

From: Gearoid O Maonaigh [REDACTED]
Sent: 10 February 2017 16:31
To: aquaculturereview
Subject: 'Aquaculture Consultation'

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Sir/Madam

Please take the following into account regarding aquaculture farming, pacific oysters especially:

These are an invasive species in Ireland

If the owners are not Irish, there is no value/minimal value to the local economy for large scale despoliation of the natural environment.

Aquaculture farms are unsightly developments, and should not be considered as appropriate for areas of natural beauty, or tourism sensitive sites.

The licensing system needs to reflect the environmental impact of any development, inclusive of substantial public consultation with the community.

The licence needs to to be policed by the Department to assure compliance, and penalties imposed for non compliance.

The licence fee needs to reflect the monetary value of the harvest.

The Local Authority on behalf of the community needs recompensed for the development, similar to how rates are levied on commercial and industrial developments.

Also the following:

1. Public consultation -

Site Notices as in regard to any other building work or development.

Identify stakeholders, open meetings- demonstrate community awareness of the project! Require proof of community engagement!

2. Environmental Impact Assessment -

Ensure that there is a study done to recognise the impact on the natural environment, indigenous species, and tourism.

3. Simplify the appeals process and have licences reviewed with respect to the whole area and all the developments in the area.

Citizens should not have to pay to block each individual license, the burden must be on the licensee.

4. The licensee should be held to highest scrutiny and have to place a surety not to damage amenities with waste and poor practice and there needs to be accountability.

Regards

Gearóid Ó Maonaigh,

