

# Decision on Application to Amend a Land-based Aquaculture Licence

## Application to the Administrator:

Pursuant to the Nova Scotia *Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act* (the “Act”) and the Nova Scotia *Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations* (the “Regulations”); On July 13, 2024, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (the “Department”) received an application to amend an existing land-based aquaculture licence No. 1457 (AQ#1457), as described below:

## Application Summary:

<b>Applicant:</b> Université Sainte-Anne	<b>Site Size:</b> N/A
<b>Application File Number:</b> AQ#1457 (institutional licence)	<b>Species:</b> Sugar kelp
<b>Location:</b> Petit de Grat, Richmond County	<b>Method of Cultivation:</b> Land-based Hatchery, Nursery and Grow-out
<b>Proposed Amendment:</b> Authorize cultivation of American lobster	

## Site History:

Institutional Aquaculture Licence AQ#1457 was first issued to Université Sainte-Anne on December 16, 2022, for the land-based cultivation of Sugar kelp (*Saccharina latissimi*).

## Performance Reviews Conducted by Administrator:

A performance review was conducted on the aquacultural operation of site AQ#1457, pursuant to Sections 71-72 of the *Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations* (the “Regulations”). There were no concerns raised following the performance review.

## Public Submissions on Application to Administrator:

Pursuant to Section 41 of the Regulations, notice of the application was published on the Department’s website and in the Royal Gazette Part I inviting the public to submit written comments on the application to the Administrator within the 30 days following the date the notice was published. This notice was published on December 11, 2024.

No submissions were received by the Department during the 30-day public comment period.

**Factors to be Considered (as set out in Section 43 of the Regulations):**

*The financial viability of the proponent and the proposed operation*

The proponent and the proposed operation is expected to be financially viable in scope of an institutional licence.

*The extent to which the proposal is in accordance with the Act, the relevant regulations made under the Act and any guidelines or policies established by the Minister*

The nature in which Université Sainte-Anne intends to develop and operate this land-based site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines and policies of the Department.

*The technical viability of the proposed operation*

Upon consideration of all information submitted by the applicant, their proposed operation was determined to be technically viable.

*Any factors that the Administrator considers relevant to the application*

N/A

**Decision:**

Based on the factors considered above, Licence No. 1457 shall be amended to authorize the cultivation of American lobster (*Homarus americanus*) in accordance with the applicant's proposal. Except as expressly amended, Licence No. 1457 shall remain unchanged in full force and effect, including any terms and conditions. Documents shall be prepared to effect the above-approved amendments respectively to the Licence, in accordance with the Department's standard operating documents and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



Robert Ceschiutti  
Aquaculture Administrator  
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

January 22, 2025

Date