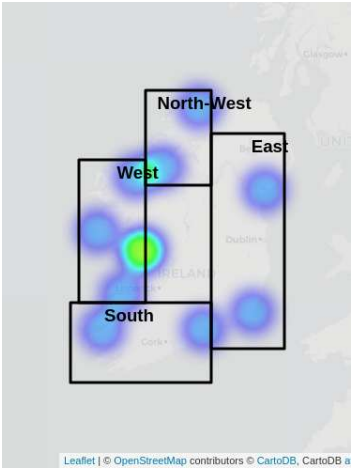
Ireland's Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin: Prediction Summary Week 21 17/05/26 - 23/05/26

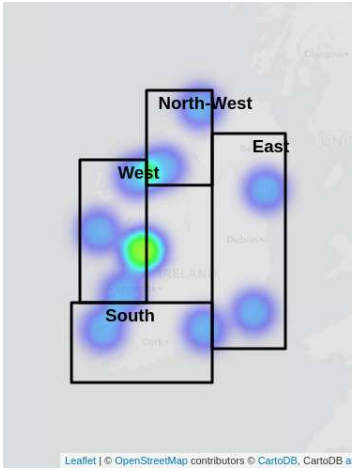
Foras na Mara Marine Institute

Diarrhetic Shellfish Toxins



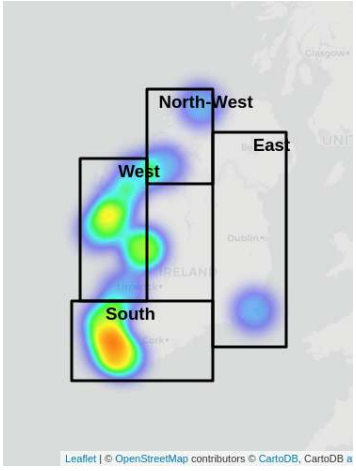
Toxic Sites	0
Analysed Sites	32

Azaspiracid Shellfish Toxins



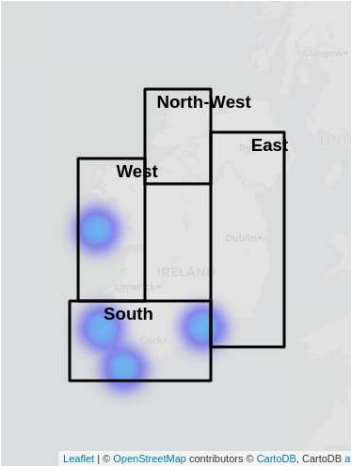
Toxic Sites	0
Analysed Sites	32

Amnesic Shellfish Toxins



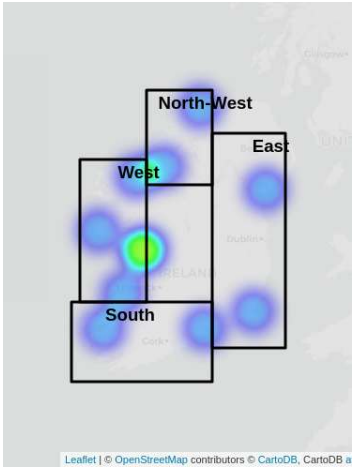
Toxic Sites	0
Analysed Sites	32

Paralytic Shellfish Toxins



Toxic Sites	0
Analysed Sites	6

Yessotoxins



Toxic Sites	0
Analysed Sites	31

AST: (Amnesic shellfish toxin) In Bantry Bay, *Pseudo-nitzschia* species cell levels remain high and no toxins observed over a 6 week decreasing trend, *Pseudo-nitzschia* species also observed in Kenmare Bay, High to moderate risk in the SW still & caution advised.

AZA: (Azaspiracid toxin) Low/Medium risk. Azadinium spp. counts indicate presence and spread of potential cells on all coasts. Caution advised.

DST: (Dinophysis shellfish toxin) Low risk generally.

PST: (Paralytic shellfish toxins) Low risk generally.

Diarhettic Shellfish Toxins & *Dinophysis* species

Regional 4-Week Trends 19/04/26 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara Marine Institute

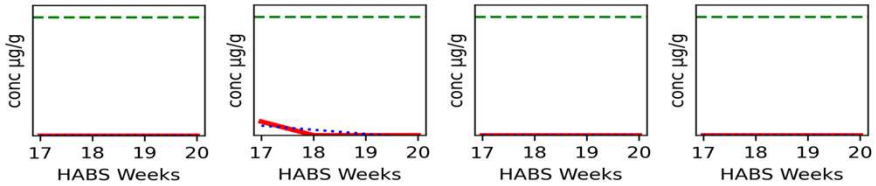
In this 4 week period there were 162 Samples tested for DST. These samples were collected at 70 Sites around the country. Resulting in 0 Site(s) with values above the regulatory limit of 0.16 µg/g

North-West	South	East	West

The plots below indicate the maximum concentration per site in the 4 week period and coloured as follows

>100% threshold | 50-100% threshold | 0-50% threshold | <Limit of Quantification

---- indicates the regulatory threshold. These plots show the max value per week for the previous 4 weeks.

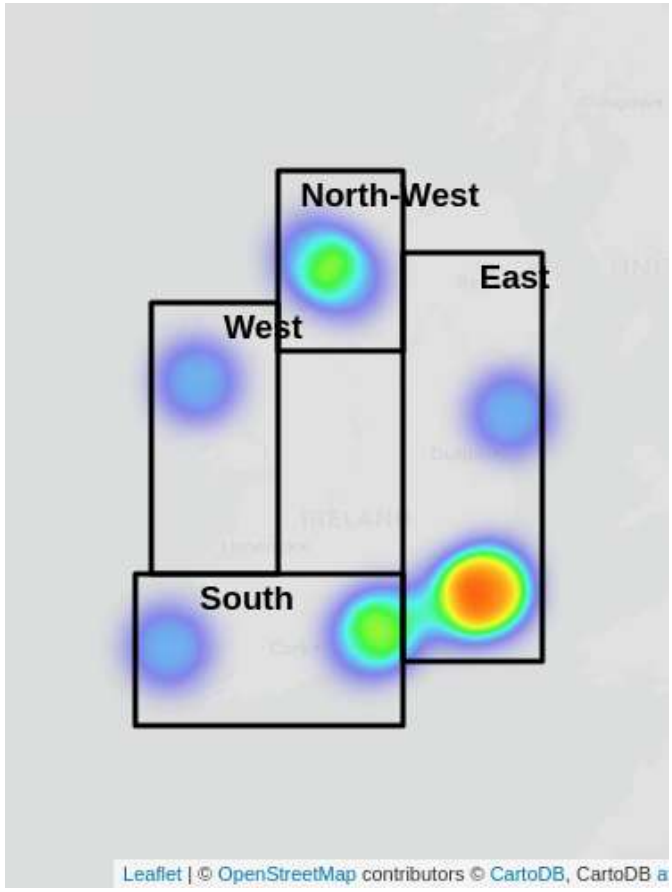


	North-West	South	East	West
Risk:	Low	Low	Low	Low
Trend:	→	→	→	→

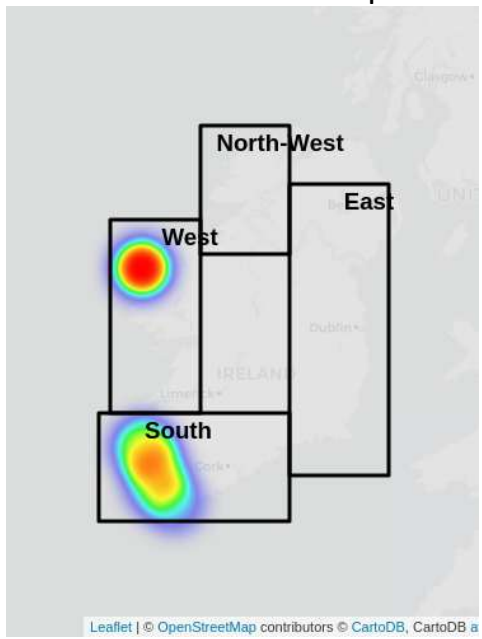
Risk:

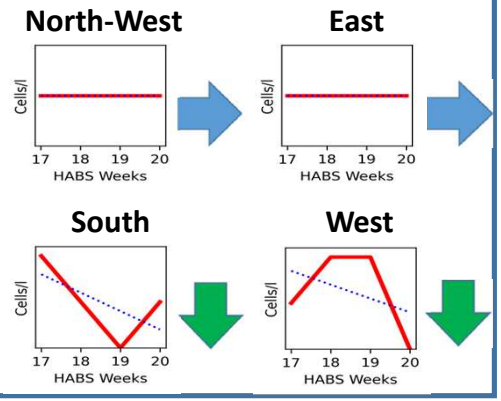
Low Risk & less likely to increase dramatically at this time.

