

## Application for a Maritime Usage Licence under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021

### Important Information

Before completing this form please read the declaration and consent at the end of the application form

It is important to note that a change in applicant name will require a new application.

This application and supporting documentation should be submitted by email to [licence@mara.gov.ie](mailto:licence@mara.gov.ie)

Please complete the form electronically. Type details in the boxes provided, space will expand as you type. Please complete form to a high level, i.e. give comprehensive answers to questions, answers which only reference supporting documentation are not sufficient.

#### Maritime Usage Licence:

Part 5 (sections 110 to 133) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA) provides for the granting of maritime usage licences.

Section 112 of the Act states that the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA) is the competent authority for the purposes of Part 5 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) regulations 2011 (S.I No. 477 of 2011) and appropriate assessments to which that Part applies.

Section 114 of the Act states that the Minister may by regulations provide for class of Schedule 7 usage to be exempted usage for the purposes of this Part.

[Schedule 7](#) of the Act lists the Maritime Usages that may be undertaken in the maritime area pursuant to licence.

[Schedule 8](#) of the Act lists the types of conditions that MARA may attach to a licence.

#### Privacy Policy:

MARA may require you to provide certain personal data in order to carry out our legislative and administrative functions. MARA will treat all personal data that you provide as confidential and will process your details in accordance with its obligations under data protection legislation, including the Data Protection Act 2018 and the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

A Privacy Statement explaining how MARA, as the Data Controller, will process the personal data you provide, how that information will be used and what rights you may exercise in relation to your personal data, is available in this link: [Privacy Statement](#).

#### Freedom of Information (FOI)/ Access to Information on the Environment (AIE)

Applicants should be aware that under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018, information provided by them to MARA may be liable to be disclosed.

Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in their application should not be disclosed and clearly identify the specific sections of their application containing such information, specifying the reasons for its confidentiality/sensitivity. MARA will consult with applicants about this information before making a decision on any Freedom of Information/Access to Information on the Environment request received.

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Drinagh Business Park,  
Drinagh,  
Wexford,  
Y35RF29

[www.maritimeregulator.ie](http://www.maritimeregulator.ie)

## Part 1: Applicant Information

### 1.1 Applicant Details

Name of Applicant (the name that will appear on the licence)	SalvOcean Ltd
Company/Organisation (if applicable)	SalvOcean Ltd
Address/Company Address	First Floor, 85 Great Portland Street, London, United Kingdom
Eircode/Postcode	W1W 7LT
Contact Name within Company/Organisation	██████████
Contact Phone No.	██████████
Contact Email Address	██████████@salvocean.com
Is the company registered in Ireland for tax purposes?	No

### 1.2 Contact Details (if different from above)

Full Name	As Above
Address	As Above
Eircode/Postcode	As Above
Contact Name	As Above
Contact Phone No.	As Above
Contact Email Address	As Above

### 1.3 Agent Representing Applicant (if applicable)

Person/Agency acting on behalf of Applicant	Not Applicable
Address	Not Applicable
Eircode/Postcode	Not Applicable
Contact Name (if applicable)	Not Applicable
Contact Phone No.	Not Applicable
Contact Email address	Not Applicable

## 1.4 Applicant's Legal Advisor

Name/Company Name	DMH Stallard Ltd ( <b>Legal Counsel</b> )
Address	6 New Street Square, New Fetter Lane, London
Eircode/Postcode	EC4A 3BF
Contact Name (if applicable)	██████████
Contact Phone No.	██████████
Contact Email address	██████████@dmhstallard.com

## 1.4 Applicant's Legal Advisor

Name/Company Name	CJC Law Ltd ( <b>Maritime Law</b> )
Address	59 Mansell Street, London
Eircode/Postcode	E1 8AN
Contact Name (if applicable)	██████████
Contact Phone No.	██████████
Contact Email address	██████████@cjclaw.com

