



Appeal Form

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

Name of Appellant (block letters)	KILLIAN TIGHE		
Address of Appellant	8 ORILIA TERRACE, COBH CO. CORK. P24 EY43		
Phone:	[REDACTED]	Email:	[REDACTED]
Mobile:	[REDACTED]	Fax:	[REDACTED]

Fees

Fees must be received by the closing date for receipt of appeals	Amount	Tick
Appeal by licence applicant	€380.92	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Appeal by any other individual or organisation	€152.37	<input 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.	€76.18	<input type="checkbox"/>
(Cheques Payable to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board in accordance with the Aquaculture Licensing Appeals (Fees) Regulations, 1998 (S.I. No. 449 of 1998))		
Electronic Funds Transfer Details	IBAN: IE89AIBK93104704051067	BIC: AIBKIE2D

Subject Matter of the Appeal

Notice of ministerial decision to refuse to grant three aquaculture licences and foreshore licences.

**AQUACULTURE LICENCES
APPEALS BOARD**

16 APR 2021

RECEIVED

Site Reference Number:- TOS/546A, TOS/546B, TOS/546C



(as allocated by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine)

Appellant's particular interest in the outcome of the appeal:

Please see attached letter.

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

Please see attached letter.

Signed by appellant: *William JD* Date: *13/4/21*

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

Fees must be received by the closing date for receipt of appeals

This notice should be completed under each heading and duly signed by the appellant and be accompanied by such documents, particulars or information relating to the appeal as the appellant considers necessary or appropriate and specifies in the Notice.

DATA PROTECTION – the data collected for this purpose will be held by ALAB only as long as there is a business need to do so and may include publication on the ALAB website

Please forward completed form to: Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board, Kilminchy Court, Dublin Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois. Tel: (057) 8631912 Email: info@alab.ie

Extracts from Act

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.

Appellant's particular interest in the outcome of the appeal:

I am particularly interested in a positive outcome of the appeal as it would allow me to continue to produce excellent oysters whilst providing local employment and the opportunity to inform people of the benefits of sustainable, organic farming practices. My aim for these sites initially was to farm on virgin grounds which were not impacted by SACs or SPAs. Having examined the condition of the fauna on site over a period, I know that oyster farming can be successful here. I have been involved in oyster farming since I was 12 years of age and have had to fight tooth and nail with the department on the issue of licencing both with Fota Oyster Farm Ltd and also Utterly Oysters Ltd. Despite the Department's apparent disregard for their own licensing procedure, non-compliance with EU directives and people's welfare, particularly in Cork Harbour, I am willing to continue in this industry. I have outlined below the treatment that my family, employees and I have received by the department so far, which has led us to where we are today.

My application for sites T05/546A,B,C was received by the department in September 2009, well before tourism started on Spike Island. When the department refused to process the application, I suggested that I could take out sites B and C. They were not interested. Also, I noticed that there was no foreshore licence delay for the placement of a floating pontoon on Spike to aid tourism. It shows that the department can actually be efficient when it suits them.

In early 2002 a Norovirus was found to have made people sick in Hong Kong. These cases were attributed to oysters which came from Atlantic Shellfish in Cork Harbour. The department somehow decided to prohibit all shellfish harvesting in Cork Harbour. In contravention of the legislation they kept Fota Oyster Farm closed for 2.5 years. Fota was not placing oysters on the market for direct human consumption, yet they kept us closed. This action was in contravention of the existing legislation. There is no onus on a primary oyster producer to ensure that the oysters are fit for human consumption if they are not selling them directly to consumers.

The Department took Norovirus tests from 25 other sentinel sites in the country. Over 80% of these sites tested positive for the presence of Norovirus yet none of these sites were prohibited from harvesting oysters. Even the Compliance Officer within the Department failed to get answers to the many letters we sent asking for clarity on re-opening and when the Department would comply with the conditions of the foreshore licence they granted for the Midleton sewerage treatment plant. Due to litigation with Atlantic Shellfish for the viral contamination of the North Channel, the Department ceased to engage with us. Fota was eventually permitted to harvest oysters in Cork Harbour in late 2004. There were no extra conditions imposed due to the viral contamination (which was still there) begging the question as to why they closed us in the first place.

Prior to the viral outbreak Fota Oyster Farm was in negotiation with a firm in the UK who wished to invest £3 million in branding and expansion. When they were informed of the viral issue the deal collapsed.

The losses incurred on Fota Oyster Farm by the viral issue were in excess of €660,000. To survive through this enforced closure I had to re-mortgage my house and pay wages by any means, including incurring credit card debt.

During this time the Department refused to renew our licence with the reason being that the site was no longer suitable for aquaculture due to Norovirus. Eventually they changed their decision and renewed the licence.

When my father (Dr. Michael Tighe) purchased Fota Oyster Farm in 1986 it came with an "Oyster Order". The Department persuaded my father to relinquish the oyster order and get an aquaculture licence instead, and that there would not be any issue with licence renewal going forward. Unfortunately this was not the case.

Due to the contravention of EU directives which led to unacceptable viral issues in the North Channel of Cork Harbour, the Department and Cork County Council settled their case with Atlantic Shellfish, rather than going through the courts. It took seventeen years to resolve this litigation with Atlantic Shellfish.

The department also failed to act when an Environmental Protection Agency inspection found that over 70% of the boreholes inspected at the Rossmore landfill site adjacent to the North Channel contained unacceptable levels of leachate. These levels are in contravention of legislation pertaining to health and safety - the Department still does nothing to protect the surrounding shellfish waters in which Atlantic Shellfish harvest oysters.

Due to the unresolved viral issue in Cork Harbour, we had begun to look for other sites around the country. We decided to apply for a licence in Ballymacoda, Co. Cork. After negotiating with NPWS it was agreed that a licence for 7 hectares (half of the original 14 hectares applied for) would be agreeable and that the remaining 7 hectares would be studied for a period of 2 years to see the impact, if any, that our activities had on the protected bird species (this indeed was a condition attached to the licence). After 3 years, having heard nothing about the bird study, I asked the NPWS what the results of the study were. It turned out that there was no study done. As you can imagine, I was again, very disappointed. This then led me to look for a new site, with Spike Island being the desired location due to its location and distance from SACs and SPAs.

The grounds of appeal.

1. Length of time to process the application (11.5 years) and lack of adherence to procedures for application processing;

I feel very strongly that the timescale for the application was deliberately protracted. While it does not form part of the Minister's reason for refusal I absolutely believe that it needs to be addressed at this point and that its relevance to the application is highly significant.

- **17/09/2009.** This application was first received by the department. I received an acceptance letter as is practice.

- **15/02/2011.** I received a letter from the department to say that the Divisional Engineering Division's view was "the proposed aquaculture operations should not be licensed and the application should be rejected" and therefore "this application cannot be progressed further". I understood that the Minister decides on licences, not the Divisional Engineering Division. I responded on the 17/02/2011 outlining my shock at the decision.
- **07/06/2013** I emailed the Department to ask the situation with appropriate assessment and the status of the licence application. I was told "File T5/546 is closed" and to refer to her letter of 15/02/2011.
- I spoke with Deirdre Fitzpatrick many times on the 'phone and I explained to her that I could drop sites B and C from the application and from these conversations it was clear to me that the Department had no interest in progressing this application.
- **20/11/2014** I wrote to the Department asking about the progress of the application and to point out that the wind turbines, which were by now operational, had in effect contravened the Department's argument in relation to negative visual impact. I got no response.
- **Early 2017.** I met Mr. Batt Whelton at the Department's offices in Clonakilty. Mr. Whelton agreed with my view that the licence should go through due process. I received an email from him on 9/3/2017 to say "**I am writing to you to confirm that your aquaculture licence application (T5/546) is still active and is being considered under the relevant statutory provisions**" This can only mean that up to this point the application was not being considered under the relevant statutory provisions.
- **08/08/2019** I received a letter from the Department with a query as to the type of structures used. This was clarified immediately.
- **September 2019** The application was advertised in the Irish Examiner in. I did notice prior to advertising the application that sites B and C were still included in the application. This surprised me as I was not expecting them to still be included. I chose not to mention it at this stage as I did not want to delay an already overly protracted process. In hindsight I should have clarified this. Mea culpa.
- **30/09/2019** The responses to the advertisement were received on the and replied to promptly on the 10/10/2019. **Not one member of the public objected to or queried the licence.**
- I phoned and emailed the department over the next 15 months trying to find out the timeframe for a ministerial decision.

- **19/10/2019** I was told that “the application is due for decision by the minister in the coming weeks” and then on August 2020 (10 months later) I was told it was expected that a decision would be made in “the next 2-3 months”.
- **16/03/2021** I received a letter with the ministerial decision refusing the licence application.

I strongly object to the procedure and time taken to arrive at a decision that flies in the face of fairness and their own procedures. From the time the application was received to the time a decision was given was 11.5 years or 138 months or 598 weeks or 4,197 days. I hope you can understand how unprofessional this extensive timeframe is. I strongly believe that this application was deliberately protracted in order to give tourism an opportunity to establish itself in preference to oyster farming.

I tried to arrange a meeting with Dr. Cecil Beamish to discuss the licence decision, but he referred to procedures. It's interesting that the Department points to procedures on one hand and disregards them on the other.

The department's website states ‘our vision is of an innovative and sustainable agri-food sector operating to the highest standards’. You can't have a sustainable aquaculture industry without an efficient and timely licencing process.

Another strategic goal is to “deliver a sustainable, growth driven sector focused on competitiveness and innovation driven by a skilled workforce delivering value added products in line with market demands”. This is not my experience. Their actions ensured that I had to lay-off eight staff during the viral closure of 2002-2004 and Atlantic Shellfish had a similar number of lay-offs.

2. Visual Impact Assessment

The Department's first reason for refusal was “the Visual Impact Assessment carried out in respect of sites T05/546A and T05/546C found that the **landscape and visual impacts of the application are of substantial impact significance** and refusal was recommended”.

- The structures would only be visible for 40 daylight hours per month or 5.5% of time over a year.
- The trestles and bags will appear to be black on the foreshore (as can be seen from an attached photo which was developed to show the trestles on site). There is considerable seaweed growth on the foreshore which also appears black. The colours are very similar which actually make the structures blend into the landscape. This can be seen in many places around Ireland. The French authorities

have openly expressed this view. Site T05/546C is included in the application as I did not wish to protract the process further by removing it at this stage. However, the scale of this could be reduced.

- There are now three 150m high wind turbines located adjacent to Spike Island. Local opinion is greatly divided on these structures. They are visible 100% of the time as they have a flashing beacon on top. I have attached a photo showing the scale of the wind turbines. I would argue that if these are allowed then surely trestles which can only be seen on occasion should be permitted. A recent report from the Environmental Protection Agency overseen by Dr. Maria Martin states that the greenhouse gas emissions created by the pharma-chem industry has increased by 10.9% and is growing year on year. Does this now mean that there will be more wind turbines to offset carbon emissions situated in the second biggest natural harbour in the world? If this happens, will the Department and Failte Ireland object? Oyster farms act as carbon sinks and are completely natural.
- There is a clear visual impact from the electricity generation station on the top of the hill to the Southeast of Corkbeg Strand, both from the sheer size of it and its colour (white), yet there was no objection by the Department.

Not one member of the public, the Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Cork Co. Council (who own Spike Island), An Taisce, Cobh Tourism, Spike Island Tours, the ferry operator Doyle Shipping Group, Port of Cork, the Naval Service (its base is located on the adjacent island, Hawlbowlane), any historical society or indeed any other entity, object to the application which can only mean that people are happy for it to progress in its current scale.

I have not received a copy of the visual inspection report undertaken by the department which I would like to be furnished with.

3. The Department's second reason for refusal was "the potential for Site T05/546B to **significantly negatively impact on a public amenity, namely Corkbeg Strand**" As I explained earlier regarding Site T05/546B, this site should have been excluded from the application. This would then annul this objection.
4. The department's third reason for refusal was "the concerns expressed by Failte Ireland regarding the **effect on the surrounding environment and visual amenities of the area, on other marine users, on leisure activities particularly due to accessibility issues, and its proximity to Spike Island, a national monument and tourist attraction**".

I have grave concerns about the objection and opinions expressed by Failte Ireland. Two senior members of Failte Ireland broke Covid-19 guidelines during a pandemic. This is the behaviour of people who have a blatant disregard for their fellow citizen's lives, the economy and reputation of our country.

However, my vision and Failte Ireland's vision are very much in agreement. This application can tick all the boxes in their vision and also align with their customer and

visitor charter. Failte Ireland are a commercial semi-state enterprise and they have a vested interest in controlling the tourism market in Ireland. This application can enhance their offering. Failte Ireland is currently developing a "Maritime Visitor Experience Development Plan which aims to bring to life East Cork, Cork Harbour and Cork City's strong maritime heritage and unlock the economic growth potential of the area by developing existing and new experiences that will attract more visitors". I strongly believe, as does Dr Michael Martin (letter attached for reference), that this application marries exactly with this plan.

Cork Co. Council own Spike Island and yet they did not object. They must see the potential it has to offer - a unique experience that can co-exist symbiotically with the tourism on Spike Island. In fact, there is archaeological and historical evidence of oyster middens in Cork Harbour dating back millenia and showcasing this to tourists would only serve to enhance the visitor experience. It could also be an educational resource for children unused to knowing where their food comes from and how it gets to the table.

As the application long pre-dated the commencement or even muting of tourism on Spike Island I had not even thought about the tourism aspect of this application. However, as I presumed that this application would be given the merit it deserves I decided not to alter the application for fear that it would be put further down the long list of applications. I am more than willing to alter this application to be on a smaller scale and more tourism focused rather than a more commercial enterprise. I can work with Failte Ireland to achieve a mutually acceptable outcome to this application.

I've watched with interest the "Taste the Island" television advertisement from Failte Ireland. It opens with a man shucking oysters for sale on a stall in Belfast. I thought this was great. Even better still the closing clip showed a group of happy, smiling people dining al fresco on a cliff top in beautiful surroundings. They were being served a big seafood platter with oysters at the centre - this is a great advert for Ireland and oysters. Then it clicked with me that it was Failte Ireland's ad, the same people who objected to the application. You can't eat Irish oysters without Irish oyster farms. A serious own goal there I would think. The advert could be considered misleading or disingenuous if they object to oyster farming.

Cobh is part of Ireland's Ancient East, which is actually a credit to Failte Ireland. Spike Island was inhabited since the 7th century with a monastery there from this time. There is evidence of oyster consumption on the island as would be common with monks who worked as custodians of the landscape, very much like oyster farmers today. Would it not be an homage to the Ancient East philosophy to encourage oyster farming today but also make it a visitor attraction showcasing oyster farming methods today and from days past?

The oysters on spike would also have provided sustenance to starving people during the famine who had little else to eat.

Failte Ireland have not addressed the many derelict and dilapidated structures located on Spike Island. Not only are they impacting negatively on the visual amenity but they have warning/danger/ do not enter notices attached. These structures are clearly visible during

but yet Failte Ireland don't seem concerned about their visual impact, yet their concern in this instance is for structures which are visible 5.5% of the time.

A new amenity area has been opened recently on the eastern end of Hawlbowl Island. Over 30million euro has been spent to date on this. As you can see from the photograph, this area is adjacent to Spike Island and the wind turbines. The spinning blades of the wind turbines are casting shadows over this new amenity which has soured some peoples opinion and also absence of public waste bins on the new amenity has led to a new litter problem occurring in the harbour. Bags of rubbish have been thrown in to the sea from the amenity. Cork co. Council have no plans as yet to remedy this situation.

Their concern for **other marine users** is unjustified as any structures would be marked in accordance with legislation. The scale may have been an issue for them but I have expressed my desire to work with rather than against interested parties. If by "other marine users" they include fishermen, will they now ask these same marine users to desist from deploying hundreds of multi-coloured buoys adjacent to Spike Island for fear that it may be visually intrusive.

"Leisure activities particularly due to accessibility issues"

I'm not entirely sure what this means but if it is about boat access, there is currently berthing for two small boats on the island. The oyster structures would be nowhere near the pontoon or the eastern side of the pier.

If accessibility means swimmers, the Jailbreak Triathlon participants can be far from the oyster structures if the position of the site was altered. I would of course make sure that all the required navigational markings are present. There is very little marine traffic or use where the sites are located due to shallow waters. However, if they were concerned for my accessibility issue they need not worry as we would be accessing it by boat.

"National Monument"

When visitors land on Spike Island, they are met by an abundance of dilapidated, buildings overgrown by ivy, etc. Surely these eyesores detract from the visitor experience. Having a working oyster farm as part of the visitor experience would only add to Spike Island's tourist offering.

Spike Island has been a national monument for 40 years. Considering their regard for this national monument and any negative visual impacts on same, Failte Ireland and the Department did not object to the erection of the wind turbines or the power station. Why not?

