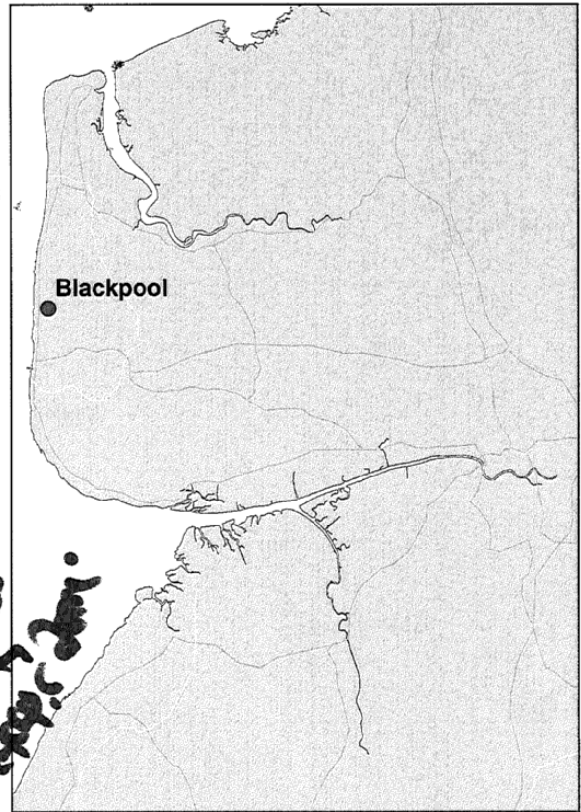
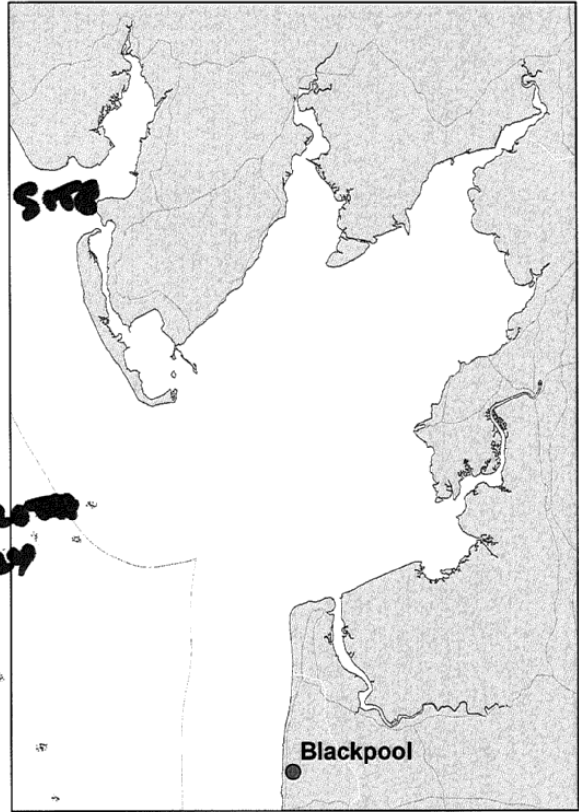
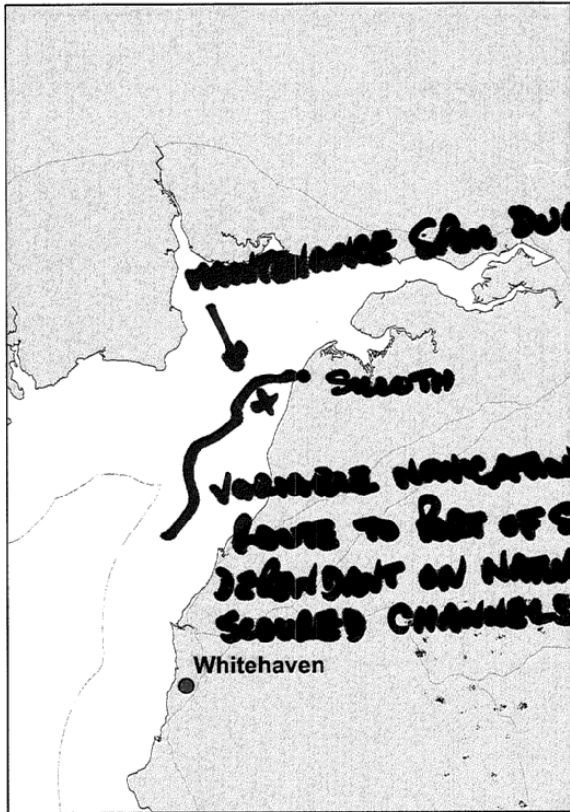
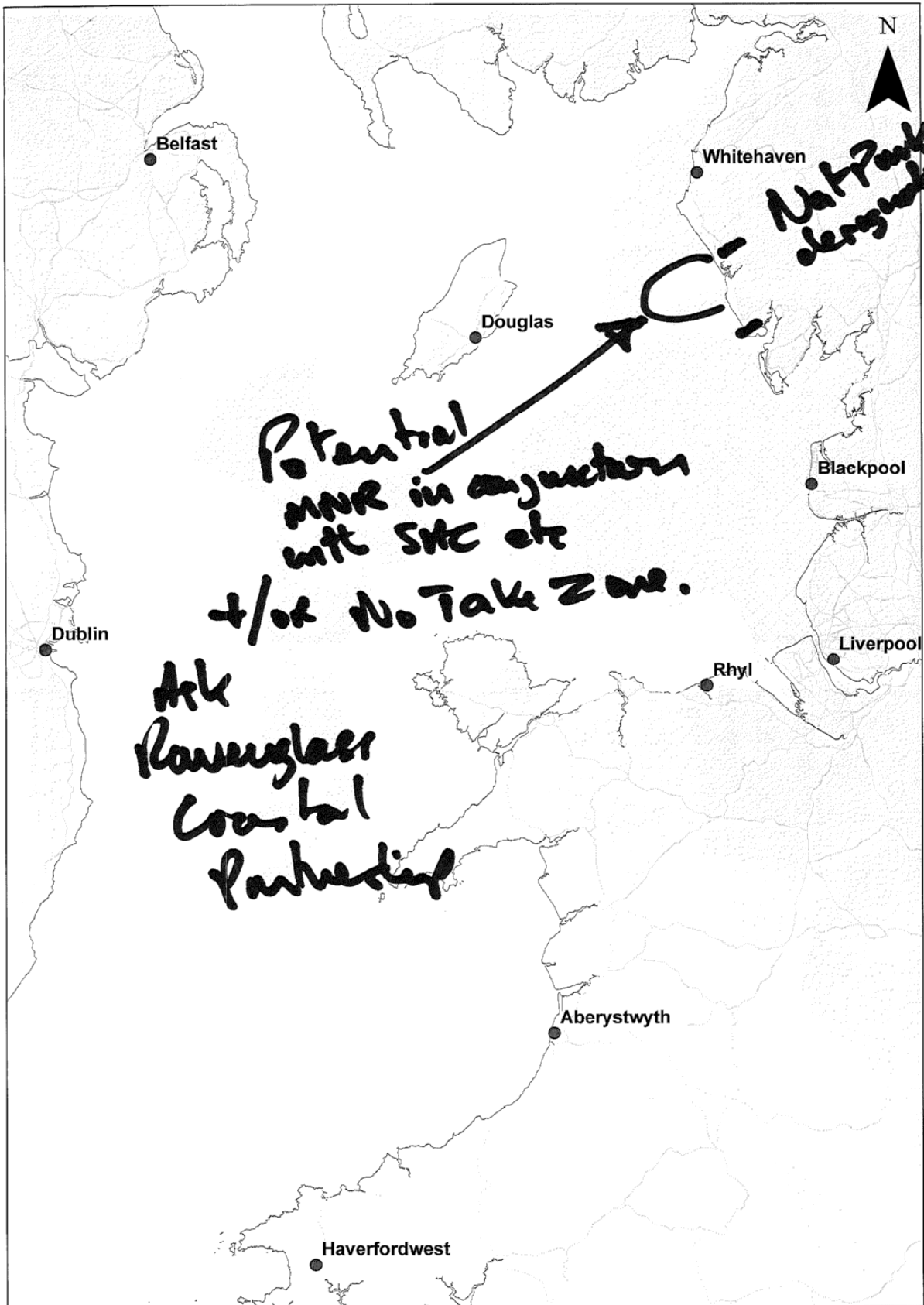


