



Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) Stakeholder Group

An update on the Marine Spatial Planning project

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MSP Project Manager



Overview

- The new project manager
- MSP Phase II – overview
- MSP Steering Committee
- Overview of AFCAS – key outputs
- Planned consultation timelines & next steps



The new Project Manager

- Worked on range of MSP projects in UK
 - Irish Sea Pilot Scheme – first MSP project in UK
 - Implementation of Offshore Natura in the UK
 - Offshore Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)
 - Marine Conservation Zones in the offshore
 - Stakeholder driven process
 - Identifying MCZs in UK offshore waters
 - Current Chair of ICES Working Group on Deepwater Ecology
 - Provide advice to NEAFC & EC on protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems (e.g. cold water reefs)



The MSP journey so far

- Darwin Plus project completed summer 2016
 - Three workshops completed
 - FIG approved production of FI Marine Spatial Plan
 - ‘Development phase’ – Phase II now underway
- MSP Phase II (four work packages)
 - Assessment of current fisheries closures as potential sites for marine conservation (AFCAS)
 - Legislative review
 - Communications/outreach/WebGIS
 - Develop options for long-term MSP strategy - ExCo

MSP Steering Committee & Stakeholder Group



- Revised Steering Committee
 - John Barton (Director of Fisheries)
 - Diane Simsovic (Head of Policy)
 - Nick Rendell (Environmental Planning Dept)
 - Paul Brickle (Director, SAERI)
- Revised Stakeholder Group
 - 15 stakeholder representatives from across the FI
 - Draft ToRs approved by Steering Committee
 - Advisory not decision-making group

Assessment of current fisheries closures as potential sites for marine conservation (AFCAS)



- The aims of the AFCAS project were to:
 - Review current international (IUCN) MPA criteria
 - Describe characteristics of current Fishing Closure Areas (FCAs)
 - Assess the FCAs under IUCN MPA criteria
 - Propose best options for Marine Management Areas (MMAs) based on existing FCA and **stakeholder recommendations**



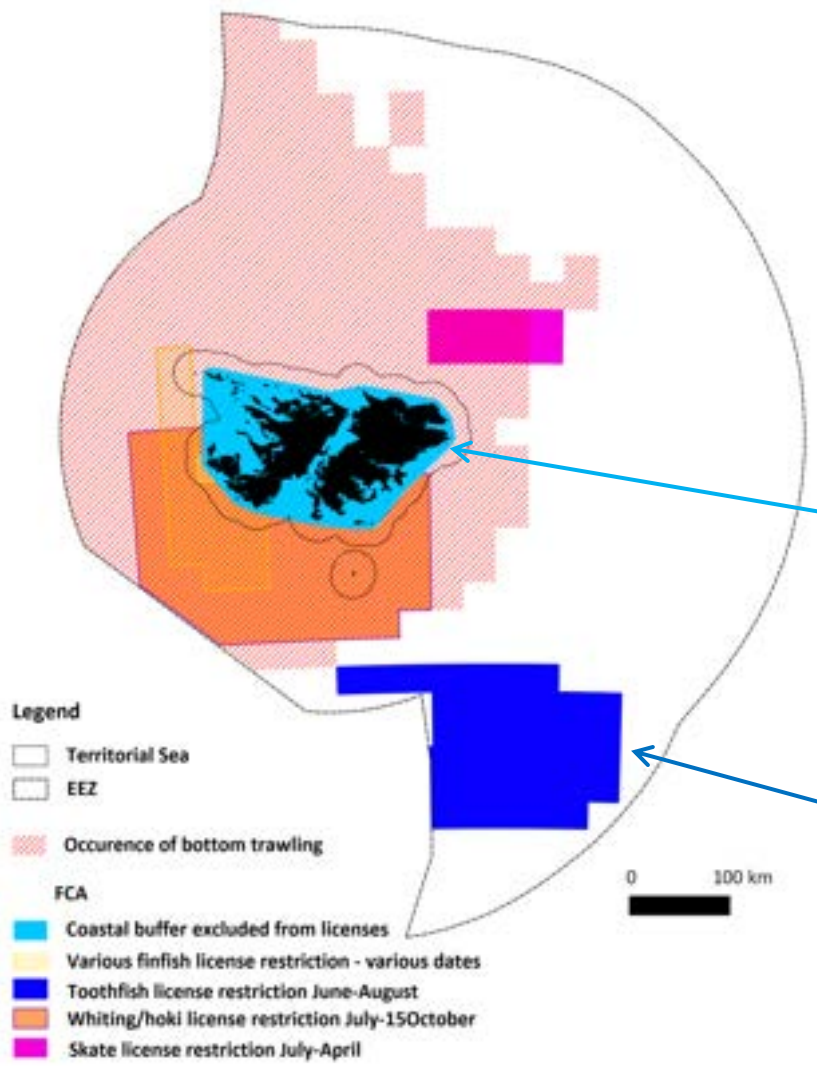
AFCAS continued

- IUCN criteria require:
 - clearly stated conservation objectives and are managed for nature conservation
- Fishing Closure Areas (FCAs) alone do not fit IUCN criteria

BUT

- All/parts of some FCAs may fit other IUCN criteria, and just require FIG to clearly state biodiversity conservation objectives/management plans, with minimal changes to current activities/management

