



FORM A

MUSSEL SEED FISHERY 2026

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM

Expressions of Interest are invited for **potential** seed mussel fishing in the Irish Sea and/or Castlemaine Harbour.

Instructions: Please ensure **ALL** sections are fully completed and the form is signed, dated and submitted to: inshore@agriculture.gov.ie or the address provided at the footnote of this form.

Note that incomplete forms will be returned and may delay the issue of any authorisation(s).

1. APPLICANT DETAILS

Name / Company* _____

Position in Company* _____

Address _____

Eircode _____

E-Mail _____

Landline No. _____ Mobile No. _____

2. AQUACULTURE SITE(S) FOR MUSSEL SEED RELAYING

Destination and Site Reference (if applicable) - one line per site.

Republic of Ireland Sites

Location	Aquaculture Licence Number	Site Reference

Submit completed form to: inshore@agriculture.gov.ie as soon as possible, but no later than 5pm on Monday, 31st August 2026.

Alternatively, post to: Mussel Seed Unit, Inshore and Seafood Climate & Environmental Division,
Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, National Seafood Centre, Clonakilty, Co. Cork, P85 TX47.



Northern Ireland Sites

Location	Aquaculture Licence Number	Site Reference

3. SPLITTING OF ALLOCATION

(as applicable, and even figure splits only please)

Are you applying for multiple vessels?

Yes ☐ Please indicate allocation(s) split below.

No ☐ If allocation(s) are not to be split, the requested information in the table below must still be completed and 100% indicated in respect of “% of Overall Allocation”.

Vessel Name	Vessel Owner	Port Registration No.	Community Fleet Registration No.	% of Overall Allocation

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APPLICANT CHECKLIST

Please tick the relevant boxes to confirm:

1. Expression of Interest (Form A) – Fully Completed?	
Check the following in conjunction with the completion of Form A :	
• Aquaculture Destination and Site Details completed	
• Allocation split, as applicable - applications for multiple vessels (Form B or Charter Arrangement(s)) - completed	
• The Marine Institute must be notified of the intention to move wild mussel seed	
• Vessels participating in the mussel seed fishery must have operational Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) on board and comply with all VMS requirements	
• Agree to provide seed tracking data as may be relevant to Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM)	
• Declaration signed and dated, Company Authorisation Letter attached (if applicable)	
• Applicant's Consent Letter attached (if submitting on behalf of an applicant, must be dated within two weeks)	
2. Charter Arrangement(s) (Form B) attached (if applicable)	

I DECLARE THAT THE INFORMATION THAT I HAVE GIVEN ON THIS FORM IS TRUE AND CORRECT

Signed (Applicant) _____

Applicant's name (BLOCK CAPITALS) _____

Position in company* _____

Date _____

* NOTE: If you are signing this form on behalf of a registered company, please enclose written authorisation, on the company's letterhead paper, confirming your authority to act on behalf of the company. This Company Authorisation Letter should not be signed by you, but by a director or secretary of the company, and it should state that person's position in the company. It should be dated within two weeks of the submission of this Expression of Interest Form.

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If you are submitting Expression(s) of Interest Form(s) on behalf of an applicant, please submit an email or a signed letter, dated within two weeks of submission, from the applicant advising consent to submitting the Mussel Seed Fishery Expression of Interest Form(s) for 2026 on the applicant's behalf.

NB: The information provided on this form by the applicant (or on behalf of the applicant) will be retained on file by the Department and may be shared with Bord Iascaigh Mhara, the Marine Institute, and the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority for the purposes of administering the mussel seed fishery and for fisheries management and control.

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Data Protection Statement concerning the use of Sea Fishing Licence Boat Holders Data

Part A: Information applicable to all Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine customers:

1. The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is fully committed to keeping all personal data submitted by its customers, fully safe and secure during administrative processes. All necessary technical measures have been put in place to ensure the safety and security of the systems which hold this data. Department staff are also considered as customers of the Department from a Data Protection perspective and may exercise their data protection rights in the same way.

2. Transparency and openness in the use of personal data held is important to the Department and therefore we aim to fully inform all our customers about the purpose(s) for which their data will be used and why, where it may be shared elsewhere, and why and how long their data may be held by the Department. Information on the rights of customers will also be provided.

3. The current legislation for Data Protection in Ireland is the Data Protection Act 1998 as amended by the 2003 Data Protection Act, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the General Data Protection Regulations (EU 2016/679) which came into effect on 25 May 2018.