Cork Co. Council own Spike Island, yet they did not object to the licence application. The Department for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, An Taisce, Cobh Tourism, Spike Island Tours, the Naval Service, the ferry operator Doyle Shipping Group, Port of Cork, any historical society or indeed any other entity object to the application which can only mean that people are happy for it to happen. An Taisce did not object and national monuments are their raison d'etre

Mr. Hendrick Verwey, chairman of Cobh Tourism states “the success of the island really depends on creating many and varied uses that can coexist and intertwine, that are not entirely dependent on our unreliable weather and that will attract income from different sustainable sources on a year round basis”, I have enclosed this document. My application ticks all these boxes.

Please see attached, a letter from Dr. Michael Martin, the founder of tourism on Spike Island, who believes an oyster farm would only enhance any tourism offering there.

Tourism is the biggest growth sector in Cobh at the moment.

Le’s Parcs St. Kerber based in Cancale in Brittany, France, a customer of mine, have a visitor experience, including a shellfish museum, located on their farm which attracts over 30,000 people per annum. Like the cruise ships that visit Cobh, Le’s Parcs St. Kerber bus in tour groups to their facility.

Sligo Oyster Experience is another example of how oyster farming has developed to now offer a tourist attraction, captioning the imagination of visitors.

I have also enclosed information from places in France which have an oyster tourism offering

I do not see how the objections can be given merit considering the points I have raised. I strongly believe that a suitable size enterprise will complement, enhance and delight tourism on Spike Island. It can attract tourism, educate, provide much needed employment, be sustainable, eco- friendly, act as a carbon sink and help the harbour encompass more marine tourism which is greatly needed locally.

In my experience, anyone interested in the water is interested in most marine activities and are eager to learn more. Hopefully more people in Ireland can be encouraged to eat more seafood which will lower the carbon footprint and employ local people nationwide. It might encourage others to enter the industry and help us protect the waters and the environment as best we can. I believe this enterprise could play a part in that.

Just to reiterate, I am more than willing to alter the scale and number of the proposed sites which I believe will enhance the visitor experience on Spike Island.

I look forward to your response.

Kind regards



Killian Tighe.



Mellieha,
Carrignafof,
Cobh, Co. Cork
14th April 2021

To Whom it May Concern

As the person who first highlighted the historical importance of Spike Island, who made countless presentations on the range of its tourism potential both nationally and internationally, I wholeheartedly support the creation of a sustainable heritage activity that would greatly enhance the suite of quality visitor offerings on Spike Island.

Throughout the global tourism industry, it has been identified that experiential products with insightful and educational elements are at the top of the pyramid of visitor expectations especially in that segment of the market comprising of the culturally curious.

The cultivation of oysters and their consumption are an extraordinarily important element of our social and maritime heritage. Visitors want to learn about such things, they want to touch and feel the product and what better place to do so than on an island that had communities there from as early as the seventh century.

The visual impact of oyster beds is negligible. Low lying with colouring that matches the shale, seaweed and general imagery of the foreshore.

I spent many years advocating the great diversity of heritage on Spike Island, many hours lobbying Councils, heritage groups, Departments and Ministers to successfully have it recognised and developed eventually by Cork County Council. I wrote the first book ever about the island¹.

I am deeply immersed in the tourism industry since 1998, in fact I created and delivered the first guided tours on Spike, I travel globally meeting tour operators to encourage them to come to Ireland and I believe the proposals of Killian Tighe would greatly enhance what is there now.

Dr Michael Martin
Author and Creator
Titanic Trail

¹ M. Martin, *Spike Island, saints, felons and famine* (Dublin, 2007)

Spike Island

Comments

If you wish to leave a comment, please click [here](#)

all comments need to be viewed before we will post them.

all fields are required, however, we will not post email information.

please note, the opinions expressed here are not the opinions or views of Cork County Council nor its employees.

1 - 29.06.2009

Martin Riordan, Cork County Council Manager

Cork County Council welcomes the Government's decision to transfer ownership of Spike Island to the Council. This will enable the Council to progress the development of Spike Island as a unique tourism, heritage and recreational product in Cork Harbour. Discussions have been ongoing over a period of 12 months between Cork County Council and Officials of the Department of Justice and the Irish Prison Service to secure this decision.

2 - 17.12.2009

Hendrick Verwey, Chairman Cobh Tourism

That Spike Island is to be developed for tourism is great news for Cobh and the entire Cork region. Spike Island has massive potential and can become a World Class Tourist Attraction. Spike's island status is one of its greatest assets and the boat trip to the island will be an integral part of the visit to the island and make for great family outings.

As well as a star shaped Fort and many buildings of historical importance there is an abundance of gently sloping land, landing facilities for boats, a deserted village, miles of shoreline and calm shallow waters. The island has a long and colourful history and this is where most of its potential lies. Every building and feature of the island has a story to tell. Spike Island is a blank canvas that just needs imagination to outline each facet of the island's (and indeed Ireland's) history.

The success of the island really depends on creating many and varied uses that can coexist and intertwine, that are not entirely dependent on our unreliable weather and that will attract income from different sustainable sources on a year round basis.

Outdoor pursuits of all types could be catered for. The basic accommodation for eighty people in the disused Fort Mitchel Prison facility could be very valuable if an Outdoor Education Facility were to be developed. The St. Patrick's Day Skyfest Fireworks display would be a superb event for the Island as Cork Harbour provides a natural amphitheatre for such an event. A high profile sporting event eg. Triathlon or Cross country event could also raise the profile of the island and could become an annual event with an international reputation.

Large scale outdoor events such as music festivals could also take place on the island and would benefit from the uniqueness of the venue. The rail link to Cobh makes Spike Island easily accessible from Ireland's large population centres.

Spike Island is similar to many historical sites throughout the world that are successful tourist attractions. Examples include Port Arthur in Tasmania, Grosse Île and the Halifax Citadel in Canada, Robben Island in Tasmania, Suomenlinna in Helsinki (<http://www.suomenlinna.fi/>) and of course Alcatraz in San Francisco. How these sites were developed and are operated can provide invaluable information on the many possibilities for Spike Island.

3 - 23.12.2009

Bruno Nicolai

My suggestion to attract tourists to Spike Island would be something along the lines of Tresco Island, an island off the south west coast of the UK.

On the island you can find Tresco Abbey Gardens - A garden which contains exotic and subtropical plants due to the mild climate. <http://www.tresco.co.uk/see/abbey-garden/>

You can get to Tresco by helicopter which would make a great day out.

4 - 23.12.2009

Sean O Byrne



Killian Tighe <killiantighe2@gmail.com>

T05/546A,B,C

2 messages

Killian Tighe [REDACTED] >
To: cecil.beamish@agriculture.gov.ie

18 March 2021 at 13:34



Dear Mr. Beamish,

I hope you may be able to help me with the above.

I would like to meet you to discuss the refusal of this licence application. I feel strongly that this application has not been given due process.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Killian Tighe.

Beamish, Cecil <Cecil.Beamish@agriculture.gov.ie>

22 March 2021 at 11:04

To: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
Cc: "McSherry, Sinead" <Sinead.McSherry@agriculture.gov.ie>

Dear Mr. Tighe,

Your email of 18 March 2021 refers. The Minister & Department considers all applications for aquaculture licences in accordance with the provisions of the 1997 Fisheries (Amendment) Act, the 1933 Foreshore Act and applicable EU legislation. The licensing process involves consultation with a wide range of scientific and technical advisers as well as various Statutory Consultees. The legislation also provides for a period of public consultation.

In addition, the legislation governing aquaculture licensing provides for an appeals mechanism. Appeals against licence decisions are a matter for the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board (ALAB) which is an independent statutory body.

As you know, Ministerial decisions were made in respect of sites T05/546A, T05/546B and T05/546C on 12 March 2021.

If as indicated you are not satisfied with the decisions of the Minister in relation to these sites, in accordance with Section 41 of Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, you may make an appeal in writing to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board, within 1 month of the date of

the publication of the decisions. Further information regarding the appeals process is available at the following link: www.alab.ie/appeals/appealsprocess/.

As appeals against these decisions may currently be submitted to ALAB and in view of the independent status of the Board, it would not be appropriate to comment further at this time.

I hope the above is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Cecil

Cecil Beamish

Assistant Secretary

An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

An Lárionad Bia Mara Náisiúnta, Cloich na Coillte, Corcaigh, P85 TX47

National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co Cork P85 TX47

—
T +353 (0)23 88 59510

www.agriculture.gov.ie

Designated Public Official under Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015

From: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday 18 March 2021 13:34
To: Beamish, Cecil <Cecil.Beamish@agriculture.gov.ie>
Subject: T05/546A,B,C

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 .

[Quoted text hidden]

An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



16th March 2021

Ref: T05/546A, T05/546B and T05/546C

Mr. Killian Tighe
8 Orilia Tce,
Cobh
Co. Cork

**FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 (NO.23)
NOTICE OF MINISTERIAL DECISION TO REFUSE TO GRANT THREE
AQUACULTURE LICENCES AND FORESHORE LICENCES**

Dear Sir

I wish to inform you that the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has refused the granting to you of an Aquaculture Licence and accompanying Foreshore Licence, for the cultivation of oysters on bags and trestles at Sites no. T05/546, T05/546B and T05/546C (see attached information note). I enclose an extract from the copy of the public notice of the decision which **the Department** has arranged to have published in the "Irish Examiner".

Any person aggrieved by the decision may, in accordance with Section 41 of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act 1997, appeal against it in writing to the Aquaculture Licences Appeals Board. This appeal must be lodged within one month beginning on the date of the publication of the decision.

In addition, a person may question the validity of the Foreshore Licence determination by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Court (SI No. 15 of 1986). Practical information on the review mechanism can be obtained from the Citizens Information Board at:
<http://www.citizensinformation.ie/>

Yours sincerely

Bernie McDonald
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Email: Bernie.McDonald@agriculture.gov.ie



**S.12 (3) OF THE FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997(NO.23)
INFORMATION NOTE TO APPLICANT FOR THE PURPOSE OF REGULATION 18
OF THE AQUACULTURE (LICENCE APPLICATION) REGULATIONS 1998**

REFERENCE NO: T05/546A, T05/546B, and T05/546C

APPLICANT: Killian Tighe
AQUACULTURE TO WHICH DECISION RELATES: Cultivation of Oysters on bags and Trestles at Sites T05/546A, T05/546b and t05/546C on areas of the foreshore in Cork Harbour.

NATURE OF DECISION: Refusal of Aquaculture Licences

DATE OF DECISION: 12th March 2021

REASONS FOR REFUSAL:

- The Visual Impact Assessment carried out in respect of sites T05/546A and T05/546C found that the landscape and visual impacts of the application are of substantial impact significance and refusal was recommended.
- The potential for Site T05/546B to significantly negatively impact on a public amenity, namely Corkbeg Strand.
- The concerns expressed by Fáilte Ireland regarding the effect on the surrounding environment and visual amenities of the area, on other marine users, on leisure activities particularly due to accessibility issues, and its proximity to Spike Island, a national monument and tourist attraction



**Copy of Public Notice to be inserted in 'The Irish Examiner'
by the Department**

**FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1997 (NO. 23) AND FORESHORE ACT, 1933 (NO. 12)
NOTICE OF DECISIONS TO REFUSE AQUACULTURE AND FORESHORE LICENCES**

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has decided to **grant/refuse Foreshore Licences** to the applicants listed in the Table below:

File Reference	Applicant	Minister's Decision	Species, Location, No. of Sites and Site Reference
T05/546A	Killian Tighe, 8 Orilia Terrace., Cobh, Co. Cork	Refuse	Pacific Oysters – Trestle & Bag, – 1 site: T05/546A
T05/546B	Killian Tighe, 8 Orilia Terrace., Cobh, Co. Cork	Refuse	Pacific Oysters – Trestle & Bag, – 1 site: T05/546B
T05/546C	Killian Tighe, 8 Orilia Terrace., Cobh, Co. Cork	Refuse	Pacific Oysters – Trestle & Bag, – 1 site: T05/546C

The reasons for these decisions are elaborated on the Department's website at:

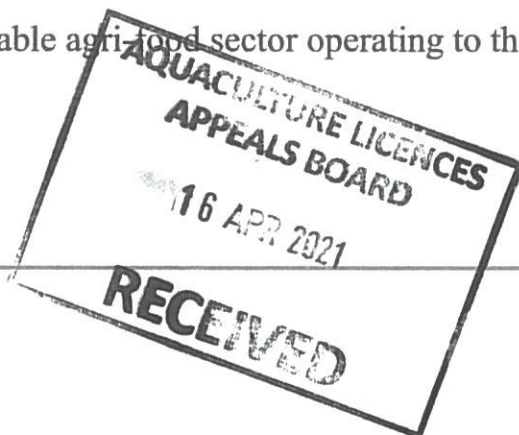
<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/seafood/aquacultureforeshoremanagement/aquaculturelicensing/aquaculturelicencedecisions/cork>

An appeal against an Aquaculture Licence decision may be made in writing, within one month of the date of its publication, to THE AQUACULTURE LICENCES APPEALS BOARD, Kilminchy Court, Portlaoise, Co. Laois, by completing the Notice of Appeal Application Form available from the Board, phone 057 86 31912, e-mail info@alab.ie or website at <http://www.alab.ie/>

A person may question the validity of a Foreshore Licence determination by way of an application for judicial review, under Order 84 of the Rules of the Superior Court (SI No. 15

Our Vision

Our vision is of an innovative and sustainable agri-food sector operating to the highest standards.



Our Mission

Our mission is to serve the government and people of Ireland by leading, developing and regulating the agri-food sector, protecting public health and optimising social, economic and environmental benefits.

Our Strategic Goals

to promote and safeguard public, animal and plant health and animal welfare for the benefit of consumers producers and wider society

provide income and market supports to underpin the rural economy and the environment

provide the optimum policy framework for the sustainable development of the agri-food sector

deliver a sustainable, growth driven sector focused on competitiveness and innovation driven by a skilled workforce delivering value added products in line with market demands

maintain and develop strategic, operational, regulatory and technical capacity to achieve operational excellence

Our Services

we formulate national and EU policies to support the strategic development of the agri- food sector

we regulate the sector to ensure it operates to the highest standards

we design schemes and deliver supports for the sector, in collaboration with stakeholders

we seek to be innovative and adaptive in the delivery of our services

Our Values

a deep-rooted public service ethos of independence, integrity and impartiality

a strong commitment to diversity, gender equality and the fair and equal treatment of all

a culture of accountability, transparency, efficiency and value for money

the highest standards of professionalism, leadership and probity

we work together to deliver our services effectively and to achieve the most efficient outcomes



Customer Service Charter

Vision

Our vision is to deliver a step change the economic and social contribution that tourism makes to the lives of all the citizens in Ireland. This will not mean that all the citizens will be directly involved in tourism or that tourism will be present in every town and village but it does mean that the incremental jobs and exchequer revenue that tourism creates will better enable the government to improve public services and/ or reduce the tax burden on Irish citizens.

Customer and Visitor Charter

We are committed to providing both our business clients and our visitors with a professional, efficient and courteous service. The purpose of this Customer Charter is to set out the nature and quality of services, which our customers can expect to receive from Fáilte Ireland. We will treat all customers with respect, dignity, professionalism and efficiency, and, our customers are requested to treat Fáilte Ireland staff and each other in a similar manner. The term "customers" refers to Irish tourism client companies, overseas buyers and stakeholders who engage in our Business Services as well as visitors who we engage with as part of our Visitor Information service. These standards equally apply to others we engage with, including the general public, Government Departments, key partners and media. (Note: the publication of a Customer Charter is not intended to create any new legal rights for customers.)

Telephone Enquiries

Fáilte Ireland's head office in Dublin will be available to answer your calls during the hours of 9.00am-5.30pm - Monday-Friday. Our aim is to answer all calls quickly. We will identify ourselves and our area of work, be polite and helpful, and do our best to provide our customers with clear and correct information. If we cannot give an answer straight away, we will take the customer's details and call the customer back at a suitable time. We will only connect callers to voicemail when the person they wish to speak to is unavailable and we will do our best to respond to voicemail messages within one working day. Our main office telephone number is or +353 1 8847101 and our customer service number is 1800 242473.

Written and Electronic Communications and Website Content

We shall endeavour to respond to enquiries from customers with sensitivity and the minimum of delay, fostering a climate of mutual respect between Fáilte Ireland and customer. We will also ensure that our websites are kept up to date, and contain information relevant to our customer base

We will acknowledge all communications from customers sent to customersupport@failteireland.ie within 48 hours of receipt Monday-Friday. We offer a separate customer service contact email for members of our accommodation Quality Assurance schemes qualityassurance@failteireland.ie, which we also endeavour to respond to within 48 hours of receipt Monday-Friday.

We aim to respond to communication sent by post to Fáilte Ireland, PO Box 51, West Cork Technology Park, Clonakilty, Co. Cork within 7 working days of receipt. In the event where a full response within 5 working days is not possible, we will send an interim reply explaining the nature of the situation and a progress report.

