

Aquaculture Licence/Lease Application

Applicant Information:

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Proposed Site Information:

Location of Site: Mahone Bay County: Lunenburg Site Size (Ha): 50
Site Dimensions: G=400mx500m, H=222mX900m, I=2
Hydrographic Chart No.: 4381
Approximate Center Coordinates: Latitude: 44.44559
Longitude: -64.2928

Type of Licence Application

(Check appropriate boxes):

Commercial licence/lease
 Experimental licence/lease

Marine Plants Finfish Shellfish Other

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

<input type="checkbox"/> Land-based	<input type="checkbox"/> Marine
<input type="checkbox"/> Freshwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cage culture
<input type="checkbox"/> Saltwater	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Suspended shellfish or marine plants
<input type="checkbox"/> U-Fish	<input type="checkbox"/> Bottom shellfish with gear
<input type="checkbox"/> Hatchery	<input type="checkbox"/> Bottom shellfish without gear
<input type="checkbox"/> Nursery Facility	
<input type="checkbox"/> Growout	

Application Materials

A complete application includes the following:

- Application 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
- Report on Public Engagement during Scoping (for all Marine applications and for other applications, as applicable)
- Copy of up-to-date Shareholder's Register which sets out the shareholdings of the company (if applicable, and if not already provided during the Option to Lease application process).

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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



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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

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Date

August 20, 2025

Signature of Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and
Aquaculture Designate

A large black rectangular redaction box covering a handwritten signature.

Date

August 20, 2025

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

Pg. 3 of 3



Blue Lantern Shellfish

Marine Aquaculture Development Plan

Option Area #4041

Prepared by
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SECTION 1: THE OPTIMUM USE OF MARINE RESOURCES

1.1 Development Plan Overview

Blue Lantern Shellfish plans to develop an Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) system across three lease areas in Mahone Bay. Our main product will be sea scallops (*Placopecten magellanicus*), and our secondary product will be sugar kelp (*Saccharina latissima*).

Our spirit of stewardship extends beyond our leases to include our community and province. We seek to show that shellfish and sea plant aquaculture are beneficial and sustainable socially, environmentally, and economically.

Our farm will benefit the environment and the economy while causing minimal disruption to other users of public waters. We recognize the need to balance values such as food security, environmental stewardship, and economic growth against societal concerns about aquaculture and social carrying capacity. We are sympathetic to the uncertainty and hesitation some community members have expressed regarding this or any new aquaculture project. Therefore, our production plan is slow and deliberate, allowing us to demonstrate our values in action as we build farm capacity and public trust.

Environmental Impact

Scallop farming benefits the environment. Giant sea scallops are filter feeders, meaning they consume microscopic plants and animals like plankton by straining them from the water. They use their gills to draw in seawater and filter out these tiny organisms. They require no additional feed, supplements, or medication. Their food arrives via ocean currents while they hang out and develop their highly prized adductor muscles. Scallops (and kelp) also contribute to blue carbon sequestration by absorbing carbon through their shells and biomass, helping to store carbon in marine ecosystems.

Economic Impact

We understand that sustainability involves finding our place within the broader socio-economic landscape of our community and province. For us, this means prioritizing local purchasing, maintaining high standards and best practices as employers, and encouraging innovation in spin-off industries. We will employ Nova Scotians in various full-time and seasonal roles with competitive wages and benefits. We will also use technology, equipment, training, and innovation to shift away from creating value through low-value labour inputs.

Other users of the public waters

We have taken care to be sensitive to the current users of the waters we aim to farm. Recreational users will find it easy to navigate around well-marked leases. If they accidentally cross into the farm, we have designed it to minimize or eliminate the possibility of entanglement. Our scallop farm is an excellent fit for Mahone Bay, with multiple farms already in operation, including one established in the mid-80s.

Residents concerned about noise and views will find that our work will be unobtrusive. It will be carried out on small, quiet vessels with a minimal number of buoys visible on the water's surface.

Integration of public feedback

Throughout the public scoping process, we encouraged people to participate by filling out a form or uploading a document on our website so that we could respond to their specific concerns directly and include that correspondence in this application. Almost all commenters described their current use of the proposed lease site as recreational.

Our discussions with the public prompted us to make several key changes to our development plan. We were encouraged to consolidate our lease into fewer sites and to steer clear of areas with the heaviest traffic and popular anchorages. Of the seven potential lease sites identified in our announcement of our Option to Lease (A-G), only one (G) remains in the original position, though its composition has been altered. We now propose three locations (G, H, I), which are positioned to allow for easy passage of other vessels and avoid popular anchorages.

We also modified our farm design to reduce the risk of accidental entanglement if a vessel passes through our leases unintentionally. We achieved this by maintaining horizontal growlines at a safe depth (4m at low tide), shortening the vertical lines on growline flotation buoys, and removing anchor retrieval buoys from the surface. Additionally, we will deploy highly visible corner marker buoys to assist with navigation.

Conclusion

Our farm will be discreet and unobtrusive, support marine biodiversity, strengthen the local maritime economy and improve food security by producing sustainable protein. For Nova Scotians who are committed to the shared use of our waters and a thriving, diverse, and sustainable economy for future generations, we believe that a flourishing shellfish and sea plant aquaculture sector will fill them with pride.

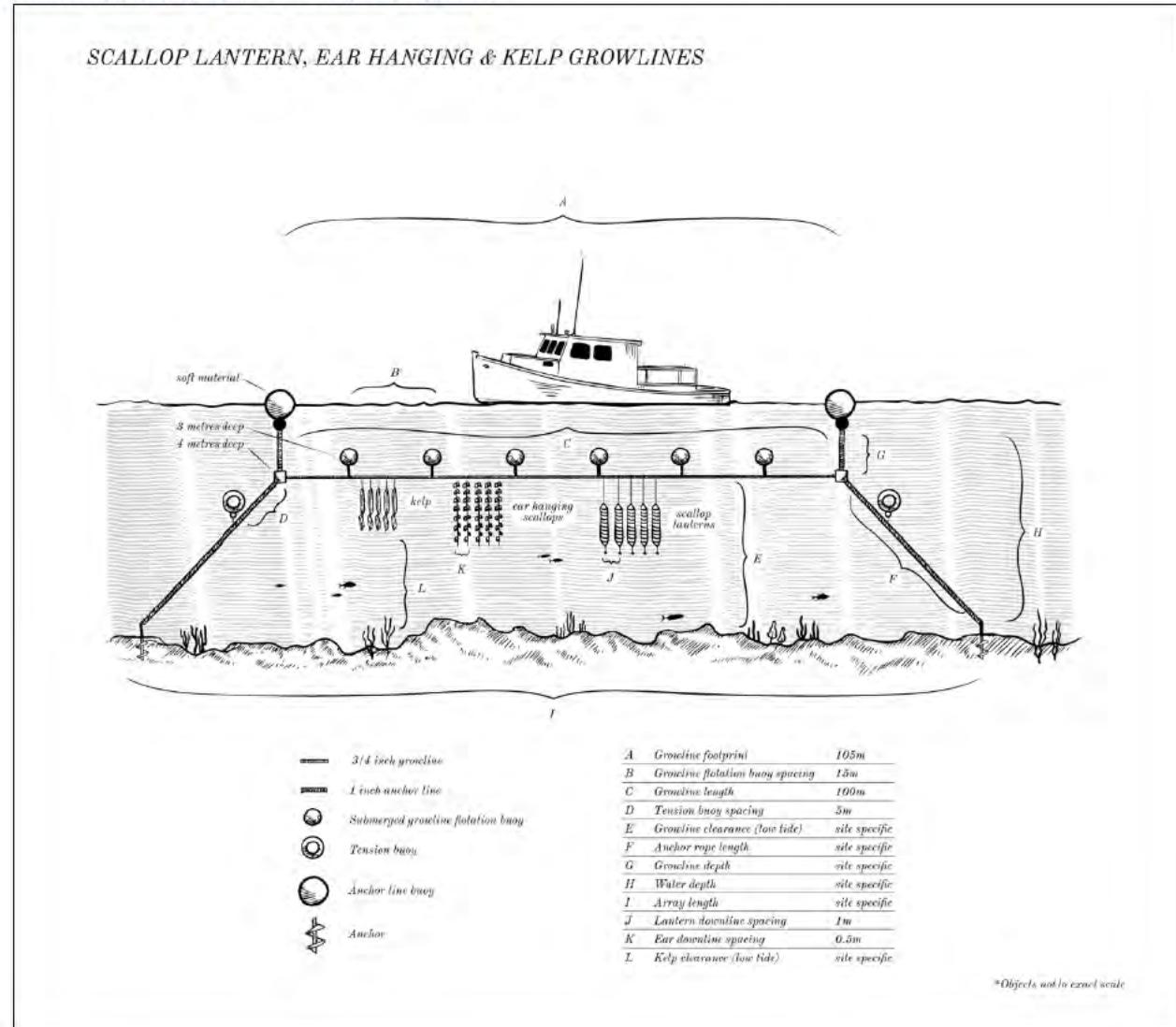
SECTION 2: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROPOSED OPERATION TO COMMUNITY AND PROVINCIAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

2.1 a) Production Plan for Scallops

Overview

We will adopt the **Japanese scallop farming** method, inspired by Maine farmers who have adapted Japanese equipment for the specific scallop species in our waters. Scallop farming does not require any supplements, medications, food, or fertilizer.

FIGURE 2.1.1: SIDE VIEW OF TYPICAL GROWLINE



Growing Sustainably Over Time

It will take several years to fully realize the farm's production potential. We plan to build up to capacity deliberately, reducing risk by validating assumptions about scallop growth rates and biofouling interventions. This approach is intentional, reflecting the nature of scallop farming, and allows us to adjust our methodology and respond to changes in the marine environment.

Framed more concretely, this approach is as follows: When we deploy our initial shipment of seed, the entire farm will fit on a single 100m growline, where juvenile scallops will be kept in pearl nets. After the first sorting, these scallops will have more space to grow when placed in lower-density lantern nets on six to eight 100m growlines. As the scallops increase in size, they are sorted into lantern nets until they are ready to be hung on ear-hanging downlines. Ear hanging occurs in the 3rd or 4th year, and scallops remain on the ear hanging line until harvest. Given this slow and steady approach and considering the multiple factors that influence growth and mortality, we estimate that it will take five to seven years to reach full capacity.

Seed Collection

We will aim to collect seed on site using the spat bag collection method, which involves suspending spat collectors in the water column. A spat bag measures 40 cm by 80 cm and is made of fine mesh (2-5 mm) knitted polyethylene, filled with a rigid mesh substrate such as bird net or gill netting. To reduce risk and diversify our seed supply, we will supplement our own seed with that purchased from the Université Sainte-Anne site in Cape Breton, which is where all other scallop farmers in the province source their seed.

Pearl nets

Once the scallop spat has been collected, the scallops will be stocked in high-density pearl nets (35 cm x 35 cm, 7 mm mesh). We will hang ten pearl nets per downline, and downlines will be spaced 0.75 m apart on 100 m growlines. We estimate a maximum capacity of 371 downlines with 10,000 seed scallops (± 10 mm) per downline on 279 metres of growlines. This is slightly less than the length of three 100-metre growlines.

Lantern nets

Once juvenile scallops reach a size greater than 15mm, they will be transferred into lantern nets. Stocking density will be decreased to allow for future growth. Lanterns facilitate the scallops' development to adulthood for harvest, due to their larger size and sturdier construction. These nets are used in the mid-water column and can be placed at relatively high densities. Lanterns measure 50 cm in diameter with 15 mm mesh walls and floors. Each lantern has 10 levels and stands approximately 2.5 m tall when deployed. One lantern will be hung per downline, with downlines spaced 0.75 m apart on horizontal growlines. We estimate a maximum capacity of 25,102 lantern nets hung on a total of 18,874 metres of growline. The equivalent of approximately 189 one-hundred-metre growlines. See Figure 2.1.1, above, for a side view of lantern cages hanging on a typical growline.

Ear hanging

Scallops will be finished using the Japanese ear-hanging method.

The ear-hanging method of scallop farming enables a higher density of scallops per growline. Research indicates that scallops cultivated using this method exhibit faster growth and develop larger adductor muscles. Ear hanging involves drilling a hole in the scallop's ear and attaching it to a fixed submerged line for growth. This technique is particularly effective with sea scallops. Scallops can stay on the growline for several years while in this state. Their value per animal increases as they mature and their adductor muscles grow larger. In Mahone Bay, scallops grown with this method have been observed to produce shucked meats that meet or surpass the highly marketable and desirable U10 grade (fewer than 10 scallops per pound). We plan to hang approximately 120 ear-hung scallops on each 10-metre downline, with the downlines spaced 0.33 m apart along the growlines. We estimate a maximum capacity of 19,943 ear-hanging lines hung on a total of 6,648 metres of growline. The equivalent of approximately 66.5 one-hundred-metre growlines. See Figure 2.1.1, above, for a side view of ear hanging lines on a typical growline.

Number of Shellfish on Site

At full capacity, we would introduce approximately 3.8 million seed (± 10 mm) annually. The maximum capacity for lantern-based grow-out would be roughly 6.3 million juvenile scallops (30 mm – 80 mm). Approximately 2.4 million scallops would be on ear hanging lines, with around one million of those ready for harvest. Figure 2.1.2, below, illustrates our estimated maximum capacity based on our estimates of seeding and survival rates across various growth phases.

FIGURE 2.1.2: ESTIMATED MAXIMUM CAPACITY FARM-WIDE: SCALLOPS

Target size/ cohort	Scallops per downline (units)	Downlines per 100m of Growline	Scallops per 100 m Growline (units)	100m Line Equivalent	Total Growline (m)	Nets (units)	Ear lines	Survival Rate / Carryover from Previous Size (%)	Total Scallops (units)
± 10 mm (Pearl)	10,000	133	1,330,000	2.79	279	371		NA	3,709,636
>30mm (Lantern)	1,000	133	133,000	20	1,952	2,597		70%	2,596,745
>60mm (Lantern)	240	133	31,920	65	6,508	8,656		80%	2,077,396
>80mm (Lantern)	120	133	15,960	104	10,413	13,849		80%	1,661,917
Ear hung yr 1	120	300	36,000	37	3,693		11,079	80%	1,329,534
Ear hung yr 2*	120	300	36,000	30	2,955		8,864	80%	1,063,627
*ready for harvest				258	25,800	25,473	19,943		

Our site design, detailed in Section 4.3, includes the functional equivalent of 258 one-hundred-metre growlines, or 25,800 metres in total. The table below displays the total number of growlines and their length (100 m or 120m) at each of the three sites, as well as the overall total of growlines (240).

FIGURE 2.1.3: GROWLINES AND TOTAL GROWLINE LENGTH PER SITE

Site	Growlines	Length (m)	Total Length (m)
G	100	100	10,000
H	90	120	10,800
I	50	100	5,000
Total	240		25,800

Biofouling Management

To maintain the water flow rate and maximize scallop food intake, equipment will be cleaned as often as necessary, depending on the buildup of biofouling. Peak fouling activity is marked by the growth and spread of tunicates (often called sea squirts). Spring and fall cleanings are ideal because surface conditions are more favourable for better scallop survival rates. Our preference is to keep scallops low in the water column during the summer when surface temperatures are high.

Mechanized processes will allow us to clean the equipment quickly and regularly with minimal disruption to the scallops. Cleaning is a physical process and does not use soaps, chemicals, or other additives.

If fouling is minimal, lantern and pearl nets can be physically scraped, washed, or brushed to remove unwanted growth during their juvenile stage. When fouling is heavy, scallops are sorted and placed in fresh nets, and the dirty nets are removed for cleaning and repairs at a land-based facility. A net washing machine removes the biofouling, which can be set aside for composting in partnership with a local landscaping company.

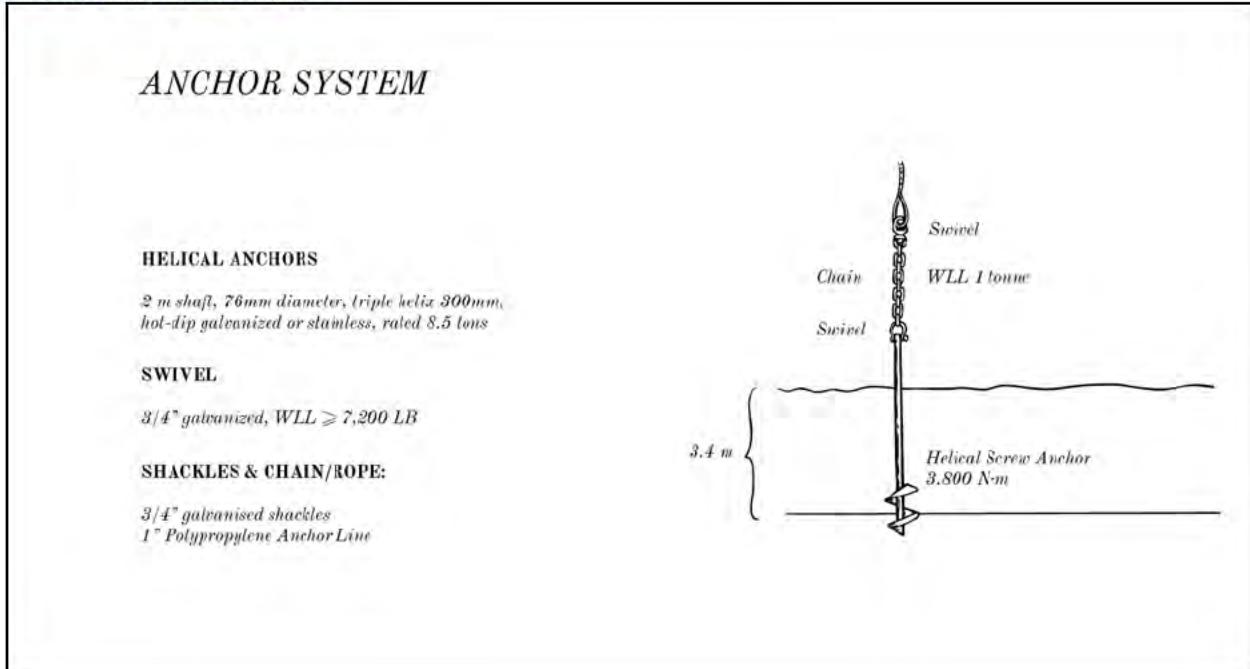
Ear hanging enables us to swiftly clean live scallops and remove fouling at sea with a vessel-mounted ear-hung scallop cleaning machine. The machine guides the downline past a series of brushes and spray nozzles, returning them to the growline in mere seconds.

Our research and observations indicate that regular monitoring of tunicate growth, along with a preventive management approach for tunicate accumulation, should be more than enough to control biofouling. Other types of biofouling, such as algae and bryozoans, will be addressed during the process of managing tunicates, as they are unlikely to survive the tunicate interventions.

Anchors

To minimize disruption of the seafloor and the potential for moorings to move out of position, we will use helical screw anchors, which are ideal for the muddy bottom found on our lease locations. See Figure 2.1.4 below for details. At full capacity, we expect to have deployed approximately 480 growline anchors and 12 corner marker anchors. Refer to Table 6.1.1 on page 60 of this document for the specific coordinates of the corner marker buoys.

FIGURE 2.1.4: ANCHOR SYSTEM



2.1b Production Plan for Sugar Kelp

Overview

Sugar kelp will serve multiple purposes on our farm. Kelp will help condition the water for scallop cultivation, and it will provide a supplementary source of income.

Methodology

Kelp farming requires no extra equipment or infrastructure beyond what we already use for our scallop operation. Seed rope is seeded with kelp spores and then placed in indoor tanks with controlled conditions for several weeks. When ready, the line is wrapped around $\frac{1}{2}$ inch lines that are suspended just below the surface and deployed in the ocean. The seeded line can be purchased from a local supplier or cultivated by our team. Kelp growlines are suspended in the water column above the scallop growlines. The line is set in the fall and harvested in the spring. Kelp farming requires no input of supplements, medications, food or fertilizer.

Biofouling Management

Biofouling is not a significant issue in kelp cultivation. Premium kelp intended for human consumption is harvested while the water is still cold and before the biofouling begins to set. Kelp intended for other uses may be left out for a longer period to bulk up and may be subject to biofouling; however, this is of little concern, as it will be used for compost or animal feed.

Scale

We anticipate a yield of approximately 10 kg of kelp per metre of growline. This translates to a maximum farm-wide capacity of 258 tonnes per year. However, we expect that production will be significantly lower as we wait for the kelp market to develop. Early efforts will focus on refining the seeding process and providing sample products to manufacturers and processors.

2.2 Infrastructure

All infrastructure will be acquired after successfully securing leases. We have been actively engaged with suppliers to define specifications and secure pricing for the required infrastructure.

- Work Platform: Purpose-built Cape Island style vessel approximately 11 m x 4 m.
- Wharf: We do not intend to use small craft harbours and will acquire a private wharf within steaming distance from the leases.
- Transportation: A refrigerated cargo van will be used to transport the product to market.
- Lantern and Pearl Nets: see Figure 2.1.2 for the estimated number of units.
- On-site equipment sourced from JFM Hamano:
 - TEC-3 Ear Hanging Machine
 - MBC-250 Mini Hopper Conveyor
 - HMC-8 Scallop Sorting Machine
 - Net Cage Washing Machine HK-3

2.3 Services and Suppliers

We recognize that sustainability means finding our place in the broader socio-economic context of our community and province. For us, that means focusing on buying local when possible, upholding high standards and best practices as employers, and supporting innovation in spin-off industries. While we continue to discover new supplier relationships as we develop our project, to date, we have identified the following suppliers:

- Scallop seed will be purchased annually from Université Sainte-Anne in Church Point, NS. Estimated annual requirements will range from 0.8 million to 3.8 million seed.
- Apparel, boots, PFDs, and other personal and safety equipment will be purchased at Rainbow Net and Rigging in Dartmouth, NS. The frequency and volume of purchases will increase as the farm reaches full capacity.
- Fuel will be purchased at local marinas and gas stations. The frequency and volume of purchases will increase as the farm reaches full capacity.

- Buoys will be purchased from local suppliers such as Hampidan Canada. Twelve corner marker buoys will be required in the first year of operation. During our build-out phase, we estimate an annual need for approximately 800 growline flotation buoys (submerged).
- Rope/line/cordage will be purchased from local suppliers, such as Coastline Cordage Group. During our build-out phase, we estimate an annual need for 6000 m of line.
- Anchors and Moorings will be purchased from local suppliers such as Vernon d'Eon of Shelburne, NS. Installation services will be contracted locally. At full capacity, the farm will contain 12 corner marker moorings and approximately 480 growline moorings.
- We are designing a purpose-built Cape Island-style vessel to be designed and built by AFTheriault & Sons Ltd. We estimate that, at full capacity, two of these vessels will be required. Other support vessels, such as tenders, would also be purchased in Nova Scotia.
- A refrigerated cargo van will be purchased in Nova Scotia and serviced locally in Lunenburg County.

