

From: Terry McMahon [<mailto:Terry.McMahon@Marine.ie>]
Sent: 03 October 2014 12:12
To: Anthony Doran - (DECLG)
Subject: Foreshore Licence Application - Donegal Co.Co. Pontoon at Teelin (FS6434)

Anthony

Donegal Co. Co. has made an application for a Foreshore Licence to facilitate the seasonal deployment of a pontoon and access gangway at Teelin Pier, Co. Donegal.

The proposed works involve the installation of an 15m long X 3m wide floating pontoon and a 15m long X 1.2m wide access gangway connected to the existing pier at Teelin. It is also proposed to install pontoon guiderails which would be fixed to the existing pier.

The location and details of the proposed works are shown in Drawings entitled "Site Location Map", "Foreshore Licence Map" and "General Arrangement" submitted by the applicant in support of the application.

The area of foreshore involved is circa 0.0063 Hectares (63m³).

The purpose of the proposed works is to provide infrastructure to support the development of marine tourism activities in the area and to provide increased safety of access and egress to marine leisure craft using the pier.

It is intended that the pontoon and gangway would be deployed annually from 1st May to 30th September and thereafter removed offsite for storage during the winter. It is also intended to carry out a trial deployment in November 2014 for the purpose of commissioning the pontoons. After all pontoon and gangway supports have been fixed to the pier wall the pontoon will be lowered into the water and the gangway will be fixed in place only for a number of hours to confirm they are acceptable for intended use. They will then be removed from the pier and stored until they are deployed again in May 2015. The supporting steelwork will remain in place. The public will not be allowed to access the pontoon during this trial period.

Considering the location, nature and scale of the proposed works the Marine Institute is of the view that they will not have a significant impact on the marine environment and will not adversely affect other legitimate uses / users of the area and has no objections to licence being granted.

It is recommended that the following Conditions should be attached to any licence that may issue

1. The Licensee shall use that part of the Foreshore the subject matter of this licence for the purposes and for the duration i.e. 1st May to 30th September inclusive as outlined in the application and for no other purposes or duration whatsoever.
2. Safe control, berthing, navigation (access to and egress from), and management of the pontoon facility shall be the responsibility of the Licensee.

Terry

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MARINE LICENCE VETTING COMMITTEE:

Re: DECLG file ref FS6434 Foreshore lease/licence Application by Donegal Co Co for a proposed pontoon and access gangway at Teelin, Co. Donegal.

Request for observations from Ms. Ann Banville (DECLG) dated 2.10.2014

This application is in respect of installing and using pontoon infrastructure to facilitate leisure tourism.

The pontoon will be joined to the existing pier via a gangway.

The pontoon is to be fixed to the existing pier wall via bracketing that can slide up and down with the tide on vertical fixings attached to the pier.

The assemblage is to be de-mounted at end of each season.

It is noted that no dredging works are proposed as part of the works contained in this application.

Reference to the NPWS website and maps of Natura 2000 sites indicates that the site of proposed works lies immediately adjacent to the following sites:

- 000189 Slieve League SAC
- 004150 West Donegal Coast SPA

As such, it may be necessary that a Screening report be generated and submitted with the Foreshore application (as was done by Donegal Co Council in the case of Application FS6423 , Mountcharles pontoons). IFI would not envisage that the screening process would identify any negative issues but reference to Article 6 of Habitats Directive would indicate that such a report is required for completeness.

James J. King (IFI R&D); Brendan Maguire and Gerry Mc Cafferty (IFI Ballyshannon)
Inland Fisheries Ireland
15.10.2014

CC Terry Mc Mahon MLVC;

From: Manager Dau
Sent: 11 November 2014 17:52
To: foreshore
Subject: FS 6423 & FS 6434

Our Refs: M00077/2014 & M00078/2014 respectively

FAO Pat O'Neill

Pat, a chara

The current position on these is as follows:

Underwater Archaeology (UAU) – "No comment" submitted to DAU on 09/10/2014 re both.
NPWS – No responses submitted to DAU – in the event of response(s) received, they will be conveyed to Foreshore DECLG.

Le meas

Muiris

Muiris Ó Conchúir
Manager, Development Applications Unit (DAU)
Bainisteoir, Aonad um Iarratais Forbartha
Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht
Roinn Ealaíon, Oidhreachta & Gaeltachta
Newtown Road, Wexford
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T: 053-911 7387 (direct/díreach)
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*An Roinn
Ealaíon, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta
Department of
Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht*

Marine Survey Office,
Ballyshannon Town C.
Donegal,
Ireland.

