

# Kilmackilloge Harbour

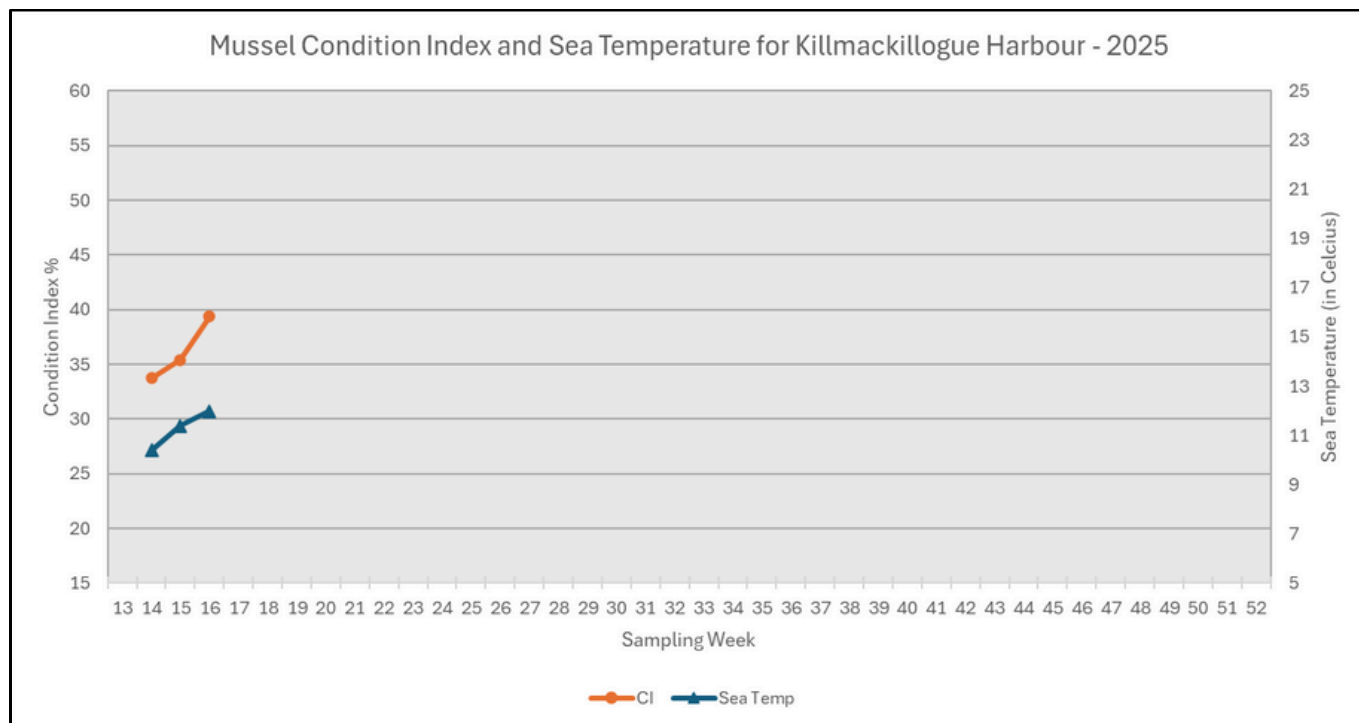
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

17<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Week 16 (14/04/2025 to  
20/04/2025)

