

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

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

MARINE CONSTRUCTION LICENCE

National Trust Tern Raft Installment

Licence Number: ML2026023

PART 1 – PARTICULARS

1. Licensee(s) Name & Address:


National Trust
Rowallane Gardens
Crossgar Road
Saintfield
Co. Down
BT24 7LH

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

To be provided under **Condition 6**.

**3. Description of works and nature and quantity of all deposits below Mean High Water
Springs:**

Mooring will be installed at a maximum depth of 3m off Pawle Island, Strangford Lough by Cuan Marine Services using the Multicat Cuan Strand. This will be a standard mooring with a bottom chain length of c. 5m and a 3m lighter top chain.

The raft is preassembled using 8m modular pontoons on land. These will be towed into place and attached to the swinging mooring in time for the May Tern second breeding season.

This licence will cover the deposit of a tern raft at location 1 near Pawle as stated in the application package and the decommissioning of the raft prior to the expiry of this licence. As per condition 4, the licensing authority must be contacted prior to any future deployments or deviations from proposed works on this licence.

4. Location of works:

Latitude: 54.440505
Longitude: -5.626877

See Appendix A for location map of works

5. Valid:

From: 8th July 2026
Until: 31st August 2027

6. Licence Documentation

Marine Licence Application Form (received 29/03/2026)
Breeding Tern Project Overview (received 29/03/2026)
Site Location map of potential moorings (received 29/03/2026)
Shadow Habitat Regulation Assessment (received 29/03/2026)
Updated maps (received 22/06/2026)

PART 2 - CONDITIONS

Licence Condition(s):

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

1. The Licensee(s) must commence works with **12 months** of the date of this licence.
2. 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.
3. 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).

4. The Licensee(s) must not carry out any licensable activity other than that detailed in the Marine Licence application documents received by the licensing authority and deemed complete on **11th May 2026**. 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.
5. The licensee (s) must commence works in line with condition 1 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.
6. The Licensee(s) must 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 7 working days** 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.
7. Local mariners and fishermen's organisations must be made fully aware of the activity through a local notification. This must be issued at least 5 days before the commencement of the works. DAERA must be sent a copy of the notification within 24 hours of issue to MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk.

Reason: To adhere to Maritime Safety Legislation and to protect human health and marine users

8. Zone33@hmcg.gov.uk must be notified prior to commencement of activities. The DAERA must be sent a copy within 5 days of the issue of this notification.

Reason: To adhere to Maritime Safety Legislation and to protect human health and marine users

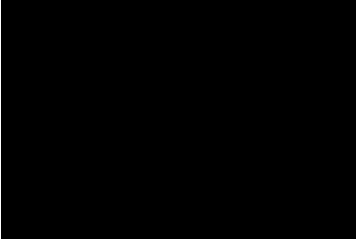
9. The Licensee(s) must inform the licensing authority at MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk of the finishing date of the licensed work within **28 days** of completion.
10. A notification must be sent to The Source Data Receipt team, UK Hydrographic Office, (email: sdr@ukho.gov.uk) on completion of the licensed activities, no later than 10 working days after their completion. 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.. MLComplianceandEnforcement@daera-ni.gov.uk must be copied into all notifications.

Reason: To adhere to Maritime Safety Legislation and to protect human health and marine users

11. At the decommissioning stage, the Licensee(s) must ensure the seabed is returned to its original profile. Decommissioning of the raft must occur prior to the end of the licence validity period, or a new licence may be required.

Reason: To avoid damage to the marine environment

Signed on behalf of the Department:



Dated: 08/07/2026

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/doe/marine-licensing-guidance-enforcement-under-part-4-marine-and-coastal-access-act%2C-2009-may-2016.pdf>

INFORMATIVES:

Maritime & Coastguard Agency advice on Navigational Safety

- 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.
- The site is within port limits and the applicant should gain the approval/agreement of the responsible local navigation authority or the Harbour Authority/Commissioners/Council. They may wish to issue local warnings to alert those navigating in the vicinity to the presence of the works, as deemed necessary.