AFCAS continued



- Two FCAs may be considered potential MMAs

3nm Fisheries exclusion zone

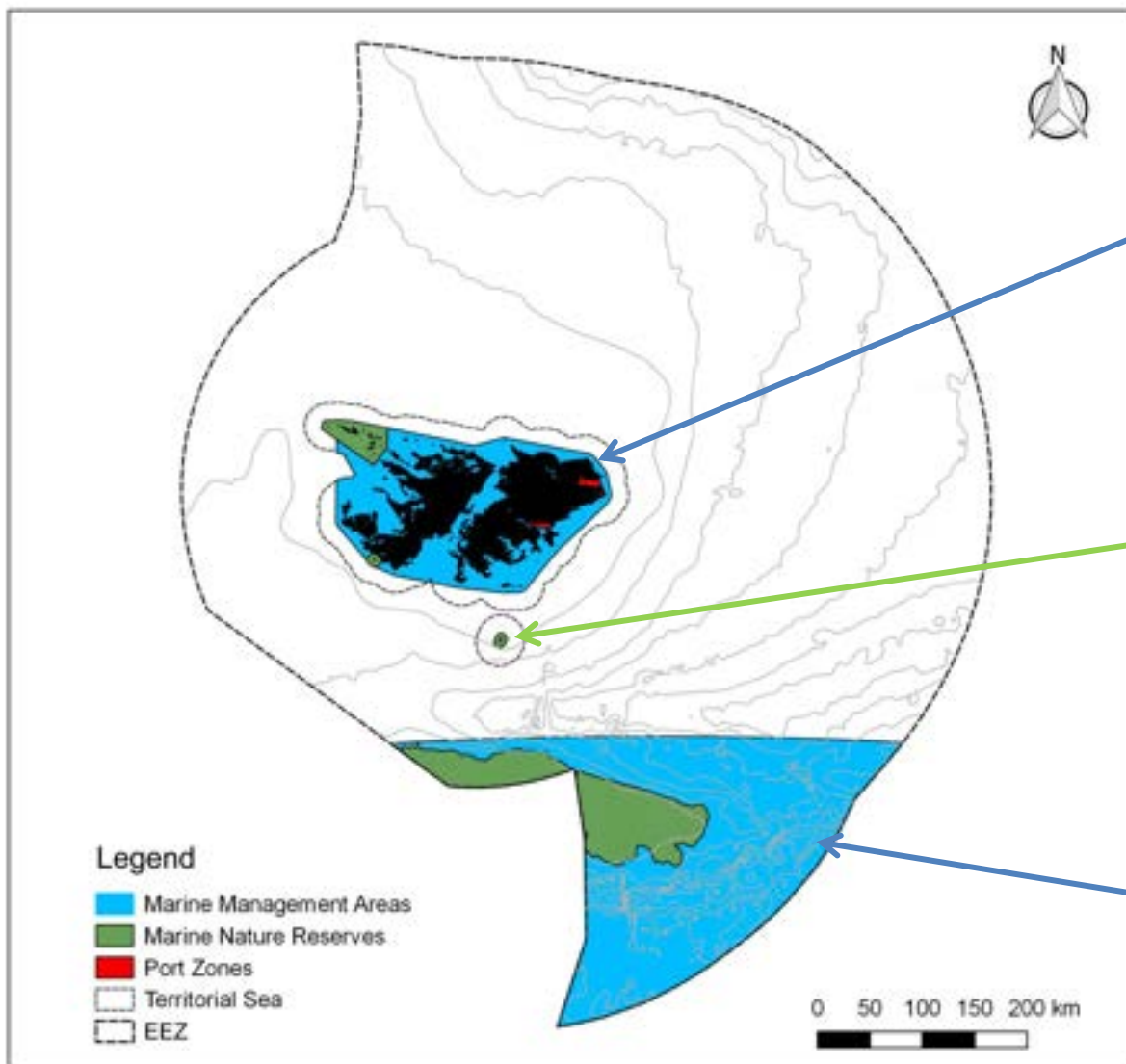
Toothfish licence restricted area



Proposed zones within MMAs

- MMAs can be formed of one, or many types of zone:
 - Sustainable multi-use zones
 - Shipping lanes
 - Port Zones
 - Restricted Activity Zones
 - Marine Nature Reserves
 - Scientific Reserves
- Three areas proposed as MMAs

Three MMAs proposed



Falklands Inshore MMA

- Based on FCA (3nm fisheries exclusion zone)
- Combination of zones: Sustainable multi-use zone, marine nature reserve, and port zone.

