

Application for a Maritime Usage Licence under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021

Important Information

Before completing this form please read the declaration and consent at the end of the application form

It is important to note that a change in applicant name will require a new application.

This application and supporting documentation should be submitted by email to licence@mara.gov.ie

Please complete the form electronically. Type details in the boxes provided, space will expand as you type. Please complete form to a high level, i.e. give comprehensive answers to questions, answers which only reference supporting documentation are not sufficient.

Maritime Usage Licence:

Part 5 (sections 110 to 133) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA) provides for the granting of maritime usage licences.

Section 112 of the Act states that the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is the competent authority for the purposes of Part 5 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) regulations 2011 ([S.I No. 477 of 2011](#)) and appropriate assessments to which that Part applies.

Section 114 of the Act states that the Minister may by regulations provide for class of Schedule 7 usage to be exempted usage for the purposes of this Part.

[Schedule 7](#) of the Act lists the Maritime Usages that may be undertaken in the maritime area pursuant to licence.

[Schedule 8](#) of the Act lists the types of conditions that MARA may attach to a licence.

Privacy Policy:

MARA may require you to provide certain personal data in order to carry out our legislative and administrative functions. MARA will treat all personal data that you provide as confidential and will process your details in accordance with its obligations under data protection legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

A Privacy Statement explaining how MARA, as the Data Controller, will process the personal data you provide, how that information will be used and what rights you may exercise in relation to your personal data, is available in this link: [Privacy Statement](#).


Freedom of Information (FOI)/ Access to Information on the Environment (AIE)

Applicants should be aware that under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018, information provided by them to MARA may be liable to be disclosed.

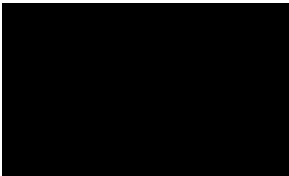
Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in their application should not be disclosed and clearly identify the specific sections of their application containing such information, specifying the reasons for its confidentiality/sensitivity. MARA will consult with applicants about this information before making a decision on any Freedom of Information/Access to Information on the Environment request received.

MARA
2nd Floor, Menapia House,
Drinagh Business Park,
Drinagh,
Wexford,
Y35RF29

www.maritimeregulator.ie

Part 1: Applicant Information	
1.1 Applicant Details	
Name of Applicant (the name that will appear on the licence)	Oilean Glas Teoranta (OGT)
Company/Organisation (if applicable)	Oilean Glas Teoranta (OGT)
Address/Company Address	Ballymoon Industrial Estate Kilcar, Co.Donegal Ireland
Eircode/Postcode	F94K52Y
Contact Name within Company/Organisation	
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email Address	
Is the company registered in Ireland for tax purposes?	Yes

1.2 Contact Details (if different from above)	
Full Name	As above
Address	As above
Eircode/Postcode	As above
Contact Name	As above
Contact Phone No.	As above
Contact Email Address	As above

1.3 Agent Representing Applicant (if applicable)	
Person/Agency acting on behalf of Applicant	Gavin and Doherty Geosolutions Limited
Address	Unit A2, Nutgrove Office Park, Rathfarnham, Dublin
Eircode/Postcode	D14 X627
Contact Name (if applicable)	
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email address	

1.4 Applicant's Legal Advisor (if applicable)	
Name/Company Name	
Address	
Eircode/Postcode	
Contact Name (if applicable)	
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email address	

Part 2: Proposal Details (Attach additional documents as required)

2.1 In relation to this application, have you previously applied for a declaration as to whether or not a licence was required for this usage? If so, please provide the reference number associated with that application.

No, the applicant has not previously applied for a declaration as to whether or not a licence is required for this usage in relation to this application.

2.2 Specify the Maritime Usage(s) being applied for with reference to Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 as amended:

10. The harvesting, disturbance or removal of seaweed, whether growing or rooted on the seabed, or deposited in or washed up thereon by the action of any one or more than one of the following

(a) tides;

(b) winds;

(c) waves

2.3 Description of proposed Maritime Usage.

Oilean Glas Teoranta (OGT) is applying for a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) for the hand harvesting of seaweed *Ascophyllum nodosum* from the intertidal shoreline of the following three bays in Co. Donegal:

- Dungloe Bay 8,000 wet tonnes,
- Mulroy Bay 2,000 wet tonnes and
- Trawbreaga Bay 4,000 wet tonnes.

The seaweed is used to produce fertiliser and animal feed. The harvesting of seaweed plays an important cultural and socio-economic role for local communities in Co. Donegal, and it has expanded into commercial exploitation of the abundant seaweed resources of the area.

Seaweed harvesting in Ireland has a long tradition. Throughout the centuries seaweed was used as a fertiliser, food and animal feed. It is an important part of the social, economic and cultural fabric of many coastal communities. The seaweed harvesting industry in Co. Donegal has operated a sustainable the system of harvesting and management of the resource for hundreds of years. No evidence of disturbance to local habitats or indigenous species associated with this activity has been identified over this time.

The harvesters are typically part-timers also involved in fishing or agriculture. OGT have worked closely with local harvesters for the past 24 years, some of whom have 50 years' experience of seaweed harvesting, and have developed a sustainable harvesting and management process that ensures a careful and considerate approach to both the conservation of this seaweed resource and the local environment. OGT will continue to work with the harvesters to ensure the traditional techniques, local knowledge and sustainable management continue into the future.

