

Marine Planning/Foreshore,
Department of Environment, Community & Local Government,
Newtown Road,
Wexford.

Your Ref: FS 6421.

Our Ref: FW/15/6.

Re: Proposed permanent cruise ship tender berth, pontoons and floating breakwater at Greencastle Harbour, Co. Donegal.

Dear Ann,

A foreshore lease application has been made to your Department by Donegal County Council for a proposed permanent cruise ship tender berth, pontoons and floating breakwater at Greencastle Harbour, Co. Donegal.

The purpose of the works is to facilitate safe and efficient transfer to passengers to and from tenders from cruise ships, which currently use the pilot boat berth, and provide berthing facilities for leisure craft visiting the area. This would alleviate congestion; enhance navigational safety and separate leisure users from commercial users, including fishing vessel, in the harbour area. The availability of the pontoons is also intended to enhance tourism in the area.

It is intended to install a 20m long x 4 m wide floating pontoon, to accommodate cruise ship tender boats, secured to the sea bed with chains and sinker blocks as well as a floating pontoon 90m long x 2.5m wide to accommodate leisure boats, secured to the sea bed with chains and sinkers and also secured to existing piles using brackets and sliders. In addition it is intended to install an L shaped floating breakwater, 60m long x 4m wide, adjacent to the end of the existing rock revetment breakwater to improve protection of the pontoons. Access to the pontoons would be by way of an 18m long gangway landing on the cruise ship tender pontoon. It is proposed to provide facilities for users with reduced mobility and physical disabilities at the new facility.

Structures at this location may pose an added navigation hazard to fishing vessels on approaches to Greencastle (inner) harbour. The adequacy of the navigation markings on the breakwater and piles may need to be reconsidered in the context of the widened footprint caused by the floating breakwater. Any revised marking that would be considered necessary by CIL would need to be incorporated in the proposed development.

Conclusion:

There are no licenced aquaculture sites immediately adjacent to the area of the proposed works.

Given the nature, scale and location of the proposed works, the Department is of the view that works will not have a significant impact on aquaculture. Any impact on sea fishing is a matter for Sea Fisheries Protection Authority.

Yours sincerely,

Geraldine Hurley

Geraldine Hurley,
Aquaculture & Foreshore Management Division,
Dept. Of Agriculture, Food & the Marine,
National Seafood Centre,
Clonakilty,
Co. Cork.

7th October 2014.

Your Ref: FS6241

6421

Re: Foreshore Licence application by Donegal County Council for a Proposed permanent cruise ship tender berth, pontoons and floating breakwater at Greencastle Harbour, Co. Donegal.

A Chara

On behalf of the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, I refer to your authority's notification in relation to the above.

Outlined below are the observations and recommendations of the Department in relation to nature conservation & underwater archaeology.

Nature Conservation

The proposed development is not situated within any lands designated Special Protection Area, Special Area of Conservation or Natural Heritage Area. The Department notes that an Appropriate Assessment Stage 1 Screening Report was prepared by Greentrack Environmental Consultants for the proposal (February 2014). The conclusion of this report has been noted i.e. no likely significant impacts on the Natura 2000 sites from the proposed project, either independently or in conjunction with other developments. It is noted that the Appropriate Assessment Screening did not consider nearby Natura 2000 sites in Northern Ireland and the possibility of transboundary impacts, and therefore may not be considered as a robust document.

Underwater Archaeology

The Department has no comment to make in relation to underwater archaeology for the above application.

The acknowledgement to this letter, any further information and the planning authority's decision should ideally be sent to manager.dau@ahg.gov.ie; if this is not possible, correspondence may alternatively be sent to:

The Manager
Development Applications Unit
Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
Newtown Road
Wexford

Is mise, le meas



Simon Dolan
Development Applications Unit
Tel: 053-911 7377

Donegal County Council has submitted a Foreshore Licence application to facilitate the installation of floating pontoons and a floating breakwater pontoon in Greencastle Harbour, Co. Donegal (FS006421)

It is intended to install of a 20m long x 4m wide floating pontoon, to accommodate cruise ship tender boats, secured to the sea bed with chains and sinker blocks as well a floating pontoon 90m long x 2.5m wide to accommodate leisure boats, secured to the sea bed with chains and sinkers and also secured to existing piles using brackets and sliders. In addition it is intended to install an L shaped floating breakwater, 60m long x 4m wide, adjacent to the end of the existing rock revetment breakwater to improve protection of the pontoons. Access to the pontoons would be by way of an 18m long gangway landing on the cruise ship tender pontoon. It is proposed to provide facilities for users with reduced mobility and physical disabilities at the new facility.

The purpose of the works is to facilitate safe and efficient transfer of passengers to/ from tenders from Cruise Ships, which currently use the pilot boat berth, and provide berthing facilities for leisure craft visiting the area. This would alleviate congestion, enhance navigational safety and separate leisure users from commercial users, including fishing vessel, in the harbour area. The availability of the pontoons is also intended to enhance to the tourism product in the area.

The location and details of the proposed structures are shown in Drawing No. GH/FP/141, Drawing No. GH/FP/142, Drawing No. GH/FP/143 and GH/FP/144 submitted with the application. The works would take place within the existing partially constructed "new harbour" in Greencastle. Works in this area, which were being carried out by DAFF, were stopped in 2010 due to a lack of funding.

Temporary pontoons have previously been installed in the harbour basin in Greencastle to accommodate boats visiting the area. Pontoons were installed on a temporary basis in July 2012, July 2013 and more recently in July 2014.

Given the location, nature and scale of the proposed works the Marine Institute is of the view that they will not have an adverse impact on the marine environment or on other legitimate uses / users of the area and has no objections to a licence being issued.

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 as outlined in the application and for no other purposes whatsoever.
2. The Licensee shall submit a Method Statement and Risk Assessment for the placement of the pontoons to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government prior to the placement of the said pontoons.
3. Safe control, berthing, navigation (access to and egress from), and management of the pontoon facility shall be the responsibility of the Licensee in consultation with the delegated Harbourmaster for Greencastle. The pontoons shall be operated in accordance with the Greencastle Harbour Safety Statement
4. The Licensee shall ensure that security control measures including signage are put in place to prevent unauthorised public access/encroachment at the facility

5. The Licensee shall ensure that adequate litter collection facilities are 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. The Licensee shall ensure that there is no unnecessary disruption to the operation of the existing Greencastle to Magilligan car ferry service and the continued operation of fisheries interests in the Harbour

Terry

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

Tel: 353-1-9822400

Fax:

Memorandum to	Coastal Zone Management Division Environmental, Community and Local Government.
Attention	Ann Banville
Fax No	
From	Nick Cantwell
No of Pages	1
Date	29 October 2015
Reference	FS 0006407 6421 Permanent Floating pontoons, Greencastle. 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 Pontoons are 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 with respect to marking of the pontoons.

Yours faithfully

N.W.Cantwell (Capt.)
Nautical Surveyor