T6-433



AQUACULTURE - LICENSING UNDER

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT 1997 as amended

and

FORESHORE ACT 1933 as amended

Application Form for an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence for a <u>single specific site</u>. If a Licence is required for more than one site a separate application form must be completed for each site.

Important Note

Section 4 of the Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act, 1998 (No. 54 of 1998) prohibits any person making an application for an Aquaculture Licence from commencing aquaculture operations until duly licensed under the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 (No. 23 of 1997), and provides that a breach of that prohibition will cause the application to fail.

A copy of an Environmental Impact Statement and Natura Impact Statement should be enclosed, if required, with all new, review and renewal applications. See Guidance Notes Section 3.

> Aquaculture & Foreshore Management Division, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co. Cork Telephone: (023) 8859500 Fax: (023) 8821782

> > **Revised 2014**

AQUACULTURE AND FORESHORE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM, for purposes of FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 and FORESHORE ACT. 1933

NB:	The accomp	anying Gu	idance	Notes	should	be
read	before comp	leting this	form.			

<u>Note</u>: Details provided in Parts 1 and 2 will be made available for public inspection. Details provided in Parts 3 and 4 and any other information supplied will not be released except as may be required by law, including the Freedom of Information Act 1997 as amended.

USE BLOCK CAPITALS IN BLACK INK PLEASE

for Office Use	T6/433
Application Ref. No.	

n Date of Receipt (Dept. Stamp):

Type of Ap	oplicant (tick one)	
Sole Trader	ł	
Partnership		
Company		
Co-Operative		
Other	Please specify-	

PART 1: PRELIMINARY DETAILS

Applicant's Name(s)		LIAM	HAYES	
1.			- myee	
Address:	GLOSHA			
	CROMAN	Ξ		
	KILLOR	GLIN		
	Co.	KERRY		
2.		/		
Address:				
3.				
Address:	and define the state			
4.	Phy in the second s			
Address:				

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Contact in case of enquiries	(if different from above)
Contact Name	
Organisation Name (if applicable)	
Address	

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PART 1: PRELIMINARY DETAILS

TYPE OF APPLICATION - please indicate relevant type o This Application Form is valid for each type of application	
(i) Aquaculture Licence	
(ii) Trial Licence	
(iii) Foreshore Licence, if Marine Based	\checkmark
(iv) Review of Aquaculture Licence	
(v) Renewal of Aquaculture Licence	

TYPE OF AQUACULTURE

L

1

See Guidance Note 3.2

Indicate the relevant type of application with a tick.

(i)	MARINE-BASED		
	Finfish		Go to Parts 2.1 and 2.1A
	Shellfish Subtidal		Go to Parts 2.2 and 2.2A
	Intertidal	\checkmark	Go to Parts 2.2 and 2.2A
	Seaweed/Aquatic Plants/Aquatic Fish Food		Go to Parts 2.3 and 2.3A
(ii)	LAND-BASED Finfish Shellfish	Go to Pa	rts 2.4 and 2.4A Go to Parts 2.4 and 2.4A
	Aquatic Plants Aquat	icristrood [Go to Parts 2.4 and 2.4A
(iii)	TRIAL LICENCE		Go to appropriate Parts as above and to Part 2.5.
		2	

When fi	illing out this section refer also to 2.2A and Guidance Note 3.3 for information on Conditions and Documents required with this application type
roposed	Site Location
(i)	Bay: DINGLE , CASTLEMAINE HARBOUR
(ii)	County: KERRY
(iii)	OS Map No: KY 056
(iv)	Co-ordinates of Site: (please specify coordinate reference system used e.g. Irish Grid (IG) or Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) or Latitude/Longitude [in which case specify whether ETRS89 or WG84 etc.]
	ITM Center 471372, 598539
(v)	Size of Site (hectares): 18.75 HA.
Notes 3.3	
(vii) Whe	CRASSOSTREA gigas PACIFIC Oyster
vii) Whe vii) Ple collection	ether production will be sub-tidal or inter-tidal? mTex-TidAL ase supply details of (a) source of seed e.g. wild hatchery and location and (b) means of n and introduction to culture.
(vii) Whe (viii) Ples collection TRALEE NB Importat Health Auth (ix) Meth	CRASSOSTREA gigas PACIFIC Oyster ether production will be sub-tidal or inter-tidal? inter-tidaL ase supply details of (a) source of seed e.g. wild hatchery and location and (b) means of n and introduction to culture. HATCHERY SOURCE E BAY HATCHERY CASTLEGEGORY tion of seed within the State regulates notification to the Marine Institute as per the Fish
(vii) Whe (viii) Ple collection <u>RALEE</u> NB Importat Health Auth (ix) Methother)	CRASSOSTERA gigas PACIFIC Oyster ether production will be sub-tidal or inter-tidal? inter-tidaL ase supply details of (a) source of seed e.g. wild hatchery and location and (b) means of n and introduction to culture. HATCHERY SOURCE Source of seed within the State requires notification to the Marine Institute as per the Fish norisation Regulations - See Guidance Notes Section 6 hod of culture (rope, trestles - intensive; bottom - extensive;
viii) Whe viii) Whe collection <u>EALEE</u> NB Importation (ix) Methother) (x) Prope (xi) Prope	CRASSOSTERA GIGAS PACIFIC OYSTER ether production will be sub-tidal or inter-tidal? <u>INTER-TIDAL</u> ase supply details of (a) source of seed e.g. wild hatchery and location and (b) means of n and introduction to culture. <u>HATCHERY</u> <u>Source</u> <u>Source</u> <u>BAY</u> <u>HATCHERY</u> , <u>CASTLEGEEGOEY</u> tion of seed into the State or movement of seed within the State requires notification to the Marine Institute as per the Fish orisation Regulations - See Guidance Notes Section 6 hod of culture (rope, trestles - intensive; bottom - extensive; <u>TRESTLES</u> <u>BAERS</u> posed number of lines/ropes/trestles as per site layout drawing <u>1200</u> <u>Trestles</u> <u>by</u> <u>year</u> <u>3</u> , <u>1800</u> <u>Trestles</u> <u>-</u> <u>Year</u> posed Production Tonnage:
Notes 3.3 (vii) Whe (viii) Ples collection TRALEE NB Importa Health Auth (ix) Meth other) (x) Propo (xi) Prop Year 1	CRASSOSTERA GIGAS PACIFIC OYSTER ether production will be sub-tidal or inter-tidal? Intex-tidaL ase supply details of (a) source of seed e.g. wild hatchery and location and (b) means of n and introduction to culture. HATCHERY SOURCE CBAY HATCHERY CASTLEGEECTORY tion of seed into the State or movement of seed within the State requires notification to the Marine Institute as per the Fish norisation Regulations - See Guidance Notes Section 6 hod of culture (rope, trestles - intensive; bottom - extensive; TRESTLES & BACTS posed number of lines/ropes/trestles as per site layout drawing 1200 Trestles by year 3, 1800 Trestles - Year posed Production Tonnage:

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(b) If using trestles please outline the physical characteristics of the site which make it suitable for using trestles 15 TTE MOSTLY SANDY 50 EASIERTO 15 LOWER AREAS SOPR ON SOME SINK EXCESSIVELY, TRESILES SHOULD NOT (xiii) Is it intended that the product is for direct human consumption or half grown? Please specify CONSUMPTION DIRECT HUMAN (xiv) How will the visual impact issues of the flotation devices for the proposed application be addressed? UISIBLE TRESTLES BAGS ONLY AT LOW TIDES, HNY BUOYS WILL BE GREY RIEND IN (xv) Is the site located in Designated Shellfish Waters Area? (Refer to Guidance Note 3.3.2) Yes No If yes give details. licensed oyster areas Surrounder all by sides 00 If no outline the reasons why you believe the site suitable for the proposed aquaculture, notwithstanding its location outside Designated Shellfish Waters Area? (xvi) Has the area been classified under Food Safety Legislation? (For Bivalve Molluscs) What is the current classification of the area for the proposed species applied for? (xvii) Is the site located in/adjacent to a sensitive area e.g. SPA (Special Protection Area) or SAC (Special Area of Conservation) i.e. a Natura 2000 site? (Refer to Guidance Note 3.3.1- Natura 2000 sites) P (xviii) Are there known sources of pollution in the vicinity e.g. sewage outfall? Yes (No) If yes please give full details. (xix) Methods used to harvest the shellfish and details of any subsequent processing of shellfish Marvall harveted - broug nore boal (xx) Describe any proposed purification facilities to be used: none 7