Diarhettic Shellfish Toxins National 4-Week Heatmap



Phytoplankton *Dinophysis spp.* 4 Week Heatmap



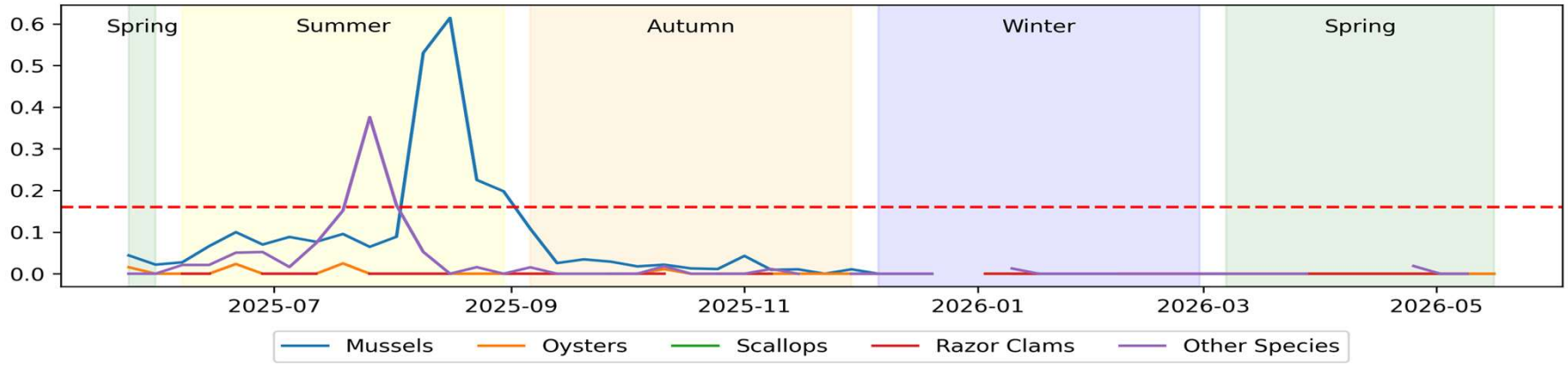


Diarhettic Shellfish Toxins & *Dinophysis* species

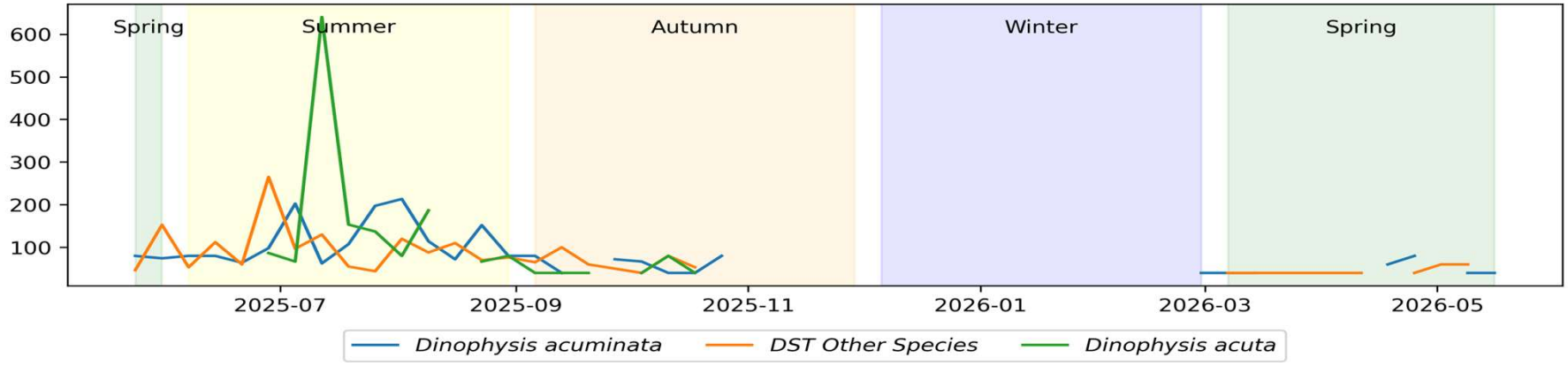
National Yearly Trend 17/05/25 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Trend of Maximum Toxin concentrations in Shellfish Species (measured in µg/g)



Trend of Average Counts of Toxin Causing PhytoPlankton Species Per Week *(measured in Cells per Litre)*



Azaspiracid Shellfish Toxins & *Azadinium* species

Regional 4-Week Trends 19/04/26 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara Marine Institute

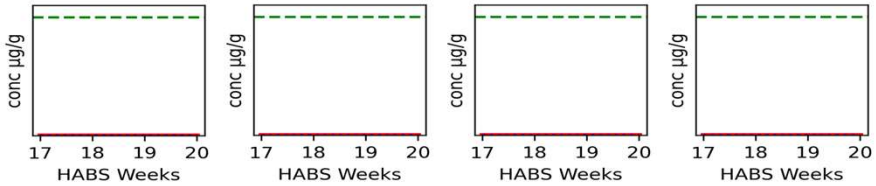
In this 4 week period there were 162 Samples tested for AZT. These samples were collected at 70 Sites around the country. Resulting in 0 Site(s) with values above the regulatory limit of 0.16 µg/g

North-West	South	East	West

The plots below indicate the maximum concentration per site in the 4 week period and coloured as follows

>100% threshold | 50-100% threshold | 0-50% threshold | <Limit of Quantification

---- indicates the regulatory threshold. These plots show the max value per week for the previous 4 weeks.

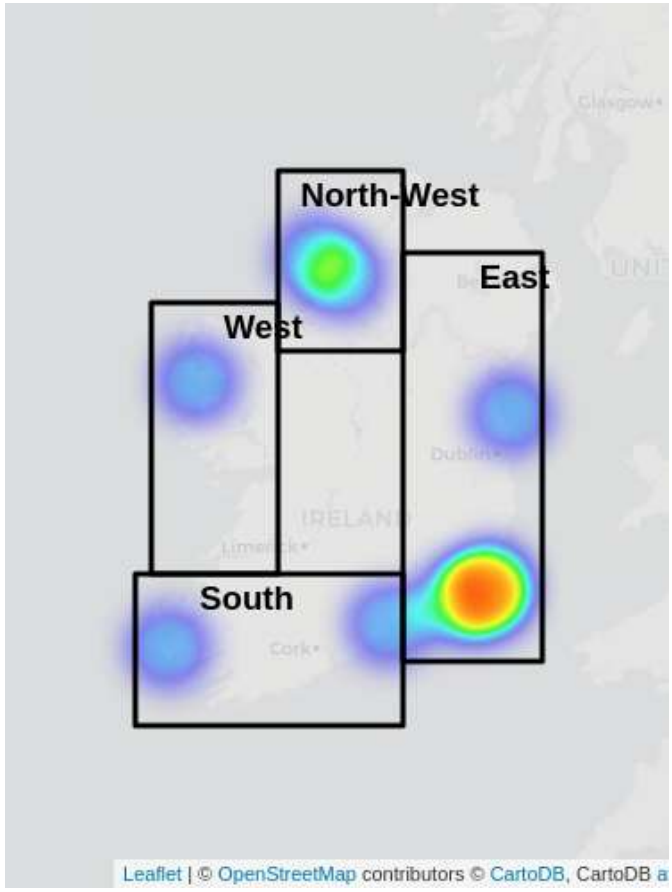


	North-West	South	East	West
Risk:	Low	Low	Low	Low
Trend:	→	→	→	→

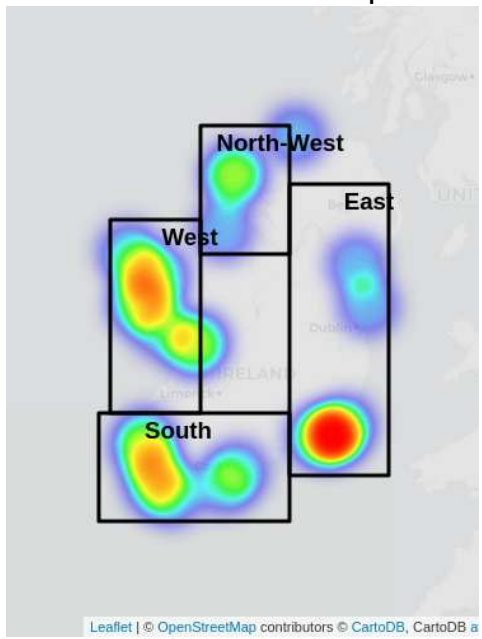
Risk:

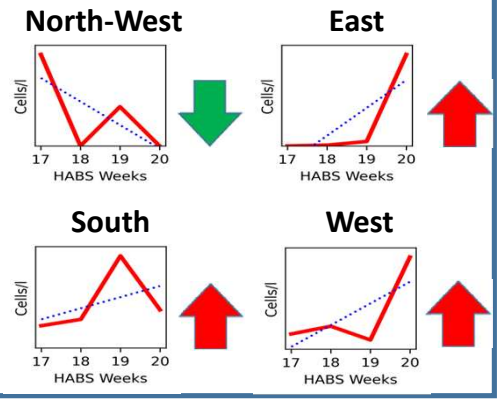
Low risk *Azadinium* spp. counts indicate presence and spread of potential cells on all coasts. Caution advised.

