Screening Determination for Appropriate Assessment

Project Reference:

T10/351A. Shellfish Aquaculture & Foreshore Licence application for the cultivation of Pacific and Native Oyster, Blue Mussel, King and Queen Scallops, Brown, Red and Green Seaweeds at Blacksod Bay, County Mayo.

In accordance with Article 6(3) of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) and Regulation 42(1) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 as amended ('The Regulations'), the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine has undertaken Screening for Appropriate Assessment (AA) to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and the conservation objectives of relevant European sites, if the proposed applications for Aquaculture & Foreshore licence for an Aquaculture site in Blacksod Bay, Co. Mayo (T10/351A) individually or in combination with other plans or projects would be likely to have a significant effect on a European site.

In accordance with Regulation 42(6) of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011 SI 477, as amended, the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine has made a determination following screening that a Stage 2 Appropriate Assessment is required as the project individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on any European sites. The risk of likely significant effects on European sites cannot be excluded on the basis of objective evidence. This determination is based on the location, scale, extent and duration of the proposed development, including temporary works, and has not taken account of measures intended to avoid or reduce significant effects on European sites.

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Charlie McConaglogue TD Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine

25th January 20