For the proposed Maritime Usage, the seaweed will be harvested by hand in the traditional manner. This involves using local cutters each working within a specific intertidal area. The seaweed will be cut at low tide using a knife, leaving approximately 15-20cm of the seaweed holdfast attached to the substrate, to ensure re-growth of the plant. The seaweed will then be gathered using a fork into bundles (local term cailleach/caillaí) of approximately 1 to 1.5 wet tonne, that are bound by nets and ropes. Each harvester will collect approximately 3 to 4 callaí in a day. The caillaí float at high water and are towed, usually by a small boat, to a suitable pier for collection by a lorry with a crane. They are lifted directly from the seashore by the crane onto the lorry. No callaí are left on the foreshore overnight.

A harvesting plan has been developed to manage the resource in a sustainable way. Each bay has been divided into distinct main areas, and each of these areas is further divided into smaller subsections. Each of these small areas has been allocated a tonnage of *Ascophyllum nodosum* seaweed which represents less than 12% of the total biomass of that area. The cutters will follow the harvesting plan by only collecting the allocated annual tonnages from each harvested area.

2.4 Describe the nature and scale of any structure to be erected in the maritime area.

No structures will be erected in the maritime area under this licence.

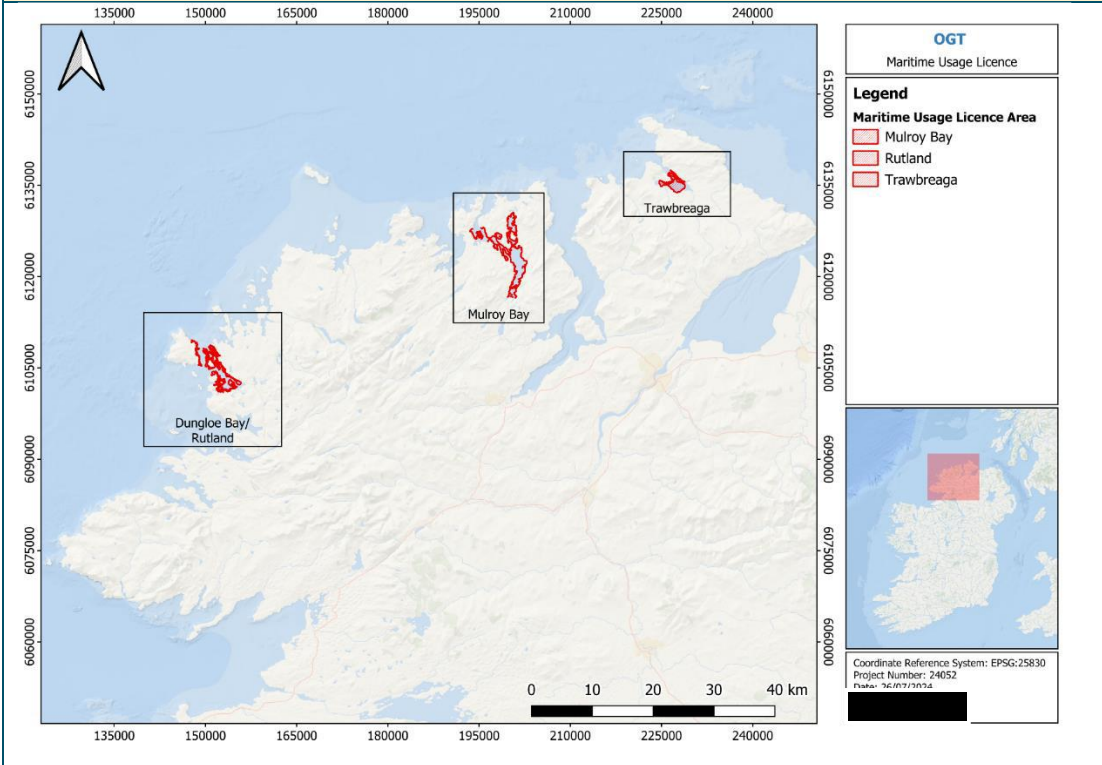
2.5 Proposed licence duration and reasons for proposed duration

	A licence duration of up to 10 years is being sought.
2.6	Indicative timing of the works/activity: (i) Start date (ii) Duration (iii) Any other information relevant to timing.
	Works are proposed to start from Q3 2024, subject to the issuing of the licence. A licence duration of up to 10 years is being sought.
2.7	Do the proposed maritime usages provide for public use, commercial use or private use? Provide details.
	The proposed maritime usage is to undertake hand harvesting of seaweed in a traditional manner in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000 for commercial use.
2.8	Could the proposed works restrict public use/enjoyment of the nearshore e.g. fishing, sailing, surfing, swimming, walking or other activities? Provide details.
	The seaweed harvesting activities on site will be localised along the shoreline and temporary in nature and are unlikely to restrict public use or enjoyment of the nearshore by other users.
2.9	Please outline any engagements that have taken place with marine users or other stakeholders in the proposed area that may be affected by the proposal and attach supporting documentation where relevant.
	OGT are in constant contact with locals and other parties due to the close net communities and the fact that all of the harvesters resit in the areas where harvesting takes place.
2.10	Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with other relevant authorities (e.g. Local Authority, Port/Harbour authority etc.) or State Agencies. e.g. National Parks & Wildlife Service, National Monuments Service of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
	Regular informal contact with Local Authorities, County Councils and Port/Harbour authority, National Parks & Wildlife Service during our routine Harvesting operations
2.11	Please provide the reference number and title of any existing Foreshore licence you may hold within the footprint, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage area.
	N/A
2.12	Please provide the reference number of any current application for a Foreshore Licence to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Does this application for a foreshore licence relate to or impact any part of the maritime area the subject of this licence application? If so, please provide details of the foreshore licence application.
	FS006233 Oilean Glas Teoranta – Seaweed Please note the current Maritime Usage Licence replaces FS006233 Oilean Glas Teoranta – Seaweed, as agreed with MARA in the pre-application meeting relating to the current Maritime Usage Licence.
2.13	What environmental reports, if any, have you submitted with this application? (Supporting information for screening for Appropriate Assessment/ Natura Impact Statement/ Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species/ Assessment of Impact on the Maritime Usage Report)
	OGT has submitted the below environmental reports with this application: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment of Impact on the Maritime Usage Report • Supporting information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment Dungloe Bay • Supporting information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment Mulroy Bay