Azaspiracid Shellfish Toxins National 4-Week Heatmap



Phytoplankton *Azadinium spp.* 4 Week Heatmap



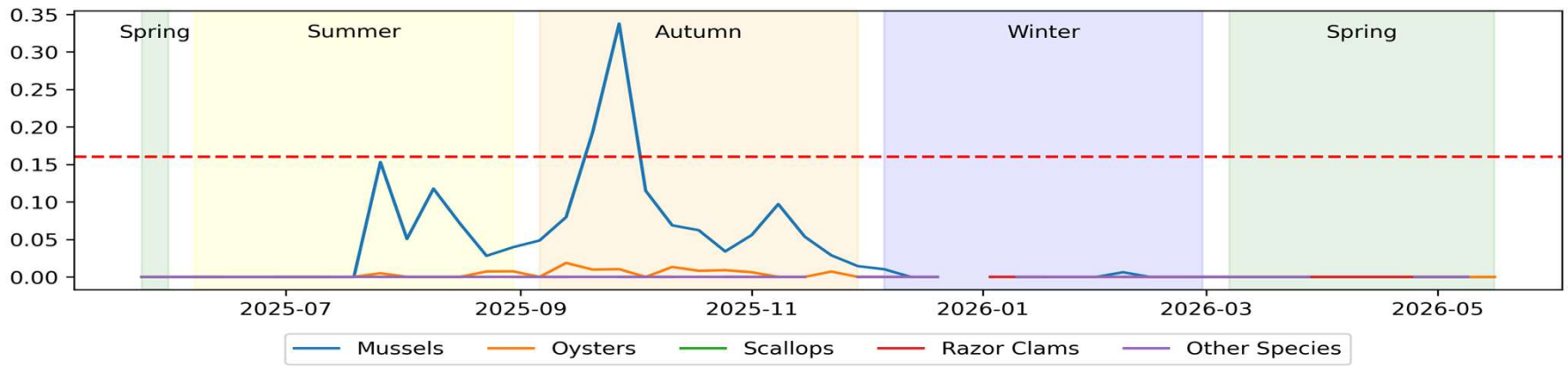


Azaspiracid Shellfish Toxins & *Azadinium* species

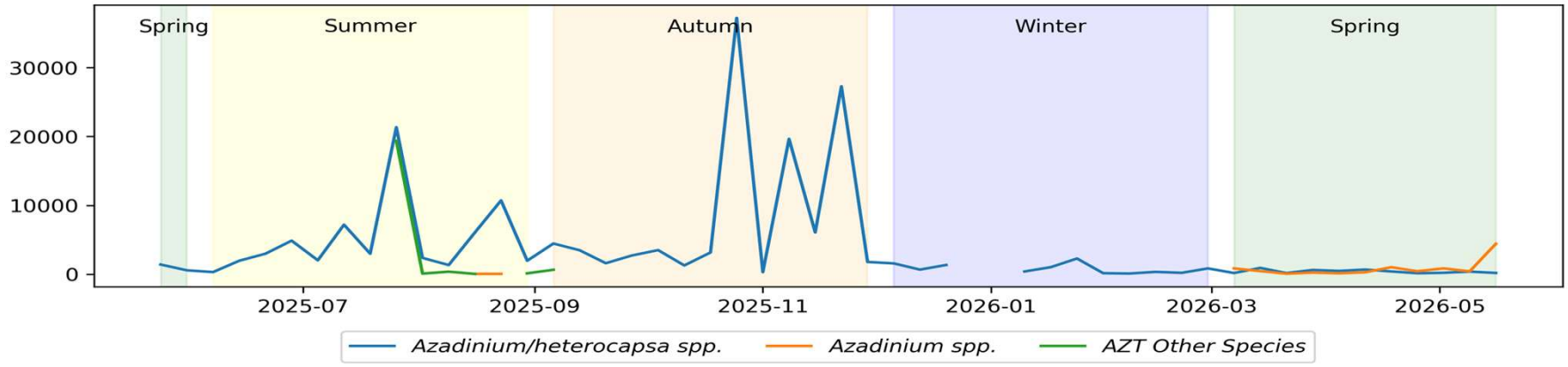
National Yearly Trend 17/05/25 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Trend of Maximum Toxin concentrations in Shellfish Species (measured in µg/g)



Trend of Average Counts of Toxin Causing PhytoPlankton Species Per Week *(measured in Cells per Litre)*



Amnesic Shellfish Toxins & *Pseudo-nitzschia* species

Regional 4-Week Trends 19/04/26 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara Marine Institute

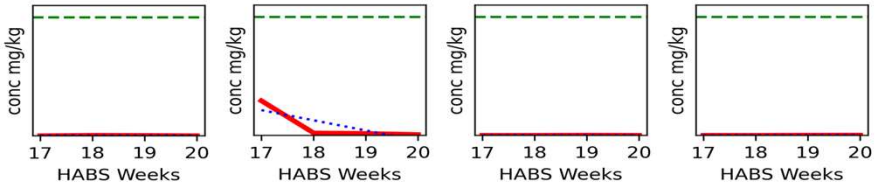
In this 4 week period there were 163 Samples tested for AST. These samples were collected at 70 Sites around the country. Resulting in 0 Site(s) with values above the regulatory limit of 20.0 mg/kg

North-West	South	East	West

The plots below indicate the maximum concentration per site in the 4 week period and coloured as follows

>100% threshold | 50-100% threshold | 0-50% threshold | <Limit of Quantification

---- indicates the regulatory threshold. These plots show the max value per week for the previous 4 weeks.

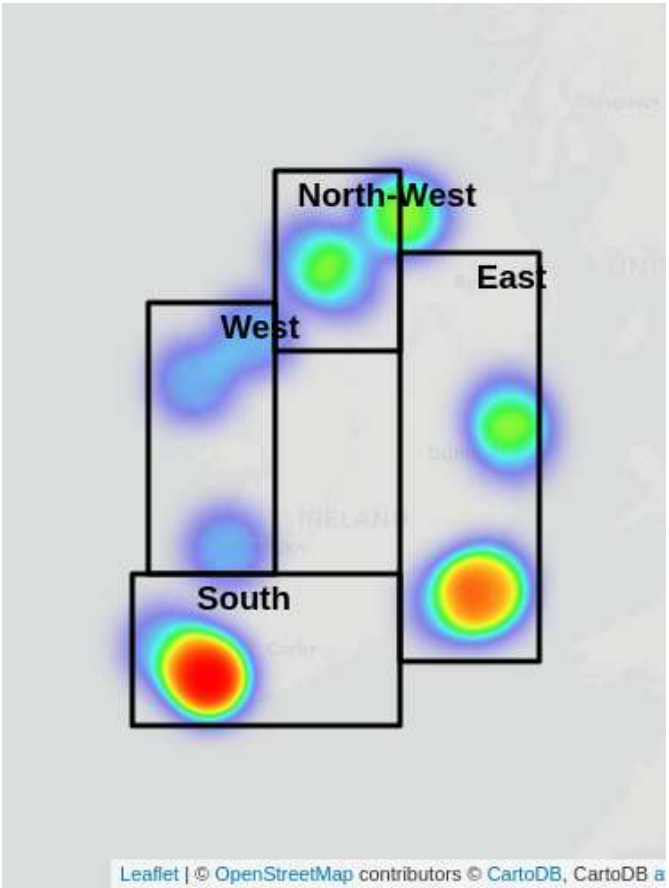


	North-West	South	East	West
Risk:	Low	Low	Low	Low
Trend:	→	↓	→	→

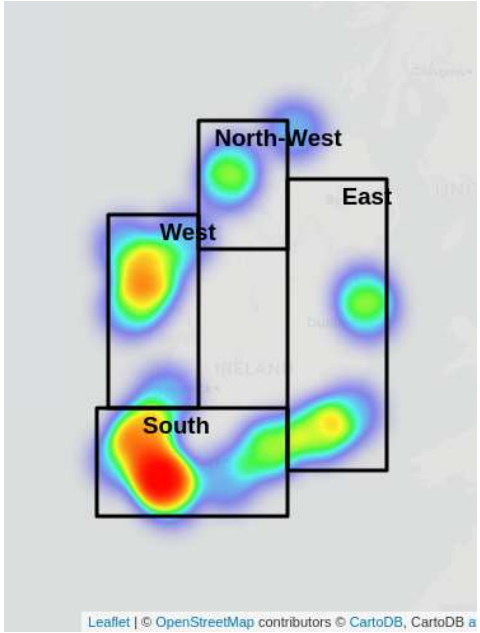
High/Medium Risk:

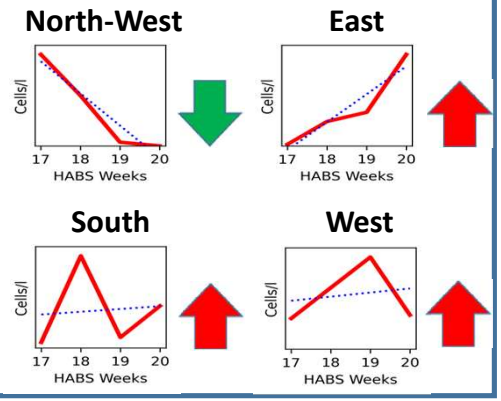
In the Bantry Bay & Kenmare Bay *Pseudo-nitzschia* species cells are still been observed at elevated levels. The related ASP toxins are not present in the shellfish, however caution still advised in the SW.

