

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

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.

MARA
2nd Floor, Menapia House,
Drinagh Business Park,
Drinagh,
Wexford,
Y35RF29

www.maritimeregulator.ie

Part 1: Applicant Information	
1.1 Applicant Details	
Name of Applicant (the name that will appear on the licence)	Arramara Teoranta
Company/Organisation (if applicable)	
Address/Company Address	Cill Chiaráin, Conamara, Co na Gaillimhe
Eircode/Postcode	H91HD86
Contact Name within Company/Organisation	Jim Keogh
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email Address	
Is the company registered in Ireland for tax purposes?	Yes

1.2 Contact Details (if different from above)	
Full Name	
Address	
Eircode/Postcode	
Contact Name	
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email Address	

1.3 Agent Representing Applicant (if applicable)	
Person/Agency acting on behalf of Applicant	
Address	
Eircode/Postcode	
Contact Name (if applicable)	
Contact Phone No.	
Contact Email address	

1.4 Applicant's Legal Advisor (if applicable)

Name/Company Name	Mc Sweeney and Company Solicitors
Address	22 Eyre Square, Galway
Eircode/Postcode	H91 XP3Y
Contact Name (if applicable)	Shane Mc Sweeney, Managing Partner
Contact Phone No.	██████████
Contact Email address	██

<u>Part 2: Proposal Details (Attach additional documents as required)</u>	
2.1	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.
	No
2.2	Specify the Maritime Usage(s) being applied for with reference to Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 as amended:
	The harvesting of seaweed.
2.3	Description of proposed Maritime Usage.
	The proposed Maritime Usage is to harvest <i>Ascophyllum Nodosum</i> and <i>Fucus vesiculosus</i> from the intertidal foreshore in sustainable quantities taking into account the extensive research work undertaken by Arramara Teo over the last ten years.
2.4	Describe the nature and scale of any structure to be erected in the maritime area.
	None
2.5	Proposed licence duration and reasons for proposed duration.
	Ten Years. To allow for proper stewardship and monitoring of the resource over a cycle that would include three harvests based on a traditional hand cutting pattern.
2.6	Indicative timing of the works/activity: (i) Start date (ii) Duration (iii) Any other information relevant to timing.
	The activity would commence on the start date of the licence and would be continuous over the ten-year period allowing for sustainable management of the crop that provides for regrowth after harvesting.
2.7	Do the proposed maritime usages provide for public use, commercial use or private use? Provide details.
	The maritime usage of wild harvesting of seaweed as provided for in Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 as amended involves commercial use. The relevant species is harvested as described and brought to a landing site where it is loaded on a truck and transported to the factory premises at Cill Chiaráin where it is processed into finished products for sale as Animal feed, Soil Enhancement Products and Biostimulants.
2.8	Could the proposed works restrict public use/enjoyment of the nearshore e.g. fishing, sailing, surfing, swimming, walking or other activities? Provide details.
	No. Seaweed harvesting has been undertaken for centuries and because the activity takes place in the intertidal area with a rocky substrate, it does not have an impact on the public use /enjoyment of the nearshore for the activities listed.
2.9	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.
	None to report.

2.10 Describe briefly any consultations undertaken with other relevant authorities (e.g. Local Authority, Port/Harbour authority etc.) or State Agencies. e.g. National Parks & Wildlife Service, National Monuments Service of Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.
Arramara Teo has engaged with National Parks and Wildlife Service and with Foras na Mara (Marine Institute). The engagements have been in the form of a knowledge exchange whereby the Science Resource Teams of Arramara Teo and Acadian Seaplants Ltd have presented to the relevant personnel in the agencies on the resource management strategies developed and implemented over the years.
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.
Reference Number FS003956 Title: Eight Roads in Connemara; RosMuc, Ros a Mhíl, An Cheathrú Rua, Leitir Mór, Garumna, Leitir Mealáin, Dún Manus Reference Number FS003958 Title Eight Slipways in Connemara
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.
FS006108 was published on gov.ie by the Department of Climate, Energy and Environment. This application was originally submitted to the Department Environment, Community and Local Government on 19/3/2014 but did not proceed to publication or public consultation because the Department suspended the licence application process in April 2015 pending consultation with the Attorney General on the status of seaweed appurtenant rights and other possible rights that would impact on the licencing process.
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)
Supporting information for screening for Appropriate Assessment/ Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species/ Assessment of Impact on the Maritime Usage Report are included.

<u>Part 3: Location and Spatial Extent of Proposed Maritime Area</u> <u>(Attach additional documents as required)</u>	
3.1	Location of proposed Maritime Usage
Intertidal zone of Cashla Bay, County Galway	
3.2	Total size of the proposed Maritime Area (in m², ha or km², as appropriate).
195 ha	
3.3	Please provide the distance of the main body of the proposed maritime area from the shore at its closest point in km.
0 km	
3.4	Is any of the maritime area in the proposed site in private ownership? If yes please provide documentary evidence of same (e.g. folio).
No.	
3.5	Any other site details considered relevant:
NA	

Part 4: Maps and Drawings.

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

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| 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. |
| 4.2 | Please submit GIS Shapefiles, in accordance with the Applicant Technical Guidance Note and submit same with this application. |
| 4.3 | Please list any Admiralty Charts, Maps, GIS Shapefiles and/or other Drawings submitted with this application. |

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. Yes. Details of each have been illustrated in accompany AIMU – Cashla Bay report.
5.2	Are there other potential impacts of the proposal on fishing/aquaculture in the area? If yes, please describe. Given the limited spatial and temporal extent of Arramara Teo's harvesting activities, any impact on fisheries or aquaculture installations is expected to be minor and short-term. Consequently, no significant adverse effects on local fisheries or aquaculture operations are anticipated.
5.3	Are there any measures proposed to mitigate potential impacts on fisheries or aquaculture? If yes, please describe. To minimise any potential disturbance, a buffer zone of 200 m is established around all aquaculture installations. This measure ensures a precautionary approach to safeguarding water quality and operational space for aquaculture.

Declaration and Consent:

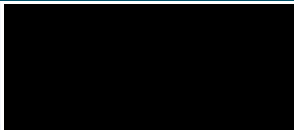
The details provided here are correct to the best of my knowledge.

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:

	
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Name of Signatory (block letters):

Jim Keogh

Position Held:

Director

Date:

October 24, 2025

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

Other