Tel: 353-1-9822400

Fax:

Memorandum to	CZMD. DE,C&LG Wexford
Attention	Ann Banville
Fax No	
From	Nick Cantwell
No of Pages	1
Date	02 December 2014
Reference	FS6434 Pontoon and access gangway Teelin Pier. Co.Donegal
CC	

- This office has no objections from a navigational viewpoint to the above application.
- In order for charts and nautical publications to be updated **the applicant is required** to inform the British Admiralty Hydrographic Office at Taunton, UK, of the location and nature of the proposed works.
(Fax: 0044 1823 284077, email: hdc@hdc.hydro.gov.uk)
- **The applicant is required** to arrange the publication of a local marine notice. This local marine notice should give a general description of operations and approximate dates of commencement and completion. An advertisement in a locally read newspaper will suffice.
- The Pontoon is to be suitably illuminated at all times.
- The views of the Divisional Engineer should be sought.
- **The applicant is required** to apply to the Commissioners of Irish Lights (Web Site: www.cil.ie, Fax: 01-6618094, email: marine@cil.ie) for sanction of new aids to navigation and/or alteration of existing aids to navigation.

Yours faithfully

N.W.Cantwell (Capt.)
Nautical Surveyor

Anthony Doran

Re Foreshore Application by Donegal Co Co for temporary instalment of pontoon and access gangway at Teelin Pier in Teelin Bay, Co Donegal – FS006434 (your minutes of 19/8/2014,26/9/2014 and 30/9/2014 refers-)

In relation to the above an application has been made by Donegal Co Co to provide a pontoon and access gangway attached to Teelin Pier to facilitate the transport of visitors to Sliabh Liag (highest sea cliffs in Europe). The following is my report.

SUBMITTED DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation was submitted by Donegal Co Co in support of this application:

- Completed Foreshore Licence Application Form.
- Drawings/Maps as follows
 - Drawing No 201 Rev B " Site Location Map " at Scale1: 50000 on A3
 - Drawing No 202 Rev C "Foreshore Licence Map " at Scale 1:2500 on A3
 - Drawing No 204 Rev A Admiralty Chart extract on A4 (showing pontoon location) at Scale 1:50000 on A3
 - Drawing No 203 Rev B "General Arrangement' (includes Longitudinal/Cross sections thro pontoons at Scales 1:50 for Sections and 1:200 for Plan view both on A1)

OVERVIEW

Teelin Pier is a pick up point for Sliabh Liag Boat Trips and several other charter angling and sight-seeing trips. The pontoon and access gangway are necessary to accommodate the increased visitor numbers to the area and to provide safe and easy access to marine leisure craft from the pier as the pier steps currently in use by visitors boarding boats are not acceptable particularly for elderly or those with reduced mobility. The local rowing club also use the pier and they currently have 100 members and six rowing skiffs. Commercial fishing also takes place from the pier and the local fish processing plant 'Gallagher Brothers' is located nearby. Other water sports activities take place including kayaking, paddle boating etc. This facility will complement the visiting sailing yachts that use visitor moorings in the area. The addition of the new pontoons and access gangway will make the pier much safer and accessible to all. The facility will be provided on an annual basis from May to September up to a maximum of 6 months depending on the weather. The facility will be removed for winter storage after September of each year, flexibility for its easy mobilisation and demobilisation is built into the proposed arrangement.

FORESHORE ELEMENT (ref Drawing No's 202 Rev C and 203 Rev B)

This involves the temporary installation of a 15m long by 3 m wide pontoon with glass reinforced concrete (GRC) decking connected to Teelin Pier, for the months of May to September of each year. The pontoon will be secured to the pier by pontoon guide rails (ref Drawing 203 Rev B) and to the sea bed by appropriate anchoring/mooring arrangements. Donegal Co Co they have indicated that the pontoon and gangway will be removed at the end of the summer period and "stored on shore during the winter months". Access to the pontoons will be provided by way of a 15m long by 1.2m wide tide levelling gangway with glass reinforced concrete(GRC) decking and a maximum gradient of 1:10 .The total footprint area to be taken up by the pontoon and gangway is 63m² (ref Drawing No 202 Rev C).

The proposed works will not restrict current use of the foreshore. It will enhance existing facilities and make them more appropriate for the type of craft currently using the facilities. It is considered essential to provide safe and easy access to marine and leisure craft from the pier that conforms to EU regulations and to make these facilities accessible to all including disabled visitors who wish to partake in marine leisure activities.

