

EIA SCREENING ASSESSMENT TS/590A

1. Applicant Details

Name
Address

Dunmanus Bay Mussels Ltd
Dromduff West
Bantry
Co Cork

2. Characteristics of Project

- a) Species cultivation proposed
- b) Method
- c) Production in intertidal zone
- d) Production beyond intertidal zone
- e) Source of seed/spat etc
- f) Is a non-native species to be cultivated?
- g) Annual Production Estimates - Tonnes

Blue Mussels (<i>Mytilus edulis</i>)	
Longlines.	
No	
Yes	
Local spat collection on stockings	
No.	
Year 1 0 tonnes	
Year 2 190 tonnes	
Year 3 250 tonnes	
Year 4 250 tonnes	

3. Location of Project

- a) File No.
- b) No. of sites
- c) Location
- d) Hectares
- e) Shellfish Waters Designation
- f) If yes, identify area as per S.I. 268 of 2006/S.I. 55 of 2009
- g) Natura 2000 site
- h) If yes, identify site and type

TS/590A	
1 site	
Dunmanus Bay CoCork	
Site 26.25 Ha	
No	No
No	

4. Development Plan

- a) County Development Plan

Yes	Cork County Development Plan
Section 6. Economy and Employment. Section 6.11.1 Commercial Fishing and aquaculture represent an important economic activity in rural coastal areas. This plan supports the provision of appropriate harbour infrastructure that facilitates a modern and innovative fishing industry. 6.11.2 The council recognises and will continue to support the sustainable development of the aquaculture industry in order to maximise its contribution to employment and the economic well being of rural communities and the economic well being of the county. This plan also recognises the important role aquaculture can play on the diversification of rural areas.	
2014 -2020	

If yes, identify relevant sections
If yes, period covered

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b) Local Area Plan

If yes, identify relevant sections

c) Other

If yes, please specify and identify relevant sections

EIA SCREENING CHECKLIST

Is it an ANNEX II project of EIA directive 85/337/EEC ?

Is the project located on or adjacent to a Natura 2000 area?
If yes, has the appropriate assessment been carried out?

Yes ..	
2014-2020	
Yes	
Bantry Electoral Area Local Area Plan, Second Edition, January 2015	
Local Area Strategy — Vision - 2.2.4	
The economic strength of the Electoral Area is characterised by the natural and coastal resources, in particular the fishing industry, aquaculture, agriculture and tourism. This strategy aims to promote the further growth and development of these sectors which will in turn stimulate economic growth in the wider region. There are also opportunities within the Electoral Area for the promotion and development of further economic diversification measures.	
YES	
Yes. The project is not located within a Natura 2000 site but is located within 15Km of the Sheep's Head SAC (Site Code 000102), the Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA Site Code 004156), Farranmanagh Lough SAC (Site Code 002189), Reen Point Shingle SAC(Site Code 002281) and Dunbeacon Shingle SAC Site Code 002280)	
Yes. AA Screening has been carried out	

1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (1)

	Yes/No - Briefly describe	Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No? - Why
(a) Size of project		
Will the project be out of scale with the existing environment?	The project is not out of scale, the site is 26.25 Ha in context of the large body of coastal waters within which it is located.	
Will it lead to further consequential development or works (e.g. new roads, landing facilities, provision of new water supply)?	No. It will use existing infrastructure. No new additional infrastructure is required.	
(b) Cumulation with other development		
Are there potential cumulative impacts with existing aquaculture projects or with other licensed aquaculture projects but which have not yet begun?	Yes. There are other licensed aquaculture operations in the area, producing. Mussels, Oysters and sea urchins. There are potential visual, navigational and benthic impacts.	No. The site is located circa 3.5Km from the nearest licensed aquaculture site. The visual impacts will be covered by licence conditions relating to orientation of site, length of line, colour of flotation barrels etc. A group navigational marking scheme will be in operation providing a safe system of navigation for all marine users. Benthic impact is confined to the footprint of the sites.
Are there potential cumulative impacts with existing foreshore projects or with foreshore projects licensed but which have not yet begun?	No	No..
Should the application for this project be regarded as an integral part of a more substantial project? If so, can related projects which are subject to separate applications proceed independently?	No.	