Amnesic Shellfish Toxins
National 4-Week Heatmap



Phytoplankton *Pseudo-nitzschia spp.*
4 Week Heatmap



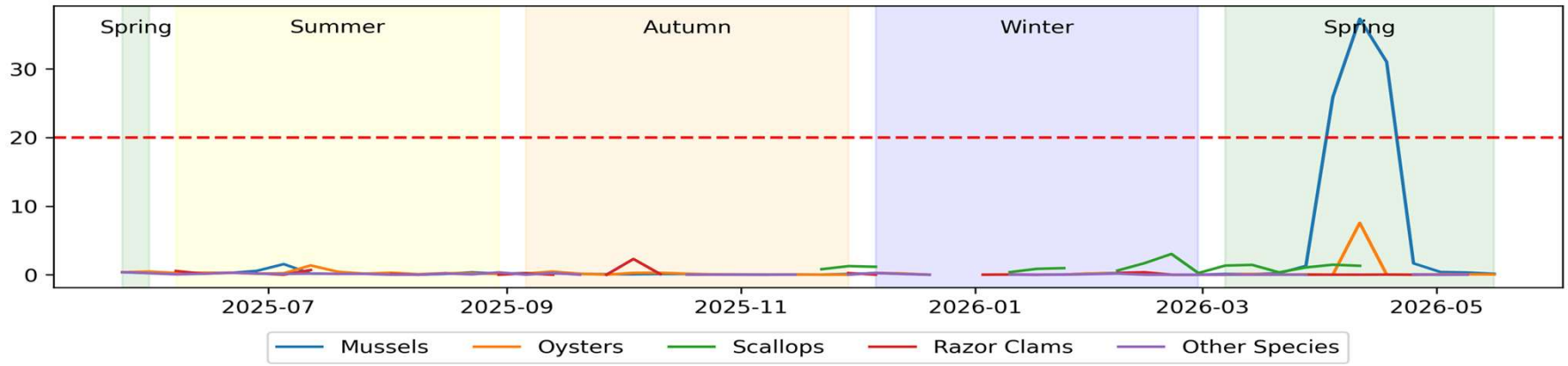


Amnesic Shellfish Toxins & *Pseudo-nitzschia* species

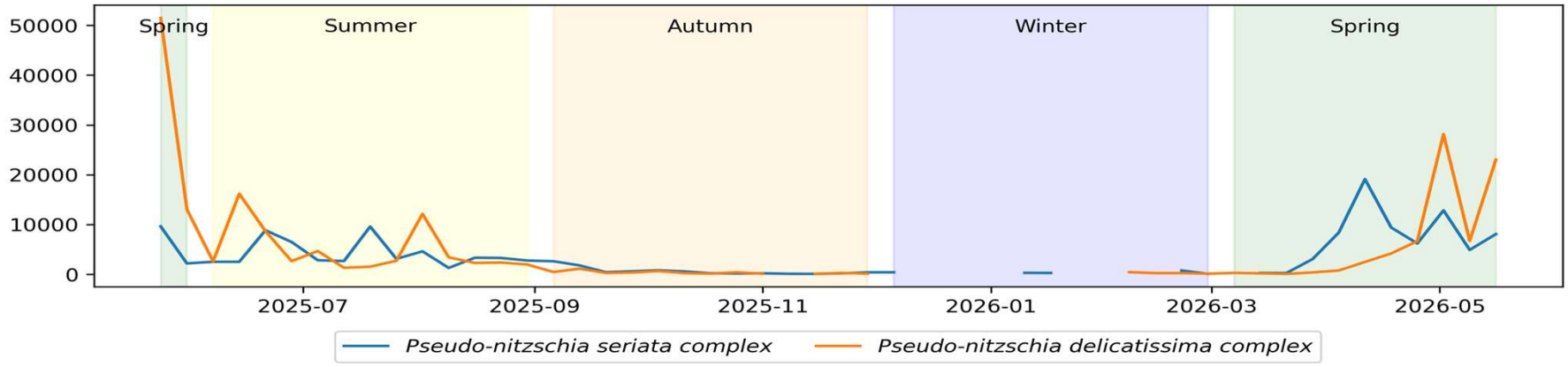
National Yearly Trend 17/05/25 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara Marine Institute

Trend of Maximum Toxin concentrations in Shellfish Species (measured in mg/kg)



Trend of Average Counts of Toxin Causing PhytoPlankton Species Per Week *(measured in Cells per Litre)*



Paralytic Shellfish Toxins & *Alexandrium* species

Regional 4-Week Trends 19/04/26 - 16/05/26

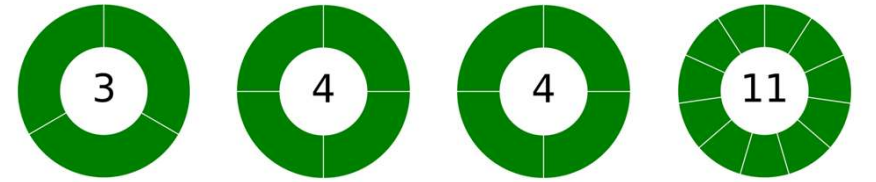
Foras na Mara Marine Institute

In this 4 week period there were 38 Samples tested for PST. These samples were collected at 22 Sites around the country. Resulting in 0 Site(s) with values above the regulatory limit of 800.0 µg/kg

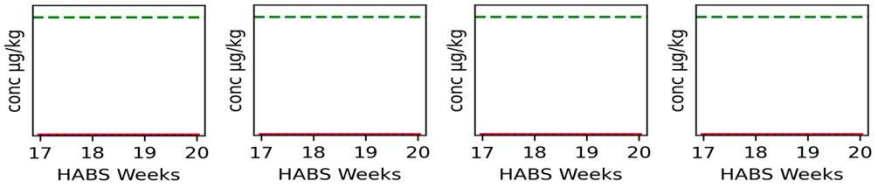
North-West	South	East	West

The plots below indicate the maximum concentration per site in the 4 week period and coloured as follows

>100% threshold | 50-100% threshold | 0-50% threshold | <Limit of Quantification



---- indicates the regulatory threshold. These plots show the max value per week for the previous 4 weeks.

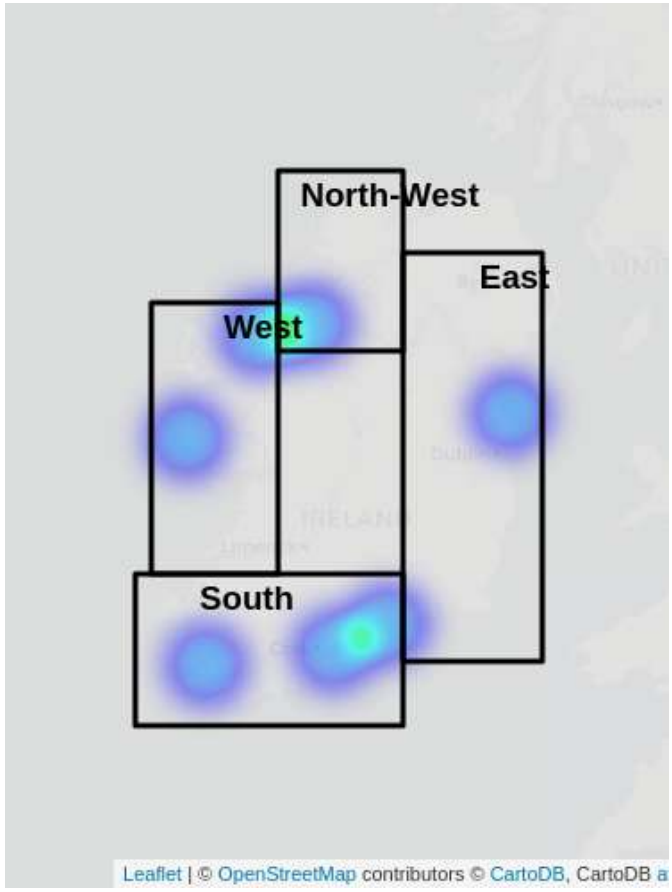


	North-West	South	East	West
Risk:	Low	Low	Low	Low
Trend:	→	→	→	→

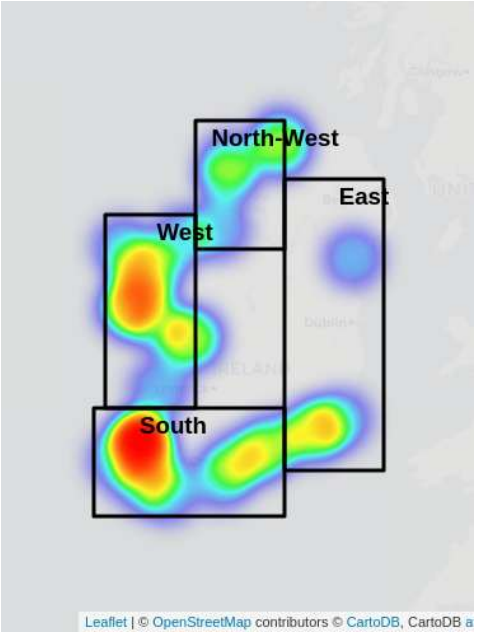
Risk:

