



AN ROINN COMHSHAOIL, ODHREACHTA AGUS RIALTAIS ÁITIÚIL

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT, HERITAGE
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**



**Application Form to Conduct Marine Scientific Research at
Irish Coral Reef Special Areas of Conservation**

Background

On 1 June, 2006 the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government formally announced his intention to propose four marine sites off the west and south-west coasts of Ireland as Special Areas of Conservation. These candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) have been designated under Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 as amended (the EU Habitats Directive) to protect resident cold water coral reefs. Marine scientific research in these cSACs is a notifiable action and will require specific consent from the Minister under the European Communities (Natural Habitats) Regulations 1997 (Statutory Instrument No. 94 of 1997).

Researchers wishing to conduct marine scientific research in any of the four cSACs encompassed by the co-ordinates in Box 1 below should

1. review the Code of Practice for Marine Scientific Research at Irish Coral Reef Special Areas of Conservation, and
2. submit the application details outlined below to the National Parks & Wildlife Service for consideration.

Box 1

Belgica Mound Province SAC

51° 29' 24"N, 11° 51' 36"W; 51° 32' 24"N, 11° 41' 24"W; 51° 13' 48"N, 11° 44' 24"W; 51° 17' 24"N, 11° 33' 00"W

Hovland Mound Province SAC

52° 16' 12"N, 13° 12' 36"W; 52° 24' 00"N, 12° 58' 12"W; 52° 16' 48"N, 12° 54' 00"W; 52° 16' 48"N, 12° 29' 24"W; 52° 09' 00"N, 13° 10' 48"W; 52° 09' 00"N, 12° 56' 00"W; 52° 04' 12"N, 12° 52' 48"W; 52° 04' 12"N, 12° 29' 24"W

South-West Porcupine Bank SAC

51° 54' 36"N, 15° 07' 12"W; 51° 54' 36"N, 14° 55' 12"W; 51° 49' 12"N, 15° 06' 00"W; 51° 42' 00"N, 15° 10' 12"W; 51° 42' 00"N, 14° 55' 12"W

North-West Porcupine Bank SAC

53° 35' 24"N, 14° 27' 36"W; 53° 51' 36"N, 13° 53' 24"W; 53° 45' 36"N, 13° 49' 48"W; 53° 35' 24"N, 14° 10' 48"W; 53° 31' 48"N, 14° 14' 24"W; 53° 24' 00"N, 14° 28' 48"W; 53° 30' 36"N, 14° 32' 24"W

Application Details

1. Identify the candidate Special Area(s) of Conservation where research is being proposed

2. State clearly the objectives of the research

3. Describe the equipment and methodologies that will be used while working in the cSAC

4. Indicate the number of extractive samples or specimens to be retrieved from the cSAC (where relevant)

5. Specify whether work to be undertaken will be fully compliant with the Code of Practice for Marine Scientific Research at Irish Coral Reef Special Areas of Conservation

6. Name of vessel

7. Vessel's port of registration

8. Overall vessel length (m)

9. Call sign

10. Name of Master

11. Owner

Name

Contact details

Contact person

12. Operating authority (where different from above)

Name

Contact details

Contact person

13. Provide a map of appropriate resolution showing the proposed work location(s) in relation to the relevant cSAC

14. Applicant details

Name

Contact Address

Phone

Email

Signed

Date

Evaluation Process

The National Parks & Wildlife Service may be contacted as follows:

Offshore Unit

National Parks & Wildlife Service,
Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government,
Ely Court,
7 Ely Place,
Dublin 2.
Republic of Ireland.

Telephone + 353 (0)1 8882000

LoCall 1890 202021

Email offshore@environ.ie

Completed application forms should be submitted **in writing only**. A Wildlife Inspector will review applications and applicants will be notified within 6 weeks of receipt of application whether a permit has been granted or whether the provision of additional information is necessary to facilitate a final decision. Where an application for a permit is refused, an explanation of the decision will be provided in writing to the applicant together with details of the appeals process.

Appeals Process

Where an application for a permit has been refused, applicants will be entitled to appeal the decision to the Director of the National Parks & Wildlife Service and details of this process will accompany any relevant final decision.