

**Findings and Decision - Assignment Application of Barneys River Fish Farm Ltd. and Dartek Transport Ltd. for AQ#0832**

**1. Overview:**

On March 1, 2019, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an assignment application from Dartek Transport Ltd. for Aquaculture Licence #0832 (AQ#0832), as described below:

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence and Lease #0832

<b>Type:</b> Landbased	<b>Location:</b> Barney's River, Avondale Station, Pictou County
<b>Number:</b> AQ#0832	<b>Cultivation Method:</b> Landbased Cultivation
<b>Assignor:</b> Barneys River Fish Farm Ltd.	<b>Species:</b> Atlantic salmon, Brook trout, Rainbow trout, Arctic char
<b>Assignee:</b> Dartek Transport Ltd.	

**2. History**

AQ#0832 was first issued to Chris Strickland and Whit Strickland on November 18, 1994 for a ten year term (November 21, 1994 to November 21, 2004). AQ#0832 was assigned on August 4, 2000 from Chris Strickland and Whit Strickland to Strickland's Avondale Farms Limited. AQ#0832 was amended on July 16, 2002 to authorize the cultivation of Brook trout. AQ#0832 was assigned on November 18, 2005 from Strickland's Avondale Farms Limited to Barney's River Fish Farms Ltd. AQ#0832 was renewed on February 2, 2005 for a five year term (November 21, 2004 to November 21, 2009). AQ#0832 was amended on July 31, 2007 to authorize the cultivation of Rainbow trout. AQ#0832 was amended on July 4, 2012 to authorize the cultivation of Arctic char. AQ#0832 was renewed on April 20, 2010 for a five year term (November 21, 2009 to November 20, 2014). AQ#0832 was renewed on November 6, 2014 for a five year term (November 20, 2014 to November 20, 2019).

**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(b) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations, and was completed on July 30, 2019.

*3.2 Public Comment Period*

Notice of the application for the assignment of AQ#0832 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 20, 2019 to July 19, 2019. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on June 20, 2019, June 27, 2019, July 4, 2019, and July 11, 2019.

### *3.3 Submissions*

Zero submissions were received by NSDFA during the 30-day public comment period.

### **4. Factors to be considered**

The site has demonstrated consistent levels of production and employment. AQ#0832 is a land-based salmonid nurse operation. The production history of the operator and the proposed production levels suggest that the proposed continuation of the operation is viable. The nature in which the operator intends to continue operating the site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department.

The technical information submitted with respect to the assignment application indicates that the proposed continuation of the operation is technically viable. Since issuance, the site has successfully produced several salmonid species. The assignment does not involve any change to the necessary intake, fish rearing, and effluent management infrastructure in place. All other aspects of the application information and the subsequent review of this information supports the assignment of this application.

### **5. Decision**

Based on the considerations above, Barney's River Fish Farm Ltd.'s right, title, and interest in and to Aquaculture Licence #0832 is hereby assigned to Dartek Transport Ltd. The assignment shall have an effective date of August 27, 2019. The approval 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*

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

**August 27, 2019**

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**Date**