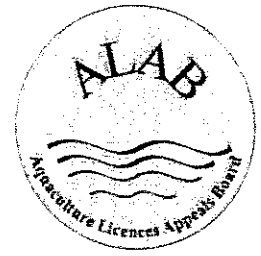


AP1-4/2017

GWEEEDORE

**SECTION 47 LETTER
TO NPWS DATED
31/8/17**

An Bord Achomharc Um Cheadúnais Dobharshaothraithe
Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board
Kilminchy Court
Dublin Road
Portlaoise
Co Laois
R32 DTW5



Tel: 057 8631912 Email: info@alab.ie Web: www.alab.ie

National Parks and Wildlife Service
7 Ely Place
Dublin 2

31 August 2017

Our Ref: AP1-4/2017
Site Ref: T12/410 A&B, T12/419 A, B & C, T12/430 A & B and T12/438 A & B

Re: Appeal against the decision of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to grant an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence to Thierry Gillardeau & Desmond Moore, Celtic Kerber Ltd, Mr John Boyle and Mr Gary Boyle for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles in Gweedore Bay.

To whom it concerns

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine granted Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles in Gweedore Bay.

ALAB is of the opinion that further information is necessary for the purposes of enabling the Board determine the Appeal. Pursuant to Section 47(1) (a) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997, where the Board is of the opinion that any document, particulars or other information is or are necessary for the purposes of enabling the Board determine the Appeal it may serve a notice on a party.

In accordance with the provisions of section 47(1) (a) of the Act, the Board requires the following information:

Status of srathóg (or strathógui)

Evidence of well-preserved and intact examples of srathógs have been identified at the proposed licence area which is located within an SAC. They are located in areas where oyster trestles have, or will be, placed. The archaeological status of these man-made structures is presently undetermined, but their presence is incompatible with the placement of oyster trestles and it is possible that the boulders that make up these structures will be moved in order to make way for trestles. The interaction between oyster trestle placement and existing historical seaweed harvesting plots (srathóg) may lead to significant damage to these structures. The site inspection confirmed the presence of well-preserved seaweed plots, but found evidence that they are being moved or cleared to accommodate the movement of oyster trestles up the shore. Accordingly, the proposed sites are expected to continue to negatively impact on these historical seaweed plots.

Appellants have indicated that these early seaweed harvesting structures hold historical and cultural significance for the local community and possibly for Ireland in general.

The Board wish to clarify the particulars of the srathóg, in particular their age, archaeological value, their statutory or protected status and the archaeological and man-made heritage significance of this loss.

In accordance with section 47 (1) (a) of the Act, the Board requires this information **within 28 days** of receipt of this letter.

Please note that if the documents, particulars or other information specified above is not received before the expiration of the period specified above, or such later period as may be agreed by the Board, the Board will, without further reference to you, determine the appeal.

Please also note that a person who refuses or fails to comply with a requirement under subsection (1)(a) shall be guilty of an offence.

We await hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Mary O'Hara
Mary O'Hara
Secretary to the Board