(xxi) What are the main predators of the species to be cultivated?

significant

(xxii) Describe the method(s) which will be used to control them

See Part 2.2A for details of documentation to be included with this application type

No

2.2A DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR MARINE-BASED SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE

(to be included separately with a Licence Application for a new site or for a renewal or review of an existing Licence)

- An appropriate Ordnance Survey Map (recommendation is a map to the Scale of 1:10,000/1:10,560, i.e. equivalent to a six inch map). Note: The proposed access route to the site from the public road across tidal foreshore must also be shown on the map.
- Scale drawing of the structures to be used and the layout of the farm. The proposed site drawings must illustrate all site structures above and below the water including mooring blocks. (recommended scales normally 1:100 for structures and 1:200 for layout) (See Guidance Note 3.3.2)
- 3. The prescribed application fee (See Guidance Note Section 4)
- 4. If the applicant is a limited Company within the meaning of the Companies Act 1963. as amended, the Certificate of Incorporation and Memorandum and Articles of Association
- 5. If the applicant is a Co-operative, the Certificate of Incorporation and Rules of the Co-operative Society
- Environmental Impact Statement (if required) in certain cases- See Guidance Notes Section 3.3.1
- 7. Alien Species dossier (where required) See Guidance Notes Section 3.3.1

NOW COMPLETE PARTS 2.6, 3, 4 AND 5 PLEASE

2.6 Employment, Qualifications, Experience, etc TO BE FILLED IN BY ALL AQUACULTURE APPLICANTS

(i) Please provide details of experience/qualifications of the applicant and any key personnel which are relevant to the aquaculture now proposed:

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)	M	EMBER	OF	CAS	TLEMPIN	IE H	ALBOL	л	FISHI	NG
		Coope	rative	FOR	2	5 yea	rs.			
Cooperative For 25 years. (ii) If a new application please provide details of projected employment creation during first four years of the proposed aquaculture project: (iii) In the case of a renewal please provide current and future details:										
	LLTI ear 1:	ME JOBS	Yea	r 2:	1	Year 3:			Year 4:	
	<u></u>			9	1					L
-	RT TI ear 1:	ME JOBS	Yea	r 2:	2	Year 3:		3	Year 4:	2
L								J	I	

PART 5: DECLARATION AND SIGNING

NB: Refer to Guidance Note Section 3.5 and Section 4 - Guidance on Declaration and Signing and Annual Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence Fees

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If this is a renewal/review have you met all applicable, explain why you have not comp	licence conditions of the existing aquaculture licence? If lied with all conditions:
with this application. Signature(s) of Applicant(s):	Lian HayEs
	plication must sign and date this application form.
*Preferred method of payment is by cheque of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.	an apply for the renewal/review of an Aquaculture Licence. e or bank draft. The fee should be made payable to the Department nce on Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence Fees
Aqua Aqua Depar Natio Clon	, with the required documents and application fee, to: aculture Licensing aculture & Foreshore Management Division rtment of Agriculture, Food and the Marine onal Seafood Centre akilty Cork

1 NO. SITE IN CASTLEMAINE HARBOUR CO.KERRY

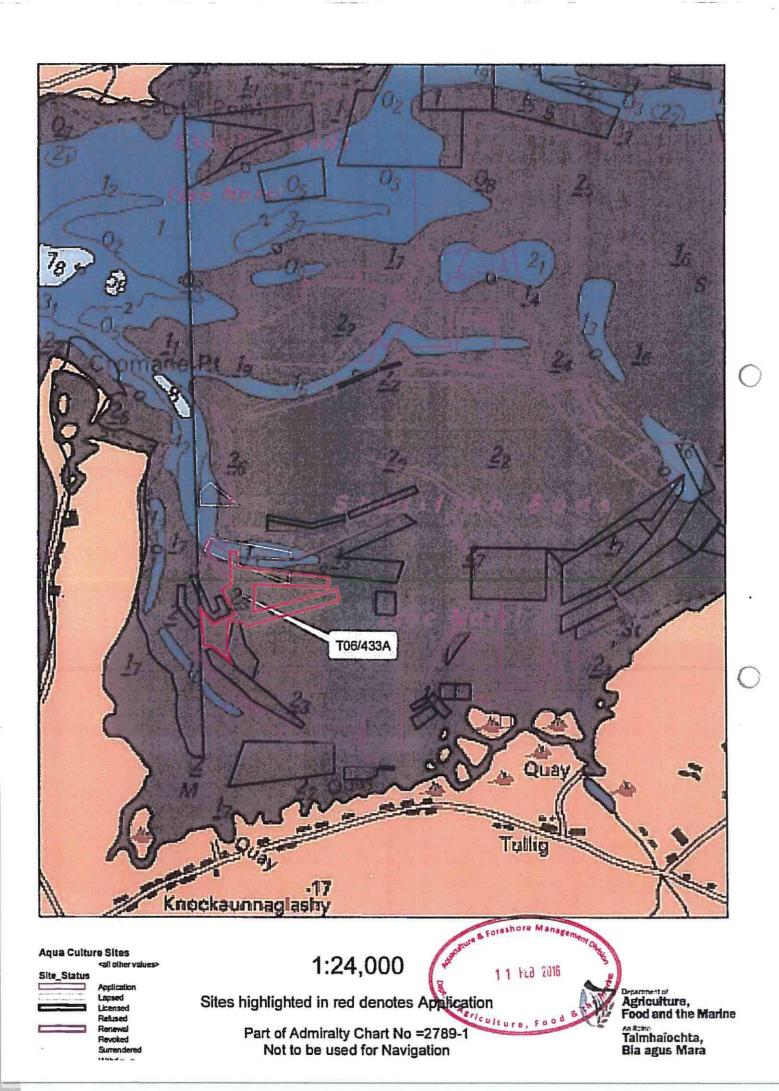
Co-ordinates & Area

Site No T06/433A (18.70 Ha)

The area seaward of the high water mark and enclosed by a line drawn from Irish National Grid Reference point

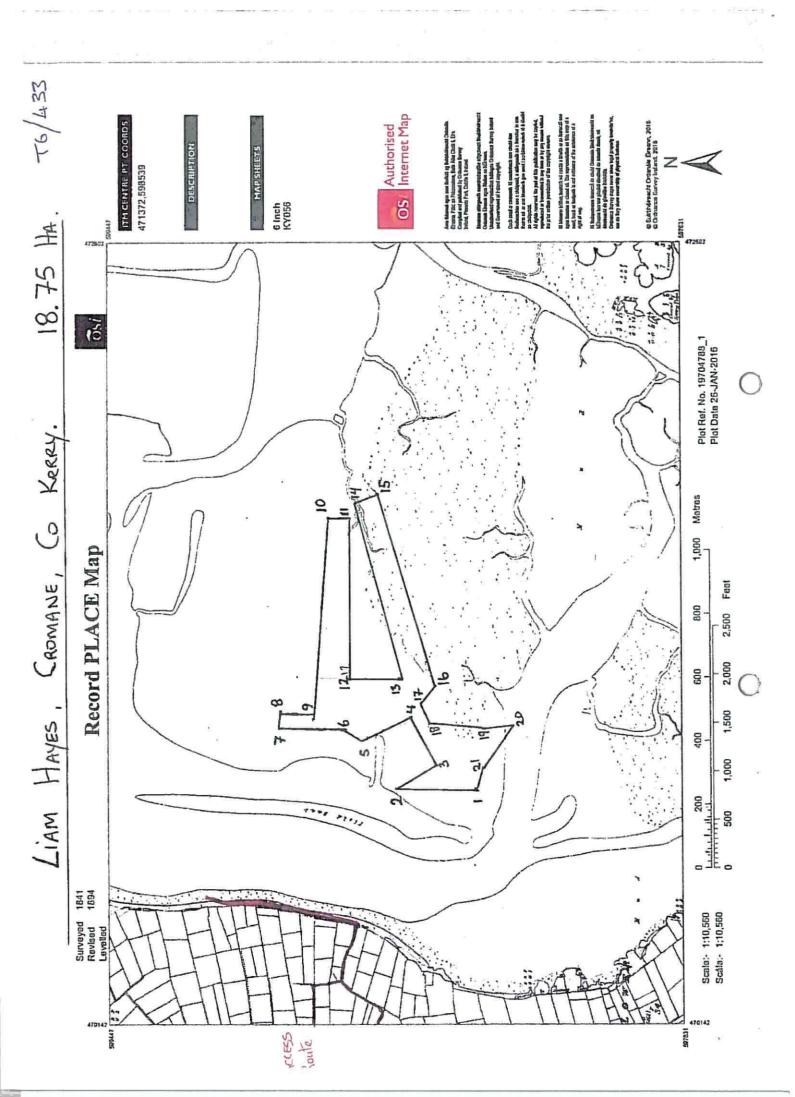
070929, 098233 to Irish National Grid Reference point 070900, 098480 to Irish National Grid Reference point 070984, 098367 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071131, 098436 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071046, 098589 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071100, 098634 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071092, 098846 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071137, 098845 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071142, 098747 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071754, 098688 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071752, 098622 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071258, 098635 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071253, 098452 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071809, 098611 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071827, 098538 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071228, 098360 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071160, 098390 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071089, 098391 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071080, 098200 to Irish National Grid Reference point 071114, 098113 to Irish National Grid Reference point 070986, 098224 to the first mentioned point.