- Supporting information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment Trawbreaga Bay
- Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species

Part 3: Location and Spatial Extent of Proposed Maritime Area (Attach additional documents as required)

3.1 Location of proposed Maritime Usage



3.2 Total size of the proposed Maritime Area (in m², ha or km², as appropriate).

- Dungloe Bay, 566.99ha
- Mulroy Bay 247.00 ha
- Trawbreaga Bay 536.18 ha

3.3 Please provide the distance of the main body of the proposed maritime area from the shore at its closest point in km.

The main body of the proposed maritime area is along the intertidal area (i.e. the area is within 1 km of the shore).

3.4 Is any of the maritime area in the proposed site in private ownership? If yes please provide documentary evidence of same (e.g. folio).

N/A

3.5 Any other site details considered relevant:

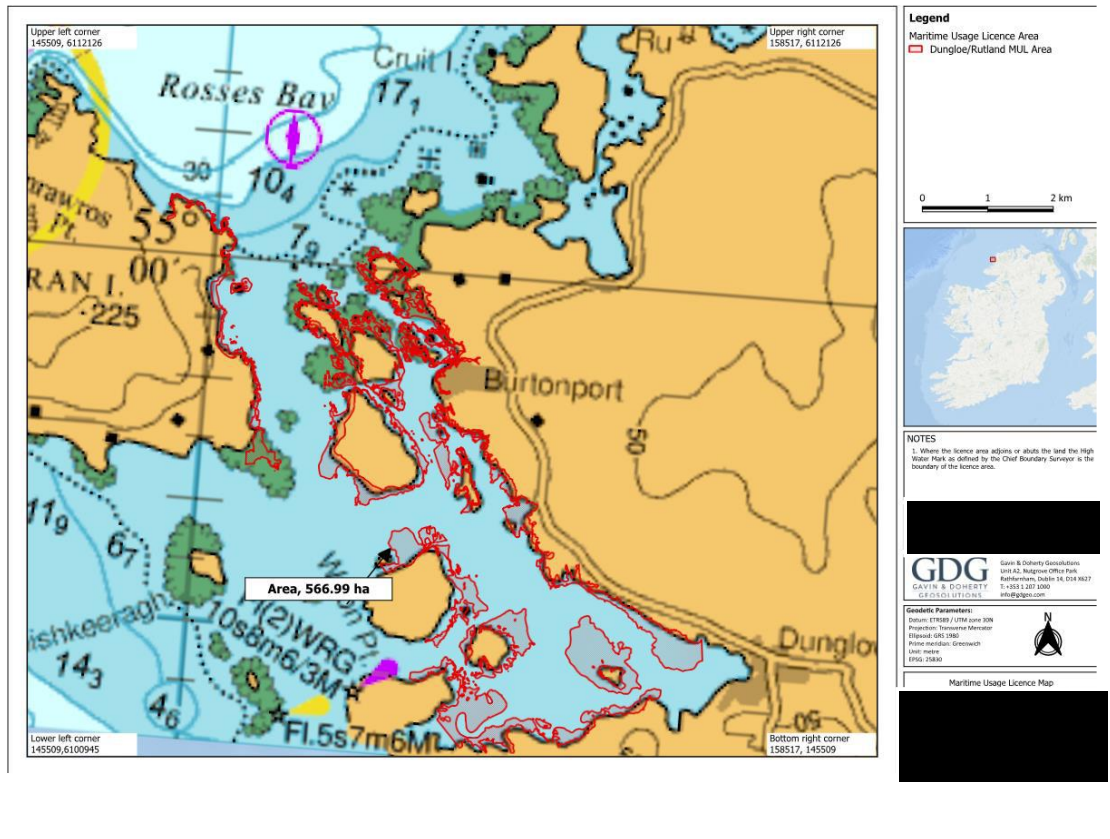
Part 4: Maps and Drawings.
Please refer to [Technical Guidance](#) on map and drawing requirements.

