

Decision on Application to Renew Aquaculture Licence

Application to the Administrator:

On February 24, 2025, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (the “Department”) received an application to renew Aquaculture Licence #0188 (AQ#0188), as described below:

Application Summary:

Type: Landbased	Cultivation Method: U-Fish
Number: AQ#0188	Applicant: The Old Miller Trout Farm
Location: Margaree Forks, Inverness County	Species: Rainbow trout, Brook trout
Proposed Term: 10-year Licence	

Site History:

Aquaculture licence no. 0188 was first issued on September 1, 1990, for a 10-year term (September 1, 1990 to August 31, 2000) to Marilyn Burton for the land-based freshwater cultivation of Rainbow trout and Brook trout. In May, 1995, the licence was assigned to John H. Stinson and Patricia D. Wood. In September, 2000, the licence was renewed for a 5-year term (September 19, 2000 to September 19, 2005), assigned to The Old Miller Trout Farm and authorized for the U-Fish cultivation method. In February, 2006, the licence was renewed for a 5-year term (September 19, 2005 to September 19, 2010) and was authorized for freshwater cultivation. In July, 2011, the licence was renewed for a 5-year term and was authorized for grow-out cultivation. In April, 2016, the licence was renewed for a 10-year term and was authorized for the U-Fish cultivation method.

Performance Reviews Conducted by Administrator:

A performance review was conducted on the aquacultural operation of site AQ#0188, 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 July 30, 2025.

No (0) 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:

There were no concerns raised regarding the applicant's financial viability or their proposed continued operation of their U-fish farm.

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 the applicant intends to continue operating 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:

The proposed operation in relation to the renewal application was reviewed and determined to be technically viable.

Decision:

Based on the factors considered above, aquaculture licence no. 0188 shall be renewed for a 10-year term (September 19, 2025 to September 18, 2035).

The licence documents shall be prepared 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

September 15, 2025

Date