

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 attached Schedule “A” 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: Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd.	Type of Application: Renewal
Application File Number: AQ#0904	Species: Blue mussel, Giant sea scallop, American oyster
Location: Whitehead Harbour, Guysborough County	Method of Cultivation: Suspended
Application Received On: July 7, 2025	

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>

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Aquaculture Renewal Application

Licence/Lease No: AQ#0904

Licence/lease holder:

Applicant: Bill and Stanley Oyster Company Ltd. Contact Person: Brian Fortune

Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks Number: 3272052

Revenue Canada Business Number: [REDACTED]

Telephone No. (Work): [REDACTED] (Home): [REDACTED] (Cell): [REDACTED]

Fax No.: [REDACTED] E-mail: brian@billstanley.co
accounting@billstanley.co

Mailing Address: 931 Brush Wharf Rd.
Vernon Bridge PE Postal Code: COA-2E0

Civic Address: [REDACTED] Postal Code: [REDACTED]

Application Materials

A complete application includes the following:

- Renewal 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
- 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.

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

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



Date

March 10, 2025

Signature of Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and
Aquaculture Designate

Date

April 24th / 25
(24)

Submit completed applications

to: Ver. 170723-1

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

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SCHEDULE A



Aquaculture Site

0904

Corner	Latitude	Longitude
1	45° 14' 32.1"	-61° 10' 12.84"
2	45° 14' 32.1"	-61° 10' 3.3"
3	45° 14' 18.66"	-61° 10' 4.8"
4	45° 14' 18.54"	-61° 10' 13.86"
Centre	45° 14' 25.38"	-61° 10' 8.74"

DATUM NAD 83 CSRS UTM Zone 20
The above coordinates are not from a legal survey



License/Lease Holder

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd.

County

Guysborough

Waterbody

Whitehead Harbour

Hectares

8.45

Species Type



Shellfish


Culture Type

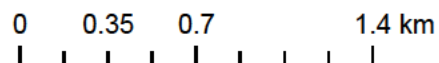
Suspended Culture

Chart

4233

 Renewal Application
 Site in Call for Proposal

 Other Issued Lease



Disclaimer
This map should not be used for navigation or legal purposes. It is intended for general reference only.
NSDFA Page 3 of 3
Date: 2025-09-15 Created By: MK