<b><u>Part 2: Proposal Details (Attach additional documents as required)</u></b>	
<b>2.1</b>	<b>In relation to this application, have you previously applied for a declaration as to whether or not a licence was required for this usage? If so, please provide the reference number associated with that application.</b>
MUL240050	
<b>2.2</b>	<b>Specify the Maritime Usage(s) being applied for with reference to Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 as amended:</b>
2. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of scientific discovery or research.	
<b>2.3</b>	<b>Description of proposed Maritime Usage.</b>
Non-intrusive survey operations consisting of side-scan survey, multi-beam echo sounder survey (MBES) and visual survey inspection by ROV of two shipwreck sites. Wreck site target name NA/C7-D (MV <i>Accra</i> ) is outside the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the Republic of Ireland, but within the boundaries of the continental Shelf. The second wreck site, target name NA/C1-E (SS <i>City of Simla</i> ) is within the boundaries of the EEZ. Both of the wreck sites are deemed to be outside the 12-mile territorial and 24-mile contiguous zones.	
<b>2.4</b>	<b>Describe the nature and scale of any structure to be erected in the maritime area.</b>
No structures will be erected in the maritime area.	
<b>2.5</b>	<b>Proposed licence duration and reasons for proposed duration.</b>
Three years from licence issue. To allow planning for survey operations with regard to charter and availability of an appropriate survey vessel, survey team and at a time of year when weather and sea conditions are acceptable.	
<b>2.6</b>	<b>Indicative timing of the works/activity: (i) Start date (ii) Duration (iii) Any other information relevant to timing.</b>
Survey operations expected to commence Q4 2025., Survey operations for NA/C7-D (MV <i>Accra</i> ) to be circa 20-days, and NA/C1-E (SS <i>City of Simla</i> ) to be circa 14-days.	
<b>2.7</b>	<b>Do the proposed maritime usages provide for public use, commercial use or private use? Provide details.</b>
The proposed non-intrusive investigations will provide information on both wreck sites which may form the basis of a separate application for cargo recovery operations.	
<b>2.8</b>	<b>Could the proposed works restrict public use/enjoyment of the nearshore e.g. fishing, sailing, surfing, swimming, walking or other activities? Provide details.</b>
No, the MUL licence area is offshore.	
<b>2.9</b>	<b>Please outline any engagements that have taken place with marine users or other stakeholders in the proposed area that may be affected by the proposal and attach supporting documentation where relevant.</b>
None identified	
<b>2.10</b>	<b>Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with other relevant authorities (e.g. Local Authority, Port/Harbour authority etc.) or State Agencies. e.g.</b>

