

Kilmakilloge Harbour

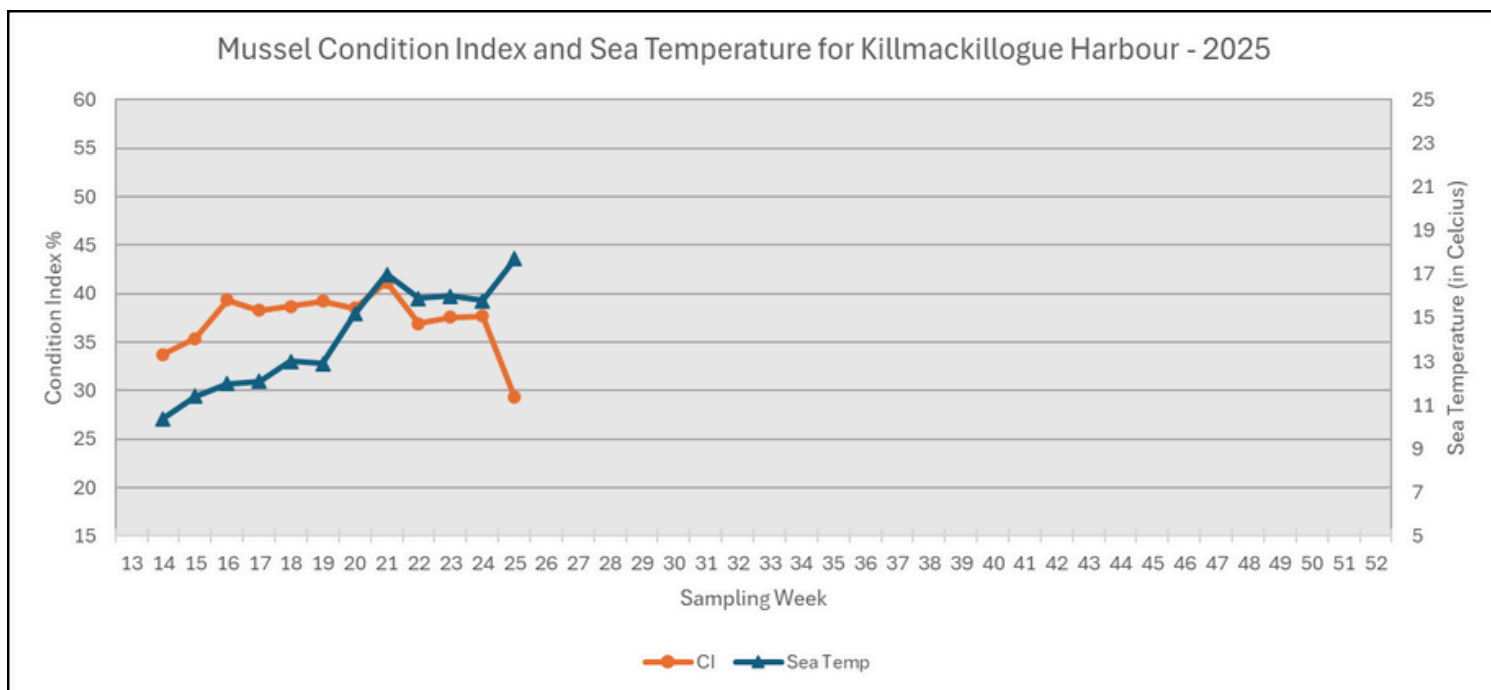
Southwest Mussel Larvae sampling

23rd June 2025

Week 25 (16/06/2025 to 22/06/2025)

