

MARA

An tÚdarás Rialála Limistéir Mhuirí
Maritime Area Regulatory Authority

Maritime Usage Licence (MUL)

General Application (Form MUL1)





Important information:

Applicants are strongly advised to read the "[Guidance Note for Applicants applying for a Maritime Usage Licence](#)" before completing this application.

The application form and supporting documentation, including confirmation of payment of fee, must be submitted to licence@mara.gov.ie.

Complete this form electronically using the free text and tick boxes provided, free text boxes will expand as required. Responses should, in so far as is possible, clearly and concisely address the information requested. Where appropriate, supporting documentation may be submitted for assessment, providing that any information relevant to the application is clearly referenced in the application form.

Before completing this form, the declaration and consent at the end of the application form should be read.

Application Fee:

An application fee of EUR €2,000 applies for each Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) application.

This requirement is detailed in legislation:

Section 117(1) of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 and Maritime Area Usage (Licence Fees) Regulations 2023, SI No 402/2003.

The application fee must be paid by Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) to the Maritime Area Regulatory Authority (MARA). MARA Bank Details are provided upon request by email to licence@mara.gov.ie

Proof of application fee payment /confirmation of funds transfer must be provided with the application documentation.

Should the Maritime Usage Licensing application screen out for Appropriate Assessment, a refund of EUR €1,000 applies.

Privacy Policy

MARA may require applicants to provide certain personal data in order to carry out its legislative and administrative functions. MARA will treat all personal data that an applicant provides in accordance with MARA's 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 the applicant provides, how that information will be used and what rights the applicant may exercise in relation to its personal data, is available in this link: [Privacy Policy - MARA - The Maritime Regulator](#).

Freedom of Information/Access to Information on the Environment

MARA is a public body for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, as amended (the "FOI Act") and is also subject to the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007-2018 (the "AIE Regulations") and MARA may be required to disclose information and records provided by the applicant in response to a request made under the FOI Act and/or the AIE Regulations, subject to applicable exemptions. Where the applicant considers that any information supplied to MARA is commercially sensitive, confidential or otherwise exempt from disclosure under the FOI Act or the AIE Regulations, the applicant must clearly identify such information at the time. Notwithstanding this, the final decision on disclosure rests with MARA, in accordance with the applicable legislation. The applicant must, upon reasonable request and within a reasonable timeframe, provide all necessary assistance and cooperation to MARA in connection with any request for information made under the FOI Act and/or AIE Regulations.

Confidential/Commercially Sensitive Information

Applicants are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in their application to MARA is commercially sensitive and/or confidential. The applicant should clearly identify and separate the specific sections of their application containing such information. The applicant should specify the reasons for its confidentiality/sensitivity with regard to the FOI Act and/or AIE Regulations.



Form MUL1 – Application for a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) for an activity listed in Schedule 7 of the MAP Act