There will be no effluent discharged from the structure. There will be no significant impact on navigation and indeed navigational passage to the nearby Sliabh Liag will be enhanced by the provision of the pontoon and gangway making the pier much safer and accessible to all. No additional Aids to Navigation will be required.

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

I am satisfied that the temporary installation of this pontoon and gangway on an annual basis will not impact on fisheries or the marine environment and navigation .There will be no structures on the seabed except for some anchor/moorings , which will be removed at the end of the summer season therefore there will be no significant impact to any marine habitats The main benefit of this proposal is that it will provide a safer access to visitors embarking on sight-seeing boat trips to view the cliffs of Sliabh Liag and therefore make the existing pier facility a safer haven for all its users.

I would be of the view that this can be dealt with as a S3.3 matter. This is a short time period during which the pontoons would be in place (5-6 months max in any year) hence this proposal may be considered trivial and in my opinion full prescribed body consultation is not necessary.

Engineering Inspectorate has no objection to the granting of a foreshore licence to Donegal Co Co for the installation of the temporary access pontoon and gangway for the time period between May and September of each year for which the Licence remains valid, subject to the following conditions.

- 1. A site specific Method Statement and Risk Assessment for the placement of the pontoon and gangway should be prepared by Donegal Co Co and submitted to DOECLG prior to the placement of the said pontoon and access gangway**

2. The new temporary facility shall be used solely for the purposes as outlined in the Application Documents i.e. by marine leisure craft, water sports, and for boat transport/charter angling and sight-seeing trips ,etc. and for the duration in each year for which the Licence remains valid as specified i.e. commencing in May through to September inclusive.
3. Safe control, berthing, navigation (access to and egress from), and management of the pontoon facility shall be the responsibility of Donegal Co
4. Security control measures including signage shall be put in place to prevent unauthorised public access/encroachment at the facility
5. Adequate litter collection facilities shall be provided to collect all litter and disposal of all litter shall be to a licensed waste disposal site in accordance with the relevant waste disposal legislation.
6. At the end of the permitted time period, as specified at 2 above, the foreshore shall be returned to its original condition with the complete removal of the pontoon, gangway and all associated mooring/anchors. All this equipment and structures shall be removed completely from the foreshore for winter storage as per Application.
7. There shall be no disruption to the continued operation of on-going fisheries interests and any other legitimate uses of the existing pier facilities at Teelin Pier

An AA Screening Report is also attached with a finding of no significant impact to any Natura 2000 Site

PJ Shaw

Engineer Inspector

15/10/2014

PS

Donegal Co has indicated that they propose a 'trial deployment' in November 2014 for the purpose of commissioning the pontoons. This will involve fixing in place the gangway and pontoon for a number of hours to confirm they are acceptable for intended use. They will then be removed from the pier and stored until they are deployed again in May 2015. The supporting steelwork shall remain in place .The public will not be allowed to access the pontoons during this trial period. Engineering Inspectorate has no objection to this trial deployment subject to Donegal Co conforming to the relevant health and safety legislation,

advance notification to DOECLG of proposed deployment date, and the deployment not to interfere with any other existing uses of the foreshore

Finding of no significant effects report:

Name of project or plan:

Proposed temporary installation of access pontoon and gangway at Teelin Pier, Co. Donegal (FS 006434)

Name and location of Natura 2000 site
It would be helpful for a map or plan to be provided:

The location of the proposed works at Teelin Pier is not within a Natura 2000 site but is immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of both the Slieve League SAC (Code 000189) and the West Donegal Coast SPA (Code 004150)

Slieve League SAC

This site encompasses from Glen Bay, at Glencolumbkille, around to a point south-east of Teelin, in south Co. Donegal. Inland, the uplands of Slieve League and Leahan are included, along with Loughs Agh and Auva. The site has important examples of reef communities, including two rare biotopes. A reef of cobbles, pebbles and boulders exposed to wave action, in 12-17 m of water, supports a community characterised by the brown alga *Laminaria saccharina* and ephemeral red algae. This is a rare community and the recently described red alga *Schmitzia hiscockiana* is present. *Halarachnion ligulatum* is also characteristic of the area. Slieve League supports good quality lowland and mountain blanket bog, wet heath and excellent quality alpine heath and sea cliff vegetation. The cliffs above Lough Agh support a very rich and diverse montane flora which includes some very rare vascular plants and bryophyte species. The site provides good breeding habitat for several seabird species, and also holds important populations of Chough and Peregrine, both listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive. The site is an important feeding site for Barnacle and Greenland White-fronted Goose.

