Fisheries and Aquaculture
1575A Lake Rd
Sandy Point, Nova Scotia
B0T 1W0
novascotia.ca

Public Notice – Administrative Application Posted

These documents have been submitted with respect to an administrative aquaculture licence / lease application. The information in these documents is provided as part of the routine disclosure of information by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (the "Department"). Some information may be redacted as business confidential information or personal information.

These documents were provided to the Department by the applicant (with the exception of the enclosed Site Map which was generated by the Department). The Department is not responsible for the content of these documents, including, but not limited to, the accuracy, reliability, or currency of the information contained within.

Applicant: Chris Strickland, Shelley Strickland	**Type of Application:** Amendment
Application File Number: AQ#1378	**Application Received On:** August 25, 2023
Location: Merigomish, Pictou County	**Species:** American oyster, Bay quahog, Bay scallop
Current Method(s) of Cultivation: Bottom without gear	**Proposed Method(s) of Cultivation:** Bottom without gear Bottom with gear (new) Suspended (new)

To learn more about the aquaculture lease and license application process, please visit https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/licensing-leasing/Aqua-Licensing-and-Leasing-Overview.pdf

Table of Contents (Page 1 starts after this table)

NOVA SCOTIA

Office Use Only
Received Aug 25th/23
SH

Aquaculture Amendment Application

Licence/Lease No: 1378

Applicant Information:

Applicant: Chris + Shelley Strickland Contact Person: Chris Strickland

Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks Number: _____

Revenue Canada Business Number: _____

Telephone No. (Work): _____ (Home): _____ (Cell): [redacted]

Fax No.: _____ E-mail: chris@stricklandfarms.ca

Mailing Address: 7738 Pictou Landing Road, Trenton NS.

_____ Postal Code: B0K 1X0

Civic Address: Same

_____ Postal Code: _____

Amendment Request:

The amendment is requested for: (Check all appropriate boxes)

- ☐ Land-based
- ☑ Marine
- ☐ Marine Plants
- ☐ Finfish
- ☑ Shellfish
- ☐ Other species
- ☐ Change or addition of species
- ☑ Change of culture method
- ☐ Change of site boundaries (for marine applications)
- ☐ Other change

Submit completed applications to:

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Aquaculture Division
1575 Lake Road, Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0
E-mail: aquaculture@novascotia.ca

Ver. 170723

NOVA SCOTIA

Office Use Only

Provide explanation of change requested. Add additional pages, as required.

→ Ammend site to include Bottom with & without gear, off Bottom and Suspended.

Application Materials

A complete application includes the following:

- Amendment application fee (payable to Minister of Finance) according to Section 77 of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations for Nova Scotia made under Section 64, Chapter 25 of the Acts of 1996, *the Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act*
- Application Form
- Development Plan according to application
- Report on Public Engagement during Scoping (for adjudicative amendment applications and for other applications as applicable)
- Copy of up-to-date Shareholder's Register which sets out the shareholdings of the company (if applicable)

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an aquaculture application, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture ("Fisheries and Aquaculture") will disclose application information to other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application.

NOVA SCOTIA

Office Use Only

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture may disclose application information – not including, however, personal or business confidential information – on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The personal and business confidential information collected as part of an aquaculture application will only be used or disclosed by Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of deciding on the application.

All application information collected is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act ("FOIPOP") and will only be used or disclosed in accordance with FOIPOP.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and accept the above statements regarding the collection, use, and disclosure of the information provided on this form.

Signature of Applicant [redacted]

Date July 4, 2023

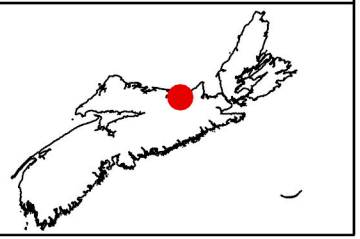
Signature of Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Designate [redacted]

Date August 25/23

Submit completed applications to:

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, Aquaculture Division
1575 Lake Road, Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0
E-mail: aquaculture@novascotia.ca

