

Request for observations on MUL240002 - Oilean Glas Teoranta (OGT) is applying for a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) for the hand harvesting of seaweed *Ascophyllum nodosum* from the intertidal shoreline of the following three bays in Co. Donegal: Dungloe Bay, Mulroy Bay, Trawbreaga Bay

BIM comments:

BIM promote sustainable management of environmental resources and the use of best practice. The proposed hand harvesting seaweed activity would need to demonstrate that it is compatible with existing active licenced aquaculture and inshore fisheries activities within the application area. Any potential overlap would need to consider in-combination and cumulative effects. Although BIM has no remit in the hand harvesting of seaweed some of our clients and their communities have strong hand harvesting traditions/rights and the proposed activity would need to be consistent with existing activity. Demonstrating compliance with sustainable management and best practice is considered important.

Early and continuous communication should be made with stakeholders in the proposed mapped areas to avoid any conflicts arising with fishermen and aquaculture operators in the areas regarding proposed activities.

Communication can be made by direct contact using the Irish Fleet Register.

https://assets.gov.ie/static/documents/09fe3ad4/Register_Report_19122025.xlsx

All licenced aquaculture operators can be viewed on the DAFM aquaculture viewer <https://dafm-maps.marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/>.

BIM are happy to assist with further points of contact if required.