Part 1 Activity in Schedule 7 and relevant section of the MAP Act

1.1 Part 1 Activity in Schedule 7, for which this MUL application is made.

Tick Maritime Usage applicable to the purpose of the MUL. The Applicant should refer to the MUL Guidance Note for Applicants before completing this section.	
1. Dredging (including dredging involving the use of a device to remove any material, whether or not suspended in water, from one part of the seabed to another part of the seabed) other than— (a) dredging carried out to create a new harbour, berth or waterway, or to deepen existing facilities in order to allow access for larger ships, or (b) dredging ancillary to development authorised under the Act of 2000, whether or not it involves the removal of any material from the sea or seabed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of scientific discovery or research.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. The installation or placement of navigational markers or aids to navigation, or both, not undertaken or authorised by the Commissioners of Irish Lights.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The installation of non-permanent platforms, pontoons or slipways.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The deposit of any substance or object, either in the sea or on or under the seabed, from— (a) a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft or marine structure (other than a pipeline), (b) a container floating in the sea, or (c) a structure on land constructed or adapted wholly or mainly for the purpose of depositing solids in the sea.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The use of a vehicle, vessel (including a craft capable of travelling on, in or under water, whether or not self-propelled), boat, aircraft, marine structure (other than a pipeline) or floating container to remove any substance or object from the seabed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. The use of explosives not related to development authorised under the Act of 2000 and not requiring authorisation under any other enactment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. The maintenance of any cable, pipeline, oil, gas or carbon storage facility structure that does not require an authorisation (whether the authorisation takes the form of the grant of a licence, consent, approval or any other type of authorisation) under any other enactment in order to be undertaken.	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. The harvesting, disturbance or removal of seaweed, whether growing or rooted on the seabed, or deposited in or washed up thereon by the action of any one or more than one of the following: (a) tides; (b) winds; (c) waves.	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. The deposit, construction or removal of any mooring not requiring authorisation under any other enactment.	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. (a) The removal of beach material from, or the disturbance of beach material in, the maritime area otherwise than in the course of the ordinary or reasonable recreational enjoyment of the maritime area. 12 (b) In this paragraph, "beach material" means sand, clay, gravel, shingle, stones, rocks, mineral substances, seashells, coral and maerl and any flora, in or on the surface of the seabed or suspended in the water of the maritime area, and includes outcrops of rock or any other mineral substance above the surface of the seabed.	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. The laying or installation of telecommunications cables or ducting by or between coastal States where such cables or ducting pass through the exclusive economic zone (as construed in accordance with the Act of 2021) or the continental shelf but do not land in the State.	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. A maritime usage specified, for the purposes of this paragraph, in regulations made under section 113(2)."	<input type="checkbox"/>



Select activity type from the list below:

Dredging/Deposits	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/>
ORE Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ports	<input type="checkbox"/>
Research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Seaweed	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Infrastructure (Water/Sewage)	<input type="checkbox"/>
State Infrastructure (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Telecoms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism & Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

1.2 Select the relevant section(s) of the MAP Act under which this MUL application is made. If more than one section applies, then select all applicable sections.

Section 117 application for a new Schedule 7 usage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Section 129 application to amend an existing foreshore authorisation or continue to occupy that part of the maritime area after the expiration of the authorisation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 130 application for an existing unauthorised maritime usage	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.3 Provide below details when MUL application is made under Section 129 of the MAP Act.

A. Confirm that you are transitioning from an existing foreshore authorisation to a MUL to continue the previously consented maritime usage, or to amend an existing authorisation.

Yes No

B. If yes, provide the following details.

i. Foreshore authorisation reference number.

not applicable

ii. Date of Issue.

not applicable

iii. Expiration date.

not applicable

iv. Description of Authorised Usage.



not applicable

- v. Reason for transition from foreshore authorisation to MUL.

not applicable

- vi. Confirm that you have attached a copy of the existing foreshore authorisation including foreshore consent map in this MUL application as Attachment 1.3.

Yes No

1.4 Provide below details when MUL application is made under Section 130 of the MAP Act.

- A. Confirm that you are applying for a MUL for an existing unauthorised maritime usage.

Yes No

- B. If yes, provide the following details.

- i. Description of existing unauthorised maritime usage.

not applicable

- ii. Location of unauthorised maritime usage.

not applicable

- iii. Date of commencement of unauthorised maritime usage.

not applicable



Part 2 Applicant Details

2.1 Applicant Details

The name and address should be of the legal or natural person that is to be the MUL Holder. This information would be recorded on the MUL.	
Name of Applicant	Wexford County Council
Company/Organisation (if Applicable)	Wexford County Council
Applicant Address: Where a legal person would be the Holder of the MUL, these details must be as currently listed in the Companies Registration Office. Where a non-profit entity, which is a registered charity, would be the Holder of the MUL, these details must be as currently listed in the Register of Charitable Organisations.	
Address line 1	County Hall
Address line 2	Carricklawn
Address line 3	
City/Town	Wexford
Eircode	Y35 WY93
Applicant Email Address	specialprojects@wexfordcoco.ie
If the Applicant is a legal person, Company Registration Office Number. A copy of the Certificate of Incorporation (certified copy provided by CRO) and a list of Directors must be provided as Attachment 2.1.	not applicable
If the Applicant is a non-profit entity, which is a registered charity, the Registered Charity Number	not applicable

Attachment 2.1 included (if required).

Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

2.2 Authorised Contact Person for MUL Application.

The Authorised Contact Person for the MUL Application will be the person that MARA will contact in relation to any aspect of the MUL application. The Authorised Contact Person can be a person within the Applicant Organisation or a person (agent) nominated by the Applicant	
Authorised Contact Name	Laura Lynch
Authorised Contact Position	Senior Environmental Scientist, Roughan and O'Donovan



Email	Laura.Lynch@rod.ie
Telephone	01 294 0800

2.3 If MARA provided a statutory declaration under Section 115 of the MAP Act as to whether or not a MUL was required for the proposed usage, provide the reference number associated with that declaration.

not applicable

2.4 Existing Foreshore Authorisation

A. Provide the reference number and title of any existing Foreshore Authorisations you may hold, or have a current application for, within, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage, which you do not wish to transition (refer to 1.3 for Foreshore Authorisations you wish to transition).

not applicable

B. Do you intend to surrender any existing foreshore consent(s) (Lease/Licence) for any maritime usage other than that granted by the foreshore authorisation?

Yes No

C. If yes, provide description of the existing foreshore consent(s) authorised usage. If necessary, provide additional information as Attachment 2.4.

not applicable

D. Attachment 2.4 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

2.5 Other authorisations or consents

A. Provide the reference number, a brief description and the status (e.g. application made or authorisation/consent granted) of any other authorisations or consents in the footprint, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage area, held by the applicant.

If necessary, provide additional information as Attachment 2.5.

Wexford County Council do not hold any other authorisations or consents in the footprint, or otherwise in the vicinity of the proposed Maritime Usage area

B. Attachment 2.5 included.

Yes No Not Applicable



Part 3 Details of Maritime Usage

3.1 Maritime Usage

- A. Provide a brief description of proposed Maritime Usage.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 3.1.

It is proposed to carry out environmental surveys and ground investigation works within the River Slaney adjacent to the Irish National Heritage Park, Ferrycarrig, Wexford ('the proposed works' herein). The proposed works are located to the west of the N11 and Ferrycarrig Bridge.

The proposed works are required to inform the design, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of works associated with the proposed Irish National Heritage Park (INHP) Viking Village "Vykingar" Project which will be subject to a separate maritime area consent application.

The scope of the proposed works includes:

1. The deployment of two acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP) Flow Meters to measure tidal flow, speed and direction within the channel.
2. Sediments samples to be obtained at 5 no. indicative locations within the River Slaney to determine the sediment particle sizes present and benthic sediment quality.
3. Ground investigation works including 5 no. boreholes in the River Slaney in the form of cable percussion boreholes followed by rotary core drilling, 1 land based borehole as well as geophysical (non-intrusive) surveys comprising High Multi-Beam Echo Sounder survey, Side Scan Survey and Sub-Bottom Profiling techniques.

Refer to Attachment 3.1 for further detail.

- B. Attachment 3.1 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

- 3.2 Describe the purpose of the proposed Maritime Usage, with reference to the classes of usage in Schedule 7 of the MAP Act.

As identified above, the proposed site investigation works are required to inform the design, Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) of proposed development works associated with the Irish National Heritage Park (INHP). The proposed development will be subject to a separate maritime area consent application and subsequent development consent approval.

Therefore, the purpose of the proposed Maritime Usage is in accordance with Class 3 of Schedule 7 of the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAP Act) which states "*Marine environmental surveys for the purposes of site investigation or in support of an application under Part XXI of the Act of 2000*", where reference to the "Act of 2000" means the Planning and Development Act 2000.



3.3 Duration

- A. Indicate the overall MUL duration requested. Indicate the duration of any individual activities included in the overall activity. Give reasons for the proposed durations. Indicate any seasonal, vessel or other schedule constraints.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 3.3.

