

The 2021 “Gartmore 3” Coastal Communities Network Workshop Full Report



**FRIDAY 29th- SUNDAY 31st October 2021
Gartmore House, Stirlingshire, Scotland**

Workshop facilitated by [Fauna & Flora International](#)
On behalf of [The Coastal Communities Network](#), Scotland

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Thanks

Fauna & Flora International would like to thank all who participated in the 2021 event for your time and input, and your patience over the many delays due to the pandemic. The Coastal Communities Network “Gartmore” events are made possible through the dedication of all of those involved, and we’d like to thank the Coastal Communities Network Advisory Group for their direction. We would also like to thank the staff at Gartmore House for their understanding and commitment to ensuring this event was able to go ahead safely. We invite ongoing feedback from both those who participated and others who may read this report.

If you have any questions or comments on this report please contact Rebecca Plant, Project Officer, Scotland: rebecca.plant@fauna-flora.org.

If you’d like to engage with the Coastal Communities Network, please contact Alan Munro, Coastal Communities Network Coordinator: alan.munro@fauna-flora.org.

1. Background and aims

This workshop is an integral part of Fauna & Flora International (FFI)’s broader marine community support work in Scotland, which includes facilitation of the Coastal Communities Network (CCN), on behalf of the membership

The first workshop (Gartmore 1) in May 2016 spurred the development of the Network itself, and agreement was reached to continue this valuable forum on a biannual basis. It was hoped that the workshop would enable participants to increase their knowledge, feel more connected, be better positioned to maintain communications and be inspired to take the next steps to meet the aspirations of their own group.

The next event (Gartmore 2) took place in May 2018 and aimed to build on the success of the previous workshop, by bringing coastal community groups together again to share experiences and build collaboration. A core focus was discussion around the Coastal Communities Network, how the Network could function, and how a participatory design process could be taken forward. The main goal was for groups to identify shared issues and priorities, which they could work on together or support one another in.

Unfortunately, the pandemic delayed the next workshop (Gartmore 3) from the planned date of March 2020, but we were finally able to bring CCN members together in October 2021. As well as continuing to provide a valuable space for communities to meet and share knowledge, the core focus of the third workshop was the future development of the Network, and priorities for action.

As before, the programme ensured there was 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. 14 of 18 member groups were represented at the workshop, alongside FFI, 'Friends of CCN', non-CCN community groups and reps from NatureScot and SEPA.

The workshop aimed to reflect on progress and successes since the initial meeting in 2016, provide a platform for local updates and thematic discussions and facilitate action planning for CCN. Ultimately, the main goal was to identify joint priorities for action and what CCN needs to deliver the desired outcomes.



Gartmore Sunset, image: Gartmore House

2. Session Summaries

2.1. The history of CCN

Kerri Whiteside, FFI Project Manager Scotland, gave a presentation on the history of CCN from the origins of FFI's community support work in Scotland to the present day. [Read a pdf version of the presentation.](#)

- COAST and FFI began to engage in 2010, when FFI funded some PhD research looking at recovery in the recently designated Lamlash Bay No-Take-Zone (NTZ). This evolved into FFI hosting a new Marine Community Support Officer role in 2014 (Kerri), to provide support to communities across Scotland, and to share COAST's knowledge and experience with others. The first of these was Fair Isle, who were seeking Scotland's first Demonstration & Research Marine Protected Area (DR MPA) designation – something that was successfully achieved in 2016.
- In 2016, FFI brought together 7 communities, and other interested parties, for the first gathering, which became known simply as "Gartmore". Discussions over the weekend pointed to a shared desire to build some kind of network as a shared space to bring interested communities together to support each other. In 2017, Rebecca joined the team and we established a web platform and the Coastal Communities Network launched with 8 members.
- At the second Gartmore meeting in 2018, membership had grown to 12 community groups and a range of interests and priorities were identified. From here, the Community-led Monitoring Project and the Argyll Hope Spot arose, as well as the launch of the FFI Community Support Fund in 2019 – a direct answer to the needs identified by CCN members. The Fund has supported 18 projects at a value of £30,000, and leveraging a (rough estimate) of £300,000+.
- Membership numbered 18 as of October 2021, and continues to rise. CCN has increased the range of issues it is active on, has begun to put in place membership processes and governance structures, and FFI has secured funds to recruit a dedicated CCN Coordinator in 2022. There are many upcoming opportunities for CCN to continue to engage with decision-makers, partners and each other on the issues that concern them most.

The Coastal Communities Network



Gartmore Weekend October 2021

'The History of CCN': Kerri Whiteside/FFI

2.2 Hopes for the weekend

We posed the question "What are your hopes for the weekend?" and combined the written responses.



Wordcloud: Responses to "What are your hopes for the weekend" at Gartmore 3

Small interest groups then met to discuss Salmon Farming (convened by James Merryweather) and ADDs & Acoustic Monitoring (convened by David Nairn).



James Merryweather hosting a discussion on salmon farming, image: Jack Murphy/FFI

2.3. Community Group Updates

This session opened with a welcome from Howard Wood, Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST). Howard noted that:

- There is a key opportunity with the current Government and Ministers to engage, meetings are already underway and they seem willing to listen to community concerns.
- CCN shouldn't let small differences in thinking get in the way of our general aims of improving the marine environment.
- CCN's strength comes from working together on a strategic level, as well as maintaining each community group's local focus.

There were then 12 talks given, representing nine of the 18 groups linked into the Coastal Communities Network at that time (October 2021), alongside CCN friends Sealife Adventures, Scottish Salmon Think-tank and Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation.

Berwickshire Marine Reserve

Alex Higgs, Project Officer, Berwickshire Marine Reserve (BMR). [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- To help the BMR to achieve their aims, the voluntary codes of conduct have been updated, with specific focus to user groups: Divers, Anglers, Spear fishers, Boat operators.

- The BMR have established Intertidal habitat and species surveys community monitoring at 4 sites. The aim is to obtain a baseline of data for species presence and distribution, and the data was shared with the community as well as to the MEDIN database.
- They have been using innovative technology (robo limpets) to track intertidal mollusc body temperatures, with Newcastle University. The Robo-limpets mimic internal body temperature of intertidal molluscs and the project aims to identify intertidal heatwaves and the impact on species.
- They have been engaging with the Marine Conservation Society's Beachwatch. As well as cleaning up the coastline, BeachWatch volunteers note down all the items they find in a 100m stretch of beach. This data is hugely important as it helps track litter back to source, and enables campaigning for change.
- Future plans include sub tidal monitoring in 2022, and funding has been secured for a community led lobster hatchery - run similarly to North Berwick, housed in a container, with trained volunteers to maintain the system.

CAOLAS

Annabel Lawrence, Community Association of Lochs and Sounds (CAOLAS). [View the presentation.](#)

Key points:

- CAOLAS's aims are: encourage and promote sustainable use of local waters for recreation, fishing and other marine activities; promote and carry out research, surveys and investigations of the local marine environment; involve the community and raise awareness of marine issues and the related cultural heritage; educate and involve younger members of the community; protect and allow recovery of biodiversity and natural processes in the Sound of Mull, Loch Sunart; and to work with other community organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), statutory organisations, the Scottish Government and others.
- CAOLAS have been active in citizen science, monitoring and reporting on marine compliance. They are a key member of the Argyll Coast and Islands Hope Spot, have a place on the MarPAMM steering group and collaborate with many partners. In 2021 they began a native oyster restoration initiative, in collaboration with Seawilding and with funding from FFI.
- The barriers that communities face to achieving action are: ineffective implementation of poor policy and minimal enforcement; complexity of legal requirements for successful prosecution; and the lack of a transition towards high value, low impact fishing methods – timing is critical.



Annabel Lawrence, CAOLAS, image: Graham Richardson

CROMACH

Danny Renton, Craignish Restoration of Marine and Coastal Habitat, and Seawilding (CROMACH).
[View the presentation.](#) Key points:

- CROMACH is a voluntary association based at Loch Craignish, Argyll. Seawilding is a spin off, set up as a charity to apply for grant funding for native oyster and seagrass restoration.
- Seawilding's ways of working, and objectives, are: Community-led; Be operational: do it rather than talk about it; Develop low cost methodologies/resources to roll out native oyster restoration/seagrass restoration at scale to other coastal communities; Restore marine biodiversity in Scottish sea-lochs and inshore waters; Empower communities to be active stakeholders in management of inshore waters.
- Seawilding and CROMACH produced a monitoring guide in 2021 and trained 60 volunteers in baseline monitoring, coastal biodiversity surveying and oyster monitoring at Loch Craignish, Knoydart, Lochaline and Loch Melfort.
- They aim to put in 1 million native oysters by 2025, grown using the innovative oyster hoisters hanging from pontoons, and then released onto appropriate seabed habitat at 100/m2.

