*
- 15:45 – 17:15 Session three: Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and Marine Scotland Updates**
- 17:15 *Stroll/refresh*
- 17:45 Evening Presentation
- Wildlife films and conservation - John Aitchison
- 19:00 *Wine Reception*
- 19:30 *Dinner*
- 20:30 Move to Bar




Sunday 27th May

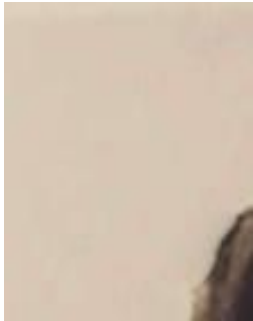


- 08:30 *Breakfast*
- 09:30 Consolidation Session
- 10:15 Fundraising for community groups
- Hannah Braithwaite, Head of Trusts & Foundations at Fauna & Flora International
- 11:00 - 11:45 *Coffee break*
- 11:45 Closing Session
- Howard Wood and Kerri Whiteside
- 12:15 Wrap up and close / group photo
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 Feedback forms & depart




Appendix.3. Delegate Profiles


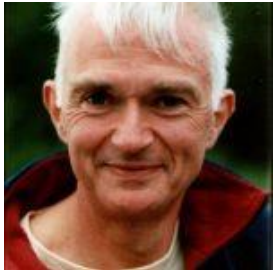

Name	Profile
<p>Abigail Entwistle</p> 	<p>Abi's love for the natural world was formed in a childhood spent running around a wood in south-east Scotland. She later studied Zoology and then undertook a PhD at Aberdeen University studying bats. Bats later took her off to Tanzania, where her work was supported by Fauna & Flora International (FFI). She started volunteering with FFI in 1996 and has undertaken a range of roles at FFI since then, including Director of Eurasia Programme and is currently Director of Conservation Science and Design, as part of which she oversees FFI's global marine programme. She also has a specific interest in marine plastics and enjoys looking for nurdles on Scottish beaches in her spare time.</p>
<p>Aidan Gregory</p> 	<p>Aidan Gregory was born and brought up on the West coast of Scotland.</p> <p>He loves living by the sea and being on it, in it or under it and has never found himself far from it wherever he is in the world.</p> <p>He is passionate about conservation of coastal waters especially around the west coast of Scotland and is keen to ensure that the 'Loch Sunart to the sound of Jura' MPA is maintained and properly managed.</p>
<p>Alice Bucker</p> 	<p>Alice started working at FFI in January 2015 on an internship focusing on the links between biodiversity and agricultural productivity having graduated in 2014 from Cambridge University in Natural Sciences. She then moved into her role as Conservation Partnerships Administrator and helps to provide support to a range of teams including the Conservation Science and Design Team, where the marine programme sits.</p>




<p>Alison Lomax</p> 	<p>Alison is Director of the Mull based charity, Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust and has been involved in cetacean conservation in the UK for the past 8 years. Firstly working with WDC in the Moray Firth, in the early days of the brilliant Shorewatch project, then setting up the first community engagement project for ORCA in North East England. Her main interest is in community engagement projects and is passionate about connecting people and place together through story based narrative and wildlife experiences. At home in the sea (rather than on it!) Alison's also a keen cold water swimmer.</p>
<p>Amie Dow</p> 	<p>Amie Dow lives on the Knoydart peninsular with her Forester husband and their dog Mushroom. As the Knoydart Foundation Ranger she provides information and advice, delivers guided walks and tours, organises events, works with volunteers on conservation projects, delivers outdoor learning sessions to Inverie Primary School and manages Knoydart Carbon Cycle Hire and Long Beach Campsite. Amie was formerly a Social Work manager, so is new to marine conservation in a professional capacity, but believes that it is just as important for the Knoydart community to restore, protect and conserve their coast line and Loch Nevis as it is to protect their community land.</p>
<p>Andy Jackson</p> 	<p>Andy runs Ardnamurchan Charters and has over 20 years of experience in providing wildlife experiences on-board Laurence. In 2003 Andy became the care taker of the Isle of Carna in Loch Sunart, offering a truly remote getaway in the two cottages, whilst being fully supported and protected by the existing marine operation. Since then he has established a community interest company, Carna Conservation Initiative to support and enhance the wildlife and ecology of Carna. Andy plays an active role in many community initiatives and has more recently been part of establishing CAOLAS – Sunart and Mull. He has taken an active interest in the establishment and promotion of the recent Loch Sunart, Sound of Mull & Firth of Lorn marine protected area (MPA). He hopes the MPA will protect Loch Sunart (and the rest) for future generations to come and enable sustainable use of the Loch for fishing as well as wildlife tourism.</p>




