

FEAS Observations on MUL260022- Fingal County Council Balbriggan Port dredging application

Andrew Campbell – Marine Institute – Version 1 – 6th May 2026

Summary

- Fisheries Ecosystems Advisory Services (FEAS) Marine Institute, were asked by DAFM for observations on MUL260022 application by Fingal County Council for dredging of Balbriggan Harbour basin, being administered by MARA.
- Maintenance dredging to a depth of -1.5m ODM is proposed for the harbour basin to maintain accessibility for fishing vessels.
- The spoil will be disposed of at a licensed disposal facility on land.
- The operation is expected to take 3-4 months but, given rates of sedimentation, the MUL is requested for 8 years to allow for future dredging campaigns.
- Considering the short nature and small areas of proposed operations, they should not interfere with fishing activities (save for potentially limited access to the harbour for vessels), assuming any necessary Marine Notices are made, or fish ecology/biology.
- There are no aquaculture sites within the dredge areas.