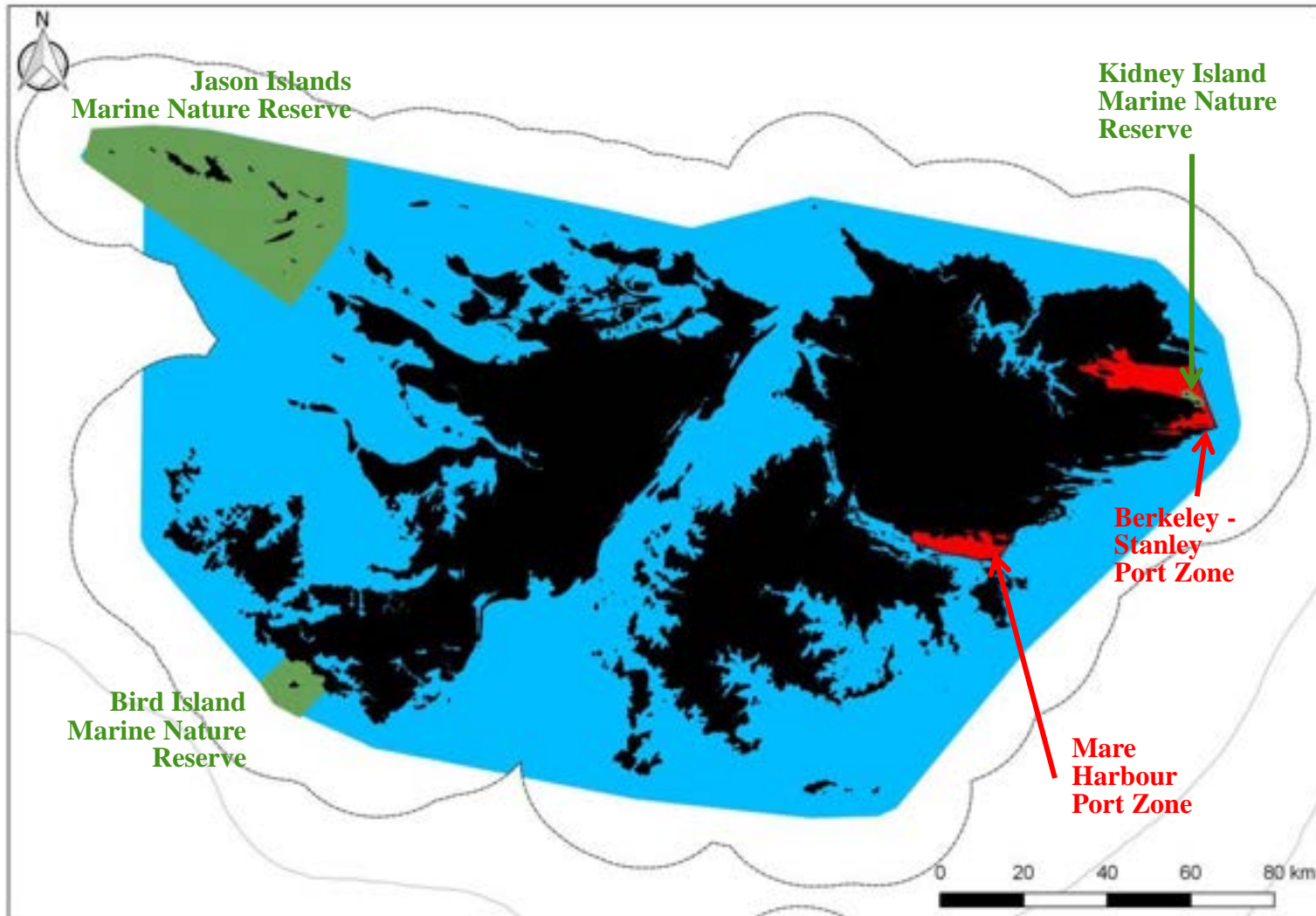
Beauchêne Island MMA

- In the middle of highest value fishing cells **BUT** no fishing within 3 nm (5.6 km) so same buffer used as 3nm fisheries exclusion zone to create MMA.
- Marine Natural Reserve only.

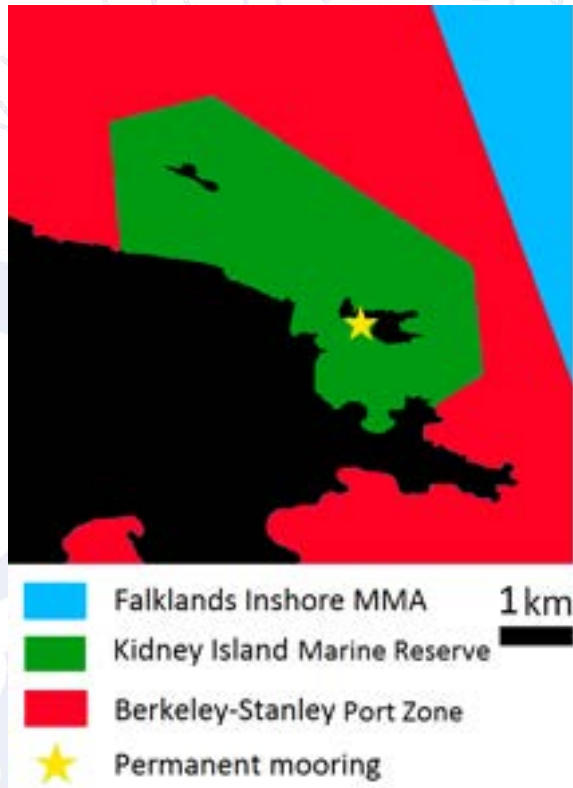
Southern Falklands MMA

- Based on FCA toothfish licence FCA with addition of adjacent area where there is no fishing (other than toothfish long-lining)
- Combination of zones: Sustainable Multi-use Zone, Marine Nature Reserve.

Falklands Inshore MMA



Kidney Island MNR (includes Cochon Island)



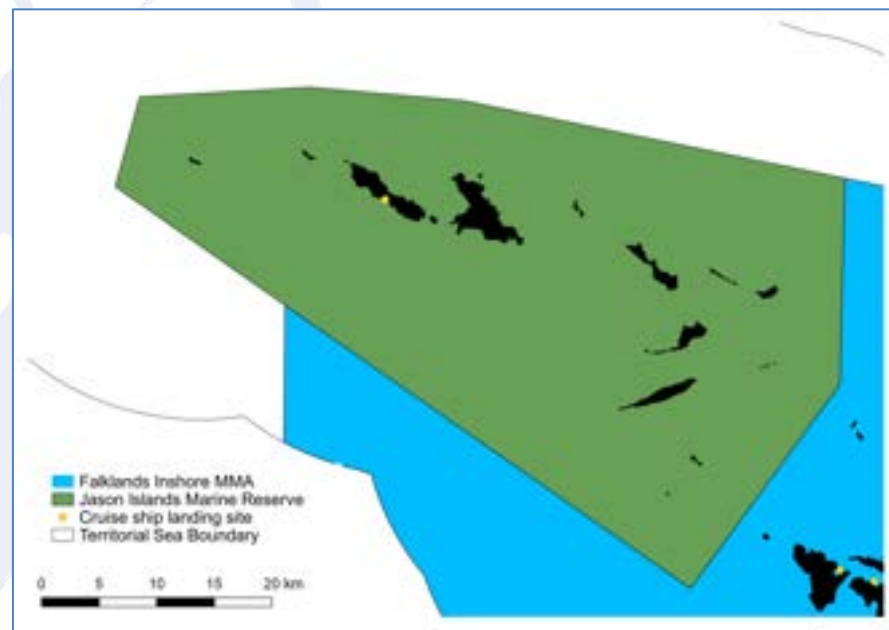
- Both islands are National Nature Reserves
- Land and marine nearshore listed as **priority Key Biodiversity Areas***
- Main breeding site for **sooty shearwaters** (>100,000 pairs est.)
- Important **eco-tourism** site, including diving
- **Tussac** islands with good cover
- Key site for scientific marine **research** (Kidney Island only)
- Islands are **rodent free**
- Important **cultural site** for recreational values, natural beauty and sense of place

**Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs)* are 'sites that contribute to the global persistence of biodiversity', including vital habitat for threatened plant and animal species in terrestrial, freshwater and marine ecosystems.



Jason Islands MNR

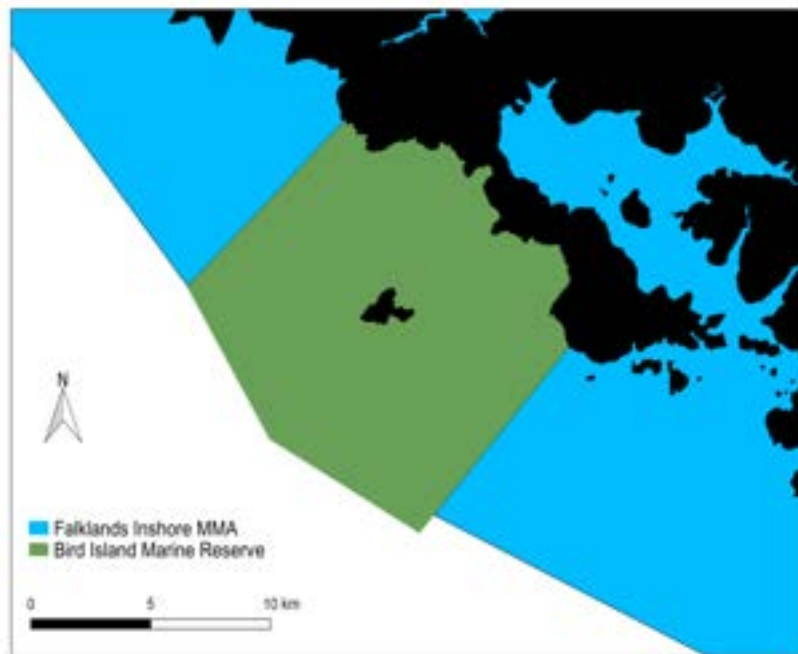
- All islands are National Nature Reserves or are private nature reserves with management plan under the ownership of the World Conservation Society
- Land and some near-shore areas listed as a **priority KBA**
- **Tussac** islands with good cover
- **56% of breeding Black-Browed Albatross** population of the Falklands (approx. 44% of the world population)
- **41% of breeding Rockhopper penguins** of the Falklands (approx. 15% of the world's population)
- **77% of South American fur seals** breeding in the Falklands
- Important **cultural site** for natural beauty





Bird Island MNR

- Island is a National Nature Reserve & KBA
- Breeding colonies of **Southern Rockhopper penguin**, endemic **Cobbs Wren**, and globally sig. populations of **Black-browed Albatross & Striated Caracara** (highest known density of breeding pairs on a single island in Falklands)
- Adjoining coastline is a priority KBA
- Important **South American Fur Seal** population (10,000 calculated in 2001)
- Island is rodent free
- Important cultural site
(recreational/sense of place
/natural beauty)





Proposed management plans

- **Example - Beauchêne Island MMA:**
 - No commercial or recreational fishing
 - No entry, no traffic, no anchoring or limited numbers of scientific research or monitoring expeditions permitted by the Institute (including biosecurity check and approval by the Institute before entry)
 - No sheltering from storms from fishing vessels unless life threatened in emergency
 - All proposals for new activities must ensure they do not impact or cause risks to the MMA values
 - Regular (every 5 years) monitoring of biodiversity status