Although each individual activity may be completed in a short timeframe (i.e. within a matter of weeks or months as summarised below), the overall MUL duration requested in this application is 1 year to allow for flexibility and uncertainties around weather, contractors and equipment availability, unforeseen equipment failure, etc. The commencement date is dependent on the determination of the license.

The likely duration of the various activities is included in Attachment 3.1 and summarised below:

ADCPs: 1 full tidal cycle (approx. 30 days)

Sediment Samples: 1 day

Geotechnical Investigations: Each borehole may take approximately 3 no. days to complete (5 boreholes proposed in maritime area).

- B. Attachment 3.3 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

3.4 Describe the area of proposed Maritime Usage

- A. State the total size of the Maritime Area (in m², ha or km², as appropriate), which is the subject of the application.

2.45ha

- B. Attach map, titled 'Proposed MUL Map' and GIS Shapefiles outlining the proposed Maritime Area(s). If the application relates to more than one area, each area should be labelled on the accompanying maps/drawings and its area provided. The map(s)/drawing(s) should be included as Attachment 3.4. List the attached map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) in the space below.

Map(s)/GIS Shapefiles must comply with 'MARA Technical Mapping Guidance Notes for MAC/MUL Applications in the Maritime Area under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA)'.

Attachment 3.4 Proposed MUL Map (drawing no. INHP-ROD-ENV-DR-EN-200001)
GIS_File_MUL260005.zip

- C. Attachment 3.4 included.

Yes No



3.5 Describe the location of proposed Maritime Usage

- A. Provide the distance in kilometres and direction of the main body of the proposed Maritime Usage area from the shore at its closest point.

The proposed MUL area is located along the southern shore of the River Slaney in the townland of Ferrycarrig in County Wexford. The proposed MUL area is located adjacent to the existing Irish National Heritage Park and abuts the land at the high water mark (HWM), therefore the distance from the shore is 0km at its closest point.

- B. Attach map(s)/drawing(s) showing the location of the proposed Maritime Usage. The attached map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) should also be listed in the space below. The map(s)/drawing(s) should be included as Attachment 3.5.

Map(s)/GIS Shapefiles must comply with 'MARA Technical Mapping Guidance Notes for MAC/MUL Applications in the Maritime Area under the Maritime Area Planning Act 2021 (MAPA)'.

Attachment 3.5 Proposed MUL Location (drawing no. INHP-ROD-ENV-DR-EN-200003)

- C. Attachment 3.5 included.

Yes No

3.6 Ownership

- A. Is any part of the Maritime Area within the proposed site in private ownership?

Yes No

- B. If yes, indicate on a drawing/map the area concerned in relation to the proposed maritime usage area and provide a letter confirming that the Applicant has obtained all necessary consents from the relevant owner(s).

- C. Is the Applicant aware of any actual or claimed legal rights or interests held by third parties in the proposed site that may be affected by the proposed Maritime Activity?

Yes No

- D. If yes, indicate on a drawing/map the area concerned in relation to the proposed maritime usage area and provide a letter confirming that the Applicant has obtained all necessary consents from the relevant owner(s) of such legal rights or interests.

- E. The letter(s) and drawing(s)/map(s) referred to in B and D above should be included as Attachment 3.6. List the attached letters, map/drawing number(s) and map/drawing name(s) in the space below.

not applicable



F. Attachment 3.6 included.

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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3.7 Planning permission and/or other authorisation(s)

A. Does the proposed Usage require planning permission and/or other authorisation(s), or is it ancillary to or part of to a proposed development which requires planning permission and/or other authorisation(s)?

Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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B. If yes, what is the status of the planning and/or other authorisation(s)? If applicable, provide a brief description of the proposed development, to which the proposed Maritime Usage is ancillary.

Provide the file reference number(s) and link(s) to the websites where information on the planning and/or other authorisation application(s) and/or planning permission/ authorisation(s) can be obtained.

