

Bord Iascaigh Mhara Observations - Inshore fishing and Aquaculture

Reference no:

MUL230024

Title of Application

MUL230024- Deep Sea Fibre Networks Ltd.

Applicant Details

Deep Sea Fibre Networks Ltd.
15 The Seapoint Building, Clontarf, Dublin 3

Location of Activity

South West of Ireland

County

Galway

Proposed Activity

Marine Survey and Site Investigations for a cable route for the PISCES subsea telecoms cable system from a landfall at Ballyloughane County Galway traversing the Irish Maritime Area to the south west of Ireland.

Inshore Fishing Activity in the Proposed Location

Potting fisheries is predominantly the fishing that occurs in Galway bay and south along the Co Clare Coast. Different types of pots are used. There can be up to 25 pots on a string with an anchor and buoy/marker at each end. Below are the species and time of year fishing occurs.

Shrimp (*Palaemon serratus*) season is from the 1st August until the 1st March. During this time there is a height of activity in this fishery from Ballyloughan Strand to Black Head, see Site Layout Map 2 (1317-A-102)

Lobster (*Homarus gammarus*), brown crab (*Cancer pagurus*) and velvet crab (*Necora puber*), are a yearlong fishery. April until December is predominately more active months. This fishing activity occur in the proposed survey route indicated on Site Layout 2 (1317-A-102) & Site Layout 3 (1317-A-103)

The home ports of vessels that access these fishing grounds are:

1. Ros a' Mhíl, Co Galway
2. Barna, Co Galway
3. Galway Port
4. Rinville, Oranmore
5. Ballyvaughan, Co Clare
6. New Quay, Co Clare
7. Liscannor, Co Clare
8. Inis Oírr

Aquaculture activity:

There is minimal impact on aquaculture or the native oyster fisheries orders in Galway Bay area. AquaMis was consulted for location and overlap of licenced aquaculture sites and the areas proposed in the MUL: <https://dafm-maps.marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/>