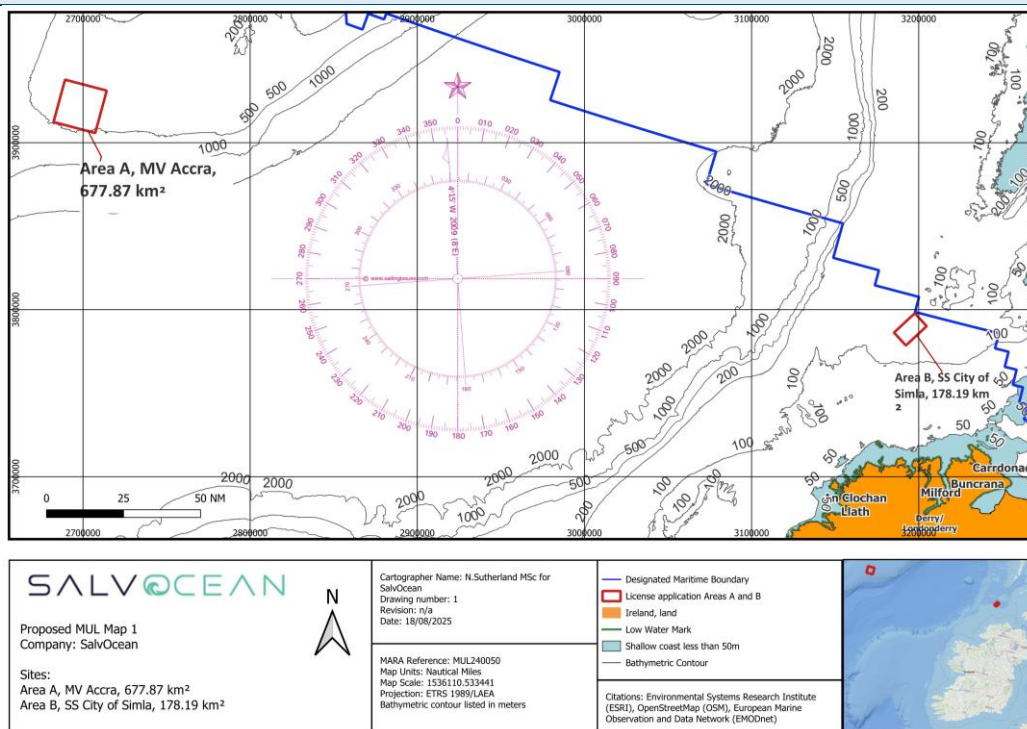
<p><b>National Parks &amp; Wildlife Service, National Monuments Service of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.</b></p>
<p>The Irish Coastguard will be provided with our survey method statements, and an emergency response contingency plan previously accepted by the Irish Coast Guard will be live ahead of operations. SalvOcean have in place a contract with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party emergency response provider 'Briggs Marine Environmental Services'.</p> <p>Consultation with Irish National Monuments Services who have advised that as the shipwrecks reside outside territorial waters, then they have no jurisdiction. However, SalvOcean have agreed to provide INMS with pertinent data acquired from the surveys in order that they can update their records.</p>
<p><b>2.11 Please provide the reference number and title of any existing Foreshore licence you may hold within the footprint, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage area.</b></p>
<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p><b>2.12 Please provide the reference number of any current application for a Foreshore Licence to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Does this application for a foreshore licence relate to or impact any part of the maritime area the subject of this licence application? If so, please provide details of the foreshore licence application.</b></p>
<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p><b>2.13 What environmental reports, if any, have you submitted with this application? (Supporting information for screening for Appropriate Assessment/ Natura Impact Statement/ Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species/ Assessment of Impact on the Maritime Usage Report)</b></p>
<p>We have submitted as attachments the following environmental reports conducted by MERC Consultants, a specialist marine ecological survey and consultancy firm based in Ireland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Assessments of Impacts of the Maritime Usage Report</i></li> <li>• <i>EU Habitats Directive: Annex IV Risk Assessment</i></li> <li>• <i>Natura Impact Statement</i></li> <li>• <i>Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment Report</i></li> </ul>

<p align="center"><b><u>Part 3: Location and Spatial Extent of Proposed Maritime Area</u></b>  <b><u>(Attach additional documents as required)</u></b></p>	
<b>3.1</b>	<b>Location of proposed Maritime Usage</b>
<p>The MV <i>Accra</i> (NA/C7-D) is located at 55.6671577°N -16.4670974°W</p> <p>The SS <i>City of Simla</i> (NA/C1-E) is located at 55.9362568°N -8.1649909°W.</p>	
<b>3.2</b>	<b>Total size of the proposed Maritime Area (in m<sup>2</sup>, ha or km<sup>2</sup>, as appropriate).</b>
<p>The MV <i>Accra</i> (NA/C7-D) search area is 678sqKm.</p> <p>The SS <i>City of Simla</i> (NA/C1-E) search area is 178sqKm.</p>	
<b>3.3</b>	<b>Please provide the distance of the main body of the proposed maritime area from the shore at its closest point in km.</b>
<p>The MV <i>Accra</i> (NA/C7-D) is considered to be most likely positioned approximately 410km northwest of Annagh Head, Co. Mayo.</p> <p>The SS <i>City of Simla</i> (NA/C1-E) is positioned approximately 72km northwest of Malin Head, Co. Donegal.</p>	
<b>3.4</b>	<b>Is any of the maritime area in the proposed site in private ownership? If yes, please provide documentary evidence of same (e.g. folio).</b>
No	
<b>3.5</b>	<b>Any other site details considered relevant:</b>
No	