<p>Bryce Stewart</p> 	<p>Bryce is a marine ecologist and fisheries biologist whose work has ranged from temperate estuaries to tropical coral reefs and the deep-sea. The central thread in his research has been to gain an increased understanding of the factors regulating marine populations and communities so as to ensure their sustainable use, primarily by fisheries. Since moving to the UK in 1999, much of his research has focussed examining the utility of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) for improving both marine conservation and the management of fisheries. Through investigations in the Isle of Man, Arran and on the Yorkshire coast, his work has revealed not only the benefits that MPAs can provide, but also that engagement with local communities and stakeholders is vital to their success. Bryce is passionate about communicating science and conservation issues to the widest possible audience. His work has been featured regularly in print media and on radio and TV. He writes regular popular science articles and is highly active on social media. Bryce has also presented his findings at everything from scientific conferences to advisory groups, public and business meetings and the UK and EU parliaments.</p>
<p>Calum Duncan</p> 	<p>Calum Duncan is Head of Conservation Scotland at the Marine Conservation Society, establishing the Scotland programme in 2000, helping increase participation in MCS beach litter, diver survey and wildlife sighting citizen science projects and raise awareness of Scotland's amazing marine life. He co-ordinated the Seasearch project in Scotland for 14 years helping divers gather evidence to identify and designate MPAs and other important areas, and remains involved as a tutor. He also convenes Scottish Environment LINK's Marine Group, including steering the Save Scottish Seas project which helped secure the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the National Marine Plan and 30 nature conservation MPAs flowing from it. Calum is committed to working toward cleaner, healthier seas, richer in life that support resilient, sustainable communities.</p>
<p>Caroline Younger</p> 	<p>Caroline Younger is an artist who is based in both London and Argyll where she lives at Craignish on the Firth of Lorne. She was instrumental in establishing CROMACH (Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat) and is on their committee. She believes that the threats to the health of our seas is the major environmental issue of our time.</p>




<p>Charles Millar</p> 	<p>Charles is the Executive Director of the Sustainable Inshore Fisheries Trust – a Scottish charity founded in 2011 which aims to promote the sustainable management of Scotland’s inshore waters so that they provide the maximum long term benefits to all coastal communities. SIFT is currently promoting the establishment of a new spatial management system for the Firth of Clyde fishery using a Regulating Order. It is also (in collaboration with the Marine Conservation Society) revising its Aquaculture Information Pack – a document that is intended to assist coastal communities participate in the planning process relating to marine fish farms. He is also Chairman of the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, Scotland’s oldest established environmental charity, which is currently campaigning for the introduction of a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers, and for the establishment of additional National Parks. Charles previously worked as a corporate environmental consultant and in the environmental technology investment business.</p>
<p>Charlotte Hopkins</p> 	<p>Charlotte Hopkins is a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Glasgow, specialising in marine conservation science. Charlotte completed her PhD in 2016 undertaking a critical analysis of the Scottish MPA network in the context of climate change. Prior to starting her post-doctoral research on MPAs in Egypt, Charlotte worked as the Marine Policy Officer for Scottish Environment LINK, providing scientific advice for advocacy on marine environmental issues.</p>
<p>Dale Meegan</p> 	<p>Dale is a freelance community development consultant who lives in Kilchoan, Ardnamurchan. She is a trustee of the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust and has a keen (amateur) interest in the local marine environment and environmental and conservation projects. Since early 2017 Dale has been helping identify new resources for CAOLAS and supporting its development as a community organisation.</p>

