

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 February 2017 17:28
To: aquaculturereview
Subject: Aquaculture Consultation

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to make a submission for the Independent Aquaculture Licensing Review. My submission follows on from the proposed oyster farms planned for north west Donegal and particularly the public notices and approach to granting licencses.

Public Notices and Consultation

A notice was placed in the Donegal Democrat which is a regional newspaper and a notice put on display in a local Garda station. I have only visited the Garda station on a handful of occassions in my life such as to certify a passport application and therefore I believe it is very unsuitable for such a notice if you want the public to see it. The same also applies to regional newspapers as my preference is national newspapers and increasingly use online news outlets instead of buying physical newspapers. For these reasons, I believe most of the population will never receive these public notices.

An obvious site notice should be placed at the proposed locations and at the nearest point of public traffic such as on the side of the road where it could be seen by those living in the area. This is similar to site notices for planning permission.

A more desirable approach would be to actively engage with the community and hold meetings with local stakeholders and interested parties.

Environmental Impact Statement

The proposed Oyster farming projects have been allowed to forego any Environmental studies. I won't elaborate on why this is unbelievable as I want to keep this brief and to the point but I can elaborate on request. I feel that such a study should be mandatory in order to fully understand the impact on the natural environment, indigenous species, and tourism.

Licensing / Appeals process

I believe locals are required to pay a fee in order to appeal a licensing decision. This is unfair in an areas in rural Ireland where locals can struggle for employment and endure lower salaries.

Please consider these points and investigate the current licensing application for oyster farming in north west Donegal, this should help identify a number of obvious issues that can be improved on.

Best regards,

Bartley McFadden



Co.Donegal,