- They have also begun work on seagrass restoration, a partnership between Seawilding, Project Seagrass and Scottish Association for Marine Sciences (SAMS), funded by Nature Scot. The aim is to plant 0.5 hectare in Autumn 2021.
- CROMACH are keen to look into the potential of seeking a Demonstration & Research Marine Protected Area (DR MPA) designation for the loch.

Edinburgh Shoreline

Karen Chambers and Leonie Alexander, Edinburgh Shoreline. [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- Edinburgh Shoreline arose from the Edinburgh Shoreline project, which started in 2017 in collaboration with RBGE, and took an education and outreach focus, including videos and oral histories and interpretation boards along the coast.
- Edinburgh Shoreline joined CCN in 2020 and received a small grant to support their Forthline project – capturing local perceptions of coast and drawing on squares of calico, which were then displayed in a range of community exhibitions.
- Edinburgh Shoreline are a partner in the new Restoration Forth initiative, a three-year partnership project led by WWF to restore oysters and seagrass to the Firth of Forth, alongside communities, with local hubs set up to support engagement and education.

COAST

Jenny Crockett, Outreach & Comms Manager, Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST). [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- COAST have undergone a lot of change over the last few years, now with 6 staff (4 FTE employees), a new chairperson (one of 9 trustees) and 6 Community Advisory Panel members. COAST focus on three streams of work: Marine, Outreach & Operations.
- Over the last three years, they've continued an array of research in the Lamlash Bay NTZ and the South Arran MPA. With their varying range of restrictions on fishing activities these areas provide an amazing living laboratory to study seabed recovery. Decade of results were published, in a peer-reviewed paper, led by Bryce Stewart, in 2020. Results from the NTZ should increase in size and density of scallops, and numbers, size and egg production of lobster.
- COAST remain actively involved with Seasearch. They have Remote Underwater Survey equipment – ROV's & drop-down pole camera with live feed- and are learning methods from the Community-led Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Handbook. This enables access to areas divers cannot & a wider range of individuals to participate.

- Arran's flumeshell reef was discovered in 2020, a 10,000m² fragile and vulnerable priority marine feature, which is protected from being within the South Arran MPA, but highlights the gaps in our knowledge of where priority features exist.
- All of this work, the community action, research – and of course outreach and education – is now delivered from a central hub - the COAST Discovery Centre. Education and Outreach is vital to inspire people to protect what they cannot see, and the Discovery Centre provides a space where people can come to find out the COAST story, learn how to become active marine conservationists themselves, and engage with creatures from Arran's waters with marine life tanks.
- If COAST has learned anything in the last quarter century, it is that communities in action have real power to effect change.

FAIRLIE COASTAL TRUST

David Nairn, Fairlie Coastal Trust and Clyde Porpoise CIC. [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- What is Fairlie Coastal? Fairlie Community Council, Friends of Firth of Clyde, Clyde Porpoise and members from the Organic Garden, The Church, Community Association, Sailing Cub. FCT get tasked with environmental projects from the Community Council, e.g. to go and collect the data to try and support and inform decision making. We have formed an Association of Clyde Coastal Community Councils (CCCC) to work consensually and cooperatively with our neighbours. It was formed as a necessity.
- In 2020/21 Fairlie became the local delivery partner for the Clyde site of the Wild Oysters Project and are managing two local oyster nurseries.
- In response to the fish farm industry claim that they had turned off all of their acoustic deterrent devices (ADDs) in 2021, Fairlie initiated #ADDWatch - collecting acoustic data around the Clyde which was reported as a wildlife crime to the police.



David Nairn, Fairlie Coastal Trust, image: Graham Richardson

SEALIFE ADVENTURES

David Ainsley and Jean Ainsley, Sealife Adventures. Key points:

- ADDs are used to deter seals from fish farms, but there is also evidence of disturbance and damage to cetaceans. Solutions exist: double nets, stronger nets instead of nylon, but industry doesn't currently see the need to retrofit. 23% of the West coast porpoise SAC would be filled with sound at a level which causes temporary hearing damage with the current level of ADD use. 27 papers say that ADDs disturb cetaceans, Marine Scotland is not willing to engage or enforce this. The US stopped import of Scottish salmon until there was no harm to cetaceans and this geared MS into action.
- Farms can apply for EPS licenses which would permit ADDs under certain conditions - including the availability of satisfactory alternatives - which there are!
- Sealife Adventures have already taken a claim to the European Commission and are now preparing a representation to the new Environmental Standards Scotland (ESS). It would be ideal to take forward the case as CCN rather than as individual organisations, to raise the profile of CCN. The law is clear, there is evidence, but MS has not acted – and Sealife Adventures expect that MS will want to push new generation ADDs.

FRIENDS OF LOCH HOURN

Melanie Watt, Friends of Loch Hourn. *Note that, due to travel disruption, Melanie was unable to deliver the presentation in person on the day, but has made the file available to share here.* [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- Friends of Loch Hourn are a recent CCN member, joining in January 2021 and this is their first Gartmore event. FoLH are working on a new website (<https://www.friendsoflochhourn.org.uk/>) to engage their community and support others to respond to the Mowi planning application for a new site in the loch. They have also been working to produce sea lice modelling for the loch, which will provide evidence missing from the planning process, to inform the community in responding to the Mowi application.
- FoLH are also keen undertake oyster restoration and to research declines in blue mussel beds within the loch.



Friends of Loch Hourn Presentation image: Rick Rohde

SOUTH SKYE SEAS INITIATIVE

Eileen Armstrong and James Merryweather, South Skye Seas initiative (SSSi). [View the presentation](#) (first part). Key points:

- SSSI is a community-based environmental project working towards a protected and healthy marine environment within the South Skye sea lochs. SSSI seeks to tackle the absence of

adequate protection for marine biodiversity in and around Lochs Eishort, Slapin and Scavaig and the ongoing threat of ecologically unsustainable commercial development.

- SSSI have been conducting surveys of *Zostera marina* (seagrass/eelgrass), a priority marine feature, using an ROV to assess seagrass coverage. Despite having to creatively surmount issues with entanglement, the ROV allowed a much larger seagrass area to be discovered than was previously recorded.
- The data has been uploaded to the National Biodiversity Network Atlas and Seagrass Spotter, and in collaboration with the NatureScot/FFI marine biodiversity monitoring project.

SCOTTISH SALMON THINK-TANK

James Merryweather, Scottish Salmon Think-tank (SSSi). [View the presentation](#) (second part). Key points:

- Community aquaponics frequently popped up: aquaculture and hydroponics.
- The issues with salmon farming on the West coast of Scotland are well known. Many of the issues related to open net salmon farming could be removed by moving to closed containment on land in tanks with recirculating systems. There are British companies doing this: e.g. Bioaqua.
- There are lots of resources on the [Auchtertyre Academy](#) You Tube channel, available to share with CCN members and their networks.

SCOTTISH CREEL FISHERMEN'S FEDERATION

Bally Philp, Outreach Officer, Scottish Creel Fishermen's Association (SCFF). [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- Carbon is important, but biodiversity should be the focus. data shows a huge decline in demersal fish stocks previously caught on the w coast of Scotland, and majority are commercially extinct. A decline in demersal fish results in an increase in nephrops. There have also been recent declines in blue mussel beds esp. in the Moray Firth.
- The seabed is an important carbon sequestering environment, but also important for maintenance of wider biodiversity, and lack of breeding and nursery habitat contributes to fish declines. There is very little of the inshore waters that were previously protected that is not now targeted by mobile gear.
- SCFF runs big knowledge dissemination and awareness raising campaigns and is aspiring to replicate the Lyme Bay model, low impact fisheries pilot. A 3mile limit or something akin to this would afford great protection.

- The PMF review has been planned for a number of years... SCFF call for a collective CCN call to consider pre-trawling baselines in the review rather than the current situation.



Bally Philp, SCFF image: Rebecca Plant/FFI

FAIR ISLE MARINE ENVIRONMENT & TOURISM INITIATIVE

Martha Thomson, Project officer - Fair Isle Demonstration and Research Marine Protected Area. *Note that, due to travel disruption, Martha was unable to deliver the presentation in person on the day, but has made the file available to share here.* [View the presentation](#). Key points:

- Martha Thomson took on the role of Project Officer in late 2020, employed via NatureScot and working directly to the DR MPA.
- Martha's role is focused on initiating a community-led partnership approach, to work with the community and wider stakeholders to develop and deliver a sustainable and dynamic research and project plan. During 2021 Martha will be continuing to gather the views and aspirations of the Fair Isle community and wider stakeholders, facilitating dialogue and understanding between the two, to build a consensus and vision for the project.