The Conservation Objectives¹ for the Slieve League SAC are:

To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the Annex I habitat(s) and/or the Annex II species for which the SAC has been selected:

- Reefs
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts
- Northern Atlantic wet heaths with *Erica tetralix*
- Alpine and Boreal heaths
- Blanket bogs (* if active only)
- Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation
- Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation

¹ NPWS (2011) *Conservation objectives for Slieve League SAC [000189]. Generic Version 3.0.*
Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht.

West Donegal Coast SPA

The West Donegal Coast SPA comprises separate sections of the Co. Donegal coastline and extends from Muckros Head in the south, northwards to Slieve League, Malin Beg, Rocky Point, Glen Head, Slieve Tooley, Maghera, Loughros Point, Dunmore Head, Aran Island, Magheradrumman, Carrickfin, Carnboy, Bunbeg, Magheragallan, Lunniagh, as far as Carrick, to the south of Bloody Foreland. The site includes the high coast areas and sea cliffs of the mainland and Aran Island, the land adjacent to the cliff edge (inland for 300 m), areas of sand dunes/ machair at Maghera, Mullaghderg, Braade /Carrickfin/Carnboy, Magheragallan and Lunniagh/Carrick, and also several areas further inland of the coast at Croaghmuckros and Slieve League, north of Glencolumbkille and south of Dunmore Head. A low-lying area of land on the coast at Bunbeg used by roosting Chough is also included. The high water mark forms the seaward boundary, except at Tormore Island where the adjacent sea area to a distance of 500 m from the cliff base is included to provide areas for foraging and socialising activities for breeding seabirds.

The Conservation Objectives² for the West Donegal SPA are:

To maintain or restore the favourable conservation condition of the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests for this SPA:

- Fulmar (*Fulmarus glacialis*) (breeding)
- Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) (breeding)
- Shag (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*) (breeding)
- Peregrine (*Falco peregrinus*) (breeding)
- Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) (breeding)
- Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) (breeding)
- Razorbill (*Alca torda*) (breeding)

Description of the project or plan

This involves the temporary installation of a 15m long by 3 m wide pontoon connected to Teelin Pier, for the months of April to September of each year .The pontoon (comprising glass reinforced concrete (GRC) decking) will be secured to the pier by pontoon guide rails (ref Drawing 203 Rev B) and to the sea bed by appropriate anchoring/mooring arrangements. Access to the pontoons will be provided by way of a 15 m long by 1.2m wide tide levelling gangway with a maximum gradient of 1:10. The pontoon and gangway and associated anchor/moorings

² NPWS (2011) *Conservation objectives for West Donegal Coast SPA [004150]. Generic Version 4.0.* Department of Arts, Heritage & the Gaeltacht.



will be removed at the end of the summer period for winter storage. The total footprint area to be taken up by the pontoon and gangway is 63m² (ref Drawing No 202 Rev C).

Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?

No.

Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?

No

Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site.

The works could potentially;

- impact on macro-invertebrate communities in estuarine environments as a result of any changes to water movement locally leading to a change in sediment and erosion deposition patterns
- introduce pollutants into the water column during the usage of the facility
- introduce pollutants into the water column during construction/installation and removal of structures

Explain why these effects are not considered significant.

The location of the proposed development is not located within a Natura 2000 site and it therefore considered that there will not be any direct effects on the adjacent SAC or SPA. The works will not result in habitat loss, there will not be significant disturbance to key species and there will be no habitat or species fragmentation within the SAC or SPA. The integrity of the sites will not be affected.

The proposed works (pontoon and gangway installation and removal and usage for a 5-6 month period) will result in a very small area of interaction with the seabed of an estuarine habitat. The impact from altered hydrology will be minimal and insignificant. There will be no direct discharge of pollutants into the environment during the period of usage of the facility. The impacts of the works will be temporary and localised

The habitats and species within the immediate vicinity of the Teelin Pier area are characterised by an impoverished benthic community and there are no species of conservation importance within the Pier Confines.

The impacts of the works will be temporary (of maximum 5-6 months duration), and localised. The works will not result in habitat loss, there will not be significant disturbance to key species and there will be no habitat or species fragmentation within the SAC or SPA. There will be no direct discharge of pollutants into the environment during the works and water quality will not be affected.

On the basis of the above it is considered that there will be no significant adverse effects as a result of the temporary installation of floating pontoon and gangway at Teelin Pier on the 'qualifying interests' or the 'conservation objectives' of the the Slieve League SAC (Code 000189) and the West Donegal Coast SPA (Code 004150)

Who carried out the assessment?

Department of Environment, Community and Local Government and the Marine Licensing Vetting Committee, 15th October 2014.