

# Ardgroom Harbour

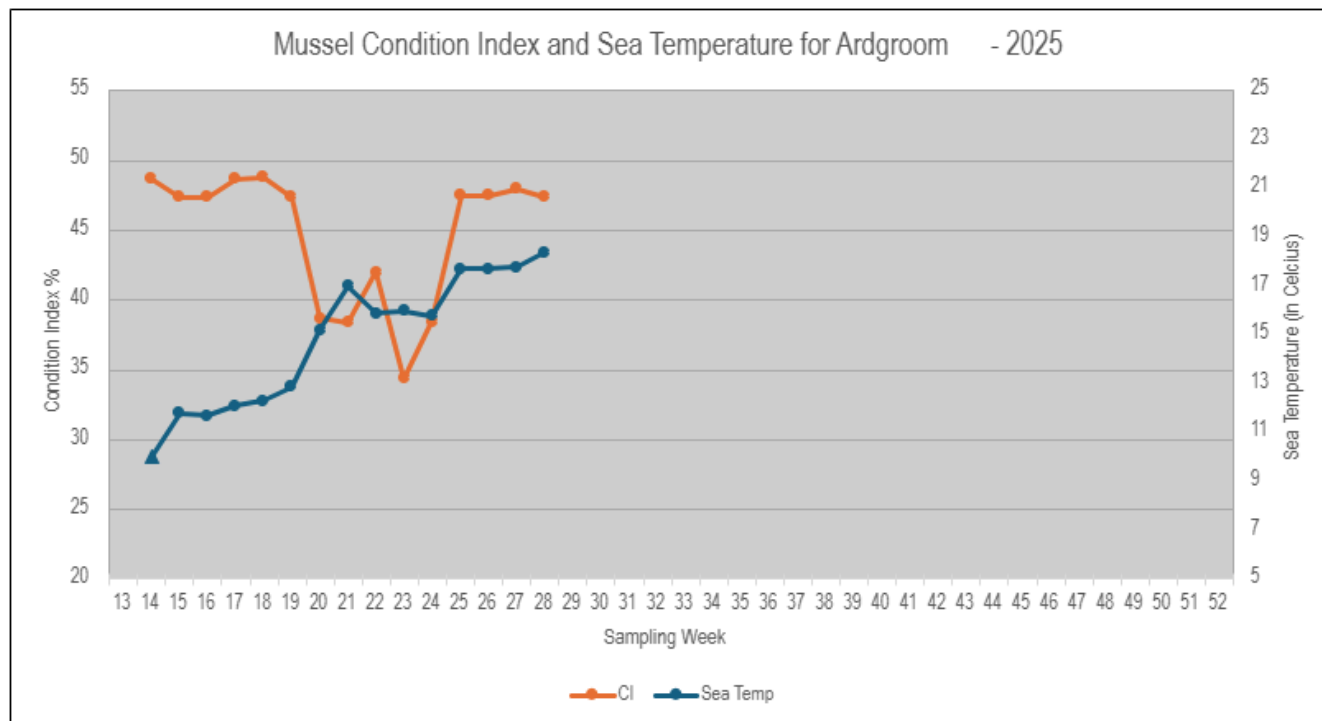
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

14<sup>th</sup> July 2025

Week 28 (7/07/2025 to 13/07/2025)

