



**Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
Marine & Fisheries Division**

**LICENCE ISSUED UNDER THE MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009, PART 4, MARINE
LICENSING**

MARINE LICENCE

**Licence for the repair of piles and the replacement of a pontoon at Strangford Lough Yacht
Club, Whiterock Bay, Strangford Lough**

Licence Number: ML2025032

Part 1 - Particulars

1. Licensee(s) Name & Address:

Strangford Lough Yacht Club
Whiterock Bay
Killinchy
BT23 6QA

**2. Names, and operators, of the vessels to be employed to undertake or support the deposit,
relocation or removal operations:**

To be provided as per Condition 5.

**3. Description of works and nature and quantity of all materials to be deposited below Mean High
Water Springs.**

The project involves restoring the stability of existing pontoon piles and replacing the pontoon with a new unit at Strangford Lough Yacht Club. Work will start with a barge equipped with a Hiab crane as the main platform. The old pontoon will be detached, floated ashore, inspected for invasive species, and decommissioned per biosecurity rules. Silt curtains will be installed to protect the marine environment. Divers will clean pile bases, remove old brackets, and fit new steel jackets, which will be grouted with marine-grade material. Zinc sacrificial anodes will be added for corrosion protection. After underwater work and debris removal, the new pontoon will be installed and secured, followed by full site demobilisation. 800kg of steel and 200kg of marine grade grout to be permanently deposited below HMWS tidemark.

4. Location of works:

The proposed works will be carried out within the following co-ordinates:

A. 54°28'.96N 5°38'.87W
C. 54°28'.94N 5°38'.86W

B. 54°28'.97N 5°38'.79W
D. 54°28'.96N 5°38'.78W



The site location is as shown in **Appendix A**. No works are permitted outside this red line boundary under this licence

5. Valid:

From: 01 March 2026

Until: 01 March 2027

Condition 12 states: Works must not be carried out during Wintering Bird season between 1st October and 28th February conclusive. Reason- To protect wintering birds

6. Licence Documentation

1. Marine Construction Application Form (24/06/2025)
 - HRA (24/06/2025)
 - Method Statement (24/06/2025)
 - CEMP (24/06/2025)
 - 160-SLYC Drawing Register (24/06/2025)
 - DRAWING 160-AMP-XX-01-DR-S-20005-01 (24/06/2025)
 - DRAWING 160-AMP-XX-01-DR-S-20003-02 (24/06/2025)
 - DRAWING 160-AMP-XX-01-DR-S-10002-01 (24/06/2025)
 - DRAWING 160-AMP-XX-01-DR-S-10001-02 (24/06/2025)
 - DRAWING 160-AMP-XX-01-DR-S-01-01 (24/06/2025)

PART 2: CONDITIONS

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (referred to as the licensing authority) authorises the Licensee(s) to deposit in the sea, the substances or articles (except for dredged material) used in the execution of works described in Part 1 of this licence. This licence is subject to the under-mentioned condition(s):

Licence Condition(s):

NOTE: FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE LICENCE CONDITIONS BELOW MAY RESULT IN ENFORCEMENT ACTION BEING TAKEN

1. All conditions of this licence bind any persons whom, for the time being, owns, occupies or enjoys any use of the works for which this licence has been granted, in relation to those licensed activities authorised under section 66 of the 2009 Act, whether or not the licence has been transferred to that person.
2. The Licensee(s) must receive written authorisation from the licensing authority to assign or transfer the consent. The licensing authority must confirm in writing to both the original Licensee(s) and any proposed new Licensee(s) that the licence has been transferred/assigned before any works may commence under the new Licensee(s)



3. The Licensee(s) shall not carry out any licensable activity other than that detailed in the Marine Licence application form received by the licensing authority, dated **24 June 2025**. The Licensee(s) shall contact the Department if it is proposed to vary the materials or methods to be used from those described in the documentation supplied in connection with the Marine Licence application.
4. The Licensee(s) must commence works in line with Part 1(5) and complete works within the valid dates of this licence. After that date, the licence will expire in accordance with section 71(4) of the Act.
5. The Licensee(s) shall ensure that the Department is informed of any contractor appointed to carry out part or all of the works by email to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk **no less than 24 hours before** the commencement of the licensed activity. The licence holder must ensure that a copy of this licence and any subsequent revisions or amendments has been provided to, read and understood by any agents, contractors or sub-contractors that will carry on any licensed activity authorised by this licence on behalf of the licence holder.
6. Any person authorised by the licensing authority will be permitted to inspect the licensed activity at any reasonable time.
7. The Licensee(s) shall ensure that copies of the licence are available for inspection by any authorised Enforcement Officer at:
 - a. The premises of the Licensee(s)
 - b. The premises of the operating facility
 - c. The site of the works

Prior to the commencement of the Licensed Activity

8. The Licensee(s) must notify The Source Data Receipt team, UK Hydrographic Office, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 2DN (Email: sdr@ukho.gov.uk; Tel: 01823 337900) at least **10 days** before commencement of the works, to allow for any necessary amendments to nautical charts. The information supplied must include the start date and end date, a description of the works, positions of the work area (WGS84), and details of any marking arrangements. A copy of the notification must be sent to DAERA within 5 working days to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk.