Appointments

We will be available to meet punctually with customers, by appointment, during normal office hours and, where it is unavoidable, we will try to accommodate requests outside of such hours resources permitting. We will greet visitors politely, be fair and helpful and deal with their enquiries as quickly as possible. We aim to provide appropriate facilities for meetings and ensure that our offices are clean and safe.

Physical Access

We will continue to maintain an office and meetings environment that is efficient and well maintained and that complies with occupational and safety standards and, furthermore, that facilitates access for people with disabilities. For further information on accessibility please contact our Facilities Manager at facilities@failteireland.ie

The Provision of Information

We will take a proactive approach in providing information that is clear, timely and accurate, is available at all points of contact, uses appropriate channels and meets the requirements of people with specific needs. We will provide our programmes and services in a manner that respects customers' rights to privacy and confidentiality and we will make every effort to ensure we adhere at all times to the General Data Protection Regulations. We will provide customers with an easy mechanism to query the personal data we hold on them and to have that data changed or removed, as they require. We will continue to support the provision of general information relating to Fáilte Ireland activities in a way that is open and enhances its accountability to the general public.

Equal Status Policy

We are fully committed to providing a service that is accessible, accommodates diversity and is relevant to all our customers and accommodates the needs and aspirations specific to particular groups and seeks equality of outcome.

Official Languages Act 2003

This Act has the primary objective of ensuring better availability and a higher standard of public services through Irish or bilingually (Irish and English). We will liaise with the Department of Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht so as to ensure compliance in relation to implementing the requirements of this legislation.

Once approved all licence applications will be submitted to the Minister for him to make a decision on.

I would hope that we would have the entire process completed in January but I unfortunately I am unable to give an exact timeframe.

Kind regards,

James



James O'Connell

Higher Executive Officer

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

P85 TX47

 (023) 8859580

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
To: "O'Connell, James" <James.O'Connell@agriculture.gov.ie>

17 December 2020 at 12:13

Hi James,

Thanks for getting back to me. Will wait to see what happens.

Regards,

Killian.

[Quoted text hidden]

Regards,

James

From: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 October 2020 20:14
To: OConnell, James
Subject: Re: Application T05/546

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.

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
To: "OConnell, James" <James.OConnell@agriculture.gov.ie>

14 December 2020 at 14:07

Hello James,

Have you any further information regarding the status of my aquaculture application? I was expecting to have news by now.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Killian.

[Quoted text hidden]

OConnell, James <James.OConnell@agriculture.gov.ie>
To: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

17 December 2020 at 11:48

Killian,

Thank you for your query regarding your application.

All responses have now been received from the various statutory bodies we consult during the licensing process.

A final conclusion statement regarding the Appropriate Assessment for Cork Harbour and findings from the public and statutory consultation process were sent to the Minister this week.

Once this has been approved it will be published on our website replacing the draft conclusion statement that is currently viewable there.

Dear James,

Just following up on our last communication.
What stage is the application at now?
Has it been sent to the minister?
What recommendation has been given?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Regards,

Killian Tighe.

[Quoted text hidden]

O'Connell, James <James.O'Connell@agriculture.gov.ie>
To: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

19 October 2020 at 10:59

Killian,

Apologies for the delay in responding.

The application is due for decision by the Minister in the coming weeks.

A submission is being prepared at the moment and we are waiting on a final report from one of our consultants which we are hoping to receive this week.

Only when the Minister has decided on the case we will be able to give you information on its approval/refusal.

James O'Connell

Higher Executive Officer

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

P85 TX47

 (023) 8859580



Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

T05/546

2 messages

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

20 August 2019 at 12:23

To: mary.mccull@agriculture.gov.ie

Hi Mary,

Further to our telephone call, please find below my new address.

Killian Tighe
8 Orilia Terrace,
Cobh Co. Cork.

Regards,

Killian.

McCull, Mary <Mary.McCull@agriculture.gov.ie>

20 August 2019 at 12:26

To: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

Thanks Killian,

Regards

Mary

From: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 August 2019 12:23
To: McCull, Mary
Subject: T05/546

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[Quoted text hidden]

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Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara



Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

T05/546

2 messages

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
To: mary.mccull@agriculture.gov.ie

20 August 2019 at 12:16

Dear Mary,

Further to your letter of 8th August I am writing to you to let you know that the requirement for cages no longer exists.

Also, the notice will be in the examiner this week. I will let you know when I have the exact date.

Regards,

Killian Tighe.

McCull, Mary <Mary.McCull@agriculture.gov.ie>

20 August 2019 at 12:19

To: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

Hello Killian,

Thanks for your email and the clarification.

Please forward a copy of the newspaper when you have it.

Thanks

Regards

Mary Mc Cull

From: Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 August 2019 12:16
To: McCull, Mary
Subject: T05/546

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Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

Application T05/546

6 messages

O'Connell, James <James.O'Connell@agriculture.gov.ie>

7 August 2020 at 12:12

To: [REDACTED]

Killian,

Further to our phone conversation please note that I expect your application to be decided within the next 2-3 months.

If you have any further queries please contact me at this address.

James

James O'Connell**Higher Executive Officer**

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

P85 TX47

☎ (023) 8859580

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

Tá an t-eolais san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceanglái leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-agmaigh an seolaí amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seoladh seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúil. Mura tusa an seolaí a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de, a úsáid, a chóipeál, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]
To: "O'Connell, James" <James.O'Connell@agriculture.gov.ie>

13 October 2020 at 20:14



Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

T05/546

1 message

Killian Tighe [REDACTED]

30 July 2020 at 16:29

To: mary.mccull@agriculture.gov.ie

Dear Mary,

Just following up on my licence application no. T05/546.

It has been over nine months since I sent in my reply to submissions and observations pertaining to my application.

Could you please tell me when I can expect a decision on my application?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Killian Tighe.

Killian Tighe
8 Orilia Terrace, Cobh Co. Cork

10th October 2019

Mary Mc Cull
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
National Seafood Centre
Clonakilty Co. Cork

Your Ref: T05/546



Dear Mary,

I received the submissions and observations pertaining to the above aquaculture application. I will respond to them individually with the exception of the three observations from the Marine Institute which I will treat as one considering that they are the same but for different sites.

Submission from Fisheries Ireland:

If by “native seed stocks” they mean *edulis* then they must be aware that *edulis* has been impacted by the *Bonamia* disease in Cork Harbour since 1986 and commercial production to market size is not possible.

I have personally been farming *Gigas* oysters for almost 30 years in Cork Harbour’s North Channel and lately in Ballymacoda Bay and am very aware of what to look out for in relation to alien species. I am not aware of any having entered under my watch. *Gigas* oysters have been farmed in Ireland for nearly 50 years and over 90% of production is *Gigas* based.

The Marine Institute (the national body responsible for shellfish movements) will be responsible for issuing a Fish Health Authorisation if the licence is granted and I will be legally bound to work to those requirements. I would source seed from approved hatcheries.

As regards bio-security, again I will work according to the relevant legislation in place.

Oyster farmers are by their very nature custodians of the seas and indeed in this era of climate change and carbon awareness it must be pointed out that oysters are a carbon sink, as oyster shell consists of 12% carbon.

Submission from Failte Ireland:

Firstly, as noted by Failte Ireland, I would like to point out that my application preceded Spike Island’s rebirth as a tourist attraction by 7 years and has taken until now to be processed. I note that it did not take too long for the powers that be to allow

a floating pontoon and gangway to be placed on Spike Island for tourism purposes. My application was turned down previously without going through due process. It is good to read that Failte Ireland “support the sustainable development of the aquaculture sector and support its contribution to the economy in the region at appropriate locations and in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development”. I would argue strongly that this is an appropriate location to enhance tourism on Spike Island.

Indeed their current television advertising campaign “Taste the Island” shows oysters being sampled and consumed on both the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland’s Ancient East. I find it hard to see how you can promote oyster consumption on the one hand and object to oyster production on the other. You can’t have one without the other. The proposed development will have a minimal visual impact (due to tide times and exposure) and will not have significant implications for other marine users due to required navigation markings on the site.

One could argue that the existing wind turbines adjacent to Spike Island have a much more negative visual impact which may I add is visible all day long.

In fact it is long established in France that oyster production promotes and complements existing tourism. Oyster farm tours are extremely popular in France. People are interested in learning about different farming and sampling the produce. Oyster farming will help to ensure that “tourists will visit, stay longer and spend more” to quote Failte Ireland themselves.

Oysters from Cork Harbour have won numerous awards in France as, they are known amongst the industry for their sweetness and high meat yield. Indeed, oyster shell is present on the shores of Spike Island and at numerous other sites around the harbour as evident in the presence of oyster middens and the proposed development would help showcase Ireland’s living culture and ancient heritage.

Also, oyster farming would complement the planned “Maritime’ Visitor Experience Development Plan” by aiding to “unlock the economic growth potential of the area by developing existing and new experiences that will attract more visitors”. The proposed development will provide year round employment and an additional tourist attraction.

My family currently support the Jailbreak Triathlon as the organisers hang the big red dot target for the swimmers from my father's balcony on Westbourne Place. May I add that my father was one of the first commercial oyster farmers in Cork.

In short I think Failte Ireland have been too hasty in forming ill-perceived negative opinions and not being open to the future benefits associated with the proposed development and how it can complement the existing tourist attraction on Spike Island and Cork Harbour as a whole.

The recent Oyster Festival in Cork city used oysters produced in Waterford. I would like to rectify that and have local oysters used.

Submission from the Marine Institute;

Some oysters would need to be placed on site to gain classification under Annex I of EU Regulation 854/2004.

Seed will be sourced from approved hatcheries.

I would agree with a contingency plan pertaining to invasive species being drawn up if required.

I would be open to engaging in a CLAMS process.

In my 30 years farming oysters in Cork Harbour I have not seen the reproduction of the Pacific oyster in the bay. Diploids and triploids are used country wide at present.

I would seek a Fish Health Authorisation prior to sales commencing.

I hope that you will receive my responses positively and recommend that the licences be granted to ensure the continued production of oyster farming in a renowned harbour.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Killian Tighe', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Killian Tighe.

An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



30th September 2019

Mr Killian Tighe
8 Orilia Terrace
Cobh
Co Cork



Our Ref: T05/546

Re: Your application for Aquaculture Licences in Cork Harbour

Dear Mr Tighe,

I refer to your application for Aquaculture Licences in Cork Harbour.

In accordance with Regulation 14 (1)&(2) of the Aquaculture (Licence Application) Regulations, 1998 (SI 236/1998) I am enclosing submissions and observations received as a result of the public and statutory consultation stage of the application process.

You are under no obligation to respond to these submissions or observations. However, if you choose to respond, any written comments must be submitted to this Department within **3** weeks from the date of this letter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mary McCull'.

Mary McCull
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
National Seafood Centre
Clonakilty
Ph 023 885917 Email mary.mccull@agriculture.gov.ie

McCull, Mary

From: McCull, Mary
Sent: 27 September 2019 17:00
To: McCull, Mary
Subject: T05-546 Killian Tighe

From: Michael McPartland [<mailto:Michael.McPartland@fisheriesireland.ie>]
Sent: 10 September 2019 15:24

Subject: T05-546 Killian Tighe

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Bernie

I refer to the above-mentioned applications

IFI would ask that a) only native species seed stocks are used and b) all necessary measures are undertaken in relation to bio-security

Michael Mc Partland

Senior Fisheries Environmental Officer.

Iascach Intíre Éireann

Inland Fisheries Ireland

Tel + 353 (0)26 412 21/2

Fax + 353 (0)26 412 23

Email michael.mcpartland@fisheriesireland.ie

Web www.fisheriesireland.ie

Sunnyside House, Macroom, Co. Cork, Ireland. P12 X602

Help Protect Ireland's Inland Fisheries

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D'fhéadfaí go bhfuil an ríomhphost seo agus ceangaltáin ar bith atá in éineacht leis faoi rún agus iad beartaithe d'úsáid an duine a bhfuil a s(h)eoladh air amháin. Dearcthaí nó tuairimí ar bith atá curtha in iúl ann, baineann siad leis an údar amháin, agus ní chaithfidh go n-aontaíonn Iascaigh Intíre Éireann leo. Mura tusa faighteoir beartaithe an ríomhphoist seo, ná déan rud ar bith mar gheall ar an méid atá ann, ná é a chóipeáil ná é a thaispeáint do dhuine ar bith eile. Déan teagmháil leis an seoltóir, le do thoil, má chreideann tú go bhfuair tú an ríomhphost seo trí earráid.



Marine Institute
Foras na Mara

Rinville,
Oranmore,
Co. Galway
Tel: 091 387200

Date: 18 September 2019

Mary McCull
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Clogheen,
Clonakilty
Co. Cork.

Advice on Aquaculture Licence Application

Applicant	Killian Tighe
Application type	New
Site Reference No	T05/546B
Species	Pacific Oysters (<i>C. gigas</i>) using Bags and Trestles
Site Status	Not located within a Natura 2000 site Not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area.

Dear Mary

This is an application for a new aquaculture licence for the cultivation of pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) using bags and trestles at Site T05/546A on the foreshore in Cork Harbour. The area of foreshore at Site T05/546B is 1.096Ha

The site is not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area. It is recommended that the implications of licencing sites that are not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area should be fully considered by DAFM as part of the licence determination process.

Oysters in this part of Cork Harbour are not currently classified under Annex II of EU Regulation 854/2004.

The cultivation of shellfish at these sites will produce faeces and pseudofaeces. Any impact will be limited to the area of the sites. The build-up of excess organic matter beyond the footprint of the sites is not considered likely. On the basis of targeted research¹, the impact of intertidal oyster cultivation using bags and trestles on the majority of community types is considered not significant.

No chemicals or hazardous substances will be used during the production process.

Considering the location, nature and scale of the proposed aquaculture activity, and in deference to our remit under the Marine Institute Act, and the considerations implicit to Sections 61(f) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 the Marine Institute is of the view that there will be no significant impacts on the marine environment and that the quality status of the area will not be adversely impacted.

Site T05/546B is not located within a designated Natura 2000 site. The site is located circa 1.2Km from the nearest boundary of the Cork Harbour SPA (Site Code 004030) and circa 4.6Km from the nearest boundary of the Great Island Channel SAC (Site Code 001058).

We note the findings of the Appropriate Assessment reports^{2, 3} and the Department's draft Natura Conclusion Statement⁴ in regard to the impacts on the Conservation Objectives within the Great Island Channel SAC and the Cork Harbour SPA.

¹ Forde, J., F. O'Beim, J. O'Carroll, A. Patterson, R. Kennedy. 2015. Impact of intertidal oyster trestle cultivation on the Ecological Status of benthic habitats. Marine Pollution Bulletin 95, 223-233.

In making the final determination with respect to this application it is recommended that DAFM take full account of the conclusions and recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment report and the proposed mitigation measures set out in the Department's Draft Natura Conclusion Statement.

Information on the source of seed for the site has not been provided and the MI recommends that this information be sought from the applicant prior to any final licence determination being made.

In order to be able to assess and manage the potential risk of the introduction of invasive non-native species the MI recommends that the initial source of seed and other sources which may be used at any point in the future should be approved by the Minister. This approval should be a specific condition of any licence that may issue. It should be noted that the control of alien species is a separate issue to the control of diseases in the context of the current Fish Health legislation.

Notwithstanding the recommendation outlined above, and in the event that an Aquaculture Licence is granted, the movement of stock in and out of the site should follow best practice guidelines as they relate to the risk of introduction of invasive non-native species (e.g. [Invasive Species Ireland](#)). In this regard it is recommended that, prior to the commencement of operations at the sites, the applicant be required to draw up a contingency plan, for the approval of DAFM, which shall identify, *inter alia*, methods for the removal from the environment of any invasive non-native species introduced as a result of operations at these sites. If such an event occurs, the contingency plan shall be implemented immediately.

In the event that invasive non-native species are introduced into a site as a result of aquaculture activity the impacts may be bay-wide and thus affect other aquaculture operators in the bay. In this regard, therefore, the Marine Institute considers that the CLAMS process may be a useful and appropriate vehicle for the development and implementation of alien species management and control plans.

The Marine Institute recommends that oyster culture utilise triploid oysters only in order to mitigate the risk of the reproduction of the Pacific oyster in the bay.

It is statutory requirement that a Fish Health Authorisation as required under Council Directive 2006/88/EC be in place prior to the commencement of the aquaculture activities proposed.

Kind regards,



Dr. Terry McMahon
Section Manager, Marine Environment and Food Safety Services,
The Marine Institute.



Marine Institute
Foras na Mara

Rinville,
Oranmore,
Co. Galway
Tel: 091 387200

Date: 18 September 2019

Mary McCull
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Clogheen,
Clonakilty
Co. Cork.

Advice on Aquaculture Licence Application

Applicant	Killian Tighe
Application type	New
Site Reference No	T05/546C
Species	Pacific Oysters (<i>C. gigas</i>) using Bags and Trestles
Site Status	Not located within a Natura 2000 site Not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area.