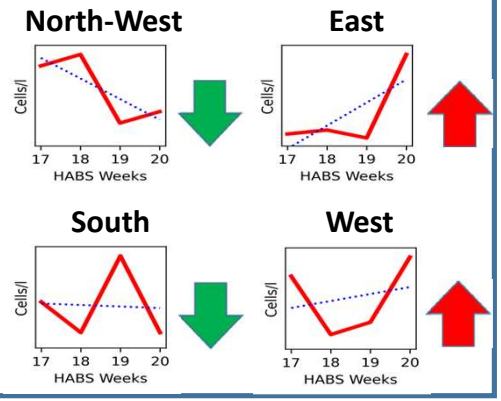
Low Risk & less likely to increase dramatically at this time.

Paralytic Shellfish Toxins National 4-Week Heatmap



Phytoplankton *Alexandrium spp.* 4 Week Heatmap



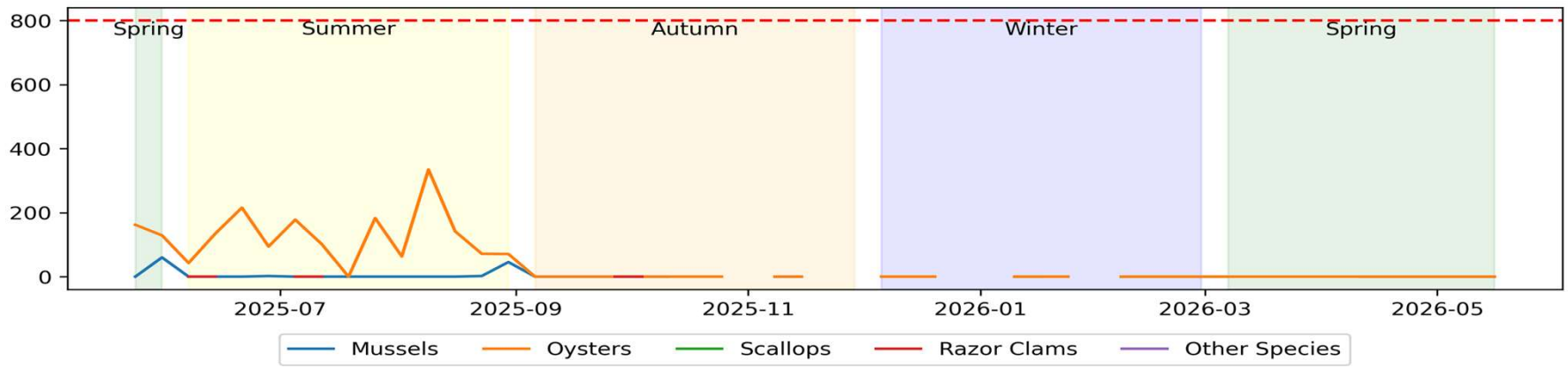


Paralytic Shellfish Toxins & *Alexandrium* species

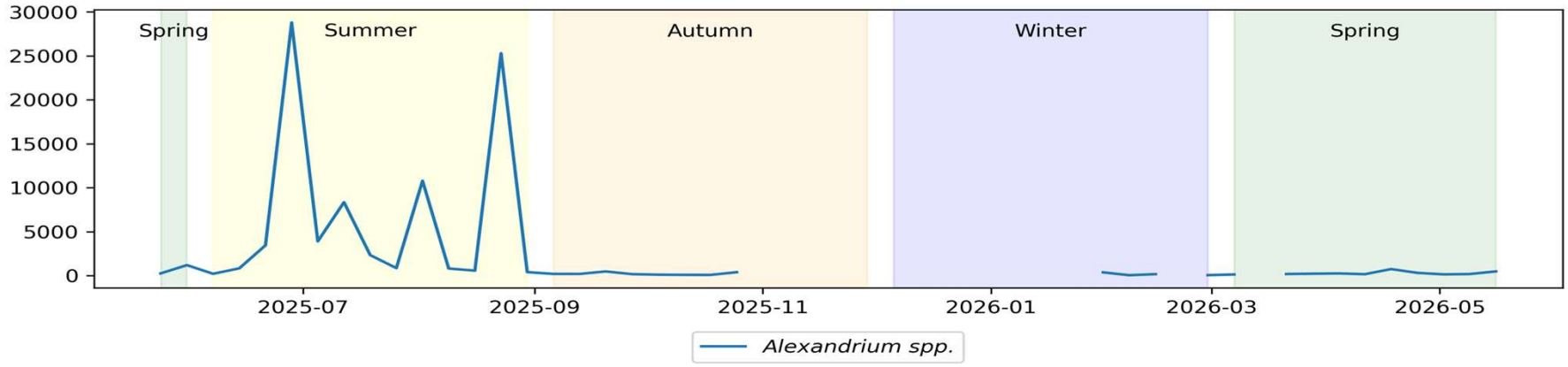
National Yearly Trend 17/05/25 - 16/05/26

Foras na Mara Marine Institute

Trend of Maximum Toxin concentrations in Shellfish Species (measured in µg/kg)



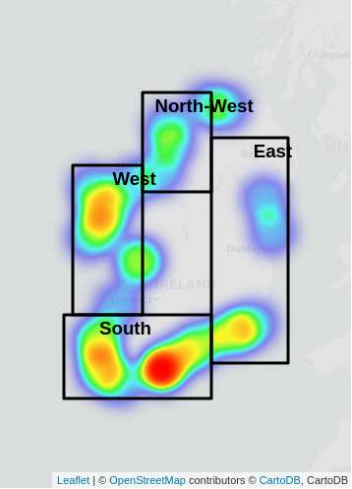
Trend of Average Counts of Toxin Causing PhytoPlankton Species Per Week *(measured in Cells per Litre)*



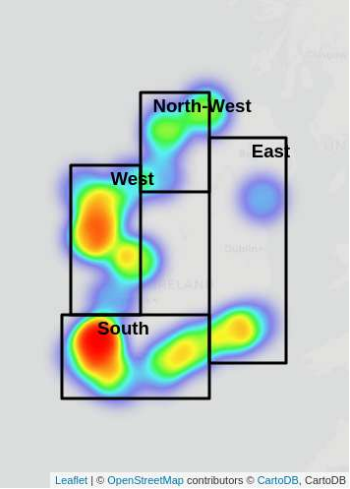
Fish Harming Phytoplankton

National 4-Week Analysis: 19/04/26 to 16/05/26

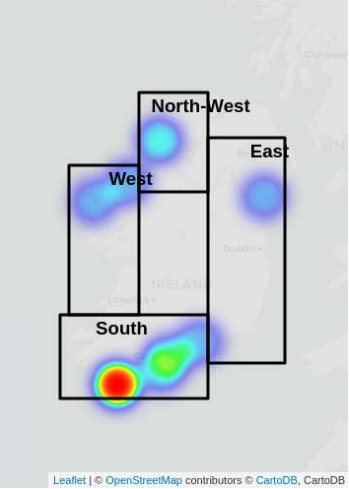
Foras na Mara Marine Institute



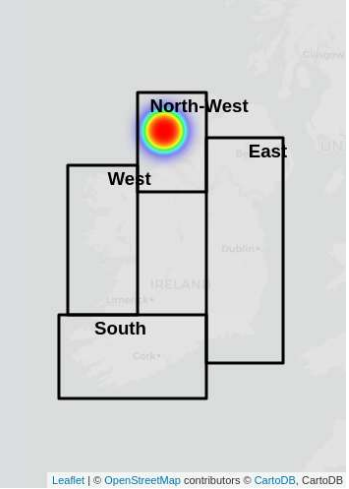
Heterocapsa sp.



