

Kilmakilloge Harbour

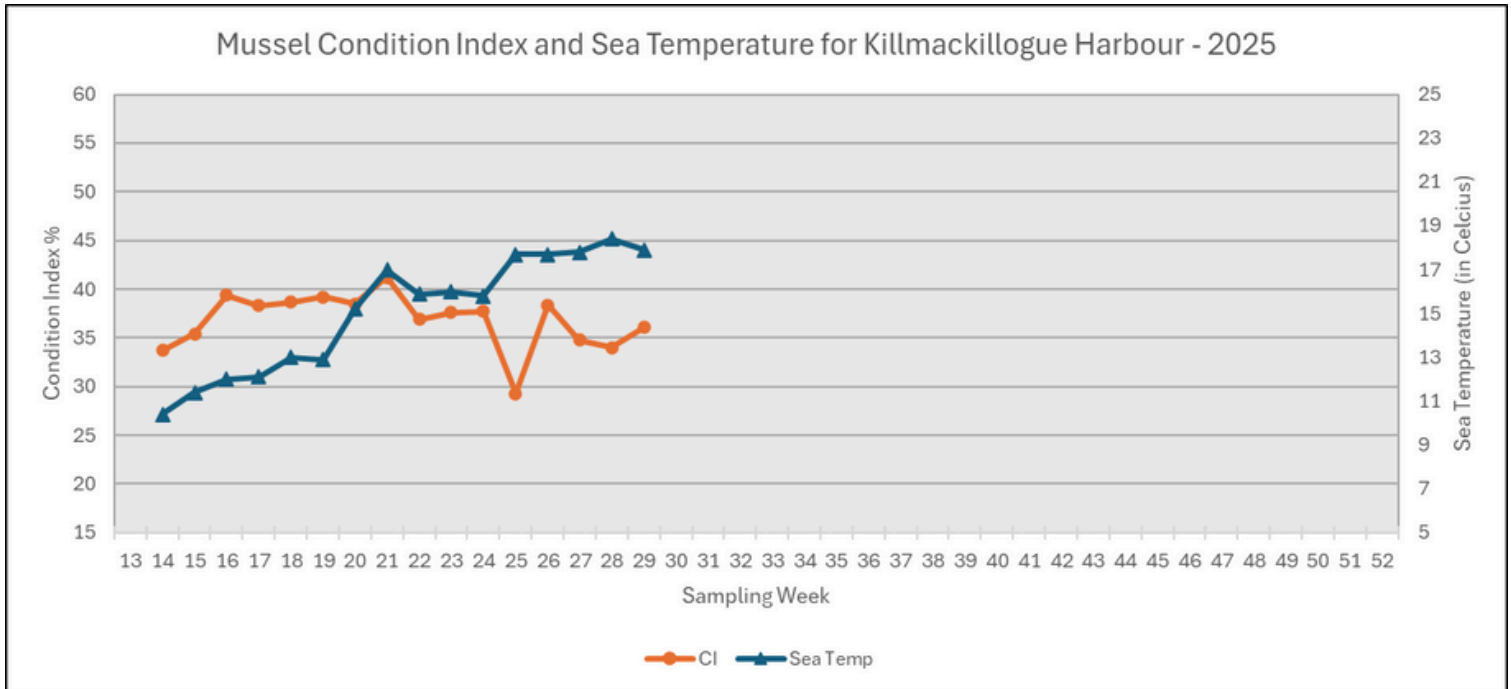


Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

21st July 2025

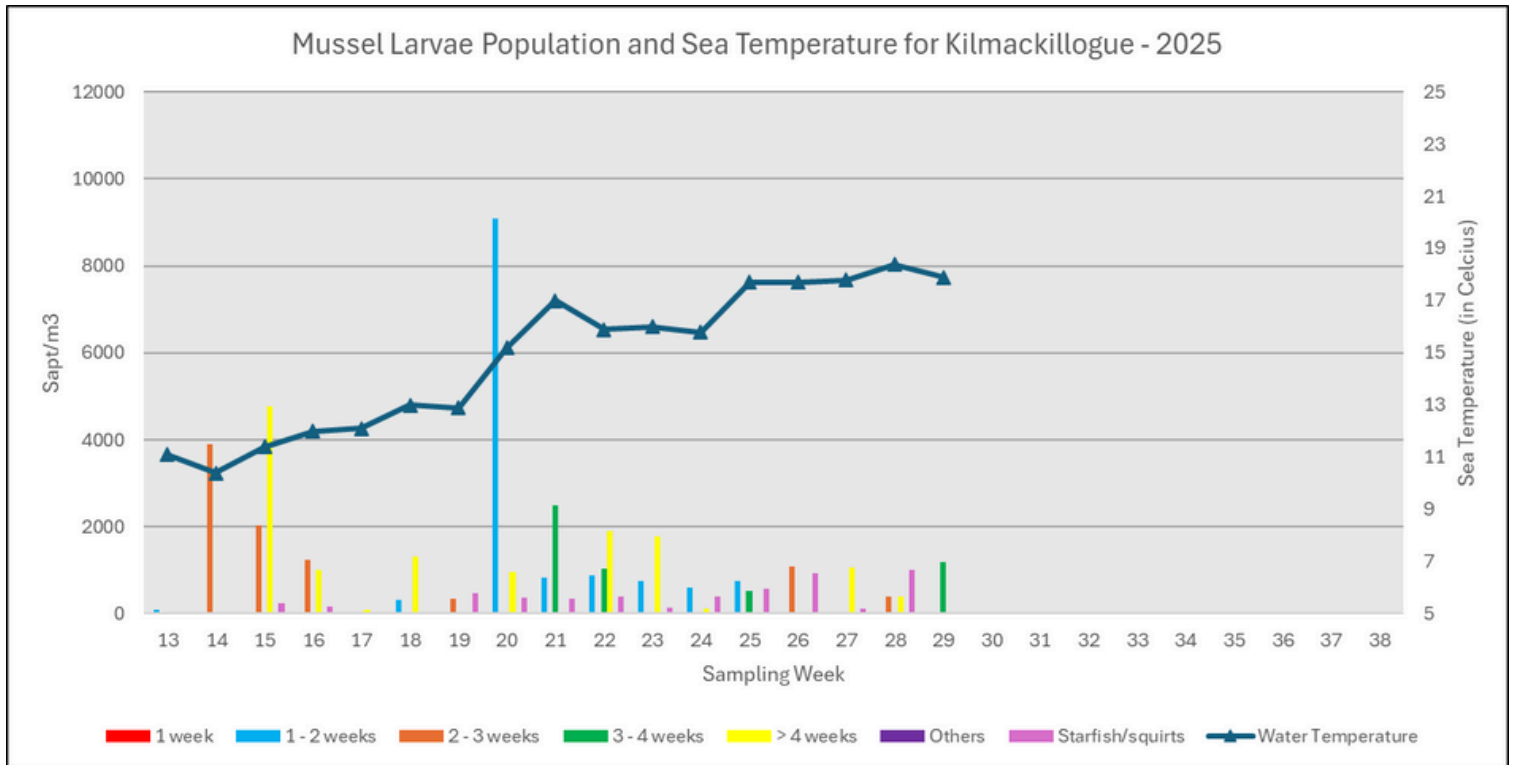
Week 29 (14/07/2025 to 20/07/2025)

Condition Index (CI) for Kilmakilloge Harbour



Larvae population evolution for Kilmackilloge 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) increased on Week 29 (up by 2.1% to 36.1%) while the sea temperature was decreased slightly to 17.9°C (-0.5 from Week 28).