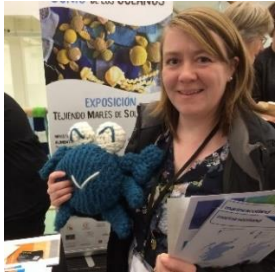


<p>David Ainsley</p> 	<p>David completed Marine Zoology at Bangor University. Worked in fish-farming and started as a creel fisherman in the Firth of Lorne in 1988. He has run Sealife Adventures diving and wildlife charters since 1991, also in the Firth of Lorne. He was very much involved in the process that led to the end of tangle netting in the FoL in 2002 and also the European complaint which led to the end of Scallop Dredging in the FoL and Creran SACs. More recently he has been involved in the MPA process including making a short video for social media "1% is not enough". David is currently involved in a campaign to try to persuade Scottish Water not to put poorly treated sewage into the SAC/MPA. David's hobby is underwater filming and this has been invaluable in publicising fish farm pollution, the unnecessary shooting of seals, the damage to the seabed caused by scallop dredging and on a positive side has shown the improvements in the FoL SAC since scallop dredging stopped with some of his filming being shown on TV.</p>
<p>David Nairn</p> 	<p>I live In Fairlie which is a wee coastal community in the upper Clyde. I also work with Clyde Porpoise c.i.c which is engaged with marine mammal and UW noise surveys on the Clyde. I am a community councillor for Fairlie, have some background in marine biology, skipper yachts and spend at least 3-4 months at sea every year.</p>
<p>Eileen Armstrong</p> 	<p>Eileen Armstrong moved to Skye in 2004 to a house with a view hoping to live a more settled and calmer life. The view became much more than just a view as over the years she discovered the rich biodiversity it offered up was to shape and change her life. Its influence took over her spare time in efforts to safeguard against unsustainable aquaculture development and at the moment this effort has been successful with the help of our local community. She is not a scientist, nor a placard waving activist, not yet anyway, but believes in fighting for what should be fought for by means of educating and informing stakeholders so they can have an informed opinion. She works 2 days a week in the local GP Surgery as a dispenser/receptionist, runs a successful holiday home business, and is a Board member of Skye and Lochalsh Environment Forum and a Board member of Sleat Community Trust, Chair of SEALL (rural arts promoter organising around 60 performances a year), has a very understanding and supportive husband, two dogs and two cats. She certainly wouldn't say she has achieved a calmer way of life but the knowledge and interest she has gained far outweighs that luxury.</p>




<p>Emilie Devenport</p> 	<p>Emilie is the Marine Policy and Engagement Officer for Scottish Environment LINK Marine Group. Emilie is an MSc graduate in Marine Systems and Policies from the University of Edinburgh (with a BA (Hons) in History and Spanish). Emilie's LINK role is to develop and co-ordinate effective advocacy for the Marine Group and, when needed, campaign action to encourage and support progressive management of MPAs and ecosystem-based marine planning.</p>
<p>Ewan Kennedy</p> 	<p>I'm a former lawyer, who ran a small firm in Glasgow for nearly forty years, but have always loved the sea and have built and restored several small boats and sailed the inshore waters in them. I've been involved in campaigning against the pollution caused by fish farms in mid-Argyll, which I've seen at first hand for many years.</p>
<p>Hannah Becker</p> 	<p>Hannah has worked at Fauna & Flora International (FFI) since 2011 initially in the role of Executive Assistant to the CEO, and later Programme Officer, East Africa. Hannah moved into her current role as Programme Manager in the Conservation Science & Design last year. In this role she oversees grant reviewing processes for external donors, supports the management and external evaluation of a large internal grant, manages the internal project approval process, and more recently has taken on responsibility for FFI's East Africa Marine Programme operating in Kenya and Zanzibar. During her time at FFI she also completed an MSc in Development Studies at the School of Oriental and African Studies where she specialised in food security and water governance, focusing on urban water provision during the current Syrian refugee crisis in Jordan. Hannah is particularly interested in the relationships between development, forced migration, human rights and sustainable natural resource management. Prior to joining FFI Hannah completed an MA (Hons) in Arabic and Modern History from the University of St Andrews and worked for Jordan Red Crescent and the British Red Cross.</p>