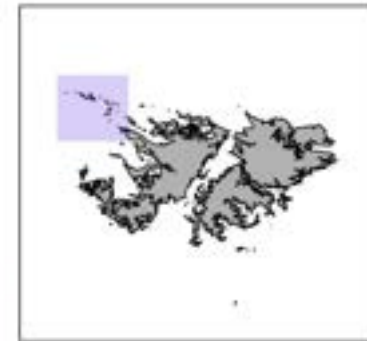
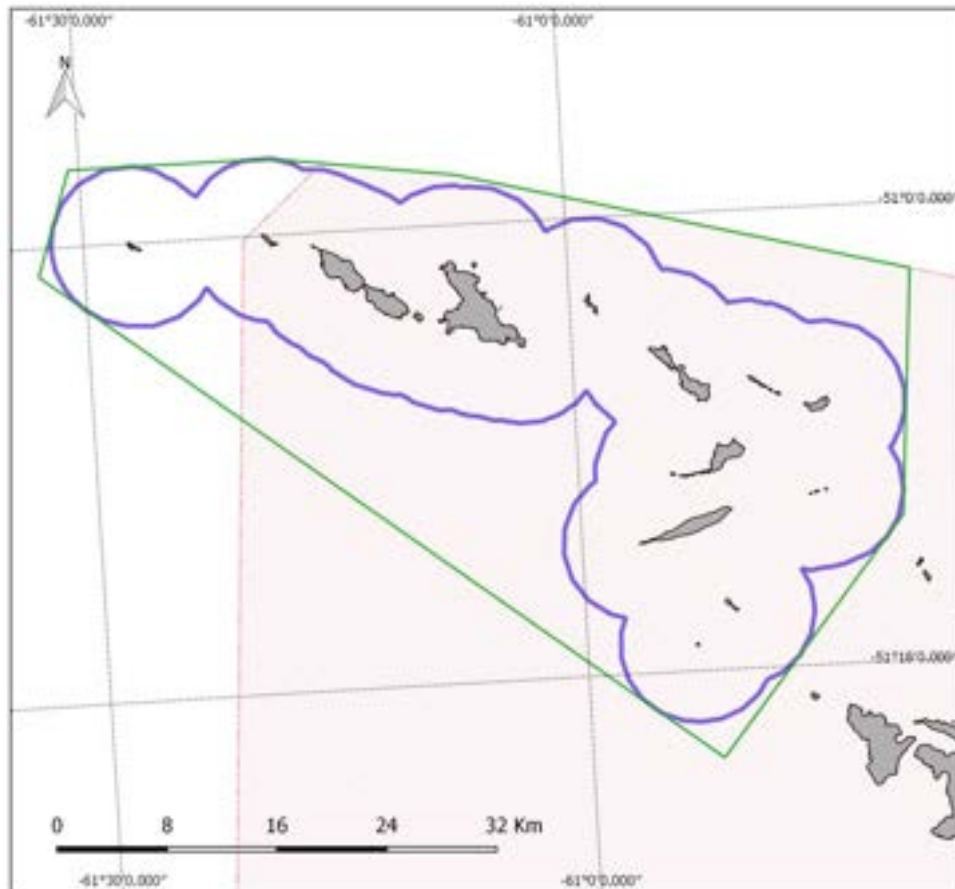
WILL BE PUT OUT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Development of boundary guidance



- A need some guiding principles to delineate boundaries for Marine Spatial Planning
 - E.g. by definition, protected areas are a clearly defined, geographical space (Dudley, 2008)
- Reviewed existing advice/guidance from ICES, JNCC & UK Inter-Agency Marine Mammal WG
- Essential for future MSP work and beyond
- Approved by Steering Committee

Jason Islands MNR boundary



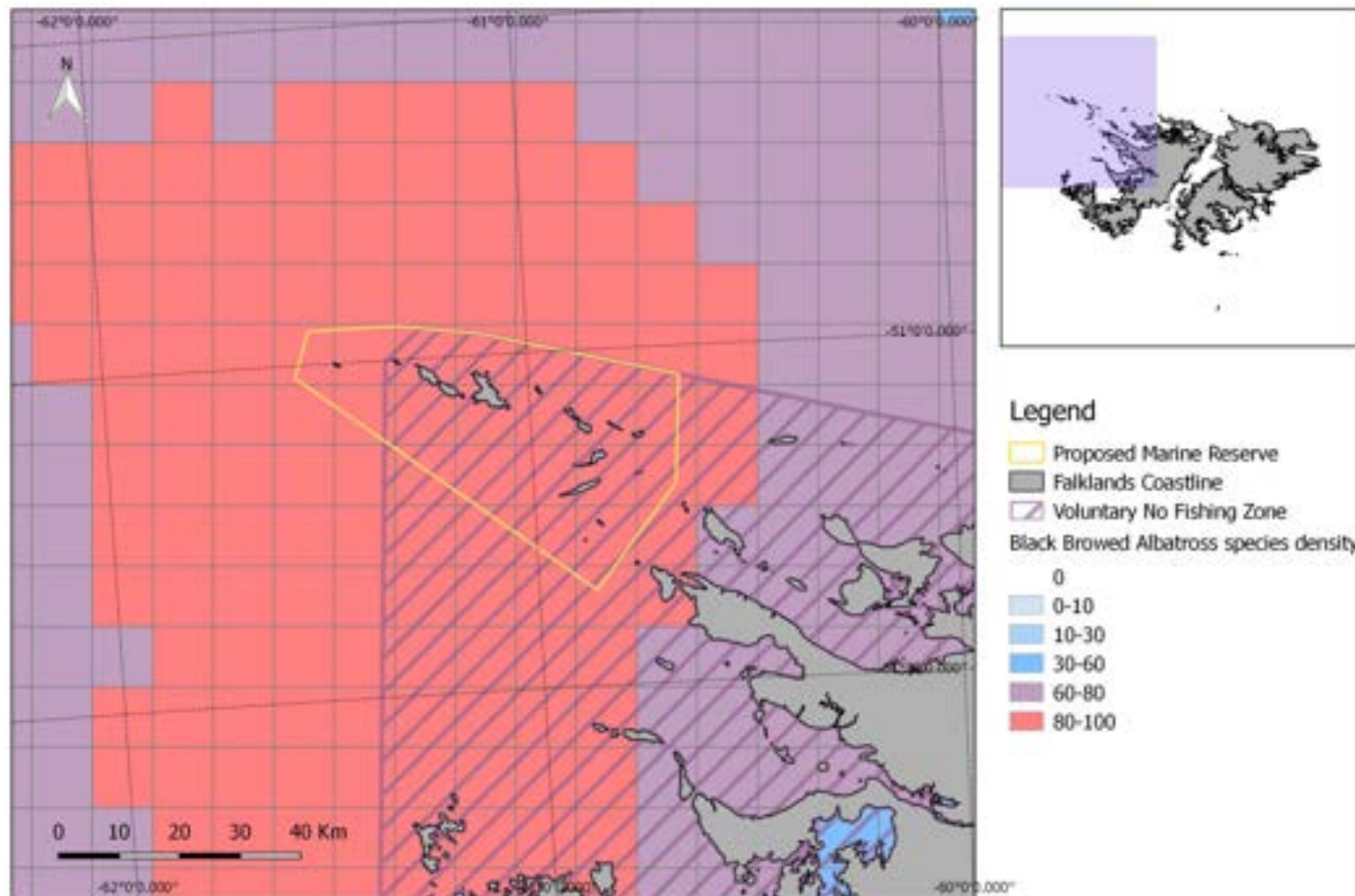
Legend

- Proposed Marine Reserve
- Jason Islands 3 nm buffer
- Falklands Coastline
- Voluntary No Fishing Zone