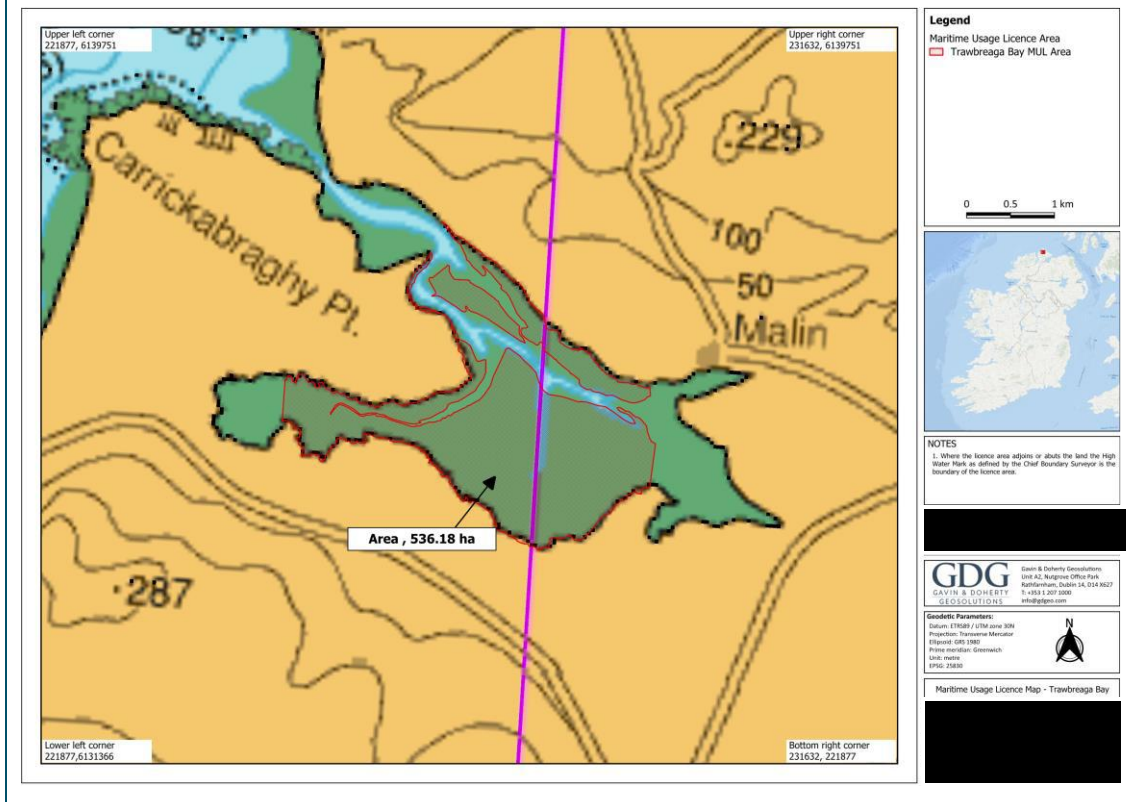
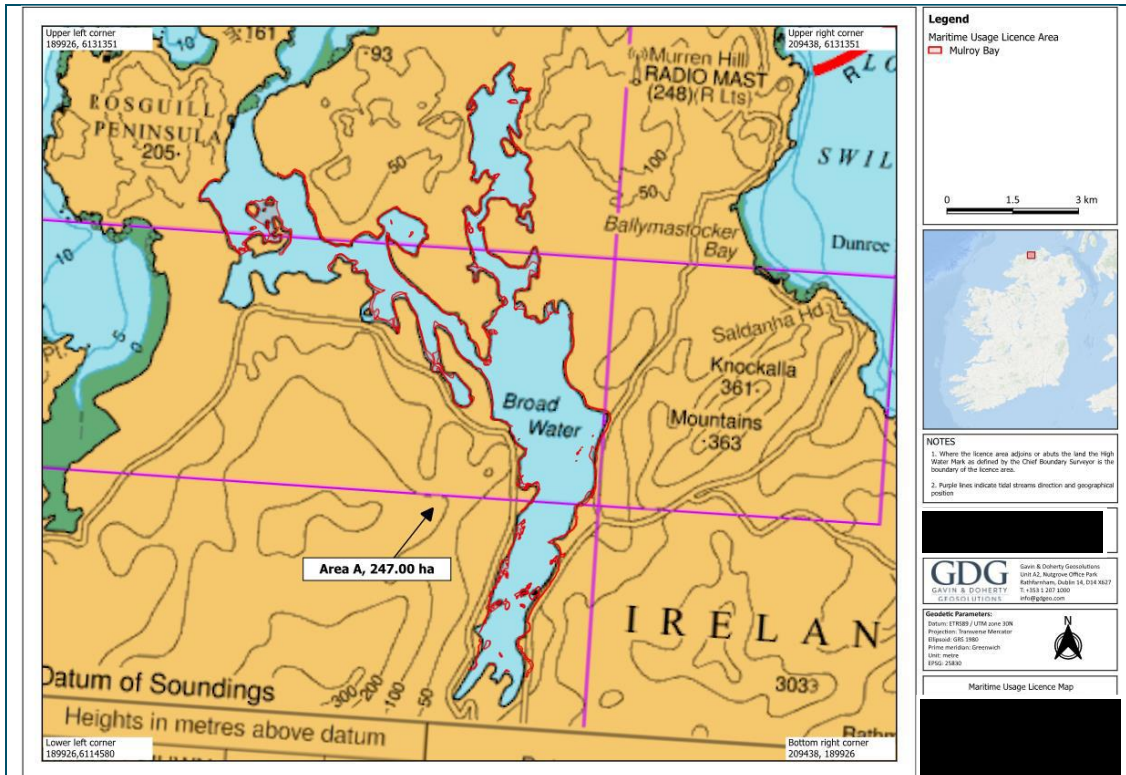
- 4.1** Please draft a map, titled “Licence Map”, outlining the proposed Maritime Area in accordance with the Technical Guidance for Maritime Area Licence Applications and submit same with this application.
- 4.2** Please submit GIS Shapefiles, in accordance with the Applicant Technical Guidance Note and submit same with this application.
- 4.3** Please list any Admiralty Charts, Maps, GIS Shapefiles and/or other Drawings submitted with this application.

Dungloe Bay MUL Licence_v01

Mulroy Bay MUL Licence_v01

Trawbreaga Bay MUL Licence_v01





Part 5: Fishing/Aquaculture Considerations:

5.1 Is the proposal located in proximity to any of the following:

- aquaculture operation
- designated Shellfish Growing Waters
- fish spawning ground
- other sensitive fisheries location

Please Illustrate on appropriate chart including distance in Km.