- Together, they will develop a research and project plan that not only increases understanding on what's going on in the marine environment, but also demonstrates the effectiveness of a community-led initiative.
- The Fair Isle Primary School completed their first intertidal survey using the equipment funded by the Community Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Equipment Fund in Summer 2021. The equipment funded by the NatureScot, Fauna and Flora International and William Grant Foundation Community Equipment Fund will continue to encourage these young ones to get involved in nature conservation and encourage them to safeguard their wildlife.



Gartmore discussion, image: Graham Richardson

2.4. Thematic Talks

For this session, delegates heard detailed presentations on four key themes, delivered by relevant experts with a Q&A session at the end of each.

SEPA: One Planet Prosperity: Harder Than It Sounds!

Terry A'Hearn, CEO SEPA. [Read a pdf version of the presentation.](#)

Key points:

- By the next Gartmore, Terry would like to see that we can be stronger partners, working together on a range of things. CCN rates very highly in terms of the important relationships that SEPA need to prioritise and build.
- The cyber-attack and Covid has restricted the amount of monitoring work SEPA can do, and there is a need to build forward with new systems that allow them to do their job better. We need to get everyone to comply fully with all standards, and encourage them to go beyond this - SEPA's ambition is to become the first phase 2 EPA in the world. To date most success has been at the individual scale of industry/farm/company but now it is acknowledged that the system needs to change, rather than promote change at the level of individual businesses.
- Fish farming: There is a mandate that they meet discharge standards, where you put it and how you run it are the 2 big issues with fish farms. SEPA cannot require containment. Parliament has made the rules, SEPA apply them.
- The finfish advisory panel exists, including CCN, SFPO, NatureScot, Marine Scotland, Env LINK, Waitrose, M&S and others.
- SEPA needs to have much lower tolerance for non-compliance - if sites systematically fail SEPA needs to look at more serious penalties, variable financial penalties came in before Christmas up to GBP 40k.

James Mackenzie: Being heard by the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government

James Mackenzie, Media and Public Affairs Consultant.

Key points:

- A deep-rooted community organisation is really powerful to government, but it does need to be translated into action from politicians. Focus when you approach government. Pick one key policy ask with as much supportive evidence as possible.
- Develop a strategy. while you develop this, it might help you refine your focus. Are there others on your side? Do you have an ally's in Parliament? Who are you up against? What is the timeline? Raise awareness and share detailed knowledge.
- Hold politicians to account on things they've said they would do, e.g. in their manifesto or Programme for Government, Bute House Agreement.
- Cultivate relationships with local journalists.
- It is relatively easy to get a lunchtime briefing or possibly an evening reception at Parliament. 6-8 MSPs would be a good turnout. Consider something led by FFI/CCN with Abi as the figurehead, and 2-3 CCN members get 3 mins to hopefully share the same message/CTA. This can be very powerful.

Dr Kyla Orr: Sustainable Community Enterprises in the marine environment

Dr Kyla Orr, Marine Scientist and Consultant, Co-founder of Kelp Crofting. [Read a pdf version of the presentation.](#)

Key points:

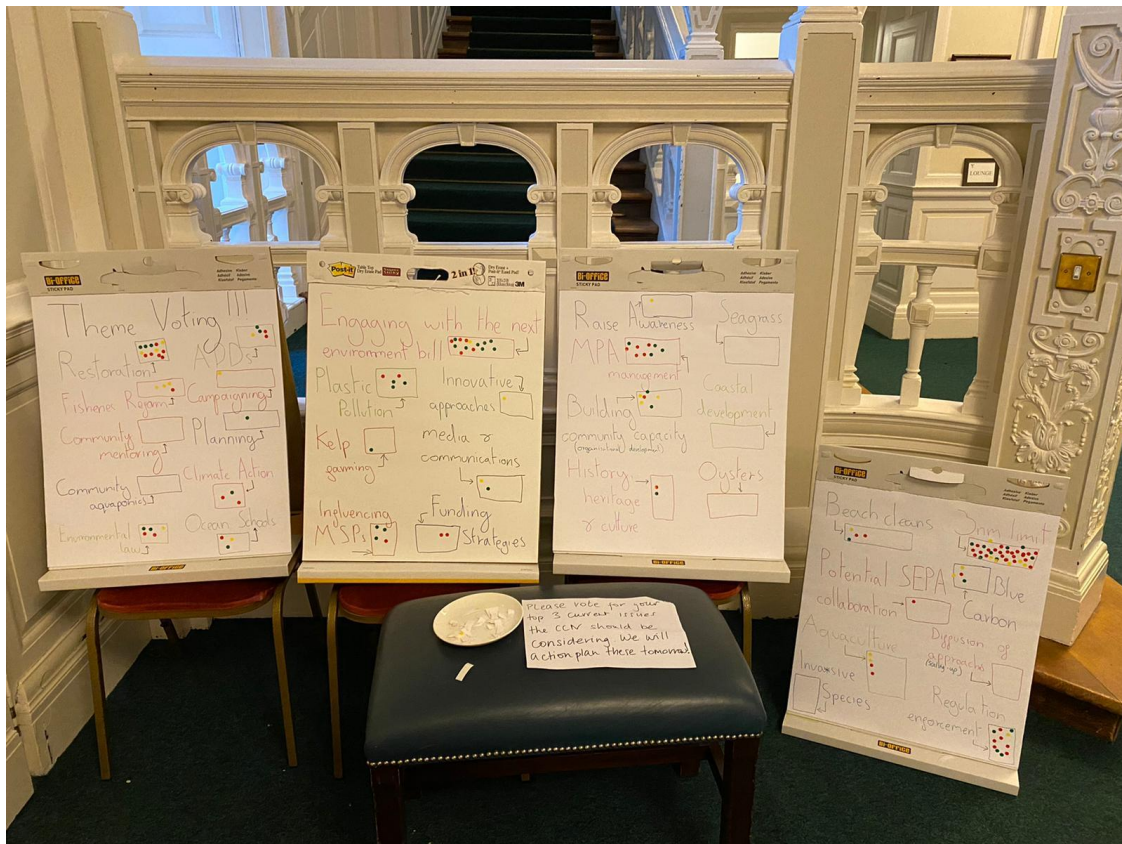
- Kelp farming as a solution to diversify rural employment, established June 2020, licence granted Feb 2021.
- Restorative aquaculture - absorbs CO₂, Nitrogen and Phosphorous. Croft level industry - small to medium scale with low impact.
- A PhD project with University of Stirling assessing efficiencies started in Oct 2020 - long lines at sea 2-3 m below the surface, lines are seeded in October and then harvested around May. Clean, golden fronds until end of May and then after that all sorts of other biodiversity settles and it can no longer be fed into the food supply chain. Harvested into net bags in the water, towed to shore and then lifted out and straight into food grade containers. All sold to Oceania for their R&D work.
- Before setting up a farmer ask yourself: how will i actually process and sell the kelp. Start with the product and market first and then work backwards. The biggest challenge is processing. KelpCrofting is developing an eco-dryer (heat source pump/solar) as a containerised unit which could then be scaled up to other remote communities.
- In Scotland we need demand to match supply if the industry is to survive.
- The Scottish government has come out with a statement on sustainable size of operation: 50 lines of 100 m.

NatureScot: Marine & coastal habitat enhancement in Scotland

Dr Sarah Cunningham and Sarah Brown, NatureScot. [Read a pdf version of the presentation.](#)

Key points:

- NatureScot have a hierarchy of approaches: protect, promote recovery, active restoration.
- NatureScot are considering a strategic framework for restoration projects, this is a rapidly expanding area of work and the specific Scottish guidance and licensing can be confusing.
- [Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund](#) (SMEEF) is a new long-term fund, enabling investment in tangible, effective marine and coastal restoration projects. SMEEF is aiming to bring in private donations from industry and is aiming to launch criteria in winter 21/22 with fund open for applications in spring 2022. It is aiming for 300-400k in year 1 for disbursement.
- The main fund - Recovery, Restoration and Enhancement (practical on the ground projects), up to 250k over three years. Considering a phase 2 where there is a clear and justified ongoing need.



Gartmore theme voting, image: Rebecca Plant/FFI

2.5 Information Gathering

Rewilding

During the weekend, we posed the question “What does ‘rewilding’ mean to you?” and combined the written responses.



