

Findings and Decision- New Application of Scotia Seafood Producers Inc. for AQ#0129

1. Overview:

On July 10, 2013, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Scotia Seafood Producers Inc. for a new Aquaculture Licence #0129(AQ#0129) as described in Table 1.

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence and Lease #0129

Type: Landbased	Location: New Waterford, Cape Breton County
Number: AQ#0129	Species: Atlantic salmon and Rainbow trout
Applicant: Scotia Seafood Producers Ltd.	Proposed Term: 10 year Licence

2. History

AQ#0129 was previously issued to conduct landbased aquaculture at this property. At time of application, the licence number (AQ#0129) was reused for file continuity purposes; however, the current issuance of AQ#0129 constitutes a new licence issuance.

3. Procedure

3.1 Performance Review

A performance review of the information submitted by the operator in support of their application was finalized on October 20, 2015. Comments from Network partners were also reviewed upon receipt. This review recommended that the site proceed to network review based on the technical and biological assessment.

3.2 Network Review

AQ#0129 was initially sent for review on November 9, 2015, with updated information pertaining to AQ#0129 sent for review on May 8, 2017.

The following agencies reviewed the application: Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, NSDFA Inland Fisheries Division, Nova Scotia Department of Environment, Nova Scotia Office of Aboriginal Affairs, Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Canadian Food Inspection Agency. Relevant comments from Network partners will be provided to the applicant.

3.3 Public Comment Period

Notice of the application for AQ#0129 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of December 21, 2017 to January 19, 2018. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette Part I on December 20, 2017, December 27, 2017, January 3, 2018, and January 10, 2018.

3.4 Submissions

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

4. Factors to be considered

The nature in which Scotia Seafood Producers Inc. intends to develop and operate this landbased site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines and policies of the Department.

The applicant's proposal was determined to be technically viable. The technical information provided suggests that the proper infrastructure will be put in place for the proposed method and scale of operation. All aspects of the application information submitted and the subsequent review of this information supports the issuance of this licence.

Scotia Seafood Producers Inc. will be required to prepare a Farm Management Plan (FMP) will require approval prior to stocking the site. The applicant will also require an Introductions and Transfers permit from the Department of Fisheries and Ocean (DFO) prior to moving fish to the site.

5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #0129 shall be issued to Scotia Seafood Producers Inc. for a period of 10 years (March 1, 2018 to March 1, 2028).

The Licence and Lease documents shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publically 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



Date