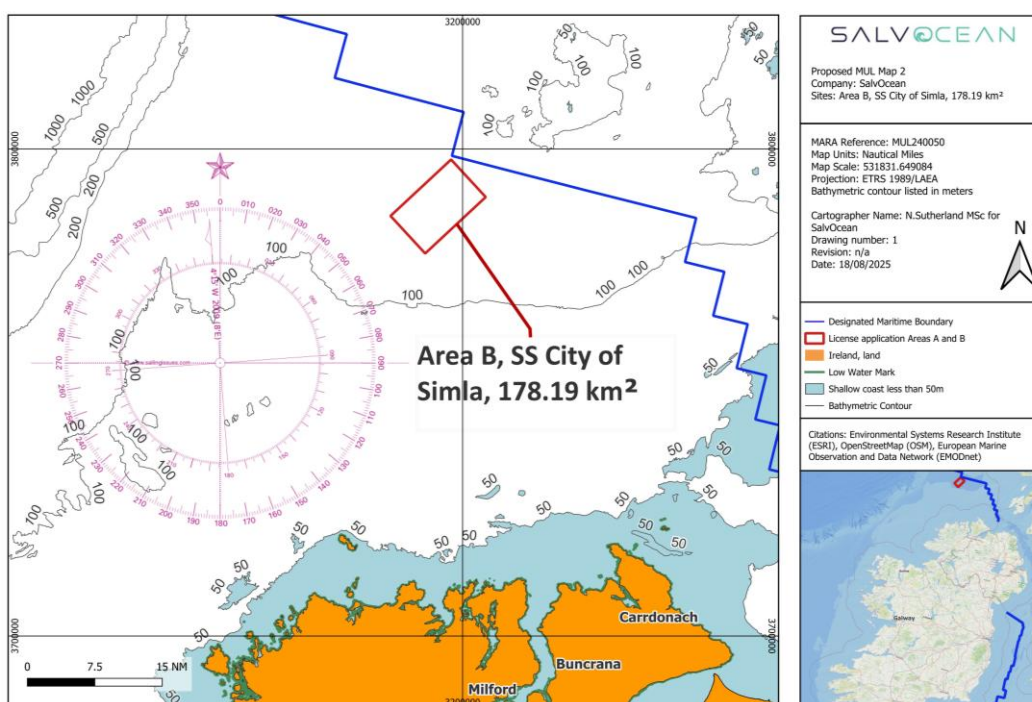
## Part 4: Maps and Drawings.

Please refer to [Technical Guidance](#) on map and drawing requirements.

- 4.1** Please draft a map, titled “Licence Map”, outlining the proposed Maritime Area in accordance with the Technical Guidance for Maritime Area Licence Applications and submit same with this application.



License Map 1\_SalvOcean\_MUL240050 (also submitted as separate PDF file)



License Map 2\_SalvOcean\_MUL240050 (also submitted as separate PDF file)

<b>4.2</b>	<b>Please submit GIS Shapefiles, in accordance with the Applicant Technical Guidance Note and submit same with this application.</b>
Please see attached 'GIS_File_MUL240050.zip'	
<b>4.3</b>	<b>Please list any Admiralty Charts, Maps, GIS Shapefiles and/or other Drawings submitted with this application.</b>
<p>4.3 From Bibliography of <i>AIMU Report</i> (This report is submitted with this application).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biodiversity Data Centre (2025) Maps. <a href="https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map">https://maps.biodiversityireland.ie/Map</a>.</li> <li>Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. National monuments service, wreck viewer. <a href="https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=89e50518e5f4437abfa6284ff39fd640">https://dahg.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=89e50518e5f4437abfa6284ff39fd640</a></li> <li>Integrated Mapping for the Sustainable Development of Ireland's Marine Resource (INFOMAR) 2024. Bathymetry, backscatter, sediment samples and sediment classification layers. <a href="https://www.infomar.ie/maps/interactive-maps/seabed-and-sediment">https://www.infomar.ie/maps/interactive-maps/seabed-and-sediment</a></li> <li>Marine Institute (2022). Ireland's Marine Atlas. <a href="https://atlas.marine.ie/#?c=52.2862:-6.4689:11">https://atlas.marine.ie/#?c=52.2862:-6.4689:11</a>.</li> </ul>	