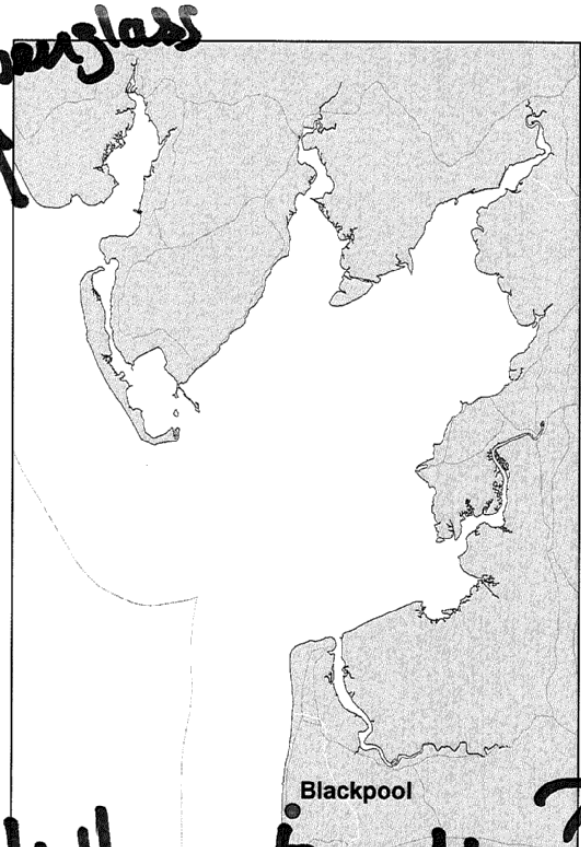
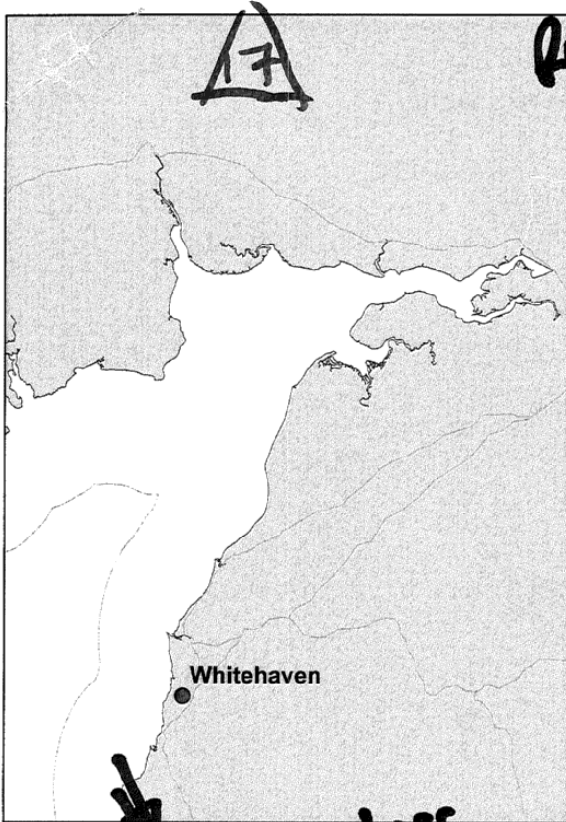
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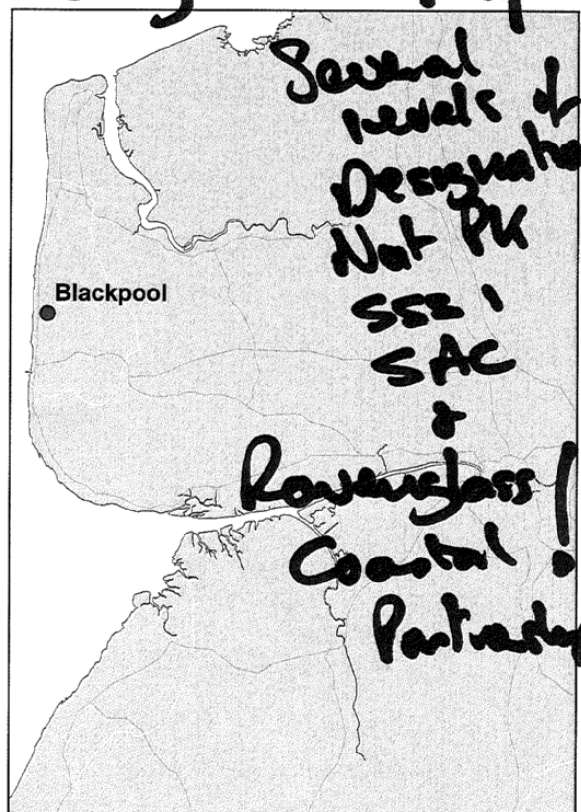
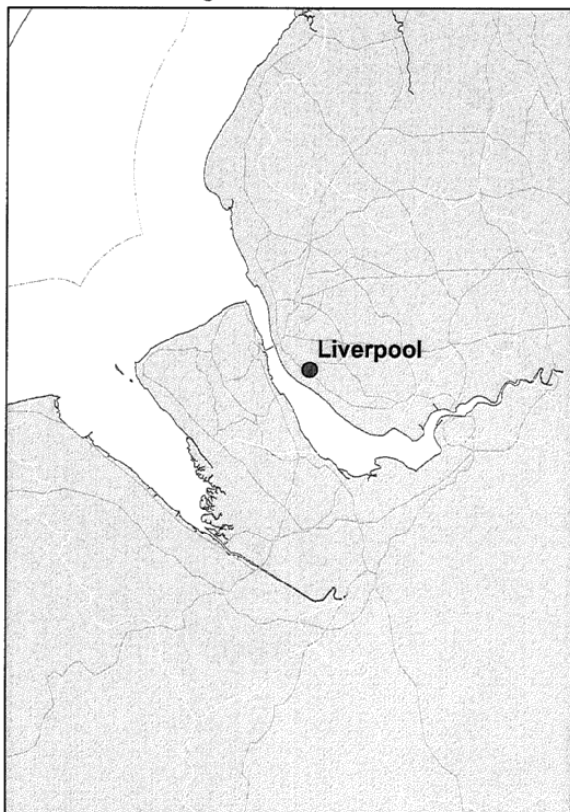
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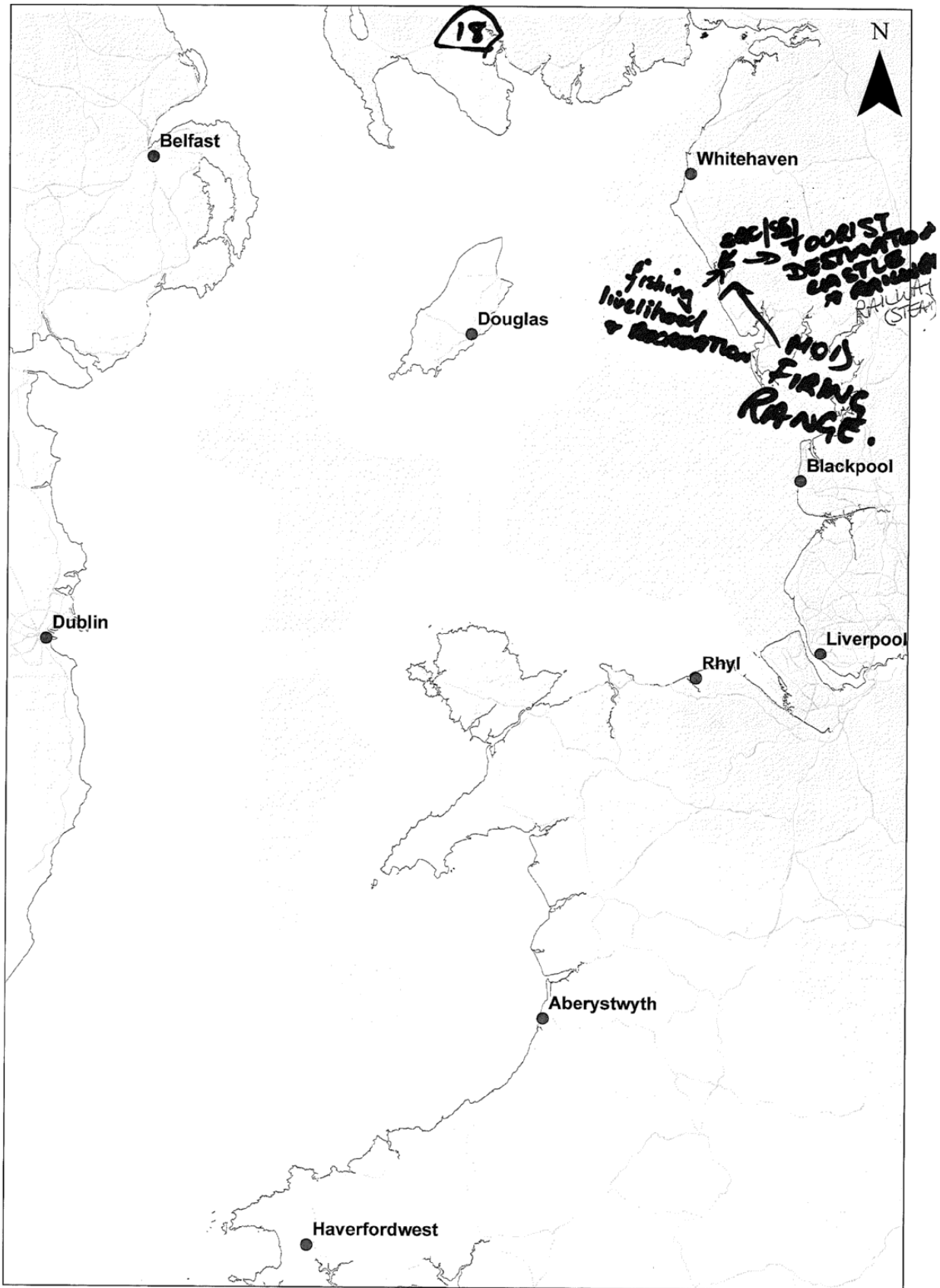
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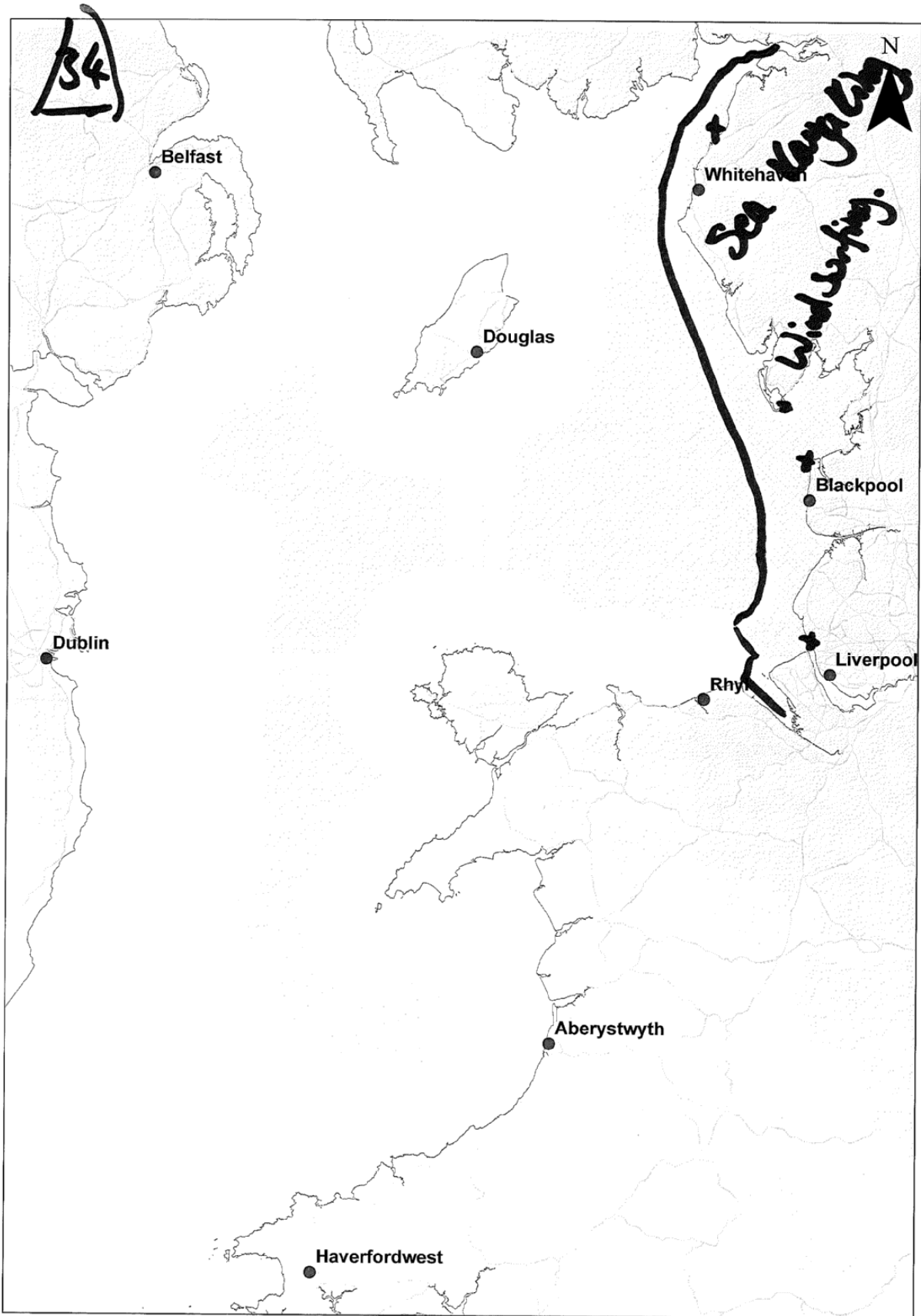
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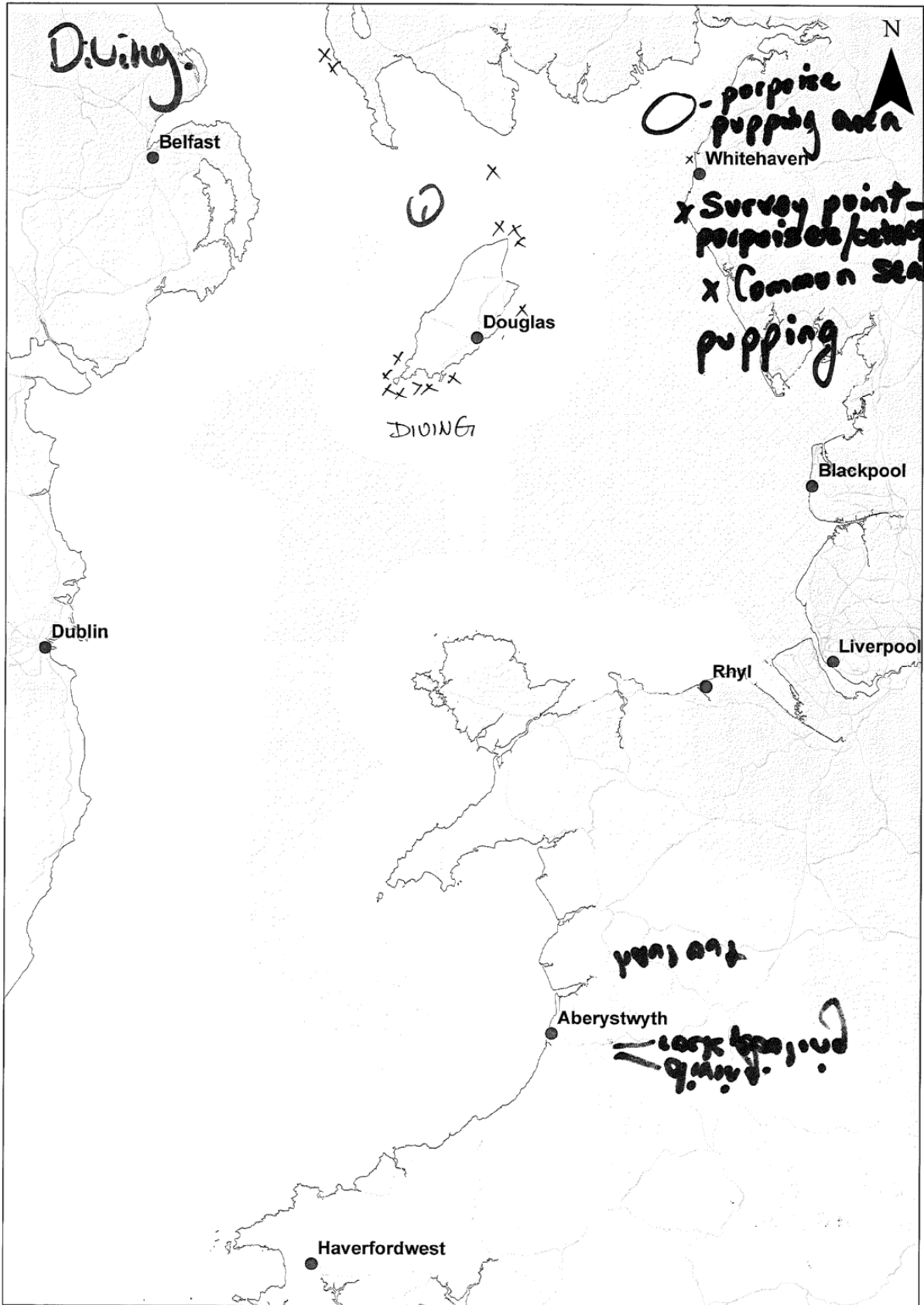
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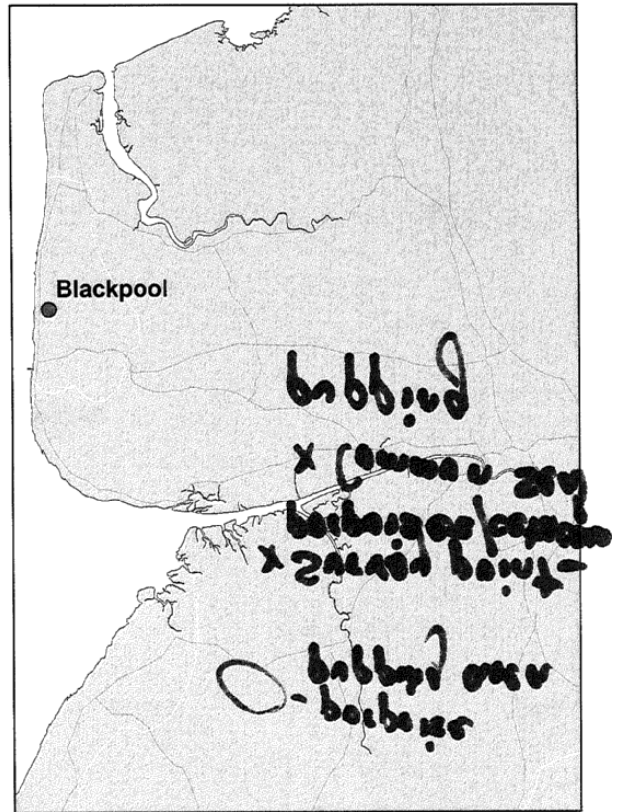
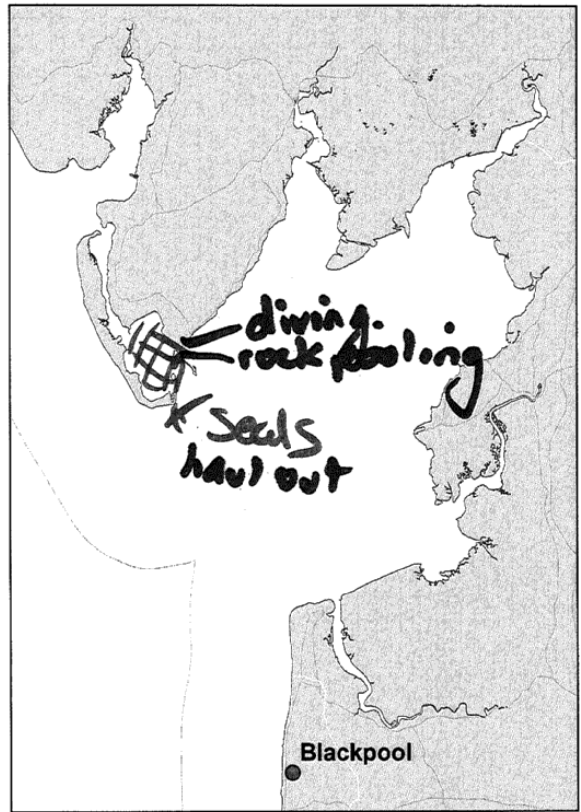
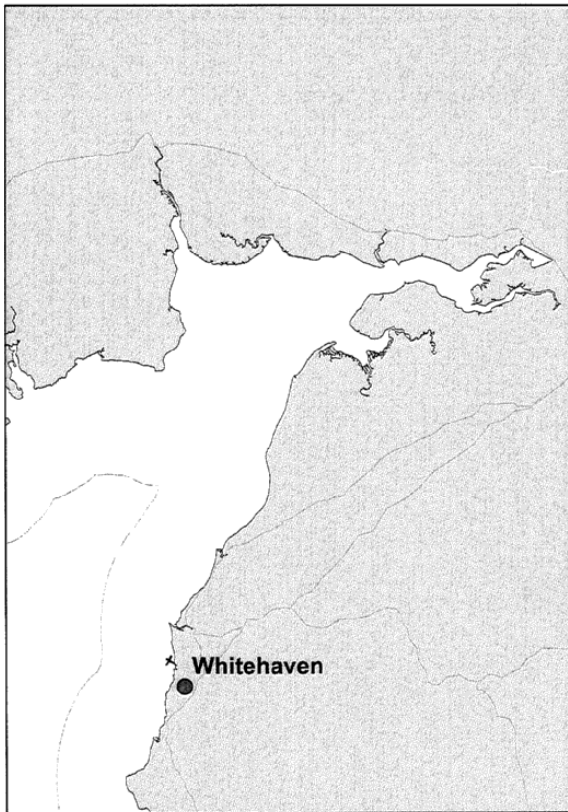
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## 2.3 Learning from success