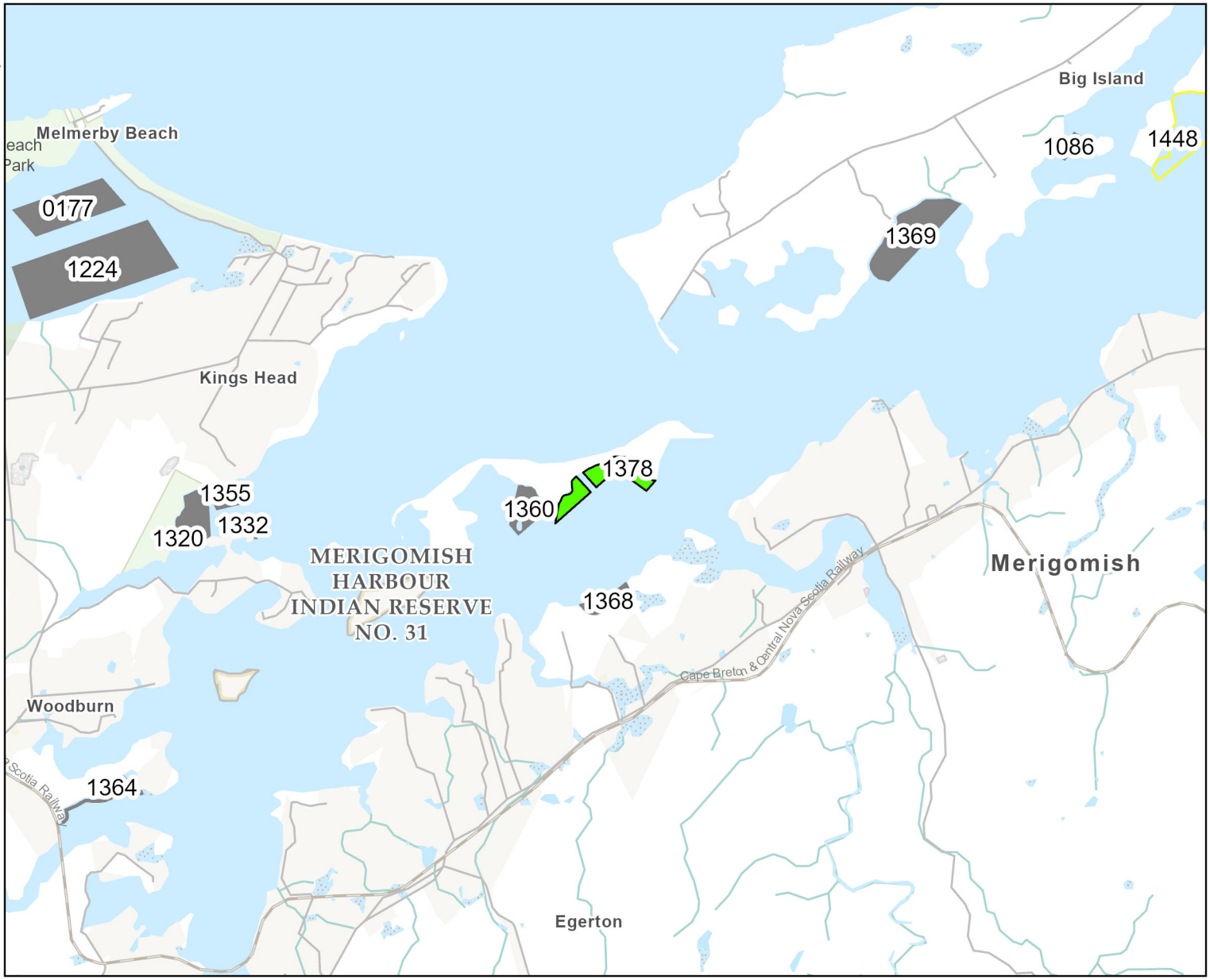
SCHEDULE A



Aquaculture Site
1378

Corner	Latitude	Longitude
1	45° 38' 0.600"	-62° 27' 56.790"
2	45° 37' 55.285"	-62° 27' 58.258"
3	45° 38' 9.828"	-62° 27' 34.447"
4	45° 38' 3.936"	-62° 27' 23.117"
5	45° 38' 6.717"	-62° 27' 19.570"
6	45° 38' 9.007"	-62° 27' 47.443"
7	45° 38' 4.981"	-62° 27' 42.384"
8	45° 38' 3.684"	-62° 27' 44.507"
9	45° 38' 7.987"	-62° 27' 49.915"
Centre	45° 38' 9.238"	-62° 27' 39.434"
TC1	45° 38' 5.749"	-62° 27' 47.103"
TC10	45° 38' 9.327"	-62° 27' 33.482"
TC11	45° 38' 10.740"	-62° 27' 30.990"
TC12	45° 38' 5.852"	-62° 27' 20.673"
TC13	45° 38' 3.936"	-62° 27' 23.117"
TC2	45° 37' 59.677"	-62° 27' 57.045"
TC3	45° 37' 58.843"	-62° 27' 57.276"
TC4	45° 37' 57.365"	-62° 27' 54.852"
TC5	45° 38' 3.684"	-62° 27' 44.507"
TC6	45° 38' 4.981"	-62° 27' 42.384"
TC7	45° 38' 7.080"	-62° 27' 45.021"
TC8	45° 38' 10.990"	-62° 27' 37.510"
TC9	45° 38' 9.293"	-62° 27' 35.323"

DATUM NAD 83 CSRS UTM Zone 19
The above coordinates are not from a legal survey



License/Lease Holder	County	Waterbody	Hectares	Species Type	Chart
Chris and Shelly Strickland	Pictou	Merigomish Harbour	12.24	Shellfish	4445

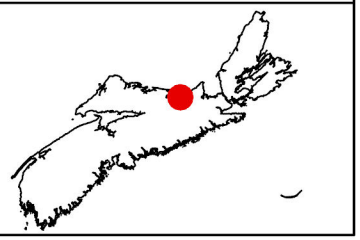
Proposed Application
Other Issued Lease
Other Issued Experimental
Other Proposed Commercial Lease

0 0.5 1 2
Kilometers

NOVA SCOTIA
Fisheries and Aquaculture

Disclaimer
This map should not be used for navigation or legal purposes. It is intended for general reference use only.
Date: 2024-02-01
Created By: MK

SCHEDULE A



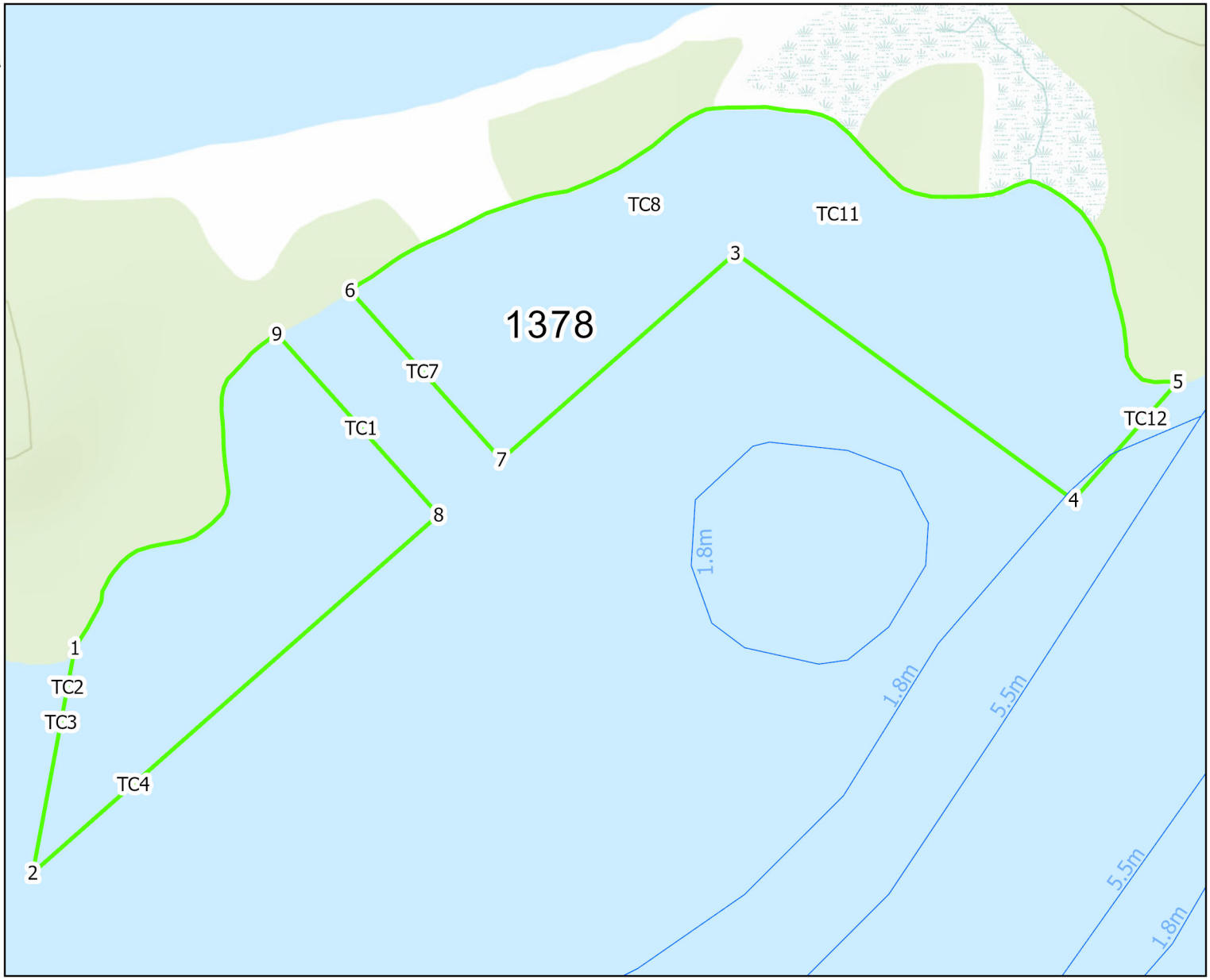
Aquaculture Site

1378

Corner	Latitude	Longitude
1	45° 38' 0.600"	-62° 27' 56.790"
2	45° 37' 55.285"	-62° 27' 58.258"
3	45° 38' 9.828"	-62° 27' 34.447"
4	45° 38' 3.936"	-62° 27' 23.117"
5	45° 38' 6.717"	-62° 27' 19.570"
6	45° 38' 9.007"	-62° 27' 47.443"
7	45° 38' 4.981"	-62° 27' 42.384"
8	45° 38' 3.684"	-62° 27' 44.507"
9	45° 38' 7.987"	-62° 27' 49.915"
Centre	45° 38' 9.238"	-62° 27' 39.434"
TC1	45° 38' 5.749"	-62° 27' 47.103"
TC10	45° 38' 9.327"	-62° 27' 33.482"
TC11	45° 38' 10.740"	-62° 27' 30.990"
TC12	45° 38' 5.852"	-62° 27' 20.673"
TC13	45° 38' 3.936"	-62° 27' 23.117"
TC2	45° 37' 59.677"	-62° 27' 57.045"
TC3	45° 37' 58.843"	-62° 27' 57.276"
TC4	45° 37' 57.365"	-62° 27' 54.852"
TC5	45° 38' 3.684"	-62° 27' 44.507"
TC6	45° 38' 4.981"	-62° 27' 42.384"
TC7	45° 38' 7.080"	-62° 27' 45.021"
TC8	45° 38' 10.990"	-62° 27' 37.510"
TC9	45° 38' 9.293"	-62° 27' 35.323"