## Part 5: Fishing/Aquaculture Considerations:

### 5.1 Is the proposal located in proximity to any of the following:

- aquaculture operation
- designated Shellfish Growing Waters
- fish spawning ground
- other sensitive fisheries location

**Please Illustrate on appropriate chart including distance in Km.**

The MV *Accra* site is not within nor adjacent to any spawning and nursery grounds as detailed in the *Assessments of Impacts of the Maritime Usage Report*. (This report is submitted with this application).

The SS *City of Simla* site is in proximity and contained within spawning and nursery grounds detailed in the *Assessments of Impacts of the Maritime Usage Report*. (This report is submitted with this application). However, assessment has deemed that the proposed survey operations will have no impact upon marine habitats.

Page #	Fig #	Map Title	Site Name
26	10	Hake Spawning and Nursery ground	SS <i>City of Simla</i>
27	11	Herring Spawning areas and beds	SS <i>City of Simla</i>
28	12	Horse Mackerel Spawning and Nursery ground	SS <i>City of Simla</i>
30	14	Megrim Spawning and Nursery ground	SS <i>City of Simla</i>
31	15	Nephrops ground	SS <i>City of Simla</i>
32	16	Haddock Spawning and Nursery ground	SS <i>City of Simla</i>

### 5.2 Are there other potential impacts of the proposal on fishing/aquaculture in the area? If yes, please describe.

There are no potential impacts.

### 5.3 Are there any measures proposed to mitigate potential impacts on fisheries or aquaculture? If yes, please describe.

NPWS (2014) provides guidance to manage the risk to marine mammals from man-made sound sources in Irish waters. This document provides guidance and mitigation measures to address key potential sources of anthropogenic sound that may impact negatively on marine mammals in Irish waters. The mitigation methods should follow the guidance prescribed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service. Specifically, in relation to Geophysical acoustic surveys, such as proposed in this project, the guidance set out in NPWS (2014), as stated below and expanded upon in attached document *AIMU\_Report\_SalvOcean\_MUL240050* shall be fully implemented.

A qualified and experienced marine mammal observer (MMO) shall be appointed to monitor for marine mammals and to log all relevant events using standardised data forms (Appendix 6, NPWS, 2014).

#### Pre-Start Monitoring:

- Sound-producing activities shall only commence in daylight hours where effective visual monitoring, as performed and determined by the MMO, has been achieved. Where effective visual monitoring, as determined by the MMO, is not possible the sound-producing activities shall be postponed until effective visual monitoring is possible.
- An agreed and clear on-site communication signal must be used between the MMO and the Works Superintendent as to whether the relevant activity may or may not proceed, or resume following a break (see below). It shall only proceed on positive confirmation with the MMO.

- In waters up to 200m deep, the MMO shall conduct pre-start-up constant effort monitoring at least 30 minutes before the sound-producing activity is due to commence. Sound-producing activity shall not commence until at least 30 minutes have elapsed with no marine mammals detected within the Monitored Zone by the MMO.
- This prescribed Pre-Start Monitoring shall subsequently be followed by a Ramp-Up Procedure which should include continued monitoring by the MMO.

