

**Findings and Decision - Renewal Application of Cape d'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc. for AQ#0198**

**1. Overview:**

On March 19, 2018, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Cape d'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc. to renew Aquaculture Licence #0198 (AQ#0198), as described below:

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #0198

<b>Type:</b> Landbased	<b>Location:</b> South Greenville, Cumberland County
<b>Number:</b> AQ#0198	<b>Species:</b> Atlantic salmon, Rainbow trout, Brook trout, Arctic char
<b>Applicant:</b> Cape D'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc.	<b>Proposed Term:</b> 10 year Licence

**2. History**

AQ#0198 was first issued to Merlin Fish Farms Limited on October 13, 1988 for a ten year term (October 1, 1988 to September 20, 1998). AQ#0198 was renewed on October 1, 1998 for a five year term (October 1, 1998 to October 1, 2003). AQ#0198 was renewed on November 10, 2003 for a five year term (October 1, 2003 to October 1, 2008). AQ#0198 was amended on November 2, 2005 to authorize the cultivation of Arctic char. AQ#0198 was renewed on December 8, 2008 for a five year term (October 2, 2008 to October 1, 2013). AQ#0198 was renewed on March 13, 2014 for a five year term (October 2, 2013 to October 2, 2018). AQ#0198 was assigned on May 8, 2017 from Merlin Fish Farms (2004) Limited to Cape d'Or Sustainable Seafoods Inc.

**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 April 26 2018.

*3.2 Public Comment Period*

Notice of the application for the renewal of AQ#0198 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of June 7, 2018 to July 6, 2018. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on June 6, June 13, June 20, 2018, and June 27, 2018. Submissions were due by July 6, 2018 11:59PM.

*3.3 Submissions*

One submission was received by NSDFA during the 30-day public comment period.

**4. Factors to be considered**

The operator has extensive background in land-based aquaculture at this location. AQ#0198 has had consistent levels of production and employment, and the renewal application suggests that this will continue for the renewed tenure. 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. Cape d'or is required to implement a Farm Management Plan in accordance with the *Aquaculture Management Regulations*, which must include Aquatic Animal Health, Farm Operations, and Containment elements.

AQ#0198 is one of two sites issued to Cape d'or Sustainable Seafoods Inc., and serves as the hatchery facility for the company's integrated aquaculture and processing operation. AQ#0198 has the necessary infrastructure and equipment for the proposed scale of the operation. Technical elements of the application are suitable for the proposed levels of production. All other elements of the renewal application and subsequent review support the renewal of AQ#0198.

**5. Decision**

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #0198 shall be renewed for a period of 10 years (October 2, 2018 to October 2, 2028).

The Licence documents shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.



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



**Date**