

**Findings and Decision - Assignment Application of Cape d’Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc.
for AQ#1209**

1. Overview:

On March 8, 2017, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Cape d’Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc. to assign Aquaculture Licence #1209 (AQ#1209), as described in Table 1.

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #1209

Type: Land-based	Location: Advocate Harbour, Cumberland County
Number: AQ#1209	Size: 0 HA
Assignor: CanAqua Seafoods Limited	Cultivation Method: Land-based Cultivation
Assignee: Cape d’Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc	Species: Atlantic salmon, Atlantic halibut and Arctic char

2. History

AQ#1209 was first issued to Atlantic Ova Pro Ltd. on July 28, 2000 for a ten year term (July 28, 2000 to July 28, 2010). AQ#1209 was amended on December 5, 2005 to authorize the cultivation of Atlantic halibut and Arctic char. AQ#1209 was assigned on December 5, 2006 from Atlantic Ova Pro Ltd. to CanAqua Seafoods Limited. AQ#1209 was renewed on February 2, 2011 for a five year term (July 28, 2010 to July 27, 2015). AQ#1209 was renewed on September 10, 2015 for a five year term (July 27, 2015 to July 27, 2020).

3. Procedure

3.1 Performance Review

The performance review for AQ#1209 was completed on March 27, 2017. This review recommended that the site be assigned. This performance review is required pursuant to Subsection 72(b) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations.

3.2 Public Comment Period

Notice of the application for the assignment of AQ#1209 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA’s website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of April 6, 2017 to May 5, 2017. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on April 5, April 12, April 19, and April 26, 2017.

3.3 Submissions

Zero submissions were received by NSDFA during the 30-day public comment period.

4. Factors to be considered

The applicant has an extensive background in land-based aquaculture at the current location. AQ#1209 has had consistent levels of production and employment, and the assignment information submitted suggests that this will continue. The nature in which Cape d’Or

Sustainable Seafoods Inc. intends to operate this land-based site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department. There is no record of non-compliance with respect to the operator or the facility.

AQ#1209 is one of two sites being assigned to Cape d'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc., and will serve as the grow-out facility for the company's operation. AQ#1209 has the necessary infrastructure and equipment for the proposed scale of operation. Technical elements of the application are suitable for the proposed levels of production. All other elements of the assignment information submitted and subsequent review of this information supports the assignment of AQ#1209.

5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #1209 shall be assigned to Cape d'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc. A letter approving this assignment shall be prepared in accordance with NSDFA policy, and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

Brennan Goreham

Brennan Goreham
Aquaculture Administrator
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

5/8/17

Date