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 Convenor of Marine Taskforce  
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Richard Lochhead  
 Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment  
 St Andrew's House  
 Regent Road  
 Edinburgh EH1 3DG

7<sup>th</sup> May 2013

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

Our organisations care about the future of Scotland's seas. We welcome the scientific advice provided by SNH and JNCC and we support the inclusion of all 33 proposed Marine Protected Areas in the forthcoming public consultation. Stakeholders have willingly invested a lot of time in the development of this network and the undersigned organisations seek certainty and clarity as the process continues. We all agree that we must avoid unnecessarily prolonging this designation process and that we must follow good science so that the right sites are chosen with appropriate management measures in place so that multiple benefits can flow from the improved health of our seas. We will contribute independent views during the consultation, but we collectively believe that consultation on all 33 site proposals this summer is crucial to the delivery of much-needed planning certainty and environmental benefits.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Wells  
 Policy and Planning Director  
**Association of Salmon Fishery Boards**

Howard Wood  
 Chair  
**Community of Arran Seabed Trust**

Mick Borwell  
 Environmental Issues Director  
**Oil & Gas UK**

Jeremy Glen  
 Chair  
**Royal Yachting Association of Scotland**

Alistair Sinclair  
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