



EIA Screening Assessment Ballymacoda Bay T05/545

Following Marine Institute template

1 Applicant Details	
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2 characteristics of the project A species cultivation proposed B method C production in the intertidal zone D production beyond the intertidal Zone E.Sources of seed F is a non-native species to be cultivated? G. annual production estimates	Pacific Oyster Cultivation Bags and trestles cultivation Yes Yes France Yes Yes with the exception of Articles 3, 4 regulation EC 708/2007 does not apply to the production of pacific oysters. Year 1 0 tonnes Year 2 20 tonnes Year 3 40 tonnes Year 4 65 tonnes
3. Location of the project A file number B number of sites C location D hectares E Shellfish water designation? If yes identify area as per statutory instrument 66 of 2000 and 6 statutory instrument 55 of 2009 if yes name the designated area map and date of map F Natura 2000 site	T05/545 One Site Ballymacoda Bay 11.2439 ha S.I. No. 55 of 2009 Map 37: Ballymacoda Bay December 2008 Ballymacoda Bay SPA (site code 4023 Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC (Site code. 000077).
4. Development plan A If yes identify relevant sections period covered B local area plan if yes identify relevant sections C other	Cork County Development Plan 2014-2020 County Development Plan Objective; EE 11- 1: Fishing and Aquaculture .

EIA screening checklist

Annex II Project?	Describe
A Is the project located on or adjacent to a Natura 2000 area?	Yes . Ballymacoda Bay is a Special Protection Area designated for birds SPA (site code 4023) Ballymacoda (Clonpriest and Pillmore) SAC (Site code. 000077).
If yes has the appropriate assessment being carried out?	Yes – A screening has been carried out by the APEM and is on the DAFM website. A further AA screening specific to the site in question was prepared by Tom Gittings

Characteristics of the project annex III (1)

A size of project?	Describe	Impacts
Will the project be out of scale with the existing environment?	No the project is not out of scale relative to the size of the coastal bay in which it is located.	Potential impacts on birds as documented in the AA screening reports.
Will it lead to further development or works for example new roads landing facilities or water supply?	No new facilities are planned as a result of this development. There is already road access and no water supply or land facilities are required.	No additional impacts in this regard

B Cumulative Impacts	Describe	Impacts
Are there potential cumulative impacts with existing aquaculture products or with other licensed aquaculture projects?	Yes. There are other oyster cultivation enterprises both existing and planned in the bay. Potential cumulative impacts are visual and benthic	Yes there will be cumulative impacts. There are already 3 oyster farms licenced on the Ring side of Ballymacoda Bay.
Should the application for this project be regarded as an intricate part of a more substantial project?	It is an extension to an existing oyster farm	

If so can separate applications proceed independently?	N/A	N/A
C use of natural resources		
Will the installation or operation of the project use natural resources such as Land water minerals or energy especially any resources which are non-renewable or such as agricultural land water energy including electricity and fuels any other resources?	Yes. Resource use will include Phytoplankton (naturally occurring) is utilised as food for these bivalves.	According to information presented by Gittings (2019) research indicates that oyster trestle cultivation in typical Irish sites is unlikely to have had major impacts on food resources for waterbirds that feed on benthic fauna.

D The production of wastes		
Will the project produce waste during installation or operation or decommissioning?	Yes. The cultivation of oysters will produce faeces and pseudo faeces. Mortalities identified during grading will be discarded. Old trestles and worn bags will be disposed of.	No. The quantities of faeces and pseudo faeces produced will be small and impact only on the area beneath the trestles. According to Gittings 2019 In studies in Ireland and Canada high currents within sites prevented accumulation of biodeposits.No significant impact is expected.
E Pollution and nuisances		
Will the project release pollution so any other hazardous noxious substances to air emissions from one contribution of fossil fuels from stationary or mobile sources to construction activities including plant and equipment or any other sources?	Yes. The project will involve bringing tractors on to the foreshore to move trestles and oysters. There will be emissions to air resulting from this.	No. Emissions will not reach significant levels

F Risk of Accidents having regard in particular to substances or technologies used		
Will there be any risk of accidents during installation or operation of the project which could affect human health or the environment?	Yes. There will be a small risk of physical injury as with any farming activity. Use of motorised engines always carries with it a risk of fuel leakage	No . These risks are not significant.
Will the project lead to contamination of land or water?	No	No impacts in this regard are expected.
Will the project involve use storage transport handling or production of substances or materials which could be harmful to people or the environment?	No. No chemicals or hazardous compounds are used in oyster production	No

<p>G. Will installation operation or decommissioning of the project involve actions which will cause physical changes in the locality topography land or use changes in the water bodies ?</p>		
<p>For example dredging coastal structures sea walls. offshore structures Facilities for treatment or disposal of solid waste or liquid effluents New roadway extra traffic during construction or operation other transport infrastructure transport personnel or materials for construction operation or decommissioning Restoration works introduction of alien species loss of native species are genetic diversity or any other changes</p>	<p>Yes. Installation of trestles Pactific Oysters (Crassostrea gigas) with the exception of Article 3 and 4 Regulation EC 708/2007 does not apply.</p>	<p>No. Trestles on the foreshore may lead to increased sedimentation in the bay. Some movements of sands may be changed due to the positioning of oyster trestles but this is not considered significant. The development is reversible as all structures can be easily removed. The risk of non-native oysters breeding in the bay is low . Triploid oysters are required to prevent this occurring.</p>
<p>H inherent social changes</p>		
<p>Will the project precipitate social changes for example in demography traditional lifestyles or employment?</p>	<p>Yes. There will increased employment opportunities in the area</p>	<p>No . The impacts on employment for the area will not be significant</p>

