Bord Iascaigh Mhara
Irish Sea Fisheries Board

Seed Mussel Survey Report for the Wicklow Area-8/04/2015 to 22/04/2015

Vessel: MV T'Burke (BIM), Skipper John Murphy, Survey Officer Nicolas Chopin

Equipment: 400 kHz side scan sonar, 1 meter dredge.

Area surveyed: from Five Miles Point (North) to Ballynacarrig/ Jack's Hole (South) within 5 nautical miles of the shore.

Survey summary:
Following the discovery of a very small settlement at the back of the Horseshoe Reef in late September 2014, it was decided to leave it in situ for the winter as it had the potential to stabilise the sediment in this area and to grow and accommodate a spring seed fishery in 2015.

A number of tows were taken in the area of the 2014 settlement, but only large starfish and small clumps of dead seed were picked up. Very few mussels are still alive in the area.

The survey was then extended to a wider area where seed was found in 2008, 2009 and 2010. A large area were covered with the side scan sonar (see Map 1), and 24 tows were made but no mussel was found.

Two areas were checked north of Wicklow but no seed was found (see Map 2).

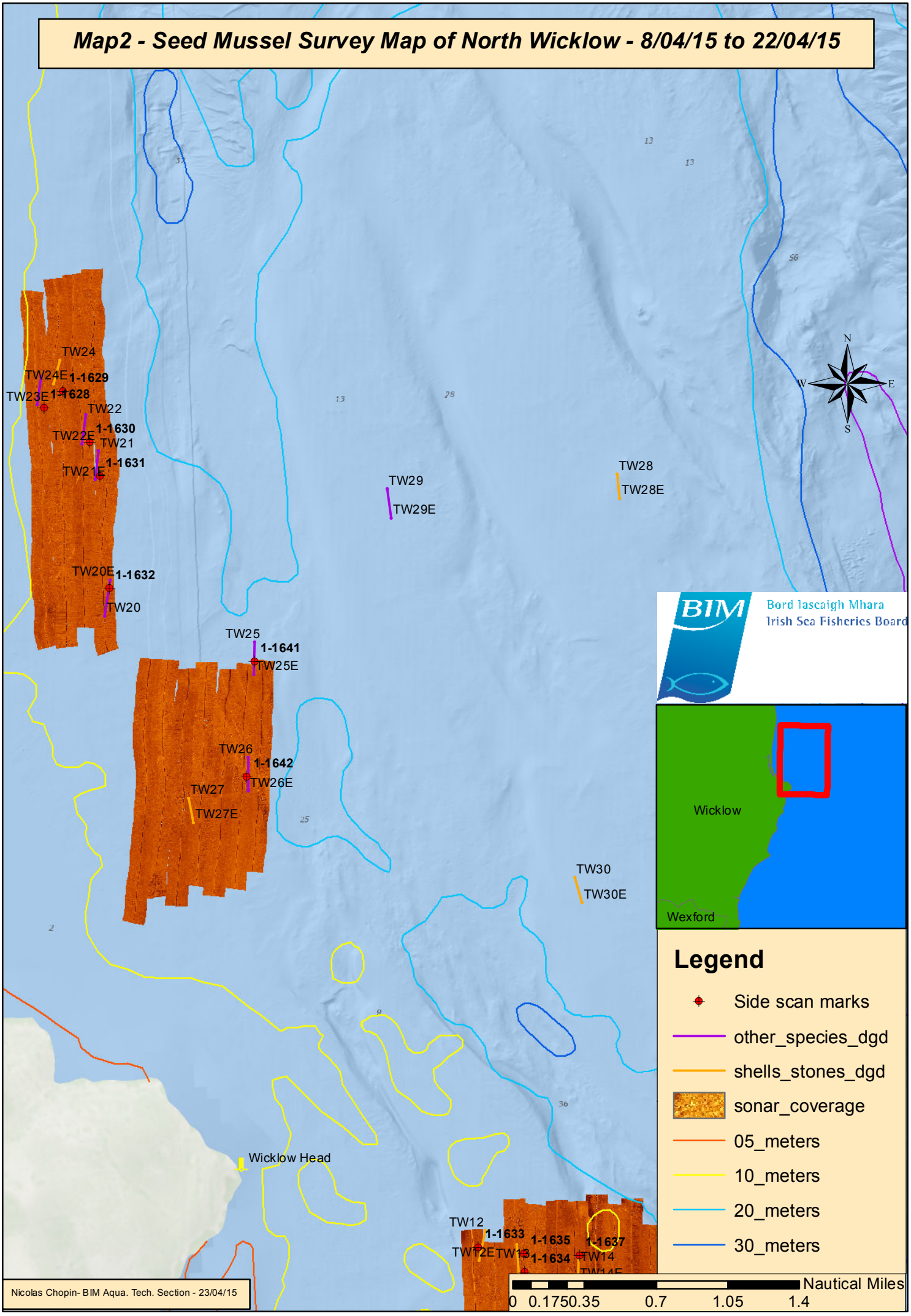
Bottom type: Some improvement from previous years, stones and gravel with few sandy areas south of the head, gravel and stone on the north side.

