

Decision on Application to Renew 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 June 13, 2025, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (the “Department”) received an application to Renew an existing land-based aquaculture licence #1004 (AQ#1004), as described below:

Application Summary:

Type: Land-based	Location: L’Ardoise, Richmond County
Number: AQ#1004	Current Species: Atlantic salmon, Rainbow trout and Brook trout
Applicant: Ivan R. MacDonald	Proposed Term: 10-year Licence

Site History:

Aquaculture licence no. 1004 was first issued to Ivan MacDonald on June 20, 1995 for a 10-year term (June 26, 1995 to June 26, 2005), for the land-based cultivation of Atlantic salmon, Rainbow trout and Brook trout. In June, 2005, the Licence was renewed for a 5-year term (June 26, 2005 to June 26, 2010). In June, 2010, the Licence was renewed for a 5-year term (June 26, 2010 to June 25, 2015). In May, 2015, the Licence was renewed for a 6-month and 6-day term (June 25, 2015 to December 31, 2015). In May, 2016, the Licence was renewed for a 10-year term (December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2025).

Performance Reviews Conducted by Administrator:

A performance review was conducted on the aquacultural operation of site AQ#1004, 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 September 10, 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 financial viability of the proponent or the proposed operation with respect to this renewal application.

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

As with all land-based commercial aquaculture licenses, the proponent will be required to prepare a Farm Management Plan (FMP) and will require approval prior to stocking the site.

The technical viability of the proposed operation

The historical information on record indicated that the proper infrastructure is in place for the proposed method and scale of operation.

Decision:

Based on the factors considered above, aquaculture licence no. 1004 shall be renewed for a period of 10 (ten) years (December 31, 2026 – December 30, 2035). The Licence document 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

October 20, 2025

Date