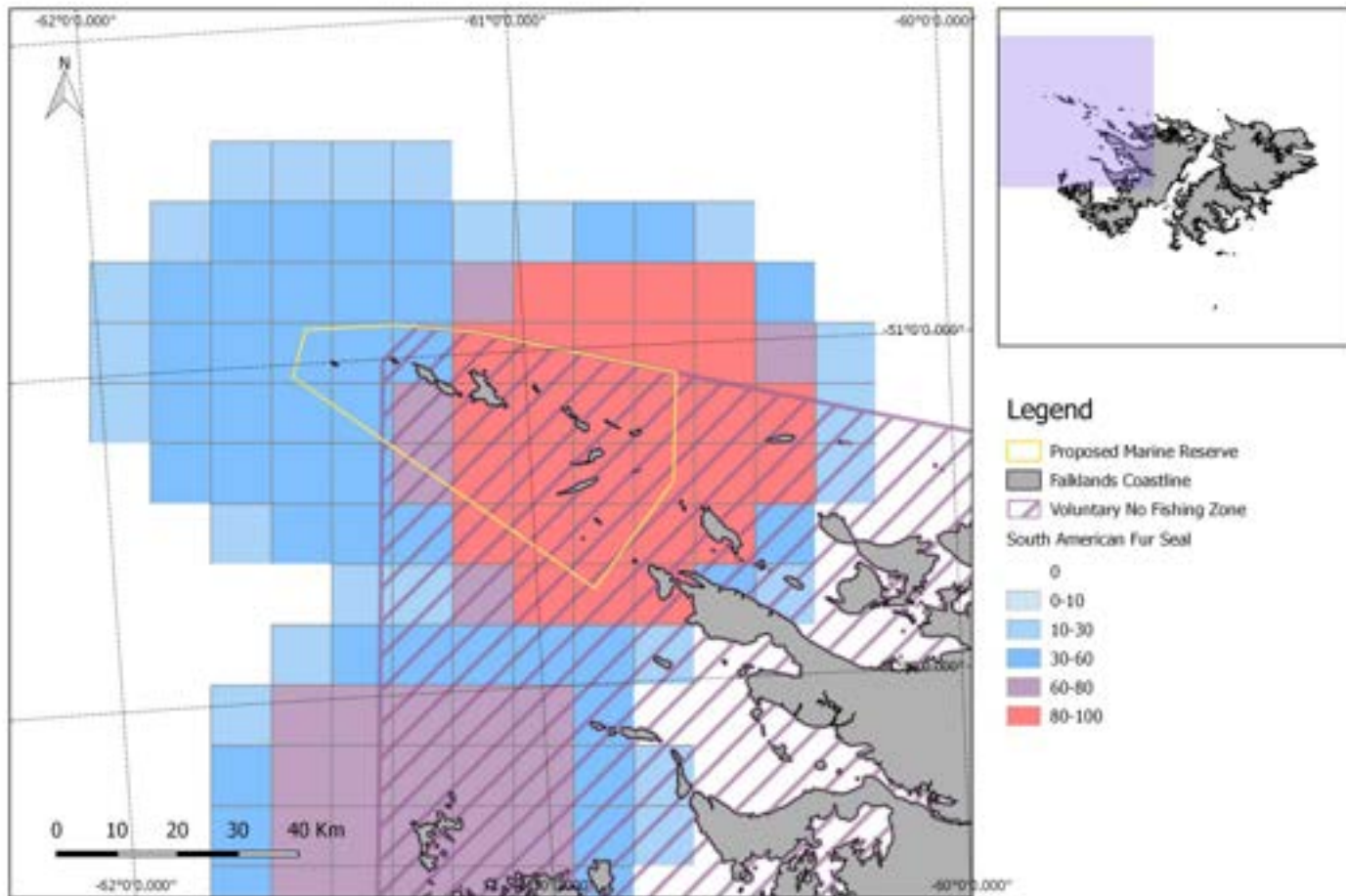


Jason Islands MNR boundary

Black-browed Albatross

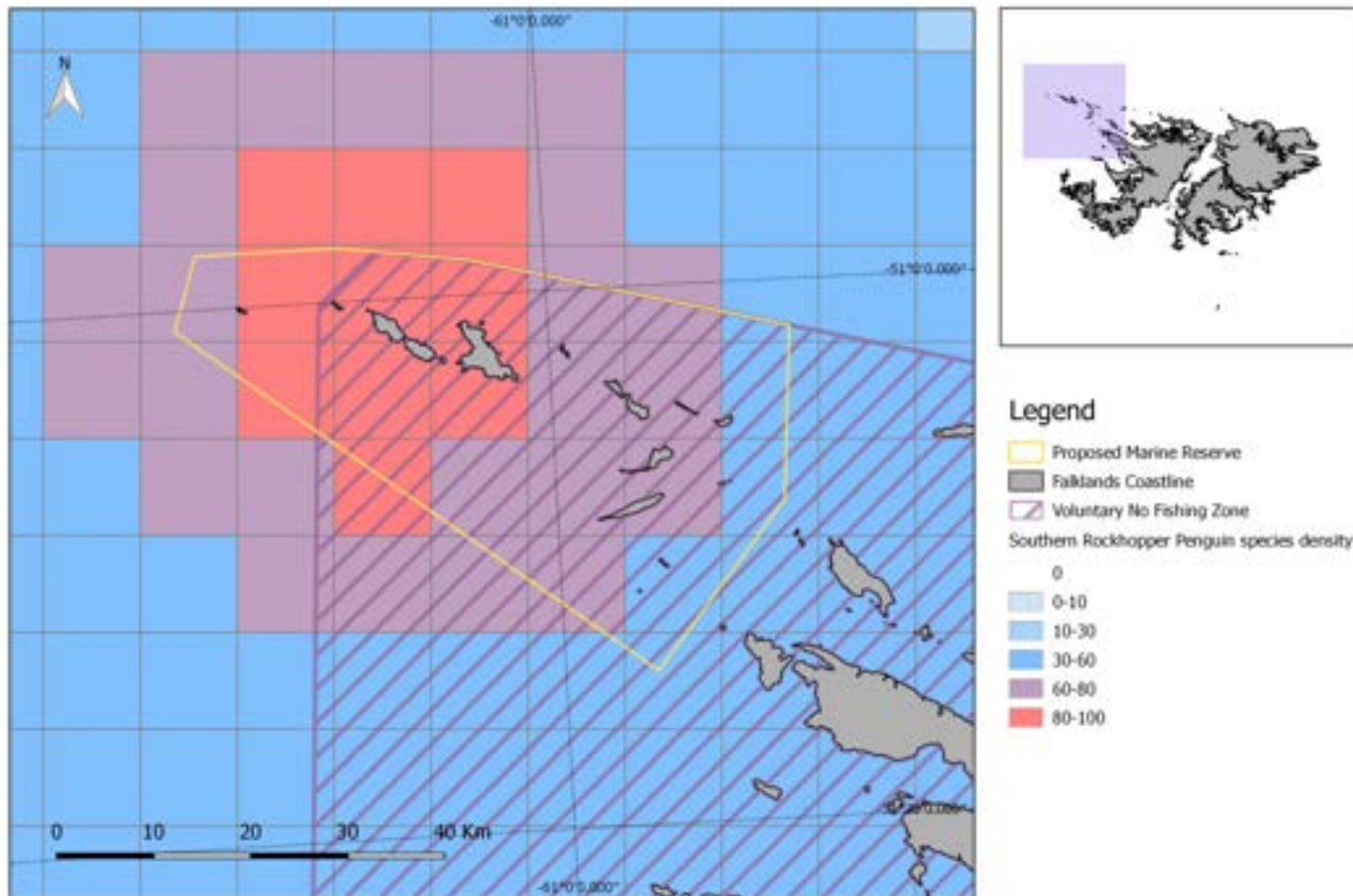


Jason Islands MNR boundary South American Fur Seal