DATUM NAD 83 CSRS UTM Zone 19
The above coordinates are not from a legal survey

N



License/Lease Holder	County	Waterbody	Hectares	Species Type	Chart
Chris and Shelly Strickland	Pictou	Merigomish Harbour	12.24	Shellfish	4445

Proposed Application

0 40 80 160 240
Meters

NOVA SCOTIA
Fisheries and Aquaculture

Disclaimer
This map should not be used for navigation or legal purposes. It is intended for general reference use only.
Date: 2024-02-01 Created By: MK

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN
NS#1378

Chris Strickland

[redacted]

chris@stricklandfarms.ca

7738 Pictou Landing Rd

Trenton NS

SECTION 1: THE OPTIMUM USE OF MARINE RESOURCES

This development plan is primarily for the cultivation of American Oysters on Lease #1378 with the use of gear types that would allow for the collection and conditioning of the oysters. The current license allows for oysters, quahogs, and bay scallops to be seeded and collected from bottom but not for any gear to be used for storage. To make better use of the lease and produce high quality products, various types of gear are required to keep inventory as well as condition the shellfish.

The site is already designated as an aquaculture lease and is approximately 12.24 hectares in size with a maximum production of approximately 600 thousand oysters. The primary farming method will be made up of traditional suspended growth units as well as gear on/off bottom. The bottom will also be utilized for the oyster beds that have been and will be seeded out as well as storage for bags on bottom and racks with bags.

The location of the lease is near Olding Island (45° 38' 6.636", -62° 27' 39.825").

This area provides multiple benefits that support the success of an aquaculture operation. The proximity to necessary processing infrastructure and wharfs as well as being as far away from homes and sight lines in the harbour makes for a simple transition to suspended culture. This location also provides enough shelter while also giving appropriate water depth for winter storage. Amending the lease such that gear can be used to store/condition oysters would allow for better utilization of the existing oyster beds that have been established in previous years.

This operation can provide direct employment opportunities while also utilizing other local businesses in the region. There is already a strong established relationship with Shandaph Oysters which allows for gear rental possibilities as well as the buying and selling of spat. This is an environmentally responsible development that can help improve the economical conditions in rural Nova Scotia, while also improving the marine environment in which it is located.

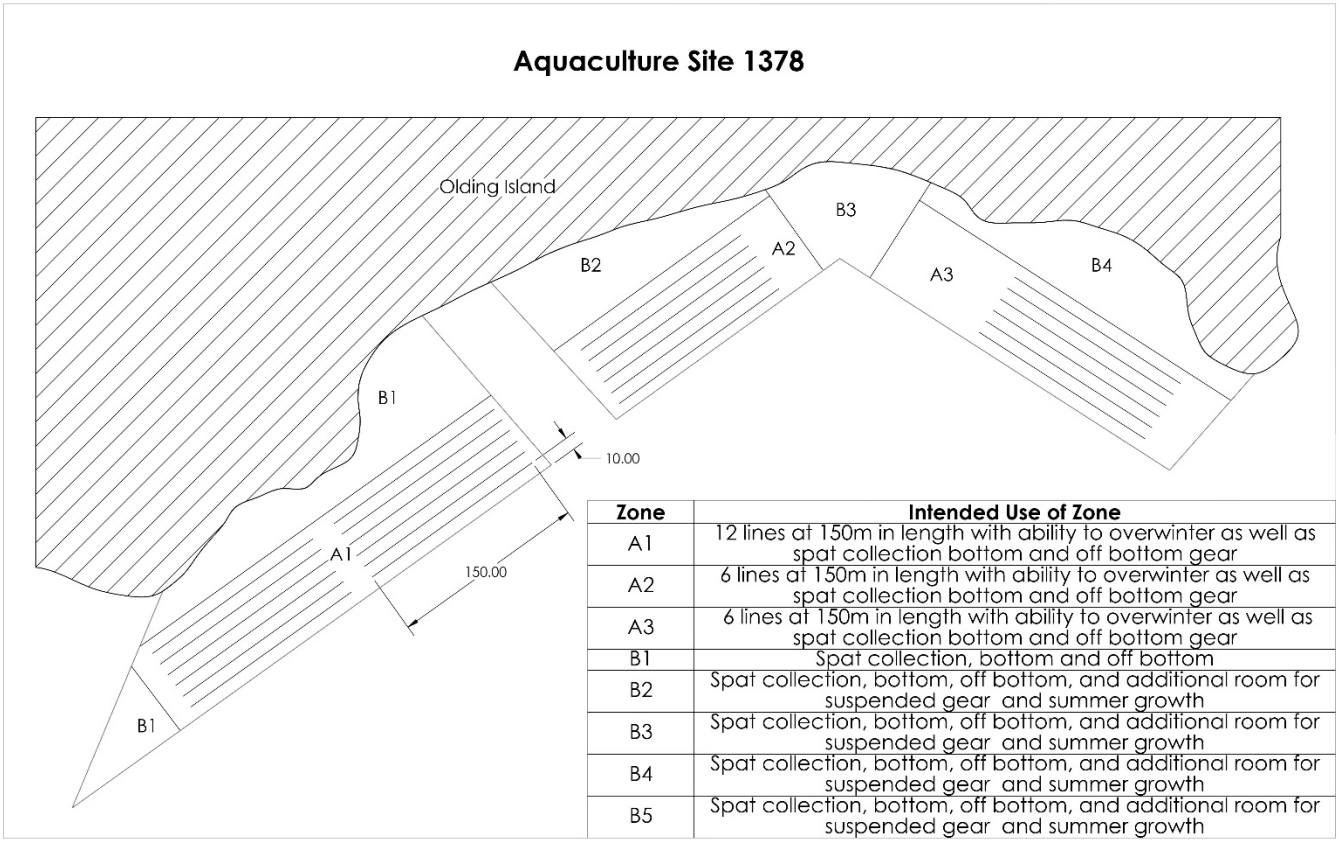
SECTION 2: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION TO COMMUNITY AND PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2.1 Production Plan

The primary species for cultivation is the Crassostrea Virginica (American oyster). Quahogs grow naturally in the area though there is not currently a seed source available. The same applies for bay scallops. These species of shellfish will give customers additional options when an appropriate seed source becomes available.