DAERA advice on preventing water pollution

- The Licensee(s) should comply with all the relevant NIEA Standing Advice documents and Guidance for Pollution Prevention (PPG/GPPs) available at:
<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/standing-advice-development-may-have-effect-water-environment-including-groundwater-and-fisheries>
- The Licensee(s) must ensure that any contaminated material is transported by a licensed waste carrier, and that all relevant waste authorisations are obtained for the treatment and disposal of any contaminated material.

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**.

DAERA advice on marine litter

- Any marine litter collected during the proposed works must be appropriately disposed of, to prevent litter entering the marine environment and adversely impacting Marine Protected Areas.

DAERA Marine Conservation Branch informatives

- Adhere in full to all mitigation outlined in the application and this response during installation, any future maintenance, seasonal deployment, and removal of the raft.
- Minimise pollution and sediment disturbance through good site practices:
 - Installation methods must ensure controlled lowering and placement of the mooring to avoid seabed dragging or unnecessary disturbance.
 - Final micro-siting of the mooring should avoid any sensitive or previously unrecorded habitats encountered at the time of installation.
 - Works should cease or be modified if excessive or sustained turbidity is observed.
- Ensure [DAERA Pollution Standing Advice](#) and [DAERA Standing advice for development that may have an effect on the water environment \(including groundwater and fisheries\)](#) is adhered to.

Reason: To prevent adverse impacts to Marine Protected Areas, Habitats and Species, as required under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended), The Environment Order (Northern Ireland) 2002 and the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

- Ensure all plant and equipment are clean, well-maintained, and leak-free; refuelling and storage must take place at least 10 m from the marine environment, with spill kits and booms available at all times.
- [DAERA Marine Wildlife Disturbance Guidance](#) must be adhered to.
 - Pre-works visual checks for marine mammals must be undertaken and works delayed if animals are observed within the immediate vicinity.
 - Particular regard should be given to nearby seal haul-out sites when planning and undertaking works.
 - Works should be undertaken in a manner that minimises noise and visual disturbance as far as reasonably practicable.

Reason: To prevent marine mammal disturbance as required under the Conservation (Natural Habitats, etc.) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 (as amended), The Environment Order (Northern Ireland) 2002 and the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

- Implement biosecurity measures throughout all project stages in line with DAERA INNS guidance ([Northern Ireland Biosecurity guidelines](#) and [DAERA Marine Invasive Non-Native Species Guidance](#)) and [Check Clean Dry](#), including a contingency plan, staff training, reporting to DAERA MFD/CEDaR, and appropriate disposal of any INNS.

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

- All solid waste and litter encountered or generated during the works must be collected and appropriately disposed of at the end of each working day to prevent it from entering the marine environment and becoming marine litter, following [DAERA Marine Litter Standing Advice](#).
 - Measures should be in place to ensure the integrity and maintenance of the mooring and raft to prevent accidental debris or loss of materials to the marine environment.

Reason: To prevent litter entering the marine environment and adversely impacting Marine Protected Areas, Habitats and Species, as required under The Environment Order (Northern Ireland) 2002, Draft Marine Plan for Northern Ireland 2018 and the UK Marine Policy Statement

Other mitigation/recommendations:

- Use of silt control measures where feasible
- Avoid high-risk weather conditions
- Staff awareness training (wildlife + INNS)

DAERA Marine Licensing informative

- Any person authorised by the licensing authority will be permitted to inspect the licensed activity at any reasonable time.
- The Licensee(s) must 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 (including on board vessels)

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](#)
- [Cetacean Sightings and Strandings around NI coastline](#)

DAERA Standing Advice

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

- [Planning in the Coastal Area](#)
- [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](#)
- [DAERA Standing advice for development that may have an effect on the water environment \(including groundwater and fisheries\)](#)

- [DAERA Culverting Standing Advice](#)
- [DAERA Discharges to the water environment Standing Advice](#)
- [DAERA Sustainable Drainage Systems Standing Advice](#)

APPENDIX A – Location of works



Note: Only site 1 will be used for this installation