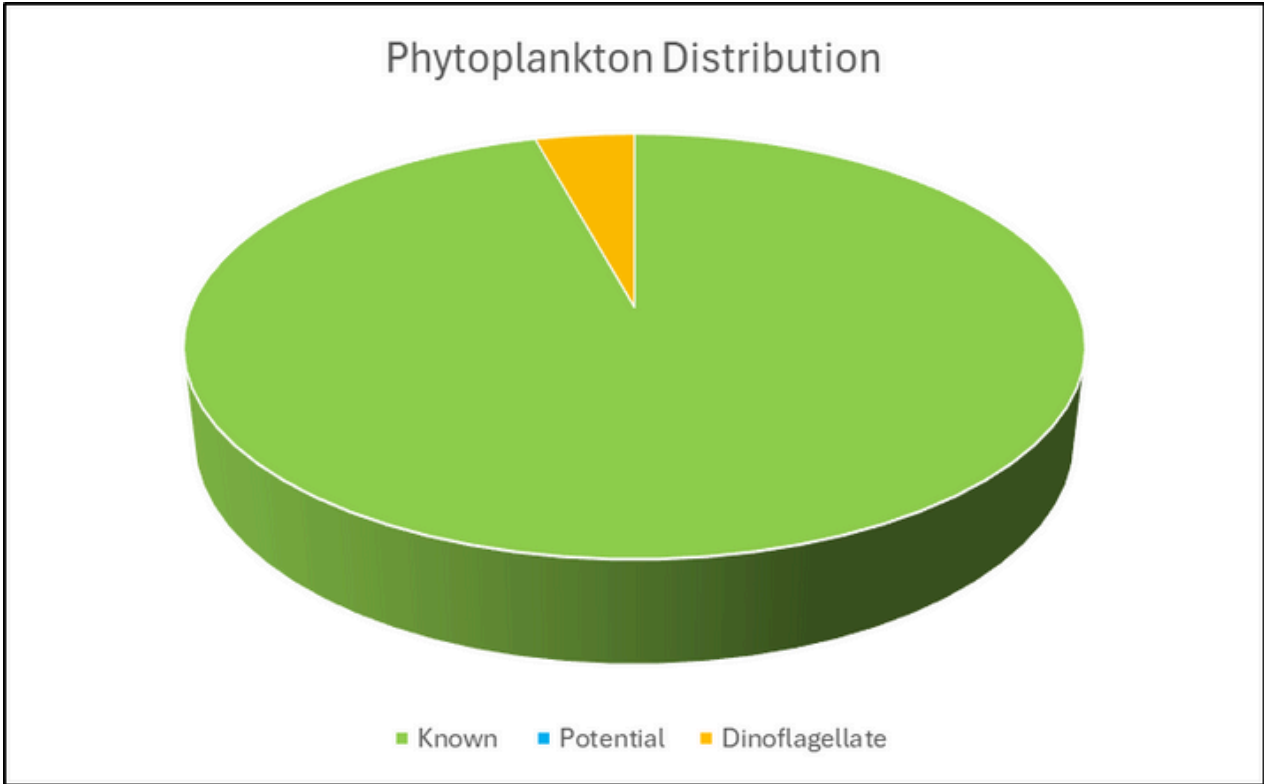
The larvae concentration in the sample was relatively high with 1180 spat/m³ of 3 to 5 weeks old.

This would indicate possible further significant settlement in the next week.

The concentration of sea squirts in the sample increased to 3024 ind./m³. The sample presented very high of copepods, tube worm, barnacles and crab as well as low levels of a second bivalve species. The phytoplankton biomass in the sample was low with *Coscinodiscus* and *Ceratium* dominant.

Although the level of sea squirt is high, some fouling mitigation could be expected considering the very high level of copepods. However, possible settlement of tubeworms and barnacles could generate further fouling.





The phytoplankton concentration increased in Week 29 to 37,640 cells/litre, dominated by known food source species (96%) and some dinoflagellate (4%).

