

## Appropriate Assessment

### Finding of no significance effect report:

Name of project or plan:	Installation of Pontoon, Gangway and Associated Anchorages at Portmagee, Co. Kerry (MS51/09/606)
Name and location of Natura 2000 site:	Valencia Harbour/Portmagee Channel SAC 002262. See attached Site Synopsis and Conservation Objectives from NPWS <a href="http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/specialareasofconservationsac/valentiaharbourportmageechannelsac">http://www.npws.ie/protectedsites/specialareasofconservationsac/valentiaharbourportmageechannelsac</a>
Description of the project or plan	<p>Kerry County Council proposes to provide a pontoon Facility at Portmagee, Co Kerry. The facility will consist of a 26m gangway to access a 40m long by 3.0m wide pontoon (2 no. 20m pontoons). The facility will have 3 no. finger pontoons on its east and west faces and a single 20m by 3.0m pontoon placed centrally perpendicular to the 40m section at its seaward end. The pontoons will be held in place with concrete anchor blocks and sea-flex hawsers. The pontoon is proposed to provide berthing facilities for visiting leisure craft and to provide a safe embarkation for the boats. The location of the facility and the facility are fully described in the following maps and drawings;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Drawing Titled: Site Location Map, Date; undated</li><li>2. Foreshore Lease Map titled "Rural Place Map" Plot Date: 01 Oct 2013, Prepared and Signed by Kevin Boyle, Kerry County Council, Oct 2013</li><li>3. Drawing Titled as "Foreshore Licence Map" Drawing No. KCC 10/13, showing layout of Pontoon and mooring blocks.</li><li>4. Drawing Number "Pontoon Layout and Sections", dated May 2209, Revision March 2013</li></ol>
Is the project or plan directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site (provide details)?	No.
Are there other projects or plans that together with the project or plan being assessed could affect the site (provide details)?	None identified
Describe how the project or plan (alone or in combination) is likely to affect the Natura 2000 site.	<p>The installation of the platform, gangway and floating pontoon could:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• disturb and displace marine mammals and otters as a result of construction noise</li><li>• introduce pollutants into the water column during the works</li><li>• directly impact on habitat due to anchor placement</li></ul>
Explain why these effects are not considered significant.	The nature of the construction phase works is such that the noise levels associated with them are directly comparable to the

ambient noise environment in the surrounding area. There will be some very limited usage of plant and equipment but the works will not entail additional noise pollution source. Also given that the works will be of short duration it is considered that the impacts of the disturbance will not be significant.

The area of seabed impacted by the placement of anchors is not considered significant. There will not be significant disturbance to key species and there will be no habitat or species fragmentation.

There will be no direct discharge of pollutants into the environment during the works and water quality will not be affected.

On the basis of the above it is concluded that there are not likely to be significant effects as a result of the installation of the pontoon, gangway and associated anchorages at Portmagee on the Conservation Objectives of the Valencia Harbour/Portmagee Channel SAC

Who carried out the assessment?

Water Inspectorate, DECLG on behalf of the MLVC, 22 October 2013