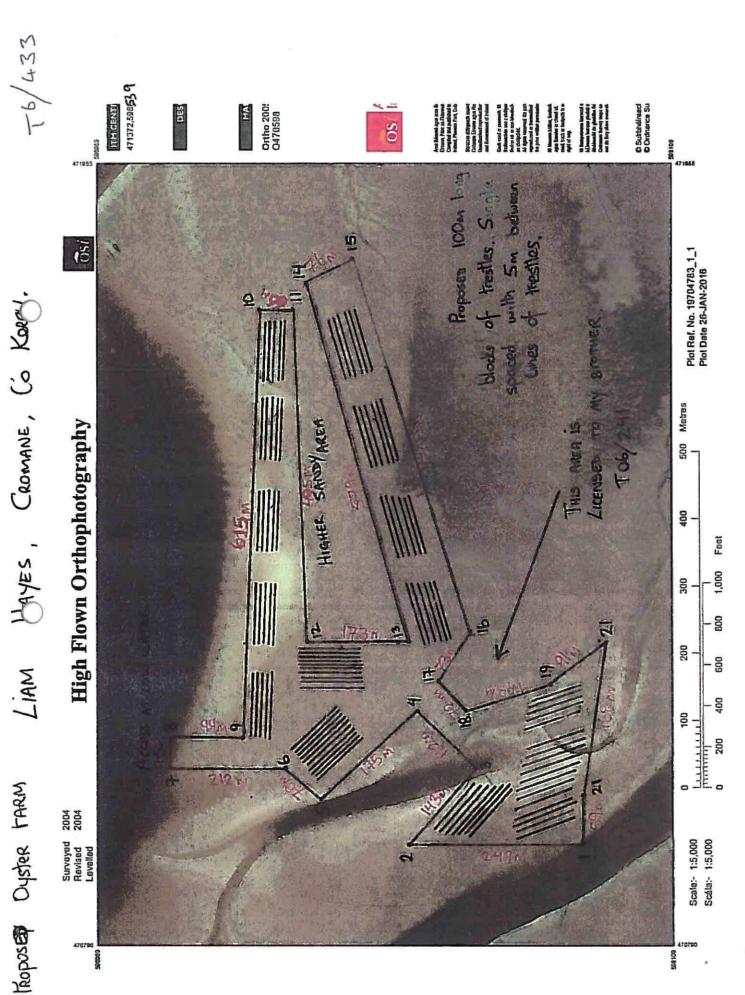


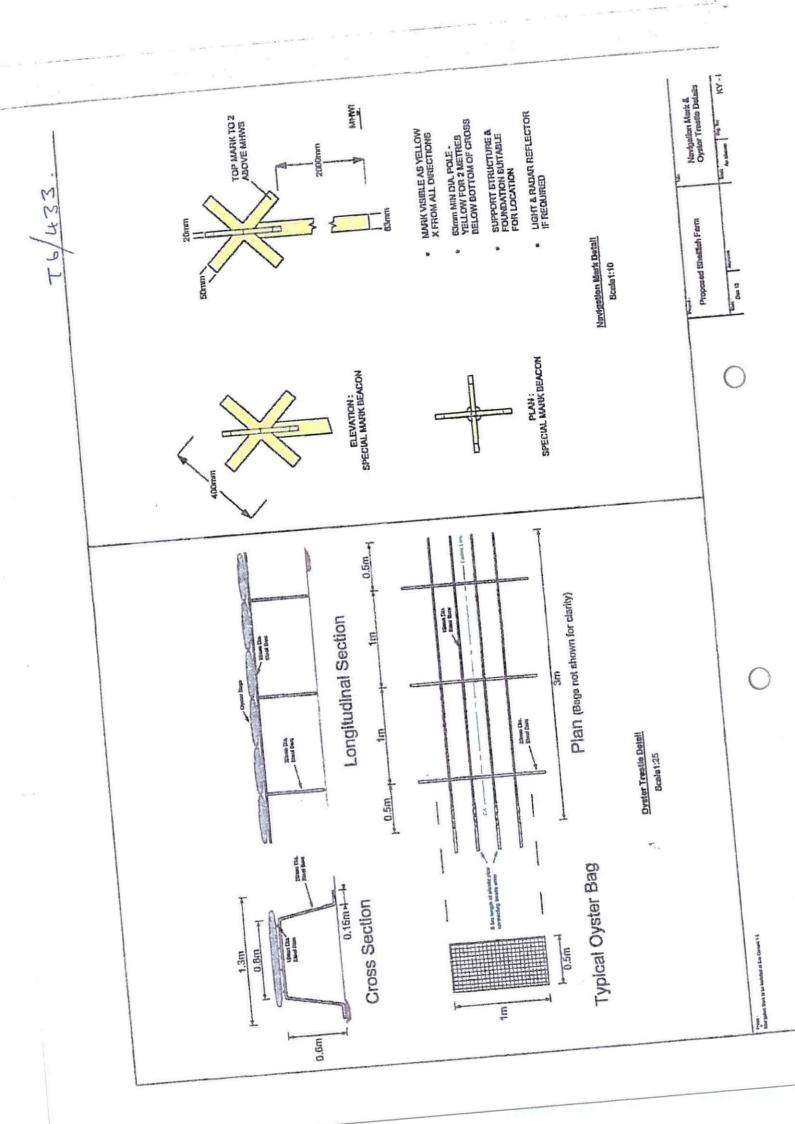




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Liam Hayes

Cromane, Co. Kerry.

26th July 2018

Mr. Oisin O'Kelly,

Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division,

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,

Clogheen,

Clonakilty,

Co. Cork. P85 TX47

Reference: T6/433A & T6/446A Harbour Aquaculture licence applications, Castlemaine

To whom it may concern,

The Site

This application is within the designated Shellfish Growing Waters area and is 750 meters offshore in an area of existing oyster growing activity. It may not be accessed by foot even at low tide and the only way to reach the site is by boat. This site is a mix of mud and sand and has no leisure potential.