## **Ramp-up Procedure:**

- In commencing an acoustic survey operation using the proposed acoustic equipment, the following Ramp-up Procedure (i.e., “soft-start”) must be used, including during any testing of acoustic sources, where the output peak sound pressure level from any source exceeds 170 dB re: 1µPa @1m: (a) Where it is possible according to the operational parameters of the equipment concerned, the device’s acoustic energy output shall commence from a lower energy start-up (i.e., a peak sound pressure level not exceeding 170 dB re: 1µPa @1m) and thereafter be allowed to gradually build up to the necessary maximum output over a period of 20 minutes. (b) This controlled build-up of acoustic energy output shall occur in consistent stages to provide a steady and gradual increase over the ramp-up period. (c) Where the acoustic output measures outlined in steps (a) and (b) are not possible according to the operational parameters of any such equipment, the device shall be switched “on” and “off” in a consistent sequential manner over a period of 20 minutes prior to commencement of the full necessary output.
- In all cases where a Ramp-Up Procedure is employed the delay between the end of ramp-up and the necessary full output must be minimised to prevent unnecessary high-level sound introduction into the environment.
- Once the Ramp-Up Procedure commences, there is no requirement to halt or discontinue the procedure at night-time, nor if weather or visibility conditions deteriorate nor if marine mammals occur within a 500m radial distance of the sound source, i.e., within the Monitored Zone.

## **Line Changes:**

- Where the duration of a survey line or station change will be greater than 40 minutes the activity shall, on completion of the line/station being surveyed, either (a) shut down and undertake full Pre-Start Monitoring, followed by a Ramp-Up Procedure for recommencement, or (b) undergo a major reduction in seismic energy output to a lower energy state<sup>1</sup> where the output peak sound pressure level from any operating source is 165-170 dB re: 1µPa @1m, and then undertake a full Ramp-Up Procedure for recommencement.
- Where the duration of a survey line or station change will be less than 40 minutes the activity may continue as normal (i.e., under full seismic output)

## **Breaks in sound output:**

- If there is a break in sound output for a period greater than 30 minutes (e.g., due to equipment failure, shut-down, survey line or station changes) then all Pre-Start Monitoring and a subsequent Ramp-up Procedure (where appropriate following Pre-Start Monitoring) must be undertaken.
- For higher output survey operations which have the potential to produce injurious levels of underwater sound (see sections 2.4, 3.2) as informed by the associated risk assessment, there is likely to be a regulatory requirement to adopt a shorter 5–10-minute break limit after which period all Pre-Start Monitoring and a subsequent Ramp-up Procedure (where appropriate following Pre-Start Monitoring) shall recommence as for start-up.

**Reporting:**

- Full reporting on MMO operations and mitigation undertaken will be provided to the Regulatory Authority as outlined in Appendix 6 of NPWS (2014).

## Declaration and Consent:


The details provided here are correct to the best of my knowledge.

I understand that no works will be commenced, by the applicant or the applicant's agents on the proposed site, without a valid licence from MARA. The granting of any Maritime Usage Licence will not give rise on the part of the applicant to any expectation whatsoever for, right or entitlement to a grant of any future licence in respect of all or any part of any area of the Maritime Area.


By submitting this application form, the applicant agrees that the details provided (with personal contact details redacted) are to be published on MARA's website and also that the full information provided including contact details are to be processed and retained by MARA and shared with all relevant public authorities in furtherance of consideration for a Maritime Usage Licence under the MAPA.

I give consent to MARA and its agents to copy this application and to make (a redacted) copy available for inspection and copying by the public. This consent relates to this application, to supporting documentation submitted with the application, to any further information, or submission provided by the applicant or on the applicant's behalf, including any supplementary material submitted in response to a notice to determine notice in respect of this licence application, and to the publication of the licence document.

## Signed for and on behalf of the applicant:



## Name of Signatory (block letters):



## Position Held:

Marine Operations Director (UK & North Atlantic)

## Date:

19<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Applicant Checklist	
Document	Included
Application Form (Parts 2 to 5 inclusive)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA) Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Natura Impact Statement (NIS), if initially included	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Assessment of Impact of the Maritime Usage (AIMU) Report	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Schedule of Works	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Licence Mapping (including GIS Shapefiles)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please list below)	

Other
Schedule of Works included at section 4 of the SISAA Report