



Section 2: Sector Policies

The policies within this Plan are designed to guide all marine and coastal users in terms of proposed and existing development(s) and activities. Users of this Plan must also comply with the National Marine Plan and other relevant legislation.

The general policies within Section 1 of the Plan provide a framework for the sustainable development and use of the marine and coastal environment. These general policies should be adhered to in advance of policies within Section 2 as they are all potentially relevant to any proposal for development or activity by any sector or user of the marine and coastal environment.

Section 2 outlines policy relating to the key current economic activities taking place in the Clyde Marine Region. These policies provide a framework to ensure that the economic, social and environmental benefits are delivered for each sector. The chapters are ordered in the same way as the National Marine Plan.

Each chapter follows the same format, this includes:

- A context which sets out a summary of the main information relevant to the policy area. More information on each of the areas can be found within the [Clyde Marine Region Assessment](#).
- Objectives and policies; objectives provide a measurable strategic aim or goal for each policy area and policies which will deliver the objectives are set out underneath.
- Maps are included at the end of the chapter. For the latest available spatial data, see [National Marine Plan interactive](#) (NMPi). It is recommended that NMPi is used in conjunction with this Clyde Regional Marine Plan.
- Links to further information on the policy area.



Chapter 14: Energy, subsea cables and pipelines

The licensing and regulation for oil and gas exploration, extraction and decommissioning is the responsibility of the UK Government, through the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. The Department's environmental regulations relating to emissions and discharges do not apply in internal or controlled waters (0-3 nautical miles) and competence in relation to pollution matters in these areas rests with the Scottish Government.

Any deposit, removal or dredging carried out for the purpose of executing emergency inspection or repair works to a cable is exempt from the marine licensing regime with approval by Scottish Ministers. Otherwise, cable replacement and new cable installation is subject to the marine licensing process.



Scottish and Southern Energy test turbines at Hunterston.

Clyde Marine Region Context

This chapter includes energy generation, transporting oil via pipeline and power and telecommunication infrastructure/cables.

There has been no extraction of fossil fuels within the Clyde Marine Region to date. While there are no active commercial offshore wind and marine renewable energy schemes in the Clyde Marine Region, one tidal option site is located to the south of the Kintyre peninsula. The National Offshore Wind Turbine Test facility at Hunterston is the UK's only onshore test facility for offshore wind turbines. Two coastal sites, at Hunterston and Campbeltown/Machrihanish are identified in the National Renewables Infrastructure Plan as locations for manufacturing, operation and maintenance. In addition, Troon, Ayr and Inchgreen in Inverclyde have been identified as potential support sites for marine renewables, providing operations and maintenance (see MAP 1). Hunterston B nuclear power station is due to start decommissioning in 2023; its coastal location is important for access to water from the Clyde for industrial cooling.

Finnart Oil Terminal is a petrochemical transfer facility located on the eastern shore of Loch Long. The terminal is capable of receiving Very Large Crude Carriers and Ultra Large Crude Carriers. There are two land-based pipelines that transport crude oil across Scotland to the Grangemouth refinery and transport the refined products back for export.

Subsea power cables (transmission and telecommunications) are a key component of the Clyde Marine Region's enabling infrastructure and are of recognised national and international economic importance, providing power and broadband connectivity to businesses and households on the mainland and the islands, as well as further afield.

For further detail on this sector, see Chapter 6.8 of the [Clyde Marine Region Assessment](#).

Objectives



Objective ENCA 1 **The Clyde Marine Region enables the reduction in reliance on fossil fuels and the increased use of marine wind, wave and tidal renewable energy sources in line with national Sectoral Marine Plans.**

MEASUREMENT: Marine licence applications relating to option sites. Section 36 applications. Town and country planning determination process as applicable.