Species	Gear Type	Max Number of Gear Units	Max Number of Lines	Length of Lines (m)	Max Number Introduced	Time to Achieve Max Production
Oysters	BOBRs	2400	12	150	600 000	7 - 10 years
	OysterGros	600	12	150		
	Finishing Cage	100	3	120		
	ABS Floats	10	2	10		
	Bags/Trays on Bottom	2000 (inlcuding what goes on racks)	N/a	N/a		
	Racks/Tumblers	20	N/a	N/a		
	Bottom	N/a	N/a	N/a		
Quahogs	Bottom	N/a	N/a	N/a	250 000 - 500 000	7- 10 years (dependant on seed)
	Finishing Cages	Shared with above	N/a	N/a		
	Bags/Trays	Shared with above	N/a	N/a		
Bay Scallops	Lantern Nets	80	1	120	~50 000 - 100 000	7-10 years (dependant on seed)

For a development explicitly consisting of BOBR units, the configuration of the proposed area could be as follows:



Zone	Intended Use of Zone
A1	12 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A2	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A3	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
B1	Spat collection, bottom and off bottom
B2	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B3	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B4	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B5	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth

The configuration in the previous image shows 24 lines each at 150m in length (a larger version of the image can be seen in Appendix B). As this is not an exact model, one must allow for ± 4 lines. Each line is capable of holding 200 BOBR units for a total of 4800 units. Square bag cages or floating bags could be also fitted interchangeably within this configuration as indicated in the table above that has the two gear types on an equal number of the available lines. The square bag cage size (number of bags per cage) will have an effect on the number of cages per line. This is simply an example of what the lease could look like while the actual layout may vary and require more use of bottom/off-bottom gear due to water depth. The gear and amounts of gear are subject to change as what works well for each area could differ greatly.

With the yearly growth and space requirements, the maximum number of oysters that could be introduced annually to suspension on the lease would be approximately 600 000. These values are based on a 4 year cycle and on the 4th year having a total of 4800 BOBRs (which leaves a margin for extra thinning/husbandry). There is no limit to how many could be introduced to the bottom but mortality rates increase drastically. 1 to 2 million may be seeded out to the bottom annually to help create more self generating oyster beds on the lease.

The maximum number of oysters on site would then be approximately 2.4 to 6 million.

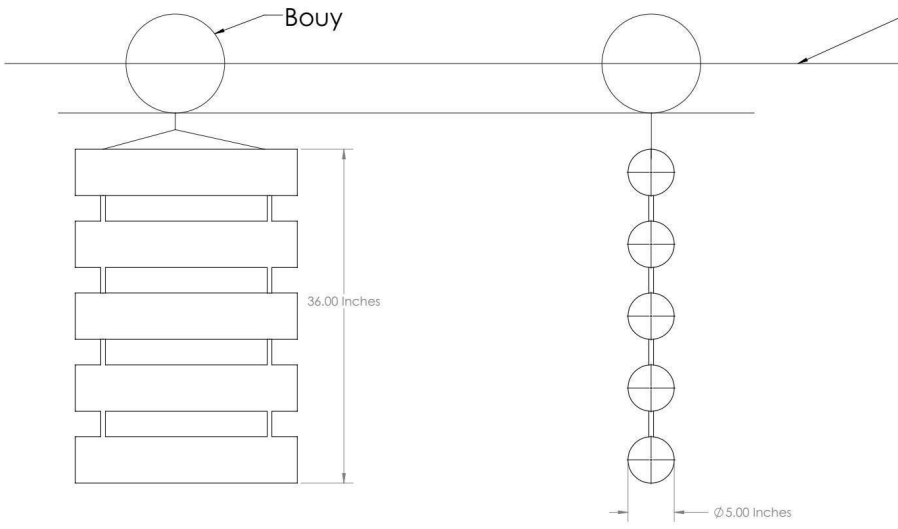
The oyster seed needed to sustain operations will be obtained through natural collection as well as from Shandaph Oysters is also in the same harbour. Temporary lines would be added to suspend the spat collectors. A reliable quahog and bay scallop seed source is still to be determined.

Bags and trays on bottom allow for temporary or long term storage which can be useful during operational expansion such as adding gear or while during the husbandry processes that will allow for organization. The ABS

floats are currently used at Shandaph and add a temporary suspended storage that can be used for all of the species. The addition of gear will also allow for the possibility of depurating contaminated shellfish. As well as relay of shellfish that is fished using a commercial license.

Spat collection will be the first priority as there is already a DFO license for 500 collectors. Spat collection and seed sales allow for a quick turnover and initial cashflow. [redacted] The gear allows for growing and storing the seed until it is either sold, seeded to bottom, or grown out. With the oysters present on the lease as well as supplemented through commercial fishing activities (contaminated fishery included), the proponent would expect to bring 100 000 to 200 000 oysters to market within the first 2 years but that may be more realistically achievable around year 4.

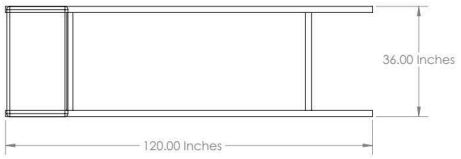
The approximate size and capacity of each unit can be found in the following figures:



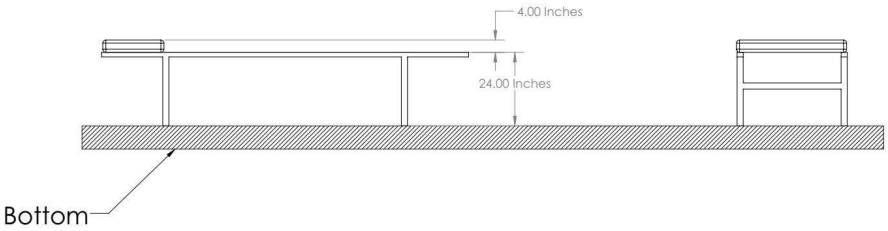
Spat Collector O-Pipe

Approximately 48 inches - 72 inches deep.

Rack and Bags Dimensions and Capacity

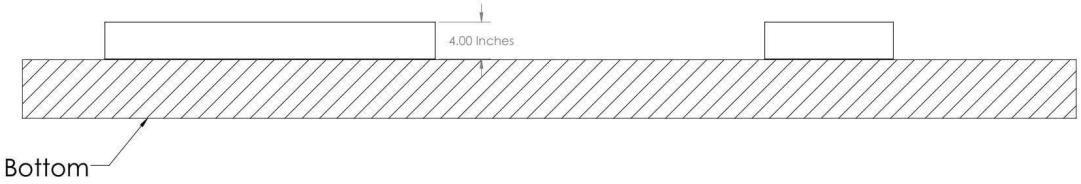


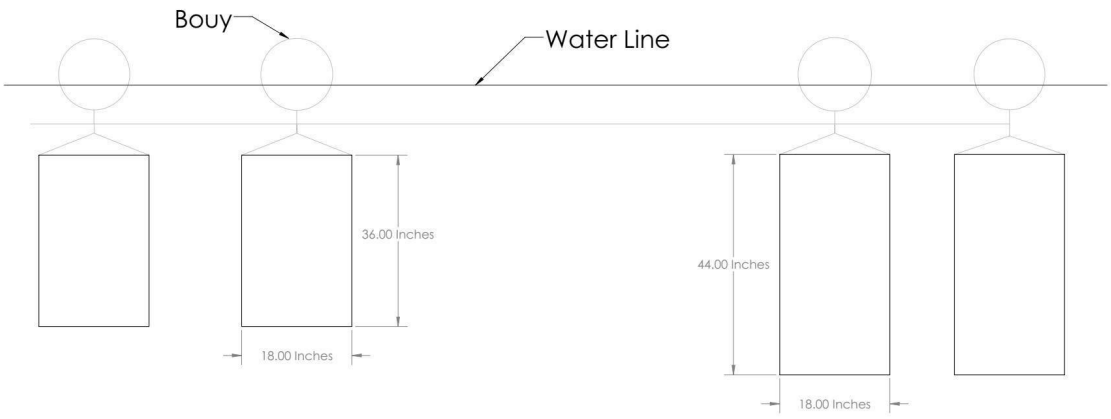
Capacity		
Year	Per Bag	Per 5 bag Rack
1	1000-1200	5000-6000
2	600-1000	3000-5000
3	250-300	1250-1500
4	125-150	625-750
5	100-120	500-600



Bottom Tree Tray Dimensions and Capacity

Capacity	
Year	Per Tray
3	300-400
4	200-300
5	100-200





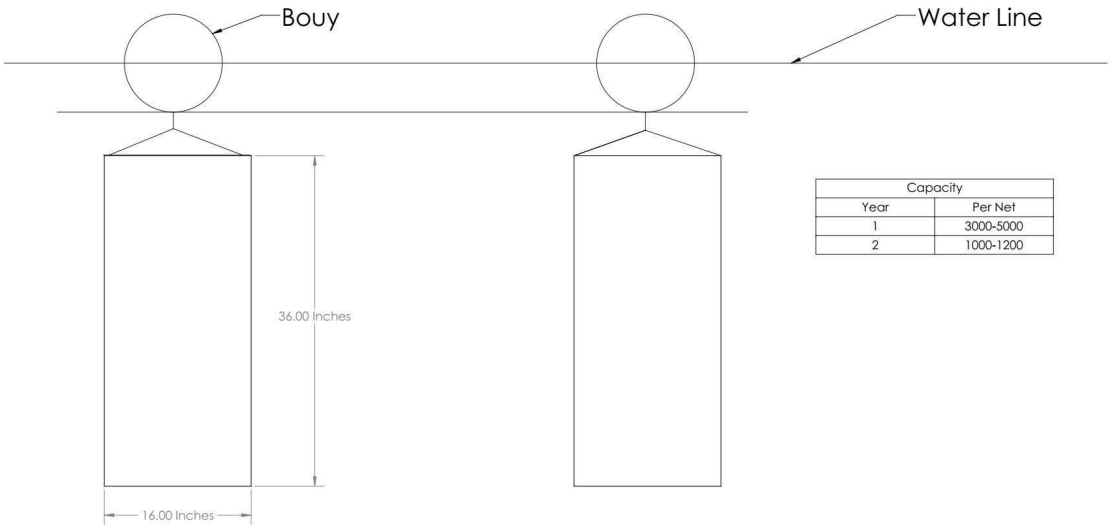
Finishing Cage Dimensions and Capacity

Ideal implementation is at almost neutrally bouyant.
Actual Depth Varys 48 Inches - 72 Inches.

Retired as Spat Collector Cages

Capacity (Small Cage)	
Year	Per Cage
4	400-600
5	300-500

Capacity (Large Cage)	
Year	Per Cage
4	520-700
5	450-600

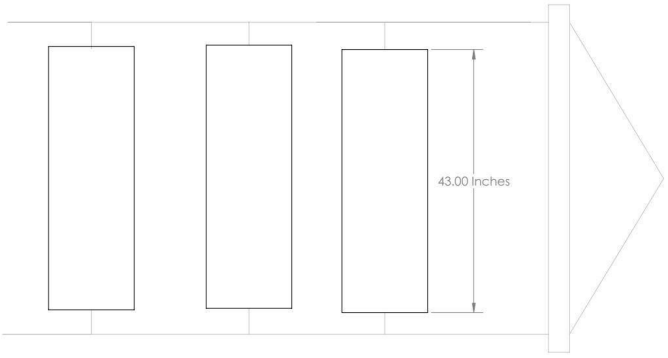


Capacity	
Year	Per Net
1	3000-5000
2	1000-1200

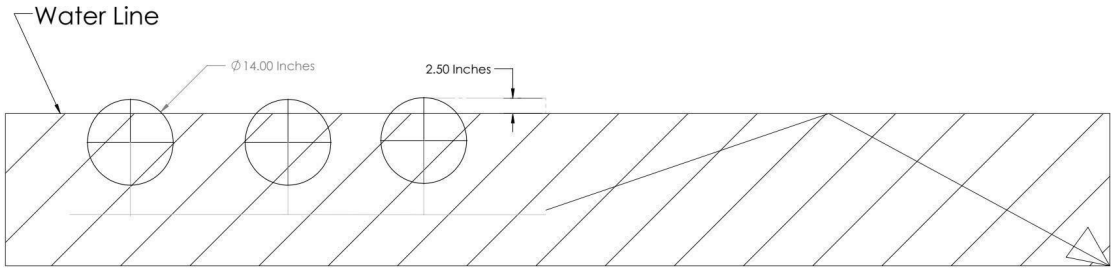
Lantern Net Dimensions and Capacity

Approximately 48 inches - 72 inches deep.

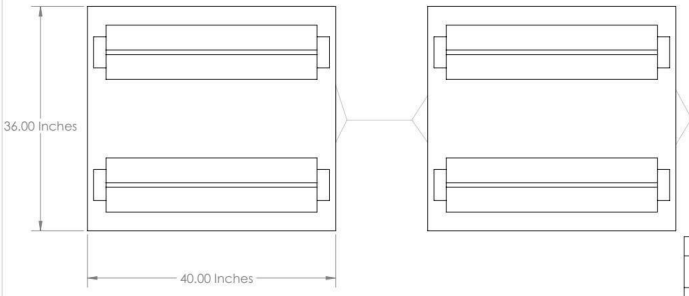
BOBR Dimensions and Capacity



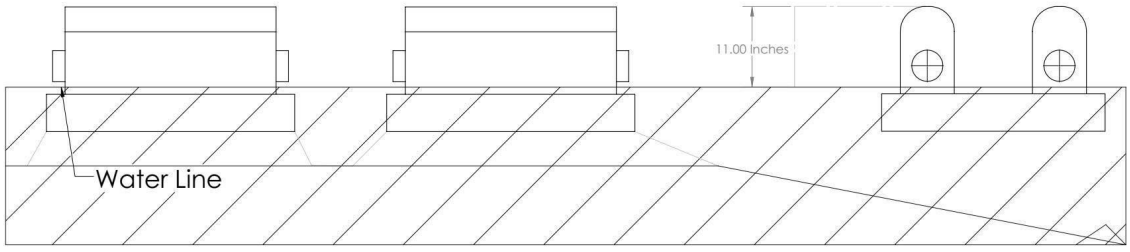
Capacity	
Year	Per Unit
1	2000-2500
2	1000-1200
3	300-400
4	150-200
5	100-150



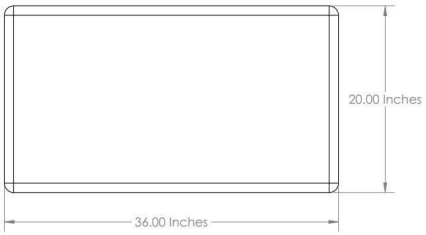
Oystergro Dimensions and Capacity



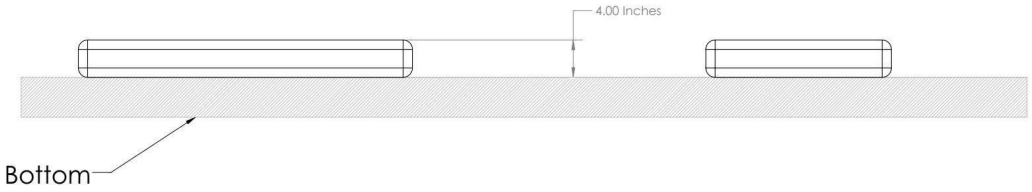
Capacity			
Year	Per Bag	Per 4 Bag OysterGro	Per 6 Bag OysterGroA1
1	2000-2500	8000-10000	12000-15000
2	1000-1200	4000-4800	6000-7200
3	300-400	1200-1600	1800-2400
4	150-200	600-800	900-1200
5	100-150	400-600	600-900



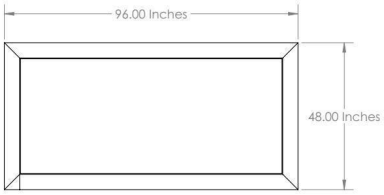
Bottom Bag Profile Dimensions



Capacity		
Year	Per Square Meter	Per Bag
1	200-400	1000-1200
2	150-200	600-1000
3	100-150	250-300
4	75-100	125-150
5	50-75	100-120



Large ABS Float Dimensions and Capacity



Capacity		
Year	Per Bag	Per Float (8 Bags)
1	2000-2500	16000-20000
2	1000-1200	8000-9600
3	300-400	2400-3200
4	150-200	1200-1600
5	100-150	800-1200

2.2 Infrastructure

Shandaph Oysters is 4.5 km from this lease and has a slipway, as well as a federally licensed processing plant. Shandaph Oysters also has equipment that can be utilized/rented when not in use (ie, tumbler, shaker, thrasher, etc). There are also two wharfs and 1 slipway within 4 km, with one being on the island side of the harbor and the other two on the mainland (should the causeway wash-out again).

