

Philip Robertson  
The Scheduling, Marine and Battlefields Team  
Historic Scotland  
Room G51  
Longmore House  
Salisbury Place  
Edinburgh EH9 1SH

Dear Philip,

### **Consultation on proposed designations**

The Society is grateful for the opportunity to take part in the consultation on these new proposed designations. We advocated strongly for the governing legislation, as defined in the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, to designate Historic Marine Protected Areas (HMPAs). The Society does not have the resource to examine each area designation individually, but we support the use of this new legislation to further protect our incredible marine historic assets. Indeed, we look forward to Scottish Ministers extending the range of HMPAs in Scotland, with appropriate research justification, so that all significant historic environment resources in marine areas, not just wrecks, are more adequately protected from accidental or deliberate damage.

We also note that the UK has still to sign up to the 2001 UNESCO Treaty on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage which came into force in 2009. We understand the Scottish Government has adopted a UK Marine Policy Statement and we would urge the Scottish Government to advocate for the signing of this Treaty to further support the protection of our marine heritage and ensure best practice.

Yours sincerely



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