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Timeline of key MSP events in the Shetland Islands

2006

Shetland becomes one of four pilot areas created by the Scottish Government to trial marine planning under the Sustainable Marine Environment Initiative (SSMEI). It is guided by a national and local Advisory Group.

2007

The first edition of the Shetland Islands' Marine Spatial Plan (SIMSP) is created.

2008

The second edition of the Shetland Islands' Marine Spatial Plan is published and voluntarily adopted and used in decision making by Shetland Islands Council (SIC) as part of the licensing and planning process.

2010

The third edition of the SIMSP was published along with a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA).

End of the SSMEI project. MSP continues in Shetland supported by Marine Scotland and the NAFC Marine Centre UHI.

2010

The Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 came into force and along with it the requirement to create a national marine plan and subsequent regional marine plans.

2012

A full review of MSP in Shetland was undertaken including interviews and questionnaires with all stakeholders.

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2013

Information from the review was used to create the fourth edition of the SIMSP and inform the SEA.

2014

The fourth edition of the SIMSP was published and subsequently formally adopted as Supplementary Guidance to the SICs Local Development Plan in 2015.

2015

The National Marine Plan for Scotland was adopted.

2016

Direction from Scottish Ministers was given to the Shetland Islands Marine Planning Partnership (SIC and NAFC Marine Centre) to create a regional plan for the Shetland Islands.

2019

The draft Shetland Islands Regional Marine Plan (SIRMP) was published along with a SEA and Habitats Regulations Appraisal (HRA).

2020

Public consultation on the SIRMP and associated assessments.

2021

The SIRMP is awaiting approval from Scottish Ministers.