



**Iascach Intíre Éireann  
Inland Fisheries Ireland**

**MARINE LICENCE VETTING COMMITTEE:**

**MUL250020 Request for observations from Ms. Paula O'Toole (MARA) dated  
08.12.2025**

**Overview:**

- Kilrush Maritime Ltd request a licence to undertake maintenance dredging of the approach channel to Kilrush marina.
- A multicat type tug towing a 8m wide plough blade will be used
- The area is 0.5ha
- Operation will be 1 campaign every 2 years over 8 year period with an additional campaign in the final year (2026, 2028, 2030, 2032 and 2033).
- Dredging will commence between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> September and will last between 5 and 10 days. Work will be associated with the period around high tide.

**IFI Comment**

IFI limerick should be informed in advance of when dredging campaigns will commence. The mitigation measures outlined in the NIS should be a condition of the foreshore licence.

The European Eel Regulation (EC No 1100/2007) is not considered in any of the supporting document as a relevant species potentially impacted by these dredging works. The European Eel is a critically endangered species and should be considered within this process. The stated close period will protect the glass eel and silver eel migration period however the elver and yellow eel lifestage will be impacted by the works outlined above.

To reduce impact on fish species the use of soft-start and ramp-up procedures for any sound-generating works undertaken – both on a day-to-day basis and on re-start after any stoppages within any day should be undertaken. This measure should be a condition of the foreshore licence. The comments of IFI in this regard relate to fish species of conservation significance and of leisure angling significance all of which constitute part of IFI's brief.

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19.12.2025