Wordcloud: Responses to “What does ‘rewilding’ mean to you?” at Gartmore 3

Themes and Horizon Scanning

During the course of the weekend, the FFI team recorded the themes arising from each of the sessions. At the end of the Saturday session, these lists were displayed in the main foyer and delegates were asked to vote for their top three. There was another board on which delegates were asked to note any future emerging themes they could think of (horizon scanning). The top themes (and number of votes) were:

- Three nm limit (25)
- Engaging with the Environment Bill (14)
- Restoration (12)
- Regulation Enforcement (11)
- MPA management (9)
- Building community capacity (6)
- ADDs (5)
- Environmental Law (5)
- Plastic pollution (5)
- Influencing MSPs (4)
- Aquaculture/Salmon Farming (4)
- Blue Carbon (4)
- Beach cleans (4)

- Fisheries reform (4)
- Ocean schools (3)
- Climate action (3)

Future Emerging Themes:

- Open democracy
- Revolving doors
- Educate politicians
- Landowners and environment agencies (law changes)
- Reform Marine Scotland
- Use the media
- More East coast champions/building East coast communities
- Marketing the environment



Gartmore group, image: Graham Richardson

3. Action Planning Break-out Sessions

These sessions were planned to meet the desire of CCN members to focus on action planning for the network, and for FFI to ground truth how CCN members would like to see the network moving forward, and check how CCN's progress will (or will not) meet the needs and aspirations of members.

Delegates were split into small groups of 7 or 8 and the top themes, as per the delegate voting exercise, were distributed amongst the break-out groups, with each group working on two themes.

Groups were asked the following set questions:

1. What is CCN currently doing collaboratively on this topic?
2. What should CCN be doing on this topic?
3. What are the end goals of this action?
4. What does CCN need to reach these goals?

Summary of responses

The FFI team analysed the responses to the questions asked in the break-out discussions and reported the top key points back to the assembled delegates. Please note that this is a condensed version of responses that has been synthesised for reporting and does not represent all of the points made – the full body of responses is available on request.

Group 1: Three-mile limit

- More definition to CCN's 'Seabed Reform Group' needed – make it easier to understand.
- CCN Coordinator helping to share communication and strategy across members – big, aligned, political, strategy with partners.
- Promote and engage in messages around "localised management" of Community-Based Organisations and localised benefit.

Group 1: MPA Management

- MPAs and PMFs **are** fisheries management – we need an integrated approach with localised audits.
- Need someone to coordinate the groups/orgs behind the scenes – with strategy to bring about results from what already exists – so that a limit essentially becomes the default.
- Connecting MPAs to the everyday person – CCN doing lots of outreach.

Group 2: Restoration

- CCN need to directly engage with all political parties.
- CCN should become more visible to a wider audience.
- Campaign coordination is needed.

Group 2: Aquaculture

- Create a register of known experts – how can we make sure they are paid for their time?
- More local Project Officers to drive action.
- Seek a high-profile ambassador for CCN.

Group 3: MPA Management

- Need big picture vision of how 3-mile limit, enforcement and MPAs all fit together to clarify CCN ask (and promote an effective and scientifically sound solution) – or focus on a call to ban bottom trawling/dredging.
- CCN has come so far – now have a compelling story to tell in the media. Can FFI help gain attention for CCN with opportunity to profile stories from individual groups (like the COAST story in the Times) – can we help get their voices heard?
- Skills audit across CCN – know who has what skills.
- Local project officers/marine rangers (but not for everyone) and sub-hubs where regional communities can share resources and skills.

Group 3: Marine Scotland Reform

- Research to better understand the current workings (and failings) of agencies – Marine Scotland, SEPA & NatureScot – as many people don't understand the system.
- Develop clear proposals to take to Minister of what we understand Marine Scotland is for in a Green Economy framing, with indications of steps needed towards that.
- Develop clear roadmap and asks for government – articulate what we do and don't want to see – including IFG restructure.
- Build relationship with SPICE – position CCN as a resource to them.

Group 4: Environment Bill

- CCN should engage with a more strategic head on, currently it feels like we are constantly firefighting issues, and we need to engage more strategically on this for long term impact.
- CCN needs an MSP contact tracking google doc with associated document repository to store letters and MS responses; a focused sub group to drive this engagement forwards, led by a dedicated coordinator (funded), with existing expertise recognised, and additional/missing expertise identified; and communicate and collaborate with other groups with similar goals in partnership.
- Fundraise for a dedicated support role, who could benefit from additional support from existing CCN members and friends. Consider buddying the role up with relevant CCN members to build their capacity over the long term.
- Clarity on the CCN members and the key asks of each. Campaign mapping for each - what are their key asks and what other asks would they be keen to support. This is especially important for newer members and as CCN continue to grow.

Group 4: Regulation Enforcement

- Create a central database of illegal incidences with associated document repository for all communications with MS. Consider a google form for new reporting that feeds directly into a google doc.
- Produce a collective letter with evidence and case studies and a small list of asks. CCN coordinator could draft and circulate a letter template for members to adapt and update with the local context.
- Pick up on the AIS roll out which was promised in 2015.
- Consider working with a Scottish figurehead/celebrity, but ensure CCN have the capacity to build and maintain this relationship.

Group 5: ADDs

- Network experts on ADDs to share summaries of key information across the network (i.e., making resources and papers accessible). All network members to go to MSPs and ensure there is consistency in the information shared with each MSPs (i.e., network experts to write template summaries and emails for network members to share with their local MSPs).
- Alignment of all areas of CCN work to contribute to building of cases for stronger enforcement and accountability by Marine Scotland: Review the CCN aims and Vision; Create a list of 'hot topics' or 'priorities', and resources to communicate these (fact summaries/email templates).
- More knowledge/skills sub-groups; i.e., groups containing people who have expertise or are working on a particular topic/issue (e.g., Aquaculture). Potential broader topics might not need a sub-group, but CCN could complete a skills and knowledge survey across the network to then have some focus points for interest/experience/knowledge.

Group 5: Plastics/Marine litter

- Goal: the establishment of a clear plastics project with the support of CCN/FFI and relevant partners and communities.
- CCN should align surveys across the network - monitoring baseline beach examples, and development of guidance on monitoring, bearing in mind policy. There is need for a risk assessment and sharing of data and information openly.
- CCN should have a plastics sub-group with "experts" on plastics (4-5 individuals), who will lead the plastics work and ensure there's alignment across the CCN, and produce a strategy.
- Relationship building with Marine Conservation Society, Gael Force, Marine Scotland.

Group 6: Regulation Enforcement

- CCN need support to enable and coordinate engagement with MSPs & government agencies on enforcement (particularly Marine Scotland Compliance).
- Keep a database of illegal activity & collation of evidence into reports for government on a rolling basis. Encourage transparency & keep a record of CCN group FOIs.

- Support to set up private meetings with Government agencies & MSPs e.g. Marine Scotland, Scotland Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Scotland Compliance & Audit Scotland.
- Support on campaigning and social media (power of doing this as a Network!).

Group 6: Environment Bill

- CCN should be campaigning for inclusion of key issues for CCN and fostering collaboration with experts and other NGOs.
- Set up of a sub-group on the Environment Bill to facilitate a consultation process (including expert webinars to advise on approach).
- Creation of a wish-list for CCN members for topics of inclusion – to then be evaluated against what is appropriate for inclusion in the bill based on its focuses.
- Assistance coordinating collaboration with other NGOs and coordinating meetings with MSPs & templates for members to engage.



Gartmore presentation, image: Danielle Stern/FFI

4. Conclusions and Feedback

- Attendance was good, with 14 of (at the time of the event) 18 CCN member groups represented, alongside FFI, 'Friends of CCN', non-CCN community groups and reps from NatureScot and SEPA. Nine communities presented updates on their work over the last two years, alongside CCN friends Sealife Adventures and Scottish Salmon Think-tank. Delegates reported valuing the opportunity to see new and old faces, to have constructive discussions, and the social interaction with other members and partners, following the long delay in holding an event, due to the pandemic.
- It was valuable to reflect on the progress that CCN, and its constituent members, have made over the last five years – membership has grown from 8 to 18, joint projects initiated and £30,000 of Community Support Fund grants given. CCN has increased the range of issues it is active on, has begun to put in place membership processes and governance structures, and FFI have secured funds to recruit a dedicated CCN Coordinator in 2022. There are many upcoming opportunities for CCN to continue to engage with decision-makers, partners and each other on the issues that concern them most.
- CCN members have a variety of views on the definition of the term "rewilding", with 'biodiversity' the most quoted word, and 'protection' and 'restoration' featuring with equal prominence. 'People' or 're-peopling' also featured strongly.
- The top themes, voted for by delegates, and based on the overall themes arising from the sessions over the weekend were: Three nautical mile limit, Engaging with the Environment Bill, Restoration, Regulation Enforcement and MPA management.
- The action-planning breakouts identified a range of actions for CCN to take forward, and these broadly fall into the categories of: strategy and vision, coordination, political engagement, media attention, relationship building and harnessing expert knowledge. The identified needs broadly fall under: actions for the Coordinator, more local capacity (e.g. Project Officers or hubs), fundraising for additional focused roles, research and a skills audit.