Dear Mary

This is an application for a new aquaculture licence for the cultivation of pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) using bags and trestles at Site T05/546C on the foreshore in Cork Harbour. The area of foreshore at Site T05/546C is 0.7932Ha

The site is not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area. It is recommended that the implications of licencing sites that are not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area should be fully considered by DAFM as part of the licence determination process.

Oysters in this part of Cork Harbour are not currently classified under Annex II of EU Regulation 854/2004.

The cultivation of shellfish at these sites will produce faeces and pseudofaeces. Any impact will be limited to the area of the sites. The build-up of excess organic matter beyond the footprint of the sites is not considered likely. On the basis of targeted research¹, the impact of intertidal oyster cultivation using bags and trestles on the majority of community types is considered not significant.

No chemicals or hazardous substances will be used during the production process.

Considering the location, nature and scale of the proposed aquaculture activity, and in deference to our remit under the Marine Institute Act, and the considerations implicit to Sections 61(f) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 the Marine Institute is of the view that there will be no significant impacts on the marine environment and that the quality status of the area will not be adversely impacted.

Site T05/546C is not located within a designated Natura 2000 site. The site is located circa 0.9Km from the nearest boundary of the Cork Harbour SPA (Site Code 004030) at Lough Beg and circa 5.0Km from the nearest boundary of the Great Island Channel SAC (Site Code 001058).

We note the findings of the Appropriate Assessment reports^{2, 3} and the Department's draft Natura Conclusion Statement¹ in regard to the impacts on the Conservation Objectives within the Great Island Channel SAC and the Cork Harbour SPA.

¹ Forde, J., F. O'Beirn, J. O'Carroll, A. Patterson, R. Kennedy. 2015. Impact of intertidal oyster trestle cultivation on the Ecological Status of benthic habitats. Marine Pollution Bulletin 95, 223–233.

²

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/seafood/aquacultureforeshoremanagement/aquaculturelicensing/appropriateassessments/cork/GreatIslandSACAARReport030719.pdf>

In making the final determination with respect to this application it is recommended that DAFM take full account of the conclusions and recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment report and the proposed mitigation measures set out in the Department's Draft Natura Conclusion Statement.

Information on the source of seed for the site has not been provided and the MI recommends that this information be sought from the applicant prior to any final licence determination being made.

In order to be able to assess and manage the potential risk of the introduction of invasive non-native species the MI recommends that the initial source of seed and other sources which may be used at any point in the future should be approved by the Minister. This approval should be a specific condition of any licence that may issue. It should be noted that the control of alien species is a separate issue to the control of diseases in the context of the current Fish Health legislation.

Notwithstanding the recommendation outlined above, and in the event that an Aquaculture Licence is granted, the movement of stock in and out of the site should follow best practice guidelines as they relate to the risk of introduction of invasive non-native species (e.g. [Invasive Species Ireland](#)). In this regard it is recommended that, prior to the commencement of operations at the sites, the applicant be required to draw up a contingency plan, for the approval of DAFM, which shall identify, *inter alia*, methods for the removal from the environment of any invasive non-native species introduced as a result of operations at these sites. If such an event occurs, the contingency plan shall be implemented immediately.

In the event that invasive non-native species are introduced into a site as a result of aquaculture activity the impacts may be bay-wide and thus affect other aquaculture operators in the bay. In this regard, therefore, the Marine Institute considers that the CLAMS process may be a useful and appropriate vehicle for the development and implementation of alien species management and control plans.

The Marine Institute recommends that oyster culture utilise triploid oysters only in order to mitigate the risk of the reproduction of the Pacific oyster in the bay.

It is statutory requirement that a Fish Health Authorisation as required under Council Directive 2006/88/EC be in place prior to the commencement of the aquaculture activities proposed.

Kind regards,



Dr. Terry McMahon
Section Manager, Marine Environment and Food Safety Services,
The Marine Institute.

Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine
Aquaculture & Foreshore Management Division
Clonakilty
Co. Cork
P85 TX47

23rd September 2019

Re: Aquaculture Licence Application for a site in Cork Harbour, Co. Cork –Ltd, Ref T05/546 (A & C)

A Chara,

I refer to the above-named Aquaculture Licence application at Cork Harbour. Fáilte Ireland have reviewed the proposal to determine the potential impacts on tourism amenities. It is the policy of Fáilte Ireland to support the sustainable development of the aquaculture sector and support its contribution to the economy in the region at appropriate locations and in accordance with proper planning and sustainable development.

We note this application was lodged in 2009 prior to the reopening of Spike Island in 2016 as a visitor attraction on foot of significant capital investment of over 7 million euro. In excess of 70,000 people visited the attraction in 2018 and further growth in 2019 and beyond is projected with the aim to achieve 100,000 visitors annually. The attraction was the winner of Europe's leading tourist attraction in 2017 and has been shortlisted in the world's best attraction category at this year's International Travel and Tourism Awards (ITTA).

The Cobh Triathlon Club host their annual 'Jailbreak' Triathlon in the area with the swim leg of the event starting adjacent to the eastern side of the pier at Spike Island. The event is part of the Irish National Triathlon Series and attracts hundreds of participants annually.

Furthermore, Cork Harbour is of strategic importance within Ireland's Ancient East, one of Fáilte Ireland's four regional experience brands introduced in early 2016, promoting Ireland to international tourists so they will visit, stay longer and spend more. Ireland's Ancient East showcases Ireland's living culture and ancient heritage. Fáilte Ireland is currently developing a 'Maritime' Visitor

Experience Development Plan which aims to bring to life East Cork, Cork Harbour and Cork City's strong maritime heritage and unlock the economic growth potential of the area by developing existing and new experiences that will attract more visitors.

With the above in mind, it is important that tourism is considered when identifying the potential receptors that may be affected by an aquaculture development.

Having regard to the location of the proposed development, it is considered that it has the potential to negatively impact;

- On the surrounding environment and visual amenities of the area particularly at low tide within this area of the harbour an area renowned for its views and natural landscape
- Significant implications for other marine users and leisure activities particularly due to accessibility issues
- The setting of the national monument

Therefore, Fáilte Ireland respectfully request that the potential for impacts on the tourism, recreation and amenity value of the area as a result of the proposed development be given due consideration in the determination of this licence application.

Should you have any queries on this please do not hesitate to contact me.

Is mise le meas,



Environment & Planning Manager, Fáilte Ireland

An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



8th August 2019

Our Ref: T05/546

Mr Killian Tighe
Alms House
Roches Terrace
Cobh
Co Cork



Application for Aquaculture Licences in Cork Harbour, Co Cork

Dear Mr Tighe,

I refer to your application for a licence to cultivate oysters using trestles and bags, on 3 areas of foreshore at Cork Harbour, Co. Cork.

I'm currently dealing with the above licence application.

I just want to clarify something please. The application form on file that you completed in 2009 mentions 'bag and trestle, cages' as the method of cultivation but there is no other mention in documentation since then of the 'cages.'

Can you confirm please, if it is the case, that your intended method of cultivation is only bag and trestle?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary McCull".

Mary McCull

Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
National Seafood Centre
Clonakilty
Ph 023 8859517 Email mary.mccull@agriculture.gov.ie

20/11/2014

Deirdre Fitzpatrick
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Coastal Zone Management Division,
Clogheen,
Clonakilty Co. Cork



Ref: T5/546

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick,

I am writing to you to follow up on the above aquaculture licence application.

I believe that this application is still valid as we are awaiting the completion of appropriate assessment for Cork Harbour and no decisions can be made until this has been carried out. Could you inform me as to when appropriate assessment will be carried out for Cork Harbour?

In your earlier letter of 15/02/2011 in which you said that the "*application cannot be progressed further*" due to concerns by your Divisional Engineering Division. Their view was that our plans "*would cause a significant negative visual impact to Spike Island tourists*".

I would like to point out that there are now three large wind turbines situated close to Spike Island. I would assume that Cork Co. Council gave permission for the construction of these wind turbines adjacent to Spike Island. These wind turbines are visible 24 hours a day (they have flashing white lights to warn aircraft at night). Local and visitor opinion on these wind turbines is mixed. Our proposed trestles would only be visible for approximately 40 hours per month which equates to 5.5% of time over a year as opposed to 100% of the time for the wind turbines. I feel that your Engineering Division's argument against our plans has now been lost.

Tourism and aquaculture operations go hand in hand in other tourism destinations. They coexist and complement each other. I have often been asked to supply locally grown oysters to pubs, restaurants and cruise liners. Unfortunately I am unable to do so at present due to water quality issues in Cork Harbour. Can you inform me as to when Cork Harbour will comply with the protection of shellfish waters Directive 2006/113/EC?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Killian Tighe.

killiant

From: Fitzpatrick, Deirdre [Deirdre.Fitzpatrick@agriculture.gov.ie]
Sent: 24 June 2013 12:53
To: 'killiant'
Subject: RE: Licence applications.
Attachments: Letter to appl Feb 2011.doc



Killian

I refer to your e-mail of 07/06/13.

According to my records, you have 2 current applications i.e. T5/545 and T5/482B.

File T5/546 is closed. Please see copy of letter dated 15/02/11 advising you that this application cannot be progressed further.

The appropriate assessments are being carried out on a bay by bay basis by the Marine Institute. At this stage, it is not possible to give an indicative timeframe as to when the appropriate assessments will be completed for Cork Harbour and Ballymacoda.

Regards
Deirdre

From: killiant [REDACTED]
Sent: 07 June 2013 12:15
To: Fitzpatrick, Deirdre; Fitzpatrick, Deirdre
Subject: Licence applications.

Hi Deirdre,

I have three aquaculture licence applications with your department at present. The applications are listed below.

T5/545 a joint application for a site at Ballymacoda, Youghal Co. Cork.

T5/482B an application for a site at Ballymacoda, Youghal Co. Cork.

T5/546 an application for a site adjacent to Spike Island, Cork Harbour.

I would like to know if these applications are still current? I would presume that they are considering that a decision has not been issued to me. I know that appropriate assessments are due to be done on Cork Harbour and Ballymacoda soon. Have you any idea as to when these appropriate assessments will be done?

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Killian Tighe.

Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara

24/06/2013

Killian Tighe
Alms House, Roches Terrace, Cobh Co. Cork, Ireland
Tel; [REDACTED]

17/02/2011

Deirdre Fitzpatrick
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Coastal Zone Management Division,
Clogheen,
Clonakilty Co. Cork

Ref: T5/546

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick,

I received your letter of 15th February last and I am absolutely shocked at your decision.

Firstly, in relation to the application adjacent to Spike Island (sites A and C) I would like to make a few observations.

1. The departure point (Kennedy Pier, Cobh) for the guided tours of Spike Island is flanked by two derelict and condemned piers. Before the tours even commence the tourists are confronted by these two eyesores which have a significant negative visual impact in connection with Spike Island tourism. What does your department intend to do about these structures?
2. The boat which ferries the tourists to the island has two possible routes, one for low tide and one for high tide. Both of these routes pass the area known locally as the "tip head" on the eastern end of Haulbowline Island. This is an area where old scrap metal and slag from the old Irish Steel plant was dumped. This is another eyesore and has a significant negative visual impact in connection with Spike Island tourism. Will your department now undertake to clean up this area as it is on the foreshore and under your remit?
3. Spike Island itself has many structures which are derelict and in a bad state of repair, in fact there are warning signs on the outside of many of these structures stating that the buildings are unsafe to enter. These structures

pose a huge health and safety problem for tourism on the Island as well as the issue of a significant negative visual impact to Spike Island tourists.

4. The "spit bank" adjacent to the northern side of Spike Island is an area used by local fisherman to catch shrimp. I have observed hundreds of buoys marking the shrimp pots. The buoys can be very difficult to navigate around. The shrimp are caught mainly in July and August which is high season for tourism. I presume these fishermen are licensed by your department. Will they now be asked to cease fishing these waters because of possible negative visual impact on tourism in Spike Island?
5. There are several people in the harbour who regularly pick periwinkles on the beach on Spike Island. Their work is very similar to the job which we do. Would you deem their work as having a significant negative visual impact on tourism on Spike Island? If so will you now ask them to cease their activities on the Island?
6. The trestles which I propose to place on the foreshore would only be exposed for approximately 15 days per month. I fail to see how you can deem this proposed aquaculture activities as having a significant negative visual impact on Spike Island tourists.

In relation to site B, I would like to make the following observations.

7. This site would be more suitable for the use of cages rather than trestles as the area is too deep for trestles, however the seabed beyond the beach would be very suitable for cages.
8. The area beyond the beach if utilised for aquaculture would not impact on its use as a public amenity in any way as the cages would be submerged 100% of the time.
9. I have observed the use of Corkbeg beach over a number years and have only observed people using the beach on two occasions. The area is very difficult to access by foot.
10. Corkbeg beach is also adjacent to an oil refinery. How can this refinery help make Corkbeg beach a public amenity?

To say that oyster farming has a significant negative visual impact on tourism is frankly absurd. France, which has far higher numbers of tourists than Ireland is a country where oyster farming and tourism co-exist in harmony. Places such as Le Mont St. Michel and Utah beach in Normandy are two huge tourist attractions which also have large areas of adjacent foreshore engaged in oyster farming. Areas in Charente Maritime in France such as La Rochelle and Ile de Re have huge tourist numbers and the highest concentration of oyster farming in France. The mediteranean area of France is another area with high tourist numbers and large areas of oyster



Marine Institute
Foras na Mara

Rinville,
Oranmore,
Co. Galway
Tel: 091 387200

Date: 18 September 2019

Mary McCull
Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
Clogheen,
Clonakilty
Co. Cork.

Advice on Aquaculture Licence Application

Applicant	Killian Tighe
Application type	New
Site Reference No	T05/546A
Species	Pacific Oysters (<i>C. gigas</i>) using Bags and Trestles
Site Status	Not located within a Natura 2000 site Not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area.

Dear Mary

This is an application for a new aquaculture licence for the cultivation of pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) using bags and trestles at Site T05/546A on the foreshore in Cork Harbour. The area of foreshore at Site T05/546A is 6.0152

The site is not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area. It is recommended that the implications of licencing sites that are not located within a designated Shellfish Growing Waters Area should be fully considered by DAFM as part of the licence determination process.

Oysters in this part of Cork Harbour are not currently classified under Annex II of EU Regulation 854/2004.

The cultivation of shellfish at these sites will produce faeces and pseudofaeces. Any impact will be limited to the area of the sites. The build-up of excess organic matter beyond the footprint of the sites is not considered likely. On the basis of targeted research¹, the impact of intertidal oyster cultivation using bags and trestles on the majority of community types is considered not significant.

No chemicals or hazardous substances will be used during the production process.

Considering the location, nature and scale of the proposed aquaculture activity, and in deference to our remit under the Marine Institute Act, and the considerations implicit to Sections 61(f) of the Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 the Marine Institute is of the view that there will be no significant impacts on the marine environment and that the quality status of the area will not be adversely impacted.

Site T05/546A is not located within a designated Natura 2000 site. The site is located circa 1.2Km from the nearest boundary of the Cork Harbour SPA (Site Code 004030) at Whitegate Bay and circa 4.6Km from the nearest boundary of the Great Island Channel SAC (Site Code 001058).

We note the findings of the Appropriate Assessment reports^{2, 3} and the Department's draft Natura Conclusion Statement⁴ in regard to the impacts on the Conservation Objectives within the Great Island Channel SAC and the Cork Harbour SPA.

¹ Forde, J., F. O'Beim, J. O'Carroll, A. Patterson, R. Kennedy. 2015. Impact of intertidal oyster trestle cultivation on the Ecological Status of benthic habitats. Marine Pollution Bulletin 95, 223–233.

²

<https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/seafood/aquacultureforeshoremanagement/aquaculturelicensing/appropriateassessments/cork/GreatIslandSACAARReport030719.pdf>

In making the final determination with respect to this application it is recommended that DAFM take full account of the conclusions and recommendations of the Appropriate Assessment report and the proposed mitigation measures set out in the Department's Draft Natura Conclusion Statement.

Information on the source of seed for the site has not been provided and the MI recommends that this information be sought from the applicant prior to any final licence determination being made.

In order to be able to assess and manage the potential risk of the introduction of invasive non-native species the MI recommends that the initial source of seed and other sources which may be used at any point in the future should be approved by the Minister. This approval should be a specific condition of any licence that may issue. It should be noted that the control of alien species is a separate issue to the control of diseases in the context of the current Fish Health legislation.

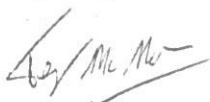
Notwithstanding the recommendation outlined above, and in the event that an Aquaculture Licence is granted, the movement of stock in and out of the site should follow best practice guidelines as they relate to the risk of introduction of invasive non-native species (e.g. Invasive Species Ireland). In this regard it is recommended that, prior to the commencement of operations at the sites, the applicant be required to draw up a contingency plan, for the approval of DAFM, which shall identify, *inter alia*, methods for the removal from the environment of any invasive non-native species introduced as a result of operations at these sites. If such an event occurs, the contingency plan shall be implemented immediately.

