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| Issued to:Consultees on the Carlingford LoughConsultation List. |  | Rathkeltair HouseMarket StreetDownpatrickBT30 6AJTelephone: 028 44 618038Email:aquaculturefishhealthpolicy@daera-ni.gov.uk 11 August 2023 |
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Dear Consultee

APPLICATIONS FOR FISH CULTURE LICENCES UNDER THE FISHERIES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1966

The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Marine and Fisheries Division commenced a public consultation on 27 June 2023, seeking your views on applications for three Fish Culture Licences, in respect of new proposed aquaculture establishments within the Mill Bay area of Carlingford Lough. Unfortunately, the published documentation incorrectly referenced the legislation which gives the Department the powers to hold this consultation.

In order to ensure the complete transparency of our processes and to allow stakeholders to have full and adequate scrutiny of the consultation documentation, the Department is restarting the public consultation in accordance with Sections 11A (2) and (3) of the Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966[[1]](#footnote-1).

An outline summary of the applications, and a link to the full Cumulative Impact Assessment and recommendations, is included within the consultation booklet.

In accordance with the provisions of The Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966, notice of these applications is being published in the following newspapers: Newry Reporter; Mourne Observer; and in the Belfast Gazette.A copy of the notice is included within the consultation booklet.

**Responding to the Department**

This letter, the consultation booklet and the assessments carried out, on behalf of the Department, by the Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, can be found on the DAERA

website at [www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk) under “Consultations”.

The consultation booklet provides a full list of consultation questions for your ease of reference only. Please provide your answers to these online through [Citizen Space](https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/daera/consultation-on-new-aquaculture-applications-in-mi)[[2]](#footnote-2), if possible. To help us to process the responses quickly, please aim to keep your answers to the consultation questions as concise as possible.

Responses must be received on or before 6 October 2023.

**Accessibility**

Alternative formats can be made available on request in large print, disc, Braille, audio cassette, or text phone for the hearing impaired. The document may also be made available on request in minority ethnic languages to those who are not proficient in English. The Department will translate executive summaries of key publications into Irish or Ulster Scots upon request.

Information and additional copies of the document can be requested by email at AquacultureFishHealthPolicy@daera-ni.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely

**Aquaculture and Fish Health Policy Branch**

1. [The Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/apni/1966/17) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://consultations2.nidirect.gov.uk/daera/consultation-on-new-aquaculture-applications-in-mi> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)