Feedback

Delegate feedback was positive, noting that many enjoyed the event and the opportunity to meet together in-person after such a long time. The venue was commended, as were the FFI staff and the input from community group representatives. Some attendees commented that the Saturday session was too long, with too many presentations and suggested to cut down on the presentations by looking at other methods of participation: film, discussions, games etc. Other suggestions included sending out briefings beforehand on some of the main topics, so everyone is informed, to facilitate people getting to know each other and sparking conversations (e.g. ice-breakers), to include more East Coast communities, to invite more regulators and more focus on the structure of CCN (e.g. subgroups, members, member group demographics).

5. Next Steps and Action Points

CCN Actions:

- An inshore limit/three-mile limit: CCN to continue to engage with the Our Seas Coalition through the membership of many individual CCN members, and the attendance of CCN members and FFI staff at the weekly campaign calls.
- CCN to continue to engage politically, based on the agreed strategy and aims, with the support of the CCN Coordinator.
- The CCN aquaculture group to discuss seeking a high-profile ambassador for CCN's aquaculture work, supported by the CCN Coordinator.
- CCN to build further relationships of value – SPiCE, MSPs, additional partners, as identified by CCN members.
- The CCN Coordinator to support CCN in creating an MSP contact tracking google doc with associated document repository to store letters and responses.
- CCN, supported by the CCN Coordinator, to consider ways to collect information and community experiences related to illegal incursions into MPAs and enforcement, and ways in which to effectively make use of these (e.g. a collective letter with evidence and case studies, a small list of asks, template for updating with local context, seeking meetings).
- The CCN Coordinator to create a list of 'hot topics' or 'priorities', and resources to communicate these (fact summaries/email templates).
- CCN to specifically engage with the upcoming Environment Bill through the following potential actions: convene a focused sub-group - potentially led by a dedicated resource (funded), ensure input from relevant experts and create a communication and partnership strategy.
- The CCN Coordinator to consult members on any interest in convening a plastics/marine litter sub-group and the potential to take forward action on this theme.
- The CCN Coordinator to support CCN to set up private meetings with Government agencies & MSPs e.g. Marine Scotland, Scotland Environmental Protection Agency, Marine Scotland Compliance & Audit Scotland.
- The CCN Coordinator to support CCN and individual member groups to engage with key consultation processes through creating templates, webinars, sharing information and resources and linking with relevant experts and partners.

FFI (and joint FFI-CCN) Actions:

- FFI to investigate opportunities for research to better understand the current workings (and failings) of the marine management agencies – Marine Scotland, SEPA & NatureScot – to inform CCN members, and direct CCN joint action more efficiently.
- FFI and CCN to look at the current sub-group structure and investigate ways to develop and define the aims of each group.
- FFI and CCN to review and develop the CCN vision and aims, in consultation with all members.

- FFI to support CCN in a forward planning, or strategy, process, which complements the strategies of individual members groups, and provides a plan of action for directing CCN efforts.
- FFI and CCN to create a register of known experts within the network, through a skills audit process, and investigate the potential for funds to cover their time.
- Alongside these processes, FFI to support campaign mapping of CCN members - what are their key asks and what other asks would they be keen to support? This will ensure greater clarity for current and new members, and integrate with CCN's vision and strategy process, as well as the skills audit.
- FFI and CCN to investigate the potential for more locally-employed Project Officers, based with member organisations, and any potential funding options.
- The CCN Coordinator to support increased visibility for the network, in consultation with members, and FFI to investigate opportunities to gain attention for CCN through profile stories from individual groups (like the COAST story in the Times).
- FFI to engage with the upcoming Environment Bill with a focus on community representation within the Act.
- FFI and the CCN Coordinator to actively look at building overall CCN membership, including increased representation on the East coast.
- FFI to continue to support CCN to move forward, with a defined independent governance structure for CCN, including a detailed forward plan, approved by members.
- FFI to continue to manage the Community Support Fund for the use of CCN members, and additional communities.

6. Follow up from Gartmore 3, May 2018

Gartmore 2018 – Identified Actions	Progress	Evidence
FFI to continue to identify isolated community groups active on relevant issues which could benefit from the network, as well as relevant Associated Organisations and Supporters.	Ongoing	Membership has increased from 12 to 18 (Oct 2021) with ongoing discussions with interested groups. 'Friends of CCN' have increased from 10 to 21.
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).	Ongoing	Meetings with MSPs, regulator CEOs and other agencies. Shared consultation responses, joint consultation responses. The Community-led Monitoring Project and Argyll Hope Spot.
In consultation with Community Groups, FFI to develop detailed options for the	Ongoing	FFI research into network models and options for CCN.

onward development of the Coastal Communities Network - helping to bring it into a sustainable and independent network.		Recruiting of the CCN Coordinator in 2021/2022. Convening of the CCN Advisory Group in 2021.
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.	Completed	Facebook group launched in 2018. Currently has 134 members.
FFI will continue to maintain the Coastal Communities Network website as a resource base – and produce newsletters, blogs, updates and other relevant resources.	Completed	FFI continues to maintain the CCN website, produce monthly e-newsletters, weekly member updates, virtual sessions and other relevant resources. The CCN Coordinator will be updating and refreshing the website in early 2022.
Planning and organisation for a third coastal communities' workshop "Gartmore 3" to take place during 2020.	Completed	Gartmore 3 held in October 2021 (delayed from March 2020). Gartmore 4 booking in progress for 2023.
<p><i>What activities would a network be doing in 5 years' time?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. 	Completed and Ongoing	<p>Supporting peer-to-peer learning and input from experts, via the website, social media, email, visits, webinars, exchanges.</p> <p>Continuing to work with the Fair Isle DR MPA, supporting additional communities interested in DR MPA designation.</p> <p>The Community Support Fund has supported restoration initiatives. Many policy and advocacy approaches, meetings, letters, consultations.</p> <p>The Community-led Monitoring Project and equipment grants, Community Support Fund grants, FFI hosting students and interns.</p>



Gartmore delegates, image: Rebecca Plant/FFI

Appendix.1. Delegate List

	Name	Group/Organisation
1	Abigail Entwistle	Fauna & Flora International
2	Alasdair Firth	CAOLAS
3	Alex Higgs	Berwickshire Marine Reserve
4	Allison Jackson	Carna Conservation Initiative
5	Andrew Binnie	COAST
6	Andy Jackson	CAOLAS/Carna Conservation Initiative
7	Annabel Lawrence	CAOLAS
8	Anne Sinnott*	Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee
9	Bally Philp	SCFF
10	Bryce Stewart	University of York
11	Caroline Younger	CROMACH
12	Charles Millar	SIFT
14	Danielle Stern	Fauna & Flora International
15	Danny Renton	CROMACH
16	David Ainsley	Sealife Adventures
17	David Bailey	University of Glasgow
18	David Nairn	Fairlie Coastal Trust
20	Eileen Armstrong	South Skye Seas initiative
21	Eric Holden	Ocean Interface/Seawilding
22	Fee Zanke	CAOLAS
19	Gavin Eisler	Fairlie Coastal Trust / Fairlie Community Council Councillor / 4C
23	Graham Murray	Fairlie Coastal Trust
24	Graham Richardson	SeaGazing podcast
25	Howard Wood	COAST
26	Hugh Maclellan	Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee
27	Ian Dobb	Skye Communities for Natural Heritage
28	Jack Murphy	Fauna & Flora International
29	Jackie Pearson	Fairlie Coastal Trust / Friends of the Firth of Clyde
30	James MacKenzie	Speaker
31	James Merryweather	South Skye Seas initiative/ SST-t
32	Jamie MacAulay	Fairlie Coastal Trust / Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU)
33	Janet Marshall	Clean Coast Outer Hebrides
34	Jean Ainsley	Sealife Adventures
35	Jenny Crockett	COAST
36	Jess Tait	Berwickshire Marine Reserve
37	Julien Moreau	Clean Coast Outer Hebrides/ Plastic@Bay
38	Karen Bates	Wardie Bay Beachwatch
39	Karen Chambers	Edinburgh Shoreline