There are quite a few projects already contributing to the sustainable management and use of the Irish Sea. What can we learn from them for this work?

Name of Project	What can we learn from their work?
Green/Blue Royal Yachting Association / BMF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Micro management of waste / contamination at boat owner / marina level</li> </ul>
Coral Cay Conservation Operation Wallacea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Tropical marine survey using scuba divers on transects</li> <li>- Setting up MCZs</li> <li>- Involvement with local communities which then police zones</li> <li>- Resurvey to demonstrate benefits of MCZs</li> <li>- Provide a model for possible similar work in Irish sea down to 30-40m depth</li> </ul>
“Solway Firth Aquaculture Policy”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ongoing? Ref. Solway F.P</li> </ul>
Marine Bill (Scotland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Own conflict with UK Marine Access... Bill</li> </ul>
Marine spatial planning of historic environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pilot project funded by English Heritage not in NW – I think being done in SE and around Humber but relevant nationally.</li> </ul>
DECC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of UK marine energy potential using AEAT consulting</li> </ul>
Heritage Coasts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Relationship of people and communities with the marine environment</li> </ul>
Marine Conservation designation Australia (DAFF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- They've already been through this whole process – may be able to assist.</li> <li>- Could assist with results from after zones have been designed</li> </ul>

## 2.4 Information and questions?

### 2.4.1 What questions do you have about MCZ and this project?

#### Long-term benefits

- Need to ensure that there are long-term benefits.

#### Number of people involved

- Involving too many people → dilution of the MCZs

#### Effects on human uses

- How will the needs and livelihood of fishermen be considered in selecting the MCZs? <2> <3>
- Investment in industry e.g. fishing boats etc does not give the right to use natural resources
- How will marine energy capture be affected?
- Will pollution from the land be taken into consideration in selecting the sites for MCZs?
- Will existing restricting restrictions (e.g. seasonal closures for scallop fishermen) be taken into consideration?

#### Recreation and access

- How will the MCZs relate to the coastal access corridor (part of the Marine Access Bill)
- Is the project aware of the current Environment Agency regional recreation strategy (currently in development)?

#### Public awareness

- How to raise public awareness of the conservation significance of the sea.

#### Research / scientific evaluation

- What research has already been done for the project in terms of:
  - Species?
  - Habitats?
  - Uses of the Irish Sea?
- Is there a need to re-evaluate existing science/data?

- Particularly in terms of the impact of climate change and adaptability

#### **Wildlife interests**

- How will the interests of wildlife be represented in the process of selecting MCZs?

#### **Local authority planning departments – 2 way communication**

- Are you talking to the planning departments of local authorities so that the MCZ network can take development strategies into consideration + also make them aware of the upcoming network i.e. 2-way process?

#### **Zoning – potential confusion**

- If there are likely to be different zones and different designations/restrictions, will this cause confusion and how will users know what is allowed where?
  - Particularly in terms of tourism/leisure activities

#### **Regulatory authorities / policing**

- How effectively will the zones be policed? <2> <3>
  - Current policing of existing restrictions is not effective.
- Will existing competent authorities (e.g. Environment Agency, Habitats regulations/CROW) have additional regulatory duties?
  - If the zones include new sub-tidal areas?

#### **Cultural values**

- To what extent do MPAs consider cultural values? What defines cultural values?

### **2.4.2 What information do you think is needed to inform the selection of Marine Conservation Zones?**

#### **Scientific study / research**

- More transects done by scuba diver (Coral Cay Conservation – Operation Wallacea)?
- Liverpool University – detailed research on Irish Sea. St Mary's? Marine biological research – funded by Liverpool (1990s)
- Information on seasonal changes. Different species in different areas.
  - Look back 20/30 years cycle – natural cycles.

#### **Fisheries information**

- Data collection by Cumbria Sea Fisheries – re cockle stocks, mussel stocks, intertidal habitats <1>
- Fishing News database on landing. They have database on landings.
- Objective baseline – what we have caught and what we are not catching? District councils have limited amounts.
- (Positive) information on use of particular fishing gears i.e. fixed gear, static gears, longlines, gill nets...
- Involve local fishermen/livelihood. Possible education needed? Info resource as well.
- Developing the oyster fisheries & pink shrimp.
- Pot limit size per boat. Cumberland wanted 70 pots per boat, it's now 200.
- - This needs introducing in Northumberland and Yorkshire.

#### **Recreation**

- Information on impact on a particular activity – jet skis – wind surfers – recreation – cost to wildlife + wider benefits to area. How do you weigh all this up? Balanced judgement of all these things.

#### **Water Quality**

- Information on dredging - discharges – run off – Anglesey shell fish – agriculture and domestic sewage.
- More information collated – Water Framework Directive – environmental impacts on rivers/data management and structure. Make sure all processes work together (more joined up thinking)
- Affect of TBT (tributyl tin) of antifouling on the sexuality of cockles and mussels – filter feeders.
- Marine pollution – shipping – fishing activities – land pollution – farming – flowing into coastal areas. Plastics/drums etc waste plastics.

#### **User knowledge**

- Open up a conduit for anecdotal evidence. Something that doesn't take stakeholders away from their work.

**MCZ criteria**

- Information on what will be excluded or included in MCZ – more detail. Pleasure angling – could it be included if catch & release is implemented?

**Effects of climate change**

- The effects of global warming on haddock stock/cod as well. Fecundity related to global warming.
- Global warming influx of more freshwater on habitat – mackerel and herring not going up Solway – addition of salt requested for shrimp cooking.
- Movement of MCZs re global warming and climate change

**Existing marine protection / legislation**

- Current SAC status
- (Solway Firth) Aquaculture Policy for Irish Sea (available online).
- Existing legislation re fish stocks

**Development**

- Permitted development and infrastructure – LBNA
- Consider the impact of renewable energies. Positive and negative re environmental impacts.