Recommendations:

No over winter seed was found around Wicklow. The area will be resurveyed later in the season, once possible new spat has settled.

Nicolas Chopin
BIM Inshore Survey Officer
Aquaculture Technical Section

Notes for the map:
TW stands for Tow Wicklow
In the legend dgd stands for Dredge


Map2 - Seed Mussel Survey Map of North Wicklow - 8/04/15 to 22/04/15
TW24
TW24E
1-1629
1-1628
TW23E
TW22
1-1630
TW22E
TW21
1-1631
TW21E
TW20E
1-1632
TW20
TW29
TW29E
TW28
TW28E
TW25
1-1641
TW25E
TW26
1-1642
TW26E
TW27
TW27E
TW30
TW30E
Wicklow Head
TW12
1-1633
1-1635
1-1637
TW12E
TW13
1-1634
TW14
N
S
E
W
BIM
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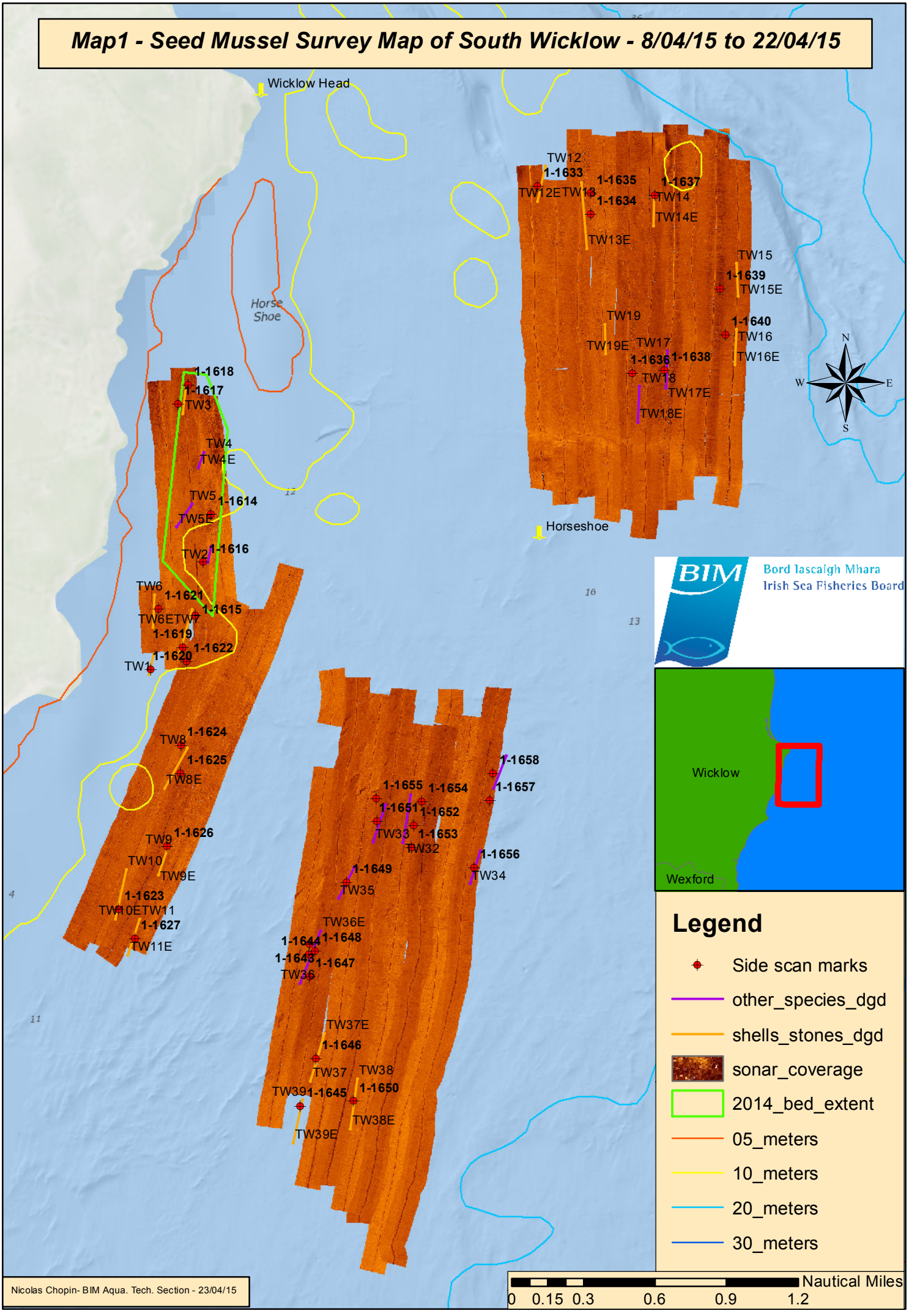
Wicklow
Wexford
Legend
Side scan marks
other_species_dgd
shells_stones_dgd
sonar_coverage
05_meters
10_meters
20_meters
30_meters
Nautical Miles
0 0.175 0.35 0.7 1.05 1.4
Nicolas Chopin- BIM Aqua. Tech. Section - 23/04/15


