An Roinn Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine

Aquaculture Licence Application
Marine Engineering Division Report

Site T-Reference:	T06-1035
Application ID:	35414
Report Prepared By:	Noel Dillon
Date:	16 June 2025

Application Details

Applicant(s)	Daniel O'Sullivan, Cromane Lower, Killorglin, Co Kerry
Location	Castlemaine Harbour, Co Kerry
Application Type	New
Site Area (Ha)	3.98
Species	Pacific Oysters (Crassostrea Gigas)
Cultivation Method	Trestles & Net Bags
Source of stock	Seed from France half grown oysters from Ireland
Annual Production Estimates	40-60 tonnes per annum
Shellfish Waters Designation	The site is partially within the Shellfish Designated Waters SI 268 of 2006 Cromane, Co Kerry
Development Plans	Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 Chapter 9 - Economic Development Chapter 11 - Environment Cromane Local Area Plan
Pre-Consultation Meeting	No

Site Description

Site Location

The site is located in Castlemaine Harbour, approximately 400m east of Cromane Spit and partially within the Shellfish Designated Waters SI 268 of 2006. It is to be accessed by boat from Cromane Point. In Section 9.7.6.2.4 of the Kerry County Development Plan 2022-2028 – Fishing/Aquaculture, Kerry County Council recognises the importance of the aquaculture industry and states its support for the sustainable development of the operations of the industry.

Site History

This is a new application for the cultivation of oysters using typical bag and trestle.

Proposed Development

Site Management

This is an application for a new aquaculture site. There are no structures currently onsite.

Site Layout and Structures

The applicant proposes to use 1,216 typical trestles and oyster bags to cultivate oysters. The applicant has submitted details of site location, layout and site structures, which are acceptable to MED.

Site Access

The site is accessed by boat from Cromane Point

Potential Impacts

Navigation

The site is within the Castlemaine Single Unified Marking Scheme (SUMS). The site will be marked with St Andrew's Crosses.

Landscape and Visual

The site is not in an area that is likely to be highly visible to many people. Population density in the area is low and trestles will only be visible at times of low tide. There are no features of high landscape or scenic value that will be impacted upon. Visual impact of oyster cultivation is generally low if carried out in accordance with the best practices outlined in the Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment of Marine Aquaculture, 2001.

Environmental

The site is located in the Castlemaine Harbour SAC (000343) and SPA (4029) and this is to be assessed as part of the application process.

Other Beneficial Uses

N/A.

Cumulative Impact

Oyster and mussel aquaculture activities are well established in Castlemaine Harbour. The cumulative impact of these activities is to be assessed as part of the application process.

Conclusion

Marine Engineering Division has no objection to the grant of this aquaculture licence.