Location of the project annexe III (2)

A existing land use		
<p>Are there existing land uses on or around the location which could be affected by the project for example homes, gardens other private property industry commerce Recreation public open space community facilities agriculture forestry tourism water catchments functional floodplains mining or quarrying?</p>	<p>Yes. Small local limited overlap in terms of recreation on the foreshore.</p>	<p>Not considered significant</p>
<p>Are there any areas on around location which are occupied by sensitive land uses for example hospital schools place of worship community facilities which could be affected?</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Is the project located in a previously undeveloped area?</p>	<p>No this area has been previously developed for aquaculture and there are existing licences surrounding the application area.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

<p>B. Abundance quality and regenerative capacity of natural resources in the area</p>		
<p>Are there any areas on or around the location which contain important high quality or scarce resources which could be affected by the project? For example groundwater resources surface waters fisheries or tourism?</p>	<p>Yes tourism and fisheries</p>	<p>Given the location and scale of the proposed oyster farm is not expected to have a significant impacts on fisheries or tourism. The channel of the womanagh river will remain open and clear for migrating fish if this application is granted. Visually the impact of additional oyster cultivation of ring is not considered significant as this area will be exposed and visible only on the lowest of tides.</p>
<p>C absorption capacity of the natural environment</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	
<p>Are there any areas on, or around, the location which are protected under international or national or local legislation for the ecological landscape cultural or other value could be affected by the project?</p>	<p>Ballymacoda Bay SPA (Site code 004023) is a wetland of international importance particularly for migratory waders and wildfowl and is selected for the protection of the following bird species</p> <p>Wigeon (<i>Anas penelope</i>) [A050]</p> <p>Teal (<i>Anas crecca</i>) [A052]</p> <p>Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137]</p> <p>Golden Plover (<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>) [A140]</p> <p>Grey Plover (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141]</p> <p>Lapwing (<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>) [A142]</p> <p>Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144]</p> <p>Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149]</p> <p>Black-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa limosa</i>) [A156]</p> <p>Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157]</p>	<p>The two Appropriate Assessment Screenings (APEM 2016 and Gittings 2019) concluded that granting of T05/545 would negatively impact on the Conservation Objectives of Ballymacoda Bay SPA. (as listed to the left)</p>

	<p>Curlew (<i>Numenius arquata</i>) [A160]</p> <p>Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162]</p> <p>Turnstone (<i>Arenaria interpres</i>) [A169]</p> <p>Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179]</p> <p>Common Gull (<i>Larus canus</i>) [A182]</p> <p>Lesser Black-backed Gull (<i>Larus fuscus</i>) [A183]</p> <p>It is also selected for Wetland and Waterbirds [A999]</p>	
<p>Are there any areas on around location used by protected/important or sensitive species of fauna flora for breeding nesting for foraging nesting Overwintering migration which could be affected</p>	<p>As above</p> <p>Ballymacoda (Clonpriest & Pillmore) SAC is designated for the following habitats and species (NPWS 2015a), as listed in Annex I and Annex II of the Habitats Directive:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estuaries (1130) • Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide (1140) • Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand (1310) • Atlantic salt meadows (<i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae</i>) (1330) 	<p>The Screening Report found No significant impact on the Conservation Objectives of the Ballymacoda (Clonpriest & Pillmore) SAC</p>
<p>Are there any inland, coastal marine or underground Waters on or around location which could be affected</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Are there any are there any groundwater source protection zones or air is the contribute to the recharge of groundwater resources</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>

Are there any areas or features of high landscape or Scenic value on around location which could be affected	Yes. The considered to be a landscape of national importance as an indented estuarine coastal strip along the south	No. visual impacts not considered significant as the trestles will only be visible for the lowest tides.
Are there any routes or facilities are around location which are used by the public for access to recreational other facilities could be affected	No	N/A
Is the project location likely to be highly visible to many people	No.	No
Are there any areas of features of historic cultural archaeological importance on around location which could be affected	There are some features of historic cultural archaeological importance around the bay.	No. These monuments are not expected to be impacted on by the aquaculture
Are there any areas on around location which are ready subject to pollution or environmental damage where existing legal environmental standards receded which could be affected	No clean shellfish designated waters/	N/A
Is the area densely populated?	No	N/A
Is the location of the products susceptible to earthquakes subsidence landslides erosion stream or adverse climatic conditions for example temperature inversions fogs severe winds which could cause the project to present environmental problems?	No	N/A

Concluding Statement

The conclusion of both the Gittings (2019) screening document and the APEM (2016) document was that to grant this application would have a negative impact on the conservation objectives of the Ballymacoda SPA. This decision impacts on the EIA screening significantly as one of the main aspects of EIA in the new 2014 EIA directive is location. This directive in Annex III specifically refers to projects located in Natura 2000 areas designated by Member States pursuant to Directive 92/43/EEC and Directive 2009/147/EC

Thus as the recommendation of both screenings and the technical advisors report now is to refuse. The EIA screening is no longer required as no project is under consideration.



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