The mooring system will consist of both screw anchors (for the lines that will remain in place year round) as well as concrete moorings (poured on land in various sizes) for the seasonal lines or lines that need to be moved for over wintering. Screw anchors have proven to be reliable onsite at Shandaph as well as many other farms.

Screw anchors can be accurately placed during winter months using gps and measuring tapes on the ice. This allows the lines to be evenly spaced in an orderly fashion with relative ease.

Gear Type	Mooring Type	Total Number
BOBRs/OysterGros	Screw Anchors/ Concrete Moorings	44
Finishing Cages/Lanterns	Screw Anchors/ Concrete Moorings	4
Racks/Tumblers	Small Concrete Moorings	40
ABS floats	Concrete Moorings	12

2.3 Services and Suppliers

Suppliers	Services	Basis	Region
Shandaph	Seed, Support, Processing	On Going	Local
Dockport	Gear	On Going	Local
Bouctouche Bay Industries	Gear	Annual	New Brunswick
Vernon d'Eon Fishing Supplies	General Operational Supplies	On Going	Local
Department of Aquaculture and Fisheries	Licensing		
Macgregor's Industrial	Welding and Machining	On Going	Local
Adventure Motors	Mercury/Boat Dealer		Local
Redline Sport Cycle	Yamaha/Boat Dealer		Local
Afishionado Fish Mongers	Marketing	On Going	Local
Stright-Mckay	Marine/Boat Supplies	On Going	Local
Kent	Building Supplies	On Going	Local
Home Hardware	Building Supplies	On Going	Local
Martin's Machine Shop	Specialized Equipment		PEI
Grandview Welding	Specialized Equipment		PEI

2.4 Employment

The aquaculture site will have 1-2 seasonal and 1 full time position. Wages will be competitive for this line of work. More employees may be brought on as needed. Introducing gear to the site allows for inventory control and regular order fulfilment.

2.5 Other Economic Contributions to the Local Community and Province

Aquaculture facilities require the support of multiple suppliers. This results in increased revenue for supporting businesses as any aquaculture facility grows. Improving the public knowledge of the oyster aquaculture industry through education and use of suppliers, shipping companies, and eventually, local welding shops will improve how people look at oyster aquaculture sites in this province and change public opinion.

As seen at Shandaph Oysters, aquaculture tourism has the ability to bring people from cities and even other provinces to visit the location that their favorite seafood is coming from as well as learning about the methods used to grow it. Tours have consisted of partnerships with other local businesses which benefits all parties involved while also diversifying the experience.

There will always be unforeseen economic contributions, but by improving the industry recognition and increasing the volume of the high quality shellfish that are produced in this province will benefit the industry as a whole.

2.6 Adverse Economic Impacts

There is a small amount of infrastructure on the island and very light foot traffic. The site is just barely visible to people on the mainland when they look out across the harbour. Property values should be unaffected by the addition of gear to the lease. The location experiences very minimal commercial and recreational traffic, though some boaters occasionally disregard the navigational aids in the harbour which direct boaters to follow the channel across to the opposite side of the harbour. There should be no adverse economic impacts.

SECTION 3: FISHERIES ACTIVITIES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURE OPERATION

3.1 Impacts on Fisheries Activities

The addition of gear on bottom, gear of bottom and suspended gear should have no impact on fishing activities in the public waters that surround the lease. Storm preparation is a large part of mitigating risk to surrounding areas. The conditions present on the lease location will be assessed to determine appropriate rope diameters and strength requirements to further reduce risk (and impacts) on the surrounding area. Having gear present requires regular attention and maintenance. Shandaph Oysters has been operating through storms and is a great resource for storm damage mitigation which keeps the gear on site where it belongs.

SECTION 4: OCEANOGRAPHIC AND BIOPHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS

4.1 Oceanographic Environment

The lease survived the last hurricane with little change to the bottom and shoreline. Oysters that were seeded out in 2016 have been located and were not buried by the storm. There is solid ice coverage in the winter which does cause mortality in the shallow areas Shandaph uses old tires filled with cement, placed approximately 40ft-60ft apart at in a zig-zag pattern with the deepest moorings being placed along the lowest low tide mark. Tires are low profile, movable, and wide enough to support the weight and not get pressed into the mud. These moorings support the weight of the ice so that the ice does not sit directly on the oyster beds. Ice sitting directly on the oysters can cause two issues, crushing the oysters or picking the oysters up in the ice. This is an essential protective measure used around the productive oyster beds at Shandaph and has proven to be effective.

The suspended gear will be in deep enough water that it can be submerged underneath the Ice during winter.

The intertidal cove has an approximate tidal range is between 0.1 m and 1.8 m (according to tide-forecast.com).

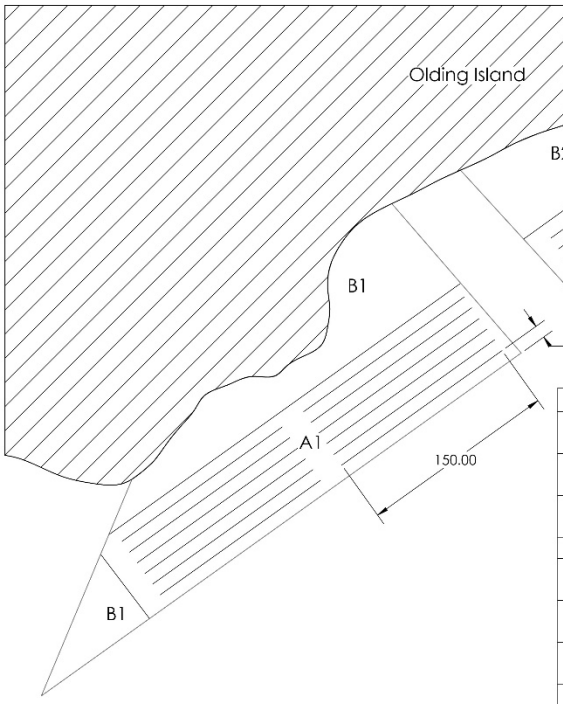
4.2 Environmental Monitoring

The fulfillment of the request will have little impact on the benthic environment. The implementation of screw anchors provide a minimal impact to the bottom. The zones where gear will be placed directly on bottom is exposed on low tides and is therefore only partially covered in vegetation so the gear will have minimal impact.

The lines will be in deep enough water to avoid dragging on the bottom and disrupting the natural state.