In the event that invasive non-native species are introduced into a site as a result of aquaculture activity the impacts may be bay-wide and thus affect other aquaculture operators in the bay. In this regard, therefore, the Marine Institute considers that the CLAMS process may be a useful and appropriate vehicle for the development and implementation of alien species management and control plans.

The Marine Institute recommends that oyster culture utilise triploid oysters only in order to mitigate the risk of the reproduction of the Pacific oyster in the bay.

It is statutory requirement that a Fish Health Authorisation as required under Council Directive 2006/88/EC be in place prior to the commencement of the aquaculture activities proposed.

Kind regards,



Dr. Terry McMahon
Section Manager, Marine Environment and Food Safety Services,
The Marine Institute.

15th February 2011

Mr Killian Tighe
Alms House
Roches Terrace
Cobh
Co Cork

**Our Ref: T5/546 Mr Killian Tighe, Alms House, Roches Terrace, Cobh,
Co. Cork (Site: 8 Hectares Cork Harbour, Co. Cork)**

Dear Mr Tighe

The above application has now been examined by our Divisional Engineering Division and their recommendation is as follows;

"The applicant proposes to place oyster bags on trestles/cages on the foreshore at three separate locations within Cork Harbour to cultivate pacific oysters. The proposed sites A, B and C are 6 Ha, 1.1 Ha and 0.8 Ha respectively.

The proposed aquaculture sites A and C are contiguous with Spike Island, Cork Harbour. Guided tours of Spike Island began last year and Cork County Council plan to further progress the tourism, heritage and recreational development of the island. In my opinion, the proposed aquaculture operations would cause a significant negative visual impact to Spike Island tourists.

The proposed aquaculture site B is located along the 400 metre stretch of sand/gravel that forms Corkbeg Beach. There are only a small number of sandy beaches within Cork Harbour. Therefore, in my opinion, the beach should be preserved as a public leisure amenity.

For the above reasons, the proposed aquaculture operations should not be licensed and the application should be rejected."

In view of the above, this application cannot be progressed further.

Yours sincerely


Deirdre Fitzpatrick

Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Div

Ph: 023 8859592

Email: Deirdre.Fitzpatrick@agriculture.gov.ie

farming. I have visited these places for myself and have seen first hand that oyster farming and tourism can co-exist side by side.

In fact it is widely accepted that aquaculture activities can enhance tourism. I myself have been asked to give tours of sites which I operate. I have also been approached by tourists, both Irish and foreign, while working on the foreshore. The first thing they always want to know is what we are doing and what oyster farming is all about. When I explain the steps involved in our activities they are amazed and feel informed about oyster farming. They often ask me why there are not more oyster farms using our biggest natural resource that is the sea. Oyster farmers are guardians of this natural resource as it is our interest to look after it.

Cork Harbour is the second biggest natural harbour in the world and has huge tourism potential. An event such as an oyster festival could be a huge draw for tourism in the area. The Clarenbridge oyster festival which is known worldwide is a case in point. Would it not be wonderful for such an event to supply locally grown oysters? Unfortunately this would not be possible at this time due to the fact that the waters in Cork Harbour have tested positive for the Norwalk Virus because your department has not implemented the Protection of Shellfish Waters directive. I have been at the front lines of dealing with the results of your department's inactions and am still prepared to battle on and grow the industry.

While harsh economic times are experienced in this country it is imperative that employment should be created especially in export lead industry. All the political parties first priority leading up to the next election is jobs.

In light of the points I have raised I trust you will reconsider your decision not to proceed further with my licence application.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Killian Tighe', written in a cursive style.

Killian Tighe.

Killian Tighe
Alms House, Roches Terrace, Cobh Co. Cork, Ireland
Tel; [REDACTED]

21/12/09

Deirdre Fitzpatrick
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
Coastal Zone Management Division,
Clogheen,
Clonakilty Co. Cork



Ref: T5/546

Dear Ms. Fitzpatrick,

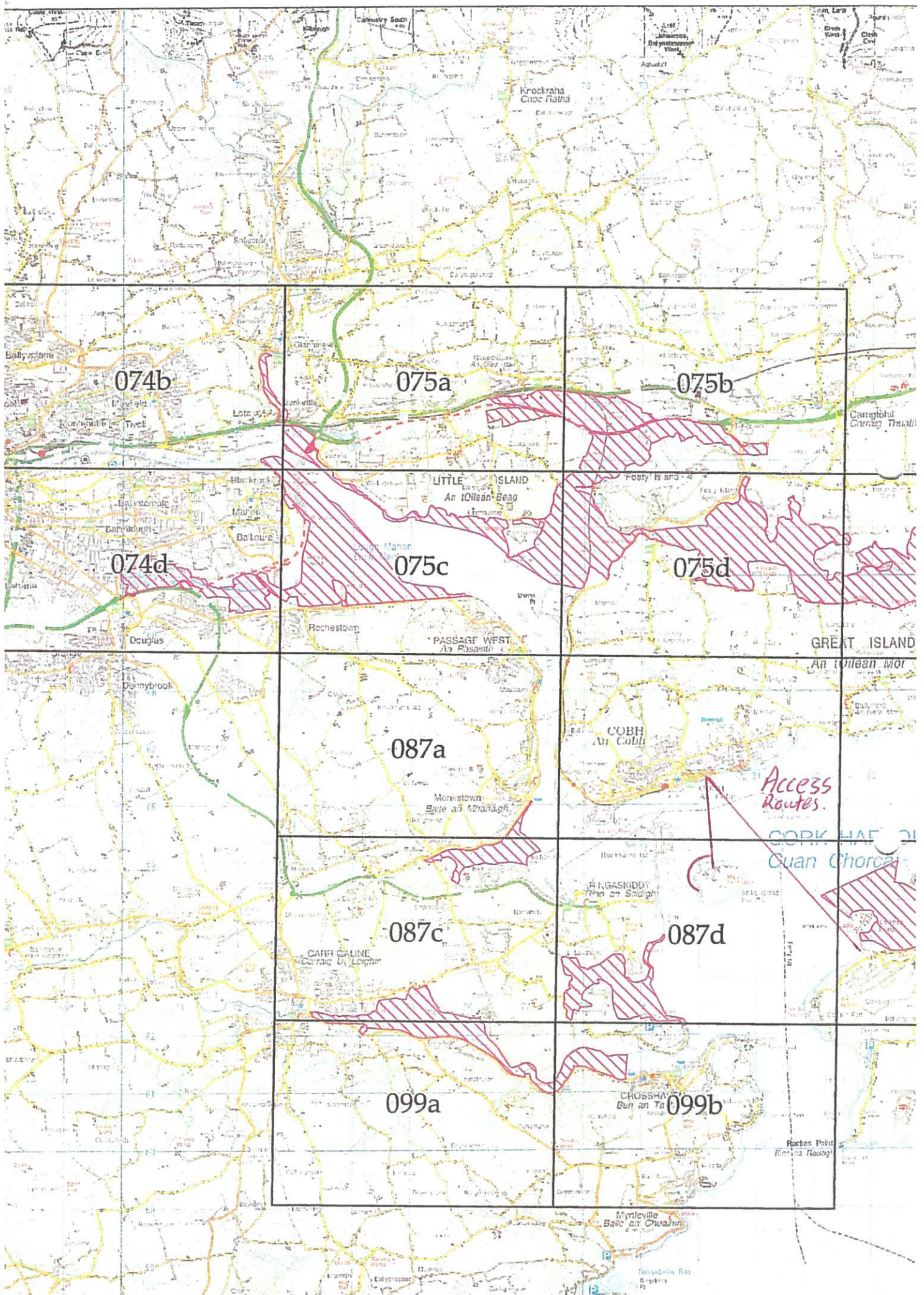
In response to your letter of 17th December last I am writing to you to confirm the following.

The access will be by raft at low tide and will not impinge on the nearby SPA in anyway. Also there is no possibility of access by road as the area is not accessible by road.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Killian Tighe.





Department of
**Agriculture,
Fisheries and Food**
An Roinn
**Talmhaíochta,
Iascaigh agus Bia**

17th December 2009

**AQUACULTURE LICENCES
APPEALS BOARD**

Ref: T5/546

16 APR 2021

RECEIVED

Killian Tighe
Alms House
Roches Terrace
Cobh
Co Cork

**Our Ref: T5/546 Mr Killian Tighe, Alms House, Roches Terrace, Cobh,
Co. Cork (Site: 8 Hectares Cork Harbour, Co. Cork)**

Dear Mr Tighe

The above application has been examined by the Department of Environment,
Heritage & Local Government.

The following needs to be clarified before they can make a final decision on this
application:

*There is no information supplied with the application to indicate access routes to the
facility. Will the access be by boat or landbased transport at low tide and will access
be though the nearby SPA?*

I await your reply.

Yours sincerely

Deirdre Fitzpatrick
Coastal Zone Management Division

Ph 023 8859592

Email: Deirdre.Fitzpatrick@agriculture.gov.ie

24 September 2009

Our Ref: T5/546

Killian Tighe
Alms House
Roches Terrace
Cobh
Co Cork

Dear Mr Tighe,

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your application and fee of €95.23 in respect of an aquaculture and foreshore licence for a site at Cork Harbour, Co. Cork

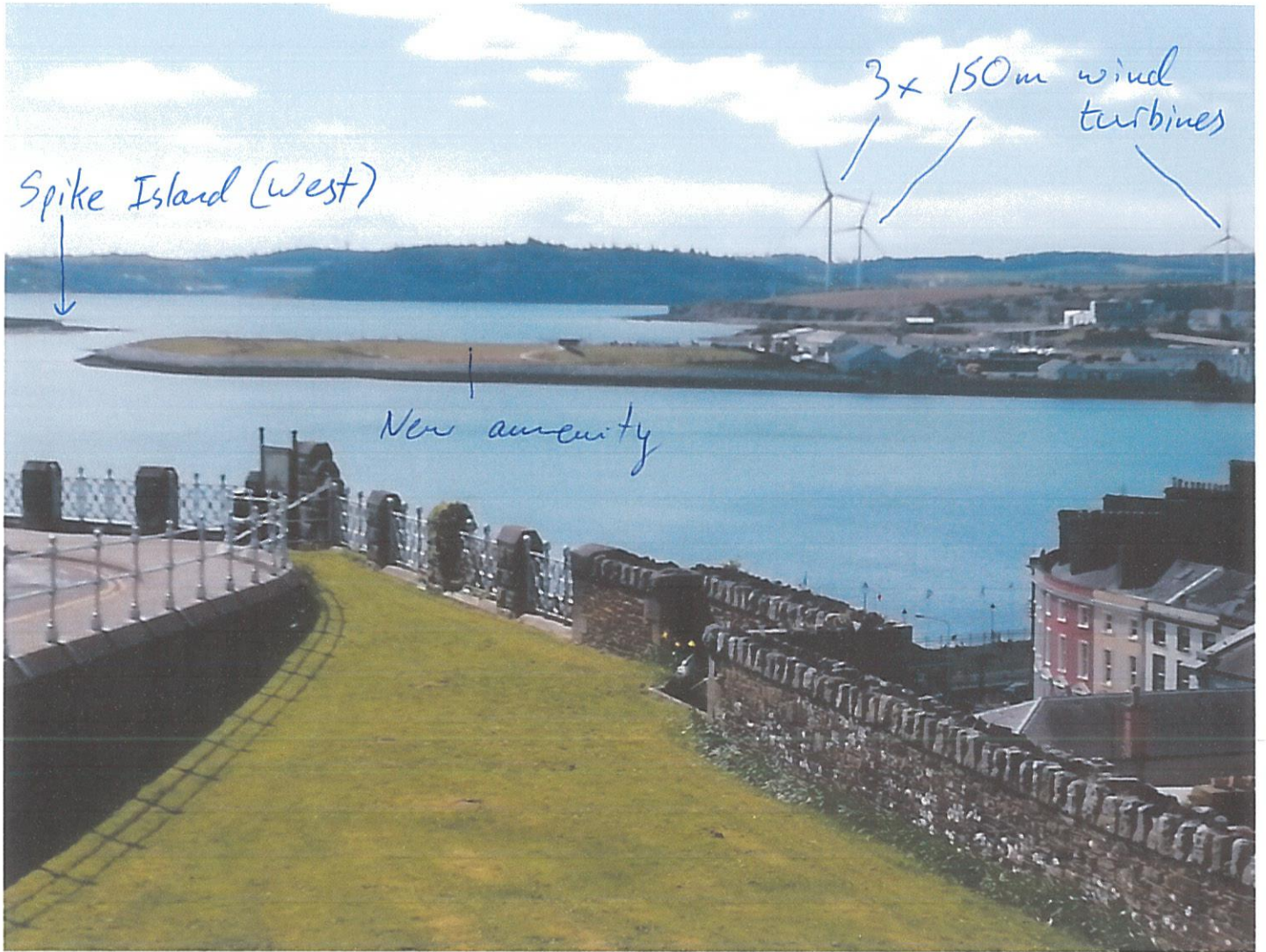
Applications are considered in order of date received to the department.

In accordance with section four of the Fisheries and Foreshore (Amendment) Act 1998 you are not to commence operations at the place of waters to which your application relates until duly licensed.

Your application is receiving attention and the Department will be in contact with you again in due course.

Yours sincerely

Colette Walsh
Coastal Zone Management Division.



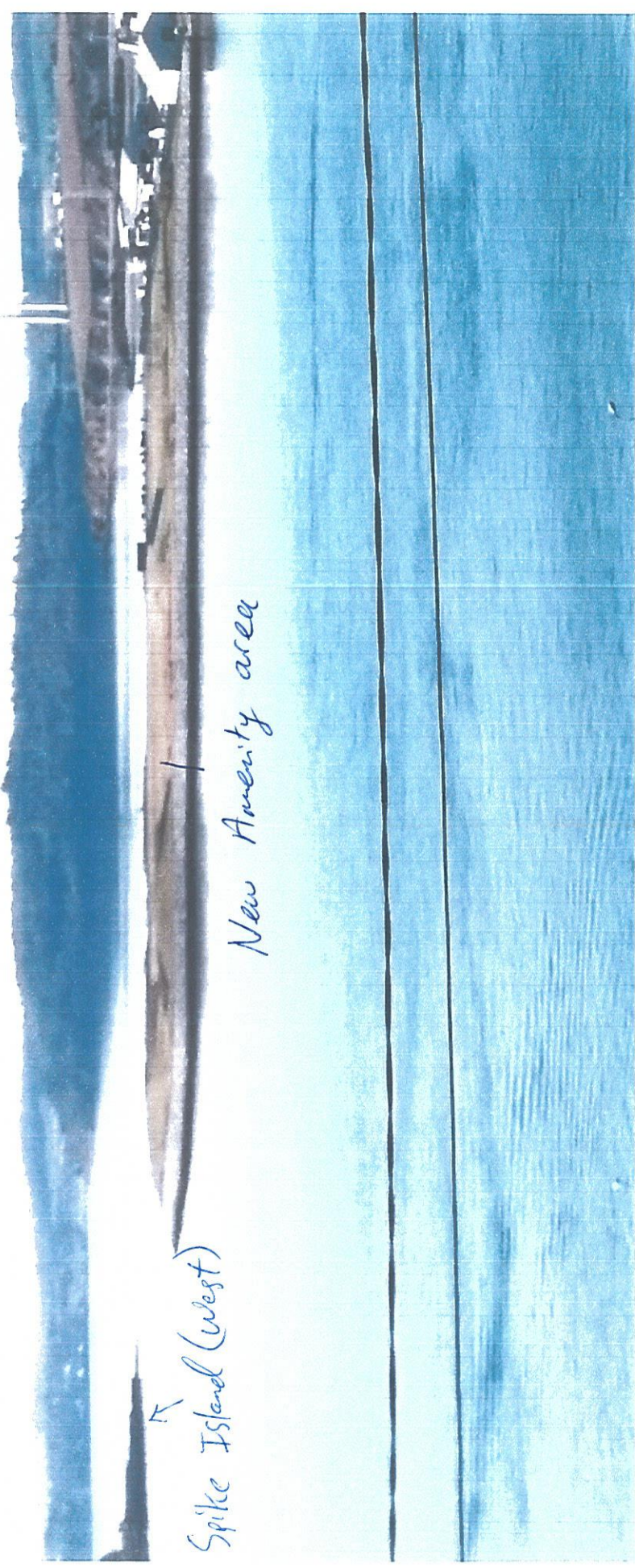
**AQUACULTURE LICENCES
APPEALS BOARD**
16 APR 2021
RECEIVED

