

# IFA AQUACULTURE CONFERENCE KILMURRY LODGE — 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB 2023

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# IFA AQUACULTURE POLICY PRIORITIES

## Aquaculture licensing review recommendations

- Increased engagement with DAFM – 3 meetings
- Focus on legislative reform

## National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture & EMFAF Programme

- Public Consultation Aug & Sept 2022
- IFA contributed Submissions on both
- NSP due to be Published shortly & EMFAF Operational Programme approved

## Marine Protected Areas

- Ongoing process of designation over the next few years
- Heads of Bill published – Joint Submission to JOC pre-legislative scrutiny
- Online meeting yesterday – continued engagement when Bill is published

## Seafood ORE Working Group

- Member of the Working Group
- Guidelines for Seafood/ORE engagement being drafted
- Working with other Seafood Organisations

# IFA AQUACULTURE POLICY PRIORITIES

## Organics

- Regulation 848/2018 - Water Quality Designation under WFD for Organic mussels certification
- National Organic Forum – highlight Irish Aquaculture organic produce

## Input Costs – temporary crisis framework

- EU Commission activated crisis mechanism for fisheries & aquaculture
- Compensation for income foregone & additional costs due to market disruption
- Temporary Crisis Framework can be created using National fund

## Seafood Taskforce

- Brexit Sustainable Aquaculture Growth Scheme (**€20m, up to 50% support**)
- Brexit Blue Economy Enterprise Development Scheme (**€25m, up to 50% support**)

## Legislative Reform

- IFA Aquaculture seeking appropriate legislative reforms
- Addressed in submissions to DAFM & Joint Oireachtas Committee

# JOINT OIREACHTAS COMMITTEE HEARING

- **IFA Aquaculture Opening Statement:**

1. Implementation of the Review of the Aquaculture Licensing Recommendations
2. Inclusion of Aquaculture in the Marine Planning and Development Management Bill
3. Coherence of policies through the open-method of co-ordination
4. Input Costs Support
5. Legislative Reform

- Positive exchange with Committee members

- Seeking follow-up hearing in this Dail session - before Summer 2023



***The Challenges facing the Aquaculture Industry***  
**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2022**

# IFA AQUA BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE

- *IFA policy proposal to provide a service/resource to members in relation to Environmental Objectives with a view to licencing renewals process*
- In conjunction with Aquacence consulting
- Best Practice Guidance & Information
- Focused on 3 main aspects:
  - Aquaculture Licensing
  - Legislative Responsibilities
  - Environmental Objectives
- Print & Online version available – [www.ifa.ie](http://www.ifa.ie)

IFA Aquaculture – Best Practice Guidance & Information for Aquaculture licensing, Legislative responsibilities & Environmental objectives

Guidance Document prepared in conjunction with Aquacence - February 2023





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## Aquaculture Legislation.

### Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997.

[Fisheries \(Amendment\) Act, 1997.](#)

### Fisheries (Amendment) Act, 1997 (Consolidated - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021)

<https://revisedacts.lawreform.ie/eli/1997/act/23/revised/en/pdf?annotations=true>

### Aquaculture (Licence Application) Regulations, 1998 S.I. No. 236/1998

[S.I. No. 236/1998 - Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) Regulations, 1998 \(Irishstatutebook.ie\)](#)

### Statutory Instruments amending Statutory Instrument 236/1998.

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2001 (S.I. No. 145 of 2001).

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2001 \(S.I. No. 145 of 2001\).](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2006 (S.I. No. 197 of 2006).

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2006 \(S.I. No. 197 of 2006\).](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2010 (S.I. No. 280 of 2010)

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2010 \(S.I. No. 280 of 2010\).](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2010 (S.I. No. 369 of 2010)

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 2\) Regulations 2010 \(S.I. No. 369 of 2010\).](#)

#### Inland Fisheries Act 2010.

[Inland Fisheries Act 2010.](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2012 (S.I. No. 301 of 2012)

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2012 \(S.I. No. 301 of 2012\).](#)

#### European Union (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Aquaculture) Regulations 2012 (S.I. No. 410 of 2012).

[European Union \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) \(Aquaculture\) Regulations 2012 \(S.I. No. 410 of 2012\).](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2016 (S.I. No. 464 of 2016)

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2016 \(S.I. No. 464 of 2016\).](#)

#### Aquaculture (Licence Application) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018 (S.I. No. 240 of 2018)

[Aquaculture \(Licence Application\) \(Amendment\) Regulations, 2018 \(S.I. No. 240 of 2018\).](#)



# | Aquaculture Licensing

**Best Practice Guidance & Information for Aquaculture Licensing, Legislative Responsibilities & Environmental Objectives**



## | Introduction

IFA Aquaculture is a consolidated representative body comprised of representatives from all sectors of the Irish aquaculture industry, this includes all stakeholders that farm fish, shellfish, seaweeds and for other novel species that may be cultured around the coastline of Ireland.

IFA Aquaculture provides strong industry representation nationally and internationally, supporting the improvement and development of the Irish aquaculture industry and promoting positive aspects of Irish aquaculture.

IFA Aquaculture, in conjunction with Aquacence, has aimed to provide best practice guidance and information on aquaculture licencing requirements, associated legislative responsibilities and environmental objectives for aquaculture producers operating an aquaculture business.

This best practice guidance aims to bring wider awareness and knowledge of the aquaculture licensing process in Ireland. Information is also outlined on the requirement for the appropriate licences/consents for aquaculture production in Ireland, the legislative requirements, and environmental objectives that aquaculture operators are required to comply with in Ireland and the various protocols that aquaculture operators must be aware of and comply with when carrying out aquaculture activities in Ireland.

This is best practice guidance only, drafted for the purpose of consolidating information on licencing, legislative requirements, and environmental objectives for aquaculture producers in Ireland. The licensing of aquaculture activity and indeed the Aquaculture Licensing processes employed by the Department of Agriculture.



# AQUACULTURE IS PART OF THE SOLUTION

- Aquaculture production will be key to meeting global demands for seafood produce in the coming years
- Irish Aquaculture production needs to be part of meeting these demands
- Aquaculture contributes to meeting Climate action targets - carbon sequestration value, carbon efficient food production, use of renewable energy sources
- Provides employment opportunities in the Irish Seafood sector sustaining coastal communities
- Must be underpinned by appropriate legislative reforms in line with EU & National policies
- **Aquaculture is part of the solution !**

THANK YOU