40	Katherine Knight	Ocean Interface/Seawilding
41	Kerri Whiteside	Fauna & Flora International
42	Kyla Orr	Speaker
43	Laura Curtis-Moss	Individual/ Wardie Bay Beachwatch
44	Leonie Alexander	Edinburgh Shoreline
45	Martha Thomson	Fair Isle Marine Research Organisation
46	Melanie Watt*	Friends of Loch Hourn
47	Nick Underdown	Open Seas
48	Owen McGrath	NatureScot
49	Paul Sinnott*	Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee
13	Pauline Massey	HWDT
50	Peter Nichols	Fairlie Coastal Trust
51	Rebecca Plant	Fauna & Flora International
52	Richard Lilley	Project Seagrass
53	Richard Luxmoore	Friends of the Sound of Jura
54	Sally McNaught	Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation (HIEF)
55	Sara Nason	Sea Change Wester Ross
56	Sarah Brown	NatureScot
57	Sarah Cunningham	Nature Scot
58	Sophie Benbow	Fauna & Flora International
59	Susanne Ramacher-Schmitz	Laid
60	Terry A'Hearn	SEPA
61	Texa Sim	CAOLAS

* Unable to attend in person

Appendix.2. Workshop Agenda

Coastal Communities Network Workshop (Gartmore 3) Friday 29th – Sunday 31st October 2021 Gartmore House, Stirlingshire

Friday 29th October

- 16:00 – 18:00 Arrival (refreshments available from 17:00)
- 18:00 – 18:30 Welcome from the team
The history of CCN - Kerri Whiteside (FFI)
Hopes for the weekend: write your thoughts on the wall and catch up with others

18:30 – 19:30	Space for members to convene meetings for a particular topic or action <i>Aquaculture - Convened by James Merryweather</i> <i>ADDs and Acoustic Monitoring – Convened by David Nairn</i>
19:30 – 20:30	<i>Dinner (bar available from 7pm)</i>
20:30	Move to the bar

Saturday 30th October

08:00 – 09:00	<i>Breakfast</i>
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome – Howard Wood, Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST)
09:15 – 10:15	CCN group updates:
09:15	Berwickshire Marine Reserve
09:25	CAOLAS
09:35	CROMACH
09:45	Edinburgh Shoreline
09:55	COAST
10:15 – 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 – 11:45	CCN group updates:
10:45	Fairlie Coastal Trust
10:55	Sealife Adventures
11:05	Friends of Loch Hourn
11:15	South Skye Seas initiative
11:25	Scottish Salmon Think-tank
11:35	Fair Isle
11:45 – 12:00	Group Photo (Outside)
12:00 – 13:00	<i>Lunch</i>
13:00 – 13:50	Thematic talk 1: One Planet Prosperity: Harder Than It Sounds! Terry A’Hearn (SEPA)
13:50 – 14:40	Thematic talk 2: Being heard by the Scottish Parliament and the Scottish Government James Mackenzie (Media and Public Affairs Consultant)
14:40 – 15:10	<i>Tea and cake break</i>
15:10 – 16:00	Thematic talk 3: Sustainable Community Enterprises in the marine environment



Dr Kyla Orr (Marine Scientist and
Consultant, Co-founder of Kelp Crofting)




16:00 – 16:50	Thematic talk 4: Marine & coastal habitat enhancement in Scotland Dr Sarah Cunningham and Sarah Brown (NatureScot)
16:50 – 18:00	<i>Break/Walk</i>
18:00 – 19:00	Evening session - Wine reception and film screenings from CCN and Friends
19:00 – 20:00	<i>Dinner</i>
20:00	Move to the bar

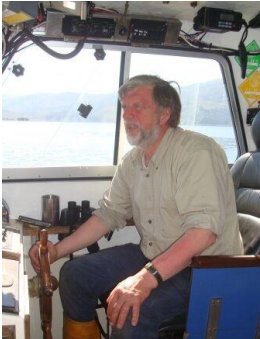

Sunday 31st October



08:30 – 09:30	<i>Breakfast</i>
09:30 – 10:45	<u>Action Planning Breakout Session 1</u> <i>Focusing on key current and future themes/issues:</i> <i>What is CCN currently doing collaboratively on this?</i> <i>What should CCN be doing on this?</i> <i>What are the end goals of this action?</i> <i>What does CCN need to reach these goals?</i>
10:45 – 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:15 – 12:30	<u>Action Planning Breakout Session 2</u> <i>Focusing on key current and future themes/issues:</i> <i>What is CCN currently doing collaboratively on this?</i> <i>What should CCN be doing on this?</i> <i>What are the end goals of this action?</i> <i>Do we need to add anything to CCN to also deliver these goals?</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Wrap up and feedback
13:00 – 14:00	<i>Lunch and departure</i>




Appendix.3. Delegate Profiles




Name	Profile
Abigail Entwistle 	<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>
Alasdair Firth 	<p>Alasdair Firth is a consultant ecologist from Drimnin in Morvern specialising in native woodlands and upland habitats. He is a sea kayaker and fisherman, fishing from the kayak whenever weather and time permit. He has been involved with CAOLAS since its inception and is keen to broaden the group to include as wide a range of people as possible. His main focus in CAOLAS is on community benefits from sustainable use of the natural environment.</p>



<p>Alex Higgs</p> 	<p>Alex is a Swansea University graduate in Marine Biology and Project Officer at Berwickshire Marine Reserve.</p>
<p>Allison Jackson</p> 	<p>Allison, together with her husband Andy, has been an integral part of running the island of Carna since 2003, and is Director of the Carna Conservation Initiative CIC. Allison, a retired nurse, manages the housekeeping side of Laga Lodge self-catering accommodation and Ardnamurchan Charters at Laga Bay on Loch Sunart, as well as two holiday cottages on the Isle of Carna. Allison and Andy also run conservation and art courses on the Island of Carna itself.</p>
<p>Andrew Binnie</p> 	<p>Andrew is the Director of COAST. Andrew originally joined COAST in 2011 and wrote the proposal for the South Arran Marine Protected Area. He has an MSc in Aquatic Ecosystems Management and a background in community-based natural resource management. He re-joined COAST in 2020 after a spending a couple of years working on environmental projects on Arran and the mainland.</p>



<p>Andy Jackson</p> 	<p>Andy runs Ardnamurchan Charters and has over 20 years of experience in providing wildlife experiences on-board Laurenca. 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>Annabel Lawrence</p> 	<p>Annabel is a maritime archaeologist. She trained as a commercial diver and joined the Archaeological Diving Unit (ADU) as a professional maritime archaeologist in 1995. From 2005-2015 Annabel established the Lochaline Dive Centre as a top destination for recreational diving. The Centre provides in depth interpretation of the shipwrecks in the Sound of Mull using sonar and archaeological techniques. Annabel was nominated in the Institute of Directors, Female Director of the Year 2013. She also instigated the SMARTdiving.co.uk project which proposes to sink a decommissioned British Naval Destroyer in the Sound of Mull, West Coast of Scotland to create the first artificial reef from a decommissioned Naval vessel in Scotland, and only the second in Europe. Annabel has been involved in the stewardship of the maritime historic assets in the Sound of Mull over the past decade. In 2015 she began a project to record the life and habitats associated with wrecks and dive sites in the Sound of Mull with a view to producing a guide for divers, snorkelers and beach explorers.</p>



<p>Anne Sinnott*</p>	<p>Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee member.</p>
<p>Bally Philp</p> 	<p>Bally is a creel fisherman out of Kyleakin, Isle of Skye, and Outreach Officer for the Scottish Creel Fisherman's Federation (SCFF). Bally is a key member of the OurSeas Coalition and appears in the film The Limit, which campaigns for the reinstatement of an inshore limit to help recover habitats and productive, resilient fisheries.</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>




Caroline Younger 	<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>
Charles Millar 	<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>
David Bailey 	<p>Dr David Bailey is a senior lecturer in marine ecology at the University of Glasgow. His main interests are in the biology and conservation of marine fish. He has worked on deep ocean, polar and tropical systems, but since moving to Glasgow in 2007 has worked extensively on coastal environments on the west coast of Scotland. His team have studied the effectiveness of marine protected areas, effects of fishing on fish populations and the role of seabed quality for the success of commercial fish species.</p>