2x 150m wind
turbines




New Amenity area

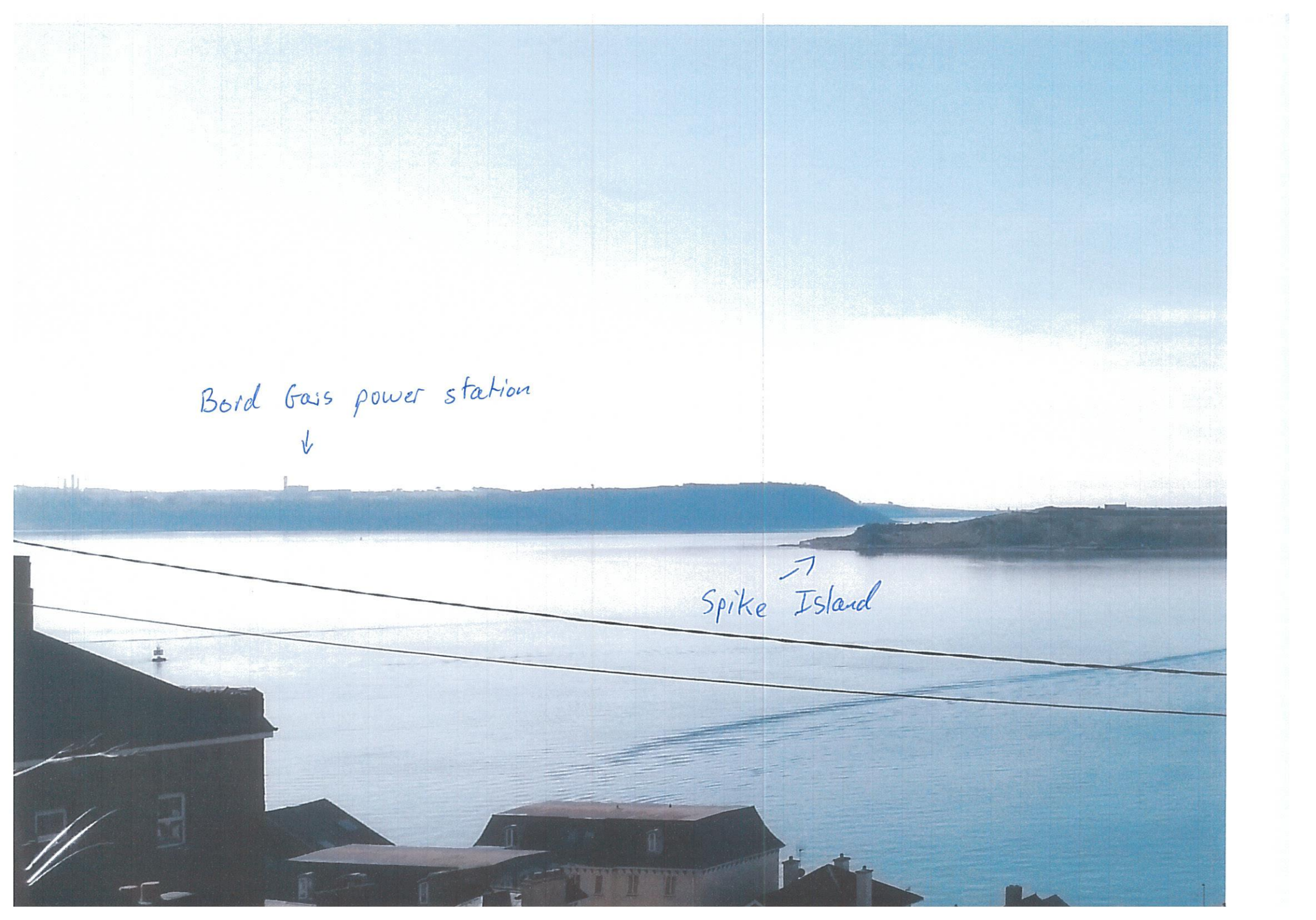
↑
Spike Island (west)



Bord Gas power station

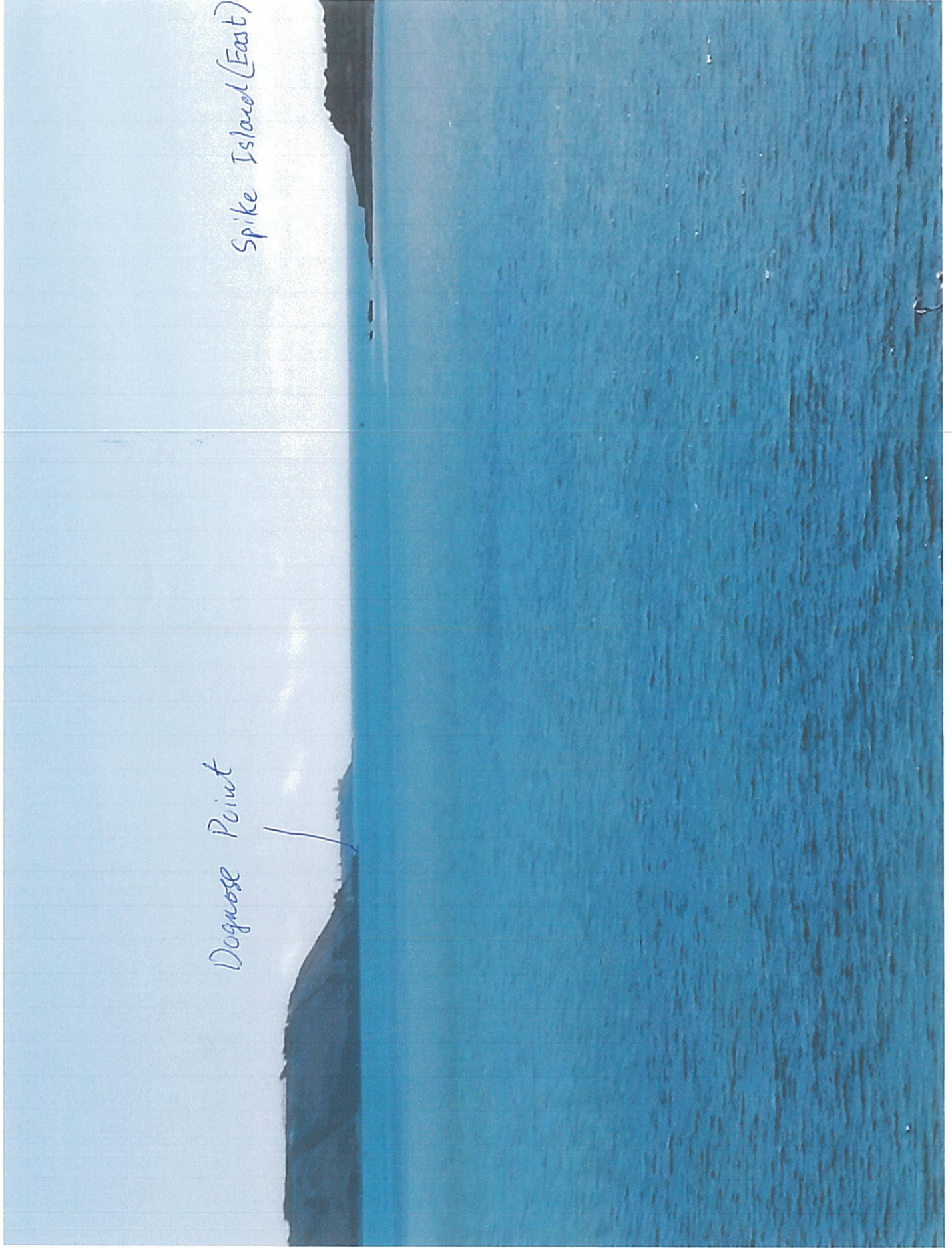


Spike Island 



Dognose Point

Spike Island (East)



Power station



Dognose Point

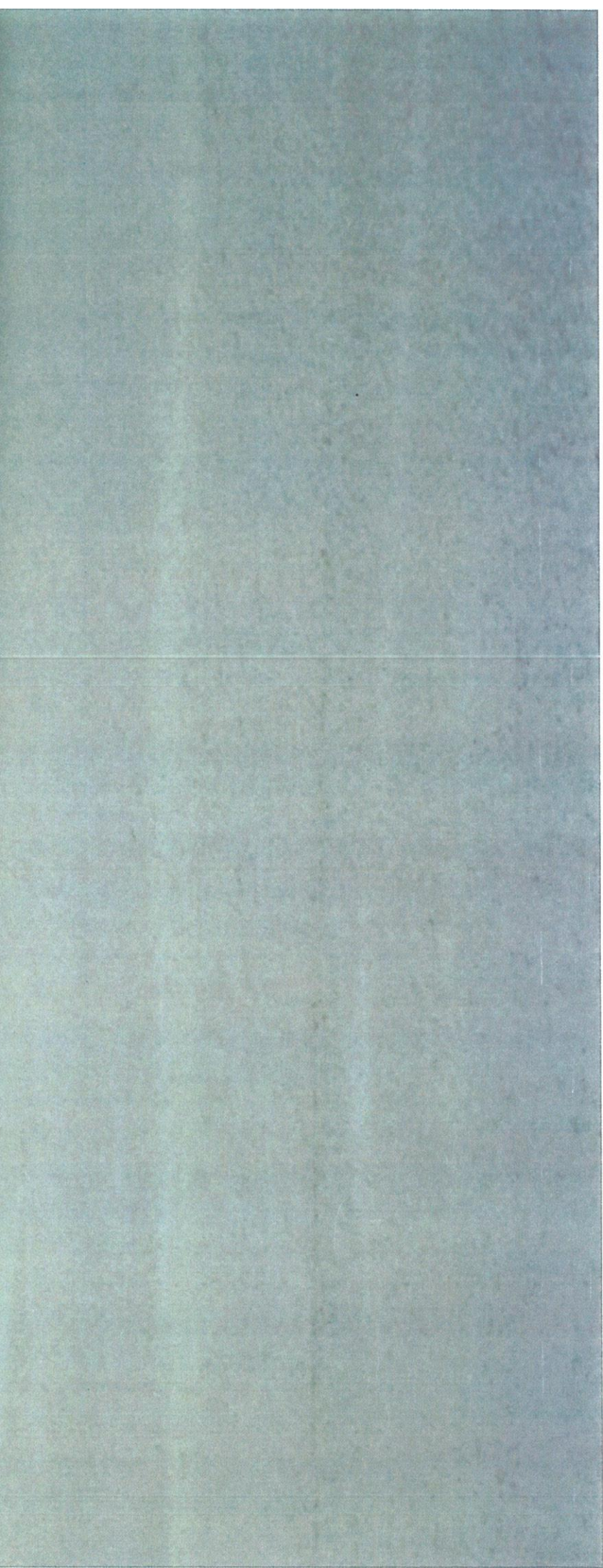


Treacher

Trestles



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STREET LIGHTS
WALK
WALK
WALK



Traskie





STILL MORE WHITE LINES



Trestles

Killian Tighe

From: Whelton, Batt <Batt.Whelton@agriculture.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday, March 9, 2017 1:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: T5/546



Killian

I am writing to you to confirm that your aquaculture licence application (T5/546) is still active and is being considered under the relevant statutory provisions.

Regards,

Batt

Batt Whelton

Aquaculture and Foreshore Management Division
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine
National Seafood Centre
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 (023) 8859545

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Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

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Tá an t-eolas san ríomhphost seo, agus in aon ceanglaí leis, faoi phribhléid agus faoi rún agus le h-ághaigh an seolai amháin. D'fhéadfadh ábhar an seolaid seo bheith faoi phribhléid profisiúnta nó dlíthiúl. Mura tusa an seolai a bhí beartaithe leis an ríomhphost seo a fháil, tá cosc air, nó aon chuid de a úsáid, a choipeáil, nó a scaoileadh. Má tháinig sé chugat de bharr dearmad, téigh i dteagmháil leis an seoltóir agus scríos an t-ábhar ó do ríomhaire le do thoil.

Île de Ré

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Île de Ré (formerly also **Île de Rhé**, **Île de Rhés** or **Île de Rhea** - in English **Isle of Rhé**) is an island off the west coast of France near La Rochelle, on the northern side of the Pertuis d'Antioche strait.



Île de Ré

This island is completely flat; it is 30 km long and 5 km wide. A 2.9 km bridge, completed in 1988, connects it

to La Rochelle on the mainland.

Contents

- 1 Administration
- 2 History
 - 2.1 Capture of Ré island (1625)
 - 2.2 Siege of Saint-Martin-de-Ré (1627)
 - 2.3 Later history
 - 2.4 Connection to the continent
- 3 Life on the island
- 4 Miscellaneous
- 5 Sport
- 6 See also
- 7 Gallery
- 8 References
- 9 Sources
- 10 External links

Administration

Administratively, the island is part of the Charente-Maritime *département*, in the Poitou-Charentes *région*.

The island is divided into 10 communes, from East to West: Rivedoux-Plage, La Flotte, Sainte-Marie-de-Ré, Saint-Martin-de-Ré, Le Bois-Plage-en-Ré, La Couarde-sur-Mer, Loix, Ars-en-Ré,

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%8Eile_de_R%C3%A9

Coordinates: 46°12′N 1°25′W﻿ / ﻿46.2°N 1.417°W﻿ / 46.2; -1.417

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Satellite photo of Île de Ré



Île de Ré (France)

Geography

Location	Atlantic Ocean
Coordinates	46°12′N 1°25′W
Area	85 km ² (32.8 sq mi)
Length	30 km (19 mi)
Width	5 km (3.1 mi)
Highest elevation	20 m (70 ft)
Highest point	Peu des Aumonts

Country

France

Region	Poitou-Charentes
Department	Charente-Maritime
Arrondissement	La Rochelle
Largest city	La Flotte

Demographics

Population	15,000 (as of 1999)
Density	176.47 /km ² (457.06 /sq mi)

07/04/2011

History

During Roman times, Île de Ré was an archipelago made of three small islands. The space between these small islands was progressively filled, by a combination of human activity (salt fields gained from the sea) and siltage.

In the seventh and eighth centuries the island, along with Oléron, formed the *Vacetae Insulae* or Vacetian Islands, according to the *Cosmographia*,^[1] *Vaceti* being another name for the Vascones, the reference is evidence to Basque (Gascon) settlement or control of the islands by that date.

The island became English in 1154, when Alienor d'Aquitaine became queen of England through her marriage with Henry Plantagenet. The island would be reverted to France in 1243, when Henry III of England returned it to Saint Louis through a treaty.

In 1360 however, with the Treaty of Bretigny, Île de Ré would again become English until the 1370s.

Capture of Ré island (1625)

Main article: Capture of Ré island

In February 1625, the Protestant Soubise led a Huguenot revolt against the French king Louis XIII, and, after publishing a manifesto, invaded and occupied the island of Ré.^[2] He seized Ré with 300 soldiers and 100 sailors. From there he sailed up to Brittany where he led his successful attack on the royal fleet in Blavet, although he could not take the fort after a three weeks siege. Soubise then returned to Ré with 15 ships and soon occupied the Ile d'Oléron as well, thus giving him command of the Atlantic coast from Nantes to Bordeaux. Through these deeds, he was recognized as the head of the reform, and named himself "Admiral of the Protestant Church".^[3] A few months later, in September 1625, Charles, Duke of Guise organized a landing in order to re-capture the islands, with the support of the Dutch (20 ships)^[3] and English navies. The fleet of La Rochelle was defeated, as was Soubise with 3,000 when he led a counter-attack against the royal troops who had landed on the island.^[3] The island was invested, forcing Soubise to flee to England.^[4]

Siege of Saint-Martin-de-Ré (1627)

Main article: Siege of Saint-Martin-de-Ré (1627)



The citadel of Saint-Martin. Military mock-up, 1702. Musée des Plans-Reliefs.

In 1627, an English invasion force under the command of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham attacked the island in order to relieve the Siege of La Rochelle. After three months of combat in the Siege of Saint-Martin-de-Ré against the French under Marshal Toiras, the Duke was forced to withdraw in defeat.

Later history

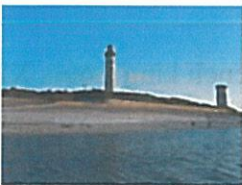
The main port, Saint-Martin, was fortified by Vauban in 1681 as a component of the belt of forts and citadels built to protect the military harbour of Rochefort. It was later used as a depot for convicts on their way to the penal settlements of

New Caledonia and French Guiana. Prisoners included Alfred Dreyfus, en route to the penal colony

Capture of Île de Ré by
Charles, Duke of Guise
on September 16th,
1625.



Île de Ré bridge from
Sablonneau/ Rivedoux-
Plage.



The *Phares des
Baleines* lighthouse.



Salt fields in Loix-en-
Ré



Prime Minister of France from 1997 to 2002, retired on the island after his withdrawal from political life. Johnny Depp has also been spotted there.