4.3 Site Design

Aquaculture Site 1378



Zone	Intended Use of Zone
A1	12 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A2	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A3	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
B1	Spat collection, bottom and off bottom
B2	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B3	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B4	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B5	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth

The B zones in the site layout above (excluding the tip of B1) are shallow (larger version of image can be found in Appendix B). The water required to keep gear suspended and not in contact with the bottom is where the gear lines are placed (zones A1, A2, and A3). Temporary gear that must be either removed or moved to deeper water can be suspended in the B Zones. The water depth in the A Zones also allow for overwintering of suspended gear beneath the ice. The site being configured in this manner maximizes the productivity of the zones while also allowing for the use of gear on bottom in the B zones. The ability to seed out to bottom as well as store product in bags on bottom or on racks in the shallower areas complements the use of suspended culture.

The approximate coordinates for the A zones are as follows (with the B zones being the remaining area):

A1:	A2:	A3:
45°37'58.80"N 62°27'57.20"W 45°37'57.37"N 62°27'54.86"W 45°38'5.64"N 62°27'47.36"W 45°38'3.68"N 62°27'44.51"W	45°38'7.12"N 62°27'44.95"W 45°38'4.98"N 62°27'42.38"W 45°38'10.99"N 62°27'37.51"W 45°38'9.40"N 62°27'35.46"W	45°38'9.45"N 62°27'33.26"W 45°38'10.74"N 62°27'30.99"W 45°38'3.91"N 62°27'23.11"W 45°38'5.88"N 62°27'20.72"W

There is enough space for navigating within the lease, between the lines as well as around the lines. The line configuration minimizes the number of screw anchors required while also utilizing the majority of the available space on the lease. The line length in this layout has already proved itself in the harbour on Lease #1369 where the lines and gear survived the strongest winds this area has ever experienced.

The extra space in the deeper water will get used for spat collection in the summer and into fall. The spat will then make its way into the suspended gear.

SECTION 5: THE OTHER USERS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURE OPERATION

5.1 Impacts to Other Users Including Wildlife

There is a cottage on Olding Island that is approximately 400 m away with about 350 m of trees between. They do not look at the lease currently so the visual change should not have an impact on them. The next closest place with a site line is approximately 900 m away from the closest point on the lease. At this distance it is difficult to see the yellow lease markers let alone any suspended gear resulting in very minimal impact.

The channel crosses to the south side of the harbour at French Point which has always directed recreational and commercial watercraft away from the lease. The lease does not impede any of the deep channels in the area. Furthermore, with the only mooring in the immediate area belonging to me and in front of my camp, there should not be a reason for much (if any) traffic within the lease. Kayaks and canoes will still easily pass through the lease if need be.

As mentioned previously, there is a processing facility located 4.5 km. This processing facility is federally licensed and could process my oysters, benefiting both of us. The harvesting process taking place through a licensed plant also improves food safety and quality. Following strict harvesting protocols from the QMP at Shandaph mitigates a lot of the risks associated with eating raw oysters during the warmer months. Shandaph also has some sorting/thrashing equipment which could be used to help with seed collection while reducing capital investment requirements.

In addition to the suspended gear, it would be expected to see cormorants unless bird mitigation devices are used on or around the gear. While this may be positive for the birds by giving them a perch, it does have a negative impact for the operation. There has been no change in knowledge of local species at risk since the current license/lease was approved. The gear also provides shelter for a variety of sea creatures. Fish, crabs, and eels all seem to enjoy the habitat and being around suspended gear.

5.2 Impacts by Other Users Including Wildlife

As mentioned in the previous section, cormorants perching on gear long term and in large numbers can be a problem. The low numbers of cormorants present in the harbour, more so on the leases with suspension, is a good indicator that they can be managed with deterrents.

SECTION 6: THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF NAVIGATION

An application was submitted through the online submission program.

SECTION 7: THE SUSTAINABILITY OF WILD SALMON

7.1 Identification of Local Salmon Populations

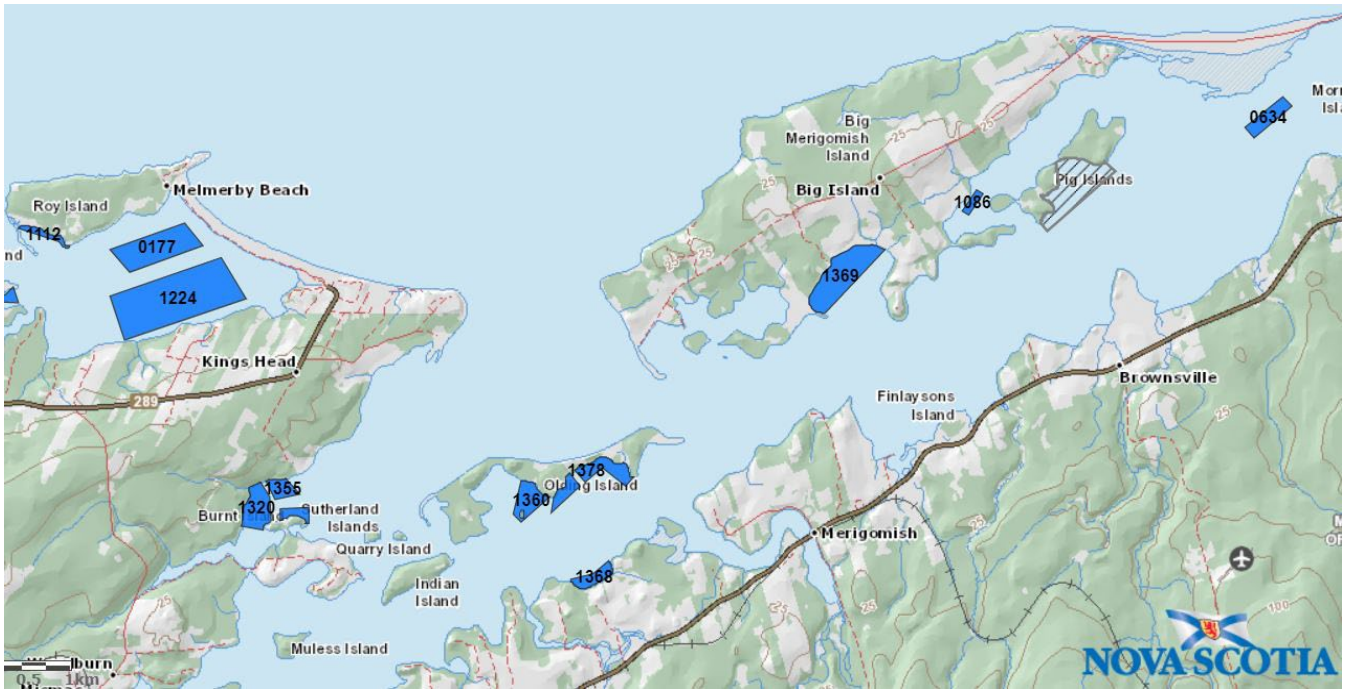
There have been no changes in the status of salmon run rivers in the region since the current license/lease was approved. Approximately 5.5 km away from the lease, the mouth of Sutherlands River opens up. This river does experience salmon runs. French river is located approximately 700 m away and would also likely experience some salmon population. Barney's River is approximately 8.8 km away and experiences salmon runs.

7.2 Support of the Sustainability of Wild Salmon

Due to the distance from the rivers that have salmon, as well as the nature of an oyster farm with suspended culture, the changes are not expected to affect salmon populations. The lease is also not located along any known salmon migration corridors.