<p>Danielle Stern</p> 	<p>After completing a degree in International Zoology, Danielle worked managing biodiversity monitoring and research expeditions in remote locations around the world. Danielle joined Mwambao in 2018, during which she managed the Mwambao programmes and provided technical assistance for a range of activities. Dani joined FFI in 2021 as Technical Specialist, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning.</p>
<p>Danny Renton</p> 	<p>Danny has a journalist background, working for years as a radio documentary maker for BBC Scotland, and other BBC radio networks, but over the last few decades has been fund-raising, developing, and delivering projects, primarily to do with cultural heritage in Albania where Danny was Director of the Butrint Foundation. This work stretched to Macedonia where Danny worked for the OSCE and to Italy at the archaeological site of Herculaneum.</p> <p>However, Danny has always been drawn back to the sea and particularly to the west coast of Scotland where for generations his family have had a home on the Island of Tiree. Danny was brought up fishing, lobster-potting and sailing, and after taking a MSc in Climate Change in 2011, decided to refocus his work on the environment. Danny is now based on the Craignish peninsula in Argyll, where he has a boat and a bothy, and where he set up www.seawilding.org to work with communities on practical marine habitat restoration.</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 fishfarm 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. David is the local project officer for The Wild Oysters Project Firth of Clyde site.</p>
<p>David Telford</p>	<p>Fairlie Coastal Trust / Fairlie Community Council Councillor / Clyde Coastal Community Council.</p>
<p>Eileen Armstrong</p> 	<p>Eileen moved to Skye in 2004 following a management career in London. Since 2012, when faced with fish farm development in the south Skye sea lochs, her interest turned to marine conservation and after various voluntary roles in the south Skye community, is now mainly focusing on the marine environment supporting community monitoring, outreach and other marine related activities. As a Citizen Scientist she recognises the importance of marine conservation but also wishes to advocate the development of sustainable aquaculture which would provide economic benefit to coastal communities. Eileen is an active member of the South Skye Seas initiative and a Trustee of Skye & Lochalsh Environment Forum.</p>




<p>Eric Holden</p> 	<p>Eric has spent his life on and around the sea. His earliest memories being filled with messing around on the water while growing up on the west coast of Canada on the family sailboat built by his father. For many years he focused on racing, which took him from dinghies and catamarans to thoroughbred ocean racing yachts. During this time obtained a degree in Meteorology, gaining valuable knowledge that allowed him to pursue a career at sea as a specialist navigator and weather router.</p> <p>After over 30 years competing on the water, his passion for the sea has never ceased. Having benefited so much from his years on the water, it is time to give back and help preserve the health of the environment that he shares. Eric has a particular interest in the seabirds that have accompanied him on his travels, as well as diving to explore the unseen underwater world beneath the waves.</p> <p>Eric is one half of Narwhal Expeditions and Ocean Interface, a key member of the NatureScot/FFI Community-led Monitoring Project and a member of Seawilding and CROMACH.</p>
<p>Fee Zanke</p> 	<p>In 2021, professional diving instructor Fee Zanke, and colleagues, reopened the former Lochaline Dive Centre under a new name and branding as Highland Basecamp. Highland Basecamp aims to provide a centre for people to enjoy not just the world-class diving in the waters off Morvern but also other outdoor pursuits such as cycling, kayaking and stand-up paddle boarding.</p> <p>Fee is a member of CAOLAS.</p>
<p>Graham Murray</p>	<p>Fairlie Coastal Trust</p>




<p>Graham Richardson</p> 	<p>Graham is a science communicator, podcaster, filmmaker and performer. Graham works professionally as a science communicator and events developer and does freelance work making videos, writing workshops and recording podcasts. Graham's passion is nature and the environment, and he also has a background in the performing arts. Graham is a host of SeaGazing, a podcast about the Scottish coast and the communities and conservation work taking place along it. Each episode the hosts Nicolette Macleod and Graham Richardson talk to a different guest about their experience of the sea. Many of the episodes have featured CCN members and friends!</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>




Hugh Maclellan 	<p>Hugh is a Master Mariner who works offshore on oil rigs, and the Chairman of the Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee. 20 years ago, Hugh and his neighbour planted 50,000 trees over three crofts in Laid purely to enhance the environment, not for profit and never to be chopped down. Recently Hugh and his son constructed a hydroelectric power scheme which has been shortlisted for an award at the green Energy Awards in Edinburgh in December.</p> <p>They are concerned about the damage being caused to Loch Eriboll by fish farming operations and would like to look at alternatives to fish farming at sea. Hugh is looking forward to discussing the above with other coastal communities.</p>
Ian Dobb 	<p>Ian Dobb retired in 2015 and has spent the last 4 years living at the north end of the Trotternish peninsula on Skye. This is a sparsely populated area that came under attack from proposals for 4 salmon farms along the unspoiled eastern coastline. This turned Ian into a founder and active member of the local movement to protect natural Skye, called Skye Communities for Natural Heritage.</p> <p>Ian had a career in information technology management, retiring from this in 2015, and left London for Skye. Since then he has spent his time renovating a cottage and re-building a black house. He now runs these two cottages as holiday rents when he is not using them, and splits his time between Nottinghamshire and Skye.</p> <p>Ian knew nothing of the horrors of salmon farming 3 years ago but has picked up knowledge along the way. He has now become an active environmentalist and campaigner.</p>
Jack Murphy 	<p>Jack is a Programme Assistant for the Conservation Science & Design team at Fauna & Flora International (FFI). This involves supporting FFI's marine and terrestrial grant giving programmes, including a foray into the history of Scottish trawling.</p> <p>He started out studying Geology and Biology at the University of Bristol and completing a masters in Conservation Science at Imperial, with a project on health and well-being benefits of urban green and blue space, before then undertaking an internship looking at Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing with the Environmental Justice Foundation (EJF). His interests lie in supporting community and local partner-led conservation efforts both at home & across the globe. Jack loves nothing more than being out and about on his bike, clambering halfway up a cliff (or tree), and the celebratory pub trips which follow such endeavours.</p>




Jackie Pearson	<p>Fairlie Coastal Trust / Friends of the Firth of Clyde.</p>
James Mackenzie 	<p>James Mackenzie is a freelance media and public affairs consultant, and is the political lead on Have You Got the Bottle?, the NGO-led campaign for a container deposit scheme in Scotland, set up by the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland. The campaign works with more than 40 supporter organisations from across Scotland including environmental groups, businesses, sporting groups and educational organisations. James is the former head of media for the Greens in the Scottish Parliament and a founding director of the media monitoring service Cutbot.</p>
James Merryweather 	<p>James Merryweather is a biologist/musician living in Auchtertyre, just before the Skye Bridge. Sixteen 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 (notably two Field Studies Council AIDGAP keys to Ferns), 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 plus the two local coastal community conservation groups he represents: the South Skye Seas Initiative (SSSi) and the Scottish Salmon Think-Tank (SST-t).</p>



<p>Jamie Macaulay</p> 	<p>Fairlie Coastal Trust / Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU)</p> <p>Jamie works at the Sea Mammal Research Unit studying marine mammal bioacoustics. His interest lies in developing passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) technology which can be used to help address current conservation issues.</p>
<p>Janet Marshall</p> 	<p>Janet is the founder and Chair of Clean Coast Outer Hebrides, has an arts and a science degree: BSc(Hons) Rural Development Studies, then was partway through MSc Managing Sustainable Rural Development but as was running an environmentally friendly building company employing 10 people at the time, it was simply impossible to do both, so the MSc is on hold. Janet was Commended by the National Training Award Scheme for successful training achievements. Janet chaired Curracag, the Outer Hebrides Natural History Society for 5 years, is an active Shorewatcher for the WDC, a Marine Mammal Medic with the BDMLR, and a volunteer with SMASS.</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 Crockett</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 Outreach & Comms Manager 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. Jenny has been leading COAST's Education and Outreach Programme for the last 5 years.</p>
<p>Karen Bates</p> 	<p>Karen is the founder of Wardie Bay Beachwatch and Business Manager of the Royal Forth Yacht Club. Wardie Bay Beachwatch (WBBW) initially formed in 2017 to engage with the community in providing MCS marine litter data and beach cleans. Wardie Bay is a central Edinburgh location between historic Granton and Newhaven Harbours. The group has grown to develop awareness of the rich biodiversity of this important rocky shoreline habitat which has SSSI, SPA and Ramsar status, with visiting Harbour Seals, migratory seabirds such as Knots, and a rich Kelp bed. It is also a popular spot for wild swimming, fishing, boating and other recreational activities.</p> <p>WBBW has teamed up with various groups and stakeholders to help highlight and provide sustainable protections at the site. In 2019, WBBW and the Wild Ones wild swimmers applied to SEPA for designated Bathing Water status for Wardie Bay and is currently running the campaign, #WardieBay4BathingWater.</p>
<p>Karen Chambers</p> 	<p>Karen has a long involvement in the relationship between people and the natural environment. An MSc in Resource management at Edinburgh led to contracts to develop Urban Forestry opportunities in cities including London, Belfast and Edinburgh.</p> <p>A few years ago, Karen investigated the whole of Edinburgh's coastline which had not originally been deemed part of its urban forest and, shocked by what she found, decided to try and initiate a project to raise awareness of its importance and help improve it. Thanks to RBGE and incredibly dedicated and talented friends the project actually took off. She is currently Vice Chair of the Scottish Wildlife Trust and member of Edinburgh Shoreline.</p>