Map1 - Seed Mussel Survey Map of South Wicklow - 8/04/15 to 22/04/15
Wicklow Head
Horse Shoe
Horseshoe
TW12
1-1633
TW12E
TW13
1-1635
1-1634
1-1637
TW14
TW14E
TW13E
TW15
1-1639
TW15E
TW19
1-1640
TW16
TW19E
TW17
1-1636
1-1638
TW16E
TW18
TW17E
TW18E
1-1618
1-1617
TW3
TW4
TW4E
TW5
1-1614
TW5E
TW2
1-1616
TW6
1-1621
1-1615
TW6E
TW7
1-1619
1-1622
1-1620
TW1
TW8
1-1624
1-1625
TW8E
TW9
1-1626
TW10
TW9E
1-1623
TW10E
TW11
1-1627
TW11E
1-1658
1-1657
1-1655
1-1654
1-1651
1-1652
TW33
1-1653
TW32
1-1656
TW34
1-1649
TW35
TW36E
1-1648
1-1644
1-1643
1-1647
TW36
TW37E
1-1646
TW37
TW38
TW39
1-1645
1-1650
TW38E
TW39E
BIM
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Wicklow
Wexford
Legend
Side scan marks
other_species_dgd
shells_stones_dgd
sonar_coverage
2014_bed_extent
05_meters
10_meters
20_meters
30_meters
Nautical Miles
0 0.15 0.3 0.6 0.9 1.2
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