



## Marine Engineering Division

### Report on Aquaculture Licence Application

**Application Reference No:** T06/494

**Report Prepared By:** Noel Dillon

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

**Applicant:** Gerard Casey, Cromane Lower, Killorglin, Co Kerry

**Location:** Cromane, Co Kerry

**Applicant Type:** Aquaculture/Foreshore Licence Application

**Sites:** A

**Site Area (Ha):** 1.4 Ha

**Species:** Pacific Oysters (*Crassostrea Gigas*)

**Cultivation Method:** Typical bag and trestle

**Intertidal/Non-Intertidal:** Intertidal

**Annual Production Estimates:** 20 tonnes.

**Shellfish Waters Designation Reference:** Yes  No   
The site is 0.5km outside the Shellfish Designated Waters SI 268 of 2006 Cromane, Co Kerry

**Environmental Designation Reference:** Yes  No   
Castlemaine Harbour SAC (Site Code: IE 000343) & Castlemaine Harbour SPA (Site Code: IE 4029)

**Development Plans Reference:** Yes  No   
Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021  
Section 7.2.5 – Transport and Infrastructure, Ports, Harbours and Piers  
Section 8.4 – Natural Resources, Fishing / Aquaculture.  
Cromane Local Area Plan

**Pre-Consultation Meeting:** Yes  No   
Date:

## Drawing Validation Sheet

**OSI Maps**

Comment:

Yes  No

1:10,560 scale maps prepared by GIS Mapping Section attached. 1:10,000 submitted by applicant.

**BA Chart**

Comment:

Yes  No

BA Charts 1:24,000 prepared by GIS Mapping Section attached.

**Farm Layout Drawing**

Yes  No

Directional Arrow Yes  No

Scale Yes  No

Title Block Yes  No

Date Yes  No

Comment: The site layout is lacking in detail. No consideration corridors through the site

**Drawings of structures**

Yes  No

Comment: No drawings submitted.

**Details of Proposed Navigation Marking**

Comment:

Yes  No

The site is located within the Castlemaine Single Unified Marking Scheme.

**Site Access Indicated**

Comment:

Yes  No

Access by boat from Cromane Spit

**Site Co-Ordinates Indicated**

Comment:

Yes  No

**Site Overlap**

Comment:

Yes  No

**Oyster Fishery Order Overlap**

Comment:

Yes  No

**The application is submitted with each of the requirements listed and is therefore deemed to be a valid application.**

**AFMD should be aware that insufficient details have been submitted as per above.**

## **Site Suitability Assessment**

### **Site Location**

The site is located in Castlemaine Harbour, approximately 2km east of Cromane Spit and 0.5km outside the Shellfish Designated Waters SI 268 of 2006. In Section 8.4 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2015-2021 – Fishing/Aquaculture, Kerry County Council recognises the importance of the aquaculture industry and states its support for the sustainable development of the operations of the industry.

### **Site Management**

This is a new application for the cultivation of oysters using typical bag and trestle.

### **Proposed Site Layout and Structures**

The applicant proposes to use typical trestles and oyster bags to cultivate oysters. If licenced, the trestles should be neatly arranged in parallel rows where possible, unless otherwise agreed with the Department's Area Engineer

### **Land Based Facilities / Site Access**

The site will be accessed by boat from Cromane Spit.

### **Navigation**

The site is within the Castlemaine Single Unified Marking Scheme (SUMS). This marking scheme was previously agreed between B.I.M., Marine Survey Office, Commissioners of Irish Lights and Marine Engineering Division.

### **Visual Impact**

The site is not in an area that is likely to be highly visible to many people. Population density in the area is low and trestles will only be visible at times of low tide. There are no features of high landscape or scenic value that will be impacted upon. There is a history of oyster cultivation in Castlemaine Harbour and there are numerous existing oyster sites located here. Visual impact of oyster cultivation is generally low if carried out in accordance with the best practices outlined in the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Marine Aquaculture, 2001. The licence conditions will specify the orientation of the structures on the site to minimise the visual impact.

### **Impact / Cumulative Impact**

The impact and cumulative impact of this site has not yet been appropriately assessed. Other site applications of similar size, location and structures within Castlemaine Harbour were assessed in the "Report Supporting Appropriate Assessment of Aquaculture in Castlemaine Harbour SAC" Marine Institute May 2018 and "Castlemaine Harbour SPA Appropriate Assessment Report of Shellfish Culture" Marine Institute May 2018. The Department's Appropriate Assessment Conclusion Statement at that time, concluded that those similar licence applications could not be authorised as it was not possible to measure the magnitude of the impact of individual licences, which could adversely affect the integrity of the Natura 2000 sites.

**In the interest of fairness and transparency, MED does not recommend licencing this site as the Minister has previously refused applications in Castlemaine Harbour, which were of similar size, location and with similar structures, as recently as November 2018.**

## Kelleher, Evan

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**From:** O'CALLAGHAN Tom [TomOCallaghan@dtas.gov.ie]  
**Sent:** 13 August 2018 15:31  
**To:** Coakley, John  
**Cc:** 'info@irishlights.ie'; david.milliard@bim.ie  
**Subject:** T6 494, Oysters, Castlemaine Harbour, Geard Casey (our Ref 18304)

Dear Mr Coakley,

This office has no objections to the above application.

The proposed site is required to be marked in accordance with the CLAMS/SUMS in the bay and conducive to safe navigation.

Kind regards

**Tom O'Callaghan (Capt.)**  
**Nautical Surveyor**  
*Marine Survey Office*

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**An Roinn Iompair, Turasóireachta agus Spóirt**  
*Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport*

**Centre Park House, Bóthar Na Páirce Láir, Co. Corcaigh, T12 RKON**  
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Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún agus b'fhéidir go mbeadh ábhar rúnda nó pribhléideach ann. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le haghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Tá cosc ar rochtain don teachtaireacht leictreonach seo do aon duine eile. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo agus b'fhéidir d'fhéadfadh bheith mídhleathach.

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AN t-ÚDARÁS UM  
CHOSAINT  
IASCAIGH MHARA

SEA-FISHERIES  
PROTECTION  
AUTHORITY

7<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Bernie McDonald,  
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division,  
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine,  
National Seafood Centre  
Clonakilty,  
Co. Cork.

**Re: Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence application T6/494 for Gerard Casey,  
Castlemaine Harbour, Co. Kerry**

- The issuing of an Aquaculture and Foreshore Licence in the area identified as T6/494 for the cultivation of pacific oysters would have **no negative impact** on local sea fishing operations.

Yours sincerely,

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Bryan Foran,  
Sea Fishery Officer,  
Sea Fisheries Protection Authority,  
Dingle, Co. Kerry.