2.4 Employment

We must think differently about employment during an era of acute labour shortages and changing worker expectations.

“50 years ago, there were 7 workers for every retiree in Canada; today, that ratio is closer to 3 to 1. And if Canada stays on its current trajectory, in the next 10 to 15 years, it will drop to 2 workers for every retiree.”¹

¹ <https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/news/2023/06/new-measure-to-benefit-foreign-workers-looking-to-improve-their-skills.html>

We envision a diverse workplace that employs various workers in a safe environment where they are well-paid for contributing to our farm's success. We will leverage technology, equipment, training, and innovation to move away from value creation through low-value labour inputs.

We will employ local community members in various full-time and seasonal positions with competitive wages and benefit packages.

- (3) Full-time aquaculture farm managers
- (6) Full-time aquaculture farm technicians
- (3) Full-time office employees
- (15) Seasonal aquaculture farm general labourers

We will not reach this level of employment overnight, but we intend to grow the business to a scale that supports these positions within 5-7 years. We anticipate continued proportional growth in employment opportunities as our leases develop and mature over time.

2.5 Other Economic Contributions to the Local Community and Province

We see an incredible opportunity to innovate with our primary products (scallops and seaweed) and secondary products (shells, roe, and other by-products). These include organic feed for poultry or cattle, organic fertilizer, construction material, cosmetics, and more. While we might not have the expertise to develop these products independently, we are committed to working with local researchers and entrepreneurs to find uses for every part of the plants and animals we farm.

We have observed successful ecotourism initiatives related to aquaculture in other markets where operators develop experiences that promote conservation, community well-being, and education.

We will also strive to collaborate with research institutions to find uses for some of the farm's by-products, especially tunicates, which grow abundantly and could be a source of cellulose

nanocrystals (CNCs), a valuable and environmentally friendly material with many industrial, food industry (thickeners and stabilizers), and medical (biocompatible) applications.

Our team has expertise and experience in marketing and the food and beverage industry. We intend to operate two local “farm-to-table” restaurants, featuring our products: a flagship fine-dining concept and a quick-service, high-volume concept.

2.6 Financial Viability

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

2.7 Adverse Economic Impacts

Throughout this process, we have discovered no factual evidence that implies a potential adverse impact on the community or the province’s economic development.

During the scoping period, we received letters of concern from a few opponents who expressed concerns that our farm would have a negative impact on their businesses. We have attempted to address these concerns in our correspondence and during our public meetings. Records of these attempts can be found throughout this document. While we believe these opponents are sincere in their expression of concern and prefer to maintain the status quo, no factual evidentiary argument was presented to suggest that this would impact their businesses.

SECTION 3: FISHERIES ACTIVITIES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL OPERATION

3.1 Status of Fisheries Activities

Throughout our planning and application process, we have been diligent in consulting with local fishermen while exploring and socializing the idea of our farm. In addition to direct contact, we established indirect contact through the Port cluster representative for Indian Point/Mahone Bay for LFA 33, the Small Craft Harbour Authority, the Marine Industry Liaison Officer, and other relevant individuals. Our criteria for site selection were informed by these conversations, and as a result, we received no feedback from local fishermen. For example, we chose sites with muddy bottoms away from the rock bottoms favoured by lobster fishermen.

Approximately five or six vessels operate from the Indian Point Small Craft Harbour Authority. These vessels typically go offshore to fish various species, including scallops, lobsters, groundfish, and others. Specific data on the types and quantities of fish caught would be held by DFO.

Indian Point Marine Farms manages a 14-hectare shellfish farm on the west side of Rous Island, with a land-based facility situated in Indian Point.

Although fishers could potentially come from various areas in and around Mahone Bay, our research and public consultation efforts did not identify anyone who claims to fish in our lease zones. The extensive scope of our public engagement and efforts to interact with fishermen and local authorities lead us to believe that the lease zones are not of interest to commercial fishermen.

3.2 Impacts on Fisheries Activities

While Mahone Bay is internationally renowned for various commercial fishing activities, including lobster, scallops, groundfish, mackerel, etc., to our knowledge, little to no commercial fishing occurs in the specific areas for which we have applied for leases.

There was some informal mention of the potential for green crab fishing in our proposed lease areas. Green crab traps are placed on the seafloor and would therefore not be affected by our equipment. If this were to arise, we could accommodate green crab fishermen who wish to set traps within the boundaries of our lease. We did not observe any green crabs on the lease during our baseline monitoring.

While fishing in these areas is possible, the muddy bottom and lack of structure make it less than ideal for recreational fishers. During our public scoping period, a few people suggested diving or dipping for scallops throughout the option to lease area (approximately 3400 HA). We did not observe scallop beds or large scallops on the specific 50 HA of proposed lease locations during our baseline monitoring.

It is our understanding that the structure created by lanterns and pearl nets may provide an artificial reef-like environment, and that other farmers have observed an increase in the volume and activity of marine life in and around the structure.

SECTION 4: OCEANOGRAPHIC AND BIOPHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS

4.1 Oceanographic Environment

Results

- Annual maximum wind speed (km/h): **80 km/h Lunenburg Station Sept. 2022, 65 km/h Feb. 2021**
- Maximum wave height (m): **10-yr return period wave height is 0.93 m (Figure 4.1.7)**
- Direction of maximum wave (Collected with [REDACTED]): **90 degrees E (Figure 4.1.7)**
- Annual minimum tide (m): **-1.084 m MSL via Webtide**
- Annual maximum tide (m): **1.00 m above MSL via Webtide**
- Current speed range and averages (m/s) (Collected with NSDFA):

Site	Min (m/s)	Max (m/s)	Avg (m/s)	Range (m/s)
BLEAST	0.000	0.212	0.030	0.212
BLNORTH	0.000	0.286	0.057	0.286
BLSOUTH	0.000	0.543	0.043	0.543

- Annual minimum salinity (ppt): **30 ppt**
- Annual maximum salinity (ppt): **35 ppt**
- Annual minimum temperature (°C): **1°C**
- Annual maximum temperature (°C): **20°C**
- Depth of water at each corner of the site (m) (Collected with NSDFA): **See FIGURE 4.1.17**

Overview

The proposed lease sites are situated within the greater Mahone Bay area, near Rous Island, Andrews Island, and Kaulback Island. All sites are relatively sheltered based on various sources of wind and wave data. Water depths vary from 6 metres to 30 metres. The seabed beneath the leases appears to be muddy, flat, uniform, and predominantly barren. All three proposed lease sites fall within an area approved for shellfish cultivation by the NSDFA within the coastal classification system.

Wind Speed

Weather stations are located at both Lunenburg and Martins Point, which have been analyzed for wind. The wind statistics at the Lunenburg station, calculated from 2007 to 2023, include the average wind speed and direction by month. The wind statistics at the Martins Point station, calculated from 2021 to 2023, also include the average wind speed and direction by month.

Figure 4.1.1 and Figure 4.1.2, below, plot the percentage of days per month with winds exceeding 16, 24, 32, and 40 km/h. (WindAlert, 2025). This serves as a proxy for predicting the number of days working on the water. Although it does not account for variations in wind speed throughout the day. Working early in the mornings before the wind comes up will increase the number of possible days on the water.

FIGURE 4.1.1

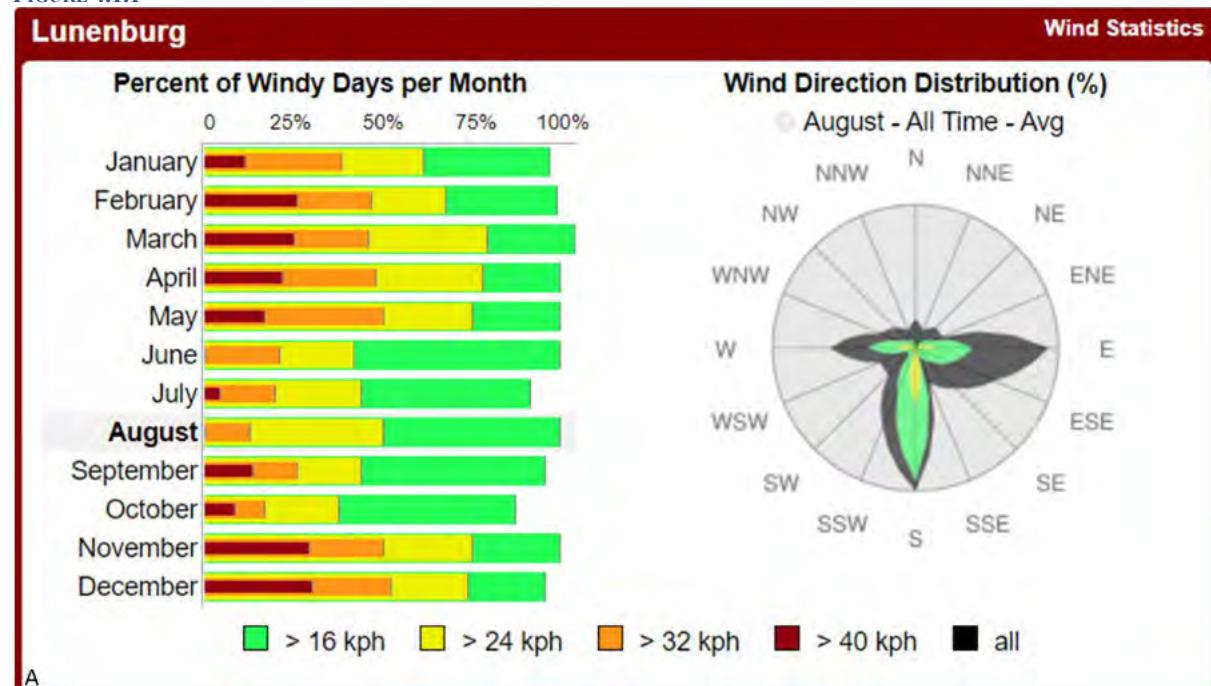
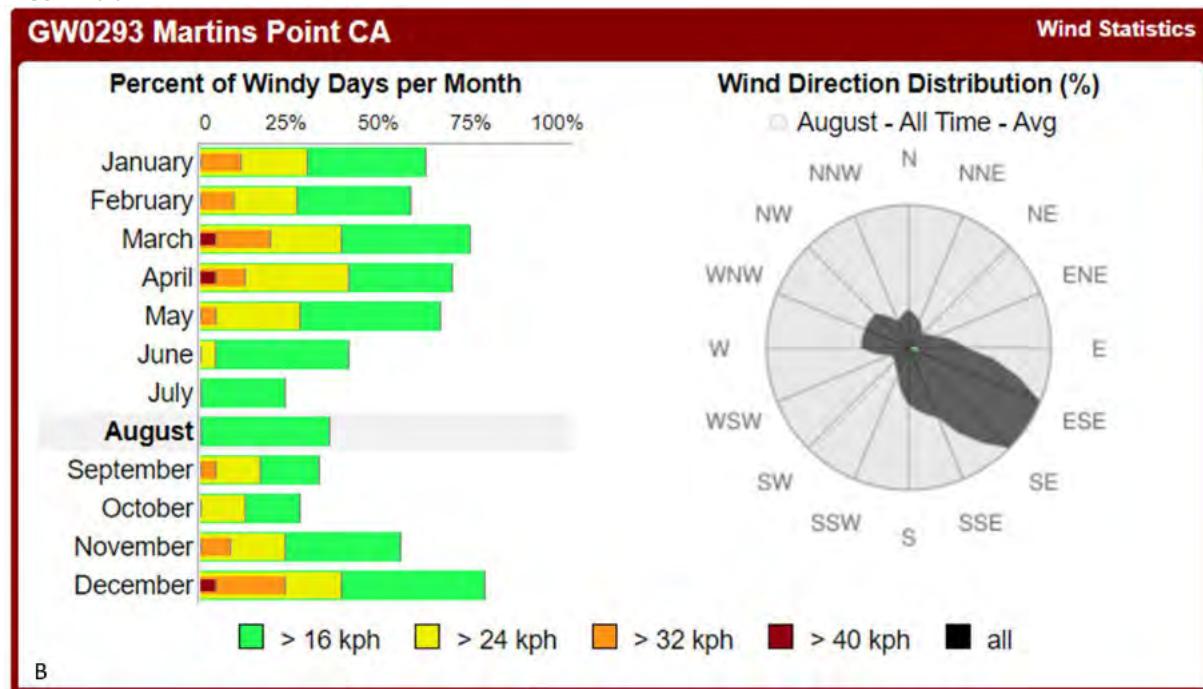


FIGURE 4.1.2

GW0293 Martins Point CA



B

Wind Direction

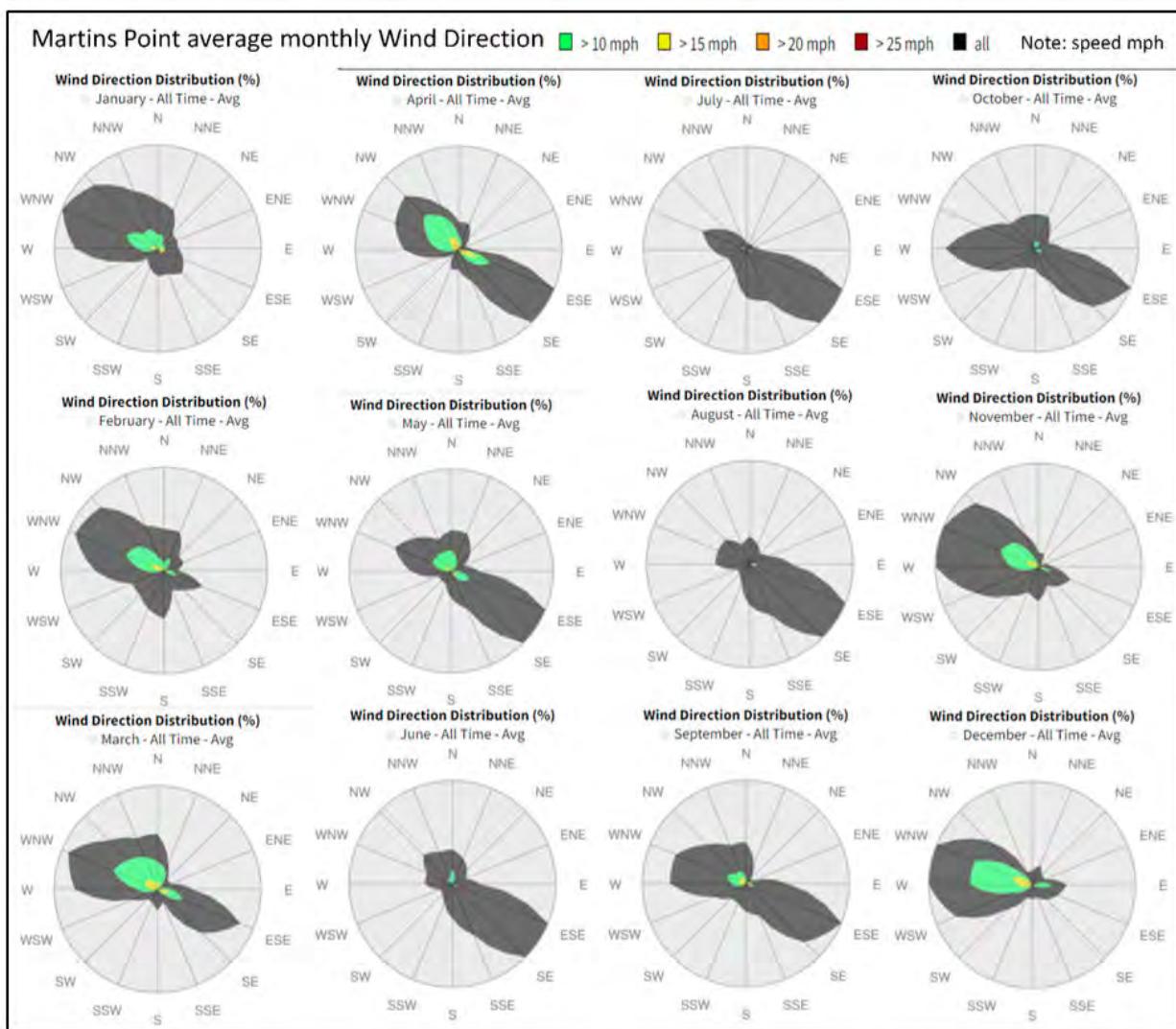
The wind direction and speed vary throughout the year for both sites (Lunenburg and Martins Point). The average monthly wind direction is represented by rose diagrams in Figures 4.1.3 and 4.1.4.

FIGURE 4.1.3



¹ Average wind direction (where the wind is blowing from) per month for Lunenburg. Note the speeds are referenced to miles per hour (mph). Compiled from (<https://windalert.com>).

FIGURE 4.1.4

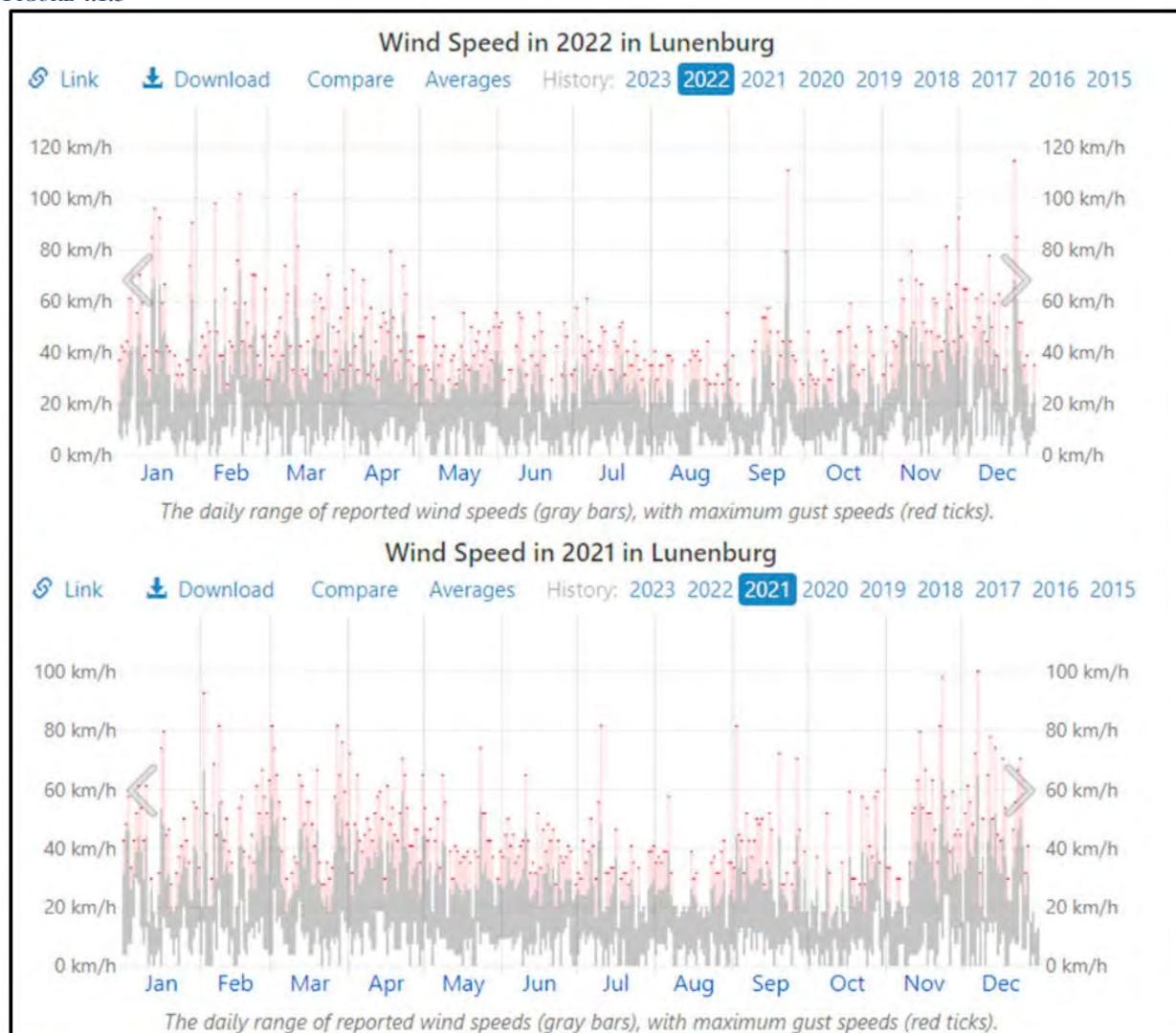


¹ Average wind direction (where the wind is blowing from) per month for Martins Point. Note the speeds are referenced to miles per hour (mph). Compiled from (<https://windalert.com>).

Wind Extremes

Figure 4.1.5 shows wind extremes in Lunenburg in 2021 and 2022 (WeatherSpark, 2021).

