



## Screening Determination for Appropriate Assessment

**Ref: *Draft Fisheries Natura Plan, Irish Sea Mussel Seed Fishery, 2023-2027***

The Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine received an updated draft Fisheries Natura Plan for the Irish Sea mussel seed fishery, 2023-2027, in May 2023. If implemented, the draft Fisheries Natura Plan sets out arrangements for mussel seed (*Mytilus edulis*) fishing in the Irish Sea during a five-year period up to 31 December 2027, including surveys, reporting, monitoring, etc.

Having regard to guidance from the European Commission and existing case law, as well as the recommendations of a Marine Institute screening assessment report on the above draft Fisheries Natura Plan, the Minister has determined under regulation 4(2) of [SI 290 of 2013](#) (European Union (Birds and Natural Habitats) (Sea-fisheries) Regulations 2013) that the draft plan may have significant impacts on Natura 2000 sites and therefore appropriate assessment of the draft plan is required in advance of determining whether or not the activities it describes may take place.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

*Charlie A. Donaghy*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*27<sup>th</sup> June 2023*