



South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands

Office of the Commissioner
Government House,
Stanley,
Falkland Islands.

Marine Protected Areas Consultation

On February 29th 2012 GSGSSI created a large Marine Protected Area in the SGSSI Maritime Zone, north of 60 degrees south. The creation of the MPA established in law much of the protection that was already in place through fisheries licensing policies.

Following the declaration a scientific workshop was convened in Cambridge in April 2012 to consider what extra protection may be appropriate. The workshop coincided with the completion of two major scientific projects funded by the Darwin Initiative and Overseas Territories Environment Programme that investigated marine biodiversity (Darwin) and the development of Marine Protected Areas generally (OTEP).

The outcome from that meeting was a set of proposals for additional spatial and temporal protection in the MPA. GSGSSI are now considering those proposals and would welcome comments from stakeholders. Details of the proposals are contained in a document entitled "SGSSI MPA Consultation Oct 2012.pdf" that is available on the GSGSSI website.

Please send any comments to ceo@gov.gs (cc'd to mfs@gov.gs) by November 2nd 2012. In particular it would be helpful if you could consider the following questions:

1. Are additional spatial and temporal closed areas in the MPA necessary?
2. Which of the proposed spatial and temporal closed areas (if any) do you support and why?
3. Which of the spatial and temporal closed areas (if any) do you not support and why?

GSGSSI

5th October 2012