

Decision – Application to Administrator

Application Summary:

Reference Number:	REF#526
Aquaculture Site Number:	AQ#0055
Application Class:	Class III
Application Type:	Assignment
Abstract:	Application to assign licence and lease to “Blaine Bond c/o Long Reef Shellfish”
Applicant Name:	Tina Dauphinee c/o K & H Capital
Date Received by Department:	July 9, 2024
Location:	Mahone Bay
County:	Lunenburg
Site Type:	Marine
Operation Type:	Commercial

Current Licence / Lease Information:

Site Size (in hectares):	5.40
Method(s) of Cultivation:	Suspended
Species:	Blue mussel, European oyster, Bay scallop, Giant sea scallop
Term of Licence:	August 2, 2017 to August 2, 2027
Term of Lease:	August 2, 2017 to August 2, 2037

Decision:

Decision Issued:	Approved
Signature and Date:	
	Robert Ceschiutti, Aquaculture Administrator

Definitions:

The following are terms, acronyms and definitions that may appear in this document:

Act means the Nova Scotia Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act

Department means the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Prior Regulations means the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations, O.I.C. 2015-338 (issued October 26, 2015), N.S. Reg. 347/2015, amended to O.I.C. 2019-322 (effective November 12, 2019), N.S. Reg. 186/2019.

Regulations means the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations, O.I.C. 2025-371 (issued December 16), 2025, N.S. Reg. 276/2025.

Site History:

Licence and Lease No. 0055 were first issued to Wayne Earl Turtle and Wayne Eric Turtle on August 15, 1989, for a 10 year term (August 12, 1989 to August 12, 1999) for the suspended cultivation of Blue mussel and European oyster on a 5.40HA site. In August 1990, the licence and lease were amended to add an additional species Bay scallop. In May 1994, the licence and lease were assigned to Wayne Earl Turtle. In August 1994, the licence and lease were amended to modify the site boundaries “Block C” was added to “Blocks A and B” resulting in a total area of 19.83HA. In May 1999 the licence and lease were separated into two distinct sites (Nos. 0055 and 1157), which resulted in a new area of 5.40HA and was issued for a 5 year term (August 12, 1999 to August 12, 2009). In December 2009 the licence and lease were renewed for a 5 year term (August 2, 2009 – August 2, 2017). In October 2015, the licence and lease were amended to add an additional species (Giant sea scallop). In April 2017, the licence was renewed for a 10 year term (August 2, 2017 to August 2, 2027) and the lease was renewed for a 20 year term (August 2, 2017 to August 2, 2037). In February 2018, the licence and lease were assigned to Tina Dauphinee carrying on business under the name of K & H Capital. In August 2018 the licence and lease were amended to modify Schedule “B” in order to comply with the Government of Canada requirements with respect to harvesting Giant sea scallop.

Outcomes of Performance Review:

Pursuant to Section 40 of the Regulations, the Administrator (or an appointed employee) may conduct a compliance review of the applicant in accordance with Sections 86 and 87 of the Regulations. A compliance review was conducted on aquaculture site no. 0055. There were no concerns raised following the performance review, in scope of this assignment application.

Consultations on Application to Administrator:

Pursuant to Clause 32(a) of the Regulations, the Administrator must undertake consultations with any of the following as required under the laws of the Province or of Canada with respect to the application:

- A department or agency of the Government of Nova Scotia
- A department or agency of the Government of Canada

As such, consultations were undertaken with the following departments or agencies:

Government of Nova Scotia:

- Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Public Submissions on Application to Administrator:

The application, following the completion of consultation, was referred to the Administrator on October 24, 2025. At that time, the Prior Regulations were in effect.

Pursuant to Section 41 of the Prior 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 November 12, 2025.

One (1) submission was received by the Department during the 30-day public comment period, and which subsequently met the requirements set out in subsection 41(5) of the Prior Regulations and are included with this document (refer to Supplement 1: Written Public Submissions).