**Local issues**

- Local support opinion
  - Local use livelihood/recreation

**Economic balance**

- Balance between tourism and conservation (economic and environment)
- Concerns re environment and economy – socio economics and information on this. Important consideration. Ask local practitioners what goes on, on the ground.
- Economical, environmental, biological + need to balance these in terms of impact on any given site (MCZ)

**2.4.3 What information do you have that you could make available if it is needed?**

<b>Information you have</b>	<b>Your participant number</b>
<b>Natural Environment</b>	
- General ecological data and fisheries data (areas fished, sea bed type and features)	13
- Under take research into fisheries AND wider environmental matters (have patrol vessel – grab samples, shellfish surveys) for ourselves and others (e.g. windfarms) and ISCZ if required	13
- Local resource centre for Ecology and Hydrology based at Lancaster University	28
- Mussels, cockles, transects and possibly landings data for fisheries	39
- Contact details of someone who collected data about marine mammals especially seals along the Cumbrian Coast	39
- Tullie house museum in Carlisle have marine data (e.g. Norman Hammond data on basking sharks in Irish Sea)	39
- Monitoring data relating to Cumbria coastal sites including existing designated sites e.g. SSSIs, SACs, SPAs, Ramsars	41
- Weather monitoring data from station in the Irish Sea on platforms and at Barrow terminal (including tide, weather).	24
<b>Energy infrastructure</b>	
- Information on the oil and gas industry – existing and known fields and pipelines and terminals (in barrow) and flight zones that operate from the platforms to land through certain industrial air corridors	24
- Information on oil and gas sponsored website	24
- Information regarding windfarms through colleagues. Information on planning, size, location, construction data	24
<b>Water quality and litter</b>	
- History of Cumbria Marine Litter Project and the development of a cleaning and	17

monitoring group	
– The green blue initiative about the micromanagement of marine pollution (e.g. pump out facilities, management of spills, recycling of boats)	34
<b>Socio -Economic data</b>	
– Connections with Cumbria Economic Observatory which collects all partners statistics (e.g. contribution of industry and nuclear etc economic data and socio-data such as NHS data)	28
– Statistics on volume and value of tourism in Cumbria (i.e. statistics)	28
– National information on recreational routes diving leisure passage making in the Irish Sea	34
<b>Archaeological data</b>	
– There area a very few Universities and archaeological units which knowledge and expertise in under water archaeology and buried historic landscape sea bed exploration, especially: University of Southampton and Wessex Archaeology [There is a great need for much more local expertise]	36
– For generic information on marine historic environment, climate change, coastal erosion etc. there is an online library of guidance produced by English Heritage and others go to: <a href="http://www.helm.org.uk">www.helm.org.uk</a> and follow links on guidance to search library and download pdfs. [helm = historic environment local management]	36
– The NAS (nautical archaeological society) is the marine voluntary sector organisation – Liaises between divers, developers voluntary codes of practice etc. But very little presence in the north west as yet.	36
<b>Partnership working</b>	
– Work in partnership with the project – which work already with Ramsar/SPAs/SACs/SSSIs on the estuary	23
– Access to EU partners for collaborative research (identifying partners similarly interested in procuring research and or sharing knowledge) and funding for research identified	30
<b>Comparable case examples</b>	
– Contact details of project persons working on a similar initiative in Australia. Possible sharing of experiences.	22

## 2.5 The Stakeholder Group

There can only be a limited number of people on the Stakeholder Group. The group needs to be as fair as possible across interests, marine users, and the area. Participants were asked to respond to a questionnaire and comment on the following:

- Draft ideas on the roles, responsibilities and structure of the stakeholder group.
- What they liked about what the draft ideas
- Ideas for how they thought it could be improved.

Please note the results of the questionnaire from all four workshops are being processed separately and will be made available in a separate document as soon as possible

## 2.6 MCZ and your interests

Organisation	Sector	Would a sea richer in marine life be of benefit to your interests and if so how?	What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?	What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones for your sector?	From your perspective, what would a successful MCZ network be like?
ABP Port of Silloth	Ports and Harbour	Increased fishing / shell fishing activities where landings are made at local ports would aid local economics.	Solway Firth is already well protected by a number of protected areas.	Not to further inhibit tough economics in maritime activities.	As well as the obvious conservation targets the MCZ must take into account economic requirement and allow measured economic expansion.
Carlisle Canoe Club	Sea Kayaking	Yes all improvement in the marine and shoreline environment, will increase the interest in the activity and enjoyment. Assuming access remains.	As above.	Ensuring access.	Clean biodiversity for the enjoyment of environmentally benign craft.
CATAPULT PR LTD.	P.R – Tourism Especially	Yes – one of my clients Lakes Aquarium	Tourism benefits – economic benefits to ‘cleaner’ areas via the tourism pound.	PR challenge of tying all the messages together for coherence.	Co-ordinated; dynamic; focused on educating the public about the issues in easy to understand language – innovating constantly.
Copeland Borough Council	Planning Policy		Could help planning for major economic regeneration strategies such as the energy coast master plan ‘Britain’s Energy Coast’	Understanding how it will all fit with existing designations (SSSI, SAC, SPA etc). Understanding how impacts on any designated areas will be measured and how the cross over between these and more traditional land use planning will be managed.	Understandable and used in a positive way to make the most of the sea.
Cumbria County Council	Spatial Planning	Yes – Could increase tourism in Cumbria – helps boost the economy. Could potentially benefit the fishing industry (in the long run) – job security in the future.	Could potentially in the long run bring more jobs to Cumbria and re-boost the economy.	From a planning perspective would affect district local plans and LDFs, particularly in areas of Cumbria where employment land and housing is located close to the coast.	In Australia you have a marina and a marine conservation zone located fairly close to each other. Both work well in harmony – fish stocks are up yet there is still enjoyment / jobs for the people. A successful MCZ would be a balance between the sea and the people.
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Conservation	Yes. Many ways – briefly an improved and healthy ecosystem benefits and every one even if they don’t realise it.	Rather than conservation on a point by point nature reserve approach a wider “holistic” approach is more beneficial, intelligent and “grown up”.	Commercial / Leisure interests – potential / actual damage to conservation value. Peoples “demands” prevailing to the detriment of the natural world.	One where not only the legislation is in place but also the means of enforcing are working effectively.

Organisation	Sector	Would a sea richer in marine life be of benefit to your interests and if so how?	What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?	What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones for your sector?	From your perspective, what would a successful MCZ network be like?
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Conservation	Yes. If benefit to our members. 15,000+ people	Improved marine environment.	Ensuring they adequately protect the relevant habitats and species.	It would properly cover the relevant habitats and species. It would be well protected from damaging activities.
Cumbria Wildlife Trust	Environmental NGO	Yes. My interest is marine conservation itself and "living seas" is part of the Trust's mission.	To provide a mechanism of protecting and restoring marine ecosystems.	Balancing the conservation objectives with the socio-economic interests of other sectors.	Cover a significant area of UK waters. Include HPMCZs exclusions of all damaging activity and adequate policing. Representative converge of all habitats and biodiversity. Connectivity which works to protect wide-ranging species (e.g. cod, dolphins) not just static local species Based primarily on conservation objectives with socio-economic factors secondary factors in decision-making.
English Heritage	Historic Environment	Possibly. The historic environment is often forgotten as a marine asset. This is partly because so little is known about it – we have very little information. But it could be possible to help safeguard historic environmental sites within MCAs.	There may / should be opportunities for data gathering and sharing. There may / should be opportunities for beneficial management to secure both natural and historic environments.	The lack of information and knowledge of what historic environment assets there are and their location. Irish Sea zone potential a rich area – much of it was land 12000 years ago. More recently there are boat / ship and plane wreck sites. In estuaries and on coast there are remnants of previous fishing and salt industries etc.	It would include management strategies or provisions to find out about, share data about, and safeguard historic environment assets.
Environment Agency	Environment / Regulator	Meeting statutory conservation objectives. Enhanced Migratory Fishery. Enhanced environment for people and wildlife. Enhanced recreation, socio economic benefits.	More robust habitats = more resilient against natural (and un-natural) changes e.g. climate change.	More onerous regulation? New process for competent authorities?	Network is a key word here – avoid isolated islands (unless habitats is so good this is unavailable) The network should be a greater benefit than the sum of its parts. Connectivity.
G.S.G.F.A	Inshore Fishing (Luce Bay)	Yes. Longer term sustainability. Profitable	None that can be seen.	The chance of lost livelihoods due to closures in already high unemployment areas (small fishing communities).	Well policed, sustainable fishing, high employment due to more sea users of all descriptions.

## dialogue matters

Organisation	Sector	Would a sea richer in marine life be of benefit to your interests and if so how?	What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?	What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones for your sector?	From your perspective, what would a successful MCZ network be like?
Lakes Aquarium	Tourism	Yes – public interest integral to our business.	Activate public interest in wildlife and the environment.	To inform the public of the process and implications.	Effective with information supplied to the public so they can value the natural marine resource.
Lakes Aquarium	Tourism / Education	Yes – from a tourism and education perspective.	Allowing us to be a portal for the conservation message and highlighting the work done.	Making sure information offered to the public is up to date and developing a way that their voice can be heard.	A widely recognised campaign with well educated members of the public, who understand and can give an informed view.
Local Access Forum	Advisory – to NE / local authorities / National Park	Possibly be of interest to walkers along the new Coastal Access Corridor (Part 9 Marine and Coastal Bill)	As above.	MCZones may overlap with public access to the foreshore of England (Part 9 MCA Bill)	Well known to public and well supported.
Muncaster Parish Council / Ravenglass Coastal Partnership	Local Interests	Increased biodiversity support for livelihoods in fishing recreation and tourism.	Continued sustainable fish stocks and additional opportunity for quiet activities.	“Living” with the results which hopefully would be beneficial.	Good for wildlife of all kinds, therefore good for recreation and livelihoods.
Natural England	Governmental Advisory	Yes. Same goal.	Enhanced protection of marine environment.	Has the potential to confuse shared stakeholders with an extra layer of MPA and associated (potential) limitations / restriction. IT can also be confusing for the stakeholder to be engaged from both sides at the same time about similar issues / MCZs, SPA, SAC) etc.	Well managed; clearly understood by all; clearly beneficial overall; a tool to bring the stakeholders together for a shared understanding / responsibility of the marine environment. Moreover it should be beyond perverse /self serving/misguided influence.
Ravenglass Coastal Partnership	NGO	Yes – greater understanding of the marine environment. How it can be enjoyed, sustainably harvested and conserved.	Dove tail with local activity – giving a wider context for understanding of importance.	Encourage the general public to appreciate the importance of the sea and the UK.	Joined up, accepted and understood therefore supported.
RFERAC and Cumbria Sea Fisheries Committee	Environment	Yes. It would be of benefit to all sectors as it would be contributing to the support and development of biodiversity.	Perhaps, if properly designated and managed, the benefits would be to provide havens for wildlife and marine species to exist without interference from human pursuits. This may provide a base from which species diversity can be promoted across a wider area.	Need to ensure that monitoring is sufficiently robust to inform accurate and intelligent decision making on designation so that as far as possible the process does not impact on sustainable economic activity.	It would integrate with other environmental programmes e.g. WFD and would inform for the future how the seas should best be maintained and conserved. This will require a process of scientific audit and research on an on-going basis.

Organisation	Sector	Would a sea richer in marine life be of benefit to your interests and if so how?	What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?	What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones for your sector?	From your perspective, what would a successful MCZ network be like?
Royal Yachting Association	Leisure / Pleasure Commercial	Cleaner sea to sail / boat in - less chance of adverse effect on participants e.g. immersion sports, windsurfing, kite-surfing, dinghy sailing, canoeing.	Not sure that there are any other than less pollution (hopefully)	To minimise any restriction on the 'right to navigate'	Minimal impact on activities carried out in a reasonable manner (i.e. minimal waste from small boats into sea).
Solway Coast AONB	Public	Yes - increased marine life = greater diversity of wildlife supported by it, increased tourism, increased local economy etc.	Continued conservation and enhancement of marine and coastal environment.	Not marine based – so can only work from coastal position.	Parties agreeing on areas and linkages – proper funding and long term policing and monitoring via NE and other agencies.
Solway Subaqua (BSAC)	Recreation	Yes – recreational divers like to see marine life	Increase in marine life	Restrictions on diving activity – diving per se is not damaging to the environment. Some divers take molluscs and crustacea. But this can be prohibited if necessary (as in St. Abs) without loss of quality for the majority.	A number of restricted / no take zones in areas of biodiversity where diving would be permitted under conservation rules.
The Lake District Coast Aquarium	Leisure / Tourism / Education	A thriving, re invigorated, re enriched and recovered, marine environment would be a source of intense pleasure and satisfaction to all. Business interests are secondary, but without doubt an improved marine environment will ultimately bring financial benefit as well.	I think once the public at large realise that the government seriously intend to adopt and enforce measures that will help restore marine biodiversity and potential there will be increased interest in finding out more about marine life itself.	No direct challenges that I can think of. We focus on exhibiting local / irish sea marine life so require some dispensation to collect undersize fish. The numbers are on the scale of things negligible but we might need dispensation within an MCZ if one was created locally.	Speaking as a very concerned but not directly involved individual / organisation, I would love to see MCZs working as effectively as 'no take zones' have proven. It may be that to be effective some strong vested (fishing) interests need convincing that in the medium-long term their interests would be best served by accepting hard decisions.
Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners	Commercial (Fishing and Leisure)	Assist fishing sector and therefore us ho provide fishing infrastructure facilities.	Management of fishing resources.	Should there be too many MCZs locally to reduce fishing, our commercial viability will reduce too as our income from fish landings will be lower – sustainable community would be in jeopardy.	Benefit nature fishing interests

## 2.7 Speaking the same language

To help people from different sectors and interests understand each other we want to put together a list of relevant words and terms. What should be on the list?