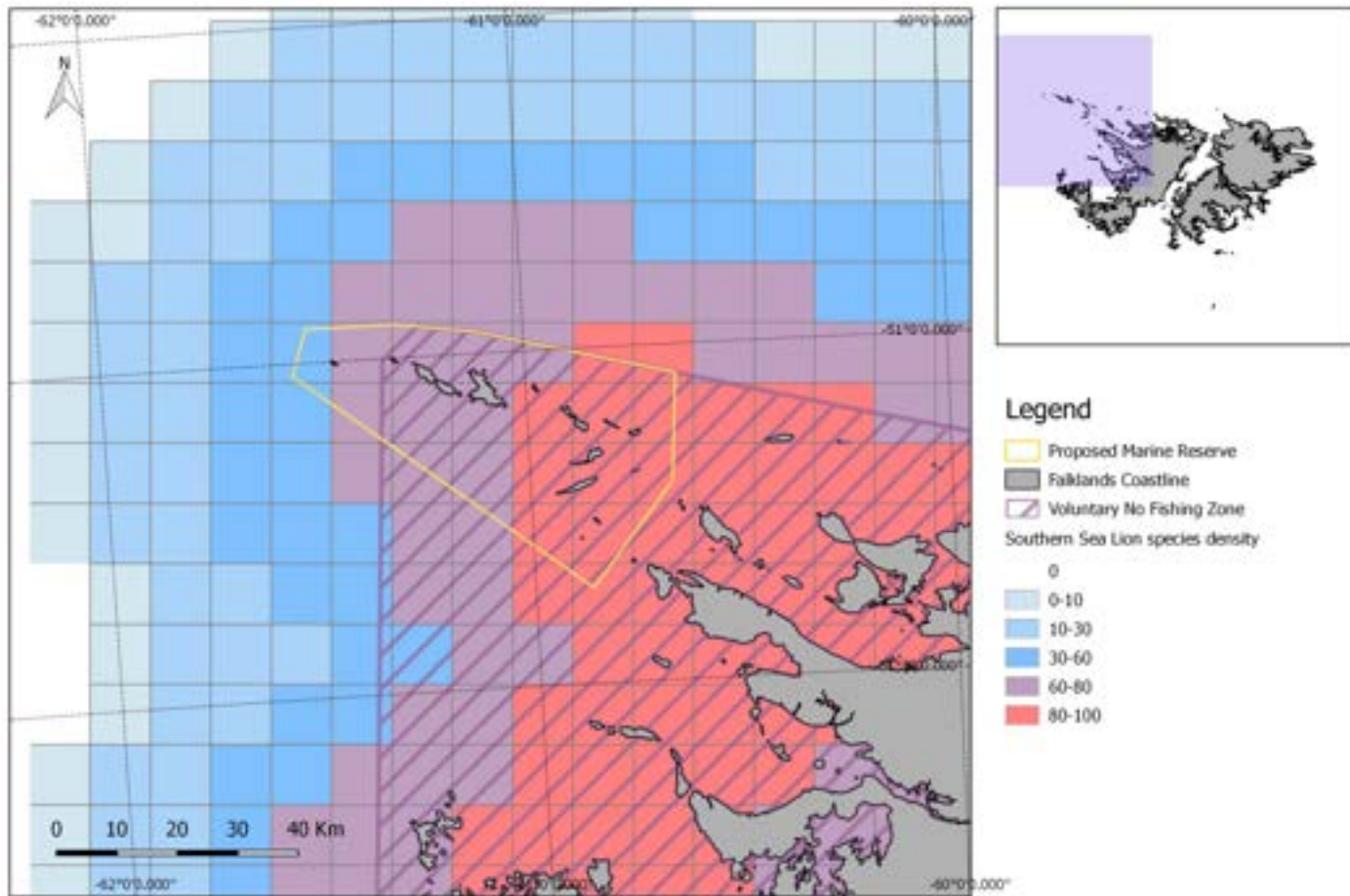
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Jason Islands MNR boundary Southern Rockhopper Penguin



