

**Notice of Appeal Under Section 40(1) of Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (No.23)**

**API-103-25**  
**APPEAL FORM**

Please note that in accordance with Section 40(2) of the 1997 Act this form will only be accepted if delivered by <b>REGISTERED POST</b> or by <b>hand</b> to the ALAB offices at the following address: <b>Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board, Kilminchy Court, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, R32 DTW5</b>		
Name of Appellant (Block Letters)		
Address of Appellant		
Eircode		
Phone No.	Email address (enter below)	
Mobile No.		
Please note if there is <b>any change</b> to the details given above, the onus is on the appellant to ensure that ALAB is notified accordingly.		
<b>FEES</b>		
<b>Fees must be received by the closing date for receipt of appeals</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Tick</b>
An appeal by an applicant for a licence against a decision by the Minister in respect of that application	€380	
An appeal by the holder of a licence against the revocation or amendment of that licence by the Minister	€380	
An appeal by any other individual or organisation	€150	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Request for an Oral Hearing* (fee payable in addition to appeal fee) *In the event that the Board decides not to hold an Oral Hearing the fee will not be refunded	€75	
Fees can be paid by way of Cheque or Electronic Funds Transfer		
Cheques are payable to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board in accordance with the Aquaculture Licensing Appeals (Fees) Regulations, 2021 (S.I. No. 771 of 2021)		
<b>Electronic Funds Transfer Details</b>	<b>IBAN:</b> IE89AIBK93104704051067	<b>BIC:</b> AIBKIE2D
Please note the following:		
1. Failure to submit the appropriate fee with your appeal will result in your appeal being deemed invalid.		
2. Payment of the correct fees <b>must be received on or before</b> the closing date for receipt of appeals, otherwise the appeal will not be accepted.		
3. The appropriate fee (or a request for an oral hearing) must be submitted against each determination being appealed.		



The Legislation governing the appeals is set out at Appendix 1 below.

### SUBJECT MATTER OF THE APPEAL

This appeal specifically seeks to overturn the recent ministerial decision to grant a licence to Woodstown Bay Shellfish Ltd. to operate this mussel farm. This appeal will clearly demonstrate (below) why this decision is erroneous and will result in considerable irreversible damage to the entire town of Kinsale and surrounding areas, including Castlepark and the Dock Beach, in terms of both considerable ecological and economic harm.

Site Reference Number: -  
(as allocated by the Department of Agriculture, Food, and the Marine)

### APPELLANT'S PARTICULAR INTEREST

Briefly outline your particular interest in the outcome of the appeal:

The proposed development is likely to have a devastating impact on the specific area of Castlepark Village, a residential area, and the Dock Beach, a very popular tourist spot, right off which this proposed mussel farm will be located

### GROUND(S) OF APPEAL

State in full the grounds of appeal and the reasons, considerations, and arguments on which they are based) (if necessary, on additional page(s)):

1. Public Access and Recreational Use  
Large-scale aquaculture developments can restrict navigation, impact traditional fishing routes, and interfere with recreational activities. A real concern is how the public access will be preserved.
2. Risk to Existing Local Industries  
The application does not consider the potential negative impact on established sectors such as tourism and traditional fisheries. A revised, independent cost-benefit analysis should be undertaken, accounting for the potential loss of revenue to local businesses reliant on the harbour's current use and environmental integrity.
3. The proposed mussel farm site lies directly off James Fort, a protected National Monument (NAH Ref. 20911215) and adjacent to the remains of the blockhouse guarding the estuary. This area is of significant historical and military importance with likely submerged archaeological material including maritime infrastructure and possibly shipwrecks. The application fails to include any underwater archaeological assessment or consultation with the National Monuments Service or Underwater Archaeology Unit (UAW) of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. This represents a serious procedural omission. Dredging associated with bottom-culture mussel farming carries a high risk of disturbing or destroying archaeological material at site.

### CONFIRMATION NOTICE ON EIA PORTAL (if required)

In accordance with Section 41(1) f of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, where an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for the project in question, please provide a copy of the confirmation notice, or other evidence (such as the Portal ID Number) that the proposed aquaculture the subject of this appeal is included on the portal established under Section 172A of the Planning and Development Act 2000. (See Explanatory Note at Appendix 2 below for further information).

Please tick the relevant box below:

EIA Portal Confirmation Notice is enclosed with this Notice of Appeal	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other evidence of Project's inclusion on EIA Portal is enclosed or set out below (such as the Portal ID Number)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> none
An EIA was not completed in the Application stage/the Project does not appear on the EIA Portal	<input type="checkbox"/>

Details of other evidence

Signed by the Appellant

Date 24/6/2025

**Please note that this form will only be accepted by REGISTERED POST or handed in to the ALAB offices**

**Payment of fees must be received on or before the closing date for receipt of appeals, otherwise the appeal will be deemed invalid.**

This Notice of Appeal should be completed under each heading, including all the documents, particulars, or information as specified in the notice and duly signed by the appellant, and may include such additional documents, particulars, or information relating to the appeal as the appellant considers necessary or appropriate."