<p>Hannah Braithwaite</p> 	<p>Hannah has worked in the fundraising team at FFI since 2014, managing relationships with trusts and foundations mainly in the UK and Europe. She focuses on bringing in income to support FFI's projects through progressing existing relationships with donors as well as identifying opportunities and fostering new relationships. Previous to FFI, Hannah has worked in fundraising for charities of varying sizes including the NSPCC, a large national children's charity, and also for the Marston Vale Trust, a small local NGO focused on forest conservation.</p>
<p>Howard Wood</p> 	<p>Howard Wood with his friend and dive buddy Don founded the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) in 1995. With the initial objective of "just" setting up a trial marine reserve off Arran, they soon realised that a couple of individuals no matter how committed would make little headway without widespread community support. They motivated local activists who, had a variety of skills, but were all committed to protecting the local marine environment with the aim of improving the sustainable economic benefit to their island over the longer term.</p> <p>Although Howard had no formal training, as an environmental activist or in campaigning and political lobbying, he did undertake training to identify marine habitat and species using Seasearch. Using his, mainly self-taught, still and video camera skills enabled him to bring to the community's attention both the beauty and the destruction of the Clyde's seabed.</p> <p>Over the decades his knowledge and experience in most aspects of marine conservation and management has grown in volumes. However Howard is still frustrated after all the progress COAST has made that the majority of legitimate marine stakeholders are still excluded or ignored from marine decision making bodies in Scotland.</p>
<p>James Merryweather</p> 	<p>James Merryweather is a biologist/musician living in Auchtertyre, just before the Skye Bridge. Fifteen years ago, he retired (early) from research at the University of York where, in Prof. Alastair Fitter's lab., he studied the field ecology of a ubiquitous, but little understood soil symbiosis: mycorrhiza. Annually 1976-2009 he taught marine biology to first year undergraduates, accumulating knowledge he now uses to share the wonderful seashore biodiversity and ecology of the Highlands. Author of several field guides, James spends much of his time studying and teaching natural history around Skye, Lochalsh and Wester Ross and contributes to the work of numerous local and national environment NGOs, including Skye & Lochalsh Environment Forum and a new conservation branch of the Scottish Salmon Think-Tank, both of which he represents at this meeting.</p>




<p>Jean Ainsley</p> 	<p>Jean helps to run Sealife Adventures diving and wildlife charters in the Firth of Lorne. Via this she has been involved in the processes of ending tangle netting in the FoL in 2002 and also in the European complaint which led to the end of Scallop Dredging in the FoL and Creran SACs. Jean has invested time in writing reports, letters and newspaper articles to support the work of ensuring adequate protection of the Firth of Lorne, and has also spent much time lobbying MSPs on conservation issues.</p>
<p>Jenny Stark</p> 	<p>Jenny's love of the ocean has been firmly cemented by submerging herself beneath the waves in many countries – her particular highlight is still that she had the privilege of calling the Great Barrier Reef her office! Jenny's work with the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) stemmed from her MSc in Marine Environmental Management, for which she completed a summer project on Arran. Seeing first-hand the detrimental impacts unsustainable fishing activities were having on our national seas, she knew that educating those who will utilise the oceans in the future is vital. Her role as Marine Outreach Officer with COAST allows her to pass on her enthusiasm of marine conservation to people of all ages, whilst being part of a close-knit, inspiring and determined community organisation.</p>
<p>Joe Richards</p> 	<p>Joe was born and brought up in Edinburgh and has always had an interest in the marine environment, however it was not until he completed his first Scuba dive 6 years ago that he could fully appreciate the importance of protecting, conserving and sustaining it. Since then he has completed a Masters in Climate Change: Managing the Marine Environment at Heriot Watt University and has worked as research assistant studying tropical coral reefs in the Gulf of Thailand. He is now back home in 'sunny' Scotland, living near St. Abbs and has just been appointed as a Marine Ranger for the St. Abbs and Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve where he hopes to promote, educate, liaise and engage with the local community and stakeholders. He believes that community involvement at a local level is the key to the success of a Marine Reserve and is looking forward to being a part of it.</p>