Acronym or word	Meaning
JNCC	– Joint Nature Conservancy Committee
Historic Environment	– A general term for archaeological remains e.g. wrecks, drowned landscapes.
AONB	– Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CTB	– Cumbria Tourist Board
GSGFA	– Galloway Sea Fisherman' Static Gear Association
ABP	– Associated British Ports
NFFO	– National Federation of Fishermen's Organisation
NWNWSFC	– North West and North Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
NWIFCA	– North West Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
WFD	– Water Front Directive
WQ	– Water Quality
BCV	– British Canoe Club
CSFC	– Cumbrian Sea Fisheries Committee
CWT	– Cumbria Wildlife Trust
CALC	– Cumbrian Association of Local Councils
WHC	– Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners
WLTP	– West Lake District Tourism Partnership
RYA	– Royal Yacht Association
CBA	– Campaign to Protect Rural England
NE	– Natural England
EA	– Environment Agency
EV	– European Vision
HELM	– Historic Environment - Local Management
NAS	– Nautical Archaeological Society
BMF	– British Marine Federation
Solway F.P	– Solway Firth Partnership
AEAT	– AEA Technology Consultancy
DECC	– Department of Energy and Climate Change
DAFF	– Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and Forestry
AMP	– Asset Management Plan
PR	– Public Relations
IOM	– Isle of Mann

### 3 The Irish Sea network of Marine Conservation Zones

#### 3.1 What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?

##### Benefits:

##### **Conservation benefits of network for marine species/habitats**

- Biodiversity and potential sustainable management from an ecological perspective
- Biodiversity benefit
- Increase in diversity, numbers if effective
- Potentially brings in new species and allow system to recover
- Provides safe haven for animal life but question if MCZ will do this?
- If networks put together well help mobile species
- Overspill benefits into areas outside

##### **Long term sustainability of natural environment**

- Lead to sustainability and resilience of habitats and species
- Contributing to keeping our seas healthy
- Focus attention on drive towards the quality of the marine environment
- Sustainability of marine resources
- Manage the sustainable exploitation of marine resources (and areas)
- Seek to balance social economic exploitation of marine resources and promote its recovery
- Need to remember 3 pillars of sustainability – human utility of marine environment

##### **Management – coherence / consistency**

- Coherent management potentially
- Consistent standards for management of whole network
- More likely to share best practice

##### **Increased awareness / understanding of the marine environment**

- Improved cooperation and understanding of marine areas
- Increased awareness / and issues related to the marine activity
- Increased awareness of marine conservation – opportunity for communication
- Increasing knowledge and understanding of area
- Potential to re-focus that the marine environment is part of our every day life – including all marine activities
- Greater clarity and information about marine areas

##### **Scientific study**

- Give scientists control sites for their needs

##### **Better policing / enforcement**

- Better policing / each fisheries protection including land use

##### **Stakeholders working together**

- All stakeholders have a say
- Communication is the key to bring together different persons understanding the sea
- Contribution from people who use / work in the sea
- Engaging people who need to be involved
- Greater understanding between stakeholders
- Shared understanding
- Improving collective ownership for individual needs
- Increased lobbying power / interest – good balance of stakeholders – promoting strength of the network
- Brings people together for planning process

##### **Consensus building / conflict resolution**

- Good balance of competing interests
- Reduced conflict between opposing groups – both process of designation and the final designated network
- Makes sectors rethink

**Commercial fishing – safeguarding / sustainability**

- Help sustain fishing community
- Increase long term sustainability – fish stocks, plant life, fish industry e.g. IOM scallop scheme – sustainability, run by fishers themselves
- Play an appropriate contribution to a healthy fishing industry
- Safeguarding food supply for future
- If commercial species increase leads to benefits for local communities and economy

**Political benefits**

- Political benefits: meeting obligations - giving a statement

**Economic benefits**

- Potentially economic benefits
- Ecological benefits leads to economic benefit (may be short – term application of cost)
- Develop conservation and industry

**National / wider perspective**

- Broader national context provides a frame for the jigsaw pieces (macro)
- First national perspective conservation
- Framework for wider benefits / cooperation
- More holistic view / ecologies supporting together / co ordinance / incorporating existing MPAs
- Will fit in with other European countries

**Streamlining planning**

- Improve planning issues – better structure collects data to enable decisions during the planning process
- Brings certainty to planning process - simplification

**Increased eco and other tourism**

- Potential tourism benefit
- Nurture niche tourism that is low environmental impact but high spend – recycling of money back into conservation i.e. educational benefit e.g. contact with natural environment
- Local tourist benefits especially if specific interests in particular areas
- Create a larger area of environmental protection with selling points for sustainable / responsible tourism industry

**Educational value**

- Education / knowledge benefit

**Challenges identified during this session:**

**Definition of terms**

- Not to sure what an MCZ is - then we do not know the benefits
- What is a network? – linked by function, connectivity, representativeness

**Zoning**

- Zoning = historic management as opposed to individual sites – greater scale

**Impact on pollution**

- Reduction in pollution
- Increase in types of pollution can act as a food source

**Existing conservation measures**

- Already conservation measures in Solway (SSSI etc) Somebody must think there is something else there to protect

**Yield sustainability**

- What do we mean by sustainability of yields – not necessarily a safe haven for everything
- Safe havens are separate to yields – could provide for non commercial species

**Other processes**

- Others operate to bring people together to work to common cause

**Policing / enforcement**

- If a network enforcement could be more straight forward – because understood by more people

## 3.2 What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?

### Challenges of having a network of MCZ

#### Threats to livelihoods and communities

- Potentially livelihoods will be affected negatively e.g. fishing
- Challenge for support for changing occupations e.g. fishing to tourism etc.
- Consider inshore vessels and look at socio economics of inshore fishing and knock on effect of local community
- Socio economic issues – local infrastructure, traditions, local employment
- Putting MCZ near areas important for employment e.g. in Cornwall
- Consider commercial fishing, longevity of fishing industry
- To make sure you don't cripple the tourism or fishing industry

#### Balance

- How to balance economic against environmental issues
- Balancing leisure and commercial interests

#### Impact on the fishing industry / aquaculture

- In Solway have clean seas because industry have gone
- Stripping the seas for the wrong reason that isn't conserved by the conservationists e.g. at Morecambe Bay – cockle fishing

#### Effects of increased pressure outside zones

- Increase of pressure on non designated areas
- Areas outside zones could become barren
- People may behave badly outside an MCZ increases pressure outside on MCZ
- Could there be barren seas – balancing fishing / divers/ mixed use

#### Impact on tax payers

- Danger the tax payer will pick up the bill, scale of costs and benefits for different industries e.g. compensation – needs thorough cost benefit analysis to make public aware of the benefits

#### Power generation and cables

- Alternative power generation – barrage, wind turbine, new power cables from nuclear
- Cables affect sea – electro magnetic effects seismic surveys

#### Funding

- Long-term funding for monitoring
- Long term funding

#### Impact on recreation and access

- Leisure hobbies could be impacted
- Might have to go round MCZ – defining public access

### Challenges in achieving a network of MCZ

#### Coordinating with other countries

- Conflict between Scottish Marine Bill and UK at the boundary. Also at Dee Estuary, Welsh and England
  - - Separate parliament not talking
  - - Also fundamental differences in process
  - - Scotland will only include socio-economic once chosen ecologically
- Ensuring good relationship with England, Scotland, Ireland, Isle of Mann etc. and other regional projects
- Ensure work is complimentary with other countries

#### Political will-power

- Political will-power to implement zones

#### Project timescale

- Project timescale and diversity of interest / bureaucracy

#### Confusion between designations

- Harmony and synchrony with existing MPAs
- Multitude of designations with different acronyms – makes it difficult to sell to others
- Solway has lots of different designations – lots of layers this is just another – SSSI, SAC,

- SPA, Ramsar. Maybe a new round of designations under the MSFC (EU)
- - This is another and challenge is to integrate all this and achieve a sensible system
- Ensuring stakeholders know difference between MCZs and other MPAs

#### **Complex and dynamic ecology**

- Until we know what ecological guidance is, it is hard to be more specific
- Where does highly mobile wildlife come into play
- Conservation of migrating species and working with adaptation
- Ensuring management is responsive
- Assumption behind 'ecological coherence' no evidence will deliver what they say they will

#### **Climate change / other changes**

- How to incorporate climate change
- Zones need to be flexible e.g. in relation to climate change – take into account historical changes
- Interest e.g. breeding grounds could shift with climate change

#### **Scientific data / information**

- Clarity around baseline data
- Data – lack of marine data collection
- Ensuring baseline data available and funding in place to make right decision
- Means to gather relevant data for areas where MCZs may be located
- Very hard to get enough scientific information to select best areas

#### **Monitoring / measuring change / success**

- Monitoring and evaluation of data used to designate MCZs – looking for gaps in the data
- How will they be monitored?
- Continuous monitoring to make sure it does what is meant to do
- How do we measure success

#### **Knock on effects**

- Avoid unexpected consequences - undesirable

#### **Zones – location, spread, number**

- Ensuring enough zones to get the required benefits
- Has to have a good spatial coverage
- Finding the agreement on where they're going to be

#### **Stakeholder engagement / consensus**

- Setting up the stakeholder group and engage many stakeholders as possible
- Speaking to stakeholders / being aware of and communicating to stakeholders
- Ongoing monitoring and feedback and people need to be kept up to date
- Getting compromise which may not work
- 'Best areas' may be fishing zones

#### **Balancing stakeholder interests**

- Trim and distil the draft stakeholder group list but still make a fair reflection of stakeholders
- Concern one sector wants to dominate control
- Managing self-interest e.g. politicians in final decision making

#### **Transparent process**

- Ensuring transparent process

#### **Public awareness / understanding**

- Helping the general public understand the MCZ management (linkage to public awareness)
- Educate people to be aware of MCZs
- Public communication of MCZs/SSSIs etc
- Don't know what happening

### **Challenges for management and enforcement**

#### **Intervention**

- Maintenance of zones e.g. tidal zones may erode areas and may need to intervene

#### **Policing and enforcement**

- Policing it appropriately
- Communication to user and consequences
- Ensuring effective penalties and incentive to comply with rules

- Police people who shouldn't be out there

**International relations**

- Offshore areas – getting rest of world to go along with them (all EU countries are meant to have MCZ)
- Make sure that international trade /shipping comply to the MCZs

### 3.3 What will a network of Marine Conservation Zones need to achieve to be worthwhile?

**Marine environment**

**Meets conservation objectives**

- A demonstrable increase in the marine ecology (the quantifiable quality of)
- Restoration to previous state as well as protection (fish stocks, seabed habitats – shifting baseline issues)
- An increase in marine life back to how nature intended

**Sustainable fisheries**

- Sustainable fishing

**Leisure industry**

- Increased opportunities for leisure and recruitment
- Leisure / commercial
- Cater for leisure industries and all industries

**Value of industrial heritage**

- Optimising our industrial heritage and its contribution to marine biodiversity and tourism

**Less pollution**

- Positive impact on pollution

**Least conflict**

- In a suitable area e.g. less conflict

**Minimal / unobtrusive**

- MCZ should operate on the minimum and not obtrusive

**Man-built environment complementing the natural environment**

- (Man built environment can create artificial reefs- manages to complement the natural environment)

**Adaptable network**

- Need to be large enough to adapt to changing environment
- Ability to adapt to unexpected changes

**Avoid unintended consequences**

- Avoiding unintended consequences – avoiding displacement of negative effects

**Working together**

**Buy-in**

- Buy-in from all users and interested parties including EC fisheries

**Functional process**

- Process has got to be functional and fulfil its objectives despite political constraints
- List needs to be less bureaucratic

