



Department
for Environment,
Food & Rural Affairs

2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 2BQ

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

Date: 21/11/2025

Dear Consultee,

Consultation on implementation of Part IV of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessments.

1. I am writing to invite views on the implementation of Part IV of the Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Agreement on Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs).
2. Defra and the Scottish Government are seeking information on potential activities taking place in the high seas and seeking views on proposed amendments to the marine licensing regimes under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (MCAA) and the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 (MSA).
3. This consultation also reviews the division of licensing responsibilities in Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) between the MCAA and the MSA.
4. The following documents may be found on GOV.UK:
 - Consultation document
 - Privacy notice
 - De-Minimis Assessment
5. We welcome your views and comments on the proposals. If you wish to obtain a copy of this consultation, please contact: marine.licensing@defra.gov.uk

Responses

6. To submit your consultation response please complete the consultation questionnaire provided through Citizen Space (Citizen Space is an online consultation tool).
7. If you require a copy of the consultation, please contact us at marine.licensing@defra.gov.uk.
8. The consultation will be open for 4 weeks from 21 November 2025 to 19 December 2025. Responses should be received by 11:55pm on 19 December 2025.

Using and sharing your information

9. How we use your personal data is set out in the consultation and call for evidence exercise privacy notice which can be found here: [Privacy notices - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/privacy-notice).
10. If you have any comments or complaints about the consultation process, please email: consultation.coordinator@defra.gov.uk
11. Thank you for your help in this matter. If you have any queries, please contact us as above.

Yours Faithfully,
Defra Marine Environmental Assessment and Licensing Team
marine.licensing@defra.gov.uk

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs