

Request for observations MUL230036 application from SEATEC.

Proposed activity:

SEATEC to undertake the salvage operation of the cargo of the SS Ohio, a World War I era steamship located 142 NM from the Irish territorial waters at a depth of 330 meters in the North Atlantic Ocean. The objective is to retrieve non-ferrous metals from the wreck site while ensuring minimal environmental impact.

BIM Comment:

The MI marine atlas <https://atlas.marine.ie/#?c=53.9108;-15.8862;6> indicate the proposed activity is near the Porcupine Nephrops grounds and is within Blue Whiting nursery/spawning grounds. BIM have no concerns regarding this activity on Fisheries and Aquaculture.

BIM acknowledge in the attached AIMU report (LIC230036) that “*communication with local fishing communities is crucial to ensure that their activities are not adversely affected. Regular updates and consultations with these communities will be maintained throughout the project.*” Therefore, BIM encourage timely notification to notify fishers, through direct contact using the Irish Fleet Register [Sea-Fishing Boat Licence Applications, Forms and Conditions](#) should be taken. Additional, usual channels of communication, such as Marine Notices, the Producer Organisations and local media including Marine Times where possible covering the impacted area.