<p>The proposed works subject to this maritime usage licence do not require planning permission. However, the works are required in support of a proposed future development at the Irish National Heritage Park which will require planning permission, to be progressed at a later date. The proposed development will be the subject of a future Maritime Area Consent (MAC) application which will be lodged with MARA and subject to approval prior to submitting an application to An Coimisiún Pleanála for planning permission. A pre-application meeting was held with MARA on the 27th of November in relation to the proposed MAC application (ref: MAC250059).</p>



Part 4 Marine Planning and Environmental Considerations

National Marine Planning Framework (NMPF)

4.1 NMPF Objectives

A. Describe how the proposed Maritime Usage is consistent with the objectives of the NMPF. Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the NMPF. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.1.

B. Attachment 4.1 included.

Yes No

4.2 Designated Marine Area Plan

A. Is the proposed Maritime Usage located in an area for which a Designated Marine Area Plan has been published?

Yes No

B. If yes, indicate if the proposed Usage is consistent with the Designated Marine Area Plan. Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.2.

not applicable

C. Attachment 4.2 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

Habitats and Birds Directives

4.3 Report for Appropriate Assessment Screening

A. Is the proposed Maritime Usage directly connected with or necessary to the management of a European site?

Yes No

B. If not, provide an Appropriate Assessment screening report to provide sufficient information for MARA to undertake screening to determine if an Appropriate Assessment is required of the implications of the proposed Maritime Usage alone, or in combination with other plans or projects, for any relevant European site, in view of the site's conservation objectives.

If the Applicant has already determined that it is likely that an Appropriate Assessment will be required and have prepared an NIS, it may be submitted.



The Appropriate Assessment screening report and/or NIS must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report/NIS.

The Appropriate Assessment screening report and/or NIS should be provided as Attachment 4.3.

Attachment 4.3 included.

Yes No

4.4 Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species

A. Is there potential for Annex IV species to be impacted by the proposed Maritime Usage?

Yes No

B. If yes, the Applicant should provide an assessment of the risk posed to such species by the proposed Maritime Usage, in accordance with national guidance. The Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report must be prepared by a suitably qualified person, and a summary of the person's qualifications and experience must be included in the report.

The Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report should be provided as Attachment 4.4.

Attachment 4.4 included.

Yes No

C. Are you required to apply for a derogation licence under Regulation 54 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended?

Yes No

If yes, provide NPWS application reference number or derogation number:

not applicable

Water Framework Directive

4.5 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the Water Framework Directive. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.5.

Attachment 4.5 included.

Yes No



Marine Strategy Framework Directive

4.6 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and Ireland's Marine Strategy under the Directive. This information should be provided as Attachment 4.6.

Attachment 4.6 included.

Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
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Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Directive

4.7 EIA Screening

A. With reference to Parts 1 and 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended confirm that the activity:

- i. Is not of a class listed, where no quantity, area or other limit is specified in that Part, or
- ii. Does not either equal or exceed, any relevant quantity, area or other limit specified for a class listed in that Part.

Yes – is not of a class/does not equal or exceed a threshold	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No – is of a class/equals or exceeds a threshold	<input type="checkbox"/>

B. If yes, confirm if the activity is of a class listed in Part 2 of Schedule 5 of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended, but does not equal or exceed the relevant quantity.

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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C. If yes to '4.7 B', provide the information for EIA screening specified in Schedule 7A of the Planning and Development Regulations, S.I. 600 of 2001, as amended. The information specified in Schedule 7A should be provided as Attachment 4.7.

Attachment 4.7 included.

Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act

4.8 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the Irish State's obligations under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.8.



The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) adopted in 1982 sets down a series of rules that regulate the entitlement of coastal states to maritime zones, their rights and duties within these zones and how the boundaries of each zone should be established. Ireland ratified the Convention on 21 June 1996 and therefore has binding obligations to manage activities within its maritime area in a manner consistent with the protection and sustainable use of marine resources. These obligations are further incorporated into domestic law through the Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2021, which sets out the spatial limits of Ireland's maritime zones and provides a legal framework for the exercise of State rights and responsibilities within them, including in relation to environmental protection and sustainable development of marine activities.

By complying with the Maritime Usage Licence process under MARA, the proposed works are considered to be of a manner consistent with both the Maritime Jurisdiction Act and UNCLOS, ensuring Ireland meets its obligations to exercise jurisdiction responsibly and sustainably within its maritime area.