**Stakeholder consultation / engagement / consensus**

- Everyone agrees / consensus
- General support
- Get people speaking
- Happy stakeholders
- Reflected in a number of stakeholders
- Resolve conflict – need full stakeholder involvement
- Sense of collective ownership

**Clear objectives**

- Stakeholders need to have clear objectives
- Identification of coexisting objectives in industry / conservation
- Achieve their objective

- Achieve

**Consider values**

- Broaden out / value species and habitats
- Worthwhile if it conserves something that was valuable

**Equitable**

- Needs to be equitable from the start i.e. fair to people and ecology
- Allow equitable access (rights) to resources

**Understanding**

**Research resource / published results**

- Research resource - an MCZ would give more opportunity for study
- Needs to be published results

**Inform best practice**

- Inform best practice elsewhere
- Opportunity to share good practice

**Public awareness and support**

- Change perceptions of the Irish Sea – make it more attractive
  - Need to effectively communicate sediment transport / transfer and its natural impact on aesthetics
  - Perceptions of blue = clean and brown = dirty – need to change understanding / address challenges.
- Effective change in public understanding / behaviour – needs to be accepted (i.e. the restrictions which are put in place)
- Enhance respect for natural environment
- Need to have in mind that not all people live by the sea
- Needs to be marketed / communicated / policed
- Raises awareness
- Reconnect people to the sea

**Education**

- Educational resource
- Education benefit

**Good management**

**Sustainability**

- Sustainability (all encompassing)
- Economic prosperity which should come from increase in biodiversity and stock recovery
- Lead to sustainable communities creating jobs as well as protecting nature

**Good management**

- Decide on correct management policies to adopt therefore natural evolution vs pragmatic management
- Agreed compromise for management
- Got to be structured / pyramid approach within each MCZ – effective management to deliver

**Monitoring / measurement of change**

- Monitoring to demonstrate desired effect (economic benefit to monitors)
- A recognisable unit of measurement to quantify increased quality of marine ecology
- Discernable, quantifiable benefits

**Permitted activities / enforcement**

- Encouragement not just enforcement
- Put a fence around them, above and below water
- To allow all existing practices to continue e.g. angling

**Expand thinking**

- Future plan beyond initial set up – could expand to have a wider impact; be part of a bigger plan for Irish Sea

**Improves risk assessment**

- Improves risk assessment

### 3.4 What would happen if there were no Marine Conservation Zones?

#### **No change**

- Business as usual
- Continued practice – nothing needs to happen
- It would run as it is e.g. wind farms can go forward / fisheries can go forward
- Apathy
- Existing protected sites will remain – with same lack of effectiveness

#### **Continued biodiversity loss / threats to the environment**

- Continuing decline of the natural environment.
  - - failure of food supply (and business)
- Threats to health (corridor for disease)

#### **Continued exploitation**

- Exploitation of some resources where protection is either not supported or not in place e.g. cockles
- Free for all

#### **Current trends continue**

- Trends, up or down, would continue
- Historic trends continue

#### **Disjointed management**

- Missed opportunity to streamline marine management and create opportunity for a 'gold' standard
- Potential collapse of economic and ecological quality
  - - But there are other management measures e.g. reduction on fishing pressure
  - - Have some disjointed fashion as we do now
- Lack of guidance / support to back up industries sector communication

#### **Fish stocks decline / change**

- Fish stocks continue to decline
- Diminishing business as usual
- Possible diminishing fish stocks lead to look for other species
- Some stocks of shellfish could increase as they have been doing

#### **Missed opportunity**

- Failure to raise awareness on the importance of marine ecology / biodiversity and its affects on the marine environment / sustainability
- Ecosystem service – learning the things that benefit society
- Missed opportunity to safeguard future
- Will not identify where key areas in Irish Sea that make biggest contribution to a healthy marine environment
- Will not identify marine activities that can continue and which that perhaps should not be directed elsewhere
- Will not have identified scientific reasons for fish abundance
- Not have directed scientific research

#### **Fishing blamed**

- Fishing continue to be blamed but what about – dredging (navigation, disposal of material), global warming, changes in salinity, agricultural run off, foreign species, aggregate dredging)

#### **Conflict**

- Sectoral conflict e.g. between different fishing sectors
- Conflict if lack of communication

#### **Out of step with rest of Europe and the World**

- Out of step with rest of Europe and the World

#### **Growing public disquiet with government**

- Growing public disquiet with government

#### **Development**

- Coastline could be full of wind farms
- Business could develop e.g. wind, tidal energy, fish farms, shellfish

#### **Imposed restrictions**

- Strict regulations imposed on fisheries as last resorts
- Instigate other types of legislation or MPAs (potentially without stakeholder involvement from outset)
- More regulation in fishing zones

**Voluntary measures**

- MCZ – if no statutory ones, would be down to volunteer sites and management

**Increased imbalance of power between stakeholders**

- More powerful bodies will gain their interest over smaller groups
- Wouldn't enable people with smaller voice to talk about larger view of planning

### 3.5 What are the challenges to identifying and implementing a network of Marine Conservation Zones?

**Information and understanding**

**Scientific evidence / information**

- No / lack of data – natural, socio economic – precautionary principle for environment but not socio economic
- - Maybe data e.g. private companies may have but problems accessing this.
  - Solway sea Fisheries – last survey 2002 - 1990s data held <37>
- Lack of consistency and up to date, and accessible good standard
- No academic research available in Irish Sea

**Marine expertise**

- Lack of capacity and expertise in marine environment in Irish Sea area – less uni's, less researchers, marine biologists are scarce
- Is there expertise available in EU to implement zones? Especially as a new concept / project and don't know what works and doesn't

**Ecological considerations**

**Network**

- Propose of a network

**Species**

- Ensuring all species / habitats are represented
- How do we prioritise species

**Migrating species**

- Migrating species and interaction with more permanent residents
- Fish stocks move

**Dynamic environment**

- Habitat changes
- Storms have impact
- Impacts of climate change
- Conflicting species and changes in ecosystem balance
- Flexibility to adapt the MCZ boundaries to change

**Time and costs**

**Costs / funding / resources**

- If can't deliver in time – lack of financial support to extend the process.
- Trying to do this on the cheap – need proper investment
- Money for long term
- Resources to implement MCZs i.e. resources available in IFCA
- Resources to implement monitoring, enforce and identify

**Working together**

**Apolitical aims**

- Ensuring aims are apolitical

**Stakeholder participation**

- Getting people to work together – cooperative and collaboration rather than self interest

- Getting all stakeholders 'on the same wavelength' with this
- Trying to keep all stakeholders happy and keeping their interest and motivation
- Persuade everyone to stay involved
- Engaging with major industrial bodies-
  - Encouraging them to come to the table
- All sectors have the same validity

**Public (and stakeholder) awareness / information**

- Bringing together and making it available all the huge amount of information from local levels and make it available and inform everybody

**Finding Agreement**

- Balancing environmental against economic interest
- Makes it harder to mix socioeconomic and ecological
- Conflicting views of different user groups
- Resolving conflicts that arrive
- Lack of agreement where there ought to be
- Make everybody happy

**The Stakeholder Group**

- Strength of the stakeholder group is crucial
- Stakeholder group is representative of Users and countries
- Securing an agreement in stakeholder group

**Links with other policy or drivers**

**Government support**

- Convincing government of long term benefits
- Continued support and understanding of MCAs

**Political pressure**

- Political and organisational pressures

**Cohesion with other initiatives / holistic approach**

- MCZ Also out of step with MSFD
- Finding other relevant initiatives
- Ensuring holistic view of sea to ensure areas outside aren't adversely affected
- Consistency - same approach for all projects
- Equitable across the UK

**Planning issues**

- Planning issues are going through now which are out of step with these timeframes

**Economic benefits**

- Economic benefits to coastal communities, and to the nation in general, for activity at sea

**Enforcement**

**Legislation**

- Obscure / ambiguous legislation

**Enforcement / control**

- Identify suitable policing persons e.g. fishing association draw on example of the Marine Shellfish Association policing their own scallop industry off the Isle of Man
- Policing and regulating them once they are identified
- Policing MCZs
- Enable enforcement by giving local organisations power and resources
- Enforcement
- Not to rely on peer pressure alone for enforcement
- Managing the black market – commercial market e.g. bass
- Criminalising – the hobby fisherman

**3.6 What suggestions do you have of how these could be overcome?**

**Information and understanding**

**More research / information**

- Keeping up to date with scientific developments
- Bringing together all data together into one coherent view

#### **Sharing knowledge**

- Agreeing and sharing knowledge to enable constructive discussions

#### **Learn from case studies**

- Harness expertise of those working e.g. in tropics on marine survey, environmental restrictions e.g. Coral Cay Conservation, Operation Wallacea, Solway Firth Partnership, California, Australia, (DAFF)
- Use analogies for land management to ensure sustainable management of marine resources i.e promoting aquaculture (sustainable forms of)
- Look at other countries experiences to learn from past projects

#### **Marine expertise**

- Ensure a full range of skills to come to a suitable output e.g. Impact Assessment needs to be communicated in an effective way.
- Look for retired marine experts – get them involved

#### **Pilot project**

- Set up a pilot project to see how this works

#### **Local champions**

- Local champions to spread the word particularly from sectors you wouldn't expect

#### **Public awareness**

- Having public forums – go to cities and catch passers-by to get local views
- Good on-going communication to general public
- Talk to schools
- Put on National curriculum

### **Creating benefits**

#### **Wrecks / artificial reefs**

- Creating artificial zones/reefs to help some species

### **Time and costs**

#### **Long-term funding**

- Ensuring funding continued

#### **Fund-raising suggestions**

- Fund raising from tourism
- Introduce a 'amortization tax' on goods produced

### **Working together**

#### **Stakeholder involvement**

- Forum to allow stakeholders to be heard
- Opportunity to engage focus groups as part of the stakeholder group process
- Seek compromise / passive discussions
- Draw on resources of MCZs to develop opportunities for cross sectors to meet, share knowledge and discuss
- Must talk to local level / one man bands
- Communication of same information thought this route (*cross sector discussions*) to all levels
- Issues come to the surface and can be discussed

#### **Balanced representation**

- Avoid prejudice / perspective of established environmental groups
- Honouring requirements to liaise with mixed sectors

#### **Genuine**

- Convincing the stakeholders that this is genuine
- Stakeholder has to have enough influence over central government

#### **Transparency / accessible language**

- Process of identifying / designing MCZs must be transparent with opportunity for feedback
- Selection criteria (eco guidance) is available ASAP & transparent
- Translate complex text into accessible language

- Talking – sector communication and writing in plain English

**Different forms of meetings**

- Continued face to face and mixed use meetings

**Dynamic**

- Needs to be dynamic with opportunity for change

**Equitable**

- Needs to be equitable and accessible in terms of sacrifices people will make
- Balance of private public and community

**Benign dictator**

- A benign dictator!!

**Links with other policy or drivers**

**Political involvement / support for process**

- ISCZ team to communicate effectively with politicians
- Public need confidence in the process of designation – political accountability
- Keep reminding government what the benefits are
- Assurances from DEFRA that the recommendations will be taken on board
- Balance various government agendas i.e. the push for green energy against marine conservation
- Identify any opportunities for feedback back to government

**Co-ordination**

- Looking at other measures in addition to MCZs and make sure they work together
- Relax the process and join with MSFD

**Coherent energy policy**

- Have a coherent energy policy for micro power not large renewable installations

**Enforcement and management**

**Implement the plan**

- Need to ensure implement of the MCZs

**Clear legislation**

- Clear concise, unambiguous legislation, preferably ‘flash read’ (i.e. plain language) covering this and existing other designations.

**Monitoring**

- Need to be clear on type of monitoring needed to determine success
- Monitoring efficiency of commercial fishing

## 4 Involving people

### 4.1 Two-way communication

The Regional Stakeholder Group is the forum that will make the recommendations to government about the MCZ network. To help them make good decisions, the local knowledge, know-how and views of a broad range of other stakeholders will be needed. The people who are not on the Regional Stakeholder Group will also want to hear about and be able to comment on draft information, maps and ideas as they develop.

- Suggest ideas for how ISCZ can help with two-way communication between the Regional Stakeholder Group and other stakeholders.