FIGURE 4.1.5



Wind and Wave Conditions

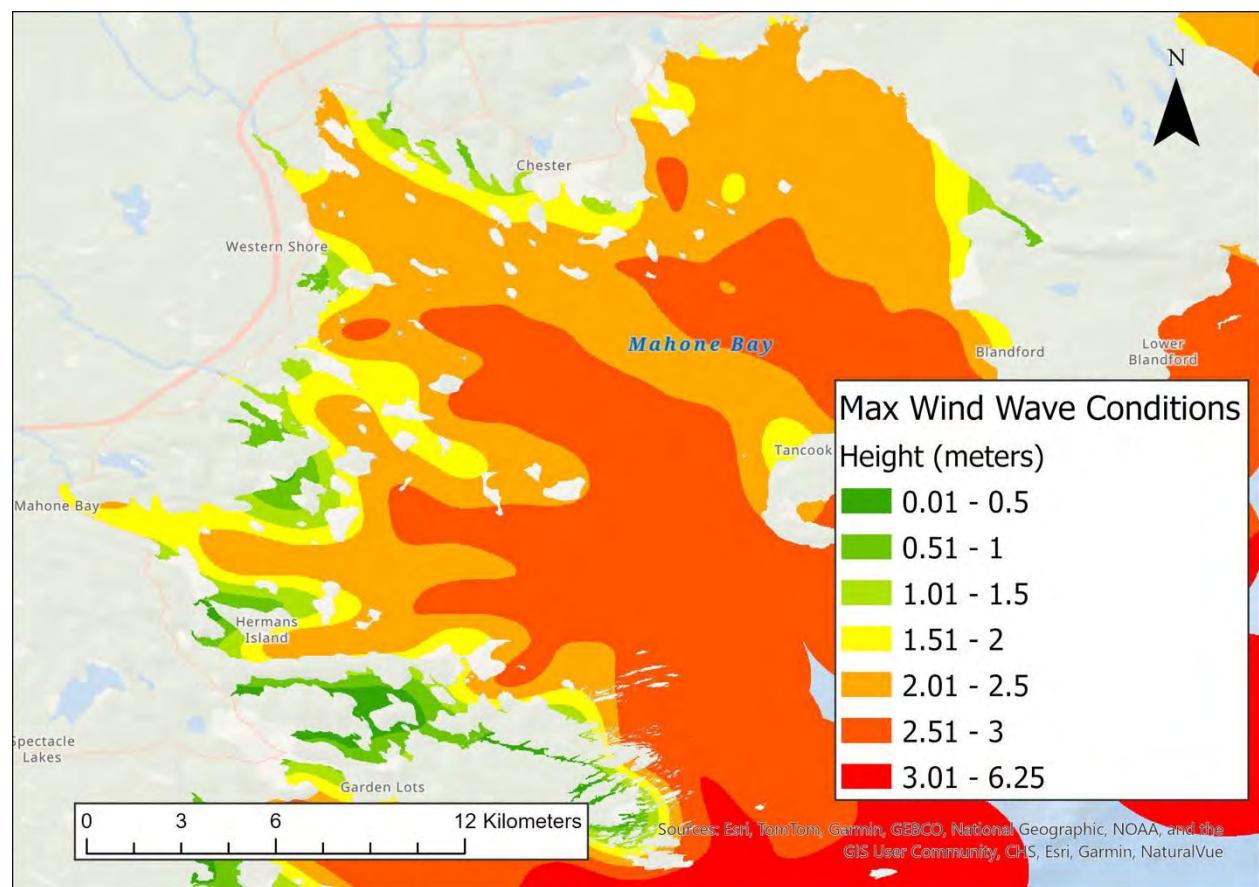
Our farm is designed to withstand high wind and wave conditions. Except for Transport Canada-required site markings and our line marking buoys, there is no equipment on the surface of the water. Mooring systems will be designed to withstand the most severe predicted weather events. Work does not take place in high winds.

Situation	Likely Max Wind Gust
Normal high-wind days	~50 km/h
Severe regional storms (e.g., Dorian)	~120 km/h
Category 2 hurricanes (Juan, Fiona zones)	Potential gusts of 130–150 km/h

(Windy App, 2025)

The illustration below shows maximum wind and wave conditions in the area.

FIGURE 4.1.6



CMAR, 2025

The chart below shows the estimated wave and wind results from the STWave model, for the Mahone Bay- Marine Finfish Lease- 1006. These represent the extreme wave conditions at this coordinate: 44° 30.256 ' N, 64° 2.928 ' W. Height and direction of maximum wave is 0.93 m at 90 degrees E. (Karimi & Steinke, 2020)

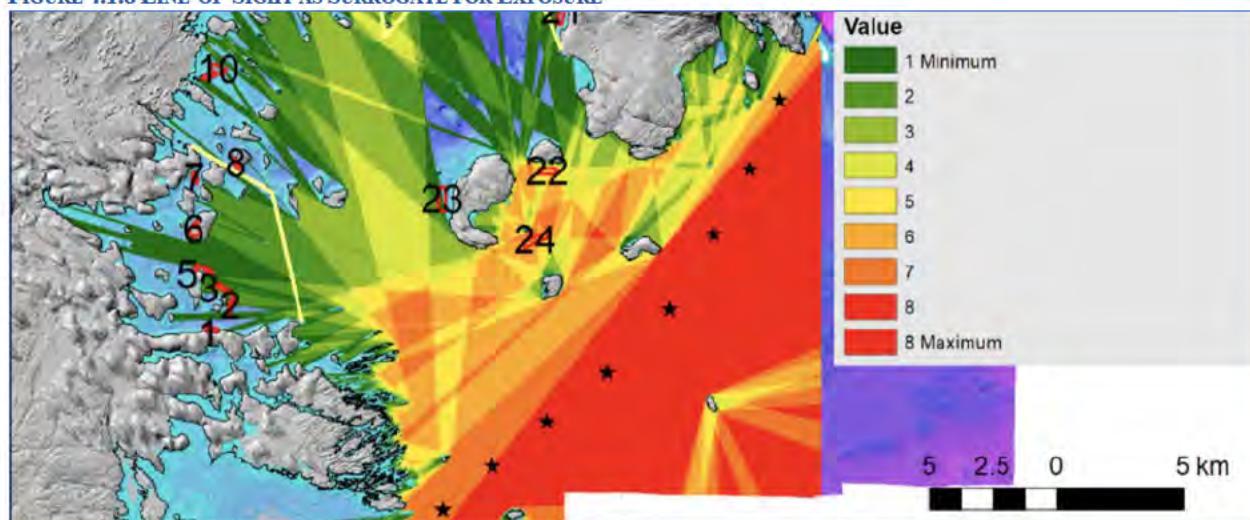
FIGURE 4.1.7

Title	Wind and Wave Conditions – Mahone Bay – Marine Finfish Lease 1006				DSR	
Revision	B	Date Last Revised	2020-04-20			
DSA Project	CMAR-19EXM	Client Project / Reference	N/A			
10yr wave/wind		Direction [from] [°]	Wind (m/s)	Hs (m)	Tp (s)	
		0 N	20.86	0.4	1.82	
		23 NNE	21.25	0.4	2	
		45 NE	21.11	0.48	2.62	
		68 ENE	23.3	0.61	2.7	
		90 E	20.63	0.93	3.6	
		113 ESE	20.72	0.83	3.88	
		135 SE	19.93	0.24	1.79	
		158 SSE	20.52	0.2	2.02	
		180 S	21.01	0.24	2.22	
		203 SSW	20.59	0.31	2.04	
		225 SW	20.75	0.41	2.1	
		248 WSW	21.99	0.5	1.92	
		270 W	21.45	0.4	1.82	
		293 WNW	21.17	0.23	1.6	
		315 NW	20.7	0.26	1.61	
		338 NNW	20.51	0.28	1.75	

Line-of-Sight

In selecting our proposed lease sites, we also used the line-of-sight method as a surrogate for exposure to wind-wave action. To determine the potential exposure to any of these situations, consultant [REDACTED] placed 8 points along the ocean front of the bay between Stonehurst East and east of New Harbour Point. For each of these locations, he calculated a “line-of-sight” viewshed, which is similar to the calculation of fetch in that islands block or protect the areas behind them. The maximum significant wave height over the 10-year duration was used as the basis for the wave exposure (Webster, 2023). This information is displayed in the illustration below.

FIGURE 4.1.8 LINE-OF-SIGHT AS SURROGATE FOR EXPOSURE



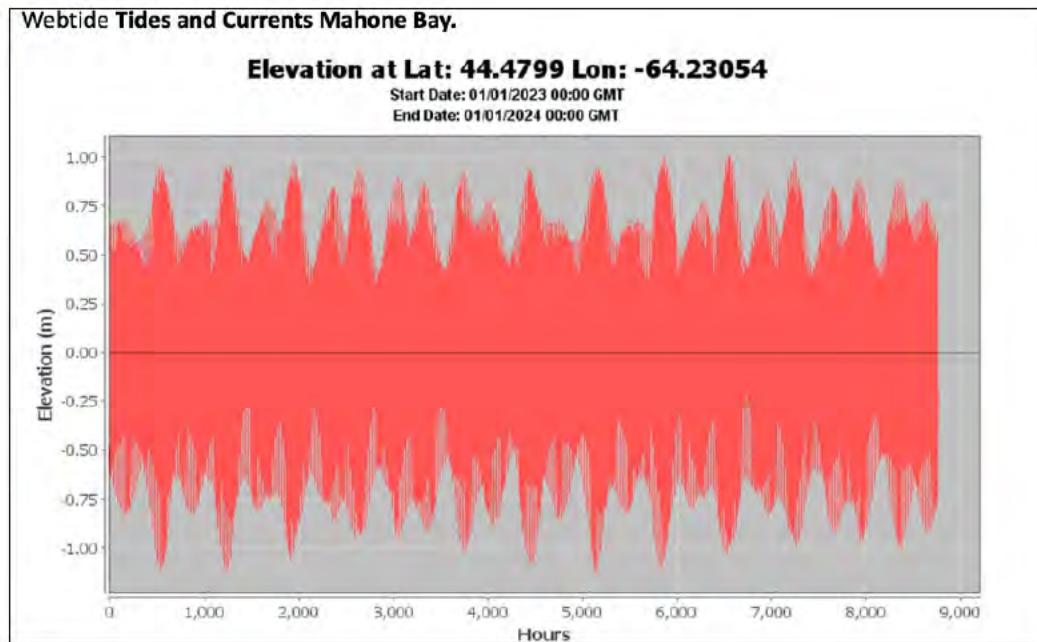
Tides

The official tidal extremes at Mahone Harbour, Mahone Bay (Nova Scotia), reported by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (Webster, 2023) relative to chart datum (near Lowest Astronomical Tide, per local conventions) as of May 18, 2022:

Highest Astronomical Tide (HAT): ~ 2.27 m above chart datum

Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT): ~ 0.01 m above chart datum

FIGURE 4.1.9



Current

Between June 3 and July 14, 2025, we measured current speed at three locations around our proposed lease sites. This data is discussed in greater depth in section 4.2. We continue to gather site-specific data.

Site	Min (m/s)	Max (m/s)	Avg (m/s)	Range (m/s)
BLEAST	0.000	0.212	0.030	0.212
BLNORTH	0.000	0.286	0.057	0.286
BLSOUTH	0.000	0.543	0.043	0.543

We also considered CMAR ocean model (FVCOM) animations for the Mahone Bay area (figures 4.1.10, 4.1.11, 4.1.12), which seemed to show significant water flow (CMAR, 2025).

FIGURE 4.1.10

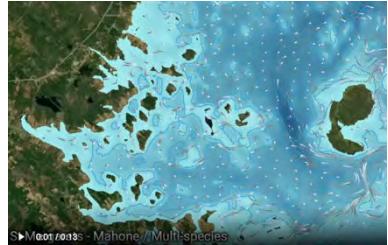


FIGURE 4.1.11

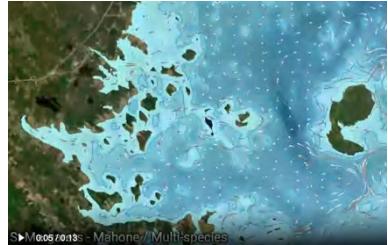
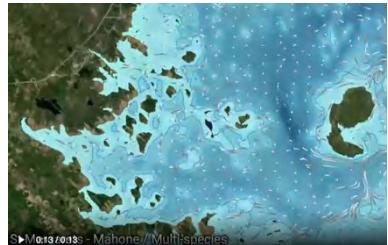
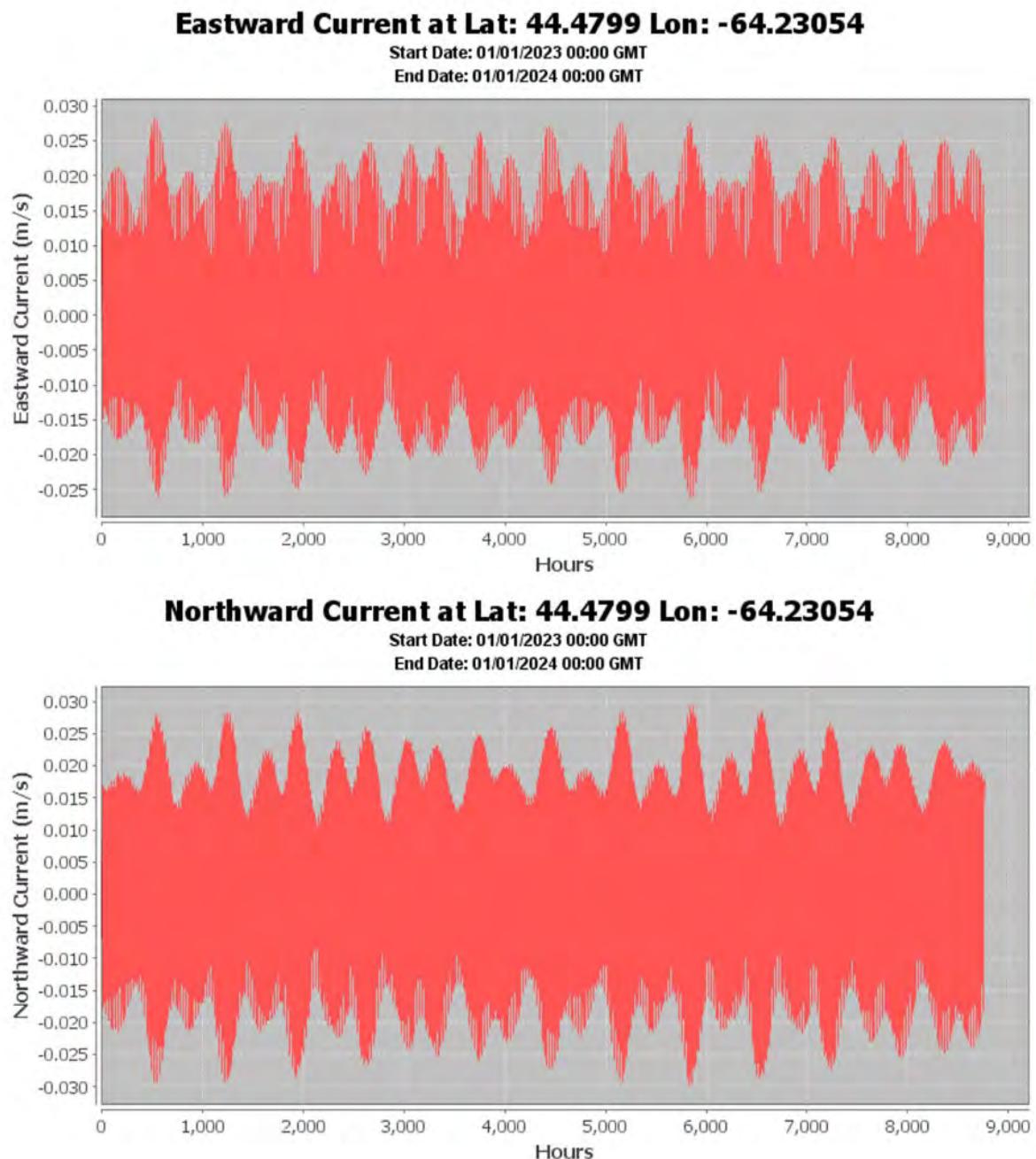


FIGURE 4.1.12



The charts below show eastward and northward currents at 44.4799, -64.23054 between January 1st, 2023, and January 1st, 2024. (Webster, 2023)

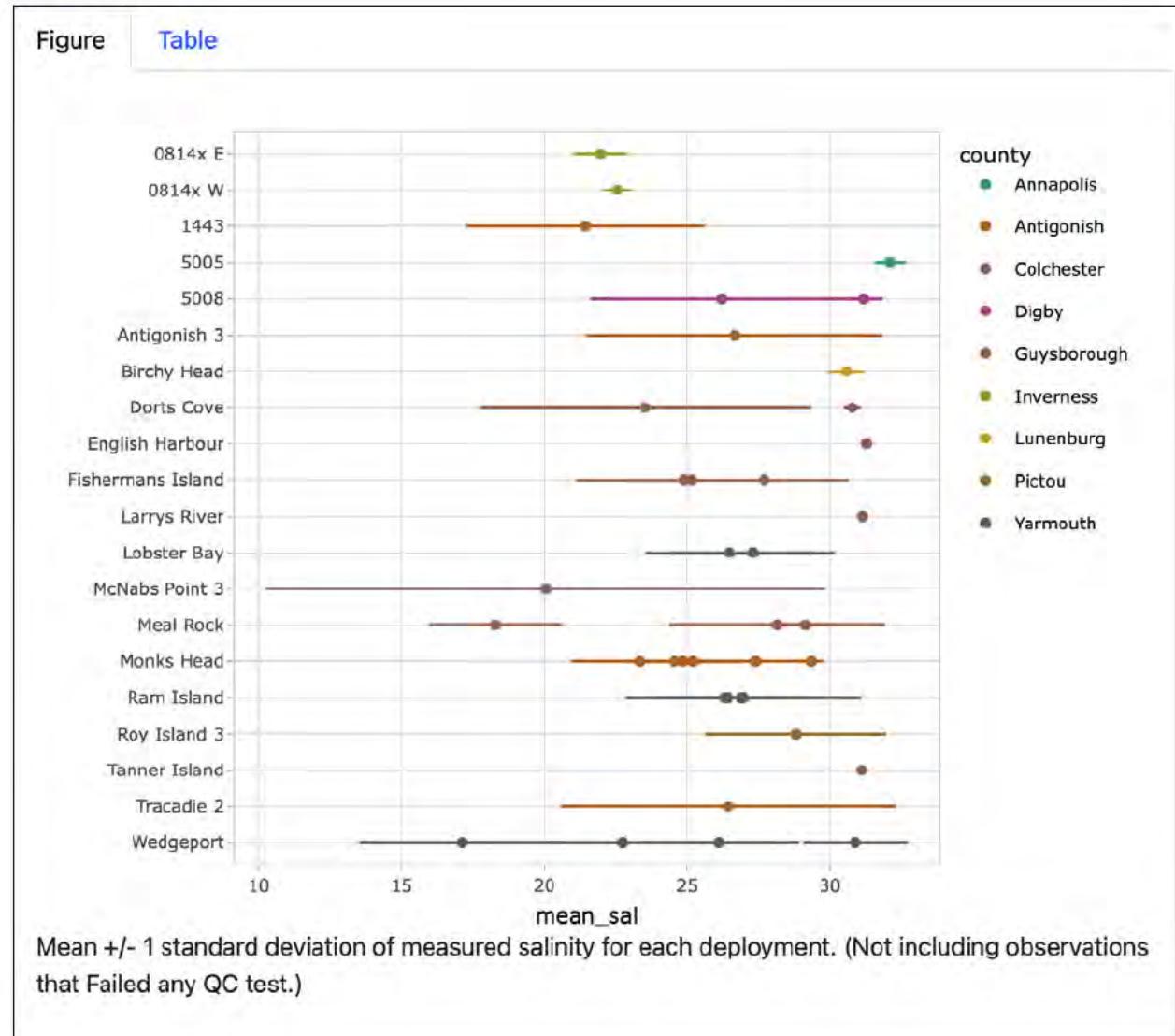
FIGURE 4.1.13



Salinity

CMAR measured water quality at Bircy Head, the closest approximation to our area. The equipment was deployed from May 2, 2019, to November 22, 2019. Mean salinity was 30.57 ppt. The standard deviation was 0.65. (CMAR, 2025) Note that we have gathered and continue to gather site-specific data, as described in Section 4.2.

FIGURE 4.1.14

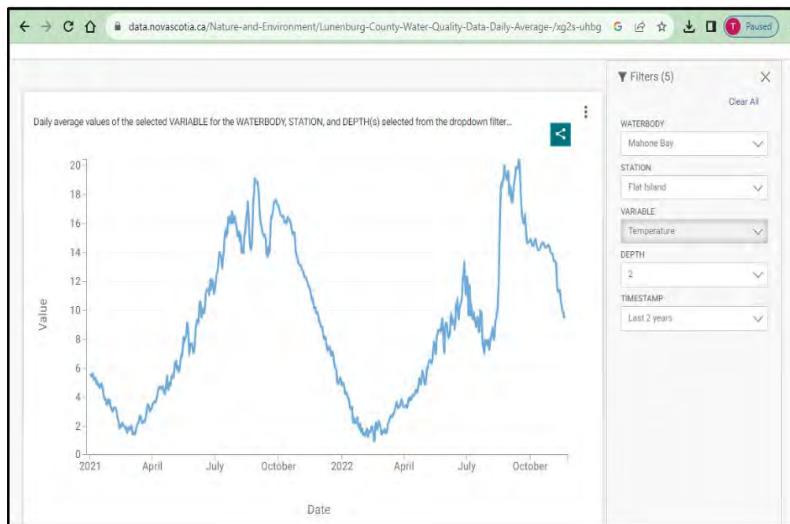


Temperature

- Annual minimum temperature: 1 °C
- Annual maximum temperature: 20 °C

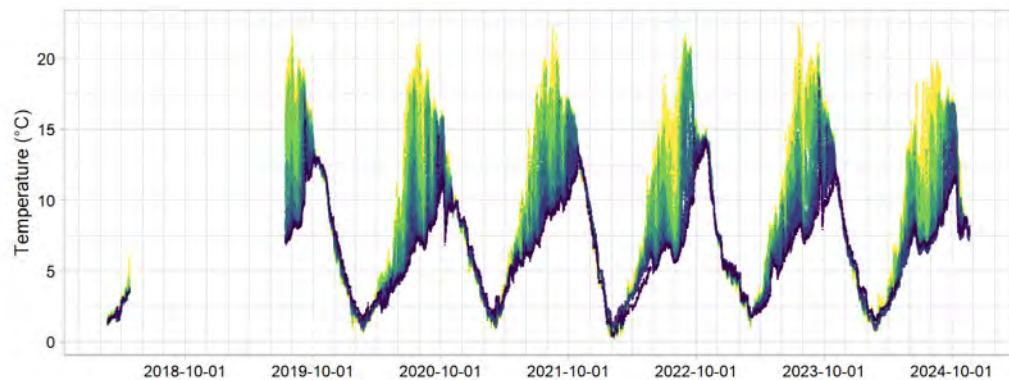
CMAR deployed two sets of temperature loggers in the study site near Flat Island and Upper Blandford. The Flat Island dataset is more complete and covers parts of 2021-22. At a depth of 2 m, the minimum temperature recorded was near 1 °C in March, and a maximum of approximately 20 °C (CMAR, 2022) was recorded in October 2022 (figure 4.1.15). Note that we have gathered and continue to gather site-specific data, as described in Section 4.2.

FIGURE 4.1.15



The image below displays water temperature data collected in Mahone Bay near Little Rafuse Island, as displayed by CMAR.

FIGURE 4.1.16



Depth of water at each corner of the site (m)

Recorded with NSDFA during baseline monitoring activities in July 2025.

