

Dunmanus Bay

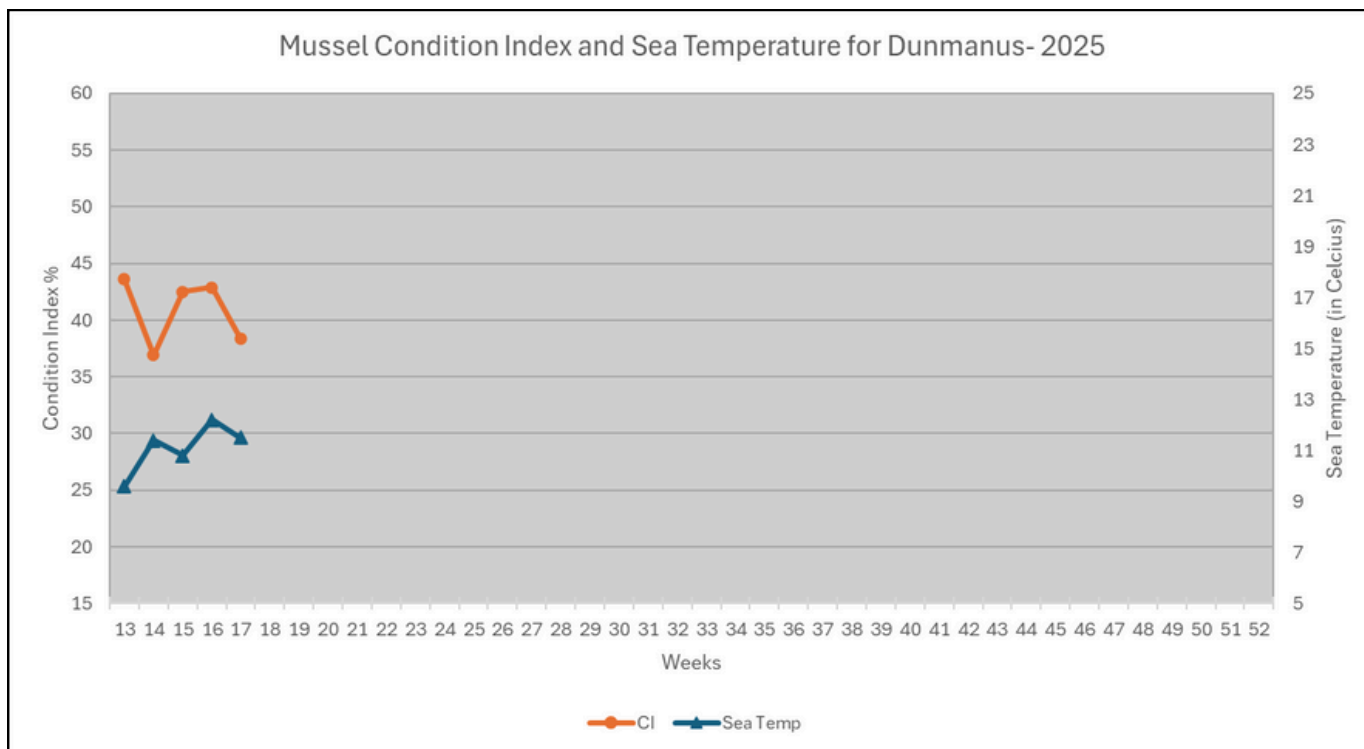
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

28th April 2025

Week 17 (21/04/2025 to
27/04/2025)

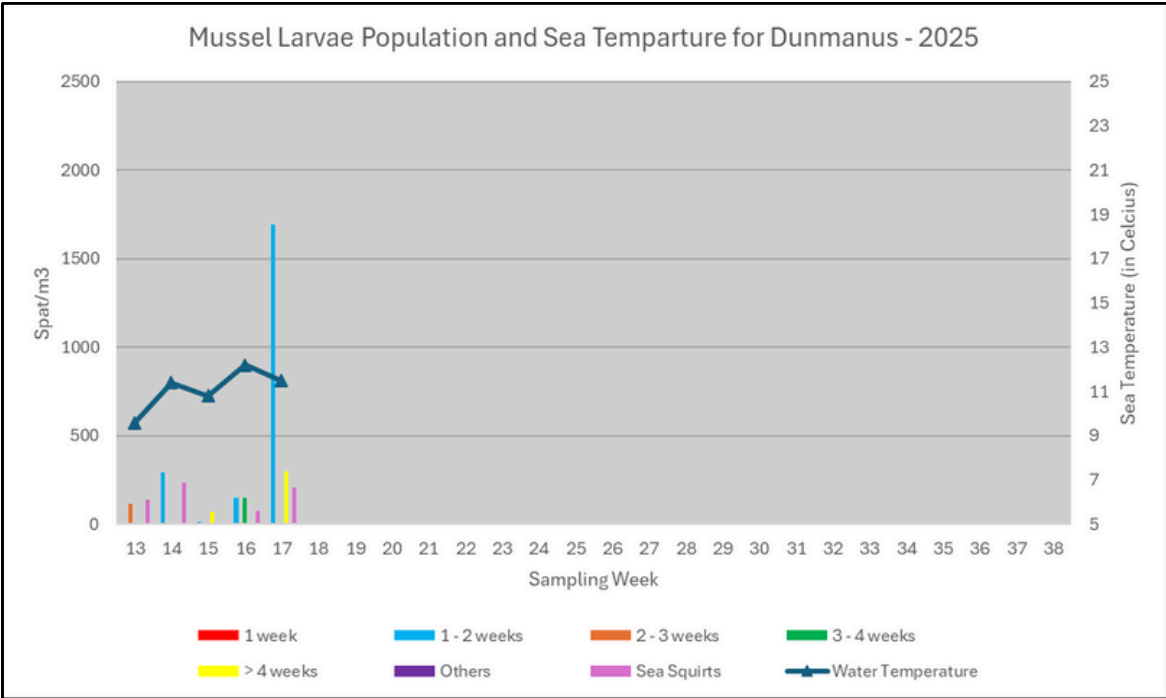


Condition Index (CI) for Dunmanus Bay



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, over 4 weeks old and others (younger or older).



Commentary

The Condition Index (CI) in Dunmanus decreased from the previous week (down by 4.5% to 38.4%). Meanwhile, the sea temperature decreased by 0.7 °C to 11.5 °C.

The sample presented a **peak of larvae (1989 spat/ m³)**, composed mainly of 1 to 2 weeks old (1691 spat/m³) and 5 to 6 weeks old (298 spat/m³). According to the graph above, there could have been a potential settlement. However, considering the levels on Week 17, a larger settlement could also be happening in the next 4 to 5 weeks.

The concentration of sea squirts has increased from the previous week to 206 individuals/ m³. A high concentration of copepods was observed in the sample while the level of crab larvae was low.

The phytoplankton levels presented 100% Dinoflagellate (25680 cells/litre) with Chaetoceros sp. and Pnseriata in high concentrations.