<p>John Aitchison</p> 	<p>John grew up by the coast and has been a naturalist for as long as he can remember. He studied Geography, worked for five years in the Film Unit of the RSPB, doing everything except camerawork, then set out to become a cameraman and return to the coast.</p> <p>From their home in mid-Argyll, he and his wife Mary-Lou have produced a number of wildlife films, mostly for the BBC, including The Amber Time Machine, presented by David Attenborough, and BBC Scotland's Hebrides series, while also filming for series such as Planet Earth II, The Hunt, Springwatch and Big Cat Diary. They also make conservation programmes for SNH, SWT and others.</p> <p>John writes and sometimes presents wildlife programmes on Radio 4.</p>
<p>Katie Gilham</p> 	<p>Katie Gillham is joint Head of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems and Use Unit at Scottish Natural Heritage. Her responsibilities include MPAs, Priority Marine Features and overseeing work on marine data and survey. She is involved in a range of work from producing guidance, communications, and helping develop site management. Katie previously worked for SNH on the Scottish MPA Project, with a focus on policy development, stakeholder engagement and mobile species. And before that Katie worked on various topics including development of the Scottish Marine Bill, aquaculture, oil and gas, producing management schemes for European Marine Sites, and providing advice on cetaceans and seals.</p>
<p>Kerri Whiteside</p> 	<p>Kerri's marine conservation career began by volunteering for the RSPB where she worked on the Belfast Harbour Reserve and within the Northern Ireland Planning team. She studied a BA Honours in Politics in Queens University Belfast and, a few years later, went on to complete an MSc in Leadership for Sustainable Rural Development. She has volunteered and worked within various charitable and community organisations; giving support to people seeking better access to rights and services such as refugees and asylum seekers living in Belfast and young women and children within a domestic violence support charity.</p> <p>Whilst studying her MSc she also worked full-time for several years for Ulster Wildlife, as their Living Seas Community Engagement Officer. She then moved to Scotland to work for Fauna & Flora International in her current role of Marine Community Support Officer; identifying, supporting and networking grassroots action on marine conservation across Scotland's coast.</p>

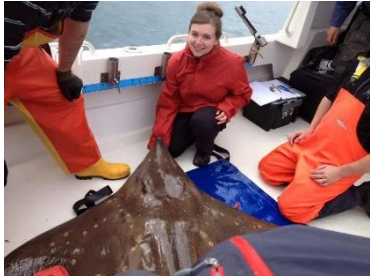


<p>Kirsty MacColl</p> 	<p>Kirsty is the Development Officer for the Scottish Islands Federation (SIF). The Scottish Islands Federation was set up in 2007 by islanders keen to learn from each other, to collaborate and to have a stronger voice on island issues of common concern. S.I.F. membership includes Development Trusts, Community Companies, Community Councils and other bodies concerned with the sustainability of island communities. We are also a partner in and currently chair the European Small Islands Federation.</p>
<p>Lydia Murphy</p> 	<p>Programme Officer, Conservation Science and Design at Fauna & Flora International.</p>
<p>Lyle Boyle</p> 	<p>Lyle has recently completed his undergraduate degree in marine biology at Swansea University and is about to start as a volunteer marine ranger with the St. Abbs and Eyemouth voluntary marine reserve, for the coming six months. He has some background in marine conservation, with two months spent volunteering in Mauritius and two weeks in Puerto Rico associated with a university trip, both encompassing coastal marine conservation.</p>



<p>Lynn Schweisfurth</p> 	<p>Lynn is a freelance consultant for non-profit organisations and member of the Scottish Salmon Think-Tank. She studied German and Moral Philosophy at the University of Glasgow and holds a Master's Degree in Human Rights and Democratisation. She has lived most of her adult life in Munich, working for Human Rights Watch as Director of Development and Outreach and Right to Play, Switzerland. Lynn is also a qualified election observer and has worked for the OSCE on missions to Macedonia and Kosovo, overseeing local and national elections. She has also written extensively on corporate social responsibility. Lynn currently splits her time between Munich and the Isle of Skye.</p>
<p>Manuela de los Rios</p> 	<p>Manuela has 15 years of practical expertise developing and implementing local coastal and marine management projects and programmes for public and private bodies throughout Europe. She is particularly keen in closing the gap between marine education and community learning and empowerment. Inspired by COAST's work she joined the team last Summer, moving to Arran with her partner and three young children from Cadiz.</p>
<p>Mark Woomb's</p> 	<p>From 1989 to 2000 Mark was the marine biologist and Principal of Knott End Sea Centre, a residential education centre that taught marine ecology in the field, usually from boats. Since then he has been self-employed running a marine environmental consultancy, WA Marine & Environment, a boat charter business, Sea Knoydart and a RYA school, Sunart Sea School. He has been a Ministerial Appointee to the North Western and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee, a Director and Council Member of the Marine Conservation Society, joint founder of Lancashire Marine Conservation Society and Diving Officer and member of numerous scientific diving teams. He dives for fun as well as for work and now finds it difficult to dive without a camera. He usually dives in Loch Sunart two or three times a week.</p>