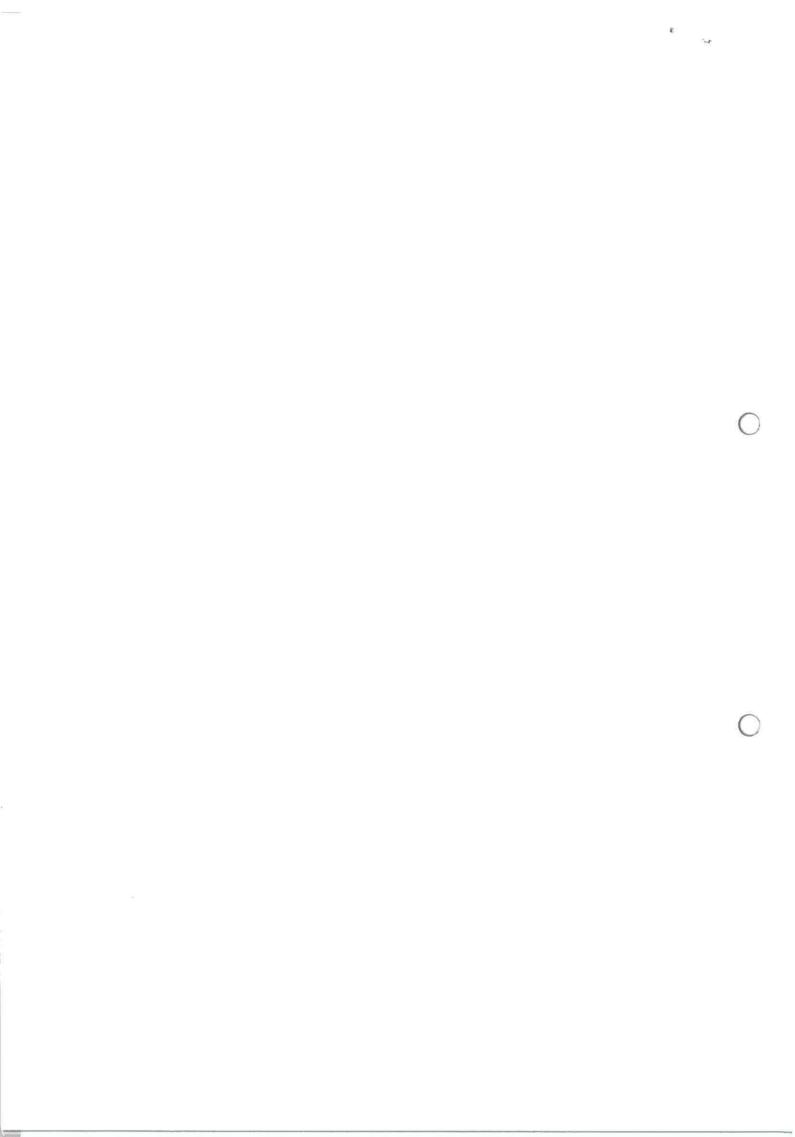
This area is at least a 20 minute journey by land or boat from the Rossbeigh/Dooks area and will have no impact on the tourist/amenity activities in that region. Cromane beach is on the other side of the peninsula about 5 km away.

This site is completely covered by water except for 2 hours at either side of low tide and is so far offshore that any individual structures will not be visible to the naked eye.

It is my intention that only 10%-15% of the site (about 2-3 hectares) would be used at any one time. This allows the movement of trestles to the most favourable area as is often necessary and at a lower density on site to minimise environmental impact.

I realise that there are often changes on sites as a result of stream or sandbank movements. I will always ensure that my neighbours are able to access their adjacent sites by crossing my proposed site. I take particular note of the submission (397) by Gerard O'Reilly in this respect.





Reference: T6/433A & T6/446A Harbour Aquaculture licence applications, Castlemaine

To whom it may concern,

The applicant - Liam Hayes

I am an Agricultural Science graduate from U.C.D. and grew up about 1km away from this aquaculture site. I have always worked in the natural resource area and have many years of experience in the oyster business.

I am one of the 21 seafood producers on the "**Taste the Atlantic**" seafood trail and am committed to building a sustainable business which will showcase the best seafood this country has to offer. I want to create jobs, contribute to my community and recently established **Kerry Premium Oysters**.

My Family were the first to grow oysters commercially in Castlemaine Harbour starting in 1993. In the early years the business was marginal but continued production of a superior product has paid dividends. I am in this for the long haul and work with my Brother on his licensed oyster site.

The South-Kerry area has suffered from heavy emigration over the years and I emigrated twice to try to better my situation. I have never drawn any form of public assistance and I intend to build a legacy family business that will give my children the choice to remain in this area.

I am vice-Chairman of Cromane Community Council and want to make this area a better place in which to live. This includes a dedication to preserving our unique ecosystem and enabling our local people to stay. ŧ! 57

Cromane Killorglin, Co. Kerry. 29th July 2018

Dear Minister Creed,

As one of the 21 seafood producers on the "Taste the Atlantic" seafood trail, I am committed to building a sustainable business which will showcase the best seafood this country has to offer. I want to create jobs, contribute to my community and recently established Kerry Premium Oysters Ltd.

I have applied for 20 hectares in total. In line with departmental guidelines, it is my intention to use about 10% of this site at any one time to allow for environmental concerns. I believe this will allow me the potential to build a successful business that will support my family and contribute to the wider community.

There has been much controversy regarding oyster licenses in Castlemaine harbour. This process has been plagued by greed and there is undoubtedly a concerted effort by a few who have licences to keep new applicants out. I wonder why someone with an existing oyster licence would apply to establish a new oyster farm adjacent to the beach at Rossbeigh, Dooks or beside the Golf club? The reaction could be anticipated.

In terms of new applications to grow oysters, it is important to note that the largest group of new oyster applications from a single group represents 934 hectares. Several other groups have submitted multiple applications for very large areas. These individuals are already licensed, producing mussels and oysters and are able to make a living here in Cromane.

The primary concern of the Marine institute report was the carrying capacity of Castlemaine harbour. This report concludes that there is insufficient data to determine the magnitude of the impact of new licences. There is no doubt that this concern could be alleviated if there is a sensible allocation of ground to all applicants.

I sincerely hope that you may see fit to grant me a license to grow oysters in Castlemaine Harbour. I have had to emigrate twice for economic reasons. I have always tried to be a productive and responsible member of society. This is my home and I love living and working here.

Yours Faithfully,

Lian Alayes

Liam Hayes

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Submission AGR 00675-18: Recommendation to Refuse Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences for one site T06/433A

TO: Min STATUS: Co PURPOSE: For

Minister Completed For Decision AUTHOR: OKelly, Oisin OWNER: OKelly, Oisin REVIEWERS: OShea, Nicole Farrell, Brendan Quinlan, John Beamish, Cecil Ball, Siobhan Smith, Ann

DIVISION: Coastal Zone Management DECISION BY:

Final comment

Minister determines that the application for Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences be refused for the reasons set out.

Action required

Ministerial determination on Aquaculture/Foreshore Licensing Application (T06/433A).

Executive summary

The Minister's determination is requested in relation to an application for an Aquaculture Licence from Mr. Liam Hayes, Glosha, Cromane, Killorglin, Co. Kerry.

The application is for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles at Site T06/433A (18.70ha), on the foreshore, in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry.

A submission in respect of the application for the Foreshore Licence is also set out for the Minister's consideration.

It is recommended that the Minister determines that the application for Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences **be refused** for the reasons set out in the 'Detailed Information' section below (essentially, the risk of significant disturbance from the proposed aquaculture activities cannot be discounted. The proposed increase in the spatial area arising from the new licence applications would pose a risk of seston depletion and impact on the carrying capacity of the harbour. New oyster licence applications cannot be authorised as it is not possible to measure the magnitude of the impact of individual licences which could adversely affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites).

Detailed information

Recommendation to Refuse an Aquaculture Licence application (T06/433A)

DECISION SOUGHT

The Minister's determination is requested please, in relation to an application for an Aquaculture Licence from Mr. Liam Hayes, Glosha, Cromane, Killorglin, Co. Kerry, for a site in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry.

Also attached is a submission in respect of the accompanying Foreshore Licence for the Minister's consideration.

BACKGROUND

Marine aquaculture operations require separate Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences and Ministerial approval is required in respect of this submission (Aquaculture Submission), and the submission underneath (Foreshore Submission), which refer to the same site.

The Aquaculture Licence defines the activity that is permitted on a particular site and the Foreshore Licence allows for the occupation of that particular area of foreshore. The continuing validity of each licence is contingent on the other licence remaining in force.