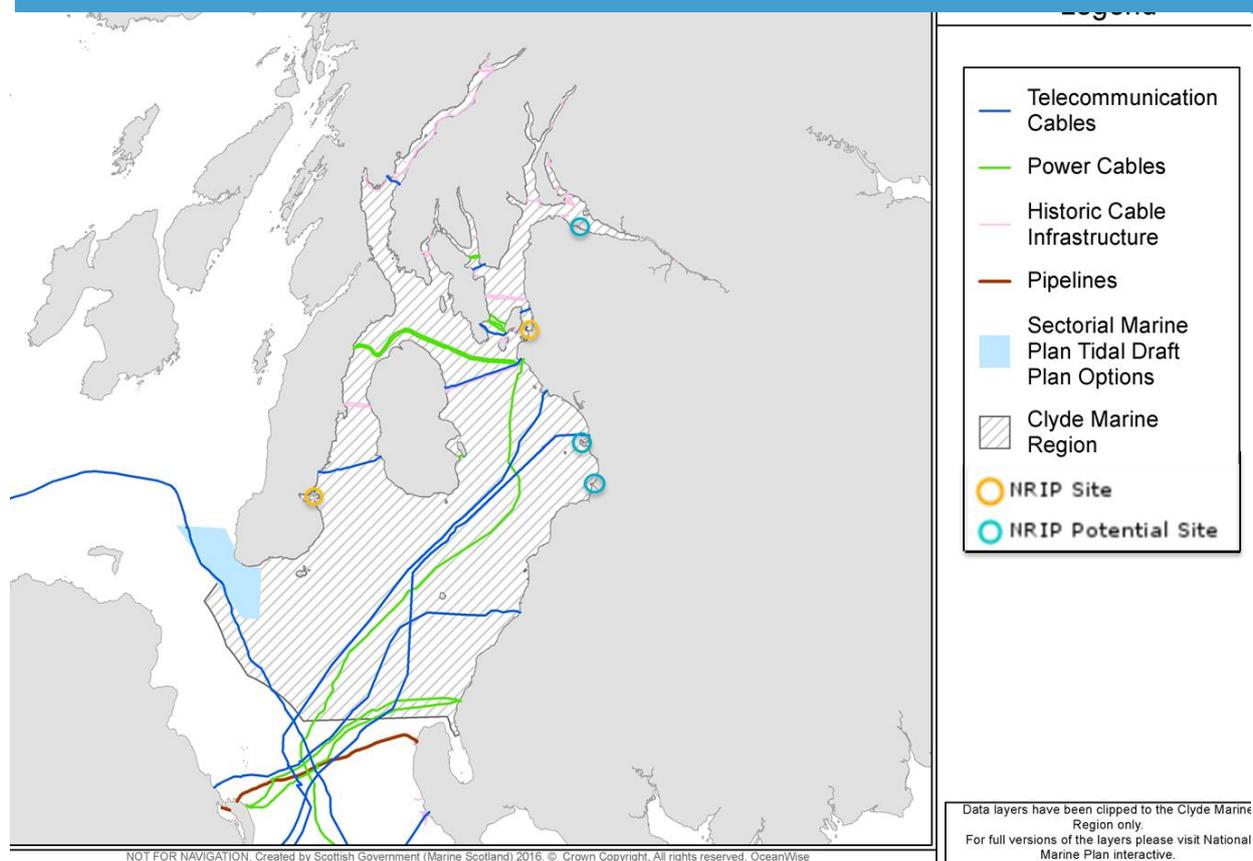
Objective ENCA 2 **The laying, replacement and maintenance of important subsea cables and pipelines is undertaken with due consideration of all marine users.**

MEASUREMENT: Marine licence application process. Statutory Harbour Authority's Works Licences if installation in Harbour jurisdictions.

Policy – Authorisations and consents

- Policy ENCA 1** Development and activities relating to offshore wind and marine renewable energy development will be supported where:
- proposals for commercial scale developments are sited in Plan Option areas identified through the Sectoral Marine Plan process (see MAP 1),
 - due regard has been paid to relevant factors in Regional Locational Guidance,
 - connections to shore and National Grid infrastructure have been considered in line with the relevant Local Development Plan(s),
 - detailed restoration and maintenance proposals are included.
- Policy ENCA 2** The decommissioning of oil and gas infrastructure will be supported in line with Policy SHIP 2. Proposals for oil and gas exploration and production are not anticipated in the Clyde Marine Region; however, any proposal will only be supported where in line with statutory marine and terrestrial planning policy, environmental regulations and industry best practice.
- Policy ENCA 3** The laying, replacement and maintenance of communication and power cables and any oil and gas pipelines is supported where:
- proposed land fall is in line with the relevant Local Development Plan(s),
 - existing routes and landing points are used where practicable,
 - a Fishing Mitigation Action Plan, considering all legitimate sea users, is completed.

Map ENCA 1 – Energy infrastructure and NRIP sites within the Clyde Marine Region.



These maps are indicative only. For up-to-date mapping with interactive features, visit [National Marine Plan interactive](#).

Further information

[Draft Regional Locational Guidance and Initial Plan Frameworks](#) are available for marine renewable energy in Scottish waters.

[The Marine Licensing \(Exempted Activities\) \(Scottish Offshore Region\) Order 2011 \(Amended 2012\)](#)

[European Subsea Cables Association \(ESCA\) guidelines](#). The ESCA supports a project, [KIS-ORCA \(Kingfisher Information Services Offshore Renewables and Cable Awareness\)](#), to increase [cable awareness](#) and aims to improve cable safety by providing freely available charts and [emergency procedures](#).

[The Renewables Action Plan](#) identified key actions required to achieve national objectives and led to the development of the [National Renewables Infrastructure Plan](#).

The Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) provide [Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments](#).