Reason: *To adhere to Maritime Safety Legislation and to protect human health and marine users.*
9. The Licensee(s) must notify HM Coastguard's National Maritime Operations Centre (NMOC) at Zone33@hmcg.gov.uk prior to the commencement of licensed activities.

Reason: *To ensure HM Coastguard has the necessary information to maintain maritime safety during the works.*
10. The Licensee(s) must notify local mariners and fishermen's organisations of the works through a local notice issued at least 5 days before commencement of the works. A copy of the notification must be sent to DAERA at MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk within 24 hours of issue.

Reason: *To ensure local sea users are aware of the planned works in sufficient time to take appropriate precautions and adjust their activities if necessary.*
11. The licensee(s) must ensure invasive non-native species biosecurity measures are in place for all stages of the project and all equipment used ([Northern Ireland Biosecurity guidelines](#)) and that



[DAERA Marine Non-Native Invasive Non-Native Species Standing Advice](#) and the [Check Clean Dry](#) guidance are followed. A Marine Biosecurity Management Plan should be submitted to the Licensing Authority MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk at least **4 weeks** prior to commencement of works to be agreed.

Reason: *To prevent the introduction and spread of invasive non-native species as required under the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985 (as amended).*

During the Licensed Activity

- 12.** Works must not be carried out during Wintering Bird season between 1st October and 28th February conclusive.

Reason: *To protect Wintering Birds.*

- 13.** An Ecological Clerk of Works should be present throughout the works and provide a written report based on disturbance to bird populations, particularly regarding the Tern Colony on Hen Island. This report should be submitted to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk **within 4 weeks** of completion of works.

Reason: *To prevent disturbance to birds*

- 14.** In the event of a discovery of an archaeological object and/or remains during the works the licensee(s) must: (1) record the position and details of the site; (2) not disturb the site further and (3) report your discovery to and contact MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk immediately so further advice may be sought.

Reason: *To ensure that historic monuments and archaeological objects are protected.*

- 15.** In the event of a discovery of wreck material during the works, the Licensee must report it to the 'Receiver of Wreck' (Maritime and Coastguard Agency) **within 28 days**. The licensee(s) must: (1) record the position and details of the site; (2) cease work and (3) report your discovery to and contact MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk immediately so further advice may be sought.

Reason: *To ensure that recovered wreck material is declared and dealt with appropriately.*

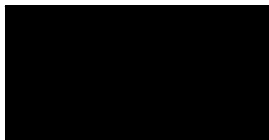
Upon Completion of the Licensed Activity

- 16.** The Licensee(s) shall inform the licensing authority of the finishing date of the licensed work within 28 days of completion at MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk.
- 17.** The Licensee(s) shall, within 8 weeks after the completion of the licensed works, make a written report to the licensing authority stating the quantity and description of all articles and substances deposited under the authority of this licence. This report is to be submitted to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk.
- 18.** The licensee(s) shall within eight weeks after the completion of the licensed works, send a report of the details of the final build to the UK Hydrographic Office to enable Admiralty Navigational products to



be updated. This report should be submitted to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk and SDR@UKHO.gov.uk.

Signed on behalf of the Department:



Dated: 12/01/2026

NOTE:

- 1) The licensing authority would advise that this licence does not negate the licensees' responsibility to gain any other environmental or access permissions that may be required to progress the works.
- 2) Under Part 4, Chapter 1, paragraph 72 of the **Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009**, the licensing authority may revoke, vary or suspend this licence if it appears to the authority that the holder is in breach of a condition included in it, or if it appears to the authority that the licence ought to be varied, suspended or revoked because of a change of circumstances relating to the marine environment or human health, including a change in scientific knowledge. A revocation, variation or suspension may also be enforced in the interests of safety of navigation.
- 3) A person who deposits material in contravention of the terms of a licence is guilty of an offence under Section 85 of the Act. It is a defence under paragraph 86 (1) for a person charged with such an offence to prove 'force majeure'. However, they are also required to prove that they took steps within a reasonable time to inform the licensing authority of all details pertaining to the incident contained in paragraph 86 (2). The licensing authority shall be obliged to report force majeure cases immediately to the OSPAR Commission.
- 4) Attention is drawn to the necessity of complying where appropriate with the **Radioactive Substances Act 1960**, the **Prevention of Oil Pollution Act 1971** and to the **Merchant Shipping (Dangerous Goods) (Amendment) Rules 1968**.
- 5) If within 28 days of the issue of a licence the person to whom it was issued requests the licensing authority to give him notice in writing of the reasons for the inclusion of any provision in it, the Authority shall comply with his request within 28 days of receiving it.
- 6) Anyone who fails to comply with a condition on a Marine Licence commits an offence under Section 85 of the **Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009**, and may be subject to enforcement action. Possible enforcement actions are compliance notices, remediation notices, fixed monetary penalties and variable monetary penalties. In the worst cases, a person found guilty of an offence on summary conviction may be subject to a fine not exceeding £50,000. In addition, a person found guilty of an offence on conviction on indictment, to a fine or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years or to both. Further details can be found at our guidance note.