APPLICATION FOR AN AQUACULTURE LICENCE

An application for an Aquaculture Licence has been received from the applicant referred to above (in conjunction with an application for a Foreshore Licence), for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles, in relation to a site on the foreshore in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry (ref. T06/433A - 18.70 ha).

LEGISLATION

Section 7 of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997, provides that the Licensing Authority (i.e. Minister, delegated officer or, on appeal, the Aquaculture Licence Appeals Board) may, if satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so, license a person to engage in aquaculture.

Article 6 (3) of the Habitats Directive provides that "Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon ... shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives ... the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned ..."

CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The application was sent to the Department's technical experts, statutory consultees, and it was also publicly advertised in a composite public notice covering both aquaculture and foreshore elements.

Technical Consultation

Marine Engineering Division (MED):

The site is located in Castlemaine Harbour, approximately 0.5 km east of Cromane Spit. This application is for a very irregular shaped parcel of ground which wraps around other licenced and application sites. It is located outside, but adjacent to, the Shellfish Designated Waters, SI 268 of 2006, Cromane, Co. Kerry, and within Castlemaine Harbour SAC and SPA.

The site is within the Castlemaine Single Unified Marking Scheme (SUMS).

The site is not in an area that is likely to be highly visible to many people. Population density in the area is low and trestles will only be visible at times of low tide. There are no features of high landscape or scenic value that will be impacted upon.

MED does not recommend licensing this site as the Department's Conclusion Statement, which has been informed by the Appropriate Assessments, has concluded that this new application should not be licensed.

Should the Minister decide to license this site, the applicant should be asked to provide details of site access routes. In addition, the site should be amended to remove the overlap with application T06/435.

Marine Survey Office (MSO):

The MSO requested that the applicant describe how he would mark the site or alternatively resubmit the application in such a manner as to allow for ease of navigational assessment. The MSO recommends that the applicant seek the help and advice of the local BIM Development Officer in determining how this might be done. The MSO noted that the developments are either extensions of existing developments or squeezed in between competing developers. Either way the site(s) might be better designed.

The applicant submitted a reply to this request which was forwarded to the MSO who did not provide any further comments on the application.

Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA):

The issuing of an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence in the area identified as T06/433 for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters would have no negative impact on local sea fishing operations.

Statutory Consultation

Regulation 10 of the Aquaculture (Licence Application) Regulations, 1998, requires certain statutory bodies to be notified of an Aquaculture Licence application.

Comments were received within the statutory consultation period from the following Statutory Bodies:

An Taisce:

An Taisce noted: "The Harbour is of major ecological importance and contains a range of coastal habitats of excellent quality, including many that are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Habitats Directive. It is a very important site for passage and wintering waterfowl. There are a number of birds of international and national importance in this site."

On reviewing the documentation provided with the application, An Taisce submit, in agreement with the AA report conclusions, that the aquaculture licence application (Ref: T06/433A) should not proceed.

Marine Institute:

Site T06/433A is located within Castlemaine Harbour SAC (Site Code 000343) and the Castlemaine Harbour SPA (Site Code 004029). We note the findings of the Appropriate Assessment reports, and the Department's Draft Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement, in regard to the impacts of the proposed aquaculture activity on the Conservation Objectives of the Castlemaine Harbour SAC and Castlemaine Harbour SPA. On the basis of the Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement the Marine Institute is of the view that an aquaculture licence at this site should not be granted.

Commissioner of Irish Lights:

CIL has no objection to the application. In the event of any licence being issued CIL has listed conditions for inclusion.

Irish Water

Irish Water noted application T06/433A is not wholly within designated shellfish waters.

Irish Water also stated that the Department may wish to consider the proximity of wastewater discharges to the proposed aquaculture development as this application is within 10 km of a primary discharge point. However, further consideration of this matter is not required as this application is recommended for refusal.

Public Consultation

The application was publicly advertised using a composite public notice covering both aquaculture and foreshore elements in "The Kerryman" on June 13th, 2018. The application and supporting documentation were available for inspection at Killorglin and Killarney Garda Stations for a period of four weeks from the date of publication of the notice in the newspaper.

There were nine submissions received during the public consultation period. It is not possible to disaggregate the comments into aquaculture and foreshore elements.

Five submissions consisted of objections to all oyster farming in Castlemaine Harbour on the grounds that the local environment and habitat would be damaged; the natural beauty of the area should be preserved for present and future generations; and aquaculture activities would have a detrimental effect on tourism. A concern about the impact of landowners in the area and their livestock was also referred to in one submission.

An existing licensee in Castlemaine Harbour provided a submission objecting to new applications on the basis of potential damage to the ecosystem in Castlemaine Harbour; the need to preserve wildlife and bird species; current overfishing in the harbour; lack of nutrients in the water to accommodate all potential new licensed sites; and the overall quantity and scale of the new licence applications.

A further submission was received from a different existing licensee who believes that site application T06/433A would prevent access to the top of his site and would block the waterways. This licensee requested that the waterways are left partially clear so that his site may be accessed.

A submission received was signed by six licence applicants requesting that the Department consider their livelihoods in making a determination, and the potential boost to employment in the area arising from the granting of licences. They requested that applications be processed in a phased manner with the older applications considered in advance of, and separately from, subsequent applications.

A submission was received from a group named "Save This Beach" which objected to aquaculture licensing in Castlemaine Harbour. It objected on the basis that (1) it believes there was a lack of compliance with the Aarhus Convention for public

participation; (2) it believes the Department waived the EIA screening process; (3) it has concerns for the adverse impact on the Environment in the event of the licences being granted; (4) it believes licensing of aquaculture would contravene the Kerry County Council Development Plan and (5) it believes aquaculture licensing in Castlemaine Harbour is economically unviable.

In relation to the latter submission, Point 1 is not relevant as the Department did engage in the public consultation process as required under legislation. Point 2 is not relevant as the applicant has applied for a licence to engage in 'extensive' aquaculture, i.e. where there is no external supply of feed or medicine, and this type of culture depends entirely on natural processes for production and supply of feed. Accordingly, the Department does not apply the EIA screening process in the case of 'extensive' aquaculture. The other issues raised (points 3, 4 and 5) are moot points as it is recommended that this application for an aquaculture licence is refused.

Applicant response to observations made during the consultation process

The applicant makes a number of points in his response.

He states that the site is a mix of mud and sand, has no leisure potential, and is 750 metres offshore in an area of exisiting oyster growing activity. He states that the site is at least a 20 minute journey by land or boat from the Rossbeigh/Dooks area and will have no impact on the tourist/amenity activities in that region. He also states that Cromane beach is on the other side of the peninsula, about 5 km away.

The applicant states that the site is completely covered by water except for 2 hours at either side of low tide and is so far offshore that any individual structures will not be visible to the naked eye.

It is the applicants intention that only 10-15% of the site would be used at any one time to allow for the movement of trestles to the most favourable area as is often necessary, and at a lower density on site to minimise environmental impact.

The applicant writes about his years of experience and qualifactions and his desire to continue to produce food, build a sustainable business, provide local employment and better his situation. He hopes this venture would be sufficient for him to avoid having to emigrate again for work.

The applicant's primary concern with the Marine Institute report was the carrying capacity of Castlemaine Harbour. This report concludes that there is insufficient data to determine the magnitude of the impact of new licences. He has no doubt that this concern could be alleviated if there is a sensible allocation of ground to all applicants.

In relation to the submission made by the existing licensee regarding concerns about access to his site, the applicant states that he realises that there are often changes in sites as a result of stream or bank movements, and he will always ensure that his neighbours are able to access their sites through crossing his proposed site.