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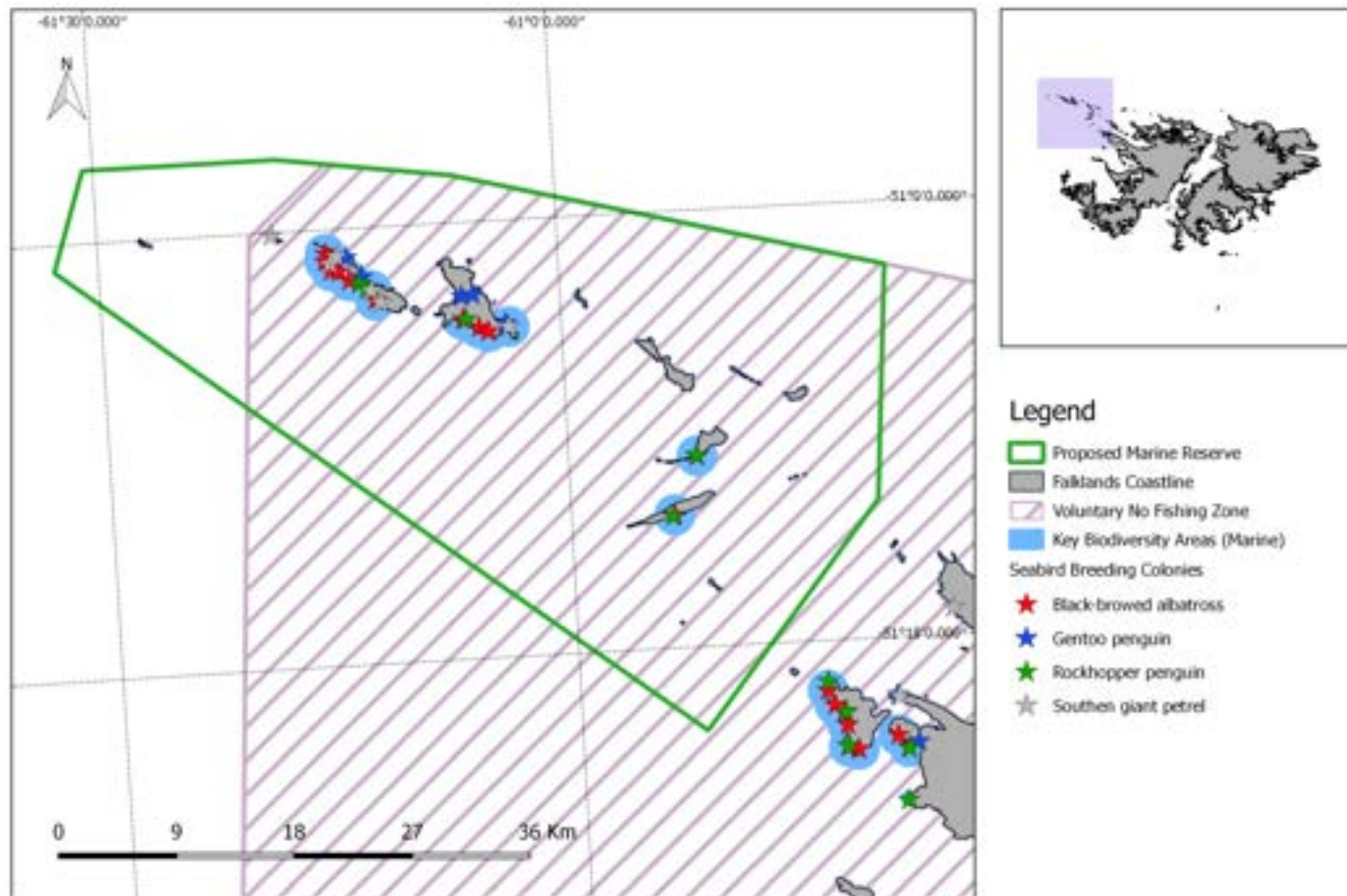
Jason Islands MNR boundary Southern Sea Lion



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Jason Islands MNR boundary KBAs and seabird colonies



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Next steps for the project

- Public consultation of the AFCAS report
 - Six week consultation currently planned
 - Commencing Monday 13th March 2017
 - Opportunity for stakeholders & wider public to comment on the AFCAS outputs
- Update paper planned for Environment, Fisheries & Mineral Committees
- Consultation summary report - May '17
- Legislative review planned: April – May '17
- Paper to ExCo – Long-term MSP strategy

A landscape photograph showing a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, partially obscured by dark, heavy clouds, creating a bright glow. A small boat is visible on the water in the distance. The foreground is a dark, grassy field. The text "Any questions?" is overlaid in the lower center of the image.

Any questions?