<p>Neil Burns</p> 	<p>Neil Burns has recently completed a PhD at the University of Glasgow exploring life stage distribution change and population connectivity in whiting to the west of the UK. He is interested in developing methods to understand species distributions, community structure and statistical techniques to retrospectively geolocate fish using trace elements in otoliths. These methods are essential to properly understand the effects of spatial management measures on species which undergo ontogenetic movements or migrations. Neil is currently aiding in research exploring the influence of fisheries management measures on fish community structure on the Egyptian Red Sea coast.</p>
<p>Neil Thomson</p> 	<p>Semi-retired skipper of The Good Shepherd IV, Neil is a permanent resident of Fair Isle and closely involved in the community's efforts to manage the Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area.</p>
<p>Nick Underdown</p> 	<p>Nick has a strong interest in environmental and social justice. He works for Open Seas, a Scottish charity dedicated to exposing damaging fisheries and promoting sustainability for the common good. With a background in journalism, he worked for Ethical Corporation Magazine and then as a local newspaper reporter on the Isle of Arran, covering issues such as fish farming, planning, land reform and the community campaign for a NTZ/MPA. He has since worked for the Clyde River Foundation and assisted with communications for the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST).</p> <p>Subsequently (2012-2016) Nick worked for Scottish Environment LINK's Marine Group, helping to coordinate policy and campaigning for a network of Marine Protected Areas and a progressive marine planning system. Nick is also a Trustee of Planning Democracy, an organisation campaigning to improve fairness and accountability within the Scottish planning system. Nick lives in Avoch and is a keen freshwater and sea angler.</p>

<p>Owen McGrath</p> 	<p>Marine Policy Officer with Scottish Natural Heritage currently leading on stakeholder engagement and communications for the Marine Protected Areas project.</p>
<p>Paul Chandler</p> 	<p>Paul has recently moved to Arran from Devon and is the new Director of the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST). He is a geoscientist and has a 34 year, global track record of customer focused innovation and application of geoscience and other natural sciences within the petroleum, minerals, engineering and environmental sectors. Paul is a diver, kayaker and opera singer and a passionate advocate for sharks and the protection, growth and sustainable production of our marine environment. He has worked in UK, Europe, Canada, U.S.A., Central America, Middle East, Far East and throughout Africa.</p>
<p>Rebecca Plant</p> 	<p>Rebecca grew up by the sea in Edinburgh and always loved being in or on the water. After studying Biology she discovered conservation through volunteering on the Marine Turtle Conservation Project in North Cyprus – where she stayed for three seasons and learned to dive. A Masters in Biodiversity & Conservation took her down South, and then overseas for much of a year, including 6 months working in Cape Verde for a local Conservation NGO. Rebecca joined FFI in 2013 as Programme Officer for the Eurasia regional team and supported terrestrial and marine projects in Europe, Central Asia and West Africa. In 2017 she moved back to Edinburgh and is now Project Officer, Marine, Scotland.</p>

<p>Richard Lilley</p> 	<p>RJ has a BSc in Natural Sciences from Durham University, a PGCE in Secondary Science from Warwick University, an MRes in Aquatic Ecology and Conservation from Swansea University and an MSc in Social Science Research Methods from Cardiff University. RJ has recently submitted (and will defend at a viva in February 2018) a PhD in Sustainable Fisheries at the Sustainable Places Research Institute in Cardiff. Over the past 6 years his research has focused on the role of seagrass meadows in providing food security in the North Atlantic and the Caribbean and the Mediterranean Sea's. He currently lives in Edinburgh, is teaching Biology and Environmental Science at Musselburgh Grammar School, and is the Director for Project Seagrass in Scotland. He is a qualified PADI and BSAC scuba-diving instructor and recreational freediver.</p>
<p>Ronald Gilchrist</p> 	<p>Ron qualified as a marine biologist with his post graduate research being into the sediments, currents and biota of the Solway Firth. He was the biologist at the eel farm at Hunterston, Ayrshire, and then at the onshore salmon farm at Rhunahoarn, Kintyre. He spent 3 years specimen hunting around the Cumbraes for the SeaWorld native marine aquarium, Irvine. Current research is into the development of resilient coastal communities modelled on the Greek island of Ikaria - the island where people forget to die!</p>
<p>Russell Cheshire</p> 	<p>Russell joined COAST in late 2008 because he was fully supportive of the new NTZ and wanted to do his bit to make the seas healthier again, and not just so that he has more chance of showing his passengers more megafauna! He is delighted the new MPAs is in place; and is hopeful that the Scottish government will manage it sensibly! He is looking forward to big improvement over next 5-10 years and maybe sooner!</p>