CRITERIA IN MAKING LICENSING DECISIONS

The Licensing Authority, in considering an application, is required by statute to take account, as appropriate, of the following points and also be satisfied that it is in the public interest to license a person to engage in aquaculture:

a) the suitability of the place or waters

The findings of the Appropriate Assessment of aquaculture activities in Castlemaine Harbour found that from a Natura 2000 perspective the risk of significant disturbance from the proposed aquaculture activities cannot be discounted. The proposed increase in the spatial area arising from the new licence applications, including T06/433A, would pose a risk of seston depletion and impact on the carrying capacity of the harbour. New oyster licence applications, including T06/433A, cannot be authorised as it is not possible to measure the magnitude of the impact of individual licences which could adversely affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites.

b) other beneficial uses of the waters concerned

Public access to recreational and other activities can be accommodated by this project.

c) the particular statutory status of the waters

(i) Natura 2000

The sites are located within the Castlemaine Harbour SAC (Site Code: 000343) and the Castlemaine Harbour SPA (Site Code: 004029). An Article 6 Appropriate Assessment has been carried out in relation to aquaculture activities in this SAC and SPA. The Appropriate Assessment (AA) found that:

Licensing of the new sites, including T06/433A, for aquaculture in Castlemaine Harbour may result in the following adverse effects:

- interrupting the progress towards achieving the Conservation Objectives of the SPA for those species in long term population decline;
- disrupt those factors that help to maintain the favourable conditions of the SPA (i.e. spatial extent of functional habitat);
- interfere with the distribution and density of SCIs that are the indicators of the favourable condition of the SPA (i.e. caused by displacement);
- cause changes to the vital defining aspects (i.e. undisturbed foraging areas and an absence of obstructions to sight lines) that determine how the site functions as a supporting habitat for water birds;
- reduce the area of key habitats;
- result in disturbance that could affect population size or density or the balance between key species;
- result in habitat fragmentation;
- noise/visual disturbance for all intertidal SCIs and Cormorant; and
- the displacement for all intertidal foraging SCIs except Greenshank and Redshank.

The access routes used in intertidal areas, by virtue of persistent compaction of the sedimentary habitats, are considered disturbing.

The Licensing Authority's Conclusion Statement outlines how it is proposed to determine applications for aquaculture, including T06/433A, in compliance with the EU Birds and Habitats Directives.

(ii) Shellfish Waters

The site is outside, but adjacent to Shellfish Designated Waters.

d) the likely effects on the economy of the area

Aquaculture has the potential to provide a range of benefits to the local community.

Fáilte Ireland did not provide observations on the potential impacts on tourism however concerns have been raised by members of the public in their submissions, regarding the potential negative effect on local businesses and tourism caused by the visual impact of aquaculture infrastructure.

e) the likely ecological effects on wild fisheries, natural habitats, flora and fauna

No significant issues arose regarding wild fisheries.

The potential ecological impacts of aquaculture activities on natural habitats, flora and fauna are addressed at (c) (i) above.

f) the effect on the environment generally

The potential ecological impacts of aquaculture activities on natural habitats, flora and fauna are addressed at (c) (i) above.

The site is not in an area that is likely to be highly visible to many people.

Significant impacts on the general environment are not considered likely.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister: refuses the granting of the Aquaculture Licence sought.

The reasons for the recommendation are:

The findings of the Appropriate Assessment of aquaculture in the Castlemaine Harbour Natura sites were examined by the Department and its scientific/technical advisors. It was concluded that the risk of significant disturbance from the proposed aquaculture activities cannot be discounted. In addition, the proposed increase in the spatial area arising from new licence applications, including T06/433A, would pose a risk of seston depletion and impact on the carrying capacity of the harbour. Approval of this aquaculture licence is not recommended as it would be in contravention of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives.

REASONS FOR DECISION

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine is required to give public notice of both the licensing determination and the reasons for it. To accommodate this it is proposed to publish the following determination on the Department's website in relation to this site, subject to the Minister approving the above recommendation:

"Determination of Aquaculture/Foreshore Licensing application – T06/433A

Mr. Liam Hayes has applied for authorisation for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles at a site, T06/433A (18.70

ha), on the foreshore in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry.

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has determined that it is **not in the public interest** to grant Aquaculture/Foreshore Licences for this site. In making his determination the Minister considered those matters which by virtue of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, and other relevant legislation, he was required to have regard. Such matters include any submissions and observations received in accordance with the statutory provisions. The following are the reasons and considerations for the Minister's determination to **refuse** the licences sought: -

a) The site is located within the Castlemaine Harbour Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) Natura 2000 sites. A Natura Appropriate Assessment (AA) was carried out in 2011 in relation to existing aquaculture activity and new applications on hand at that time in the SAC and SPA. Licensing determinations were made in conformity with 'Natura' requirements. Recently, in 2018, a further Article 6 assessment has been carried out in relation to aquaculture applications received subsequent to the completion of the original AA (this includes this site). An Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement has been produced in relation to this recent AA (available on the Department's website). This document outlines how the proposed aquaculture activities in Castlemaine Harbour SAC and SPA, including this site, are being managed so as not to significantly or adversely affect the integrity of the SAC and SPA.

b) Taking account of the recommendations from the Appropriate Assessment process, the proposed aquaculture activities are not consistent with the Conservation Objectives for the SPA and could result in significant disturbances to key bird species and reductions in their density and functional foraging habitat area.

c) The potential increase in the spatial area arising from new aquaculture activities (including this site) could cause seston depletion and impact negatively on the carrying capacity of Castlemaine Harbour.

d) The potential risks from licensing the proposed aquaculture activities, including this site, on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites cannot be discounted."

Recommendation to refuse a Foreshore Licence Application (T06/433A)

DECISION SOUGHT

The Minister's determination is requested please, in relation to an application for a Foreshore Licence from Mr. Liam Hayes, Glosha, Cromane, Killorglin, Co. Kerry, for a site Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry, on which it is proposed to conduct aquaculture.

BACKGROUND

Marine aquaculture operations require separate Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences and Ministerial approval is required in respect of this submission (Foreshore Submission), and the submission above (Aquaculture Submission), which refer to the same site.

The Foreshore Licence allows for the occupation of the particular area of foreshore while the Aquaculture Licence defines the activity that is permitted in this area. The continuing validity of each licence is contingent on the other licence remaining in force.

APPLICATION FOR A FORESHORE LICENCE

An application for a Foreshore Licence has been received from the applicant referred to above (in conjunction with an Aquaculture Licence application), relating to the occupation of the foreshore associated with the Aquaculture Licence application (T06/433A), at a site (18.70 ha) in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry.

LEGISLATION

Section 3 of the Foreshore Act, 1933, gives power to the Minister to license the use of foreshore if he is of the opinion that it is in the public interest to do so.

CONSULTATION AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The application was sent to the Department's technical experts, and it was also publicly advertised in a composite public notice covering both aquaculture and foreshore elements.

This application was also sent to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) in accordance with

subsection (1B) of Section 3 of the Foreshore Act, 1933, which requires consultation between the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government. Whilst aquaculture legislation requires certain statutory bodies to be notified of an aquaculture application, no other statutory bodies are prescribed consultees under Fisheries related foreshore legislation.

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG)

No submission was received from DHPLG, therefore there are no comments on water quality or from a foreshore perspective.

Technical Consultation

Marine Engineering Division (MED):

The site is located in Castlemaine Harbour, approximately 0.5 km east of Cromane Spit. This application is for a very irregular shaped parcel of ground which wraps around other licenced and application sites. It is located outside, but adjacent to, the Shellfish Designated Waters, SI 268 of 2006, Cromane, Co. Kerry, and within Castlemaine Harbour SAC and SPA.

The site is within the Castlemaine Single Unified Marking Scheme (SUMS).

The site is not in an area that is likely to be highly visible to many people. Population density in the area is low and trestles will only be visible at times of low tide. There are no features of high landscape or scenic value that will be impacted upon.

MED does not recommend licensing this site as the Department's Conclusion Statement, which has been informed by the Appropriate Assessments, has concluded that this new application should not be licensed.

Should the Minister decide to license this site, the applicant should be asked to provide details of site access routes. In addition, the site should be amended to remove the overlap with application T06/435.

Marine Survey Office (MSO):

The MSO requested that the applicant describe how he would mark the site or alternatively resubmit the application in such a manner as to allow for ease of navigational assessment. The MSO recommends that the applicant seek the help and advice of the local BIM Development Officer in determining how this might be done. The MSO noted that the developments are either extensions of existing developments or squeezed in between competing developers. Either way the site(s) might be better designed.

The applicant submitted a reply to this request which was forwarded to the MSO who did not provide any further comments on the application.