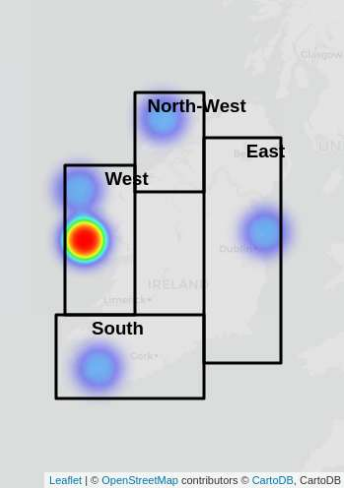
Alexandrium sp.



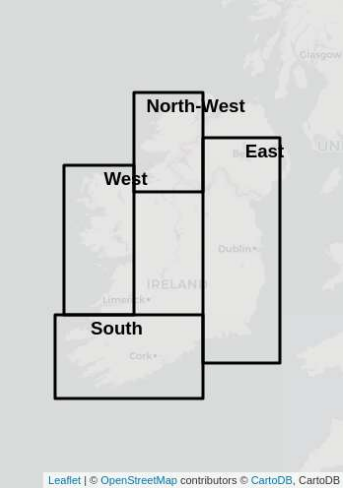
Coscinodiscus sp.



Phaeocystis sp.

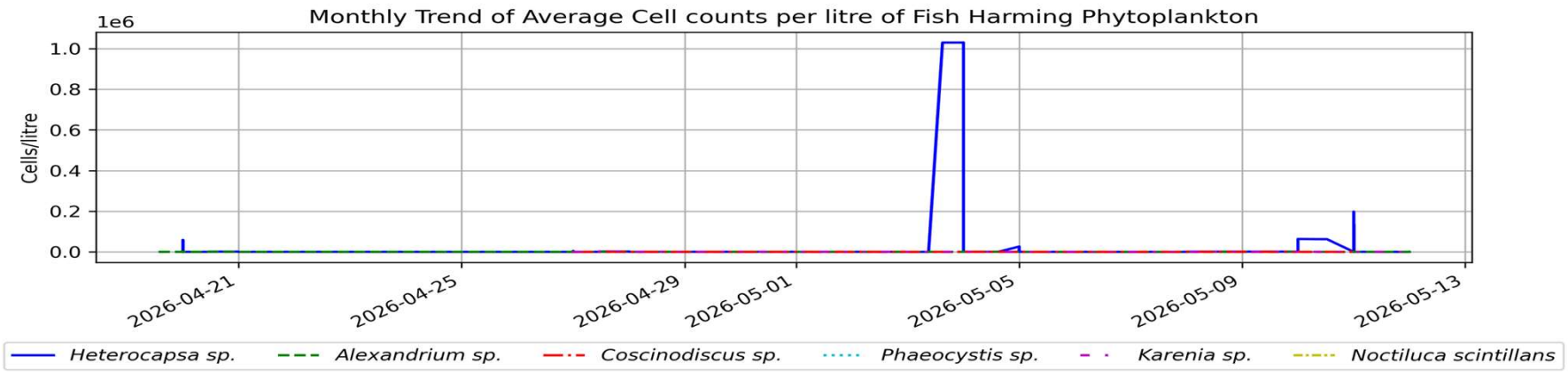


Karenia sp.



Noctiluca Scintillans

Phytoplankton cell levels are in line with this time of the year. Offshore Sea water temperatures & light levels are increasing as we move into Spring. Offshore transportation potential higher likelihood of occurrence as insitu risk levels of HABs growth increasing significantly. Any Phytoplankton species at sufficient numbers may cause temporary issues in water quality which could impact specific areas over the course of a tidal cycle or for a period of days while specific suitable conditions prevail. Please note some blooms can occur rapidly and acutely. If concerned about a problematic or toxic species level please check specific site information updates at www.marine.ie.

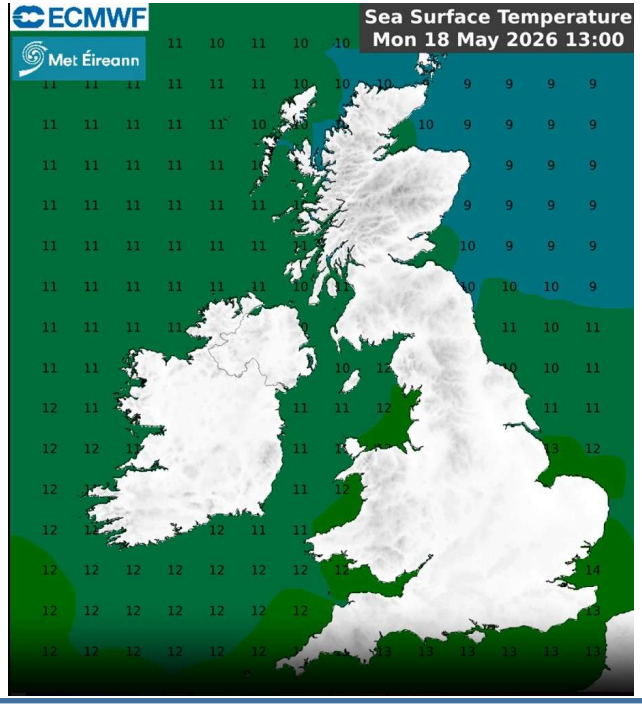


Satellite Imagery & Oceanographic Data

Surface Chlorophyll and Temperature

Foras na Mara
Marine Institute

Sea Surface Temperature (° C)



Chlorophyll Concentrations (mg/m3)

Sea water temperatures warming as indicated in offshore areas with onshore movements & light levels increasing. *Pseudo-nitzschia* spp. levels remain high in the Southwest Bantry & Kenmare Bay. Mixed dominance of diatom phytoplankton species present. Please check specific area information for local activity.

Marine Institute Data Buoy – Temperature Data

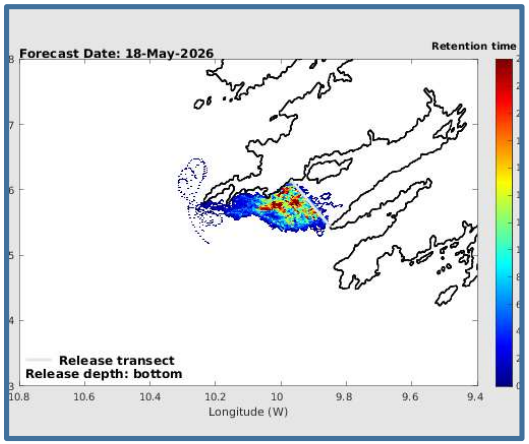
- M4: No buoy data available this week
- SW Coast (M3) Average SST of 11.96 Celcius: Decrease of -0.39 Celcius over the historic Weekly Average
- SE Coast (M5) Average SST of 11.38 Celcius: Decrease of -0.44 Celcius over the historic Weekly Average

Ireland modelled data: Estimated Water Pathway SOUTHWEST: Bantry Bay Forecast for the next 3 days

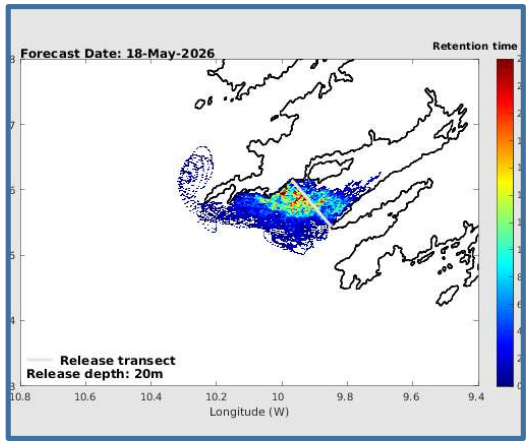
Foras na Mara Marine Institute

The maps show the **most likely transport pathways for the next 3 days of phytoplankton** found along the **presented transects** (black lines off Mizen Head and the Mouth of Bantry Bay) and **water depths** (bottom, 20 metres and surface).

