

# MPAs and Fisheries Management

13 October 2015

European Parliament Brussels

Bertie Armstrong

Chief Executive Scottish Fishermen's Federation



# MPAs – benefit or battleground?

- Benefit! However.....
- Process and progress

# Challenges and trade-offs

- Parallel requirements of healthy and productive seas
- MPA requirements:
  - Adequate
  - Coherent
  - Representative

# Practical Experiences

- Sound process for search, selection and designation
- Unsound process for decision-making on management measures

# Mythology

- More is better
- “High protection” = benefits to fish stocks

# The Flaws

- Dynamics of consultation on measures
  - “Representative Democracy” versus “Participative Democracy”
- No Socio-Economic analysis at the relevant level

# The Challenges

- The Big One - Society and Fishing
- How to embrace a logical process – objective versus subjective
- How to ensure the correct level of socio-economic analysis

