

SFPA Observations on Marine Usage Licence Applications

Applicant Name & Area:	Application No:
Port of Cork Company	MUL 260036
Application Category	
<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Shellfish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of Fin Fish Aquaculture Licence <input type="checkbox"/> Foreshore Licence	<input type="checkbox"/> Dumping at Sea <input type="checkbox"/> Water discharge <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Harbour Developments <input type="checkbox"/> Marine Renewables <input type="checkbox"/> Cables/ Fiber Optics/ Site investigations

Sea Fisheries Protection Officer Observations
<p>1. Possible impacts, if any, on existing wild fisheries in the area, with an emphasis on the possible implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise.</p> <p>Maritime Usage Licence Application 260036 made by Port of Cork to conduct marine site investigations for future Port of Cork Infrastructure at the Ringaskiddy basin.</p> <p>The maritime usage site is located at the mouth of Ringaskiddy port.</p> <p>A start date is to be determined and is dependent on granting of foreshore licence for a duration of 3 years. The expected duration of works is 15 weeks.</p> <p>The site investigation works will include 15 Geotechnical boreholes drilled to a maximum depth of 25m below seabed with a casing diameter of 200mm. Total volume of seabed material extracted will be 12 m³.</p> <p>Sediment samples will be obtained through vibrocore drilling within the maritime usage site. Sediment samples can also be obtained using surface samples (Van Veen grab) as required by the Marine Institute; however, vibrocore drilling is more intrusive. In total, 11 vibrocores and 7 surface grab samples will be collected within the site.</p> <p>Surface grab samples will also be taken for subsequent laboratory analysis for contaminant assessment and classification for disposal at sea or on land.</p> <p>It is believed by SFPA that the works involved in the proposed site investigation survey are temporary in nature and will not adversely affect existing wild fisheries in the area.</p>

2. Possible impacts, if any, on adjacent or nearby shellfish production areas adjacent, including possible implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise.

Nil.

Maritime Usage Licence Application 260036 made by Port of Cork to conduct marine site investigations for future Port of Cork Infrastructure at the Ringaskiddy basin.

A start date is to be determined and is dependent on granting of foreshore licence for a duration of 3 years. The expected duration of works is 15 weeks.

The site investigation works will include 15 Geotechnical boreholes drilled to a maximum depth of 25m below seabed with a casing diameter of 200mm. Total volume of seabed material extracted will be 12 m³.

Sediment samples will be obtained through vibrocore drilling within the maritime usage site. Sediment samples can also be obtained using surface samples (Van Veen grab) as required by the Marine Institute; however, vibrocore drilling is more intrusive. In total, 11 vibrocores and 7 surface grab samples will be collected within the site.

Surface grab samples will also be taken for subsequent laboratory analysis for contaminant assessment and classification for disposal at sea or on land.

The works involved in the proposed site investigation survey are temporary in nature. The maritime usage site for the proposed works is located some 8.5 km to the West of the nearest classified oyster production area located at Jamesbrook Rostellan.

It is believed by SFPA that any easterly flowing sediment flume from the described geophysical works will be carried east on ebb tides passing Rocky island into the main ebbing tide exiting Cork Harbour passing well clear of the oyster beds located at Jamesbrook Rostellan and will therefore not pose a deleterious effect on the microbiological quality of the Oyster beds.

3. Possible impacts, if any, on seafood safety, with an emphasis on the implications for the SFPA in conducting official controls and possible non-compliance issues that could arise.

Nil.

Maritime Usage Licence Application 260036 made by Port of Cork to conduct marine site investigations for future Port of Cork Infrastructure at the Ringaskiddy basin.

The works involved in the proposed site investigation survey are temporary in nature. The maritime usage site for the proposed works is located some 8.5 km to the West of the nearest classified oyster production area located at Jamesbrook Rostellan. It is believed by SFPA that any easterly flowing sediment flume from the described geophysical works will be carried east on ebb tides passing Rocky island into the main ebbing tide exiting Cork Harbour passing well clear of the oyster beds located at Jamesbrook Rostellan.

The application will therefore not pose a deleterious effect on the microbiological quality of the Oyster beds and would not pose an impact on seafood safety.

Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority

Clonakilty Port

Date:

06 May 2026.