Alab, Info

From: Mary Rowan [redacted]
Sent: Wednesday 21 October 2026 16:24
To: Alab, Info
Subject: Formal Objection to Proposed Aquaculture Licences in Ballyness Bay, County Donegal

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

CAUTION: This Email originated from Outside of this department. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognise the sender and know the content is safe. Otherwise Please Forward any suspicious Emails to Notify.Cyber@agriculture.gov.ie .

Dear Members of the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board,

I wish to formally object to the proposed industrial-scale shellfish farming in Ballyness Bay.

Ballyness Bay is a much-loved natural amenity, providing opportunities for walking, swimming, boating, angling and other recreational activities. Its unspoilt beauty is also an important attraction for visitors and contributes significantly to the local tourism economy.

I am deeply concerned that extensive oyster trestles and associated infrastructure would damage the bay's natural character, detract from its scenic beauty and negatively affect tourism and local livelihoods. There are also concerns about potential pollution, litter, noise, traffic and disturbance to residents, wildlife and recreational users.

Of particular concern are the potential impacts on protected habitats and wildlife, as well as the risks associated with non-native species, including Pacific oysters, becoming established beyond cultivation areas. These risks must be thoroughly assessed using robust scientific evidence.

I urge the Board to consider the cumulative environmental impacts of the proposed developments and to give proper weight to the concerns of the local community. The requirement for Appropriate Assessments highlights the importance of ensuring that protected sites and their wildlife are not adversely affected.

Ballyness Bay's natural beauty, ecological integrity and value to the community must be protected for future generations. Commercial interests should not take precedence over the long-term wellbeing of this precious coastal environment.

I respectfully ask the Board to refuse any licences where the necessary environmental protection requirements have not been demonstrably met.

Please register this letter as a formal objection and confirm receipt.

Yours faithfully,

Mary Rowan.

[redacted]

[redacted]