Sea Fisheries Protection Authority (SFPA):

The issuing of an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence in the area identified as T06/433 for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters would have no negative impact on local sea fishing operations.

Public Consultation

The application was publicly advertised using a composite public notice covering both aquaculture and foreshore elements in "The Kerryman" on June 13th, 2018. The application and supporting documentation were available for inspection at Killorglin and Killarney Garda Stations for a period of four weeks from the date of publication of the notice in the newspaper.

There were nine submissions received during the public consultation period. It is not possible to disaggregate the comments into aquaculture and foreshore elements.

Five submissions consisted of objections to all oyster farming in Castlemaine Harbour on the grounds that the local environment and habitat would be damaged; the natural beauty of the area should be preserved for present and future generations; and aquaculture activities would have a detrimental effect on tourism. A concern about the impact of landowners in the area and their livestock was also referred to in one submission.

An existing licensee in Castlemaine Harbour provided a submission objecting to new applications on the basis of potential damage to the ecosystem in Castlemaine Harbour; the need to preserve wildlife and bird species; current overfishing in the harbour; lack of nutrients in the water to accommodate all potential new licensed sites; and the overall quantity and scale of the new licence applications.

A further submission was received from a different existing licensee who believes that site application T06/433A would prevent access to the top of his site and would block the waterways. This licensee requested that the waterways are left partially clear so that

his site may be accessed.

A submission received was signed by six licence applicants requesting that the Department consider their livelihoods in making a determination, and the potential boost to employment in the area arising from the granting of licences. They requested that applications be processed in a phased manner with the older applications considered in advance of, and separately from, subsequent applications.

A submission was received from a group named "Save This Beach" which objected to aquaculture licensing in Castlemaine Harbour. It objected on the basis that (1) it believes there was a lack of compliance with the Aarhus Convention for public participation; (2) it believes the Department waived the EIA screening process; (3) it has concerns for the adverse impact on the Environment in the event of the licences being granted; (4) it believes licensing of aquaculture would contravene the Kerry County Council Development Plan and (5) it believes aquaculture licensing in Castlemaine Harbour is economically unviable.

In relation to the latter submission, Point 1 is not relevant as the Department did engage in the public consultation process as required under legislation. Point 2 is not relevant as the applicant has applied for a licence to engage in 'extensive' aquaculture, i.e. where there is no external supply of feed or medicine, and this type of culture depends entirely on natural processes for production and supply of feed. Accordingly, the Department does not apply the EIA screening process in the case of 'extensive' aquaculture. The other issues raised (points 3, 4 and 5) are moot points as it is recommended that this application for an aquaculture licence is refused.

Applicant response to observations made during the consultation process

The applicant makes a number of points in his response.

He states that the site is a mix of mud and sand, has no leisure potential, and is 750 metres offshore in an area of exisiting oyster growing activity. He states that the site is at least a 20 minute journey by land or boat from the Rossbeigh/Dooks area and will have no impact on the tourist/amenity activities in that region. He also states that Cromane beach is on the other side of the peninsula, about 5 km away.

The applicant states that the site is completely covered by water except for 2 hours at either side of low tide and is so far offshore that any individual structures will not be visible to the naked eye.

It is the applicants intention that only 10-15% of the site would be used at any one time to allow for the movement of trestles to the most favourable area as is often necessary, and at a lower density on site to minimise environmental impact.

The applicant writes about his years of experience and qualifactions and his desire to continue to produce food, build a sustainable business, provide local employment and better his situation. He hopes this venture would be sufficient for him to avoid having to emigrate again for work.

The applicant's primary concern with the Marine Institute report was the carrying capacity of Castlemaine Harbour. This report concludes that there is insufficient data to determine the magnitude of the impact of new licences. He has no doubt that this concern could be alleviated if there is a sensible allocation of ground to all applicants.

In relation to the submission made by the existing licensee regarding concerns about access to his site, the applicant states that he realises that there are often changes in sites as a result of stream or bank movements, and he will always ensure that his neighbours are able to access their sites through crossing his proposed site.

CRITERIA IN MAKING LICENSING DECISIONS

The Minister, in considering an application for a Foreshore Licence, may, if satisfied that it is in the public interest to do so, grant such a licence.

Section 82 of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997, stipulates that the Minister, in considering an application for a licence under the Foreshore Acts, which is sought in connection with the carrying on of aquaculture pursuant to an Aquaculture Licence, shall have regard to any decision of the Licensing Authority in relation to the Aquaculture Licence.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Minister, taking account of the decision on the related aquaculture licence application:

refuses the granting of a Foreshore Licence to Mr. Liam Hayes, Glosha, Cromane, Killorglin, Co. Kerry, in respect of a site (ref. T06/433A) located in Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry.

The reason for the recommendation is that, taking account of the recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment, the proposed

aquaculture activity at these sites, including T06/433A, is not consistent with the Conservation Objectives for the relevant Natura sites. In particular, the proposed increase in the spatial area arising from the new licence applications, including T06/433A, would pose a risk of seston depletion and impact on the carrying capacity of the harbour. In addition, it is not possible to measure the magnitude of the impact of individual licences, including T06/433A, and how the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites might be adversely affected.

Thus, the licensing of aquaculture activity at these sites, including T06/433A, would be in contravention of Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive.

Related submissions

There are no related submissions.

Comments

OShea, Nicole - 28/09/2018 12:56 Recommended to refuse an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence for one site T06/433A.

Farrell, Brendan - 28/09/2018 15:53 Recommended that Licence application T06/433A is refused by the Minister for the reasons set out in this submission.

Quinlan, John - 01/10/2018 11:51 Refusal is recommended in this case please.

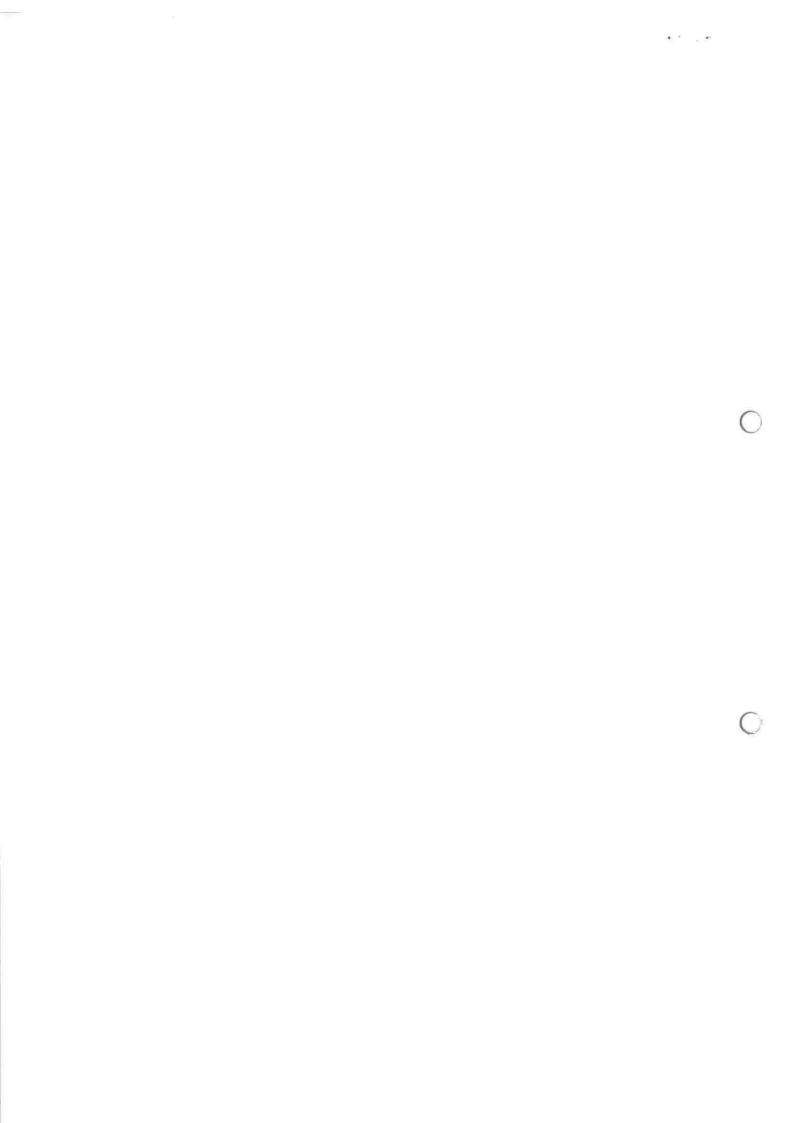
Beamish, Cecil - 01/10/2018 12:47 Recommended that the Minister determines that the application for Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences be refused for the reasons set out in the submission.