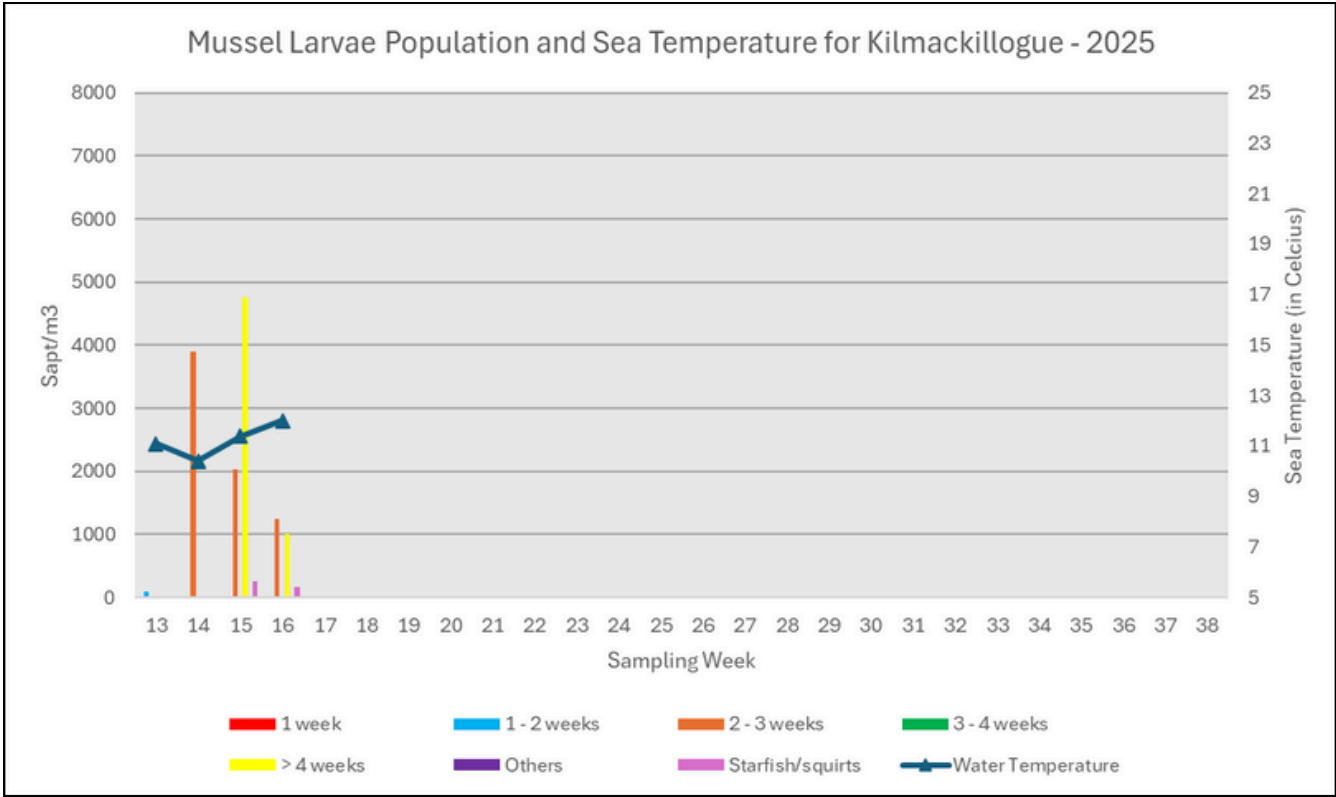


## Condition Index (CI) for Kilmackilloge Harbour



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



## Commentary

The Condition Index (CI) is still increasing (+3.96% from Week 15) and is now at 39.36%. The sea temperature only increased slightly by 0.6°C to 12°C.

The larvae sample presented still significant **levels 2 to 3 weeks old (1235 spat/m<sup>3</sup>) and 4 weeks (and older) mussel larvae (1011 spat /m<sup>3</sup>)**. However, those levels have decreased from Week 15, especially for the older age class (from 4795 spat/m<sup>3</sup> to 1011 spat/m<sup>3</sup>). This is likely related to a primary settlement.

The sea squirt concentration is moderate at 158 individuals/m<sup>3</sup>. Phaeocystis remains high, but the level of the bloom is decreasing. The level of copepods was low. No starfish. The phytoplankton concentration was 265,120 cells/litre with Protoperidinium mixed sp. in low levels.

**Considering the levels and age class of the larvae, there is a high probability that a settlement is currently taking place in Killmakilloge.**

**With the level of Phaeocystis remaining high, it would be advisable to limit stress levels on adult mussels.**