SCHEDULE A

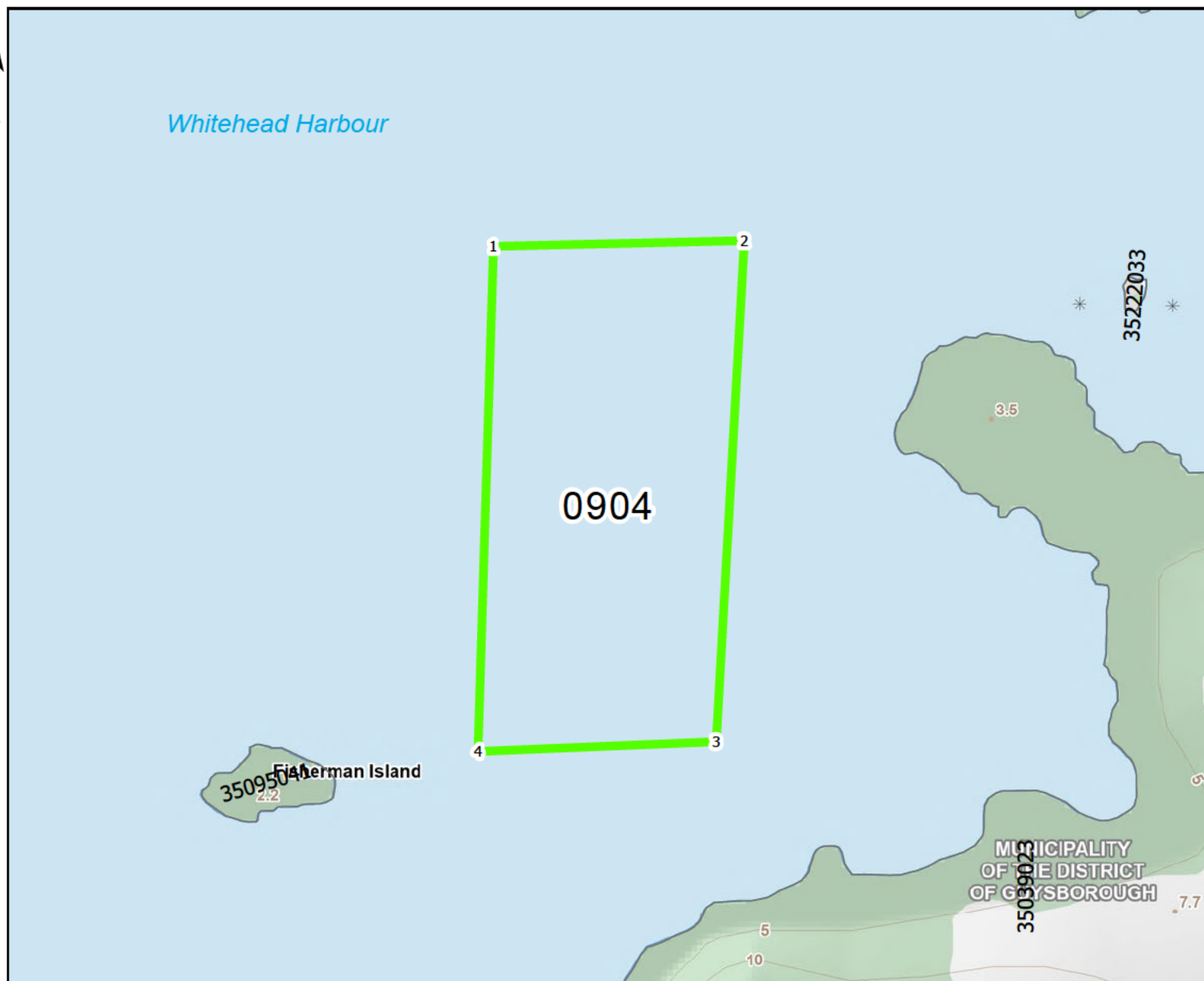


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Renewal Application



Property Boundary

0 50 100 200 300



Meters



Disclaimer

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Date: 2025-09-15

Created By: MK



Lease Renewal Plan

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd

Lease # AQ0904

July 1, 2025

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Section 1 Optimum Use of Marine Resources

Lease AQ0904 was originally applied and used as a mussel lease. Bill and Stanley Oyster Company is the third company to own this lease and use it for aquaculture purposes.

The lease is currently used as a storage lease to hold market ready products until required at the processing plant found at 31 Deming Point Road, Whitehead, Nova Scotia

Due to its year-round ice-free history and proximity to the processing plant 0904 has become a temporary holding lease for graded oysters harvested from surface grow out cages that must be submerged for a minimum of 21days before being shipped to market for human consumption.

Pods holding [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] per cage ([REDACTED] oysters per pod) are tied to a back line and floated by a large buoy. Twenty-six lines have been established on the lease, each with the capacity to hold [REDACTED]. The full capacity of the lease would be [REDACTED] oysters.

Section 2 Contribution to the Community and Provincial Economic Development

This lease has become a critical part of the company's current and future operation plans, offering a readily available source of market ready oysters for the processing plant now and in the future. Its strategic location in relation to the processing plant is vital. As the company continues to grow more inventory will be held on this lease for storage and use. Its ice-free properties make it an ideal location for near shore storage of market ready oysters.

The processing and packing plant currently employs 20 people on a year-round basis with an added 4 employees working full time on the water from April through December and periodically through January to March. These numbers do not include operations in other areas of the province and will increase with the growth of sales through this processing facility.

Section 3 Activities in Terms of Public Waters

Lease AQ 0904 is positioned to the east side of the normal navigation corridor in Whitehead Harbour. The area has exceptionally light vessel traffic except during the traditional lobster season. The depth of the waters on the lease and surrounding this lease do not make it an ideal area for lobster fishing in proximity to the lease.

Two local lobster fishers do fish several strings of traps close to the shore on the eastern side of the harbour, clear of the lease.

There is no other commercial fishing activity in the area.

Section 4 Oceanographic and Biophysical Characteristics of the Public Waters

Oysters are traditionally deployed to this lease once the main near shore storage lease AQ 1091 comes to capacity in October. As a rule, the product in this lease is harvested and sold by the beginning of April. Oysters slow down their feeding when the water temperature reaches 10°C and when the water gets down to 5°C their metabolism completely shut down. With knowledge of the water shed and characteristics of the oysters it is clear to see that oysters held on this lease would cause no benthic damage and therefore there is no need for monitoring.

The lines run north to south to avoid unnecessary strain to the back lines and any floating gear during the most severe environmental conditions in the area.

The area is monitored for bio toxins by CFIA. The Plant Manager and the Area Bay Manager are responsible to ensure that conditions always meet regulatory requirements to ensure harvests are made from open and approved waters.

BSOC monitors for potential rain fall events that would hamper harvest plans and for any environmental events that might potentially cause harm to gear and animals on this lease.

Section 5 **Other Users of Public Waters Surrounding the Site**

There are no other users of the waters surrounding this lease site. There is an abundance of seals in the harbour and an annual visit from basking whales is not uncommon. Neither the seals nor the sharks have caused any concern in the lease, as they appear to like the shallow water in other areas of the harbour.

Section 6 Public Right to Navigation

Lease AQ#0904 is located outside the normal navigation route to and from the public wharf in Whitehead Harbour. When in use, the lease site is marked following the NWPA requirements for the site. When not in use the gear is sunk deep enough below the surface to have no impact on marine traffic.

Due to a low population in the area, combined with the absence of cottages and campgrounds, and high prevalence of fog in the area during the prime boating season, recreational boaters have not historically been seen in the area, and certainly not during the time of year this lease will be most active. If this changes in the future pleasure craft owners will be welcome to use the area and there will be nothing that would hamper their boating experiences. When the gear is raised in late fall to accept the oyster pods of market ready oysters it would traditionally be past the typical Nova Scotia pleasure craft season. In the event pleasure craft are present in late fall the lease will be marked following the NWPA regulations and the large orange buoys that hold the oyster pods 10 feet below the surface are easily seen. The back lines from this system sit well below the surface and would have no effect on any boat operator who did not understand the markings for the lease and unintentionally navigated inside the marked lease boundaries.