<p>Samantha McFarlane (King)</p> 	<p>Samantha McFarlane is the Community Outreach Officer at the Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network (SSACN) and an Area Coordinator at British Divers Marine Life Rescue.</p>
<p>Sara Nason</p> 	<p>A Filmmaker working in feature documentaries & impact campaigns that inspire change through storytelling - as well as a foodie and cook! Sara's films tell stories about extraordinary people, indigenous ways and support women's equal participation in the world. Her passion for the sea came from a childhood exploring 'venus' pools, snorkelling and sailing in Guernsey. Having an island childhood meant the sea was her playground and gave her an enduring love of the small, often overlooked, sea creatures. Brought up also within a highland regiment, it seemed natural to settle by the sea in Wester Ross, but in 2011 she learnt to her horror that dredgers were legal! She was so appalled she contacted COAST/Sift to ask them advice. Then, reassured by planning for an MPA, it was only when she saw the small print that MPA's allowed dredgers that she knew we must build a similar group to protect the sea, linking the public voice with the sustainable fishermen's - that is now called Sea Change.</p>
<p>Sarah Brown</p> 	<p>Sarah Brown is a freelance marine management and community engagement advisor based near Oban. Having worked on the Clyde Marine Plan and the Scottish Government's marine tourism and recreation data gathering project, she was well placed to take on development of Crown Estate Scotland's asset management Pilot Scheme. In developing the Pilot Scheme (http://www.crownestatescotland.com/the-assets/local-management) she worked closely with community representatives across Scotland, including FFI, to ensure that the final guidance was as useful and relevant as possible. You can read more about her on her website www.c2w.org.uk or email her.</p>

<p>Sarah Russell</p> 	<p>A strong interest in the marine environment from an early age influenced the course of Sarah's studies. After a degree in Zoology and a masters in Marine and Fisheries Science, itchy feet ensured that numerous expeditions to far flung places followed. Solomon Islands working on Fruit bats, Falkland Islands working on squid and Belize surveying a coral reef did not pay the bills so jobs with the Marine Lab in Aberdeen, SNH, Sea Life Surveys and for the St. Abbs and Eyemouth Voluntary Marine Reserve as Ranger had to be found!! Time out for the last 9 years for the family left her chomping at the bit. By a coincidence the Voluntary Marine Reserve was recently looking for a project officer, which ticked all the boxes.</p>
<p>Sebastian Howell</p> 	<p>Sebastian's work in the Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs, Food and Environment's office gave him an interest in environment policy and he has transferred to a position working on marine conservation, where he has been policy adviser on Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) for the past 4 years. Whilst his work to date has been focussed on the designation of MPAs, recently he has been getting more involved in wider designations, such as Special Protection Areas (SPAs) as well as more directly community based proposals such as the Fair Isle Demonstration and Research MPA.</p>

Appendix 4. Data and Info Online Locations (SNH session)

Source	Weblink	What data is available
NMPi	https://marinescotland.atkinsgeospatial.com/nmpi/	PMF records- layers not downloadable Marine management, fisheries measures, marine conservation orders
NBN ATLAS Scotland	https://scotland.nbnatlas.org/	Source of biodiversity and species data UK from wildlife conservation organisations, government, country agencies, environmental agencies, local environmental records centres and many voluntary groups. Does not currently hold marine habitats data.
SNH Natural Spaces	http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/natural-spaces/index.jsp	Downloadable data downloads including MPA boundaries
SNH SITELINK	http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp	MPA boundaries viewable
SNH home page	https://www.nature.scot/	Access to entire SNH web content
SNH MPA home page	https://www.nature.scot/mpas	Access to information on marine survey and monitoring including the most recent monitoring field reports, Scottish MPA advice
SNH individual MPA pages	https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/protected-areas/national-	Each page contains information on conservation objectives, protected features, downloadable documents from designation phase (data confidence, assessment against guidelines etc.).

	designations/marine-protected-areas/nature-conservation-marine	
SNH PMF page	https://www.nature.scot/professional-advice/safeguarding-protected-areas-and-species/priority-marine-features-scotlands-seas	PMF lists, feature descriptions, videos (currently being updates) PMF strategy, commissioned report links, published guidance on handling development proposals with potential to impact upon PMFs
SNH FLICKR	https://www.flickr.com/photos/snh-iyb2010/albums	Fully downloadable images for public use (as long as copyright rules are followed) Images grouped into albums by survey area or habitat collections.