

## **Findings and Decision- Renewal Application of Old Miller Trout Farm for AQ#0188**

### **1. Overview:**

On August 10, 2015, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Old Miller Trout Farm to renew Aquaculture Licence #0188 (AQ#0188), as described in Table 1. As part of the renewal process, Old Miller Trout Farm expressed an interest to change their method of operation to be that of a U-Fish facility. This change is to be expressed in the renewal documents for the new term.

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence and Lease #0188

<b>Type:</b> Landbased Finfish (U-Fish)	<b>Location:</b> Margaree Forks, Inverness County
<b>Number:</b> AQ#0188	<b>Species:</b> Rainbow Trout and Brook Trout
<b>Applicant:</b> Old Miller Trout Farm	<b>Proposed Term:</b> 10 year Licence

### **2. History**

License AQ#0188 was originally issued to Marilyn Burton for a term of 10 years (September 1, 1990 to August 31, 2000) on April 2, 1991 for the freshwater cultivation of rainbow trout and speckled trout. On May 31, 1995, Licence AQ#0188 was assigned from Marilyn Burton to John H. Stinson and Patricia D. Wood. On September 19, 2000, Licence AQ#0188 was renewed in the name of Old Miller Trout Farm for a term of 5 years (September 19, 2000 to September 19, 2005). On February 7, 2006, Licence AQ#0188 was renewed for a term of 5 years (September 19, 2005 to September 19, 2010). On July 20, 2011, Licence AQ#0188 was renewed for a term of 5 years (September 19, 2010 to September 19, 2015).

### **3. Procedure**

#### *3.1 Performance Review*

A performance review of the information submitted by the operator in support of their renewal application was completed. This review recommended that the site be renewed based on the technical and biological assessment. This performance review is required pursuant to Subsection 72(c) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations, and was completed on November 20, 2015.

#### *3.2 Public Comment Period*

Notice of the application for the renewal of AQ#0188 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of January 6, 2016 to February 4, 2016. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on January 6, 2016, January 13, 2016, January 20, 2016, and January 27, 2016.

#### *3.2 Submissions*

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

#### **4. Factors to be considered**

The site has demonstrated consistent production and records indicate continuous employment. The production history of the operator, and the proposed production levels for the renewed tenure, suggest that the proposed continuation of the operation is financially viable. The site has a record of compliance with respect to the Act, Regulations, guidelines, and policies of the Department. The nature in which the operator intends to continue operating the site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department.

The technical information submitted with respect to the renewal application indicates that the proposed continuation of the operation is technically viable. Specifically, the operator indicates that the operation will continue to be a spring-fed earthen pond flow-through system from an approved water source. All other aspects of the application information submitted and the subsequent review of this information supports the renewal of this application.

#### **5. Decision**

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #0188 shall be renewed for a period of 10 years (September 19, 2015 to September 19, 2025). The Licence document shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publically available subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

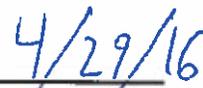
#### **6. Conditions**

- a) Compliance with Schedule C: *Certificate of Compliance- Rainbow Trout Introduction and Policy*.



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

  
**Date**