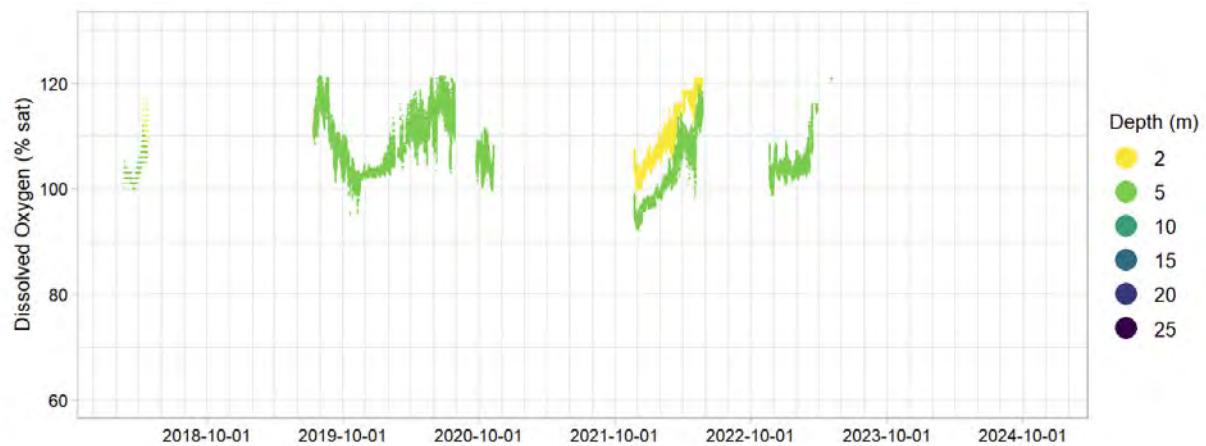
FIGURE 4.1.17

Site ID	Type	Latitude	Longitude	Depth (m)
Site G-Corner 01	Corner	44.44005	-64.3201	12.6
Site G-Corner 02	Corner	44.44005	-64.3151	15.3
Site G-Corner 03	Corner	44.43555	-64.3151	18.6
Site G-Corner 04	Corner	44.43555	-64.3201	14.4
Site H-Corner 01	Corner	44.44559	-64.2928	11.4
Site H-Corner 02	Corner	44.44481	-64.2903	17.6
Site H-Corner 03	Corner	44.43735	-64.2947	21.9
Site H-Corner 04	Corner	44.43813	-64.2973	17.1
Site I-Corner 01	Corner	44.46564	-64.2884	17.6
Site I-Corner 02	Corner	44.46679	-64.2865	15.4
Site I-Corner 03	Corner	44.46335	-64.2824	13.7
Site I-Corner 04	Corner	44.46219	-64.2844	23.3

Dissolved Oxygen

The image below displays dissolved oxygen level data as collected in Mahone Bay near Little Rafuse Island and displayed by CMAR.

FIGURE 4.1.18

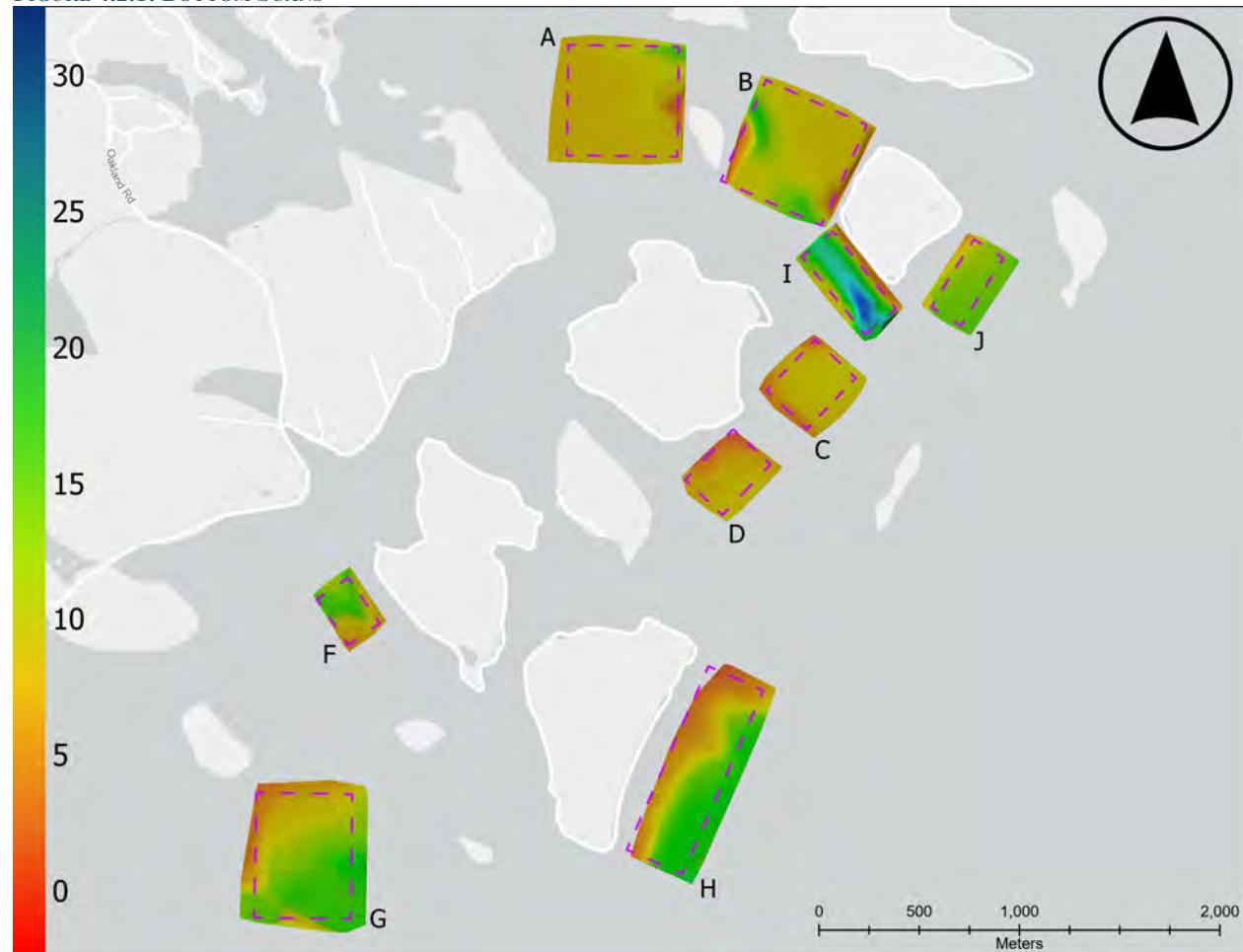


4.2 Baseline Environmental Monitoring

Bottom Scans

We performed bottom scans on nine potential lease areas. These were labelled A-J as shown in Figure 4.2.1. The bottom scans provided a better understanding of the seafloor, which, along with our consideration of other users of public waters, helped us select three sites for further baseline monitoring.

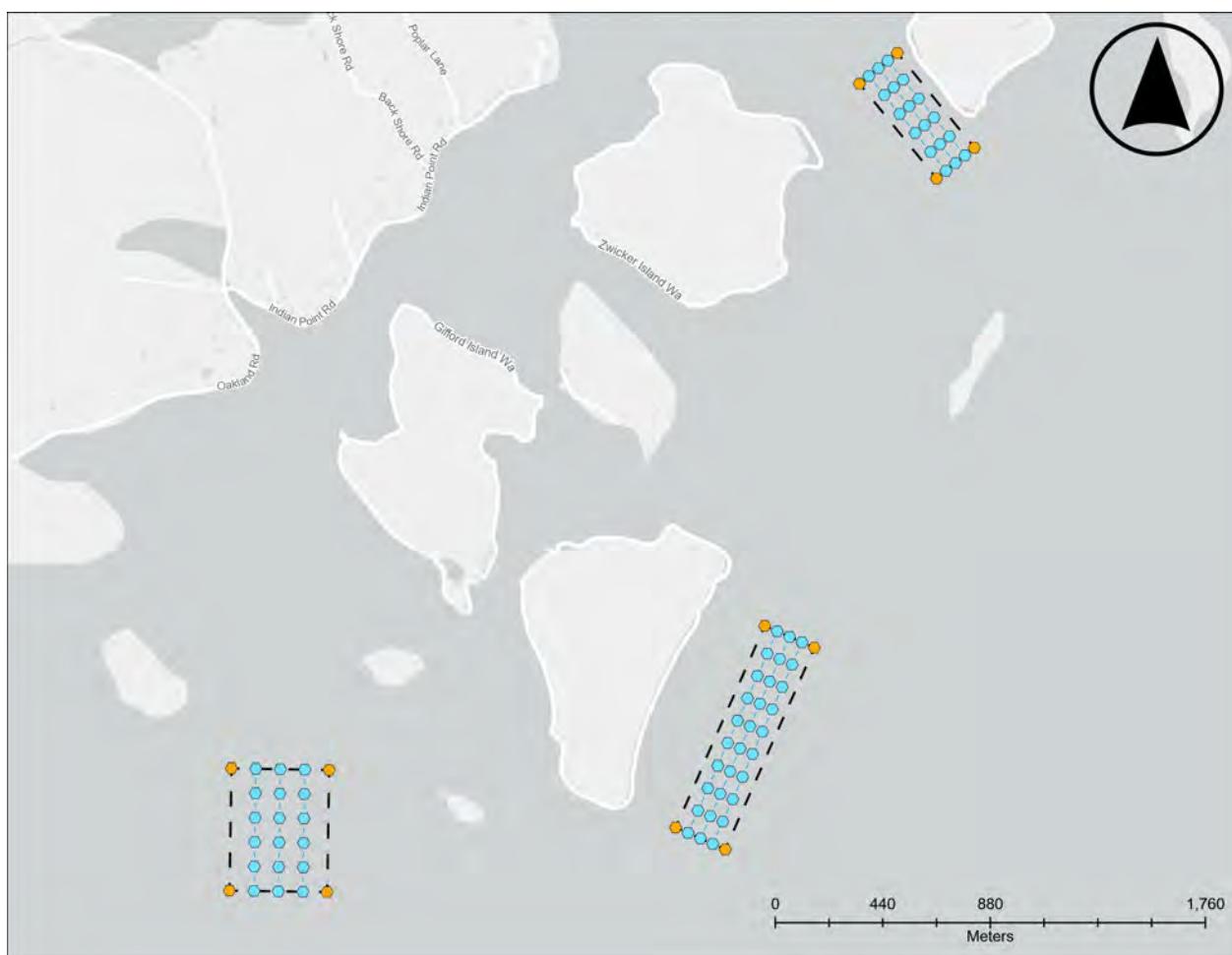
FIGURE 4.2.1: BOTTOM SCANS



Baseline Stations

Once our three sites (G, H, I) were selected, we collected video recordings of the sea floor along three equally spaced transects, each running the entire length of the proposed lease boundary. We also collected video of the seafloor at each of the lease corners. We were looking for evidence of sensitive or important habitat (eelgrass, dense aggregations of shellfish, spawning habitat, kelp beds) and found none. Videos were a minimum of 2 minutes long, had an overlay of GPS data, a slate containing relevant station details, and a 360° panorama of the water surface view plane. Baseline station names are noted in Appendix N. The NSDFA has copies of all related video files.

FIGURE 4.2.2: BASELINE STATIONS



Observations

The sea floor under the leases was muddy, flat, uniform, and mostly barren. We observed some lobster burrows, juvenile fish, starfish, scallops and shrimp. All were very small and sparsely distributed. We also found a few stalks of kelp and some tunicates growing on rocks.

Other Data Collected

For baseline monitoring purposes, various instruments were deployed on June 3rd and 4th and recovered on July 14th, 2025. The equipment was deployed in three locations within Option Area #4041: Goat Island (labelled BLSOUTH), Spectacle Island (labelled BLEAST) and Zwicker Island (labelled BLNORTH). The equipment deployed included:

- HOBO Data Loggers
- VR2AR Acoustic Release and Receivers
- Sentinel V Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers
- Workhorse Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers

All instruments, except for the current/wave meters, were redeployed at approximately the same locations and in the same configurations. To be retrieved in the spring of 2026. For each of these deployments, an Excel file was created that combines and organizes the data for easier analysis. NSDFA is in possession of the raw data files.

The three tables below provide a summary of the data collected during baseline monitoring.

FIGURE 4.2.3 SALINITY (PSU) RECORDED AT OPTION AREA #4041 JUNE/JULY 2025

Site	Depth	CTD Cast	Min	Max	Avg	Range
BLEAST	5m		29.77	31.06	30.39	1.29
Site G	Avg	30.47				
	5	30.31				
	10	30.59				
	15	30.75				
Site H	Avg	30.28				
	5	30.33				
	10	30.52				
	15	30.74				
Site I	Avg	30.75				
	5	30.30				
	10	30.51				
	15	30.68				

FIGURE 4.2.4 TEMPERATURE (°C) RECORDED AT OPTION AREA #4041 JUNE/JULY 2025

Site	Depth	Min	Max	Avg	Range
BLEAST	2	8.4	11.4	9.9	3
	5	6	11.5	7.9	5.5
	10	5.8	7.7	6.4	1.9
	15	5	6	5.4	1
BLNORTH	2	6.5	14.5	9.2	8
	5	6.1	9.9	7.6	3.8
	10	5.8	7.7	6.5	1.9
	14	5.2	6.4	5.6	1.2
BLSOUTH	2	6.2	16.3	9.9	10.1
	5	5.8	12.5	7.8	6.7
	10	5.6	8.2	6.4	2.6
	15	5.5	6.6	5.8	1.1
	23	5.1	5.9	5.5	0.8

FIGURE 4.2.5 CURRENTS RECORDED AT OPTION AREA #4041 JUNE/JULY 2025

Site	Depth	Min (m/s)	Max (m/s)	Avg (m/s)	Range (m/s)
BLEAST	Average	0	0.212	0.030	0.212
	1.5	0	0.185	0.021	0.185
	5	0	0.181	0.023	0.181
	10	0	0.193	0.033	0.193
BLNORTH	Average	0	0.286	0.057	0.286
	1.5	0.001	0.238	0.063	0.237
	5	0.001	0.244	0.063	0.243
	10	0	0.244	0.047	0.244
BLSOUTH	Average	0	0.543	0.043	0.543
	1.5	0	0.164	0.028	0.164
	5	0	0.205	0.027	0.205
	10	0	0.209	0.031	0.209

Conclusion

We compared the data we collected to available information about the ideal growing conditions for scallop aquaculture and found that the data meet those criteria. We observed that attributes measured and described in Sections 4.1 (Oceanographic Data) and 4.2 (Baseline Monitoring) compare favourably to the scallop aquaculture siting criteria thresholds as outlined in the NSDFA Road Map for Aquaculture Investment in Nova Scotia (included for reference, below, as Figure 4.2.7). For easy reference, Figure 4.2.6 shows a condensed version of the siting criteria along with a note on whether the Blue Lantern leases fall within the consensus values. Only the optimum depth is outside the consensus value, but the intended rearing depth of lanterns on our lease (6-20m) is within the optimal depth as noted by Muise & Associates 1993. We also note that academic literature from Maine describes successful farms in that area operating in depth and growing conditions similar to those found on our site.

FIGURE 4.2.6 ABBREVIATED SEA SCALLOP SITING CRITERIA THRESHOLDS WITH BLUE LANTERN STATUS

Criteria	Units	Consensus Value	Units	Blue Lantern Status
Optimal Temperature	°C	10 - 18	°C	Within range, seasonally
Minimum Temperature	°C	-2	°C	Within range
Maximum Temperature	°C	23	°C	Within range
Optimal Salinity	ppt	25 - 32	ppt	Within range
Minimum Salinity	ppt	20	ppt	Within range
Maximum Salinity	ppt	35	ppt	Within range
Optimal Depth	m	20 - 40	m	Outside of range
Minimum Depth	m	10	m	Within range
Maximum Depth	m	100	m	Within range
Optimal Current Velocity	m/s	0.01 - 0.20	m/s	Within range
Minimum Current Velocity	m/s	0.01	m/s	Within range
Tidal Amplitude	m	0 - 10	m	Within range

FIGURE 4.2.7 SEA SCALLOP SITING CRITERIA THRESHOLDS

Criteria	Value	Units	Consensus Value	Comments	Source
Optimal Temperature	< 18	°C	10 - 18 °C		MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	10 - 20	°C			Rosenthal et al, 1995
	15 - 25	°C			Couturier et al, 1995
	5 - 18	°C			Enright, 1992b
	5 - 18	°C			Muise & Associates, 1993
Minimum Temperature	-2	°C	-2 °C		Rosenthal et al, 1995
	0	°C			Enright, 1992b
Maximum Temperature	20 - 23.5	°C	23 °C	lethal	MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	23	°C		lethal limit	Couturier et al, 1995
	25	°C			Rosenthal et al, 1995
	23	°C			Enright, 1992b
	23	°C			Muise & Associates, 1993
Optimal Salinity	> 20	ppt	25 - 32 ppt		MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	30 - 32	ppt			Couturier et al, 1995
	25 - 35	ppt			Rosenthal et al, 1995
	> 25	ppt			Enright, 1992
	32	ppt			Muise & Associates, 1993
Minimum Salinity	20	ppt	20 ppt		MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	20	ppt			Rosenthal et al, 1995
	20	ppt			Enright, 1992b
	25	ppt			Muise & Associates, 1993
Maximum Salinity	35	ppt	35 ppt		Rosenthal et al, 1995
	35	ppt		full seawater	Enright, 1992b
Optimal Depth	< 50	m	20 - 40 m		MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	5 - 50	m		optimal for growth	Muise & Associates, 1993
	10 - 30	m		at low water, for longlines	Muise & Associates, 1993
Minimum Depth	5	m	10 m		MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	10 - 20	m			Enright, 1992b
Maximum Depth	90	m	100 m		Enright, 1992b
	100	m			MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
Optimal Current Velocity	0 - 20	cm/s	1 - 20 cm/s		Enright, 1992b
Minimum Current Velocity	1	cm/s	1 cm/s		Muise & Associates, 1993
Optimal Dissolved Oxygen	near 10	mg/L	5 - 10 mg/L	saturation	MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
	5 - 10	mg/L			Muise & Associates, 1993
Minimum Dissolved Oxygen	5	mg/L	5 mg/L	saturation	MacLaren Plansearch Ltd., 1986
Tidal Amplitude	0 - 10	m	0 - 10 m		Muise & Associates, 1993

Road Map for Aquaculture Investment in Nova Scotia, Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, 2010

4.3 Site Design

Throughout this process, we have consulted with the Nova Scotia Site Mapping Tool and the Nova Scotia Aquaculture and Rockweed Map Viewer. We used these tools to explore potential lease areas and compare them to existing leases.

Before applying for our Option to Lease, we hired a research scientist and GIS specialist to identify specific site locations for testing. Our criteria take into account several factors that determine a site's suitability for scallop aquaculture and the presence of favourable growing conditions. We also consulted local scallop farmers who helped refine our approach by identifying locations unlikely to conflict with fishers. After being granted the option to lease, we further explored the area by collecting measurements and information to better understand the oceanographic and biophysical characteristics of the waters within the lease area. We examined nine potential lease sites and ultimately selected three.

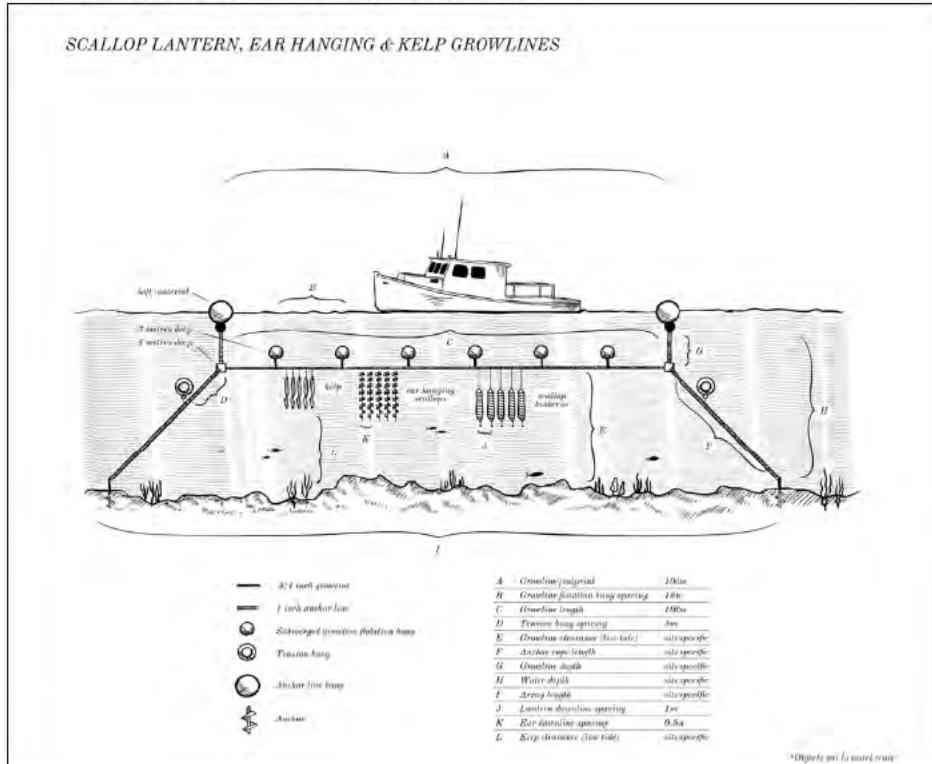
The sites we selected are located within the boundaries of the Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program, with frequent biotoxin monitoring protocols in place. The sites are also sufficiently sheltered from wind and wave action such that we will have more than enough annual days on the water to attend to the farm.

Site Design and Layout

Our site is designed to implement the Japanese scallop farming method as described in Section 2.

An illustration of a typical growline in cross-section is shown below.

FIGURE 4.3.2: SIDE VIEW OF TYPICAL GROWLINE



Site Design: Birds Eye View

The three maps that follow show a bird's-eye view of our arrays and corner markers overlaid on the bottom scans of lease areas G, H, and I. GPS coordinates of the corner markers are noted.