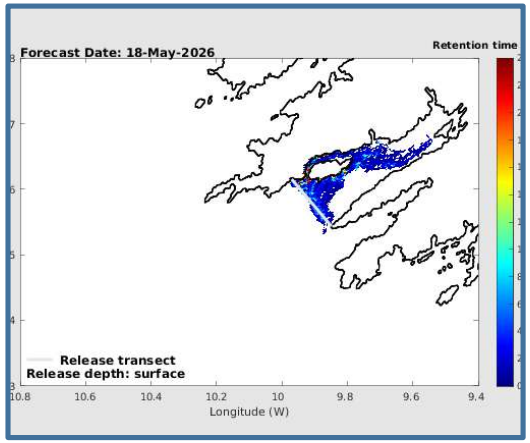
Reddish colours represent areas where phytoplankton remain longest. Cooler colours represent areas where phytoplankton remain for shorter periods



Bottom water



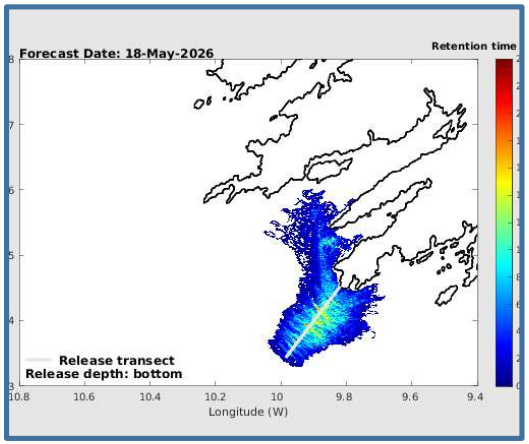
Water @ 20 metres

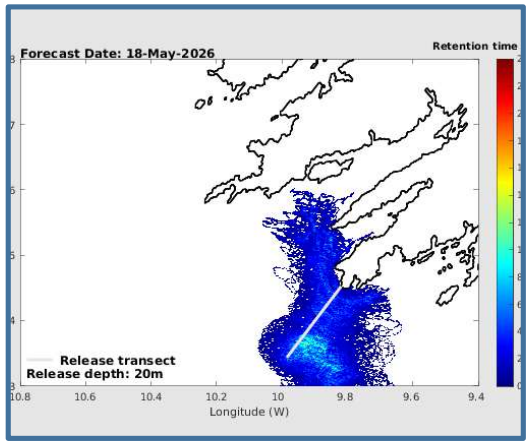


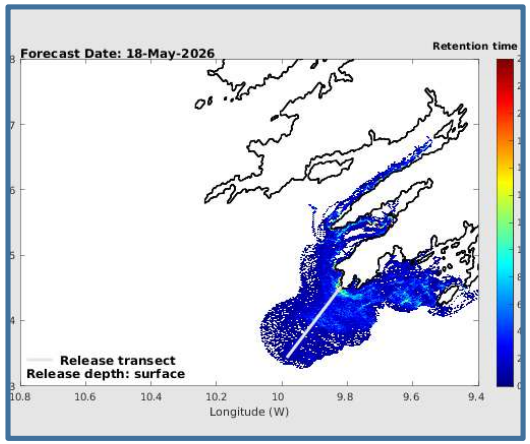
Surface water

Mouth of Bantry Bay:

Mostly Southern water movements at depths, where deeper waters indicate slower movement of waters. At surface levels there is a quicker change of water.





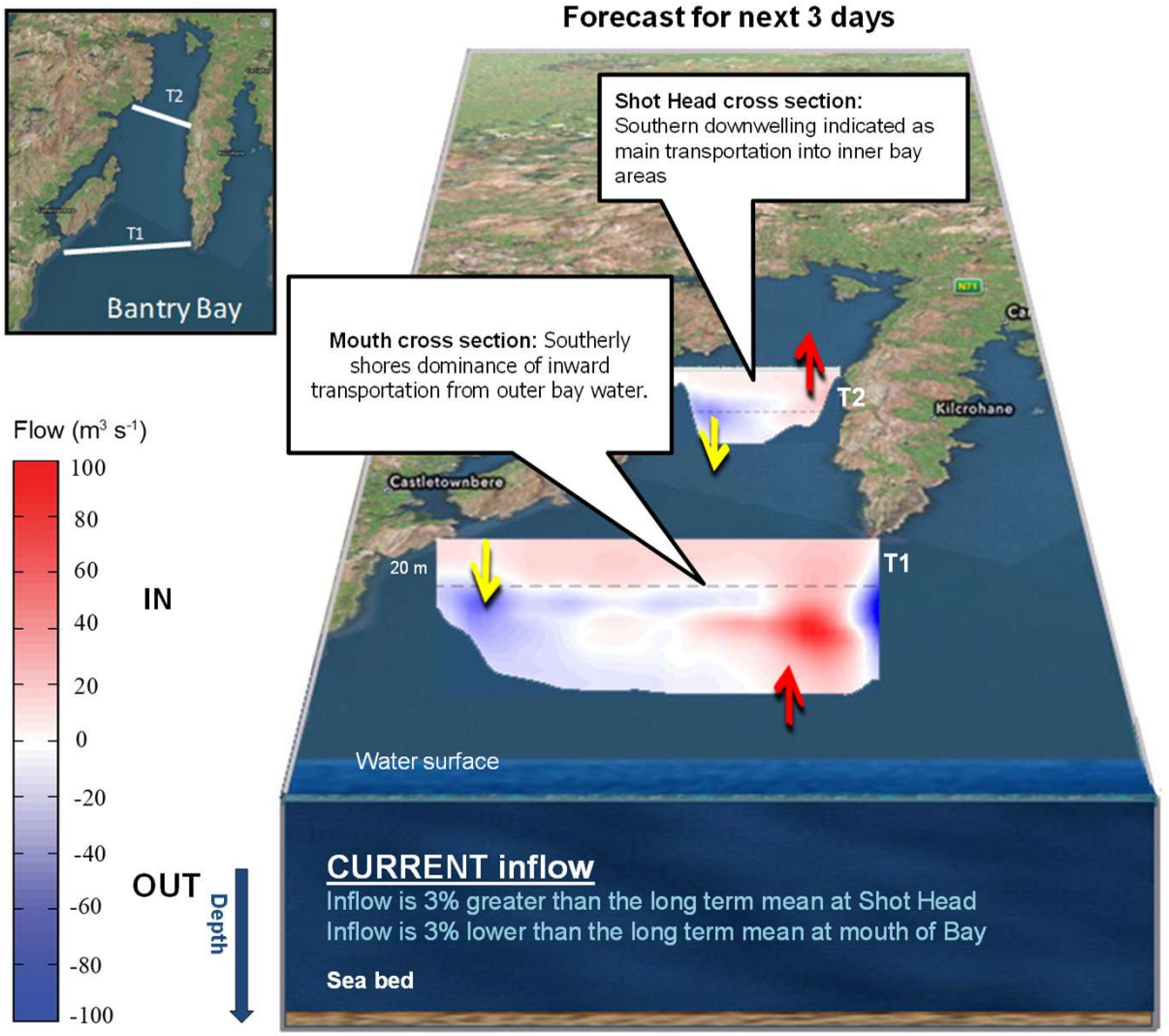


Mizen Head:

Mixed water movements remain at all depths.

Ireland modelled data: 3 day estimated water flows at the mouth and mid-bay sections of Bantry Bay

Foras na Mara Marine Institute



Ireland modelled data: Estimated Water Pathway

West: Killary Harbour

Forecast for the next 3 days

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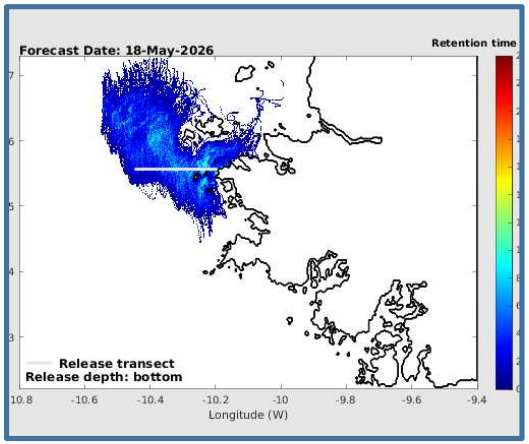
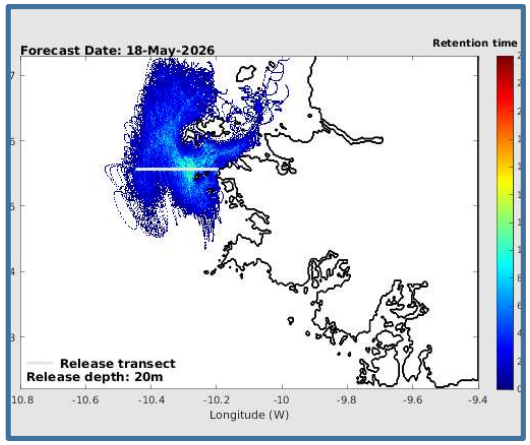
The maps show the **most likely transport pathways for the next 3 days of phytoplankton** found along the **presented transects** i.e. white lines off Aughrus Point and the Mouth of Killary Harbour, and **water depths** (bottom, 20 metres and surface).

