

MUL260047 MARA application submitted by Wexford County Council (WCC). WCC request a five-year licence to facilitate site investigation surveys associated with the proposed N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour Scheme.

Proposed activity:

To facilitate site investigation surveys associated with the proposed N11/N25 Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour Scheme.

Wexford County Council are proposing the following surveys within the marine environment:

- A hydrographic survey (bathymetry and current measurements) of the River Slaney is required for a section that flows through Wexford
- An archaeological wade and metal detector survey of the nearshore at low tide under licence from National Monument Survey (NMS), in order to assess its archaeological potential.
- Subtidal and intertidal benthic survey to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date description of the species and habitats found within and in the vicinity of the proposed development.

BIM Comments:

08.07.2026

BIM acknowledges the proposed works will have minimal impact on aquaculture sites downstream from the proposed activity. There are notably two blue mussel licensed sites T03-055E and T03-049D in close proximity to the proposed activity boundary map within Wexford Harbour Inner Shellfish waters <https://dafm-maps.marine.ie/aquaculture-viewer/>

The MUL application overlaps directly with a recently issued bottom mussel license T03/074B/N (Aquaculture and foreshore License issued May 2024) <https://www.gov.ie/en/department-of-agriculture-food-and-the-marine/collections/shellfish-licences-wexford/>

The bottom mussel (T03/074B/N) licensee should be contacted regarding the proposed survey work?

In regard to the survey proposals, BIM does not see any major issue with these methods and the bottom mussel industry in the Outer Harbour, only a direct issue for the licensee regarding their own stock on the site.

BIM have checked with some local commercial fishermen; there are no existing commercial fisheries within the survey area. Species no longer commercially fished such as salmon, bass, eels and mullet would exist in the location. However, none of the survey techniques stated within the application would appear to cause problems.

Timely notification to aquaculture producers, particularly within Inner Wexford harbour, during the timing around proposed survey works should be taken. This will allow aquaculture producers to make informed food safety decisions around timing of shellfish harvesting during the scheduled proposed activities.