Factors to be Considered:

Under Section 17(1) of the Regulations, in making decisions related to marine aquaculture sites, the Administrator must take into consideration the optimum use of marine resources, as determined by taking into consideration the following factors only:

- a) The contribution of the proposed operation to community and Provincial economic development;
- b) Fishery activities in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;
- c) The oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;
- d) The other users of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation;
- e) The public right of navigation;
- f) For marine finfish applications, the sustainability of wild salmon;
- g) The number and productivity of other aquaculture sites in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation.

All of the above factors have been taken into consideration prior to making the decision on this application. The following is a summary of the outcomes of the Departmental review and any consultation undertaken (where indicated above). This summary is not intended to be an exhaustive account of the results following review and consultation.

The optimum use of marine resources

The assignee's development plan demonstrates an optimum use of marine resources. Review of the file indicates that the site has had minimal production and employment in recent years under the assignor. Department staff will continue to monitor the assignee that production plans are implemented as submitted and that the site is utilized for Aquaculture.

The contribution of the proposed operation to community and Provincial economic development

The assignee's development plan indicated that there would be no net increase in employment, and the assignee intends to utilize their existing workforce. The assignee currently holds three aquaculture licences and leases, all of which are located within the same body of water as site no. 0055 (Mahone Bay).

Fishery activities in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation

This application to assign an existing aquaculture licence and lease contained no expected novel impacts to the fishery activities in the public waters near the existing site.

The oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation

The species and methods of cultivation authorized for this site are suitable for this area.

The other users of the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation

This application to assign an existing Aquaculture licence and lease contained no expected novel impacts to the other users of the public waters near the existing site.

The public right of navigation

The operator is required to adhere to the site marking requirements according to their Notice of Works issued by Transport Canada under the Canadian Navigable Waters Act, reference number NPP#1987-200137.

The number and productivity of other aquaculture sites in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation

Aquaculture site no. 0055 is located approximately 270 meters from the mainland shoreline and is located approximately 100 meters from the nearest aquaculture site (no. 1157 which is also under application for assignment to the same person). Within Mahone Bay, there are currently 9 aquaculture sites with issued licences/leases, with 8 of those sites licensed for shellfish cultivation. There is no evidence to suggest that the extent of existing aquaculture in the area has exceeded the carrying capacity of the area.

Decision:

Based on the factors considered above, the application to assign licence and lease no. 0055 from “Tina Dauphinee c/o K & H Capital” to “Blaine Bond c/o Long Reef Shellfish” is hereby approved.

Implementation:

The licence and lease assignment documents shall be prepared in accordance with the Department’s standard operating documents. The decision shall be deemed implemented once the assignment documents have been signed by all parties. The assignment documents shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, once the decision has been implemented.

Supplement 1: Written Public Submissions

Written Public Submissions via email (1 page)

The Department does not endorse, and is not responsible for, the content of the included submissions, including, but not limited to, the accuracy, reliability, or currency of the information contained wherein.

Wherever they may occur, text within public submissions will have been redacted by the Department for the purpose of protecting personal information, including but not limited to, names, addresses, and contact information, with the exception of the following:

- The name and community of the individual submitting the written public comment
- The name of the applicant and any authorized contacts, as listed on the application form
- Names and contact information of politicians
- Names and contact information of municipal, provincial, and federal employees
- Names of aquaculture licence holders
- Names of authors of published works

The Department also reserves the right not to post submissions or to redact certain details from submissions, in accordance with the Terms of Use for government websites, web applications or web communications (copy of terms available at <https://beta.novascotia.ca/terms>).

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Aquaculture Administrator](#)
Subject: feedback on shellfish farm
Date: November 27, 2025 8:43:23 PM

[You don't often get email from [REDACTED]. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>]

**** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE ****

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Sir or Madam

Regarding the letter I received regarding K&H Capitol applying for the existing aquaculture license to be reassigned to him, I see no problem with this, The location is the same as the previous operation and caused no problems in our area. .

Debra and Julian beveridge, [REDACTED] Halifax, Ns [REDACTED]