4. The Data Controller for the collection and processing of all personal data in the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine is the Department itself, as a legal entity.

5. The Data Protection Officer can be contacted as follows:

Data Protection Officer, Data Protection Unit, Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Government Buildings, Old Abbeylax Road, Portlaoise, Co Laois, R32 RPA6,

Email: dataprotectionofficer@agriculture.gov.ie

Telephone: (057) 8694301

6. Personal data processed by the Department will only be used for the specific purpose(s) as outlined when the data is collected, or in later communications, and will only be used in accordance with the Data Protection legislation in force.

7. Rights of the individual in relation to personal data held by the Department: When you, as a customer, provide personal data to the Department you have certain rights available to you in relation to that data. These rights are outlined below and can be exercised by contacting the Data Protection Officer, as detailed above, indicating which right(s) you wish to exercise: Currently our customers have the following rights:

- access to their data
- rectification of their data
- erasure of their data
- right to lodge a complaint with the Supervisory Authority.
- restriction of processing
- data portability
- objection to processing
- withdraw consent previously given in relation to processing of their personal data
- relating to automated decision making, including profiling.

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Part B – Information specific to the personal data being collected

The following data is specific information in relation to the personal data processed for Sea Fishing Boat Licence Holders

1. Specified purpose

Licensing and registration data is used:

- For the proper and effective management and conservation and rational exploitation of fishing opportunities and fishing effort for Irish sea-fishing boats under national policy and the common fisheries policy
- For the assessment of fishing activity on the natural habitat
- For the proper management of Fishery Harbour Centres
- For the provision of online services.

2. The Legal basis for collecting and processing your data is set out in the following primary and secondary legislation and in addition, statutory instruments may be enacted under this primary legislation:

- Sea Fisheries (Amendment) Act 2003
- Sea Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Act 2006
- Fishery Harbour Centres Act, 1968
- European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011
- European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-fisheries) Regulations 2013.

3. Your personal data is only shared with organisations where there is a requirement in law to provide the data. In these cases not all data is shared, only the specific parts of the data necessary to carry out the function are shared.

Under EU regulations certain details of the licence holder and boat are used by the:

- Sea Fisheries Protection Authority for the control of fishing activity;
- The European Commission under regulations made under the Common Fishery Policy and the Natura 2000 Directives;
- The Fisheries Management Centre of EU member States where the boat is operating in the waters of that State;
- The Marine Institute and Bord Iascaigh Mhara for the compilation of Fishing Data mandated by the EU Data Collection Framework regulation;
- Bord Iascaigh Mhara for the purposes of promoting and supporting Sea Fisheries through grant aid etc.;
- Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

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4. Transferred outside the EU:

Where a vessel obtains a licence to fish in the waters of a third country such as the United Kingdom, Norway or international waters controlled by NEAFC, or for Tuna species, certain boat details to enable the fisheries control function to be carried out effectively will be sent to the regulatory body (eg. Norway, NEAFC or ICCAT) via the EU Commission.

5. Retention Period:

The vessel name will be taken off the website list at the end of the approved authorisation period.

The data collected for the scheme will be held by the Department only as long as there is a business need to do so in line with the purpose(s) for which it was collected. After this time it will be marked for destruction and will be destroyed in line with internal guidelines or guidelines for destruction received from the National Archives Office or associated permissions received from them.

6. Data provision being statutory or contractual obligation:

The data provided for the licensing and registration of a Sea Fishing Boat is collected under the Sea Fisheries (amendment) Act 2003 and under the Common Fisheries policy.

If the customer chooses not to provide this information their application for the licensing and registration cannot proceed, and the vessel may NOT carry out fishing activity in Irish or EU waters.

7. Information from Third Party:

Your personal data in relation to fishing activity by the Licensed vessel is provided to the Department by the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority in order to manage the State's Fishery resource, quotas and fishing effort.

8. Data Protection:

All personal data processed by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine will take place in accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR EU 2016/679), the Data Protection Acts 1988-2018, the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the DPER Consultation Principles and Guidance. Any additional personal data received as part of your submission will not be processed, shared, or retained and will be destroyed upon receipt.

Further information on Data Protection can be found on our website

<https://www.gov.ie/en/organisation-information/ef9f6-data-protection>

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