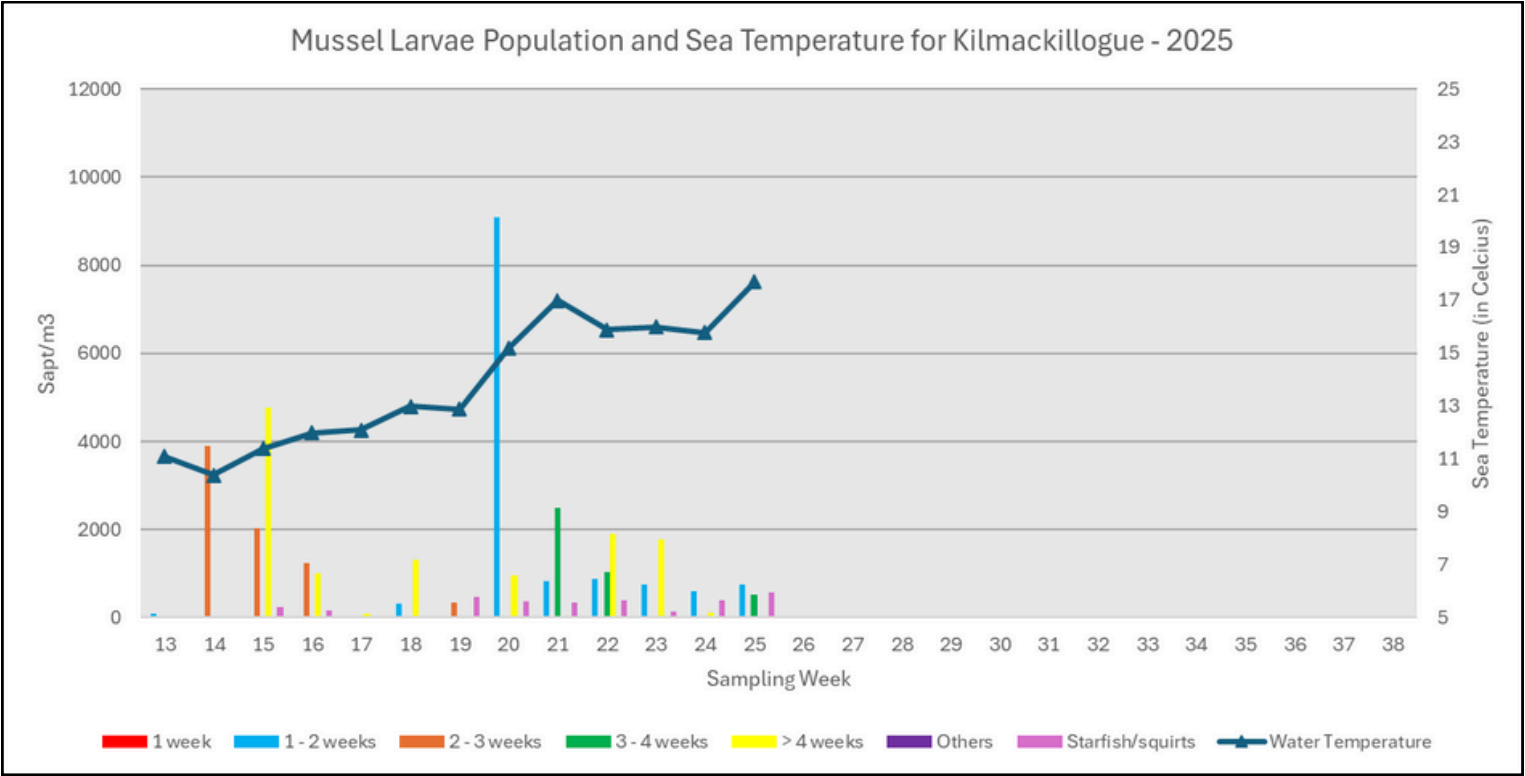


Condition Index (CI) for Kilmakilloge Harbour



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



Commentary

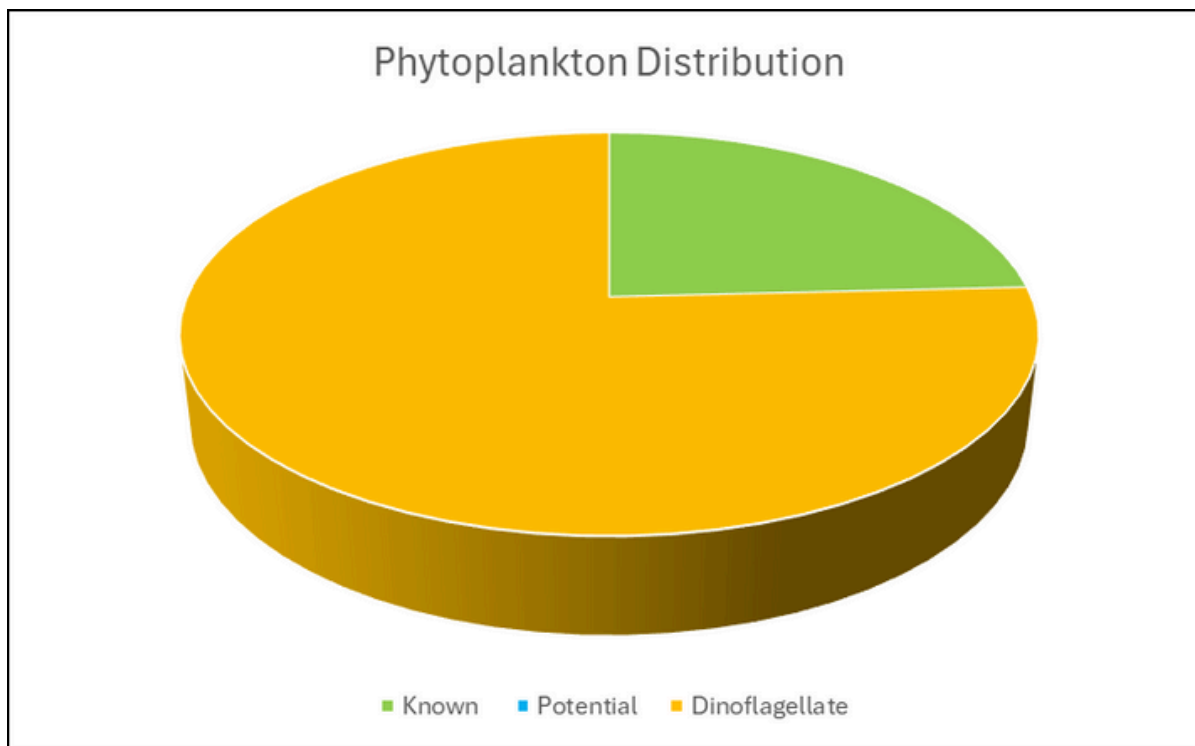
The Condition Index (CI) significantly dropped in Week 25 (down by 8.45 to 29.3%) while the sea temperature increased by nearly 2 degrees to 17.7°c. The trend in those two indicators suggest that **some spawning may have occurred**. That possible spawning did not translate in the results from the larvae sampling.

The larvae concentration in the sample was 1277 spat/m³ comprised at 60% of 1 to 3 weeks old and 40% of 3 to 5 weeks old.

The levels of sea squirts were significant again at 584 ind./m³. Tube worm, winkles and 2nd bivalve species were also present at high concentrations. The level of copepods was very high. The phytoplankton levels in the sample were moderate with C. fusus, Pn. seriata and Chaetoceros sp. H dominating.

Considering those results, there is a high risk of fouling from tubeworms and sea squirts on collectors and growing ropes.





The phytoplankton concentration continued dropping in Week 25, down to 2,480 cells/litre, dominated by dinoflagellate (76%) with lower levels of known food source species (24%).