Katherine Knight 	<p>Katherine has sailed, raced and adventured all over the world. She has also discovered that kayaks, skis or running trainers and a camera make for great adventure companions. However, and wherever she has travelled, her inspiration has remained the same, to share the beauty and fun of playing outdoors and inspire everyone to follow their own adventure.</p> <p>Katherine is a qualified Yachtmaster Ocean, offshore racer and has won speed sailing competitions in her Moth as well as the women's European title. She has sailed in the far north and rounded Cape Horn.</p> <p>Katherine is one half of Narwhal Expeditions and Ocean Interface, a key member of the NatureScot/FFI Community-led Monitoring Project and a member of Seawilding and CROMACH.</p>
Kerri Whiteside 	<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>
Kyla Orr 	<p>Dr. Kyla is a marine scientist and independent consultant, who's key interest is sustainable management of the seas. With more than 13 years' experience, Kyla has a broad knowledge of the marine environment and is known for her multi-disciplinary skill set. She believes in applying a whole-ecosystem approach to management, and strives to integrate the needs of both the environment and man. Through her work, Kyla has provided knowledge and research on topics such as inshore fisheries, marine renewable energy, kelp ecosystems, beach ecology, marine pollution, climate change (blue carbon) and coastal zone management. She is actively involved in science communication, outreach and education, and is constantly exploring new and creative ways to engage with the public.</p>



<p>Laura Curtis-Moss</p> 	<p>Laura Curtis-Moss is a freelance environmental education professional with over 15 years of experience working directly with young people as well as providing CLPL for educators. Currently based in Edinburgh, Scotland. Laura is also Project Manager at East Ayrshire Coalfield Environment Initiative, Co-Chair of Friends of the Earth Scotland and a board member of Leith Community Crops in Pots.</p>
<p>Leonie Alexander</p> 	<p>Leonie has worked as an ecologist for many years initially as Director of The Wildlife Partnership and more recently as Urban Biodiversity Officer at RBGE where she worked with Charlotte, Karen and Ross on delivery of the Shoreline project. She is currently a Research Associate at RBGE, teaches ecology to Landscape Architecture students and works as a freelance. She is currently involved in large scale terrestrial and marine restoration projects. Leonie is a member of Edinburgh Shoreline.</p>
<p>Martha Thomson</p> 	<p>Martha Thomson hails from Fair Isle and started working as the Fair Isle Demonstration & Research MPA Officer at the end of 2020. Martha is working with the Fair Isle community to develop the DR MPA and to honour their ambition to protect their seas. Martha's special interests include Botany and Ornithology.</p> <p>Martha's role is focused on initiating a community-led partnership approach, working with the community and wider stakeholders to develop and deliver a sustainable and dynamic research and project plan. During 2021 Martha gathered the views and aspirations of the Fair Isle community and wider stakeholders, facilitating dialogue and understanding between the two, to build a consensus and vision for the project. Together, they are developing a research and project plan that not only increases our understanding on what's going on in the marine environment, but also demonstrates the effectiveness of a community-led initiative.</p>

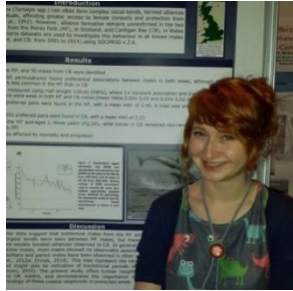
<p>Melanie Watt*</p> 	<p>Melanie lives by Kyle Rhea and is a member of Skye and Lochalsh Environment Forum, the South Skye Seas Initiative and Friends of Loch Hourn. She grew up on the Cumbrian coast, where a holiday job with the Lake District Special Planning Board, volunteer work with the National Park Wardens and crewing on Windermere boats gave her early insights into managing conflict in sensitive environments. Melanie read Geography at Manchester University and for 25 years, taught Geography, English and Drama in England and Scotland. Eventually, the opportunity to combine her interests in both law and the environment was 'invented' and Melanie now has an LLM in Environmental Law and Management from Aberystwyth University. She is a member of the United Kingdom Environmental Law Association (UKELA) and is on UKELA Working Parties for Public Health and Nature Conservation. Her research interests concern the inter-relationship between animal welfare, human wellbeing and ecological integrity, particularly in terms of food production.</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>Policy Advisor – Marine Protected Areas with NatureScot. Owen manages the Community-led Marine Biodiversity Monitoring Project and leads on the CCN/MASTS MSc student project collaboration.</p>

<p>Paul Sinnott*</p>	<p>Laid Common Grazings and Community Committee Secretary.</p>
<p>Peter Nichols</p> 	<p>Peter Nichols has worked within the ROV industry for over 25 years. He has run major underwater projects in the oil and gas sector all over the world and was part of the team that discovered Guillemots diving to 90m in the North Sea in 1997. His passion for all wet stuff started as a child with dubious craft on the Norfolk Broads to kayaking and owning a small motor yacht on the Clyde.</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 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 the Project Officer for FFI in Scotland, focusing mainly on the Coastal Communities Network.</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, an MSc in Social Science Research Methods from Cardiff University and a PhD in Sustainable Fisheries from 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 Mediterranean Seas. He currently lives in Edinburgh and is the Director for Project Seagrass in Scotland. He is a qualified PADI and BSAC scuba-diving instructor and recreational freediver.</p>
<p>Richard Luxmoore</p> 	<p>Richard was formerly the Senior Nature Conservation Adviser for the National Trust for Scotland, where he worked since 1998, taking particular responsibility for marine issues, including seabirds. He has a PhD in marine ecology, obtained while working for the British Antarctic Survey, after which he joined the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre in Cambridge where he researched, among other things, sea turtles, coral reefs, Arctic conservation, crocodile farming and ivory trade. At other times he has been assistant manager of a salmon farm in Loch Sunart and deck hand on an inshore trawler working out of Tarbert. He is a recreational diver, kayaker and keen sailor. Richard is representing CCN member Friends of the Sound of Jura.</p>
<p>Sally McNaught</p> 	<p>Sally is the local Executive Director for the Highlands and Islands Environment Foundation (HIEF). She brings over 25 years' experience to the role, having worked with many charities, large and small, supporting a number of different causes. With a professional background based on fundraising and marketing roles, working in partnership with local communities and volunteers has been at the heart of her work to ensure that appropriate and long-lasting benefits are achieved. The harsh spotlight provided by the COVID19 restrictions on impending environmental challenges have convinced her that now, more than ever, there is a fundamental need to make sure that we do more than simply minimising harm but instead actively work together to protect, restore and regenerate nature all around us to provide people and the planet the best, most sustainable future possible.</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. Sarah is currently Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund (SMEEF) Manager at NatureScot.</p>
<p>Sarah Cunningham</p> 	<p>Marine Protected Areas Manager at NatureScot. Sarah has a PhD in remote sensing of coral reefs and reef fish diversity.</p>

Sophie Benbow 	<p>Sophie is Head of Marine at Fauna & Flora International. As Head of Marine, Sophie leads FFI's marine programme, supporting implementation of FFIs marine portfolio globally. Sophie supports knowledge exchange and communication between FFI's marine projects and promotes external collaboration. Sophie has worked for FFI for over seven years supporting marine project delivery and development across Asia, Africa and Eurasia, and previously led coral reef research and sustainable fisheries management focused in Madagascar.</p>
Susanne Ramacher-Schmitz	<p>Laid community.</p>
Terry A'Hearn 	<p>Terry is the Chief Executive Officer at Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA). As Chief Executive, Terry is responsible for the operations of the Agency and ensuring it delivers to meet the outcomes set by the Board. Terry is also Co-Chair of the European Network of the Heads of Environment Protection Agencies: Better Regulation Interest Group. Terry is also an Honorary Senior Associate at the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership, for which his current focus is in leading work on regulatory innovation, particularly in relation to the transformational change needed to help societies tackle 21st century challenges of resilience in environmental, economic and social systems.</p>

Texa Sim


Texa is a cetacean scientist interested in ecology, behaviour, physiology and bioacoustics. Texa is currently undertaking a PhD at the Scottish Association for Marine Science, and continues to work with the Cetacean Research & Rescue Unit, a research charity based in north east Scotland. Texa has recently joined CAOLAS as their new Marine Community Officer, responsible for promoting CAOLAS and its work to improve understanding, engagement and appropriate management of the marine environment around Morvern, Sunart, Ardnamurchan, and the Sound of Mull.

* Unable to attend in person

***For any questions or comments on this report please contact
 Rebecca Plant: rebecca.plant@fauna-flora.org***