

# Marine Charter

We the undersigned support Wildlife and Countryside Link's call for the swift designation of an Ecologically Coherent Network of Marine Protected Areas in UK seas by 2020.

We call on this Government to work with the devolved administrations and together ensure that this network meets international principles on coherence, and represents the full range of features in the UK seas as required by the relevant Marine Acts.

The full network must address current gaps including ambitious proposals within the third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones in English Seas and Secretary of State Waters, alongside wider marine protected areas, and must be well managed to maintain sites that are in good condition and recover those which are damaged.

Such a network is essential not only to stem the alarming decline in marine habitats and species, but to recover them and to ensure that the enormous social and economic benefits derived from marine goods and services can be realised for generations to come.

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Wildlife and Countryside Link represents more than 8 million people through 45 voluntary organisations concerned with the conservation and protection of wildlife.

Link's Marine Charter is supported by 25 organisations.



email: [marinecharter@wcl.org.uk](mailto:marinecharter@wcl.org.uk)

# [www.marinecharter.org.uk](http://www.marinecharter.org.uk)