FIGURE 4.3.3: AREA G: BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

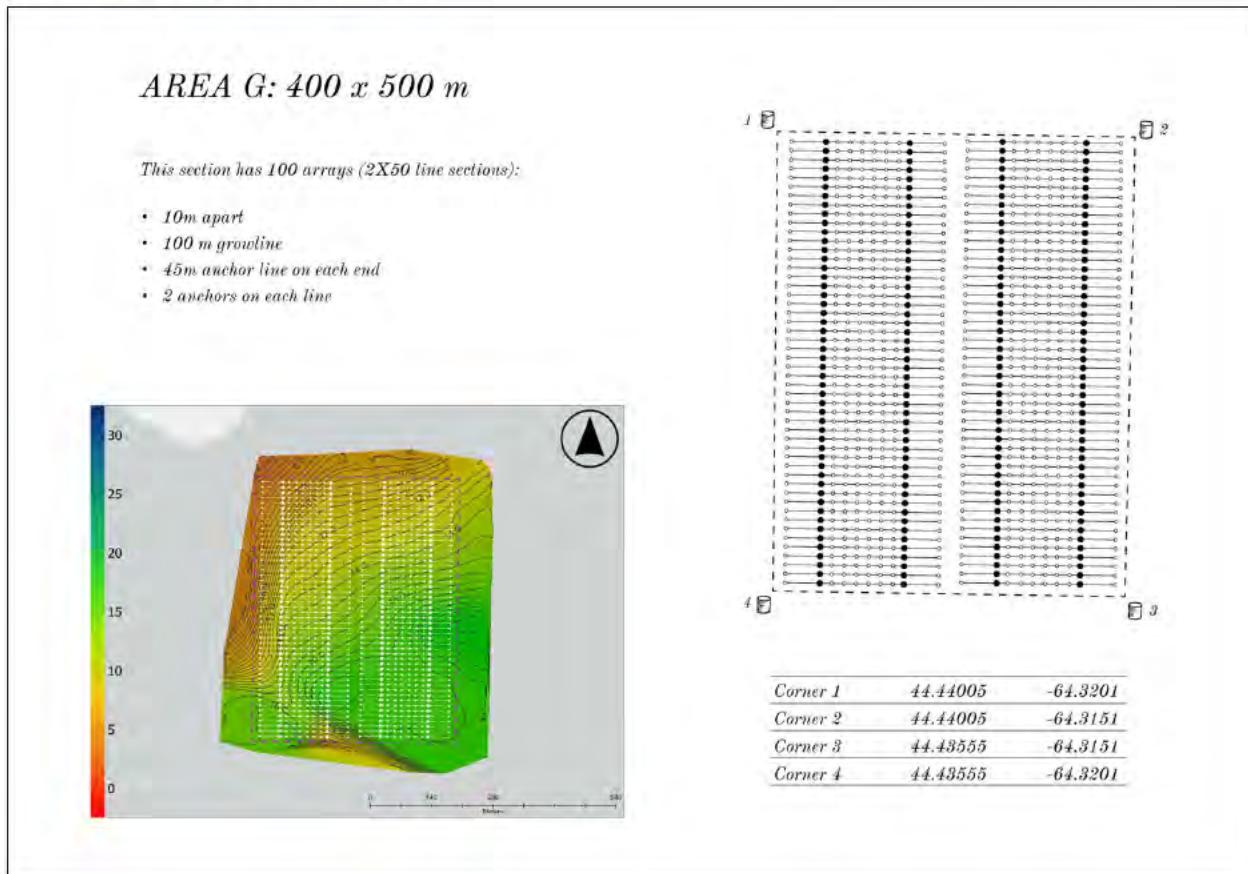


FIGURE 4.3.4: AREA H: BIRD'S-EYE VIEW

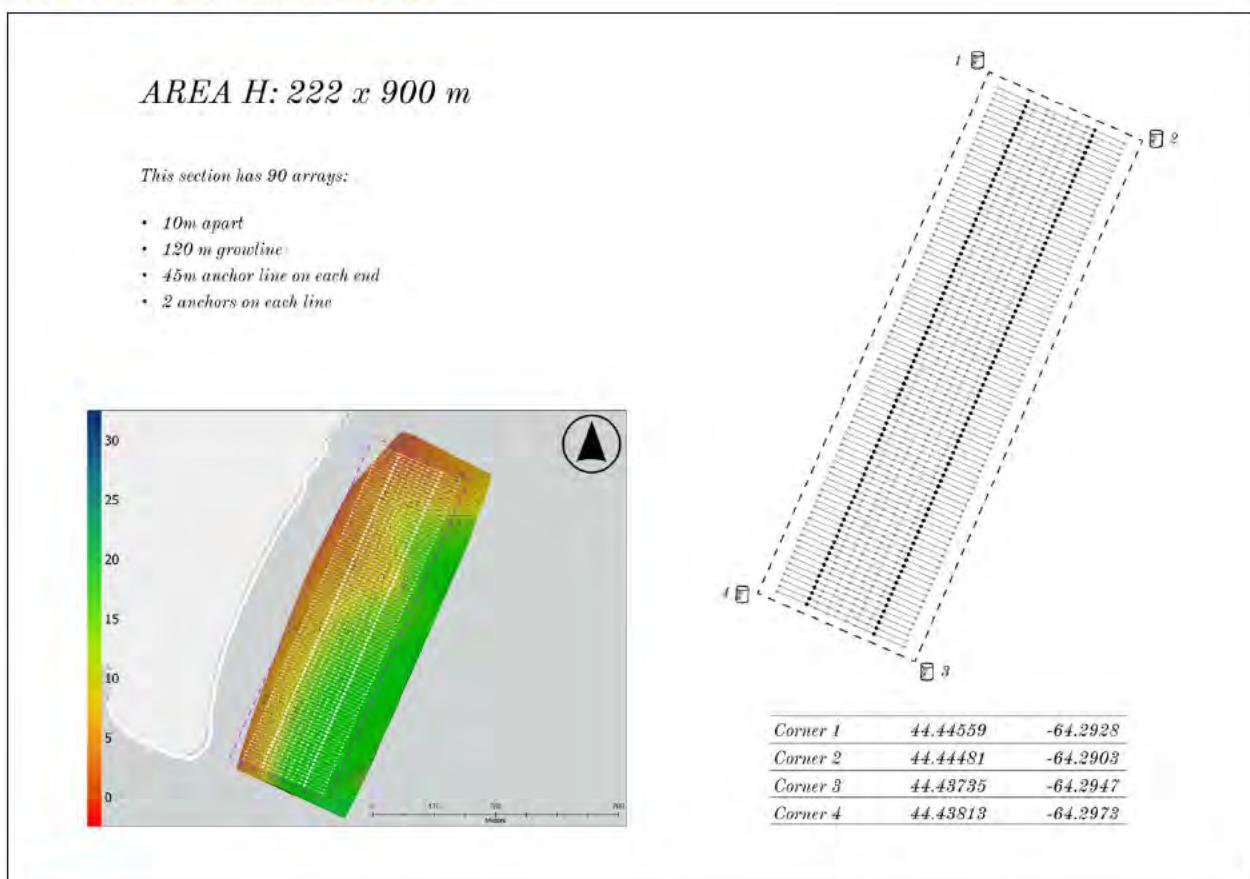
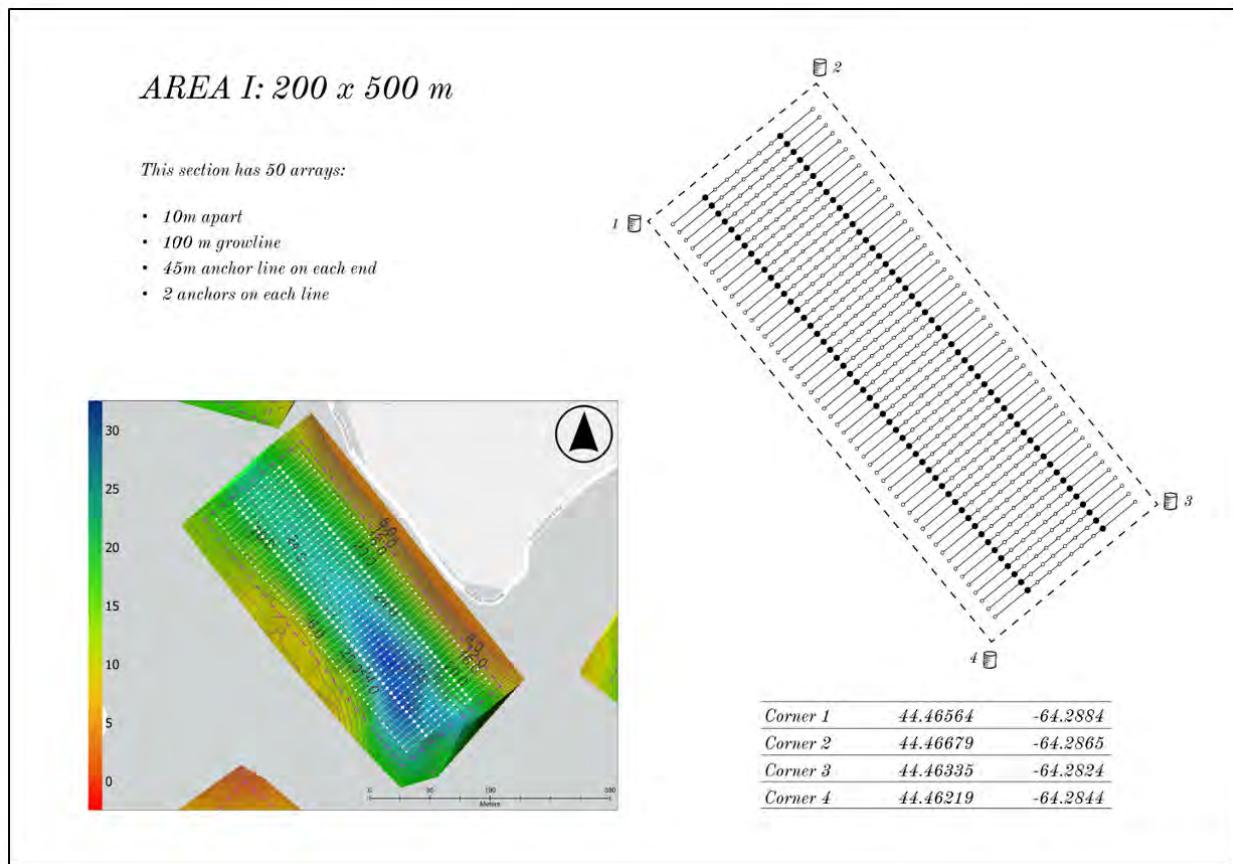


FIGURE 4.3.5: AREA I: BIRD'S-EYE VIEW



SECTION 5: THE OTHER USERS OF THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL OPERATION

5.1 Description of Other Users

Overview

Our spirit of stewardship extends beyond our leases to our community and province, and we aim to show that shellfish and sea plant aquaculture are socially, environmentally, and economically beneficial and sustainable. We make the case that a thriving shellfish and sea plant aquaculture sector would be a source of pride for all community members.

This work supports our goal of understanding community members' concerns, whether they are directly or indirectly impacted by our proposed development. It is a nuanced discussion, and unfortunately, many members of the public have formed opinions about aquaculture based on misinformation.

Our Process

While we were only required to hold one public information session, we wanted to facilitate other forms of engagement in the public scoping process. We did this for several reasons. Public information sessions have a reputation for getting heated, and we knew that, in that setting, we would not hear from people who are not comfortable speaking in front of crowds. We also anticipated that some people would have scheduling conflicts and, therefore, offered four extra sessions that were marketed as “coffee and conversation.” We also offered to meet privately with groups or individuals who were not comfortable in any public setting. Finally, we made it easy

for the public to find information and engage with us on our website, either through a standardized form or a system that allowed people to upload scans of letters, maps, and documents.

To encourage engagement, we raised awareness of our public scoping period using a combination of traditional and social media. These included letters to the editor, ads, and an event listing in The Masthead News and The South Shore Bulletin; printed posters and postcards; social media; and content marketing. Refer to the following appendices for more details:

- Appendix A: Records of Public Announcements
- Appendix B: Records of Posters and Postcards
- Appendix C: Social Media and Content Marketing

In addition to our efforts, our project generated organic reach on social media, and we experienced some coverage in local news. When such uptake was driven by opponents of the project, we chose not to engage directly, as engagement often devolves into unproductive conversations. Instead, we focused on broadcasting our message in as clear and concise a manner as possible.

The “coffee and conversation” meetings were attended by between 12 and 24 people per session. Attendance numbers are not exact, as some attendees declined to sign the attendance sheet. We received feedback after the first two meetings stating that some attendees would have preferred a formal presentation before the casual conversation. We were able to make this adjustment for

meetings three and four and found it to be helpful. We found these conversations productive and were able to learn a great deal about public concerns surrounding our project. Refer to the following appendices for more details:

- Appendix D: Public Meeting 1: Meet and Greet: April 7th, 2025
- Appendix E: Public Meeting 2: Meet and Greet: April 17th, 2025
- Appendix F: Public Meeting 3 and 4: Meet and Greet: April 19th, 2025

Our official public information session was held on May 1st and was attended by approximately 175 people. We were careful to incorporate previous lessons learned and information gathered into our presentation. By showing the process and sharing some of the feedback that we had received, we were able to demonstrate that we were listening to the community's concerns. While the conversation became heated at times, it was generally productive and informative. Throughout the presentation, we encouraged attendees to visit our website to upload a letter or share their comments. Interestingly, only one new public comment form was submitted in the three weeks following the meeting and that one was positive and supportive. We took this to mean that attendees saw a version of their concerns expressed or resolved through the course of the event. Refer to the following appendices for more details:

- Appendix G: Public Meeting 5: Information Session: May 1st, 2025
- Appendix H: PowerPoint Slides from May 1st Meeting

At the public information session, we received a printed copy of a petition. The petition contains assertions and allegations that are misleading. These include concerns that were raised and addressed in correspondence and meetings attended by the petition's organizer on April 7th and 17th. For example, and notably, the petition inappropriately suggests that we publicly share private and confidential information, then characterizes our refusal to do so as evidence of our unsuitability as proponents. Any of the concerns within the petition that are appropriate, were either already addressed during the option to lease process by the relevant authorities or will be addressed during the lease application review process. A copy of the petition is attached as Appendix I.

A key part of our public engagement was to communicate and collaborate with local officials and community leaders. Often, our initial contact resulted in multiple emails exchanged, sometimes with additional parties CC'd in the conversation. In some cases, these exchanges led to informal phone calls, coffee meetings, or video calls. In one instance, it led to us presenting our plan during a lunch and learn hosted by a MICA board member.

Most people supported shellfish aquaculture overall but warned us that we might face significant opposition from various third parties interested in recreational boating. Throughout this process, we encouraged participation by asking people to fill out a form or upload a document on our website.

A few people raised concerns about the environmental impact of scallop farming. These concerns sparked a discussion about the environmental benefits of scallop farming and clarified the differences between this and other types of aquaculture.

Refer to the following appendices for more details.

- Appendix J: Meeting with MICA Board: April 14th, 2025
- Appendix K: Correspondence Groups, Clubs and Officials

Throughout the public scoping process, we encouraged people to participate by filling out a form or uploading a document on our website. The first submission was received on March 29th, 2025, and the final submission was received on June 17th, 2025. Eight people used the document uploader option, and twenty-three people used the customized form.

Of twenty-three submissions made through the form, twenty-two answered “recreation” to the question, “Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?” Only one respondent answered “commercial.” That respondent had also selected “recreational.”

Some members of the public raised environmental concerns, mainly alongside worries about the impact on pleasure craft. Scallop aquaculture is widely supported by environmental advocacy groups, and while we tried to address those concerns throughout our work, we understood that the issue was often brought up in support of an argument where the true focus was pleasure craft.

Several people responded to say that their concerns had been addressed, and they were satisfied with our response. In cases where people wrote back to let us know that they remained

dissatisfied, we did not engage in argument. Our approach was to present facts when we had them. Refer to the following appendices for more details:

- Appendix L: Maps Submitted by the Public
- Appendix M: Public Comment Web Submissions

5.2 Significance of Proposed Area to Wildlife

Our farm operations will have minimal to no adverse impact on local wildlife. The areas that we have selected feature soft, muddy bottoms that are best described as barren. During our baseline monitoring, our video cameras captured images of lobster burrows, juvenile fish, starfish, scallops and shrimp. All were very small and sparsely distributed. We also found a few stalks of seaweed and some tunicates growing on rocks. While other marine wildlife may pass through the area, there is minimal structure or food to attract them to stay. We also consulted online databases and resources to see if there were any at-risk species or habitats in our lease areas. We did not identify any species at risk in the area.

5.3 Impacts to Other Users, Including Wildlife

We anticipate our farm's impact on wildlife to be net positive. Based on observations from other farms and discussions with scientists and researchers, we understand that the structure of the lanterns and nets throughout the farm creates an artificial reef-like environment that provides habitat for fish and other marine animals.

Among the concerns raised by the public, the most common by far were those related to pleasure craft and navigation hazards, as well as the impact of the farm on local sailing races. Most opposition to our farm was led by a small group of landowners and pleasure boaters who took an absolutist stance, saying they did not want the project to go ahead in this area in any form. Two individuals who took the position of representing this group, went so far as threatening us with legal action if we did not halt our participation in this government-legislated leasing process. These threats, both in-person at the end of the public meeting and via email with the Department, understandably resulted in ending communication with these individuals.

Importantly, we found that many pleasure craft users were willing to have constructive discussions, and we were able to develop several innovations and accommodations within our

farm design. This feedback also helped guide the final placement of our farm sites, as we could identify which common sailing routes were the most important and frequently used.

During our first public meetings, we received comments regarding aesthetics and their potential implications for property valuations. The aesthetic issue was alleviated mainly by displaying photos of existing farms and equipment, as only line marker buoys are visible on the surface, and our small work vessels will not look out of place in the local environment. While there is anecdotal evidence that certain types of aquaculture operations may affect local property values, our farm design is expected to have no impact whatsoever.

Concerns about impacts on tourism were not supported by evidence and were therefore treated as a matter of opinion. As a counterpoint, there is ample evidence in other markets to suggest that sustainable aquaculture can generate eco-tourism spinoffs.

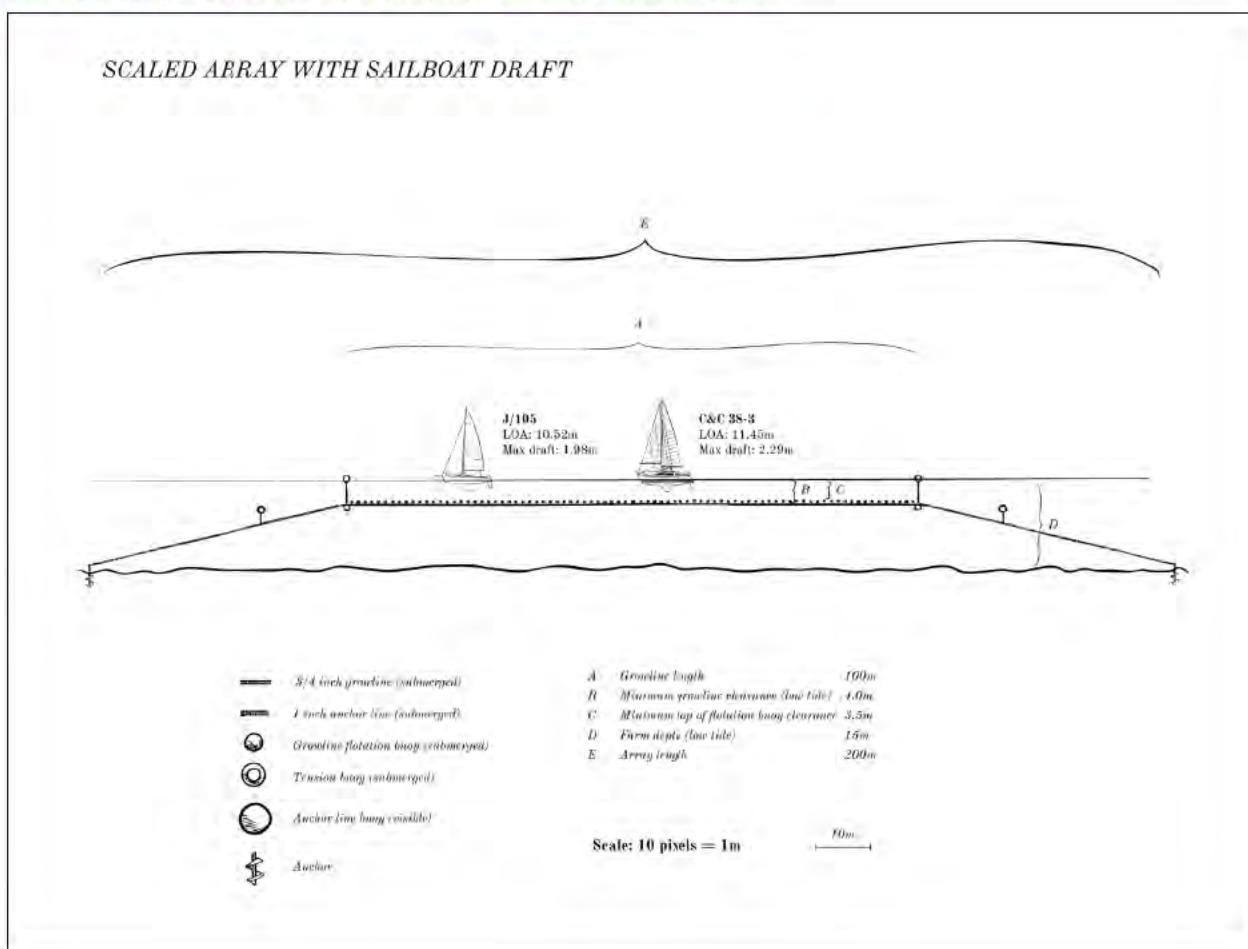
We had several examples of positive feedback. The most common being satisfaction with the safety measures we will put in place to accommodate pleasure craft, satisfaction with the environmental impact of our farm, and satisfaction with the impact on the local economy.

The public scoping process led us to make several adjustments to our farm design and placement.

Of the seven potential lease locations identified in our announcement of our Option to Lease (A-G), only one (G) remains unchanged. We now propose three locations (G, H, I), which are positioned to allow for the easy passage of other vessels.

Our discussions with the public led us to consider allowing vessels of a certain size or smaller to pass over the lease. We have modified our farm design to lower the risk of accidental entanglement if a vessel passes through our leases unintentionally. We achieved this by keeping horizontal growlines at a safe depth (4m at low tide), shortening the vertical lines on growline flotation buoys, and removing anchor retrieval buoys from the surface. Additionally, we will deploy highly visible corner marker buoys to aid navigation.

FIGURE 5.3.1: SCALED ARRAY WITH SAILBOATS PASSING THROUGH LEASE



5.4 Impacts by Other Users, Including Wildlife

As outlined in section 5.3, our discussions with the public prompted us to consider allowing vessels below a certain size to pass over the lease. We embraced this consideration, even though common practice for aquaculture operations is to prohibit this activity.