Section 7 Development Viability

Bill and Stanley Oyster Company Ltd has operated a shellfish growing and processing operation in Whitehead for the past 10 years. We have 35 employees in the province of Nova Scotia that rely on the sales through the plant for their pay cheques. Lease 0904 is a strategic lease in BSOC's portfolio as it ensures that we have a supply of oysters available for sale when other regions in Atlantic Canada are covered with ice. As our production increases, we will continue to place increased product on this lease for direct sales. When we have a surplus of product, we have sold inventory from this lease to other Atlantic Canadian processors when they cannot access their own product due to unsafe ice conditions or are sold out of product.

Section 8 Technical Ability

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd has a well-trained team of employees working for the company both on and off the water. The company has been the leader of innovation in the oyster industry in Atlantic Canada. Many of our growing techniques and equipment were developed in-house and were later adopted by farmers across the region. The processing operations have followed the same path and in every progressive processing facility in the region you will find equipment that was developed or improved by the team at BSOC. Examples would be vision grading, automated counting systems, temperature controlled wet holding systems as well as patented packaging technologies.

The team at Bill & Stanley Oyster Company would have a combined total of over 200 years of active participation in the Atlantic Canadian Aquaculture industry.

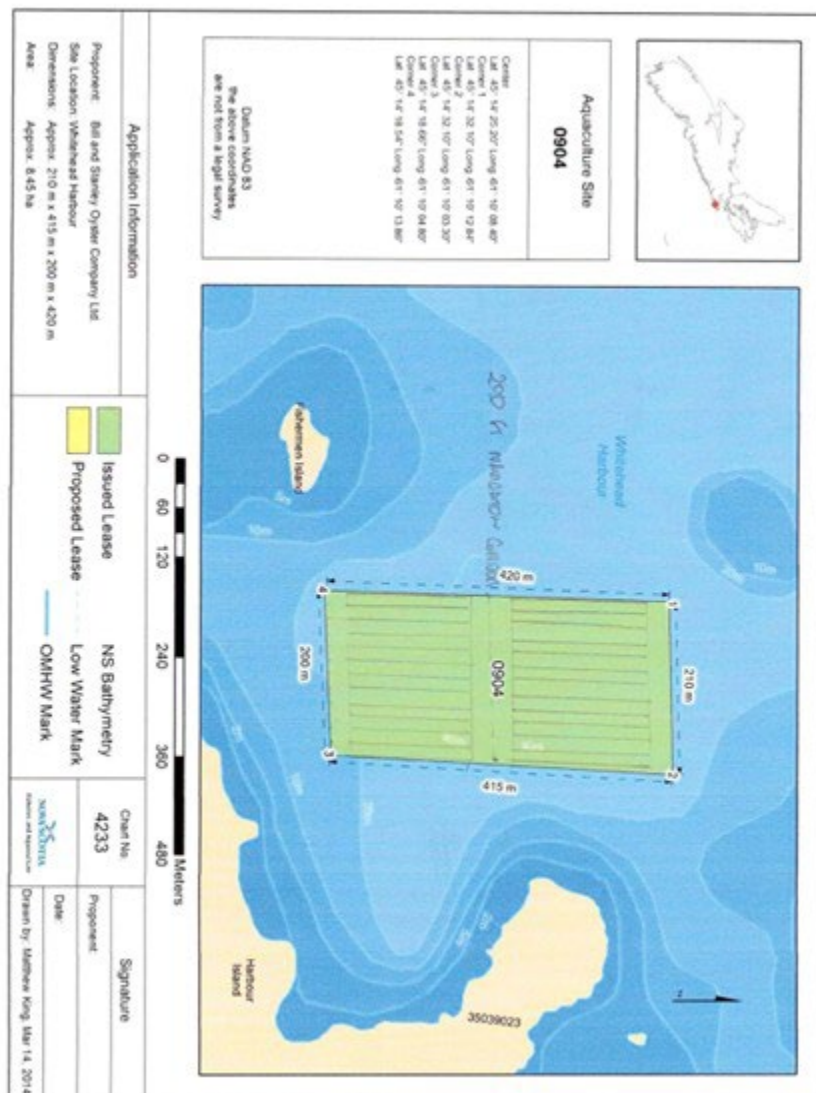
Section 9 Compliance History

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company has had no serious compliance issues with the province or NWPFA. Any issues have been quickly resolved.

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company has an active Farm Management Plan.

Our crews must have valid vessel operator's licenses, wear approved safety flotation devices and have valid first aid certificates. The vessels are equipped with modern equipment to ensure the personal safety of all crews working on the water. The company has a zero-tolerance policy for use of alcohol or drugs while on company property and vessels.

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Section 11 Drawing of the Mooring System and Equipment

