

# Dunmanus Bay

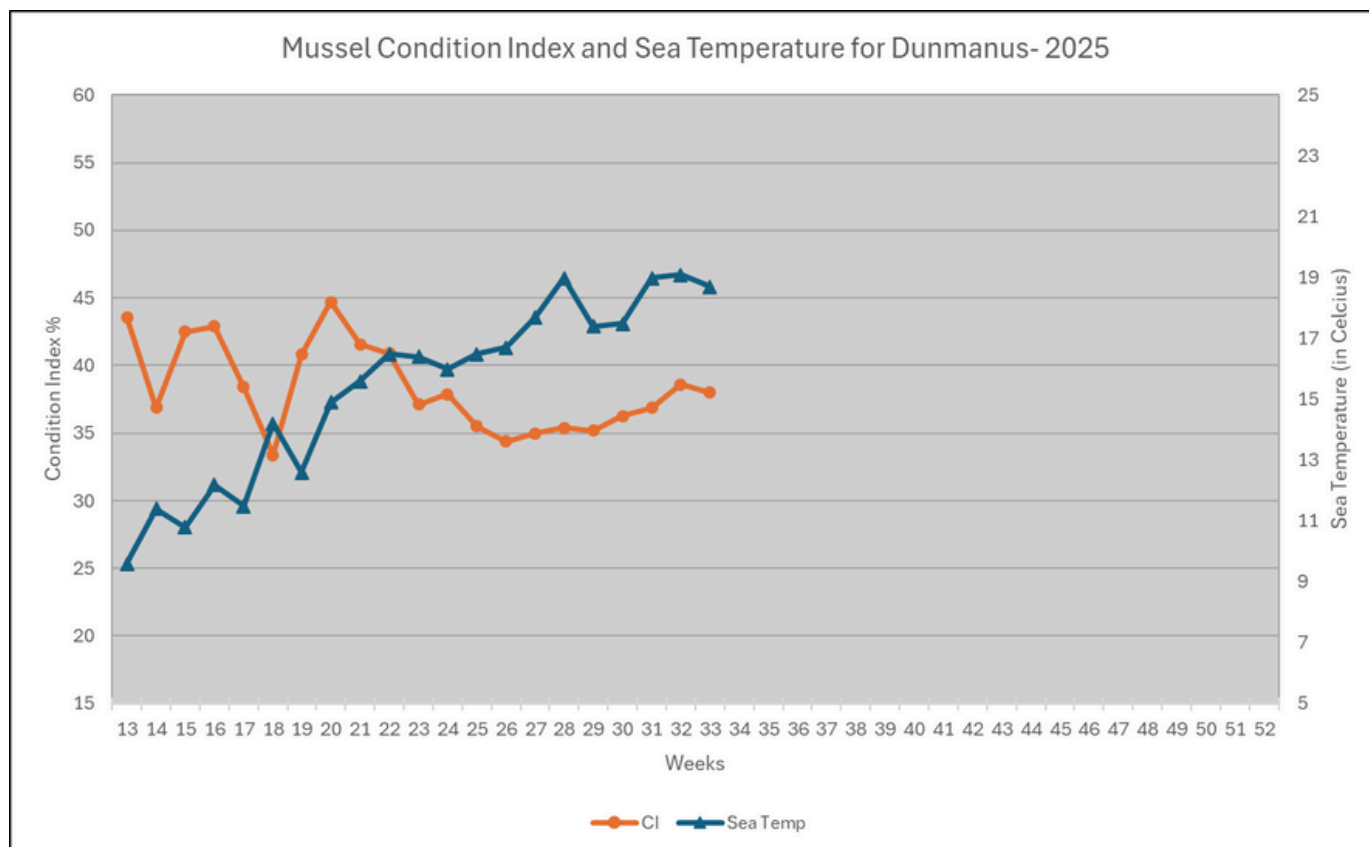
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

18<sup>th</sup> August 2025

Week 33 (11/08/2025 to 17/08/2025)