Attachment 4.8 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended

4.9 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with achieving the National Climate Objective, as defined in the Climate Action and Low Carbon Act of 2015, as amended.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.9.

The Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015, as amended by the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development (Amendment) Act 2021, establishes the legal framework for Ireland's transition to a climate-resilient economy and society. Central to the legislation is the National Climate Objective, which requires the State to pursue and achieve, by no later than 2050, the transition to a climate-neutral economy. All public bodies and regulatory authorities are required to have regard to this objective when making decisions that may affect greenhouse gas emissions or the resilience of the environment to climate impacts.

While the proposed investigation works will require the use of work vessels with associated fuel consumption, the emissions generated are short-term and minor in scale. All activities will be carried out according to best practice measures for each activity to minimise emissions.

Attachment 4.9 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030

4.10 Provide sufficient information addressing the consistency of the proposed Maritime Usage with the 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023 – 2030.

Additional information can be provided as Attachment 4.10.



The Fourth National Biodiversity Action Plan (NBAP) 2023-2030 sets out Ireland's strategic framework for halting and reversing biodiversity loss while ensuring that the sustainable use of natural resources underpins social and economic well-being. The plan is structured around four overarching objectives: mainstreaming biodiversity into decision making, strengthening knowledge and evidence for action, conserving and restoring biodiversity, and enhancing Ireland's contribution to global biodiversity protection. Any works, including the proposed works subject to this MUL Application, must be considered in the context of these objectives and demonstrate consistency with them.

The proposed works at the Irish National Heritage Park within the River Slaney have been considered alongside the ecological sensitivities of the designated Slaney River Valley Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and the Wexford Harbour and Slobbs Special Protection Area (SPA). A Supporting Information for Screening for Appropriate Assessment (SISAA) report and a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared in relation to the proposed works, ensuring compliance with Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. A risk assessment for Annex IV species has also been carried out. Potential interactions with qualifying habitats and species have been assessed, and where risks were identified, mitigation measures have been incorporated to avoid or minimise adverse effects. This ensures that the proposed works are compatible with the plan's requirement that biodiversity be fully integrated into decision making.

In terms of conserving and restoring biodiversity, the proposed activity is not expected to result in long term habitat loss or degradation, given the minor nature and scale of works and proposed mitigation measures. In this regard, the proposed investigation works are considered to be consistent with the Fourth National Biodiversity Action Plan 2023-2030.

Attachment 4.10 included.

Yes No Not Applicable

National or European Strategic or Policy Objectives

4.11 Provide any additional relevant information with regard to the overall purpose of the proposed maritime usage, with reference to, e.g. National or European strategic or policy objectives and national targets, and strategic research objectives.

Additional information can be included as Attachment 4.11.

Relevant information in relation to strategic or policy objectives have been assessed within this application and supporting attachments. Additional National Policy Objectives relevant to the proposed works are outlined below.

Project Ireland 2040 is the Government's overarching policy for spatial planning and development in Ireland to 2040 incorporating the National Planning Framework (NPF) to 2040, and National Development Plan (NDP) 2021-2030. Project Ireland 2040 was launched in February 2018 and underwent a first revision in April 2025.

The NPF is the Government's high-level strategic plan for shaping the future growth and development of Ireland out to the year 2040. The overarching ambition of the NPF is to "create a single vision, a shared set of goals for every community across the country" by achieving several goals which are expressed in the Framework as ten *National Strategic Outcomes* (NSOs).



The proposed environmental survey and ground investigation works are required in support of proposed future development at the Irish National Heritage Park which if approved will contribute to a number of NSOs, in particular NSO 7 Enhanced Amenity and Heritage.