<p>I. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (1) cont'</p> <p>(c) Use of natural resources</p>	<p>Yes/No - Briefly describe</p>	<p>Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No? - Why</p>
<p>Will installation or operation of the project use natural resources such as land, water, materials or energy, especially any resources which are non-renewable or in short supply?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • land (especially undeveloped or agricultural land)? • water? • energy including electricity and fuels? • any other resources? 	<p>Yes. The cultivation of mussels on the foreshore will use naturally occurring marine phytoplankton present in the seawater in the area.</p>	<p>No. High levels of plankton occur naturally at the location and shellfish cultivation at this scale will not result in limiting plankton growth or abundance.</p>
<p>(d) Production of waste</p> <p>Will the project produce wastes during installation or operation or decommissioning?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • municipal waste (household and/or commercial)? • surplus product? • construction or demolition wastes? • redundant machinery or equipment? • any other solid wastes? • liquid or solid wastes in suspension? 	<p>Yes. The cultivated shellfish will produce faeces and pseudofaeces. Grading and removal of mortalities will result in shells being discarded</p>	<p>No. The area impacted by faeces and pseudofaeces produced will be limited to the area of the site. The site is well flushed and build up of excess organic matter with subsequent reduction in oxygen is not considered likely. Amounts of discarded shells will be small and build up of excess on site will not be permitted. Discarding of damaged or other materials will not be permitted into the sea or on the foreshore.</p>

<p>1. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (1) cont'd</p> <p>(e) Pollution and nuisances</p> <p>Will the project release pollutants or any hazardous, toxic or noxious substances to air?</p> <p>Emissions from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • combustion of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources? • construction activities including plant & equipment? • any other sources <th data-bbox="1125 772 1367 1265"> <p>Yes/No - Briefly describe</p> <th data-bbox="1125 1265 1367 1798"> <p>Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No? - Why</p> </th></th>	<p>Yes/No - Briefly describe</p> <th data-bbox="1125 1265 1367 1798"> <p>Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No? - Why</p> </th>	<p>Is this likely to result in a significant effect? Yes/No? - Why</p>
<p>Will the project cause noise and vibration or release of light?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from operation of equipment e.g. engines? • from blasting or piling? • from construction or operational traffic? • from lighting or other systems? • from any other sources? 	<p>Yes. There will be noise associated with the husbandry and harvesting of the shellfish from boats and other machinery but will not have significant effect. There will be no release to the air of other hazardous, toxic or noxious pollutants.</p>	<p>No. Noise levels will not be significant.</p>
<p>(f) Risk of accidents, having regard in particular to substances or technologies used</p> <p>Will there be any risk of accidents during installation or operation of the project which could affect human health or the environment?</p>	<p>Yes. There will be risk of physical injury while working on the site but no risk to human health</p>	<p>No. The risk of on-site accidents is considered to be minor.</p>
<p>Will the project lead to risks of contamination of land or water from releases of pollutants onto the ground or into surface waters, groundwater, coastal waters or the sea?</p>	<p>No. No chemicals or hazardous substances will be used during the production process.</p>	
<p>Will the project involve use, storage, transport, handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to people or the environment (flora, fauna, water supplies)?</p>	<p>Yes. Workboats carrying diesel and oil.</p>	<p>No. The risk of spillage is minor and the likely impact would be minor given the quantities of fuel involved.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of hazardous or toxic substances? • potential changes in occurrence of disease or effect on disease carriers (e.g. insect or water borne diseases)? 		
<p>CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (1) cont'd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • g) Will installation, operation or decommissioning of the project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality (topography, land use, changes in waterbodies, etc)? • dredging? • coastal structures (seawalls, piers)? • offshore structures? • facilities for storage of goods or materials? • facilities for treatment or disposal of solid wastes or liquid effluents? • new road, rail or sea traffic during construction or operation? • new road, rail, air, waterborne or other transport infrastructure including new or altered routes and stations, ports, airports etc? • closure or diversion of existing transport routes or infrastructure leading to changes in traffic movements? • new or diverted transmission lines or pipelines? • transport of personnel or materials for construction, operation or decommissioning? • decommissioning or restoration works? • introduction of alien species? • loss of native species or genetic diversity? • any other changes? 	<p>Yes. Longlines will be placed on the foreshore, held in position by anchors on the seabed.</p>	<p>No. The development can be considered as minor and reversible as all structures can be removed and no new infrastructure is required.</p>
<p>(h) Inherent social changes</p> <p>Will the project result in social changes, for example, in demography, traditional lifestyles, employment?</p>	<p>Yes. There is scope for a small increase in employment.</p>	<p>No. The impact is beneficial but not significant.</p>

2. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (2)		
(a) Existing land use		
Are there existing land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project, e.g. homes, gardens, other private property, industry, commerce, recreation, public open space, community facilities, agriculture, forestry, tourism, water catchments, functional floodplains, mining or quarrying?	No. Terrestrial land uses will not be affected and there is no spatial overlap with other users of the foreshore.	
Are there any areas on or around the location which are occupied by sensitive land uses e.g. hospitals, schools, places of worship, community facilities, which could be affected?	No	
Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area?	No.	
(b) Relative abundance, quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area		
Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important, high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the project?	Yes. There is fishing, tourism and marine leisure in the area.	No. Significant impacts are not considered likely.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • groundwater resources • surface waters • fisheries • tourism 		
Are there any areas on or around the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for their ecological, landscape, cultural or other value, which could be affected by the project?	No.	
2. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (2) cont'd		
Are there any other areas on or around the location which are important or sensitive for reasons of their ecology?	No.	

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<p>e) Absorption capacity of the natural environment cont'd</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • wetlands, watercourses or other waterbodies? • the coastal zone? • mountains, forests or woodlands? nature reserves and parks? 		
<p>Are there any areas on or around the location which are used by protected, important or sensitive species of fauna or flora e.g. for breeding, nesting, foraging, resting, overwintering, migration, which could be affected?</p>	<p>No. Site T05/590A is located circa 2.2 Km from the nearest boundary of the Sheep's Head SAC, 3Km from the nearest boundary of the Farranamanagh Lough SAC, 4.2Km from the nearest boundary of the Reen Point Shingle SAC, 4.8Km from the nearest boundary of the Sheep's Head to Toe Head SPA and 5.3Km from the nearest boundary of the Dunbeacon Shingle SAC</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>2. LOCATION OF THE PROJECT - ANNEX III (2) cont'd</p>		
<p>Are there any inland, coastal, marine or underground waters on or around the location which could be affected?</p>	<p>No</p>	
<p>Are there any groundwater source protection zones or areas that contribute to the recharge of groundwater resources?</p>	<p>No</p>	
<p>Are there any areas or features of high landscape or scenic value on or around the location which could be affected?</p>	<p>Yes. The site is adjacent to scenic routes (S106 S107 & S108). The site is also adjacent to very high value scenic routes. The roadway is also part of the Wild Atlantic Way, a coastal tourism route along the west coast of Ireland.</p>	<p>No. In general, views of the mussel longline sites are obscured and limited from the scenic routes.</p>
<p>Are there any routes or facilities on or around the location which are used by the public for access to recreation or other facilities, which could be affected?</p>	<p>No. Public access to recreational and other activities will not be significantly impacted by the project.</p>	
<p>Is the project in a location where it is likely to be highly visible to many people?</p>	<p>No. Population densities are low in the region</p>	
<p>Are there any areas or features of historic, cultural or archaeological importance on or around the location which could be affected?</p>	<p>No.</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p>Are there any areas on or around the location which are already subject to pollution or environmental damage e.g. where existing legal environmental standards are exceeded.</p>	<p>No. Sea Urchins and mussels in this area currently have an "A" and "B" Classification respectively under Annex II of the EU Regulation</p>	

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which could be affected?	854/2004.	
Is the area densely populated?	No	
Is the location of the project susceptible to earthquakes, subsidence, landslides, erosion, flooding or extreme or adverse climatic conditions e.g. temperature inversions, fogs severe winds, which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No.	

On the basis of the above the consensus of the screening group is that the proposed aquaculture is not likely to have significant effects on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for this project.

EIA SCREENING GROUP COMPRISES OF MEMBERS FROM: THE MARINE INSTITUTE THE DEPARTMENT'S MARINE ENGINEERING DIVISION BORD IASCAIGH MHARA REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DEPARTMENT'S AQUACULTURE AND FORESHORE MANAGEMENT DIVISION	Dated  20/9/17
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