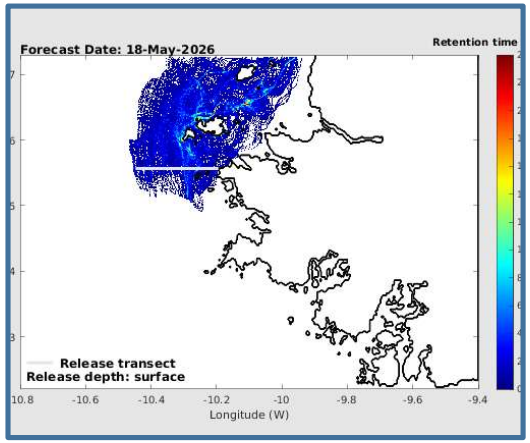
Reddish colours represent areas where phytoplankton remain longest. Cooler colours represent areas where phytoplankton remain for shorter periods



Bottom water



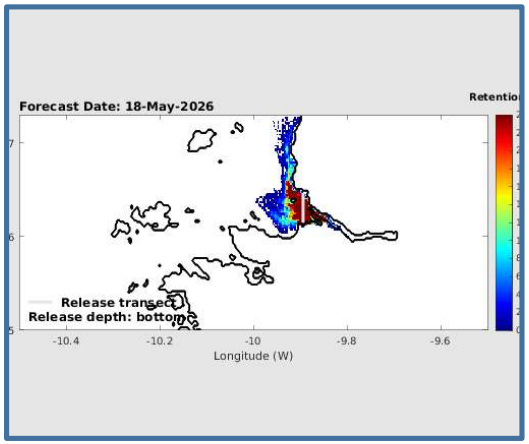
Water @ 20 metres

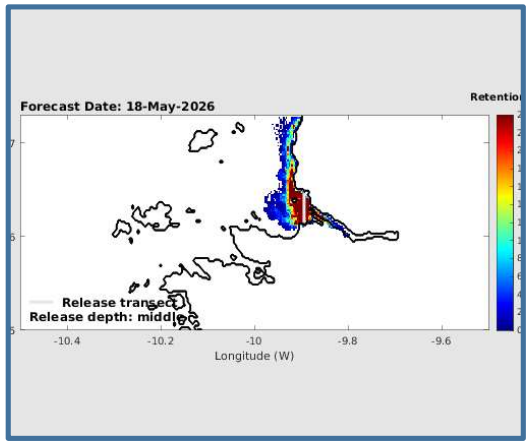


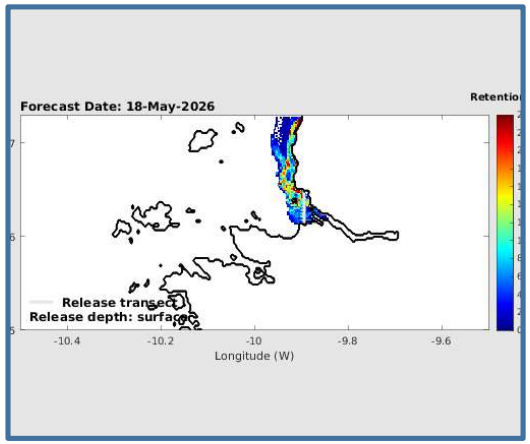
Surface water

Cleggan

- Mixed water movements remain at all depths.







Killary

- Upwelling of offshore water remains as main inshore transportation.

Ireland modelled data: 3 day estimated water flows Killary and Cleggan Transects

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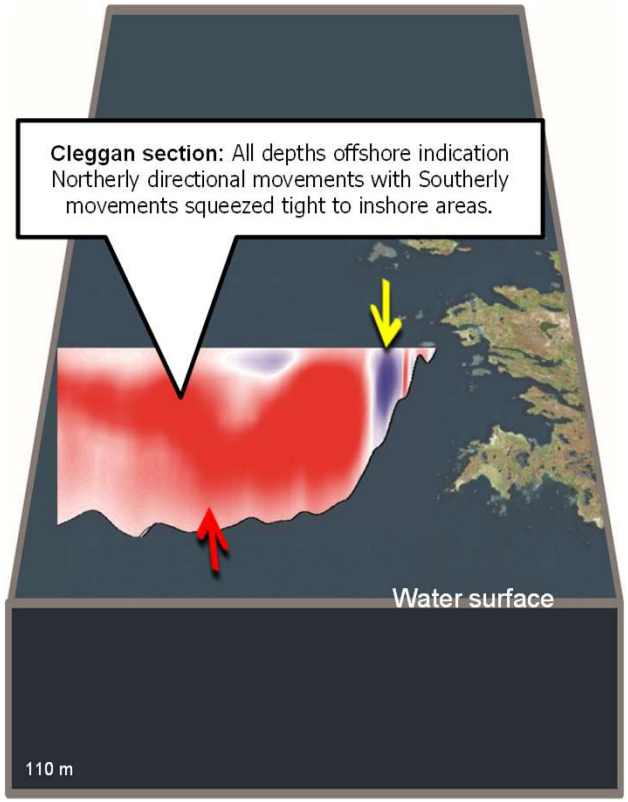
Forecast for next 3 days

IN

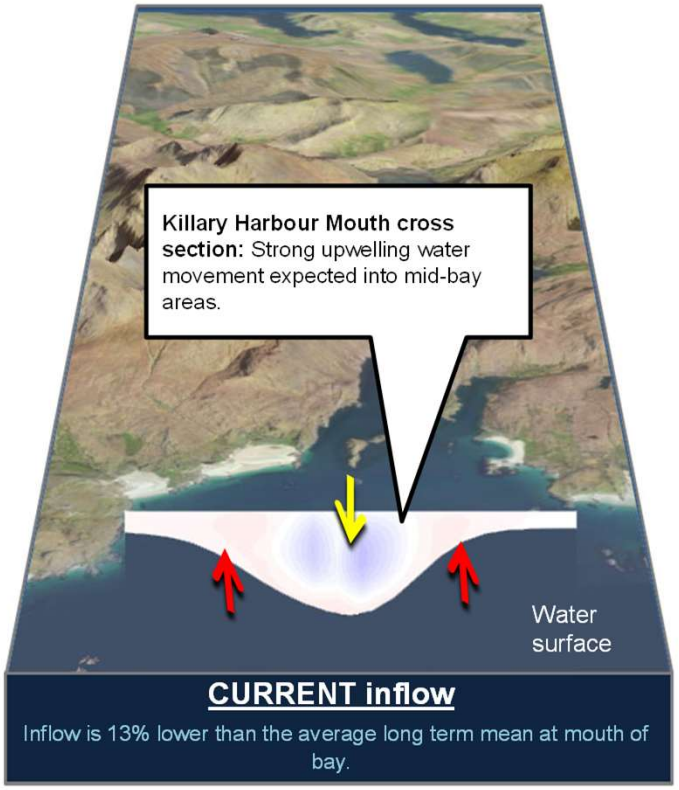
Flow ($m^3 s^{-1}$)

100
80
60
40
20
0
-20
-40
-60
-80
-100

OUT



Depth



Have a question? Please email us habs@marine.ie

This Harmful Algal Blooms (HAB) Bulletin aims to provide a short (3-5 day) predictive forecast on the likelihood of the onset of a HAB event occurring/continuing in a region.
The data provided for the compilation of this report is derived from a number of sources comprising of in-situ, remote sensing and hydrodynamic modelling datasets. For the latest and historical biotoxin and phytoplankton results for aquaculture production areas please visit https://webapps.marine.ie/habs

In-situ Data

- Biotoxin and Phytoplankton data is provided by National Monitoring Programmes from the HABs database (Marine Institute)
- Heat map images – Leaflet.

Remote Sensing Data

- Sea Surface Temperature Data Product: SST_NWS_SST_L4_NRT_OBSERVATIONS_010_003 (ODYESSA L4 SST from Copernicus CMEMS MCS).
- Chlorophyll image data is provided by:EUR-L4-CHL-ATL-v01 (IFREMER/ DYNECO and CERSAT).
- Sea Surface Temperature observations: Irish weather buoy network (Marine Institute).

Hydrodynamic modelled data

- Particle Tracking Simulation data: The downscale models of areas of particular interest (Bantry Bay, Killary Harbour and Cleggan Bay) incorporate online particle tracking with virtual particles released at pre-defined transects at the start of each model. The operational model produces an estimate of the ocean state once a week and a daily 3-day forecast of the dominant regional physical processes that result in water exchange events between the bay and its adjacent shelf (Marine Institute).
- Hydrodynamic model data: Hydrodynamic nowcast/forecast models show the latest 3-day volumetric flux forecast for vertical transects at the mouth and mid-bay. The results are plotted graphically on a map of the area.

Definitions

- A toxic site is defines as a site that had at least 1 result in the time period indicated greater than the regulatory limit.
- Heat maps represent relative distribution and patterns, and should not be interpreted as indicative of the maximum or absolute concentrations of a toxin in a region.
- Risk levels are calculated based on internal logic applied to measurements captured over the period, along with any additional information available to the evaluator. These risk levels are to be regarded as advisory only.
- Trends are calculated based on average or maximum values per week over the period of time and the slope of the line connecting these points.

Disclaimers

The predictions and comments produced within this bulletin our based on our expert opinion on the datasets and sources as outlined above. The Marine Institute cannot accept any responsibility for business and risk management decisions on harvesting and husbandry based on this report.

Acknowledgements

Funding for the development of this bulletin version has been provided by Interreg Atlantic Area Project: PRIMROSE (Predicting the Impact of Regional Scale events on the Aquaculture Sector) EAPA 182/2106