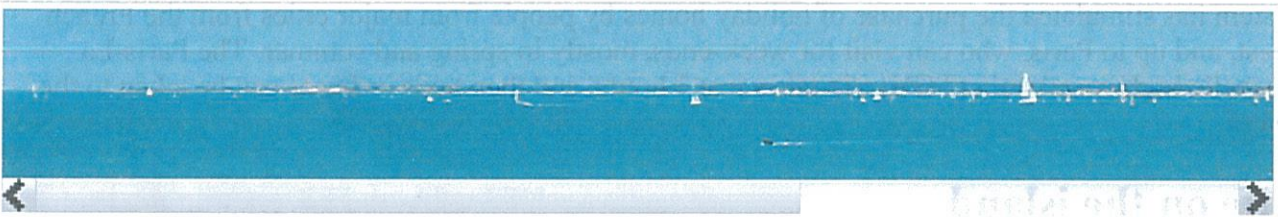
Oysters and fresh fish are always available. There is also a tradition in which the fishermen, upon returning from the sea, sell a small quantity of their catch directly on the quays, enabling them to buy a drink. Markets are open on a daily basis in the main towns and are a popular place to shop, taste and chat. Even the vendors in the markets come to the island on their holidays. Generally, they work only in the mornings, enabling them to enjoy the remainder of the day. A large variety of items can be bought at the market, such as comics, books, African articles, ceramics, clothes, artifacts, food, local specialities, tools and souvenirs.



Sea salt harvest in Ile de Ré.

Miscellaneous

Nearby Fort Boyard, an ancient maritime fort, is currently used for a television game show series of the same name.



Panoramic view of Ile de Ré from the continent (in La Pointe du Chay). The bridge linking the island to the continent is visible at the extreme right.

Sport

- Tennis
- Surfing
- Sailing
- Golfing (in les Portes-en-Ré)
- Horse riding

See also

- Ernest Cognacq Museum

Gallery



of Devil's Island after his conviction for treason.

The old city of Saint-Martin, within the walls of the citadel, was added in 2008 to the World Heritage Site list, along with 11 others Fortifications of Vauban across France.

During World War II, the beaches of the Île de Ré were fortified by German forces with bunkers, in order to block a possible seaward invasion. Many of the bunkers are still visible, in a more or less derelict state. Several scenes of the 1962 movie *The Longest Day* were filmed on the beaches of the island.

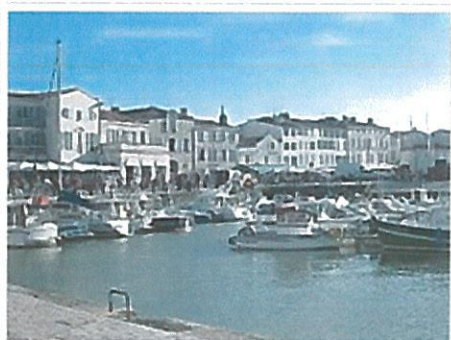
Connection to the continent

In 1987, a 3 kilometer bridge was built to connect the island to the continent. Heretofore, the island was connected through roll-on roll-off ferries (called "*bacs*"), which could accommodate vehicles and passengers. In peak summer time periods, the waiting time to board a ship could reach several hours. The bridge was built by Bouygues.^[5] Since then, touristic activities on the island have developed considerably, with real estate prices reaching very high levels. The easier transportation system has stimulated the purchase of holiday homes by people from major cities from the French West, and up to Paris, who can visit for week-ends, mostly in spring and summer. The Paris-La Rochelle high-speed train (TGV) trip takes just 3 hours, and then taxis or buses can be taken to the island.



A *bac* and the bridge under construction, in 1987.

Life on the island



The quays at Saint Martin en Ré.

The area is a popular tourist destination. It has approximately the same number of hours of sunshine as the famous southern coast of France. The island is noted to have a constant light breeze, and the water temperature is generally cool. The island is surrounded with gently sloping, sandy beaches, which are a real treat for families and tourists.

The island has a resident winter population of approximately 20,000 residents and a resident summer population of about 220,000. Since the local population is distributed all over the island, it seldom gets crowded. The island is covered by bicycle tracks, with many residents rarely using cars for transportation. Camping grounds and hotels abound on the

island, as well as large supermarkets and all modern amenities. Many families stay on the island for the duration of their vacations.

Night life consists of going to Saint Martin, the main port, or to La Flotte, to walk along the quays and to potter around the shops, which are open late. Restaurants abound. At night, visitors can watch the buskers, have a drink or enjoy the island's delicious artisanal ice cream, all set in a family-friendly atmosphere.

As a famous holiday resort on the Atlantic coast, the island has its fair share of celebrities, past and present.

Among others, Jean Monnet, the father of European Unity, singers Charles Aznavour and Claude Nougaro, actors Bernard Giraudeau and Claude Rich, actress Carole Bouquet, writer Philippe Sollers or Princess Caroline of Monaco used to or still spend their holidays there. Lionel Jospin, who was

A WWII German bunker on a beach in Île de Ré (Plage des Quatre Sergents).



German bunkers in the northern part of the island (Conche des Baleines).



Map of the island (French)



West part of the island seen from Spot Satellite

References

1. ^ Collins, 214.
2. ^ *The French Wars of Religion, 1562-1629* - Page xiii by Mack P. Holt - History - 2005 [1]
3. ^ *a b c Penny cyclopaedia of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge* Page 268 [2]
4. ^ *Fractured Europe, 1600-1721* By David J. Sturdy Page 127
5. ^ Bouygues website: Île de Ré Bridge

Sources

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/%C3%8Ele_de_R%C3%A9

07/04/2011

- Collins, Roger. "The *Vaccae*, the *Vaceti*, and the rise of *Vasconia*." *Studia Historica VI*. Salamanca, 1988. Reprinted in Roger Collins, *Law, Culture and Regionalism in Early Medieval Spain*. Variorum, 1992. ISBN 0-86078-308-1.

External links

- Language, culture & discovery of Ile de Ré and of the Charente-Maritime region (English)
- Tourist information (French), (Spanish), (Italian), (German), (English)
- History of the island (French)
- valuable information on ile de re (English)
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Categories: Charente-Maritime | Islands of France

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Cancale

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 48°40′37″N 1°51′02″W﻿ / ﻿48.677°N 1.850°W﻿ / 48.677; -1.850

Cancale (Breton: *Kankaven*; Gallo: *Cauncall*) is a commune in the Ille-et-Vilaine department in Brittany in north-western France. It is known as the birthplace of Saint Jeanne Jugan.

Contents

- 1 Demographics
- 2 Tourism
- 3 Oysters
- 4 See also
- 5 References
- 6 External links

Demographics

Inhabitants of Cancale are called *Cancalais*.

At the 1999 census, its population was 5,203. In 2006, the population was 5,285.^[1]

Tourism

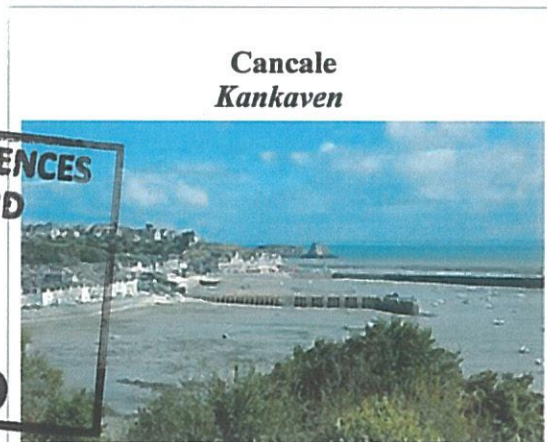
Cancale lies along the coast to the east of Saint-Malo. It is a picturesque fishing village popular with visitors, many of whom are drawn by its reputation as the "oyster capital" of Brittany. Though a small town, it is well served by a large number of restaurants, many specialising in seafood. When not eating one can sit and watch the bustle of this busy little town with many stalls selling crustaceans of all types.

There is a pleasant coastal path which permits a circular walk from the town to the Pointe du Grouin with views across the bay towards Mont Saint Michel.

Eugène Feyen painted Cancale and the inhabitants with the oyster-picking Cancellais for several decades around 1865–1908. Vincent van Gogh wrote that "Eugène Feyen is one of the few painters who pictures intimate modern life as it is really, and does not turn it into fashion plates".

Oysters

History has it that Louis XIV had his oysters brought to Versailles from Cancale. Centuries later, the farming of oysters is still a major activity in the port and there are oyster beds covering about 7.3 square kilometres easily seen from the pier at the harbour. These beds harvest



The fishing port of Cancale



Location within Brittany region



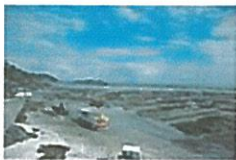
Administration

Country	France
Region	Brittany
Department	Ille-et-Vilaine
Arrondissement	Saint-Malo
Canton	Cancale
Intercommunality	Saint-Malo
Mayor	Pierre-Yves Mahieu (2008–2014)

about 25,000 tons of oysters each year.

See also

- Communes of the Ille-et-Vilaine department
- Auguste Feyen-Perrin
- Jacques-Eugène Feyen



Harvesting oysters in
■ Cancale



World War II Memorial
Cancale (Ille-et-Vilaine,
■ France)

Statistics

Elevation	0–56 m (0–184 ft) (avg. 45 m/148 ft)
Land area ¹	12.6 km ² (4.9 sq mi)
Population ²	5,285 (2006)
- Density	419 /km ² (1,090 /sq mi)
INSEE/Postal code	35049/ 35260

¹ French Land Register data, which excludes lakes, ponds, glaciers > 1 km² (0.386 sq mi or 247 acres) and river estuaries.

² *Population sans doubles comptes*: residents of multiple communes (e.g., students and military personnel) only counted once.

References

- ¹ ^ "Cancale, Populations légales 2006". INSEE. <http://www.insee.fr/fr/ppp/bases-de-donnees/recensement/populations-legales/commune.asp?depcom=35049>. Retrieved 23 August 2010.

External links

- Official website (French)
- Cancale Information and images (English)
- Cultural Heritage (French)

Retrieved from "<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cancale>"

Categories: Communes of Ille-et-Vilaine | Port cities and towns in France | Ports and harbours of the English Channel | Ille-et-Vilaine geography stubs

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Cap Ferret - out and about

Cap Ferret is a superb choice for beach lovers, but there's a lot more to this stunning peninsula than sand dunes and Atlantic rollers.

Beach

The Bassin d'Arcachon beach at Cap Ferret village has **amazing views** over to the Dune de Pyla, the largest sand dune in Europe. The Atlantic beaches are **popular with surfers**, but be warned of the powerful currents especially when the tide is going out. Always follow local advice - beaches are normally supervised in July & August only.

The bay itself offers year-round **sailing and windsurfing** with spectacular views. There are beautiful beaches all around the Bassin d'Arcachon, separating the oyster farming villages.

Activities

From the village débarcadère (Cap Ferret's jetty, also the location of an excellent brasserie) you can **take a ferry** over to Arcachon, Le Moulleau, or catch a trip to the Dune de Pyla (infinitely easier than driving around the bay!) Or try a boat tour spotting the oyster beds and bird life of the Bassin d'Arcachon.

Heading on down to the Pointe is a must, stopping to climb to the top of the famous **Cap Ferret lighthouse** on the way. The lighthouse gives views across the bassin to the sandy wildlife reserve of the Banc d'Arguin, and over to the Dune de Pyla (**Europe's highest sand dune**), which are breathtaking. This is a stunning setting.

Another must is visiting one of the peninsula's **oyster farming** districts at **l'Herbe, le Canon or Pirailan**. Here the careful raising of these exquisite delicacies has continued for over 150 years. Can oysters ever have tasted better than here, at the edge of the waters where they grew?

You might like to try **fishing** for yourselves, in the mudflats uncovered at low tide around the Bassin d'Arcachon. They deliver generous amounts of cockles, clams and winkles. The beaches reveal green crabs at low tide, and there are plenty of shrimps to catch with nets. Take care on the sticky mud-flats.

Children's Tourist Attractions

There's a charming '**petit train**' that runs from the jetty on the bassin side, over the dunes at the Atlantic beach on the other side of the peninsula. The trip takes 10-15 minutes and is a delight, even if you don't have children.

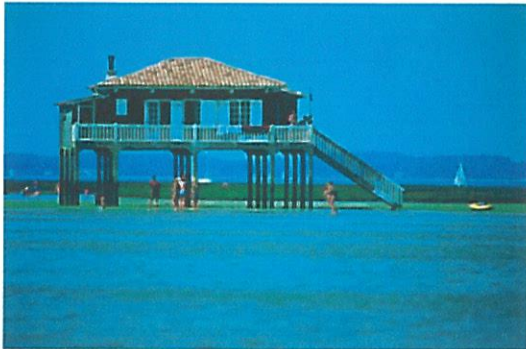
[Aqualand](#) at Gujan Mestras on the Arcachon side of the Bay, does what it says on the tin – with every kind of waterslide you can imagine, plus a pool with waves.

The Village Médiéval features a reconstructed **medieval Landais village**, showing traditional arts and crafts in action. The Musée de la Maquette Marine is a museum of exquisitely made **model ships**.

At the [Parc Animalier la Coccinelle](#) children can feed baby lambs and goats.

Shopping

Cap Ferret village has a good selection of **boutiques**. Across the bay in Arcachon, **Quartier du Mouleau** (Av Notre Dame des Passes) has boutiques open late. If you need yet more choice, **Bordeaux** is within an hour of Cap Ferret.



Eating Out

We recommend the following restaurants:

Chez Hortense is laid back (what else could it be here?) and popular with France's VIPs

Fredelian is a salon de thé renowned for its patisseries, especially the local favourite (and ours), cannelés

Maison du Bassin 5 rue des Pionniers, Lège Cap Ferret 05 56 03 72 46 "Excellent" Thanks to the Colemans for their feedback.

The Pinasse Café overlooking the Bassin and the oyster pools, this original brasserie (named after the pine oyster-fishing boats) offers home-made local cuisine. The wood panelled walls are decorated with paintings of boats and fish. 2 bis av de l'Océan, 05-56-03-77-87 "Expensive but worth it. Lovely food and child friendly." Jackie Neale 2010

This list has been compiled with the help of local property owners we work with, client feedback as well as these helpful guides: the *Lonely Planet Guide (South West France)*; *The Green Guide (Atlantic Coast)*; the *Cadogan Guides* – always an excellent and informative read. "*Gascony and the Pyrenees*" is the one that includes the [Bassin d'Arcachon](#).

Nightlife

It's worth stopping for a drink the stylish Tchanquee bar of the Hôtel Maison du Bassin (so named after the famous houses on stilts close to the Ile aux Oiseaux) - the address for an 'apéro'.

Arts and Culture

Across the bay in **Arcachon**, the Ville d'Hiver (winter town) is well worth strolling around, to see the quirky **architecture** of its many 19th century villas. At the heart of the Ville d'Hiver, the Parc Mauresque has a wonderful **observatory designed by Eiffel**, reached by a 19th Century lift. This observatory offers great views of the Ville d'Hiver, and of the entire Bassin d'Arcachon (lagoon).

Arcachon is great for **festivals**: classical music in April ('Festival Jeunes Solistes'); a parachuting competition in June; a Street Festival (Not'Ambules) and sailing competition (les 18 heures d'Arcachon) in July; Fêtes de la Mer (festival of the sea) in August; and an International Women's Film Festival in September.

Nature

On the Eastern rim of the Bassin d'Arcachon, Le Teich is a river delta for the Leyre river. This provides ideal marshland for **migratory birds** stopping on their long journeys between Scandinavia and Africa. This rare environment of salt-water and fresh-water has been designated a Parc Ornithologique, and is the nesting ground for several species: grey herons, black cormorants, white storks, oystercatchers, egrets, kingfishers, spoon-billed shovelers and many more.

Also at Le Teich you'll find Le Jardin des Papillons – the biggest collection of **exotic butterflies** and moths in France. Hundreds of brightly coloured butterflies flutter around tropical plants and waterfalls in complete freedom. Playground and picnic area within.

Look out for bottle-nosed **dolphins** and **porpoises** playing off the Atlantic coast – they are often seen around Dune de Pilat, south of Arcachon.

Excursions

If you feel the urge to leave the Cap - and many don't while they are here - the famous appellations of **Pauillac** and **Margaux** north in the médoc rouge are not far away. There are many vineyards where you can visit and taste some of the famous wines. Two very approachable **châteaux** are the under-rated (and relatively inexpensive) [Château Maucaillou](#), a medium-sized, family-run estate in Moulis-en-Médoc; there is an interesting museum exhibiting some of the history of wine-making. Or for a very special visit, Château Giscours in the Margaux region organises tastings of various vintages of its grand crus classés, hosted by a particularly engaging, unpretentious and plain-speaking 'oenologue' (Master of Wine).

South of Arcachon is the famous **Dune du Pilat, the largest sand dune in Europe**, standing at over 100 metres. A journey to the summit (try it without the staircase provided!) is a must; sunrise and sunset are the best times. Don't be surprised to see schools of **bottlenose dolphins** and **porpoises**, playing just offshore.

