

Public Notice – Breach of Containment

July 12, 2024 (Updated July 23, 2024)

The Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture is confirming a breach on July 8, 2024, at aquaculture site AQ#1039 in the Annapolis Basin that resulted in the accidental release of Atlantic Salmon from a vessel offloading smolt into the facility.

The Department was notified by the aquaculture licence holder on July 8, 2024, that approximately 50 Atlantic Salmon were released. As per section 34 of the *Aquaculture Management Regulations*, a third-party audit of the containment management section of the Farm Management Plan (FMP) for AQ#1039 must be completed no later than August 7, 2024.

As per section 35 of the regulations, a report on the results of the third-party audit must be submitted to the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture no later than 15 days after the date the audit is completed.

Any corrective actions identified as a result of the third-party audit must be implemented by the licence holder and will be verified by the Department. Upon harvest, the licence holder will be required to provide a site inventory report to the Department to verify the number of escaped fish.

The Department has notified relevant agencies of the containment breach.

In keeping with a commitment to transparency, public notices are posted to the Department's *Information for the Public* webpage:

<https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>.