The proposed works will provide information on the water flow speeds and sediment composition in the River Slaney near the Irish National Heritage Park. The data collected will be used to inform the design of future proposed development. As such, the proposed works are also supported by several National Policy Objectives (NPOs) within the NPF:

- National Policy Objective 52: Ensure that Ireland's coastal resource is managed to sustain its physical character and environmental quality.
- National Policy Objective 53: In line with the collective aims of national policy regarding climate adaptation and the associated legislative provisions, to take account of the effects if sea level changes and coastal erosion in planning and development management and to support the implementation of adaptation responses to limit risks to communities and coastal ecosystems from the impacts of coastal change.
- National Policy Objective 89: Protect, conserve and enhance the rich qualities of natural, cultural and built heritage of Ireland in a manner appropriate to their cultural and environmental significance.

The proposed works will support these and other policy objectives by informing the design of the project to reduce any likely significant impacts on the receiving environment.

The proposed future development of the Irish National Heritage Park is being progressed by Wexford County Council in collaboration with Fáilte Ireland. Delivery of the project is in line with the various Government plans and polices around tourism, and will specifically support Wexford's tourism offering. The proposed works are required in support of the future proposed tourism development and are therefore considered to be consistent with national tourism policy objectives.

Attachment 4.11 included.

Yes No Not Applicable



Declaration and Consent

I declare that all information provided with this application, including this completed form and all attachments confirmed as included in the application checklist, is correct at the time of submission and that I will notify MARA of any changes to this information that may arise during the application process. MARA may, by notice in writing given to the applicant, require the applicant to provide in the specified form, by affidavit or otherwise, such additional information in relation to any matter to which the application relates as MARA reasonably considers necessary to assist it to determine the application.

By submitting this application form, I agree that certain details provided may be published on MARA's website and that the information provided in this form will be processed and retained by MARA and may be shared with bodies appropriate to assessing aspects of this application in furtherance of consideration of the granting of a MUL in accordance with the MAP Act.

This consent relates to this application and to any further information provided by me, or on my behalf, for the purposes of this application.

Name of Signatory:

Seán Meyler

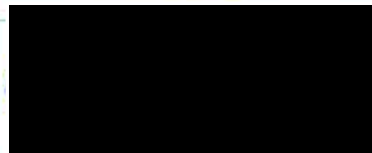
Position held:

Senior Engineer, Wexford County Council

Date:

18th February 2026

Signed for and on behalf of the applicant:





Application Checklist

Complete the below application checklist

Section No.	Document	Required	Submitted
Application Form			
Part 1	Activity in Schedule 7	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Part 2	Applicant Details	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Part 3	Details of Maritime Usage	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Part 4	Marine Planning and Environmental Considerations	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Declaration and Consent	Signed Declaration and Consent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Application Checklist	Application Checklist	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Supporting Documentation			
1.3	Attachment 1.3 – Existing Foreshore Authorisation(s) wish to transition	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.1	Attachment 2.1 – List of Directors	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.4	Attachment 2.4 – Details of Foreshore Authorisation(s)	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.5	Attachment 2.5 – Details of Other Authorisation(s)	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Attachment 3.1 – Proposed Maritime Usage	Yes (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.3	Attachment 3.3 – MUL Duration	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.4	Attachment 3.4 – MUL Map and GIS Shapefiles	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.5	Attachment 3.5 – Other Maps and Drawings	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3.6	Attachment 3.6 – Private Ownership Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.1	Attachment 4.1 – Compliance with Objectives of NMPF	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.2	Attachment 4.2 – Designated Marine Area Plan Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.3	Attachment 4.3 – Appropriate Assessment Screening Report	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.3	Attachment 4.3 – NIS	Yes (if applicable)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.4	Attachment 4.4 – Risk Assessment for Annex IV Species report	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	NPWS application or derogation reference number entered on form	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.5	Attachment 4.5 – Compliance with Objectives of the Water Framework Directive	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.6	Attachment 4.6 – Compliance with Objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4.7	Attachment 4.7 – Information for EIA screening	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>



4.8	Attachment 4.8 – UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Maritime Jurisdiction Act Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.9	Attachment 4.9 – National Climate Objective Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.10	Attachment 4.10 – National Biodiversity Action Plan Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.11	Attachment 4.11 – National or European strategic or policy objectives Compliance Details	Yes (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
0.0	Confirmation of Payment of Fee	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please return completed applications, by email, to: licence@mara.gov.ie