Further information regarding this question can be found in the Assessment of Impact on the Maritime Usage report submitted with this application.

Summary information and charts are provided below.

Dungloe Bay Aquaculture Activity

Licensed Aquaculture within the Dungloe area includes the Pacific Oyster (shellfish) and manila clam (shellfish) shown in Figure 6-14.

The Shellfish Waters Directive (SWD) shellfish waters include the area located at Dungloe (Figure 6-15). The Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Inshore Shellfish Production Area includes Dungloe Bay and Arranmore Production Areas (Figure 6-15).

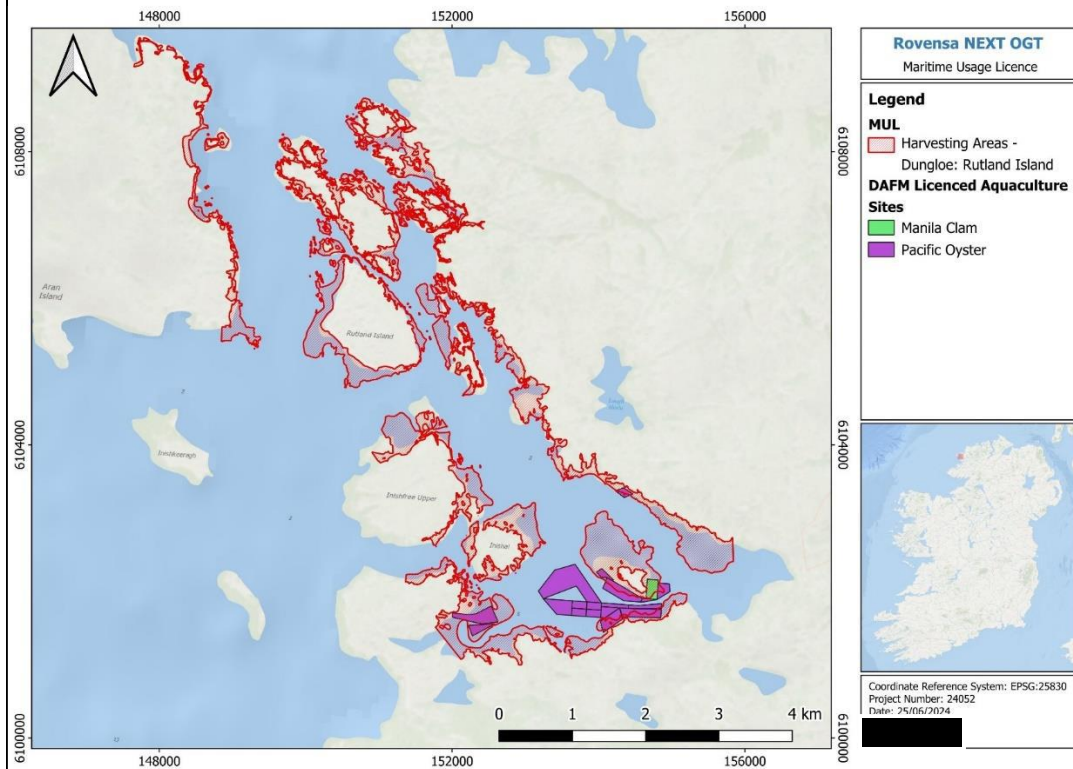


Figure 6-14 Aquaculture Sites within Dungloe Bay (Pacific Oyster – Purple, Manila Clam – Green)