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/dae/marine-licensing-guidance-enforcement-under-part-4-marine-and-coastal-access-act%2C-2009-may-2016.pdf>



Further information from consultation:

1. Maritime and Coastguard Agency

Bunding and/or storage facilities must be installed to contain and prevent the release of fuel, oils, and chemicals associated with plant, refuelling and construction equipment, into the marine environment.

2. DAERA – Marine and Fisheries Division - Inland Fisheries

Attention should be drawn to Section 47 of the Fisheries Act (NI) 1966, which covers the applicant's responsibilities relating to Penalties for Pollution and the consequences of causing or permitting the release of any Deleterious materials into any waters.

Northern Ireland as part of the UK is a signatory to the Convention for the Conservation of Salmon in the North Atlantic. This treaty requires signatory states to develop programmes of work to conserve, rationally manage and improve Atlantic salmon populations and their habitats within their jurisdiction. This work is scrutinised by the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO).

3. Northern Ireland Environment Agency – Water Management Unit

DAERA's Standing Advice on Pollution Prevention Guidance and Discharges to the Water Environment, which are available at <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/standing-advice-development-may-have-effect-water-environment-including-groundwater-and-fisheries>

Water Management Unit would emphasise the importance of ensuring all equipment / plant is in good working order to minimise the risk of pollution from hydrocarbons and / or hydraulic fluids.

4. DAERA – Marine & Fisheries Division - Conservation and Reporting

Marine Archaeology

DAERA advice on protection of archaeological objects

The Licensee(s) attention is drawn to Article 42 of the Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (NI) Order 1995 that requires finders of archaeological objects to report within 14 days to a relevant authority.

DAERA advice on recovery of wreck material

The Licensee(s) must report any recovered wreck material to the Receiver of Wreck (Maritime and Coastguard Agency) in accordance with the Merchant Shipping Act 1995.

The DAERA document **Guidance Note: For the Discovery of Unanticipated Underwater Archaeological Heritage** (<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guidance-note-discovery-unanticipated-underwater-archaeological-heritage>) sets out best practice and legal responsibilities in the reporting of unanticipated finds of archaeological interest made during the course of marine construction and/or dredging projects.

Marine Wildlife

Biosecurity Mitigation Measures advice

To minimise impacts, we recommend the following:

- **Implement [biosecurity protocols](#)** to prevent the introduction and/or spread of invasive species for the proposal and all equipment used.



- **Adhere to [Marine Non-Native Invasive Non-Native Species Guidance](#).**
- **Implement [Check Clean Dry](#) procedures regularly for all equipment, vessels, and machinery at a non-hydrologically linked location. Where possible, cleaning should be conducted with Virkon and hot (>60°C) freshwater because Virkon is not effective against all marine invasive non-native species (INNS).**
- Develop a **contingency plan** prior to work, outlining procedures if INNS are encountered.
- Provide staff/surveyors with [INNS identification guides](#).
- **Report** any suspected INNS to **DAERA Marine & Fisheries Division** and **CEDaR** .
- Do not return INNS or water used for cleaning to the marine environment—**dispose INNS via landfill or incineration.**

Further Information:

- Refer to [DAERA Marine Map Viewer](#) for details on protected areas, habitats, species, marine mammals, INNS and Regional Seascape Character Areas.
- Check the [DAERA Protected Areas site](#) for details on MPAs.
- Refer to [DAERA Protected Areas Monitoring Results](#) for details on MPA feature condition status.
- Check the [Marine Life Information Network](#) for habitat sensitivities.
- [Invasive species identification guides Northern Ireland](#)
- Standing Advice and Guidance

The applicant's attention is also drawn to the following links which provide standing advice and guidance to be considered:

- [DAERA Pollution Standing Advice](#)
- [DAERA Marine Litter Standing Advice](#)
- [DAERA Marine Invasive Non-native Species Guidance](#)
- [DAERA Marine Wildlife Disturbance Guidance](#)
- [Check Clean Dry](#)
- [Decisions affected by marine policy - authorisation decisions](#)



Appendix A – Site location map