If you're feeling beached out, **Bordeaux** is well under an hour away and is a good option for a day-trip, whether it's boutique shopping, sight-seeing or culture. Walking around the 18th century old town centre (Quartier St. Pierre), you can begin to imagine the city's commercial and maritime past.

Medieval gems of the Gironde east of Bordeaux are also wonderful days out; **St Emilion**, with its 11th century basilica, is the best known but can be busy; St Macaire and La Réole are also enjoyable.

Obviously there are more chateaux over here but an altogether different wine experience can be had at **Caudalie Vinotherapie Spa**, in the middle of the Château Smith Haut Lafitte, vineyards, just south of Bordeaux. The spa offers unique beauty treatments derived from grand cru grapes of the Graves appellation renowned for their anti-ageing and micro-circulation improving properties - in short, visitors apparently come out feeling good!

Up and down the coast from Arcachon, South West France offers the best [surf](#) in Europe.

For further tourist information about the local areas beyond Arcachon, please browse these region guides:

- » [Bassin d'Arcachon](#)
- » [La Côte Landaise](#)
- » [Pays des Vins](#)

Travel Advice

In August, the Cap is very busy and it's best to get around by bike (several bike hire shops are here) and boat (frequent trips to Arcachon, le Moulleau and Pilat dune). It can take hours to drive around the Bassin in the summer and it's best avoided.

Even in a place as popular as Cap Ferret (and Arcachon too, for that matter), the coastal resorts are seasonal and some restaurants, shops and amenities will shut down during September.

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European Destinations of Excellence (EDEN)

Ireland is a destination of excellence

Europe is diverse, beautiful and rich in culture and heritage; and every year EU member countries run European Destinations of Excellence competitions to search for fresh, undiscovered and exciting touristic gems. The winners are chosen for their natural beauty, cultural life and commitment to sustainable tourism. The prize is a promotional push to entice tourists to visit.

Take a break in one of Ireland's four official European Destinations of Excellence

Since 2007, Ireland's four winners have lifted the brief right off the page. [Clonakilty District \(2007\)](#), [Carlingford and the Cooley Peninsula \(2008\)](#), the [Sheep's Head Peninsula \(2009\)](#), and [Loop Head Peninsula \(2010\)](#) are not only some of the most spectacular and unspoiled destinations in Ireland – but in the whole of Europe. To begin your quest for excellence, visit www.discoverireland.ie/eden.

More information

For further information on Ireland's Destinations of Excellence, including upcoming festivals and events and great accommodation deals, visit www.discoverireland.ie/eden.

[Top](#)

EDEN 2010 - Loop Head Peninsula, Co. Clare

Loop Head Peninsula, the gnarly finger of a peninsula pointing into the Atlantic off Co. Clare, is Ireland's latest European Destination of Excellence. The award was won under the theme of aquatic tourism, and is set to introduce one of the West's best-kept secrets to a worldwide audience.

Aquatic tourism

When it comes to water, there are endless options here. Set between the Atlantic Ocean and the Shannon estuary, barely a mile of land saves Loop Head from island status. Dolphin Watch, based in Carrigaholt, runs trips to spot some of the 120+ resident bottlenose dolphins in the estuary – one of only six such schools in Europe. Ocean



Life operates diving trips off the Kilkee reef. Nevsail offers sailing lessons off the blue-flag Kilkee beach or dramatic cliff tours by sea-kayak.

Unusual aquatic adventures are provided, too. Eileen Mulcahy's modern thalassotherapy centre carries on Kilkee's old tradition of seawater baths. The West Clare Currach Club is reviving the lost art of traditional Irish boats, in part by teaching visitors how to build currachs. From their guesthouse on Loop Head, Luke and Mary Aston run "Fish & Stay" packages, with Luke taking visitors on sea-angling trips and Mary, a qualified chef, laying on the home-cooking when they return.

Other activities

But Loop Head isn't just about water, of course. The peninsula's natural terrain has walking routes of varying lengths and difficulty, with some dazzling cliff walks too. There are two mapped cycle routes, colourful events like the Carrigaholt Oyster Festival (May) and the Kilkee Maritime Festival (mid-July). The geological formations in the cliffs have attracted geologists and their students from far and wide (there are even plans for a geology centre).

In fact, the peninsula is almost completely surrounded by special areas of conservation and natural habitat areas; ranging from Poulnasherry Bay to the Kilkee Reefs and Mutton Island. It's against this backdrop that fishermen and farmers have adapted their livelihoods to sustainable tourism, and in doing so, brought a bright European spotlight to bear on an under-visited gem.

[Top](#)

EDEN 2009 - Sheep's Head Peninsula, Co. Cork

A looped walk on the wild Atlantic coast. A peninsula ringed with plunging cliffs, scattered with holy wells, promontory forts, castles and caves, and a landscape so unspoiled it is often inaccessible by road. Imagine all of this, and you'll get a sense of the Sheep's Head Way.



Tourism and protected areas

The national walking and cycling trail, stretching 88km around the Sheep's Head peninsula, is a terrific testimony to the rugged Atlantic landscape and the spirited community that created it. Opened in 1996 along a network of old mass, school and fishermen's trails, it has become one of Ireland's top walking routes, and won the 2009 European Destination of Excellence Award as a protected area.

The Sheep's Head itself is a work of natural art, stretching 25 miles long and just 2.5 miles wide. Its backbone is a sandstone ridge, and walkers or cyclists can criss-cross a landscape littered with heritage sites like Droumnea Castle or the Brahalish forts, swimming beaches at spots like Kilcrohane, Ahakista, and O'Donovan's Cove, and a raft of protected bird species and unusual fauna and flora.

Conservation and crafts

The Sheep's Head is a special area of conservation, and one of its most pleasant features is the use of oak posts and sandstone markers, in keeping with the natural surroundings. It's an attention to detail that is echoed in the crafts, galleries and artisan producers living nearby.

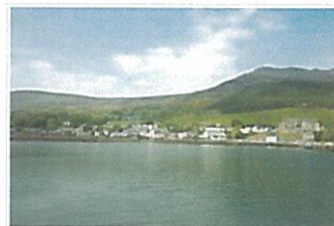
[Top](#)

EDEN 2008 - Carlingford and the Cooley Peninsula

Carlingford and the Cooley Peninsula won the European Destination of Excellence award in 2008, under the theme of intangible heritage.

Tourism and local intangible heritage

What's intangible heritage? Visiting Carlingford answers that question. From swashbuckling legends like An Táin to Carlingford's medieval origins and active leprechaun lore, traditions fostered through the generations here have created a unique sense of community – and a lot of fun.



Allied to this living culture and heritage, of course, is the Cooley Peninsula's jaw-dropping scenery. The Mourne Mountains here are perfect for walks, horse-riding and adventure sports. On Carlingford Lough, the famous local oysters are farmed – oysters available at the local festival in August, or at restaurants like Ghan House, the Kingfisher Bistro or Oystercatcher Lodge.

Past meets present

Carlingford itself is a Norman town dating from the 1100s. Sloping gently towards the Lough, dropped like a berry at the foot of Slieve Foy, the area is picture-perfect. Built around beautifully-maintained relics like St. John's Castle, the old mint, the tholsel (town gate) and Carlingford Priory, it feels like an outdoors museum, but one in which life carries on around the exhibits regardless. Laced with snug bars, antique shops and an old market square, it's the very definition of a boutique village.

Just an hour's drive from Belfast and Dublin, Carlingford and its surrounding area is packed with lough and mountain-based activities, festivals, and a wealth of Irish dance, song, music and language too.

[Top](#)

EDEN 2007 - Clonakilty and District

Clonakilty and District won Ireland's first European Destination of Excellence award in 2007, with the West Cork gem singled out as a beautiful and diverse emerging rural destination.

Tourism and rural destinations

Clonakilty town is familiar to countless Irish holidaymakers, however, what's less well-known is the vast variety of things to see and do around it. Clonakilty District became a Destination of Excellence not just for the town itself, but for a hinterland that stretches along the coastline from Rosscarbery in the west to Courtmacsherry in the east, and includes all the charming villages between.



The difficulty here lies in deciding what to leave out. The Clonakilty district is home to world-class angling, superb golf courses and top-class walking and cycling routes. Lisselan Estate features gardens straddling the Argideen River complemented by a surprising collection of classic cars? It's also possible to learn more about Michael Collins, following the life of the Irish independence hero from his family homestead in Sam's Cross to his last stand at Beal na mBláth.

People and traditions

Clonakilty's greatest asset, however, is its people. The area is alive with traditional sports like road bowling, horse racing on sandy strands, storytellers, galleries, whale and dolphin watching, and lively pubs. For fine food visit De Barra's, West Cork fusion and Richy's Bistro, Clonakilty, which have a little something for everyone.

[Top](#)

More information

For further information on Ireland's Destinations of Excellence, including upcoming festivals and events and great accommodation deals, visit www.discoverireland.ie/eden.

For more information, images, interviews, and details on other festivals, events or holidays in Ireland, please contact:

Sheena Doyle: sheena.doyle@failteireland.ie (01) 8847 260

[Back](#)

Clarinbridge

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
(Redirected from Clarenbridge)

Clarinbridge (Irish: *Droichead an Chláirín*, meaning "Small Board Bridge") is a small village, approximately 15 minutes drive south of Galway, Ireland in the Diocese of Kilmacduagh. It is on the mouth of the Clarin River at the end of Dunbulcaun Bay, which is the easternmost part of Galway Bay. It is famous for its yearly oyster festival that is held in the second week of September.

Clarinbridge was home to the Redington family who owned much of the land and property in the village. The church is located on the primary road passing through the village, the N18. There are many other church ruins in the parish, most notably the one in Killeely. The town is also known for its great hurling tradition.

Contents

- 1 Clarinbridge Oyster Festival
- 2 Twinning
- 3 Points of interest
- 4 External links

Clarinbridge Oyster Festival

The Oyster Festival at Clarinbridge has taken place every September since 1954, with guests from all over the world returning annually to celebrate the new oyster season. The bivalves at the centre of the festivities are fresh from the famed local oyster beds. As well as eating oysters there is entertainment, music and dancing especially, as well as a gala ball, where those attending are entertained by Irish musical acts.

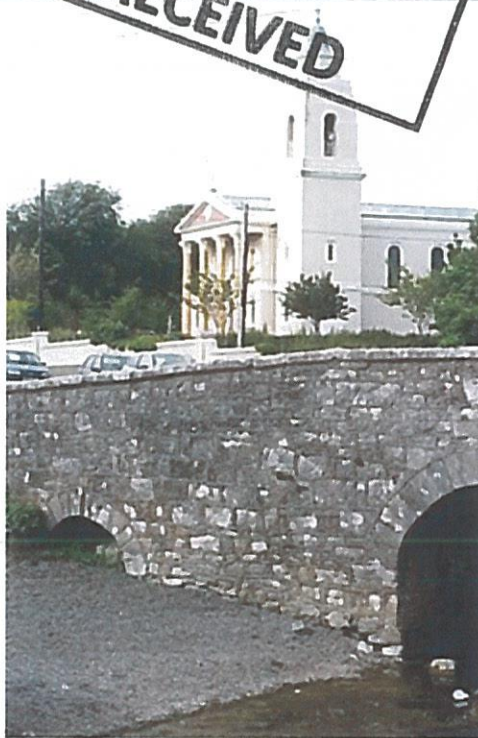
Twinning

Clarinbridge is twinned with East Hampton, New York, United States.

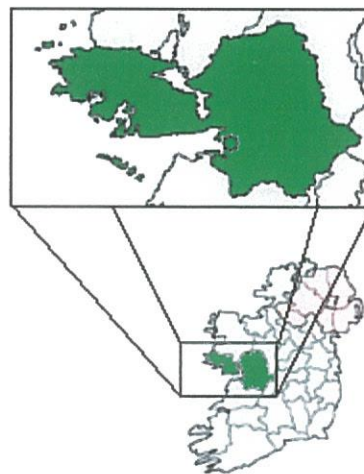
Points of interest

- Moran's Oyster Cottage Historic restaurant located in a traditional thatched cottage, established in the 1760s, operated by six

Coordinates: 53.2295°N 8.8782°W﻿ / ﻿﻿ / ﻿



Location



Coordinates:

53.2295°N 8.8782°W﻿ / ﻿﻿ / ﻿

Irish grid reference

M409203

Statistics

generations of the same family.

External links

- [Clarinbridge website](#)
- [Tourist Information](#)

Retrieved from

"<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clarinbridge>"

Categories: [Towns and villages in County Galway](#)
[County Galway geography stubs](#)

Province:	Connacht
County:	County Galway
Elevation:	5 m (16 ft)
Population (2002)	
- Town:	173
- Environs:	2,092
Website: http://www.clarinbridge.ie/	

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[THE ROOMS](#)

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[SPECIAL OFFERS](#)

[TOURISM](#)

[NEWS](#)

[LOCATION](#)

[RESERVATION](#)

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Take the time to visit the popular tourist attractions in Oléron and Charente Maritime



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MARENNES, CITY OF THE OYSTER

The City of the Oyster is a museographic and oyster farming centre and one

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[See all the holiday rentals in La Flotte](#)

Rated amongst the most beautiful villages in France, La Flotte remains faithful to the typical image of the Ile de Ré. Sheltered from the ocean by the Pertuis Breton, its port, like that of Saint-Martin, faces the Vendée coast.

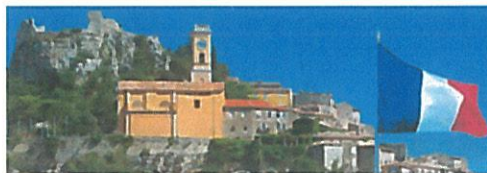
La Flotte was once an important fishing and seaport and the vestiges of that time can still be seen in the magnificent dwellings that surround the port. Twisting roads and alleyways, lined with the omnipresent hollyhocks complete the décor.

In La Flotte, the holiday lets we have available are never far from the port as well as near the other treasure of this village – the medieval and very lively market place. This oldest market on the island will enchant you with its medieval arches sheltering a whole host of stands, its cobbles and the old tiles of its rooftops. You'll have no difficulty finding here all the produce of which the island is so proud: oysters, salt, potatoes, pineau...

If it's the ocean that you prefer, take the opportunity to explore the coastline from the Fort de la Prée at the eastern extremity of La Flotte, past the ruined abbey of the Châtelliers, past the village and out the other end, along the coastal path complete with sailing club, oyster farmers and bunkers left over from the Second World War.

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A half-hour drive west from [La Rochelle](#), the **Île de Ré** is a low, narrow island some 30km long, fringed by sandy beaches to the southwest and salt marshes and oyster beds to the northeast, with the interior a motley mix of small-scale vine, asparagus and wheat cultivation. All the buildings on Ré are restricted to two storeys and are required to incorporate the typical local features of whitewashed walls, curly orange tiles and green-painted shutters, which give the island villages a southern holiday atmosphere.



[Panorama of St Martin](#)

Out of season the island has a slow, misty charm, and life in its little ports revolves exclusively around the cultivation of Oysters and mussels. In season, though, it's extraordinarily crowded, with upwards of 400,000 visitors passing through. The crowds mainly head for the southern beaches; those to the northeast are covered in rocks and seaweed, and the sea is too shallow for bathing.

The island is connected to the mainland at **LA PALLICE**, a suburb of [La Rochelle](#), by a three-kilometre-long toll bridge constructed in 1988 (€16.77 round trip per car). La Pallice was once a big commercial port with important shipyards, and although it still serves as a naval base, times have changed. As you drive past, you'll notice some colossal weather-stained concrete sheds, submarine pens built by the Germans to service their Atlantic U-boat fleet during World War II. Too difficult to demolish, they are still in use. As an alternative to the toll-bridge connection, [Interîles](#), 14 cours des Dames, [La Rochelle](#), also runs a bus and boat service to Sablonceaux on Ré (€16.77 return with a car), and combined trips to the Îles de Ré and [Oléron](#).

ST-MARTIN, the island's capital, is an atmospheric north coast fishing port with whitewashed houses clustered around the stone quays of a well-protected harbour, from where trawlers and flat-bottomed oyster boats, piled high with cage-like devices used for "growing" Oysters, slip out every morning on the muddy tide.

The quayside *Café Boucquingam* recalls the military adventures of the Duke of Buckingham, who attacked the island unsuccessfully in 1627. To the east of the harbour, you can walk along the almost perfectly preserved **fortifications** – redesigned by Vauban in the late seventeenth century after Buckingham's attentions – to the Citadel, long used as a prison. From 1860 until 1938, it served as departure point for the *bagnards* – prisoners sentenced to hard labour in the penal colonies of French Guiana and New Caledonia. Most were headed for swift death and oblivion; one who wasn't was Henri Charrière, aka "Papillon", who floated away from Devil's Island on a sack of coconuts after nine escape attempts and 13 years in the colonies, and went on to write a bestseller about it.

Pages in section 'Ile de Re': [Practicalities](#).

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