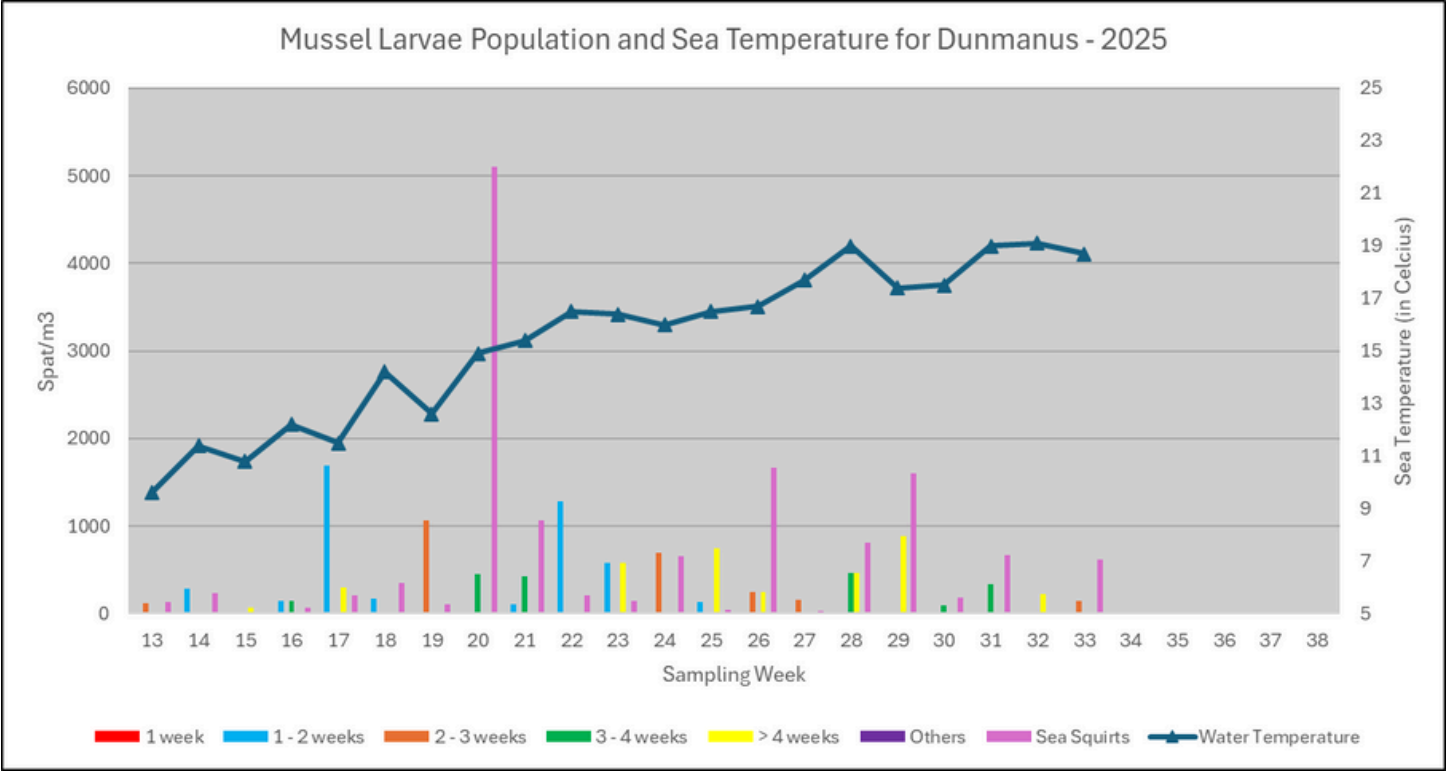


## Condition Index (CI) for Dunmanus Bay



# Larvae population evolution in Dunmanus Bay

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 Dunmanus was stable at 38 % (-0.6% from the previous week). The sea temperature decreased slightly by 0.4°C at 18.7°C.

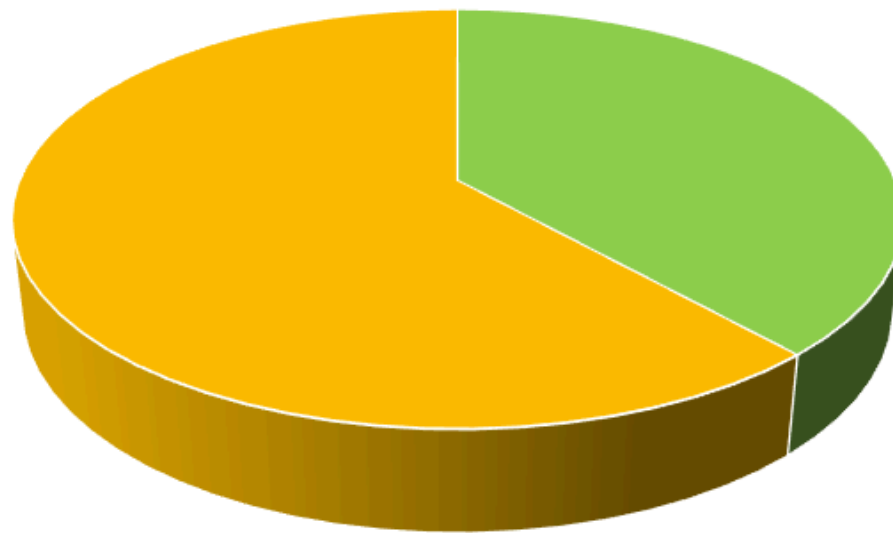
The larvae population decreased to 150 spat/m<sup>3</sup> and was composed of 2 to 4 weeks old larvae (from 226 spat/m<sup>3</sup> of 4 to 6 weeks old on Week 32).

The level of sea squirts increased significantly on Week 33 to 622 ind./m<sup>3</sup>. The sample presented low levels of copepods and starfish. The phytoplankton biomass in the sample was moderate with Noctiluca, L. minimus and Ceratium being the dominant species.

**The increase of the concentration of sea squirt could result in fouling on ropes and settled seed mussels.**



## Phytoplankton Distribution



■ Known ■ Potential ■ Dinoflagellate

The phytoplankton concentration highly increased in Week 33 to 426,400 cells/litre, dominated by dinoflagellate (62%) followed by known food source species (38%).