SECTION 8: THE NUMBER AND PRODUCTIVITY OF OTHER AQUACULTURE SITES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL LOCATION

8.1 Interactions with Other Aquaculture Operations



8.2 Interactions with Other Aquaculture Operations

Shandaph Oysters has been a resource for information regarding farming techniques that work within our harbour. Fulfilling the request for suspended gear will allow for the framework of a strong business relationship. The infrastructure in place as well as seed production allow for bidirectional benefits. Spat collection can be low in areas some years and great in others. The ability to collect spat in multiple areas in the harbour will allow for a more secure seed supply for the farms (and future farms) within the harbour. It also has the potential to provide a quick turnaround on a product for cashflow.

In addition to the seed, the ability to produce more oysters in the harbour, of a high quality, will benefit the industry as well as the other farmers in the harbour. With more recognition, it opens the door for more business opportunities such as tourism. The ability to travel within the harbour and see multiple farms and techniques that are producing the shellfish products that are found across Canada.

I reached out to [redacted] years ago to work for [redacted] and I. Once he got his foot in the door, he stuck with it and now is in the process of starting his own farm. Active farmers will both grow the industry by increasing the number of oysters being produced and increasing the number of people farming. I hope that all of the farms around my lease will succeed and I plan to help them do that when I can.

SECTION 9: DEVELOPMENT VIABILITY

9.1 Financial Ability

9.2 Technical Ability

The proponent grew up on a trout farm and worked construction during the summers. The proponent has commercially fished lobster, herring and tuna (1987,1990,2005,2022 and 2023). In 1991, the proponent graduated from the aquaculture technician program in St. Andrews, NB before working for a NB company managing a salmon hatchery in Tobique, NB (1992). He then moved to Shelburne the following year to manage salmon farms for the same company.

The proponent helped his father build a recirculating aquaculture system that was used as a salmon hatchery in Little Harbour, NS (1994). The knowledge gained during the first build and modifications gave the proponent the ability to help others in the construction and operation of RAS systems. He consulted on the construction of 2 RAS systems in Debert for Char in 1998 as well as the construction and operation of RAS systems for Hamiltons Fish Farm from 2018-2020. The more recent consult still remains in communication and the proponent shares as much information and assistance as needed.

In addition to the RAS development, land was purchased (1994) and Barneys River Fish Farm was built (1998). The proponent owned and operated this business from 1998 until 2018 when it was sold to Dartek. The proponent worked between Barneys River Fish Farm and Little Harbour Hatchery from 1994 until 2018.

The proponent has DFO fishing licenses for Oysters and Clams as well as a DFO license for spat collection. Furthermore, the proponent also had a license under CSSP with DFO in 2023 for relay of contaminated oysters.

Since the spring lobster fishery ended in June, the proponent has been working at developing the lease (ie. spat collectors in July, gathering oysters along the shore and establishing sustainable oyster beds).

The proponent's wife has been working for 30+ years at corporate accounting and has also looked after Barneys River Fish Farm, Little Harbour Hatchery and Strickland Farms.

The experience and connections gained over the years gives the proponent a wide range of technical resources to draw from.

9.3 Compliance History

There have been no previous compliance issues.

SECTION 10: APPENDIX A

LEASE NS#1378

Proforma Financial Information

August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2026

LEASE NS#1378
Index to Proforma Financial Information
Years Ending August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2026

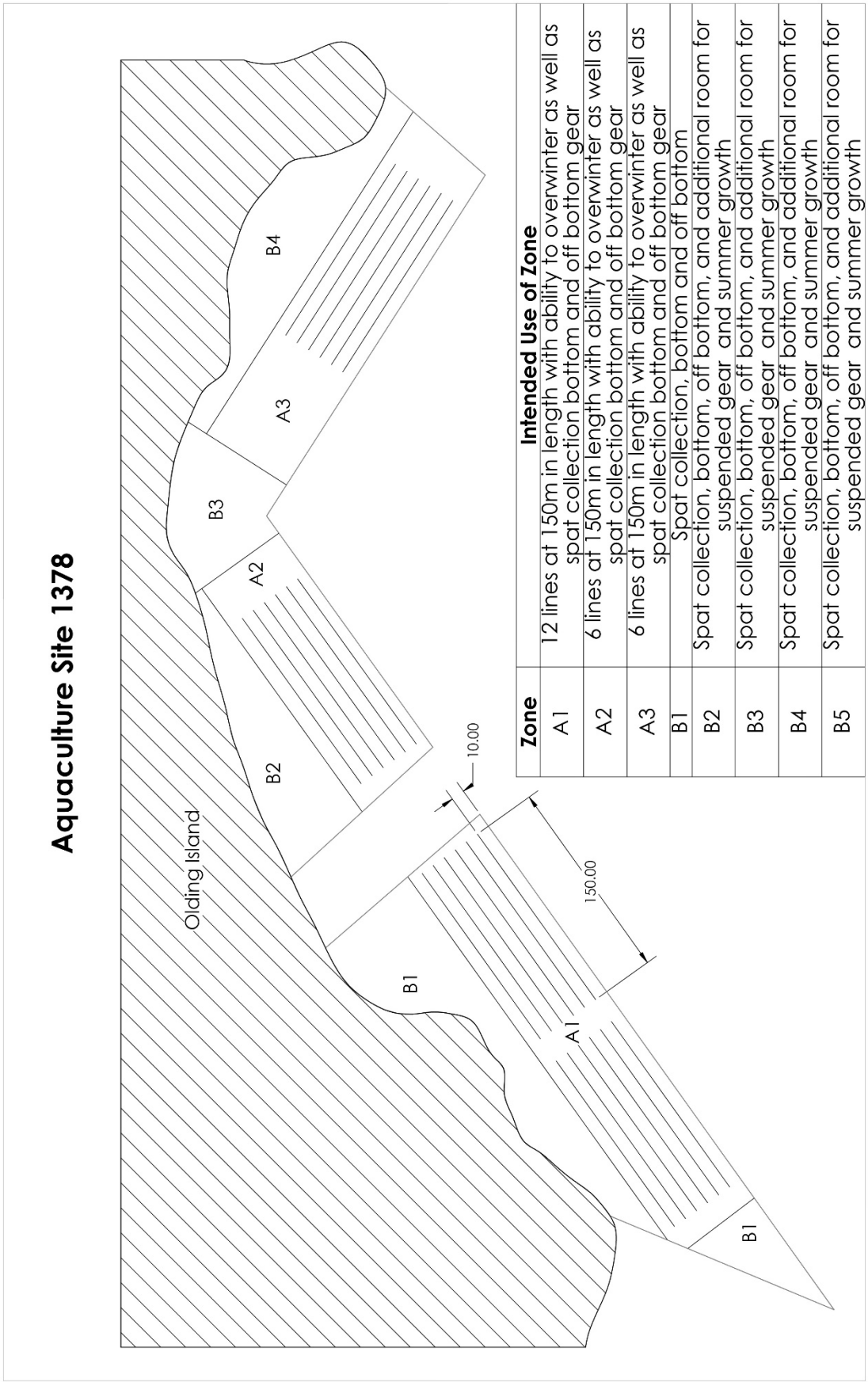
LEASE NS#1378
Proforma Statement of Income and Retained Earnings
Years Ending August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2026

1

LEASE NS#1378
Proforma Balance Sheet
August 31, 2024 to August 31, 2026

LEASE NS#1378
Proforma Supplemental Information to Financial Information
Years Ending December 31, 2023 to December 31, 2025

SECTION 10: APPENDIX B



Zone	Intended Use of Zone
A1	12 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A2	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
A3	6 lines at 150m in length with ability to overwinter as well as spat collection bottom and off bottom gear
B1	Spat collection, bottom and off bottom
B2	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B3	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B4	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth
B5	Spat collection, bottom, off bottom, and additional room for suspended gear and summer growth