

**Findings and Decision- Assignment Application of MacDonald<sup>2</sup> Aquaculture & Consultation for AQ#1299**

**1. Overview:**

On August 9, 2016, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from MacDonald<sup>2</sup> Aquaculture & Consultation to assign Aquaculture Licence #1299 (AQ#1299), as described in Table 1.

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #1299

<b>Type:</b> Landbased	<b>Location:</b> Lower Stewiacke, Colchester County
<b>Number:</b> AQ#1299	<b>Size:</b> N/A
<b>Assignor:</b> Two Rivers Bass Fish Hatchery Limited	<b>Cultivation Method:</b> Hatchery & Grow out
<b>Assignee:</b> MacDonald <sup>2</sup> Aquaculture and Consultation	<b>Species:</b> Striped bass

**2. History**

AQ#1299 was first issued to Two Rivers Bass Fish Hatchery Ltd. on December 1, 2003 for a 10 year term (October 1, 2002 to October 1, 2012) upon expiry of experimental aquaculture licence AQ#8279. AQ#1299 was renewed on January 8, 2015 for a 5 year term (October 1, 2012 to October 1, 2017).

**3. Procedure**

*3.1 Performance Review*

The performance review for AQ#1299 was completed on January 28, 2017. This review recommended that the site be assigned based on the technical and biological assessment. 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#1299 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of February 9, 2017 to March 10, 2017. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on February 8, 2017, February 15, 2017, February 22, 2017 and March 1, 2017.

*3.3 Submissions*

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

**4. Factors to be considered**

The nature in which MacDonald<sup>2</sup> Aquaculture & Consultation intends to operate this landbased site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the

Department. The applicant has a background in Aquaculture science and extensive facility management experience.

The applicant proposes modifications to the operation to increase production and commercialization, which are technically viable. The technical information provided suggests that the proper infrastructure is in place or currently being modified for the proposed method and scale of the operation. The performance review noted that the facility is located near the Stewiacke river, which has a local population of striped bass. All other aspects of the application information submitted and the subsequent review of this information supports the assignment of this licence.

**5. Decision**

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #1299 shall be assigned to MacDonald<sup>2</sup> Aquaculture & Consultation. 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.

**6. Conditions**

In addition, the following conditions shall apply:

1. The licence shall be assigned in the name of 'Ame and Sean MacDonald carrying on business under the name of 'MacDonald<sup>2</sup> Aquaculture and Consultation'.



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**Brennan Goreham**  
**Aquaculture Administrator**  
**Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

March 14, 2017  
**Date**