#### Who to communicate with

- Independent scientific experts
- Irish sea communication to cover broad audience interests including socio economic eco weight conservation
- Coastal parishes and ones just in land / town councils to include elected representatives
- Identification of supported groups to disseminate info to all groups

#### Stakeholder Group

##### Stakeholder Group

- Establish credibility of the stakeholder group - ensure good representation of all stakeholders in the group (not just conservationists)
- Representatives of stakeholder group are point of contact for particular geographical area

##### Balanced representation

- Avoid huge number of government organisations
- Be realistic – have people 'in the tent' not outside i.e. be inclusive i.e. proportionate representation on stakeholder group
- Ensuring stakeholder group is divided regionally as well as by interest
- Rationalise list where have overlapping / similar interests
- Multiple sub regional groups that nominate representation on stakeholder group

##### Stakeholder group member responsibilities

- Stakeholder group member to be receptive to direct communication with local stakeholder direct in event of serious concern
- Support stakeholder group members to report back to stakeholders
- Members of the stakeholder group need to be in a position to circulate outcomes to all stakeholders and provide feedback from other stakeholders
- Someone who represents each group should feedback to their own sector
- Collective feedback or individual feedback to come direct to ISCZ team
- Topics discussed should be fed back in order so everyone is involved
- Ensure member of stakeholder group do not filter info

##### Support role of ISCZ

- ISCZ to enable development relationship to represent to sector who may not know each personally
- ISCZ Team supplies best available info on the stakeholder group

##### Minutes / agenda

- Minutes & agenda prepared by ISCZ team selected dissemination of info from stakeholder group supported by Irish sea individuals from group
- Standard minuted communication of other points would be fine
- Make sure that all meetings / minutes are distributed quickly

#### What to communicate

##### Clarity - project relevance / remit / process

- Ensure that people know the relevance of the project, not just to them but to all stakeholders
- Provision of info of what we are trying to achieve
- Clear guidance on process and timetable

**Methods of communication**

**Press officer**

- Press officer - intelligent press releases

**Use existing publications / networks**

- In district councils communications
- Publicity via existing newsletters and press releases
- Use local (existing) communication systems rather than inventing a new system
- Using existing organisations and their networks e.g. CALC

**Media**

- Local press/ media
- Advertise ISCZ team communications for comment e.g. radio website local media

**Newsletter mailing**

- 'Snail mail' newsletter
- Paper newsletters
- News / report bulletin

**Local information points**

- Local ports to publicise to help communicate to fishermen
- Notice boards
- Identify distribution strategy e.g. newsletters in libraries

**Specialist publications / journals**

- Ads in newspaper or specialist magazines
- Articles in periodicals e.g. the Solway Firth Partnership publication in 'Tidelines' and Cumbria Wildlife Trust

**Workshops/meetings/drop in**

- Stakeholders hold local meetings to provide feedback to members of the stakeholders group. e.g. travelling road shows visual materials
- Drop in days to allow voice to be heard at strategic locations
- Repeat of regional workshops

**Schools**

- Feedback to schools to be set up for the long term
- Communication through schools to get wider audience

**Website / electronic communication**

- Blog
- Dedicated website for access for information and register to receive updates
- Effective interactive Website
- Email regular updates
- Email summaries & reports to allow comment back from registered interested users
- Host discussion forum on the internet e.g. coral list
  - USENET group
  - Set up own notice board so comments come back
  - incorporate all unanswered FAQs on it – use this to start the process
- Make the website interactive
- Newsletter to be circulated (Specifically electronic) needs to be interactive
- Print / email
- Twitter / Facebook
- Web based mapping tool
  - include all existing partnerships e.g. Coastal Forum
- Website - Make sure all people on stakeholder group have contact details listed
- Website to supply info

**General**

- Continued open lines of contact e.g. phone, email, specific email for enquiries
- Document feedback and document question and answer feedback
- Identify communication channels to disseminate info
- Mechanism for response
- Postcards (for comments)

**Facilitative contact**

- Facilitative contact

**Learn from existing projects**

**Case studies**

- Reference Solway Partnership

**Practical issues**

**Clarity / transparency**

- Everybody has access to all information not just stakeholder group info to be made public
- ISCZ disseminate all topics and discussion in plain English to all understand and to all views & including public / transparency
- Trust of own sector individuals representing you or to go through Irish sea team to pass through comments truthfully

**Time to take information in / time to respond**

- Releasing parts of documents and information so not getting a lot in one go
- When release documents for comment, give adequate time to respond

**Response deadline**

- Provide guaranteed deadline for answering queries

**Reimbursement for loss of earnings**

- Reimbursement for people who have lost earnings

**4.2 Explore the idea of ‘MCZ groups’.**

One suggestion for keeping people involved is to set up ‘MCZ groups’. These groups would be hosted by organisations or forum that focus on an area of the Irish Sea and bring different sectors together (eg coastal, estuary or marine forum or similar)

**4.2.1 What do you like about this idea?**

**Good starting point**

- Good starting point

**Networking**

- Networking opportunity

**Wider stakeholder consultation**

- Allow outreach to target of greater diversity and number of stakeholders
- Indirectly increasing numbers involved in Stakeholder Group
- More likely to get better representation at local venues
- Resource of stakeholders which aren’t on the stakeholder group – access to ‘lay experts’
- Must have representative of stakeholder groups

**Local perspective**

- Local input
- Issues might just need to be resolved at local level
- Local meeting should happen after regional meeting
- Regional representative could sit on local level
- Local MCZ groups to meet on an as required basis such as when an area of concern was identified or during set periods within the overall project time. i.e. beginning to raise awareness and after each iterative draft of MCZs within the Irish sea
- Local groups = reference to local stakeholders
- Opportunity for local dialogue and learning more about local environment
- More receptive to hearing things for local people (credibility etc.)
- Local focus is more resilient and info is more robust
- Local provide more challenges

**Information / experience sharing**

- Feed ‘up’ views on local stakeholder knowledge to enable detailed local knowledge

**Opportunity to use existing organisational structures**

- Organisations which already exist can facilitate / input to local understanding – making use of existing networks
- Infrastructure already set up
- Existing groups already have two way communication
- Utilising existing forums you are not asking for additional commitments
- Creates manageable sub-regions, makes good use of existing forums
- This is like Finding Sanctuary County groups advising

**Relevant / applicable**

- Results applicable to area – brings know how of both geographic and specialist interests
- Results more focused

**Link to schools**

- Potential to involve educational sector (local schools etc.)

**Less risk of bias**

- Reduce risk of bias

**The process - transparency**

- Provides transparency

**The process - timing**

- Faster process
- More likely to get quicker acceptance
- Easier to be timed

**The process - dynamic**

- Keeps it dynamic

#### 4.2.2 What are the challenges?

**Scale of representation**

- Some interests e.g. fishers don't operate at 'localised' level
- Unnecessary to break down the groups

**Attracting people**

- How do we attract people?
- Advertise existence of forum
  - Could use topic based forum
  - Challenge would be to engage younger generations and OAPs
  - Electronic forum, make it available and exist for ever
- It will only capture those who are interested so structure is irrelevant
- Ensuring people are only part of the conversation when they are needed

**Local knowledge**

- Need to incorporate local knowledge with the wider network of MCZs across the Irish Sea
- Reinforcing fact that info is being used
- Relevant info for specific areas to avoid info overload
- Keep info simple and no acronyms

**Understanding diverse views**

- Stakeholder group need to understand diverse views for effective decision making

**Understanding the implications of MCZs**

- Ensuring that everyone knows the implications of having these sites

**Host group**

- Identification of hosting organisations that have funding and resources or support channels
- Ensure there is a good commitment from the host group

**Influence**

- Agenda being influenced by host groups
- Possible perceived influence
- Urban areas could have more say / influence

**Raised expectations**

- Can mislead people on amount of influence

**Chairing**

- Need to have a chairman to funnel from local to regional representatives of local MCZ

**Duplication**

- Concern over duplication over more groups
- Duplication of resources

**Time to attend**

- Time for resources for some sectors

**Managing individuals**

- Managing the views of individuals within the groups
- Not too much attention to those who strut the loudest
- May get some people all of the time voicing opinions keeping interest going

**Meeting efficiency – clarity / brevity**

- Keeping language simple
- Being very clear about language and why we are meeting and what do we want to get out of it, strategic when determining when / where
- Terms of reference needs to be very clear. Stakeholder group needs to recognise the value of the sub regional discussions
- Keep them brief

**Consultation fatigue**

- Consultation fatigues - meetings need to be at relevant points

**Funding**

- Resources to undertake stakeholder engagement from government

**4.2.3 Suggest organisations or forum that could host an MCZ group.**

**Organisations / forums**

- Coastal partnerships
- Cumbria Wildlife Trust – but issue with impartiality
- Cumbrian Association of Local Councils (CALC) for community input instead of sectoral
- Fisheries associates
- Marine Conservation Society (but may not function)
- Morecambe Bay Partnership
- Ravenglass Coastal Partnership
- Regional boating interest group (34)
- Solway Firth Partnership
- Solway Firth Partnership could host local MCZ group
- Universities
- Whitehaven Harbour Commission

**Venues**

- Lakes aquarium (and Maryport)
- LDC aquarium up to 50m people
- Should be near coast possibly hotels

**ISCZ team representation**

- ISCZ to attend local committee meetings and forums

**Feed-in to local government**

- Process of feeding into local government

**Funding**

- Wrong approach - Government needs to provide funding to do proper meetings

**Must show a benefit**

- Needs to show a benefit in order to work

## 5 Individual Questionnaire

### 5.1 What do you think about a network of Marine Conservation Zones?

#### 5.1.1 Which did you tick when you came in this morning?

I oppose the idea	I have reservations	I can live with the idea	I support the idea	I strongly support the idea
0	6	4	12	10

#### 5.1.2 In the light of all that you have heard and discussed today, to what extent do you now support the idea of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?

I oppose the idea	I have reservations	I can live with the idea	I support the idea	I strongly support the idea
0	4	3	16	8

#### 5.1.3 What would need to happen to increase your support and move your tick to the right?

**More information**

- More detailed information.
- Current research and information – most data is out of date.

**More time**

- Release timeframe to allow data to be collected. Join up with Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Enough feasibility in ecological and network design guidance.

**More evidence**

- Demonstration of concept of zoning system applicable to all eco/bio diversity.
- More evidence that there is real added value. More sense that economic factors will be taken into account. Sense that there is real government commitment – not just another consultation. Sense that the areas aren't already a done deal – but would like initial thoughts on what zones government has in mind.
- Wait to see some flesh on the bone. Stakeholder awareness is only one part of the process.
- Positive outcomes – demonstrating relevance to my local situation.
- Greater evidence of integration between marine and freshwater ecological and conservation drivers.

**Clarity**

- More clarity over the intended aims. The deliberate vagueness has not helped.

**Keeping people informed / developing shared understanding**

- Ensure that the right un-biased experts are included. Ensure that government bodies and other policy makers are included /informed of progress to ensure that policies won't conflict when MCZs are introduced (not necessarily include them in decisions but at the very least keep them informed). Ensure that the public are also involved. Include roadshows or site visits to include local public input.
- Importance of raising awareness, improving communication, developing improved and shared understanding and recognising common/shared interest in healthy marine environment and its benefits.
  - All crucial and MCZ project has key role in helping to progress.
- It needs to be well communicated to the general public and be in the interest of all not

- tailored purely to conservation.
- Strong public awareness campaign underpinning activity.

**Funding assurance**

- Proper funding put in place to make the process work. I have seen too many initiatives where funding has run out just at the point where it needed to most to start proper delivery e.g. European Marine Sites.

**Stakeholder communication / involvement**

- More communication; a real attempt to involve a wide range of stakeholders.

**Balanced approach to including different stakeholder needs**

- Understanding the capability of the members of the Stakeholder Group to assimilate other interested parties' needs as well as their own to achieve a consensus.
- Assurances to stakeholders that their interests would be taken into consideration.
- More clarity on selection criteria, openness on decision-making process and inclusivity; better balance of interests including socio-economic and communities (not just environmental). Confirmation that the Stakeholder Group's views and comments will be taken into account and that it's not a "fait accompli".
- There would need to be complete transparency and openness by all those participating in the project. All would be at the Stakeholder Group would need to have an open mind and have no pre-agenda positions. The process would have to demonstrate a 'give and take' approach with the catch sector (fishermen) having equal rights and be involved at the highest decision making level.

