

Findings and Decision- Assignment Application of ProNova Marine Products Limited for AQ#1234

1. Overview:

On November 1, 2017, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Scotian Halibut (2016) Limited to assign Aquaculture Licence and Lease #1234 (AQ#1234), as described below to ProNova Marine Products Limited..

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence and Lease #1234

Type: Marine Shellfish	Location: Wood's Harbour, Shelburne County
Number: AQ#1234	Size: N/A (Landbased)
Assignor: Scotia Halibut (2016) Limited	Cultivation Method: Landbased Cultivation
Assignee: ProNova Marine Products Limited	Species: Atlantic halibut, Atlantic cod, Haddock, Green sea urchin, Dulse, Irish moss, Rainbow trout, Cunner, Lumpfish, American oyster

2. History

AQ#1234 was first issued to Scotian Halibut Limited on March 1, 2001 for a ten year term (March 1, 2001 to March 1, 2011). AQ#1234 was amended on March 25, 2004 to allow for the cultivation of Atlantic cod and Haddock. AQ#1234 was renewed on January 16, 2013 for a five year term (March 2, 2011 to March 2, 2016). AQ#1234 was amended on June 18, 2014 to allow for the cultivation of American oyster. AQ#1234 was amended on November 6, 2014 to allow for the cultivation of Cunner and Lumpfish. AQ#1234 was renewed on June 24, 2016 for a ten year term (March 1, 2016 to March 1, 2026). AQ#1234 was assigned on February 23, 2017 from Scotia Halibut Limited to Scotian Halibut (2016) Limited.

3. Procedure

3.1 Performance Review

A performance review completed on February 26, 2018 for the assignment of AQ#1234. This review recommended that the site be assigned based on the technical and biological assessment. This performance review is required pursuant to Subsection 72(b) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations.

3.2 Public Comment Period

Notice of the application for the assignment of AQ#1233 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of January 18, 2018 to February 16, 2018. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on January 24, January 31, February 7, and February 14, 2018.

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#1234 operates in conjunction with AQ#1233, a land-based facility in Wood's Harbour also being assigned from Scotian Halibut (2016) Limited to ProNova Marine Products Limited. The site has a record of compliance with respect to the Act, Regulations, guidelines, and policies of the Department. 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. Specifically, the operation makes use of flow-through technology and the technical information provided suggests that the proper infrastructure is in place for the proposed method and scale of the operation. The performance review noted that biosecurity measures are in place, and that water is withdrawn from Wood's Harbour via two pipelines. All other aspects of the application information submitted and the subsequent review of this information supports the assignment of this licence.

5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #1234 shall be assigned to ProNova Marine Products Limited. A letter approving this assignment shall be prepared in accordance with NSDFA policy, and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.



Brennan Goreham
Aquaculture Administrator
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

3/15/18
Date