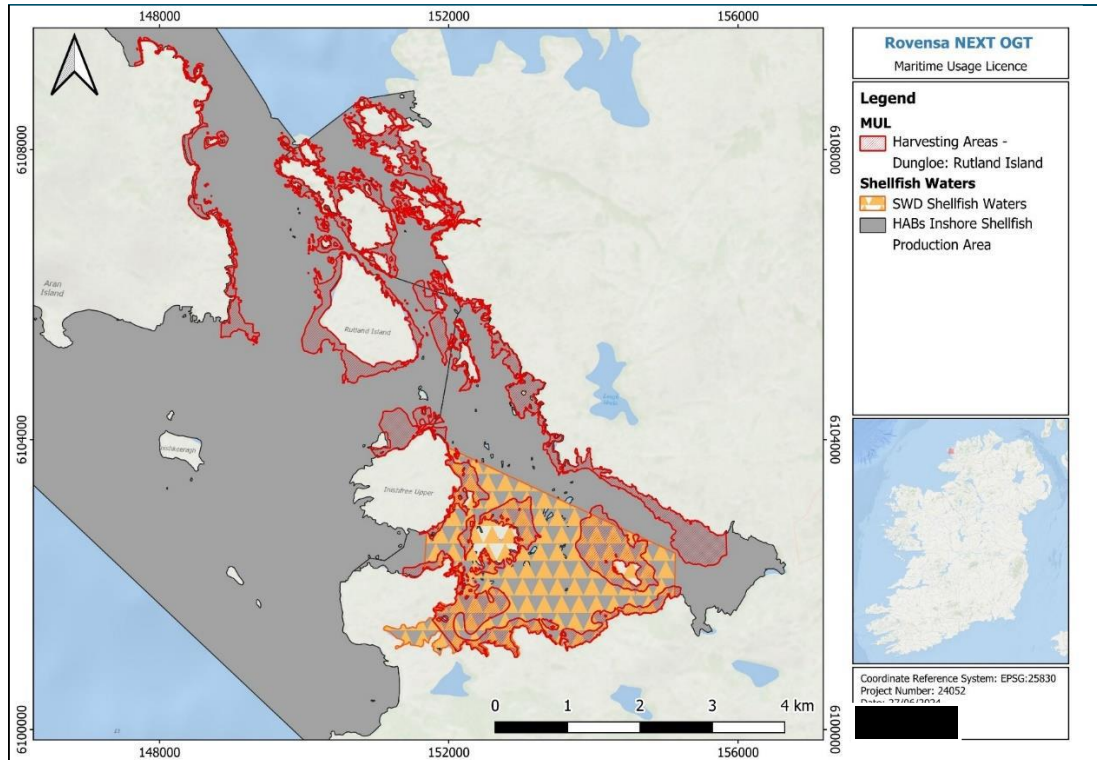


Figure 6-15 Shellfish Waters (Orange) and HABs Inshore Shellfish Production Area (Grey)

The shellfish species recorded at the Dungloe and Arranmore HABs Inshore Production Areas are provided in Table 6-8 below.

Table 6-8 The shellfish species recorded at the Dungloe and Arranmore HABs Inshore Production Areas

HABs Inshore Shellfish Production Area species at Dungloe and Arranmore	
<i>M. edulis</i>	<i>O. edulis</i>
<i>G. gigas</i>	<i>P. maximus</i>
<i>T. philippinarum</i>	<i>S. solida</i>
<i>D. exoleta</i>	<i>E. arcuatus</i>
<i>G. glycymeris</i>	<i>E. silqua</i>
<i>P. lividus</i>	<i>C. edule</i>
<i>A. operacularis</i>	<i>T. semidecussata</i>
<i>V. senegalensis</i>	<i>V. verrucosa</i>

Mulroy Bay Aquaculture Activity

Licence Aquaculture in the Mulroy Bay area includes the Great Atlantic Scallop, Brown Seaweeds, Atlantic salmon, Blue mussel, Pacific oyster (Figure 6-16).

The Shellfish Waters Directive (SWD) shellfish waters and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Inshore Shellfish Production Area includes Mulroy Bay and Mulroy Production Areas are shown in Figure 6-17.