**Unbiased political process**

- More conviction that the political process would be unbiased and not based on self interest.

**MCZ network in harmony with existing projects**

- Clear goals of the MCZ to work in harmony with existing projects – Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

**Recommendations = action**

- Assurance that if recommendations are made then matching action taken. Assurance that if no recommendations are made that nothing will be done. Take a more strategic view in organising meetings/workshops that are more localised and take less time!!

**Fishing industry**

- More consideration to protecting commercial fishing industry.
- Understanding of the needs of the local fishing industry.

**Nothing**

- It cannot move any further!

## 5.2 Staying involved

### 5.2.1 Please tick one of the following columns and add names where relevant:

Please take me off the mailing list	Keep me informed by email/post	My organisation would like to be actively involved in this and the key contact is.....	I would like to be actively involved on behalf of my organisation. My name is...
0	9	7	14

### 5.2.2 What help or resources would you like to help you communicate about this with others?

**Updates**

- Regular brief summary of progress.
- Updates (short and to the point) – updates in progress; updates on future meetings/events.
- Email updates.
- Regular updates.
- Up to date information.
- Slides/updates from the meeting and progress at the regional level.

**More detailed information**

- More concrete information about the likely coastal boundaries of proposal MCZ and their possible list of excluded activities.
- Informative leaflet; FAQ sheet.
- MCZ project to provide: source of best available information on Irish Sea ecosystem and its uses (from national and local sources); communication of this information, options etc to all stakeholders via appropriate media and language; transparency.
- More specific detail of what MCZs are to protect in Irish Sea.
- CR Rom and written materials; E info.

**Presentations**

- Flyers/posters/even short visual presentations.
- Probably need presentation to our organisation when more is know how/what will happen.

**Expenses support**

- Support to regional unpaid representatives of the NFFO to attend meetings.

**Forum**

- Discussion forum.
- Usenet group(s) on internet.

**Promotional material**

- Any promotional material can be displayed within the aquarium.
- Website, posters and flyers for in-active public.

**Support for two way communication with Stakeholder Group members**

- I believe there should be a system of communication between Stakeholder Groups and those who they represent. I have suggested a newsletter or bulletin so to keep people informed as to what progress or otherwise is taking place. In this way, Stakeholder Group members can demonstrate to those they represent that their views, concerns etc are being discussed. This is imperative for continued involvement of Stakeholder Group members.

**None**

- None – will do through our own network.

**5.3 MCZ Groups**

**5.3.1 What do you think of the idea of MCZ Groups?**

I oppose the idea	I have reservations	I can live with the idea	I support the idea	I strongly support the idea
1	5	4	15	4

**5.3.2 If an MCZ group is set up in your area would you or your organisation want to be involved?**

My organisation would like to be actively involved in an MCZ group and the contact is.....	I would like to be actively involved in an MCZ group on behalf of my organisation. My name is...
Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners RYA (Maybe – through more locally based people TBA) Allerdale Borough Council – Ian Payne Lake District Coast Aquarium – Mark Vollers Natural England (already have contacts on coastal partnerships) Lakes Aquarium – Susan Gass/Dave Conway	Wendy Turner (Muncaster Parish Council/Ravenglass Coastal Partnership) Martin Norris (Cumbria Wildlife Trust – Barrow area) Nigel Catterson (nb21c) John Watson (Centrica) David Dobson (Cumbria Sea Fisheries Committee) Malcolm Guyatt (Ravenglass Coastal Partnership) Judith Clark (RFERAC – EA) David Harpley (Cumbria Wildlife Trust) Ron Graham (Whitehaven Fishermen’s Association)

Kay Foster (Cumbria Wildlife Trust)  
 Jane Hunt (Catapult PR/Western Lake District  
 Tourism Partnership)  
 David Wheeler (Solway Divers)  
 Dave Conway (Lakes Aquarium)  
 Jim Mitchell (Solway Firth Partnership)

## 5.4 Have we missed anyone?

Are there any other individuals, interests or organisations that you think ISCZ need to be communicating with but who you think have been missed out?

- British Canoe Union
- British Marine Federation
- Northern Irish fishing industry
- Anglo-Northern Irish Fish Producers Organisation.
- Ravenglass Boating Association.
- Iona Frost-Pennington - Landowner
- Natural History Society
- Cumbria County Council Kendal (i.e. Judy Palmer/Jenny Wain)
- RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds)
- I haven't heard any mention of wildfowling – probably should be included as it is still actively pursued.
- If you haven't already contacted the Maryport Harbour Users Committee, this is an already set up group representing business using the harbour area/Solway Firth.
- Valuable to consider role of existing partnerships/networks, which already have many of same stakeholders and have facilitation, sustainable use remits. Explore use of existing partnerships e.g. Solway Firth partnership to support the MCZ project at local level – use and strengthen existing mechanism rather than duplicate time, effort, cost.
- Parish/Town councils (community councils)
- Fisheries consultatives across the region.
- Wildfowlers organisation.
- Kathryn Turner on behalf of Wildlife Trusts in the North West.
- Cumbria Tourism
- From the attendance at the Cumbria workshop it appears that many of the major employers were not present, some of which outflow discharges into the Irish Sea. I think it worthwhile contacting employers again to request reviewing their position as the environmental aspect of discharges may become an issue.

## 6 Parking Place points or questions

- What is the evidence that MCZ's are required /necessary?
- Is ecological guidance written for a national perspective and will it take into account the local characteristics of the Irish Sea and other regions?
- Where is the scientific evidence that we need additional protection zones in the Irish Sea?
- User pays concept for MCZs i.e. users within the zones pay a fee which goes towards management.
- Independent enforcers on each port independent of government which can refer to national government.
- Would MCZs lead to closer monitoring of outfall pipes?
- The concept of restocking as a management response for MCZs in which fish populations are insufficient to recover naturally - relevant for MCZ with the intention of protecting and recovering fish numbers.
- The undesirable side affects of this process potentially loss of many livelihoods e.g. fishermen supported by many industry groups and shore based employees.
- Scepticism around this process as being genuine and that DEFRA et al. don't already know where MCZs will be.

- Consistency of approach needs consideration because fishers here fish Isle of Man waters and the coast or Ireland.
- Pressure to comply from the EU is doing a disservice to British coastal management reducing local power to respond to local issues.

## Annex 1 List of Attendees

Name	Organisation
Alastair Smith	Southwest Fishermen's Association
Andrew Lochhead	Galloway Static Gear Fishermen's Association
Audrey Taylor	Cumbria Tourism
Bruce Johnson	University of Central Lancashire
Celia MacKenzie	Whitehaven Harbour Commissioners
Chris Hoban	Copeland Borough Council
Chris Lumb	Natural England
Chris Puxley	ABP Silloth Docks
Dale Rodmell	NFFO
Dave Conway	Lakes Aquarium
Dave Dobson	Cumbria Sea Fisheries Committee
Dave Williamson	Royal Yachting Association
David Copeland	Allerdale Borough Council
David Harpley	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
David Hayes	Cumbria Vision
David Wheeler	Solway Sub Aqua Club
E Elliott	Fishing
Jane Hunt	Catapult PR
Jennifer Stopford	English Heritage
Jim Mitchell	Fisherman
John King	West Coast Sea Products.
John Watson	Centrica
Judith Clark	Regional Fisheries, Ecology & Recreation Advisory Council (Environment Agency)
June Lochhead	Galloway Static Gear Fishermen's Association
Katie Hornby	Cumbria County Council
Katie Read	Western Lake District Tourism Partnership
Kay Foster	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
Keith Dixon	Fishing
Kelsey Thompson	Seasalter
Kirsten Mawby	Cumbria County Council
Malcom Guyatt	Ravenglass Coastal Partnership
Mark Vollers	Lake District Coast Aquarium
Martin Norris	Cumbria Wildlife Trust
Nigel Catterson	Solway Energy Gateway
Rob Whitely	Natural England
Ron Graham	Whitehaven Fishermen's Association
Rose Wolfe	Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Steve Garner	Environment Agency
Stuart McCoy	Fishing
Susan Gass	Lakes Aquarium
Sylvia Woodhead	Cumbria Local Access Forum
Tony Colla	Carlisle Canoe Club
Wendy Turner	Ravenglass Coastal Partnership

## Annex 2 Agenda

# Irish Sea Conservation Zones - County Workshop

## Agenda

For details of topics and questions, please see over the page

9:30	<b>Informal Start</b>	
	Registration, coffee and tea will be available	
	<b>Starting activities</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is 2030 and you are pleased with what you see above or beneath the waves of the Irish Sea. What do you see? Add your thoughts to those of others.</li> <li>At this stage, to what extent do you support the idea of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?</li> </ul>	
10:00	<b>Formal start and welcome</b>	Rowan Byrne of <b>ISCZ</b>
	<b>Facilitators introduction:</b>	Diana Pound. <b>dialogue matters</b>
	<b>Introduction to Irish Sea Conservation Zones:</b>	Laura Bates and Emily Hardman of <b>ISCZ</b>
	<b>Questions to clarify what you have heard</b> ( <i>What do you mean by...? or Can you please explain...? Please write your question on one of the white cards.</i> )	
11:00	<b>Tea and Coffee</b>	
11:15	<b>Developing understanding &amp; commenting on the Stakeholder Group</b> Visit each of the different topics and have your say ( <i>See over the page for topics and questions</i> )	
12:15	<b>Lunch</b>	
1:15	<b>The Irish Sea network of Marine Conservation Zones - benefits and challenges</b> ( <i>See over the page the questions for discussion</i> )	
2:15	<b>Tea and Coffee</b>	
2:30	<b>Involving people</b> ( <i>See over the page the questions for discussion</i> )	
	<b>Questionnaire</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What do you now think about a network of Marine Conservation Zones?</li> <li>Staying involved</li> <li>Have we missed anyone?</li> </ul>	
	<b>Last things – What happens next</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback</li> <li>What happens next?</li> </ul>	
No later than 3:30	<b>Finish</b>	

## Developing understanding and commenting on the Stakeholder Group

### What do you value now about the Irish Sea?

- What do you value most now as it is?
- Where do you value most and why?

### Thinking about how things are now

- What are the current trends or changes that need to be taken into account?
- What are the current issues and challenges?
- What are the current uses and activities in the Irish Sea?
- Roughly, where do they take place?

### Learning from success

- There are quite a few projects already contributing to the sustainable management and use of the Irish Sea. What can we learn from them for this work?

### Information and questions?

- What questions do you have about MCZ and this project?
- What information do you think is needed to inform the selection of Marine Conservation Zones?
- What information do you have that you could make available if it is needed?

### The Stakeholder Group

There can only be a limited number of people on the Stakeholder Group. The group needs to be as fair as possible across interests, marine users, and the area. Take a look at draft ideas on the roles, responsibilities and structure of the stakeholder group.

- What do you like about what you see?
- Suggest ideas for how you think it could be improved.

### MCZ and your interests

- What are the benefits of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?
- What are the challenges of Marine Conservation Zones to your sector?
- From your perspective, what would a successful Marine Conservation Zone network be like?

### Speaking the same language

- To help people from different sectors and interests understand each other we want to put together a list of relevant words and terms. What should be on the list?

## The Irish Sea network of Marine Conservation Zones

- What are the benefits of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?
- What are the challenges of a network of Marine Conservation Zones?
- What will a network of Marine Conservation Zones need to achieve to be worthwhile?
- What would happen if there were no Marine Conservation Zones?
- What are the challenges to identifying and implementing a network of Marine Conservation Zones?
- What suggestions do you have of how these could be overcome?

## Involving people

### 1. Two-way communication

The Regional Stakeholder Group is the forum that will make the recommendations to government about the MCZ network. To help them make good decisions, the local knowledge, know-how and views of a broad range of other stakeholders will be needed. The people who are not on the Regional Stakeholder Group will also want to hear about and be able to comment on draft information, maps and ideas as they develop.

- Suggest ideas for how ISCZ can help with two-way communication between the Regional Stakeholder Group and other stakeholders.

### 2. Explore the idea of 'MCZ groups'.

One suggestion for keeping people involved is to set up 'MCZ groups'. These groups would be hosted by organisations or forum that focus on an area of the Irish Sea and bring different sectors together (eg coastal, estuary or marine forum or similar)

- What do you like about this idea?
- What are the challenges?
- If you like the idea, suggest organisations or forum that could host an MCZ group.