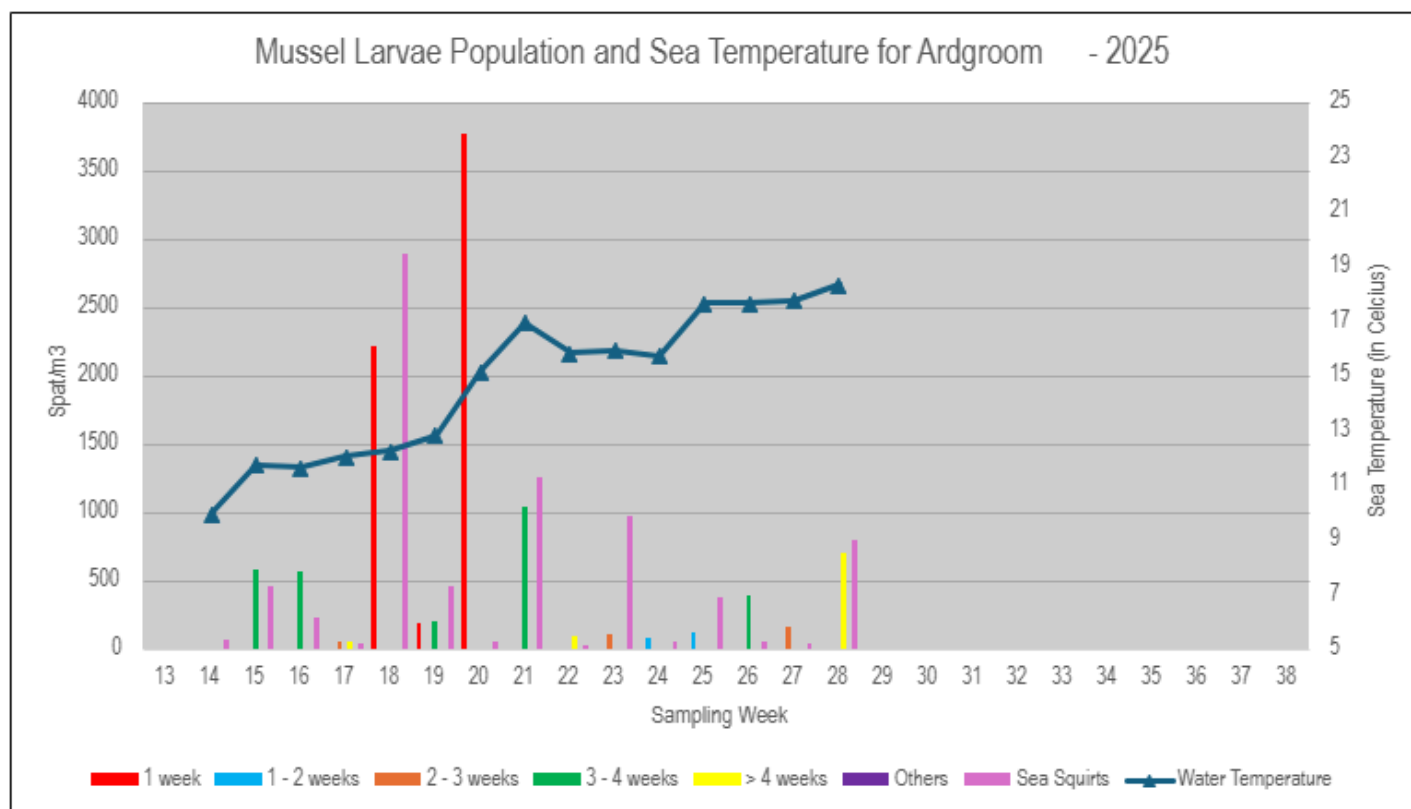


## Condition Index (CI) for Ardgroom Harbour



# Larvae population evolution for Ardroom Harbour

For each sample, mussel larvae are classed by age: 1 week old, 1 to 2 weeks old, 2 to 3 weeks old, 3 to 4 weeks old, 3 to 4 weeks old, over 4 weeks old and others (younger or older).



## Commentary

The Condition Index (CI) in Ardroom remained relatively stable in Week 28 at 47.4% (-0.6 from the previous week). The sea temperature increased slightly to 18.4°C (based on Kilmackilloge readings). The adult mussels still appear to be reconditioned following the possible spawning event on Week 23.

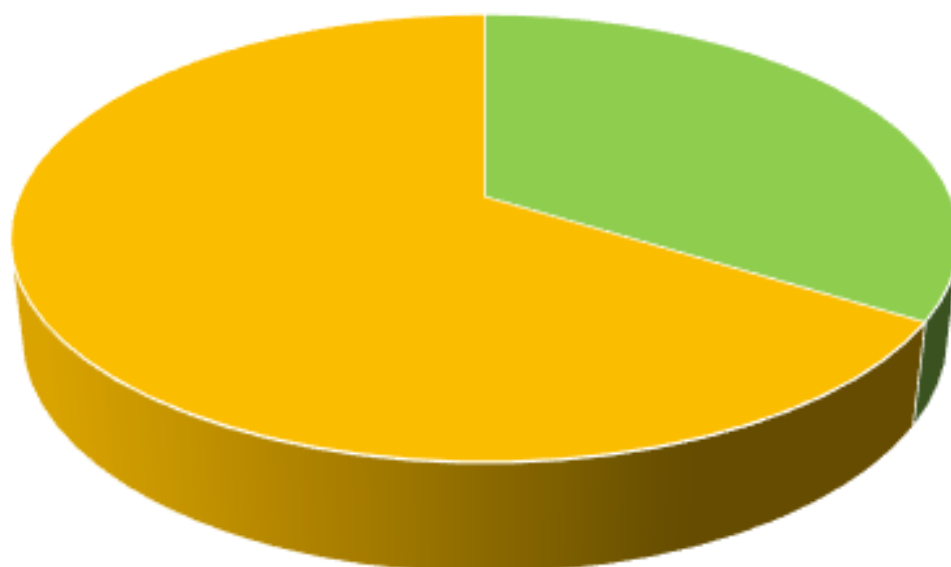
The larvae population was 711 spat/m<sup>3</sup>, all at 4-6 wks, suggesting a possible settlement in the next 1 - 2 weeks.

The concentration of sea squirts in the sample was 804 indiv/m<sup>3</sup>. There were also moderate levels of copepods, crabs, tubeworm and a 2<sup>nd</sup> bivalve species. Phytoplankton concentration was low, with a mix of diatoms and dinoflagellates. T.nitzschoides and P. micans were the dominant species



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## Phytoplankton Distribution



■ Known ■ Potential ■ Dinoflagellate

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The phytoplankton concentration decreased significantly in Week 28 from 53,280 cells/litre to 2,960 cells/litre), with known food source species representing 34% of the count and dinoflagellates 66% .