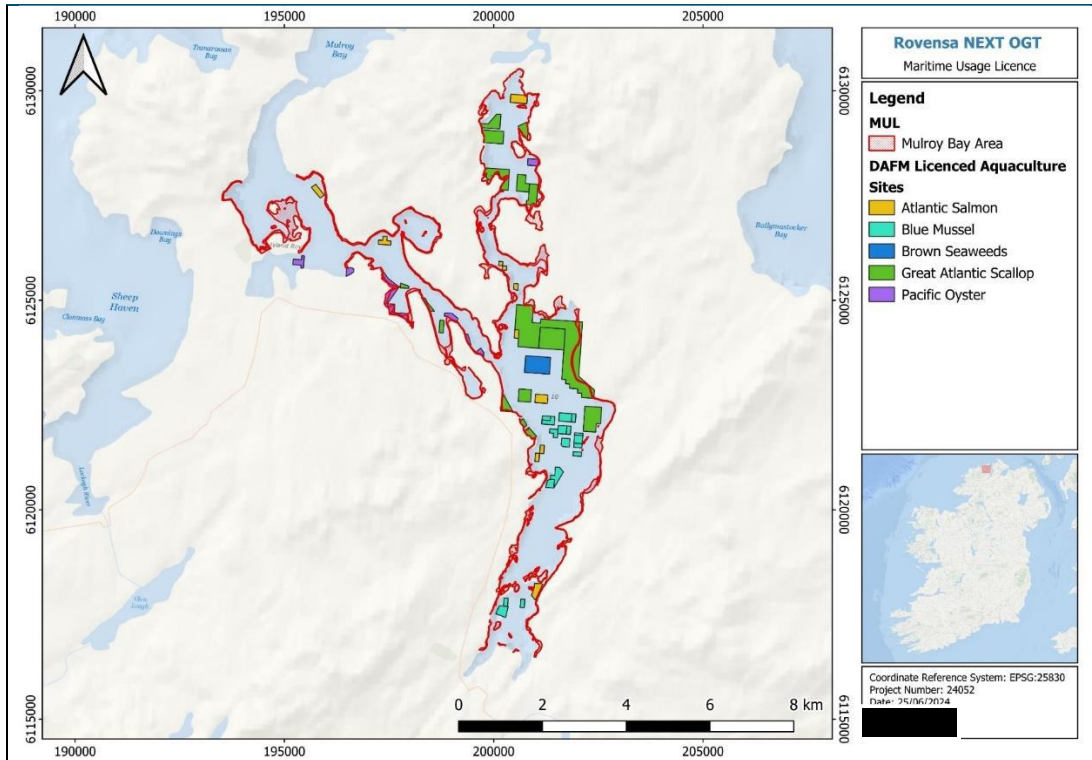


Figure 6-16 Aquaculture Sites within Mulroy Bay

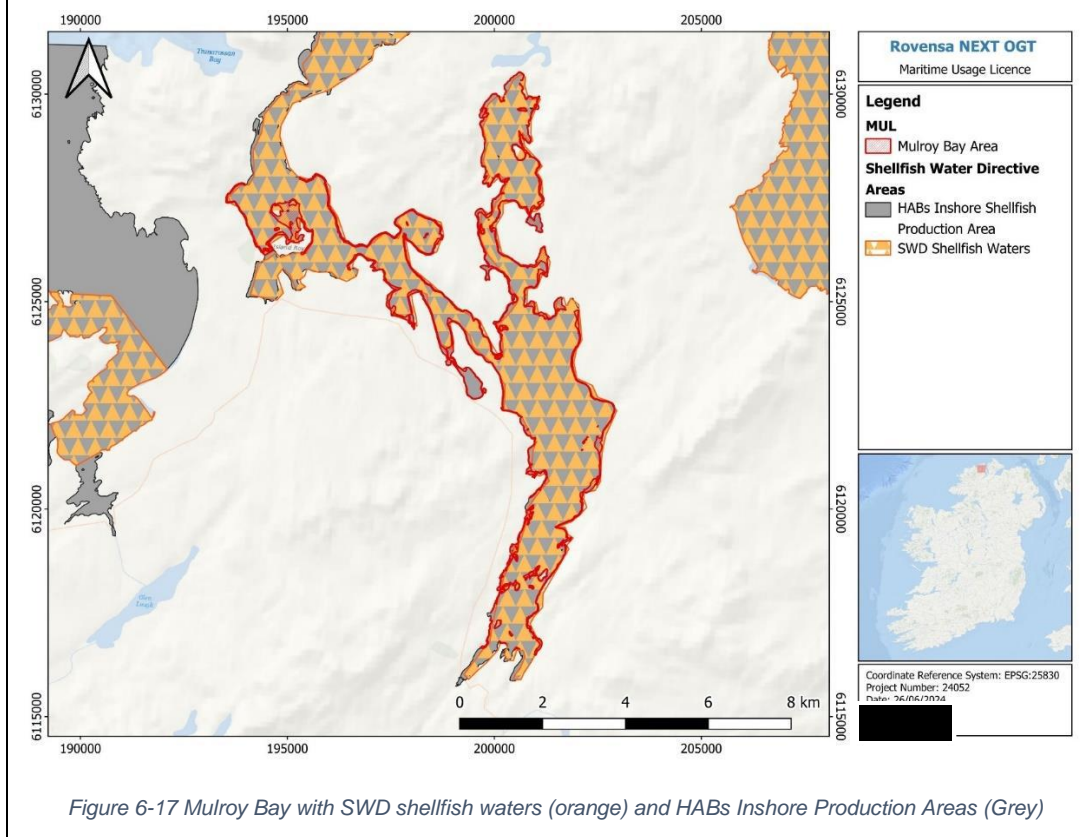


Figure 6-17 Mulroy Bay with SWD shellfish waters (orange) and HABs Inshore Production Areas (Grey)

The shellfish species recorded at the Mulroy Bay HABs Inshore Production areas are provided in Table 6-9 below.

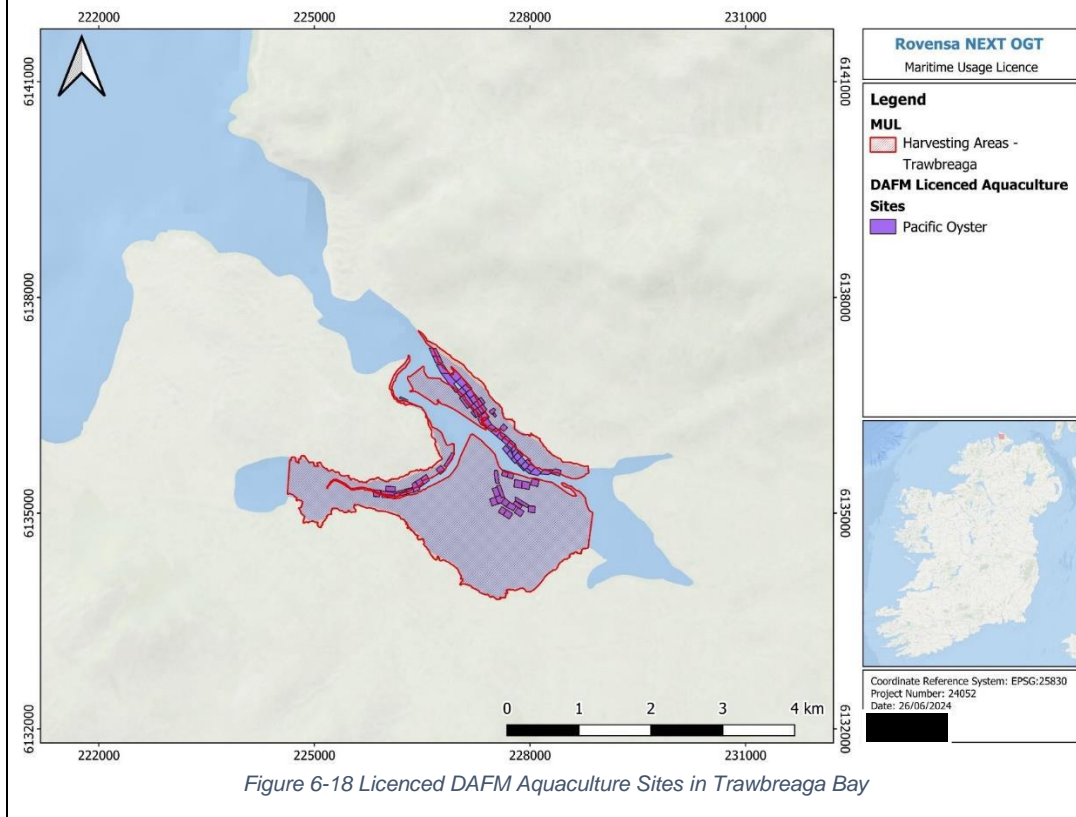
Table 6-9 The shellfish species recorded at the Mulroy Bay HABs Inshore Production Areas

HABs Inshore Shellfish Production Area species at Mulroy Bay	
<i>M. edulis</i>	<i>O. edulis</i>
<i>G. gigas</i>	<i>P. maximus</i>
<i>T. philippinarium</i>	<i>S. solida</i>
<i>D. exoleta</i>	<i>E. arcuatus</i>
<i>G. glycymeris</i>	<i>E. silqua</i>
<i>P. lividus</i>	<i>C. edule</i>
<i>A. operacularis</i>	<i>T. semidecussata</i>
<i>V. senegalensis</i>	<i>V. verrucosa</i>

Trawbreaga Bay

Licence Aquaculture in the Trawbreaga Bay area include Pacific Oyster (Figure 6-18).