Unfortunately, we have received several threats and warnings about potential damage to our lease sites and business, including reports that our growlines will be cut, concerns that boaters might be intoxicated and pose a danger to themselves and others, fears that boat insurance could be invalidated, and reports that boats might discharge blackwater onto our sites.

Unfortunately, since we cannot verify the validity of several of these threats, we must abandon this effort and continue with the standard approach of reserving the right to control who passes through our lease sites. According to our insurer, technically any unpermitted travel over lease sites is illegal and therefore exposes both us and the boater to liability. Knowing we would not be able to allow travel over the lease sites is another reason why we shifted the proposed site locations significantly.

Based on observations and reports from other scallop farms in the area, we do not anticipate that wildlife will have an impact on our farm.

SECTION 6: THE PUBLIC RIGHT OF NAVIGATION

6.1 Navigation Protection Act (NPA) Approval

The impact on other users and the public's right of navigation was central to our decision-making for the proposed lease locations. The placement and orientation of our leases ensure they are easy to locate and pass by. We suggest three locations (G, H, I), strategically positioned to facilitate the smooth passage of other vessels.

We plan to begin work on the project as soon as all necessary approvals and permits are obtained. We expect the start date to be in late 2026. It will likely take 5 to 7 years to build the farm to full capacity. We intend to use our own vessel and staff for the work, but will consider outsourcing anchor placement.

In our first year of operation, we will deploy corner-marking buoys at all three sites using screw anchors to secure them. We will use screw anchors throughout the site. See Figure 2.1.4 for a side view of our anchoring system with relevant dimensions.

Also, in the first year of operation, we will deploy a single 100 m growline on which to place our first cohort of scallop seed. We will then place additional anchors in anticipation of building the farm out at a projected rate of 20-50 growlines per year until we reach full capacity. The rate of development may be dependent on seed supply, growth rates, biofouling management, and other factors.

Each growline will require two screw anchors, one at each end, and these are deployed by divers who use a lever to twist the screw into the seafloor. If the mud is too firm for that method, we will use a mechanized system. The anchor lines are then connected to the growlines, and flotation buoys, lantern nets, and pearl nets are hung along the growline. See Figure 2.1.1 for a side view, complete with relevant dimensions.

Site G will consist of two sections, each with fifty 100 m growlines. The growlines will run parallel to each other and be spaced at 10 m intervals. Anchor lines, approximately 45 m long, will be placed on either end. See Figure 4.3.3 for a top view with relevant dimensions.

Site H will consist of one section with ninety 120 m growlines. The growlines will run parallel to each other and be spaced at 10 m intervals. Anchor lines, approximately 45 m long, will be placed on each end. See Figure 4.3.4 for a top view with relevant dimensions.

Site I site will consist of one section with fifty 100 m growlines. These growlines will run parallel to each other and be spaced 10 m apart. Anchor lines, approximately 45 m long, will be attached at both ends. See Figure 4.3.5 for a top view with all relevant dimensions.

The immediate deployment of the corner marker buoys will help the public become accustomed to our presence and the location of the leases long before most gear is deployed. We see this as part of our ongoing efforts to support social carrying capacity.

In support of this development plan, please find attached Appendix O, completed Transport Canada Notice of Works Forms for Leases G, H, and I.

Site Locations: The specific coordinates of the corner marker buoys are listed in Table 6.1.1 below.

TABLE 6.1.1: CORNER MARKER BUOY LOCATIONS

Site ID	Type	Latitude	Longitude
Site G-Corner 01	Corner	44.44005	-64.3201
Site G-Corner 02	Corner	44.44005	-64.3151
Site G-Corner 03	Corner	44.43555	-64.3151
Site G-Corner 04	Corner	44.43555	-64.3201
Site H-Corner 01	Corner	44.44559	-64.2928
Site H-Corner 02	Corner	44.44481	-64.2903
Site H-Corner 03	Corner	44.43735	-64.2947
Site H-Corner 04	Corner	44.43813	-64.2973
Site I-Corner 01	Corner	44.46564	-64.2884
Site I-Corner 02	Corner	44.46679	-64.2865
Site I-Corner 03	Corner	44.46335	-64.2824
Site I-Corner 04	Corner	44.46219	-64.2844

Lease Markers

Our system for marking the site will be designed in consultation with Transport Canada. We anticipate having yellow spar buoys with lights on the corners and yellow balls or cans as intermediate buoys if so required.

FIGURE 6.1.2: CORNER MARKER BUOYS

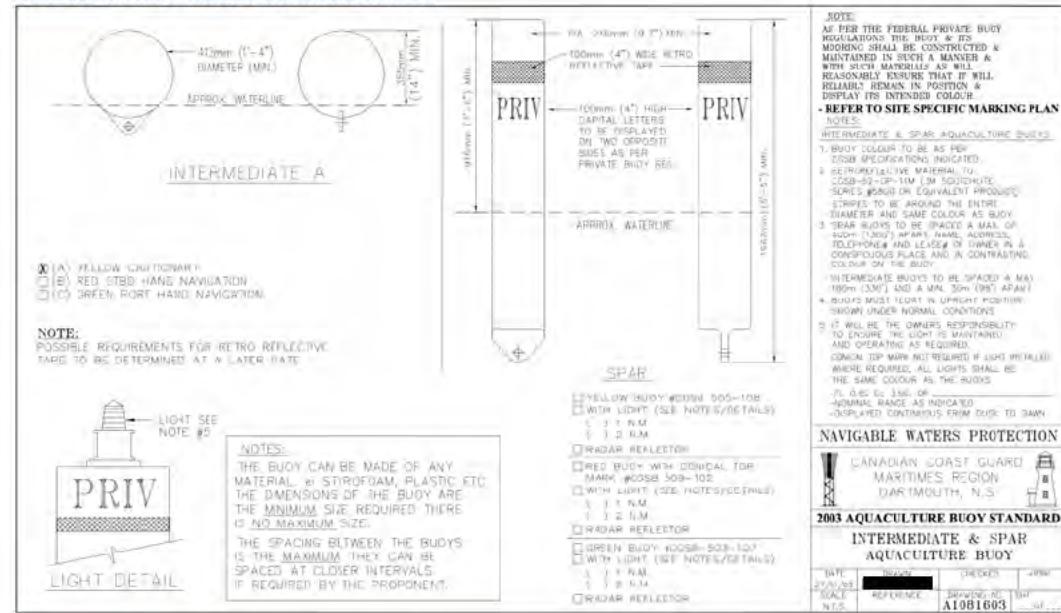
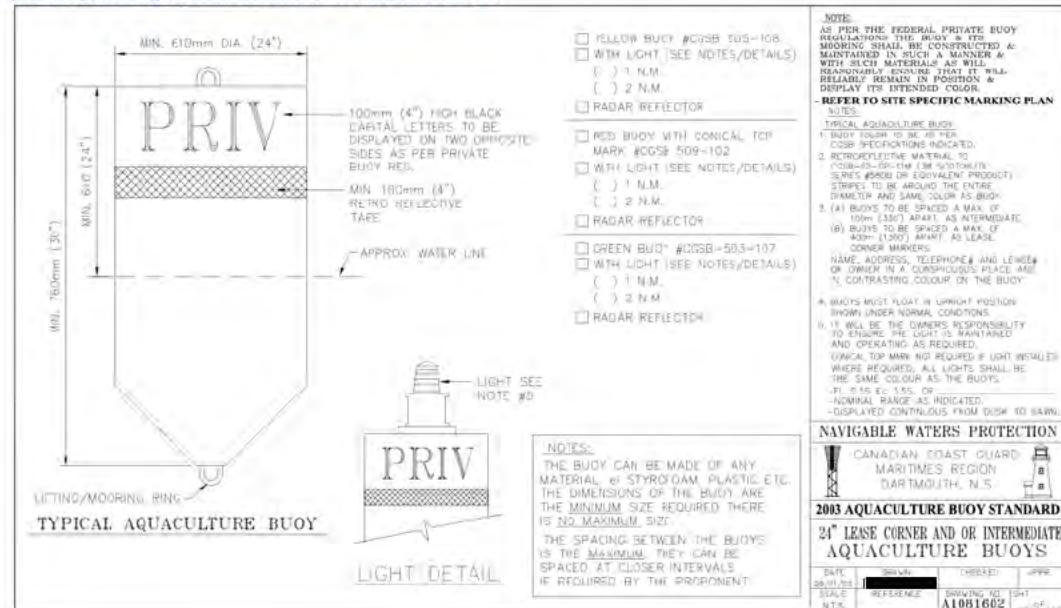


FIGURE 6.1.3: INTERMEDIATE MARKER BUOYS



SECTION 7: THE SUSTAINABILITY OF WILD SALMON

7.1 Identification of local salmon populations

Not applicable.

We are aware of no negative impact from the proposed farm on the sustainability of wild salmon.

7.2 Support of the sustainability of wild salmon

Not applicable.

We will ensure the operation complies with all environmental regulations. Proper control of fuel and any other hydrocarbon materials will be of particular importance to salmon and other fish in the area.

SECTION 8: THE NUMBER AND PRODUCTIVITY OF OTHER AQUACULTURE SITES IN THE PUBLIC WATERS SURROUNDING THE PROPOSED AQUACULTURAL LOCATION

8.1 Identification of other aquaculture sites

Mahone Bay hosts several aquaculture sites operating in public waters. The nearest is Indian Point Marine Farm Ltd, a 14.8 HA lease approved for cultivating Blue Mussels, Dulse, European Oyster, Horsetail Kelp, Nori, Sea Scallop, and Sugar Kelp. Our understanding is that the farm uses pearl nets and ear hanging lines for scallops, as well as horizontal growlines for kelp. We are not aware of other cultivation methods used on the farm. Our proposed location G is about 800 m west of this farm, while our proposed location H is roughly 500 m east on the other side of Rous Island. Our farm operations are not expected to impact this farm.

8.2 Interactions with other aquaculture operations

Scallop farmers in Mahone Bay benefit from an informal network that shares information, insight, and best practices. We look forward to joining this network and contributing to the sector's growth.

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- Nova Scotia Salmon Association: www.nssalmon.ca
- Atlantic Salmon Federation: www.asf.ca
- Committee On the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada: www.cosewic.gc.ca
- Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre: www.accdc.com
- Atlas of Breeding Birds of the Maritime Provinces: www.mba-aom.ca
- Important Bird Areas of Canada: www.ibacanada.com/
- Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network: www.whsrn.org/
- Environment Canada's Protected Areas Network: <https://www.ec.gc.ca/ap-pa/>
- Nature Conservancy of Canada: www.natureconservancy.ca
- Federation of Nova Scotia Naturalists: www.nsnt.ca/
- Migratory Bird Regulations in Canada – July 2014: <https://www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=F74028E2-1>
- Federal Science Library: <http://science-libraries.canada.ca/eng/fisheries-oceans/>

Appendix A: Records of Public Announcements

Overview

To raise awareness of our proposed farm and the public scoping period, we published a “Public Notice” in two local newspapers.

In the monthly publication Masthead News, we published a letter to the editor, an event listing, and a half-page ad on April 1st, 2025.

In the weekly published South Shore Bulletin, we placed a letter to the editor and four double-business-card ads. Published April 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th 2025.

Ads and an event listing focused on the public information session. The letters to the editor were used to share more information about the community benefits of the farm and encourage other forms of engagement using the following language:

“If you’re interested, we encourage you to visit our website, bluelantern.ca, where you can find an overview of our farm, learn about the approval process, fill out a public comment form, or upload a letter of concern or support.

We also invite you to drop in for coffee and conversation at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 pm or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm.

Finally, we invite you to attend our official public information meeting on May 1st at 6:30 pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium.”

[Paragraphs published in both letters to the editor]

Copies of the letters, ads, and the event listing can be found on the pages below.

Masthead News: Letter to the Editor

Published April 1st, 2025

Monthly Circulation: 30,400

Blue Lantern Shellfish is excited to propose a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay and wants to invite the community to participate in the process.

We believe that scallop farming has the potential to positively impact society, the environment, and the economy. Scallops are filter feeders that help clean the water and require no feed, supplements, or medication. Our farm will be quiet and unobtrusive, promote marine biodiversity, boost the local maritime economy, and enhance food security by producing sustainable protein.

As we have developed this idea over the past several years, we have appreciated the support and encouragement from the community, though there is still work to be done. We want to ensure that everyone is well-informed about our proposed farm and has an opportunity to share their thoughts.

If you're interested, we encourage you to visit our website, bluelantern.ca, where you can find an overview of our farm, learn about the approval process, fill out a public comment form, or upload a letter of concern or support.

We also invite you to drop in for coffee and conversation at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 pm or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm.

Finally, we invite you to attend our official public information meeting on May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium.

Along with my business partner, Chaz Thorne, I look forward to collaborating with the Mahone Bay community to establish a farm in which we can all take pride.

Sincerely,
L Paul MacInnis
Blue Lantern Shellfish
paul@bluelantern.ca

Masthead News: Event Listing
Published April 1st, 2025
Monthly Circulation: 30,400

Name and type of event

Public Information Session

Date and time

Thursday, May 1st, 2025, 6:30 pm

Location

The Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium

Cost to participate

NA

Relevant details

Blue Lantern Shellfish is proposing a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay, focused on minimal environmental impact and maximum community benefit. As part of the option to lease process, we are taking this opportunity to inform area residents about our project and collect their feedback.

Contact

www.bluelantern.ca

Name

Paul MacInnis

Email

paul@bluelantern.ca

Phone

(902) 220-3928

Masthead News: Ad: 4 Week Campaign

Published April 1st, 2025

Monthly Circulation: 30,400



Sustainable Scallop Farming in Mahone Bay

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

LOCATIONS *Mahone Bay between Indian Point, Young Island, Andrews Island, and Spectacle Island*

LEASE SIZE *Combined Maximum of 50 HA*

SPECIES UNDER CULTIVATION & METHODOLOGY
*Sea Scallops (Pearl Nets, Lantern Nets, Ear Hanging);
Sugar Kelp (Longline)*



PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

MAY 1, 2025 @ 6:30 PM
at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium

*Visit our website to learn more,
RSVP to the event, or share
questions & concerns.*

BLUELANTERN.CA



South Shore Bulletin: Letter To The Editor

Published April 9th, 2025

Weekly Circulation: 4,000 via print and 2,500 digitally

Blue Lantern Shellfish is excited to propose a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay and wants to invite the community to participate in the process.

We believe that scallop farming has the potential to positively impact society, the environment, and the economy. Our farm will be quiet and inconspicuous, promote marine biodiversity, boost the local maritime economy, and enhance food security by producing sustainable protein.

Several scallop farms are currently operating in Mahone Bay, with one established in the mid-80s. Those farmers have done remarkable work, and we feel fortunate to have the opportunity to join this tradition.

Scallops grow well below the surface in lantern and pearl nets and on specialized ear-hanging lines. You can see photos of these items on our website. Scallops are filter feeders that help clean the water and require no feed, supplements, or medication. They just sort of hang out and build up their highly desirable abductor muscles. It takes several years for a scallop to reach harvest size. It's not uncommon for a large, farmed scallop to be more than four years old.

As a former chef, I was thrilled to discover this sustainable and delicious source of protein. Thanks to frequent biotoxin testing, farmed scallops can be sold live, and you can eat the entire animal. We're developing recipes that we'll eventually share on social media.

We've taken great care to be sensitive to the existing users of the waters we wish to farm.

Recreational users will find it easy to navigate around well-marked leases. If they accidentally cross into the farm, we've designed it to minimize or eliminate the possibility of entanglement.

Residents concerned about noise and views will find that our work will be unobtrusive. It will be conducted on small, quiet vessels with a minimum number of buoys visible on the water's surface.

We continue to meet with fishermen and fisheries officials to refine our plans, minimize the impact of our operations, and find ways to support the marine ecosystem.

As we have developed this idea over the past several years, we have appreciated the support and encouragement from the community, though there is still work to be done. We want to ensure that everyone is well-informed about our proposed farm and has an opportunity to share their thoughts.

If you're interested, we encourage you to visit our website, bluelantern.ca, where you can find an overview of our farm, learn about the approval process, fill out a public comment form, or upload a letter of concern or support.

We also invite you to drop in for coffee and conversation at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 pm or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm.

Finally, we invite you to attend our official public information meeting on May 1st at 6:30 pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium.

My business partner, Chaz Thorne, grew up in Lunenburg around friends and neighbours who made their living in fisheries. I spent half my professional career as a chef and restaurateur in Indian Harbour, proudly promoting and serving local seafood. We care deeply about this region and want to get this right.

We look forward to collaborating with the Mahone Bay community to establish a farm in which we can all take pride.

Sincerely,
L Paul MacInnis
Blue Lantern Shellfish
www.bluelantern.ca
@bluelanternshellfish

South Shore Bulletin: Ad: 4 Week Campaign
 Published April 9th, 16th, 23rd, and 30th
 Weekly Circulation: 4,000 via print and 2,500 digitally

Page 20 South Shore Bulletin, Wednesday, April 9, 2025

SOUTHSHOREBULLETIN.CA

Liverpool Affordable Housing Development build delayed again

By ED HALVERSON
 ed.halverson@southshorebulletin.ca

LIVERPOOL - Queens Neighbourhood Co-operative Housing Ltd. (QNCH) has asked Region of Queens council to allow them to push back the start of construction on a planned 30-unit affordable housing development off Lawrence Street until Aug. 31, 2025.

The co-operative bought the parcel of municipal land from the Region with the condition construction on the site would begin by June 30, 2024. When design and preliminary work took longer than expected the group requested an extension until Dec. 31, 2024. Facing continued delays in completing that work, QNCH is once again asking Queens Council to extend the start of construction until the end of August.

QNCH had originally completed a full project design for 26 units in May 2024, and had submissions for site plan approval and building permit. However, in talks with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the co-operative learned that the Lawrence Street Project's design at 26 units, would not meet the minimum 30 units required to qualify for the small to medium urban centre Co-operative Housing Development Program (CHDP) funding.

In a letter to council from the Co-operative's consultant Michael Blair, the organization indicates they are making progress as they have secured capital funding and are finalizing CMHC financing. Blair says the tendering process is complete and they are currently in negotiations. The group didn't realize the extension they were granted had expired on Dec. 31, 2025, which is why they brought the matter to council's attention.

Blair goes on to say QNCH anticipates a construction start date this spring but are asking for the extension at the end of August to provide a buffer.

Region of Queens council received the report and granted the Aug. 31, 2025, extension.

The proposed 30 units will be spread across two, two-story buildings and house 25 one-bedroom, eight, two-bedroom, and two, three-bedroom units. The QNCH has set a goal for the project of providing affordable rental housing options with a focus on seniors in the community.



SOURCE: FACEBOOK/QNCH
 The Queens Neighbourhood Co-operative Housing Ltd. has received another extension to push back the start of construction on their project.

CONTEST TIME! ALL AGES COLORING CONTEST!



Enter to win a Spring themed prize package

Open to Ages 1-100 • Deadline for entries is April 17th

Winner will be chosen on April 22nd

Photo to be published in the April 30th edition.



Email a photo of your entry to Info@southshorebulletin.ca or drop it off at our office 129 Aberdeen Rd, Suite 106, Bridgewater, NS B4V 2S7

SOUTH SHORE BULLETIN
 902-543-2457 • www.southshorebulletin.ca



Website Describing Our Farm and Inviting Public Participation



Sustainable scallop farming in Mahone Bay

OUR PROPOSED FARM



About our proposed farm

Blue Lantern Shellfish is proposing a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay, focused on minimal environmental impact and maximum community benefit.

As part of the option to lease process, we are taking this opportunity to inform area residents about our project and collect their feedback.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Who is Blue Lantern Shellfish?

Appendix B: Records of Posters and Postcards

Overview:

Printed media was used to increase awareness of the project and the public scoping period. Approximately twenty Posters (11" x 17") promoting the public information session were placed on public bulletin boards and in local businesses. We also created a series of postcards featuring typical farming activities photographed on a working Mahone Bay scallop farm and highlighting the benefits of the farm to the community. In the first two weeks of April 2025, approximately 200 postcards (4" x 6") were left at various businesses in Mahone Bay, Lunenburg, Blockhouse, and Bridgewater.

Images of the poster and postcards are shown below.

POSTER



PUBLIC INFORMATION SESSION

Sustainable Scallop Farming in Mahone Bay

*MAY 1, 2025 @ 6:30 PM
at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium*

PROJECT AT A GLANCE

*LOCATIONS Mahone Bay between Indian Point, Young Island,
Andrews Island, and Spectacle Island*

LEASE SIZE Combined Maximum of 50 HA

*SPECIES UNDER CULTIVATION & METHODOLOGY
Sea Scallops (Pearl Nets, Lantern Nets, Ear Hanging); Sugar Kelp (Longline)*

Visit our website to learn more, RSVP to the event, or share questions & concerns.