Smith, Ann - 05/10/2018 09:52 Approved for submission to Minister. 05/10/2018 A.S.

Lennox, Graham - 05/10/2018 10:49 Minister determines that the application for Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences be refused for the reasons set out.

User details

INVOLVED: OKelly, Oisin READ RECEIPT: BTSSP-SC OShea, Nicole OKelly, Oisin Farrell, Brendan OShea, Nicole Quinlan, John Farrell, Brendan Beamish, Cecil Quinlan, John Ball, Siobhan Beamish, Cecil eSub Ministers Office Ball, Siobhan eSub Minister Smith, Ann Lennox, Graham





Ref: T06/433A & T06/446A

5th October 2018

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 (NO.23) NOTICE OF MINISTERIAL DECISION TO REFUSE TO GRANT AN AQUACULTURE LICENCE AND FORESHORE LICENCE.

Dear Mr. Hayes,

I wish to inform you that the Minister For Agriculture, Food and the Marine has refused your application for Aquaculture Licences and Foreshore Licences, for the cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles on sites no. T06/433A and T06/446A. (see attached information note). I enclose a copy of the public notice of the decision which the **Department** has arranged to have published in "The Kerryman".

Any person aggrieved by the decision may, in accordance with Section 41 of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, appeal against it in writing to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board. This appeal must be lodged within one month beginning on the date of the publication of the decision.

In addition, a person may question the validity of the Foreshore Licence determination by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Court (SI No. 15 of 1986). Practical information on the review mechanism can be obtained from the Citizens Information Board at: <u>http://www.citizensinformation.ie/</u>

Yours Sincerely,

Oisín O'Kelly Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division

An Lárionad Bia Mara Náisiúnta, Cloich na Coillte, Corcaigh, P85 TX47 National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co Cork, P85 TX47 T +353 (02388) 59418 | Oisin.OKelly@agriculture.gov.ie www.agriculture.gov.ie

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S.12 (3) OF THE FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997(NO.23) INFORMATION NOTE TO APPLICANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGULATION 18 OF THE AQUACULTURE (LICENCE APPLICATION) REGULATIONS 1998

REFERENCE NO:	T06/433A
APPLICANT:	Liam Hayes
AQUACULTURE TO WHICH DECISION RELATES:	Cultivation of Pacific Oysters using bags and trestles on site T06/433A on the foreshore in Castlemaine Harbour, Co Kerry.
NATURE OF DECISION:	Refusal of Licence.
DATE OF DECISION:	5 th October 2018

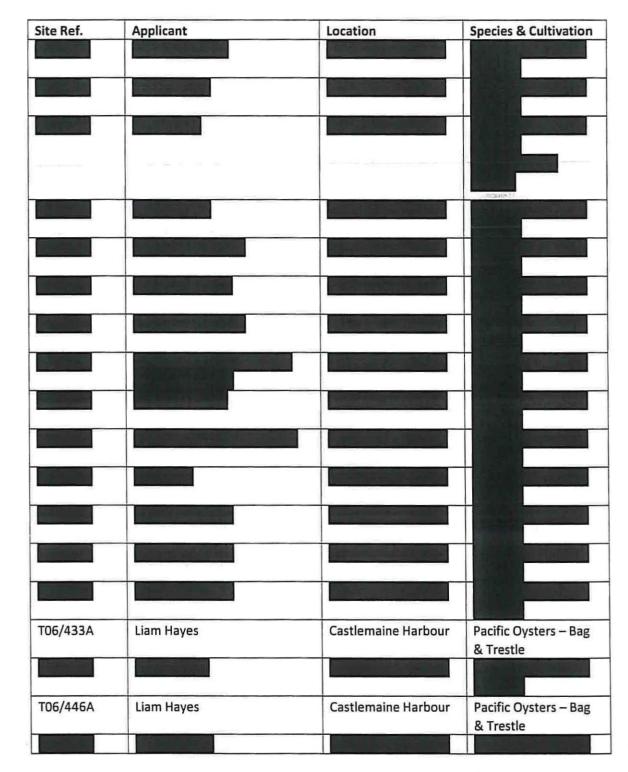
REASON FOR REFUSAL:

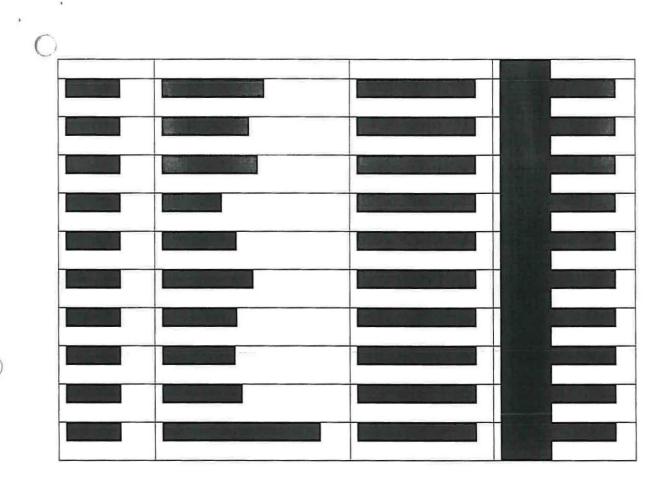
The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has determined that it is not in the public interest to grant Aquaculture/Foreshore Licences for this site. In making his determination the Minister considered those matters which by virtue of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, and other relevant legislation, he was required to have regard. Such matters include any submissions and observations received in accordance with the statutory provisions. The following are the reasons and considerations for the Minister's determination to refuse the licences sought: -

- a) The site is located within the Castlemaine Harbour Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) Natura 2000 sites. A Natura Appropriate Assessment (AA) was carried out in 2011 in relation to existing aquaculture activity and new applications on hand at that time in the SAC and SPA. Licensing determinations were made in conformity with 'Natura' requirements. Recently, in 2018, a further Article 6 assessment has been carried out in relation to aquaculture applications received subsequent to the completion of the original AA (this includes this site). An Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement has been produced in relation to this recent AA (available on the Department's website). This document outlines how the proposed aquaculture activities in Castlemaine Harbour SAC and SPA, including this site, are being managed so as not to significantly or adversely affect the integrity of the SAC and SPA.
- b) Taking account of the recommendations from the Appropriate Assessment process, the proposed aquaculture activities are not consistent with the Conservation Objectives for the SPA and could result in significant disturbances to key bird species and reductions in their density and functional foraging habitat area.
- c) The potential increase in the spatial area arising from new aquaculture activities (including this site) could cause seston depletion and impact negatively on the carrying capacity of Castlemaine Harbour.
- d) The potential risks from licensing the proposed aquaculture activities, including this site, on the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites cannot be discounted.

FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 (NO. 23) & FORESHORE ACT, 1933 (NO. 12) NOTICE OF REFUSAL TO GRANT AQUACULTURE AND FORESHORE LICENCES

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has refused to grant Aquaculture and Foreshore Licences to:





The reasons for this decision are set out on the Department's website at: <u>https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/aquacultureforeshoremanagement/aquaculturelicensing/</u> <u>aquaculturelicencedecisions/kerry/</u>

An appeal against the Aquaculture Licence decision may be made in writing, within one month of the date of its publication, to THE AQUACULTURE LICENCES APPEALS BOARD, Kilminchy Court, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, by completing the Notice of Appeal Application Form available from the Board, phone 057 86 31912, e-mail <u>info@alab.ie</u> or website at <u>http://www.alab.ie/</u>

A person may question the validity of the Foreshore Licence determination by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Court (SI No. 15 of 1986). Practical information on the review mechanism can be obtained from the Citizens Information Board at: <u>http://www.citizensinformation.ie/</u>

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