The Shellfish Waters Directive (SWD) shellfish waters and Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Inshore Shellfish Production Area includes Trawbreaga Bay area (Figure 6-19)



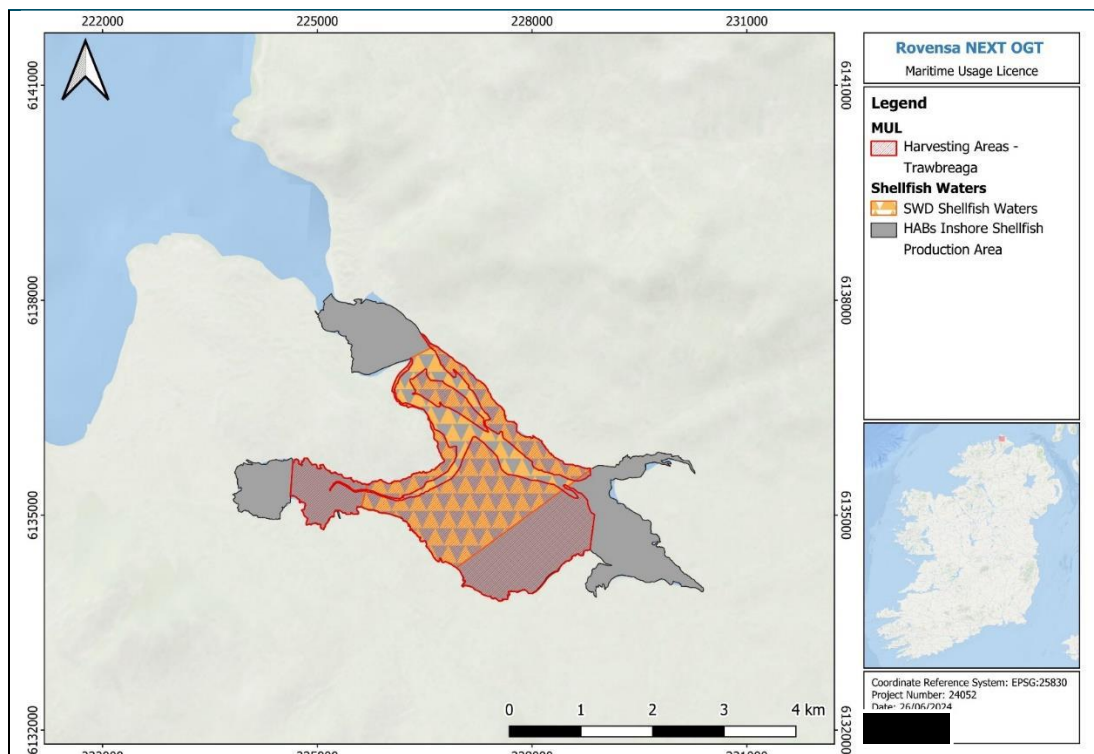


Figure 6-19 HABS Inshore Shellfish Production Areas (HABS) and Shellfish Waters Directive areas within Trawbreaga Bay

5.2 Are there other potential impacts of the proposal on fishing/aquaculture in the area? If yes, please describe.

Ascophyllum is unlikely to occur in areas of Aquaculture due to its preference for intertidal areas and anchoring on hard substrates. Therefore, no potential interactions between *Ascophyllum* harvesting and oyster/clam production areas have been identified.

5.3 Are there any measures proposed to mitigate potential impacts on fisheries or aquaculture? If yes, please describe.

None anticipated

Declaration and Consent:

The details provided here are correct to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that no works will be commenced, by the applicant or the applicant's agents on the proposed site, without a valid licence from MARA. The granting of any Maritime Usage Licence will not give rise on the part of the applicant to any expectation whatsoever for, right or entitlement to a grant of any future licence in respect of all or any part of any area of the Maritime Area.

By submitting this application form, the applicant agrees that the details provided (with personal contact details redacted) are to be published on MARAs website and also that the full information provided including contact details are to be processed and retained by MARA and shared with all relevant public authorities in furtherance of consideration for a Maritime Usage Licence under the MAPA.

I give consent to MARA and its agents to copy this application and to make (a redacted) copy available for inspection and copying by the public. This consent relates to this application, to any further information, or submission provided by the applicant or on the applicant's behalf and to the publication of the licence document.



Name of Signatory (block letters):

DAVID MURPHY

Position Held:

DIRECTOR

Date:

11/09/2024

Applicant Checklist	
Document	Included
Application Form (Parts 2 to 5 inclusive)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA) Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Natura Impact Statement (NIS), if initially included	<input type="checkbox"/>
Assessment of Impact of the Maritime Usage (AIMU) Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schedule of Works	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Licence Mapping (including GIS Shapefiles)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please list below)	

Other