

## SC-30: Comparative open water bivalve growth trials in Ramsey Sound, Pembrokeshire.

Câr-Y-Môr is a Community Benefit Society aiming to improve the coastal environment and people's wellbeing in Wales by establishing a collaborative community-based (and run) pilot "Ocean Farm" or Integrated multi-trophic aquaculture (IMTA) system in Pembrokeshire, West Wales. They are currently piloting the integrated culture of seaweed, native oysters, mussels and scallops at two open water sites around Ramsay Sound. These systems are an emerging alternative to traditional marine production systems representing an opportunity to socially and economically enable, and empower coastal communities and businesses throughout Wales. This collaborative research project will investigate factors affecting viability of mussel and scallop culture within the IMTA

### Impact

On-site monitoring and molecular/visual laboratory analysis will provide a greater understanding of the biological and environmental variability at their sites (bivalve larval supply, spat settlement, reproductive fitness of brood stock). On-site trials will compare the performance of the two sites for bivalve culture (measuring settlement density, growth rate, size ranges and determining potential biofouling species through biodiversity assessment). Results will inform development of new and improved strategies for deployment and management of shellfish production.



### Project Officer

Dr Julie Webb is the lead researcher for SC-30

### Project Partner



A Research & Innovation Initiative: Supporting the development of the Shellfish Sector in Wales

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The Shellfish Centre is a research and innovation initiative supporting development of the shellfish sector in Wales. The Centre will collaborate with businesses to deliver science to support growth. The main focus of the project is shellfish aquaculture and the related supply chain, with scope also for research to support new/ underexploited shellfisheries and aquaculture of non-shellfish species that are compatible with shellfish production