## Appendix 1.

### Extract from the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 (No.23)

40. (1) A person aggrieved by a decision of the Minister on an application for an aquaculture licence or by the revocation or amendment of an aquaculture licence may, before the expiration of a period of one month beginning on the date of publication in accordance with this Act of that decision, or the notification to the person of the revocation or amendment, appeal to the Board against the decision, revocation or amendment, by serving on the Board a notice of appeal.
- (2) A notice of appeal shall be served—
- (a) by sending it by **registered post** to the Board,
  - (b) by **leaving it at the office of the Board**, during normal office hours, with a person who is apparently an employee of the Board, or
  - (c) by such other means as may be prescribed.
- (3) The Board shall not consider an appeal notice of which is received by it later than the expiration of the period referred to in subsection (1)
41. (1) For an appeal under section 40 to be valid, the notice of appeal shall—
- (a) be in writing,
  - (b) state the name and address of the appellant,
  - (c) state the subject matter of the appeal,
  - (d) state the appellant's particular interest in the outcome of the appeal,
  - (e) state in full the grounds of the appeal and the reasons, considerations and arguments on which they are based, and
  - (f) where an environmental impact assessment is required under Regulation 3 of the Aquaculture Appeals (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2012 (SI No 468 of 2012), include evidence of compliance with paragraph (3A) of the said Regulation 3, and
  - (g) **be accompanied by such fee**, if any, as may be payable in respect of such an appeal in accordance with regulations under *section 63*, and
- shall be accompanied by such documents, particulars or other information relating to the appeal as the appellant considers necessary or appropriate.

**\*\*Please contact the ALAB offices in advance to confirm office opening hours.**

## Appendix 2.

### Explanatory Note: EIA Portal Confirmation Notice/Portal ID number

The EIA Portal is provided by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage as an electronic notification to the public of requests for development consent that are accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIA Applications). The purpose of the portal is to provide information necessary for facilitating early and effective opportunities to participate in environmental decision-making procedures.

The portal contains information on EIA applications made since 16 May 2017, including the competent authority(ies) to which they are submitted, the name of the applicant, a description of the project, as well as the location on a GIS map, as well as the Portal ID number. The portal is searchable by these metrics and can be accessed at:

[https://housinggov.ie/maps-arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id\\_d7d5a3d48f104ecbb206c7c5f84b71f1](https://housinggov.ie/maps-arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id_d7d5a3d48f104ecbb206c7c5f84b71f1)

Section 41(1)(f) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997 requires that “*where an environmental impact assessment is required*” the notice of appeal shall show compliance with Regulation 3A of the Aquaculture Appeals (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2012 (S.I. 468/2012), as amended by the Aquaculture Appeals (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Amendment) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 279/2019) (The EIA Regulations)

Regulation 3A of the EIA Regulations requires that, in cases where an EIA is required because (i) the proposed aquaculture is of a class specified in Regulation 5(1)(a)(b)(c) or (d) of the Aquaculture (Licence Application) Regulations 1998 as amended – listed below, or (ii) the Minister has determined that an EIA was required as part of their consideration of an application for intensive fish farming, an appellant (that is, the party submitting the appeal to ALAB, including a third party appellant as the case may be) must provide evidence that the proposed aquaculture project that is the subject of the appeal is included on the EIA portal.

If you are a third-party appellant (that is, not the original applicant) and you are unsure if an EIA was carried out, or if you cannot find the relevant Portal ID number on the EIA portal at the link provided, please contact the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage for assistance before submitting your appeal form.

The Classes of aquaculture that are required to undergo an EIA specified in Regulation 5(1)(a)(b)(c) and (d) of the Aquaculture (Licence Application) Regulations 1998 S.I. 236 of 1998 as amended are:

- a) Marine based intensive fish farm (other than for trial or research purposes where the output would not exceed 50 tonnes);
- b) All fish breeding installations consisting of cage rearing in lakes;
- c) All fish breeding installations upstream of drinking water intakes;
- d) Other fresh-water fish breeding installations which would exceed 1 million smolts and with less than 1 cubic metre per second per 1 million smolts low flow diluting waters.

In addition, under Regulation 5(1) (e) of the 1998 Regulations, the Minister may, as part of his or her consideration of an application for intensive fish farming, make a determination under Regulation 4A that an EIA is required.

**Appendix 2.**

**Explanatory Note: EIA Portal Confirmation Notice/Portal ID number**