

[REDACTED]
Foreshore Unit,
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage,
Newtown Road,
Co. Wexford

11th March 2022

Environmental Report with Statutory Declarations

Re: FS007084 Dredging and beach nourishment at Magheraroarty Beach, Gortahork, Co. Donegal

Applicant: Donegal County Council

I have reviewed the application and all the environmental documents associated with the Foreshore Application FS007084 Dredging and beach nourishment at Magheraroarty Beach, Gortahork, Co. Donegal. My comments on and recommendations for this application are as follows:

Independent Environmental Consultant (IEC): The Department engaged RPS as an IEC to provide assistance with regard to the statutory and non-statutory environmental assessments of this Foreshore Application. The IEC has conducted independent assessments of the information provided by the Applicant, having regard to the Habitats Directive, EIA Directive, and the public and prescribed bodies' consultations.

Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations: The proposed project does not fall within the classes defined under Annex I or Annex II of the EIA Directive. However the Consent Authority (DHLGH) must complete an examination for EIA as part of their obligations under the EIA Directive. Please find attached the **EIA Screening Examination document**.

Article 6(3) of Directive (92/43/EEC) (as amended) (Habitats Directive): A Screening for **Appropriate Assessment Determination** which stated that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment was required as the project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, is likely to have a significant effect on a European site was signed by the Minister on the 30th of September, 2021.

Appropriate Assessment Conclusion - The IEC reviewed the Natura Impact Statement which included a comprehensive set of mitigation measures to avoid impacts to European sites. The IEC concluded that with these procedures in place the proposed development, individually or in-combination with other plans or projects, will not adversely affect the integrity of European sites, in view of the said sites' conservation objectives.

Having considered the application by Donegal County Council, the submissions from the public and prescribed bodies' consultations and the IEC's Screening for Appropriate Assessment and Appropriate Assessment Reports, I agree with and accept the IEC's Appropriate Assessment Report. Please find attached the **Appropriate Assessment Determination and Conclusion Statement** which requires the Decision Maker's signature.

Conclusion/recommendations:

Having considered the information submitted in support of the application, I have no objection to the granting of a Section 3 Licence subject to the following conditions:

The mitigation measures outlined in the Natura Impact Statement are applied in full.

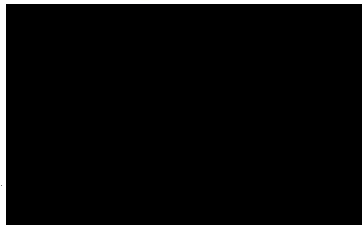
The following biosecurity measures to be followed:

All equipment intended for use at the site shall be clean, dry and free from debris prior to being brought to the site

If drying is not feasible: either power steam washed at a temperature of a minimum of 65°C or disinfected with an approved disinfectant (e.g. iodine based) correctly following all the manufacturers' instructions.

If equipment is moved off site during the project to be used on a different location/project the equipment is to be cleaned and disinfected prior to its reuse.

**Signature of Marine 11th of
Advisor:**



March 2022