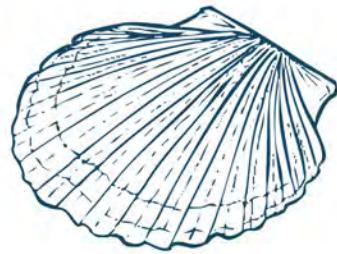
bluelantern.ca



POSTCARD BACK

SCALLOP FARMING FACTS

- *Scallops naturally filter and clean the water*
- *No feed or supplements are required*
- *Zero chemical inputs into the marine environment*
- *Support for local marine biodiversity*
- *Minimal seabed impact*
- *Quiet, unobtrusive operations conducted on small vessels*
- *Scallop lanterns hang well below the surface*
- *Minimal number of buoys visible on the surface*
- *Opportunities for youth*
- *Diversifies local maritime economy*
- *Enhances food security with sustainable protein production*

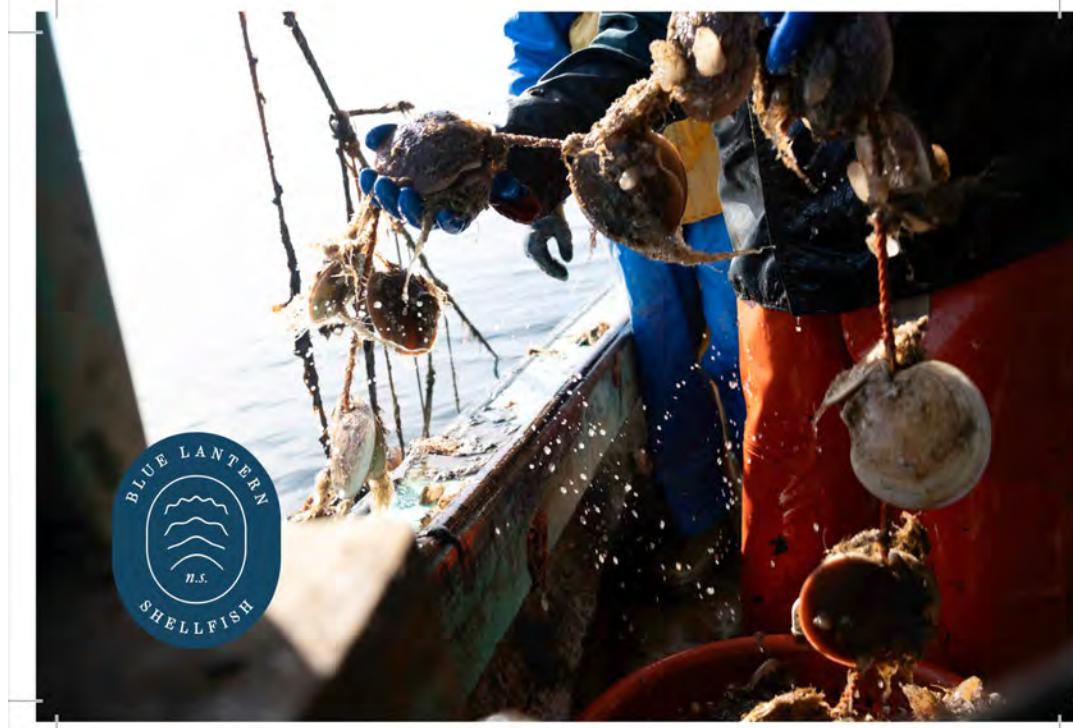


*Placopecten magellanicus,
also known as the
giant sea scallop*

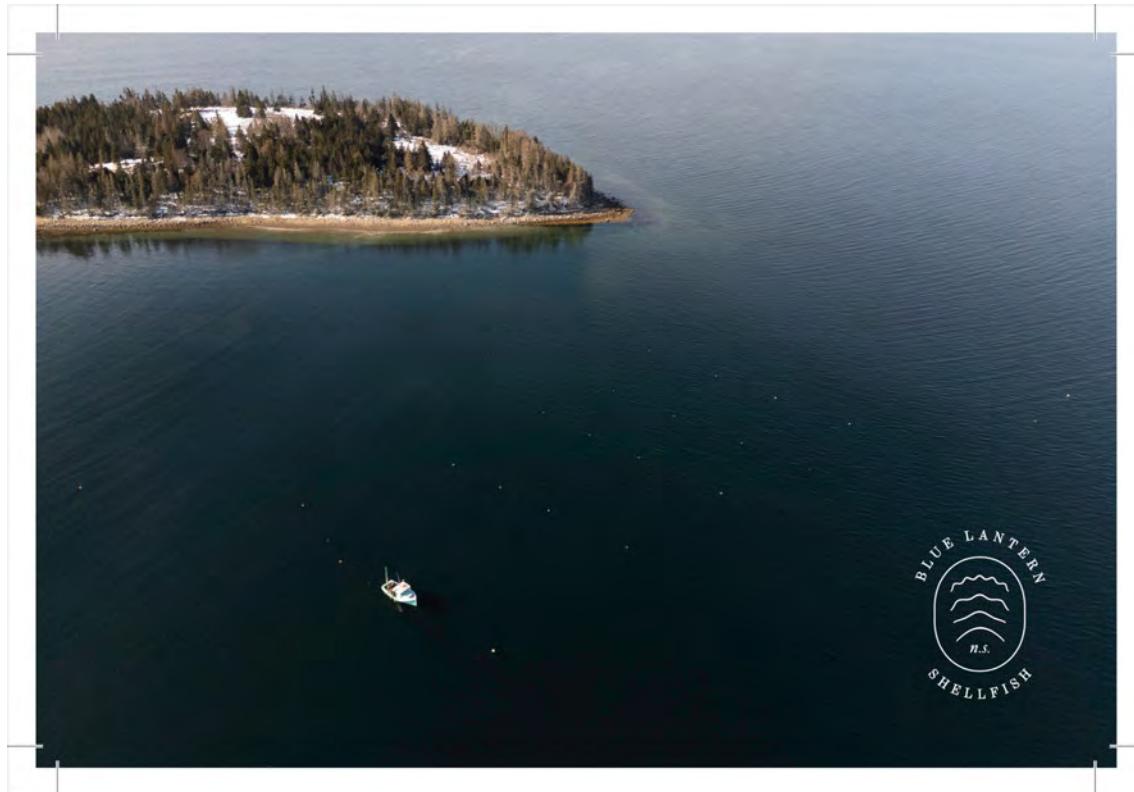


Learn more at bluelantern.ca

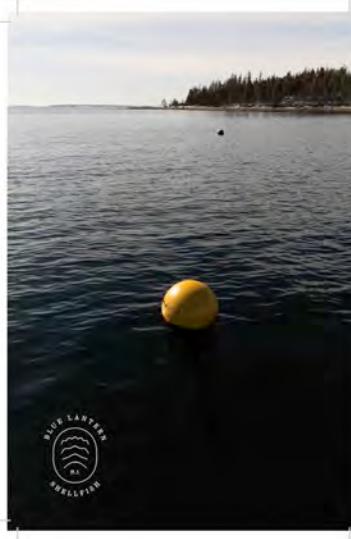
POSTCARD COVER ONE



POSTCARD COVER TWO



POSTCARD COVERS THREE, FOUR AND FIVE

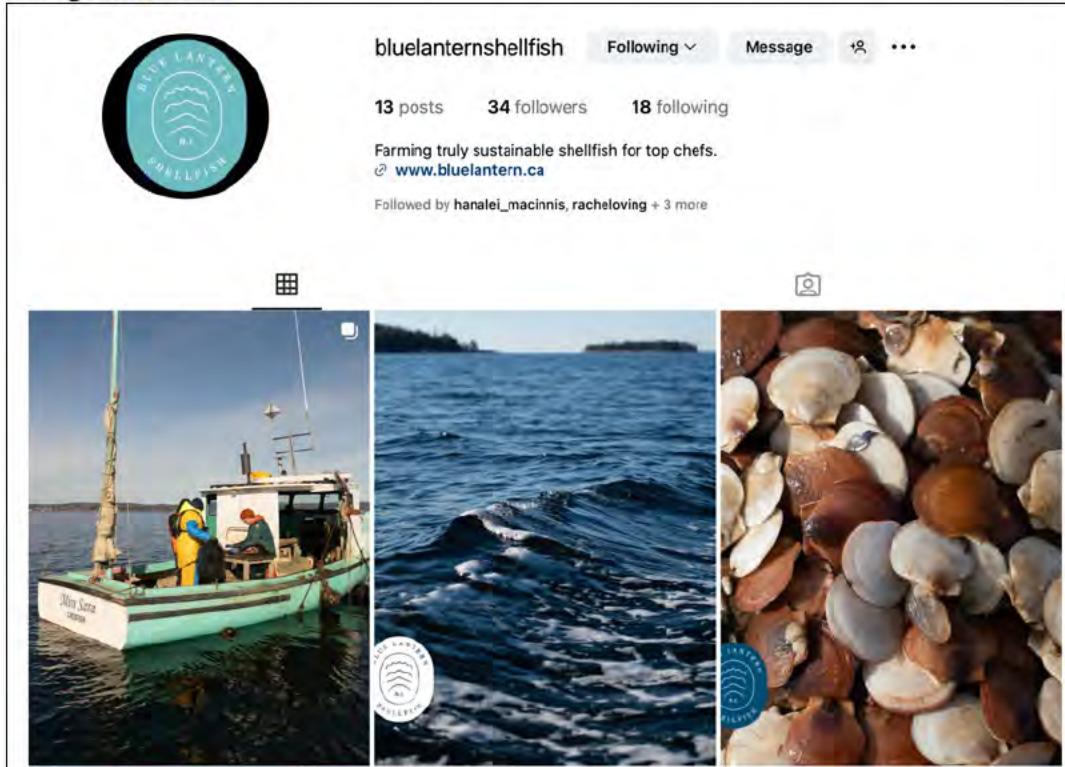


Appendix C: Social Media and Content Marketing

Instagram and Facebook

We created Blue Lantern Shellfish's Instagram and Facebook pages to monitor comments and provide another avenue for engagement. We created an ad campaign to boost reach beyond the organic reach of the pages.

Instagram Profile



Blog / Video Podcast

Our blog, hosted at bluelantern.ca, included ten posts. Seven included video interviews with scallop aquaculture experts. One post included our responses to frequently asked questions.

Blog Thumbnail



The screenshot shows a blog post layout. At the top right is a search bar with a magnifying glass icon. Below it is a section titled "Recent Posts" with three entries:

- To Shuck or Not to Shuck? A Farmed Scallop Dilemma** (Jul 11, 2025)
- How Japanese Innovation is Changing Scallop Farming** (Jul 04, 2025)
- Working Smarter, Not Harder: Tech and Labour in Scallop Aquaculture** (Jul 01, 2025)

At the bottom right are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. The main content area features a video thumbnail with two men. The man on the right is wearing headphones and a microphone, suggesting a podcast or video interview. The video player shows a play button and a timestamp of 5:35. The title of the post is "To Shuck or Not to Shuck? A Farmed Scallop Dilemma" and the date is "Jul 11, 2025".

Appendix D: Public Meeting 1: Meet and Greet: April 7th, 2025

2 pm-3:30 pm, April 7th, 2025

Mahone Bay Centre Community Kitchen

Presenters: Paul MacInnis and Chaz Thorne

Summary

On April 7, we hosted an informal public information session in Mahone Bay to present our proposed scallop aquaculture project.

The purpose of this session was to discuss the project with attendees, answer questions when possible and appropriate, and encourage all to submit any comments, concerns, or questions on the form we made available on our website so that we could respond to them directly, and they could officially be included in the lease application.

In the session, we highlighted both the economic potential of sustainable shellfish farming including rural job creation and sustainable ocean use.

The meeting was marked by strong opposition from a small but vocal group of waterfront property owners and recreational users. Concerns centred on perceived impacts on property values, viewsheds, and navigational access.

We successfully engaged in dialogue with more than half of the attendees. These attendees indicated that they had learned something positive about our farm plan, our organization, and/or our willingness to adapt our proposal after engagement with the community. Some people became more receptive after seeing diagrams and photos.

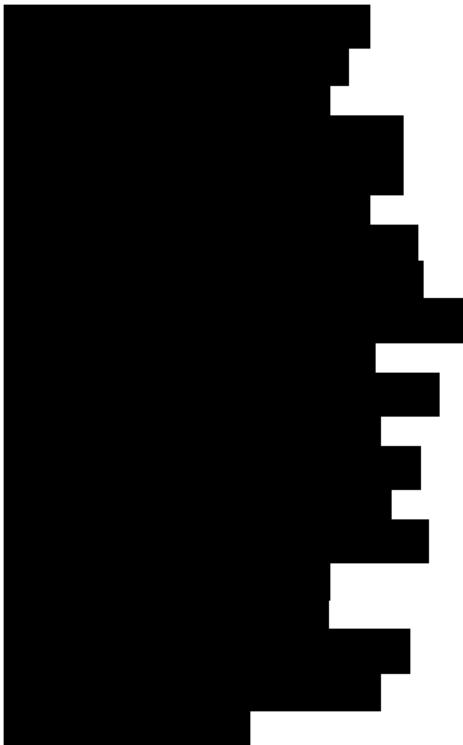
For those willing to engage, we were able to have constructive dialogue about their concerns and how we may be able to address them.

There were others that were of the position that, though they agreed that scallop farming was a good idea, they did not want it done here and were unwilling to engage in dialogue. They did not want it in the area under any circumstance and suggested we look elsewhere.

We explained that the letter we received from Minister Smith only allowed us to explore within the defined Option to Lease area.

Regardless of their position, we encouraged all to submit their written comments on our website form so that their status as a member in the community, and therefore a stakeholder in this process, could be verified and their written statements included in our lease application.

Attendees and Postal Codes



Appendix E: Public Meeting 2: Meet and Greet: April 17th, 2025

6:30 pm-8:30 pm, April 17th, 2025

Indian Point Fire Hall, Indian Point, Mahone Bay

Presenter: Paul MacInnis & Chaz Thorne

Summary

The meeting was originally intended as a quiet, community-focused session to engage with local fishers to address their specific concerns as individuals working on the water.

We orchestrated direct invitations to local fishermen via [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (both men invited local fishermen) and [REDACTED] attended the session.

The intention of this session remained the same as our first: discuss the project with attendees, answer questions when possible and appropriate, and encourage all to submit any comments, concerns, or questions on the form we made available on our website so that we could respond to them directly, and they could officially be included in the lease application.

However, a group of approximately 17 local residents showed up instead.

Attendees included community members, representatives from the local sailing community, volunteer firemen, and familiar opponents from the previous meeting.

The format—originally conceived as an informal gathering—was met with frustration by the resident attendees, who demanded a formal presentation.

We complied and took those gathered through a more formal presentation of our proposed plan and were then able to take questions in a way that also allowed all to hear our answers.

The conversation and concerns raised were similar to the first meeting where there seemed to be general agreement among attendees that scallop farming is a good concept—just not here. Boat navigation and property access were again the main concerns.

A large part of the discussion revolved around concerns about the provincial government's leasing process. We explained several times the process at a high level as we understood it but

also emphasized multiple times that we cannot speak to government processes as they are not ours. Our task is to follow them. We referred those individuals to the Department's website for information and told them that they would have to communicate any disagreement they had with the aquaculture leasing process directly to the Department.

Several attendees made their intention clear that they would continue to oppose our exploration of the area.

As in the first meeting, and regardless of their position, we encouraged all to submit their written comments on our website form so that their status as a member in the community, and therefore a stakeholder in this process, could be verified and their written statements included in our lease application.

Re: Local fisherman: It was twice reported during the meeting that the local fisherman who had been engaged took no issue with our proposed sites. They were satisfied that as long as chosen sites have mud bottoms that they are away from their fishing areas.

Attendees and Postal Codes



Appendix F: Public Meeting 3 and 4: Meet and Greet: April 19th, 2025

10:00 am-11:30 am, April 19th, 2025

2:00 pm-3:30 pm, April 19th, 2025

Mahone Bay Centre Meeting Room, Mahone Bay

Presenter: Paul MacInnis & Chaz Thorne

Summary

As with previous sessions, the purpose of these meetings was to discuss the project with attendees, answer questions when possible and appropriate, and encourage all to submit any comments, concerns, or questions on the form we made available on our website so that we could respond to them directly, and they could officially be included in the lease application.

Given what had happened with our attempts to have informal discussions in our previous two sessions, for these two sessions we delivered a structured presentation format, which allowed for clearer messaging and more focused attendee engagement.

The room responded positively to a number of well-framed analogies, technical clarifications, and direct answers to concerns. As they were on the same day and very similar in structure and experience, we have summarized both sessions in this document.

There were almost exclusively new attendees at these sessions, and the tone was very different. Though many of the questions still pertained to pleasure craft use these attendees also asked much broader questions about environmental and economic impact that would affect the whole community.

Constructive dialogue also allowed us to have specific conversations about the proposed lease sites and how they could potentially be altered to better accommodate pleasure craft users.

As in previous sessions, and regardless of their position, we encouraged all to submit their written comments on our website form so that their status as a member in the community, and

therefore a stakeholder in this process, could be verified and their written statements included in our lease application.

Attendees

Meeting One (10 am):

Name **Community Postal Code**

A high-contrast, black and white image showing a complex, abstract geometric pattern. The pattern consists of numerous thick, black horizontal and vertical lines, some with internal cross-hatching, forming a dense, blocky structure. A prominent feature is a large, solid black rectangle on the right side. In the center, there is a vertical column of black rectangles, with a single white rectangle standing out from the middle of this column. The overall effect is reminiscent of a low-resolution digital graphic or a stylized architectural drawing.

Meeting Two (2 pm):

Name	Community	Postal Code
------	-----------	-------------

The figure consists of a 10x10 grid of black and white squares. The pattern is a repeating sequence of 5x5 blocks. Each block contains a central white square surrounded by black squares. The blocks are arranged in a staggered grid, with some blocks having a 1x1 hole in the center of their black area. The overall pattern is a 5x5 grid of these 5x5 blocks.

Appendix G: Public Meeting 5: Information Session: May 1st, 2025

6:30 pm-8:00 pm, May 1st, 2025

Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium, Mahone Bay

Presenters: Paul MacInnis & Chaz Thorne

Format: PowerPoint presentation followed by Q&A and informal discussion

Overview:

Our official public information session was held on May 1st and was attended by approximately 175 people. We used Eventbrite for RSVPs, and we asked people to sign in at the door. However, some people declined to sign in, and we found that the most accurate way to calculate attendance was to add the number of chairs available to the number of people standing.

This meeting featured a concise presentation followed by an extended Q&A.

As in all previous meetings, the purpose was to discuss the project with attendees, answer questions when possible and appropriate, and encourage all to submit any comments, concerns, or questions on the form we made available on our website so that we could respond to them directly, and they could officially be included in the lease application.

Also present were two representatives from NSDFA who answered any questions about the department's aquaculture licensing process.

Much of the Q & A consisted of statements and not questions. The statements consisted of those voicing opposition to the aquaculture leasing process, or anti-government, or anti-deregulation sentiments. These also included several open threats of criminality against our operation if we were to be successful in the leasing process and a threat from an opponent resident that had attended a previous meeting of a coordinated lawsuit against us if we did not cease our pursuit of a lease in this area. There were also several individuals who spoke supportively, including a resident who previously worked for the DFO who admonished others for conflating our venture with fin-fish farming or not accepting that the water is a shared resource that is not exclusively for pleasure boaters.

Regardless of their comments, we thanked all individuals for their participation.

When direct questions about our proposed leases were asked we answered them. There were many questions about the aquaculture leasing process itself which were answered by the two department representatives present.

As the presentation was quite detailed, our hope is that it answered many of the specific questions individuals had about our proposal.

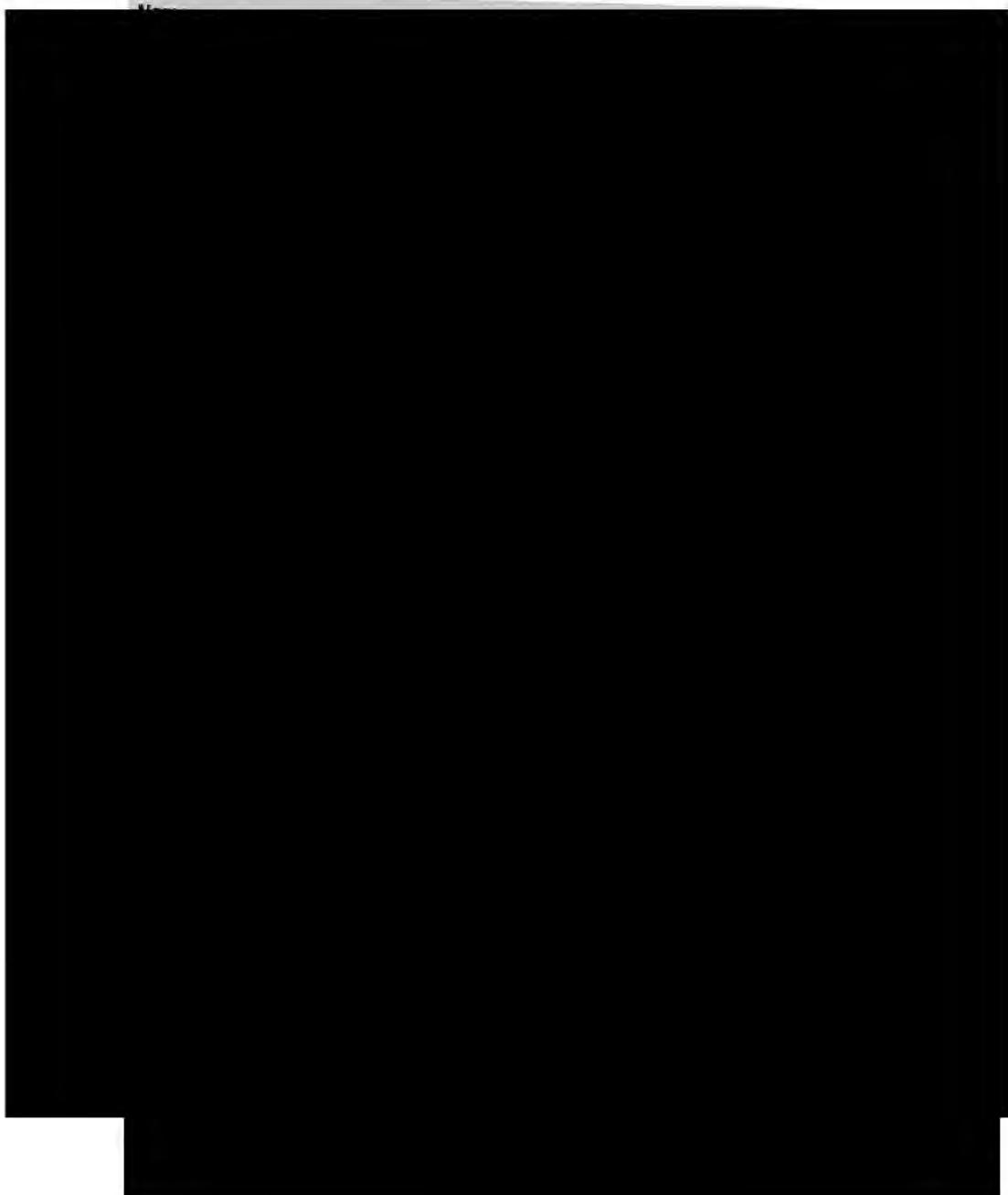
As in all previous meetings, we repeatedly encouraged attendees to engage further in the process by filling out the form on our website so their written statements could be included in our lease application and we could respond to their specific comments directly. We emphasized this throughout the presentation and Q&A. A QR code with a link to our website and comment form remained on the screen for approximately one hour following the presentation, and we provided printed takeaway material with the information and code. Paper copies of the sample site map and comment form were also made available.

One new public comment form was submitted in the three weeks following the meeting, which was positive.

Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025



Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

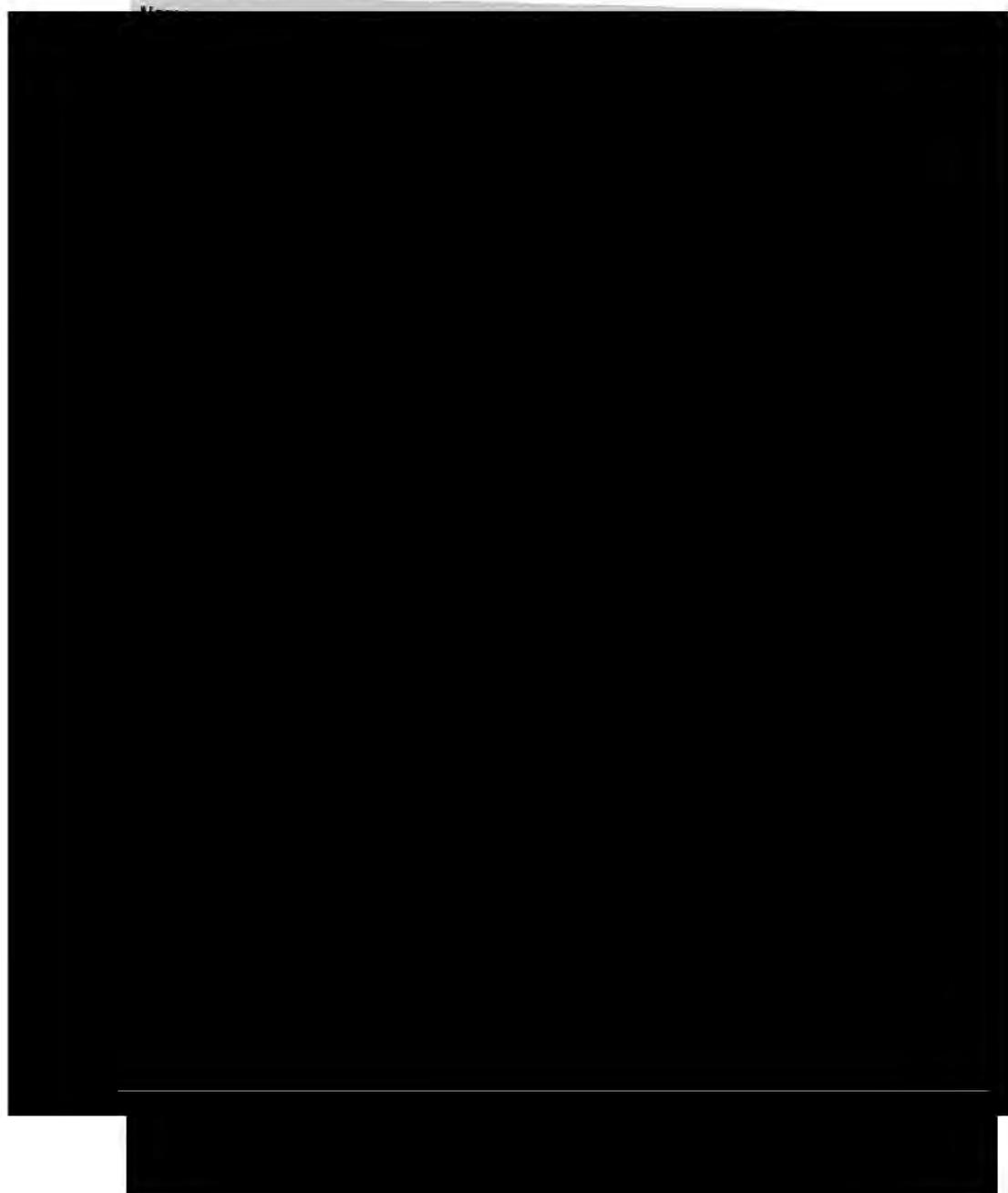
Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025

Name	Community	Postal Code
<input type="checkbox"/> I would like to receive information about Blue Lantern Shellfish		

Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

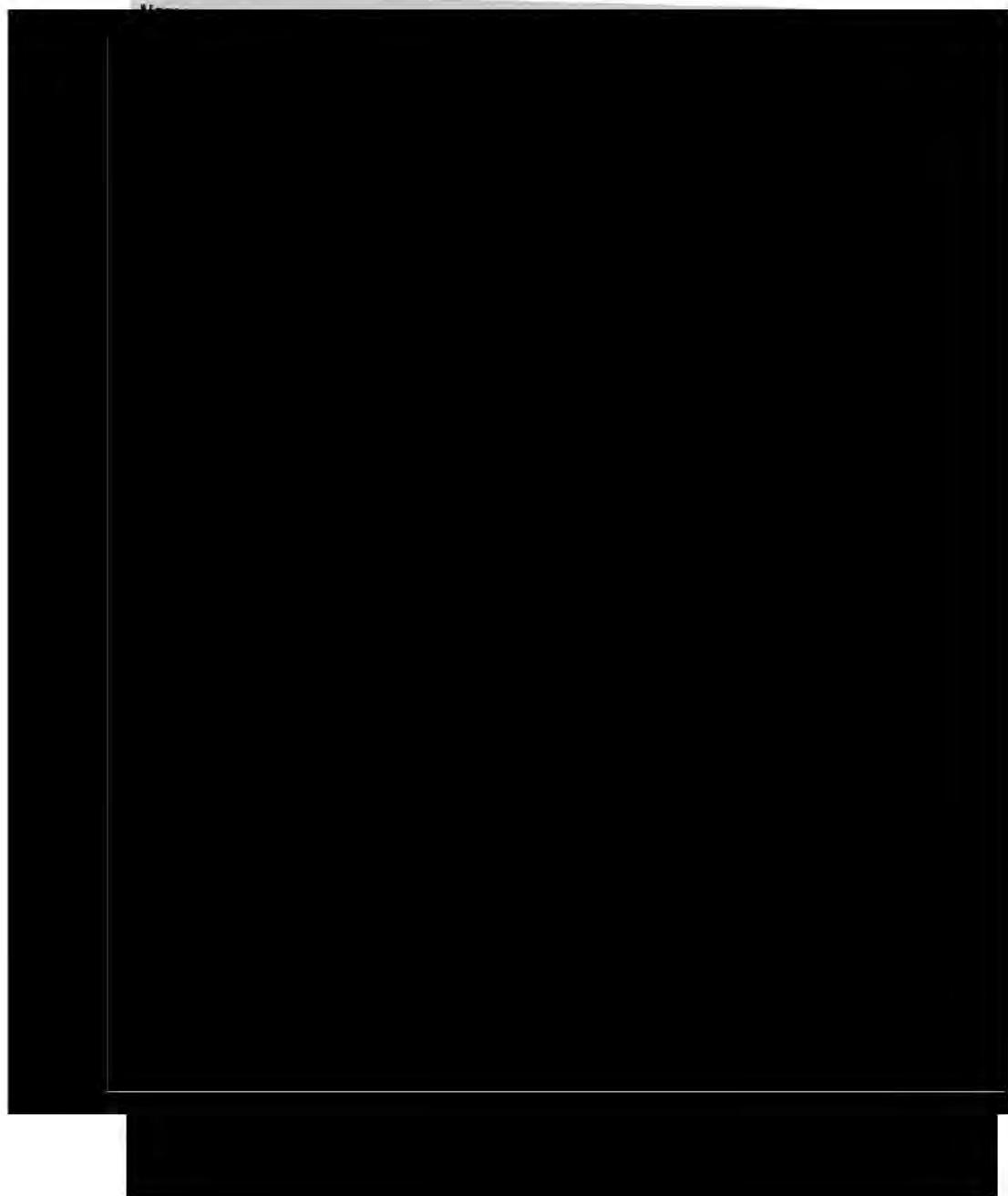
Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025



Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

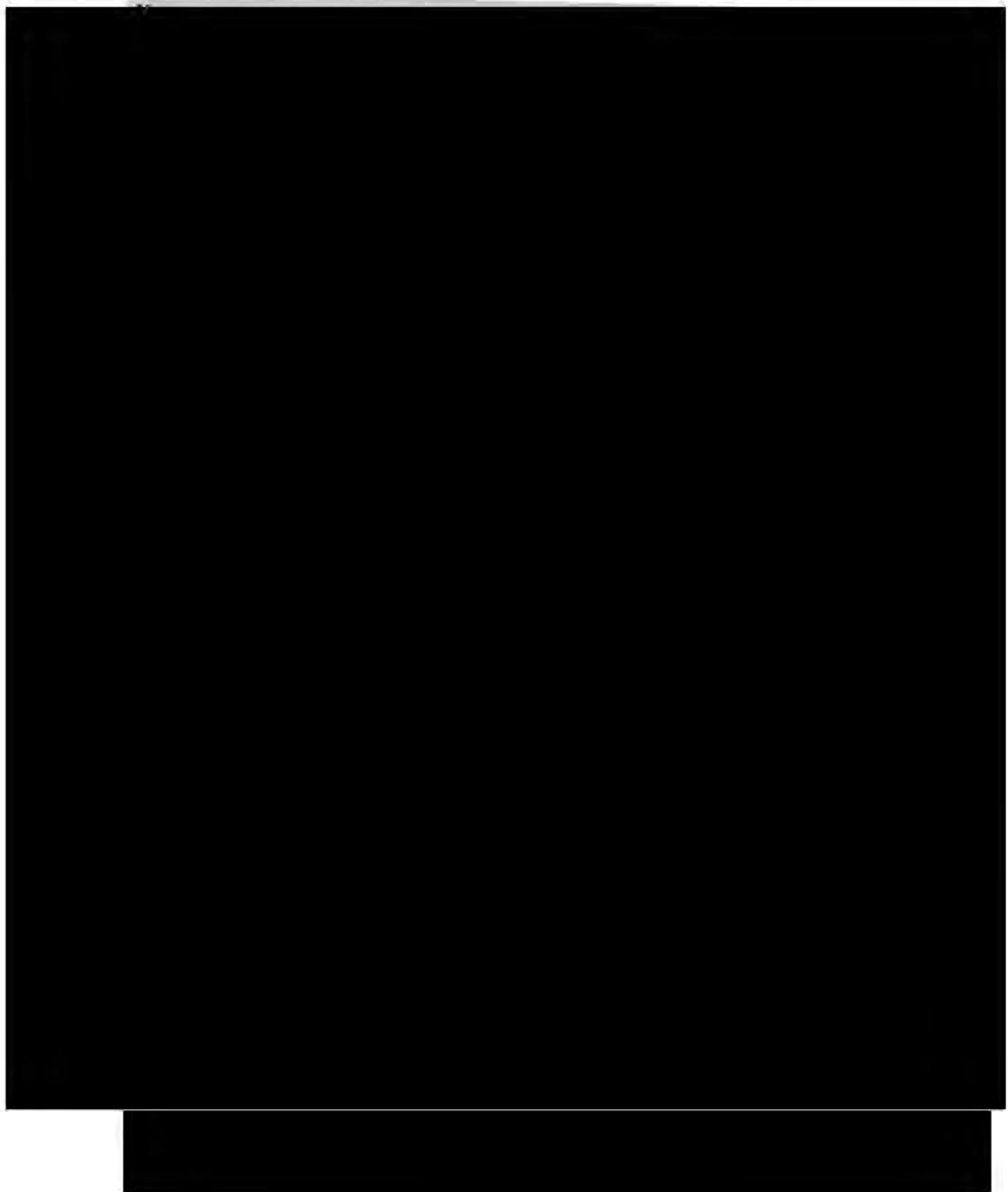
Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025



Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

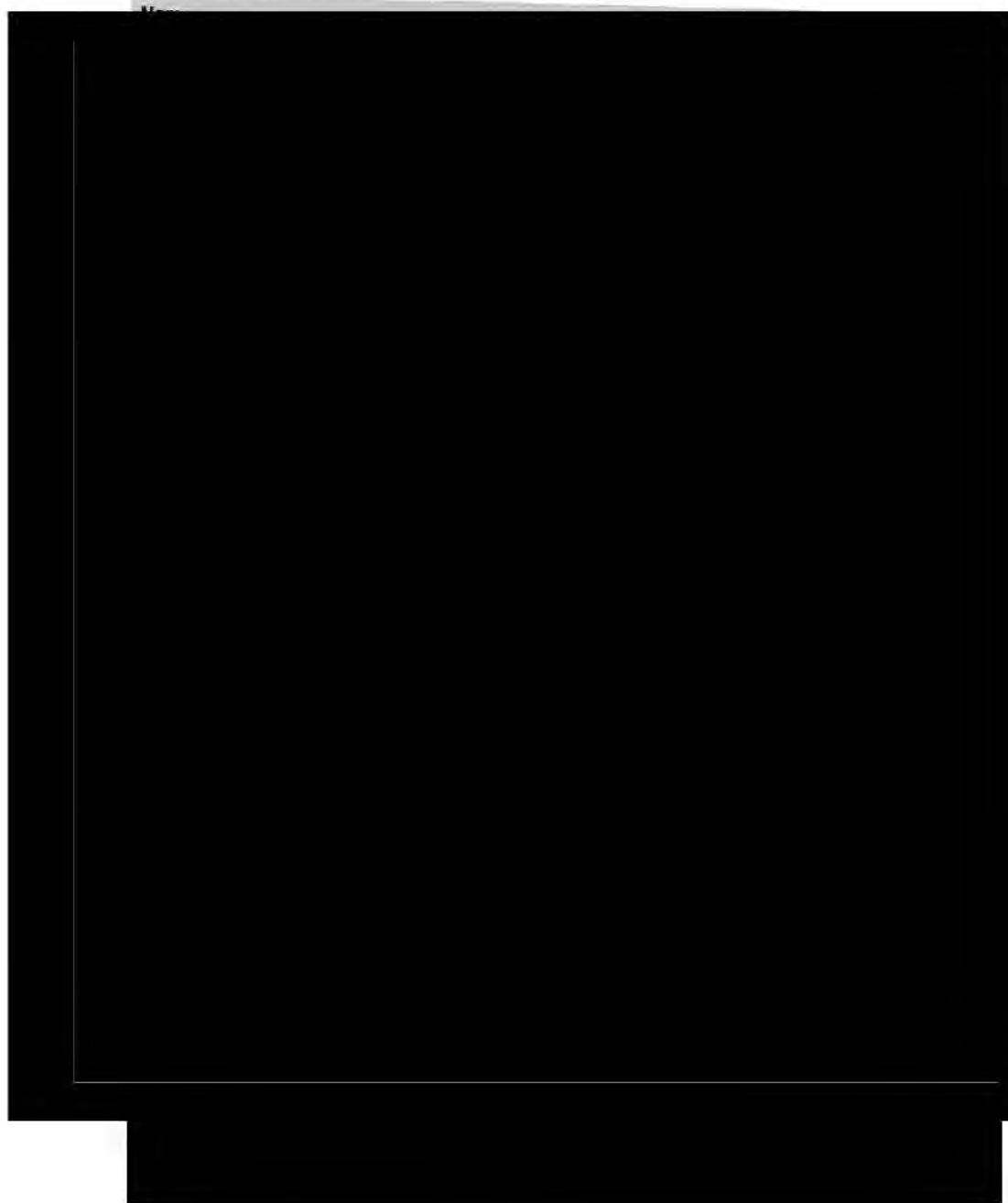
Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025



Blue Lantern Shellfish

Public Meeting Registration Form

Mahone Bay Centre
May 1st, 2025



RSVPs to May 1st Info Session via Eventbrite

Order date	Buyer first name	Buyer last name	Purchaser city

Appendix H: PowerPoint Slides from May 1st Meeting



contents

1. A day on the farm
2. Who we are
3. Option to lease phase
4. Our proposed farm
5. How you can participate



A day on the farm

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

3



Scallop Farmer Duncan Bates

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

4



Miss Sara at work off Snake Island

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

5



Checking spat bags

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

6





Scallop seed

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Reducing net density

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION





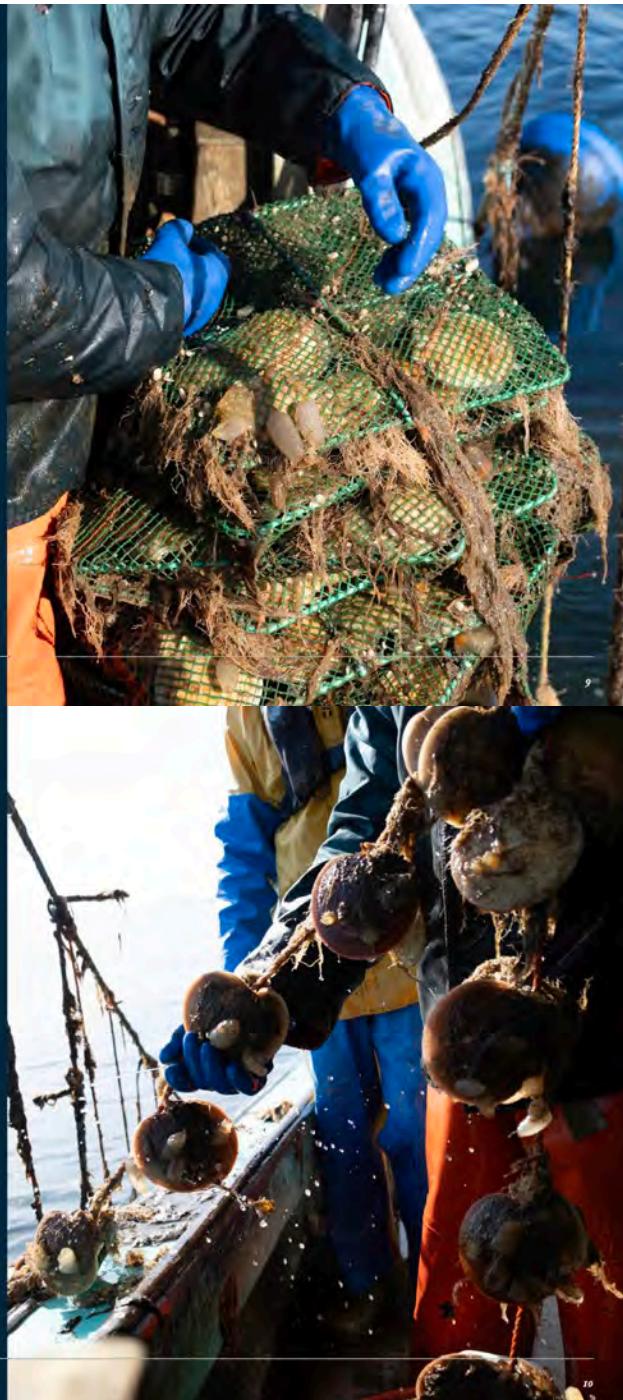
Harvesting from pearl nets

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Harvesting from ear hanging line

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION





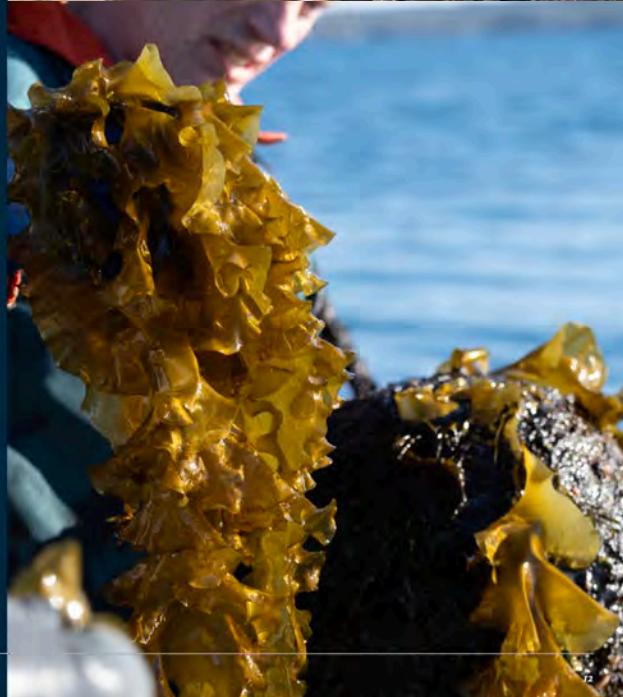
Cleaning shells

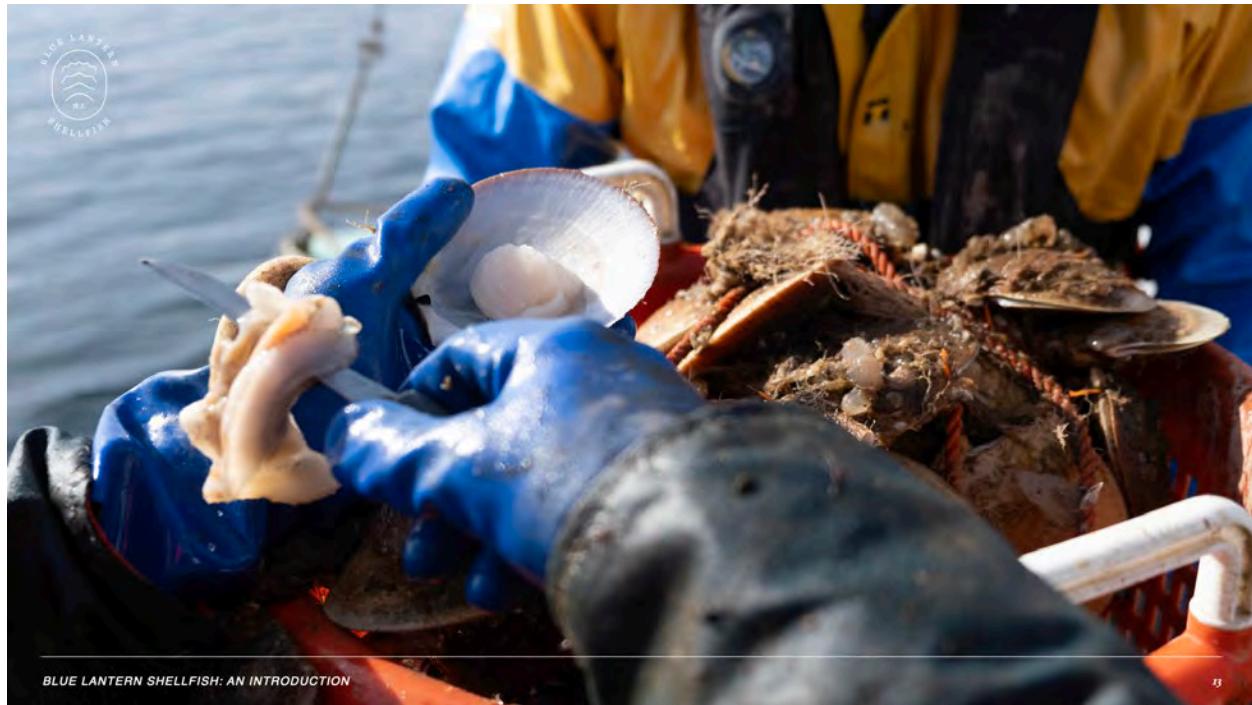
BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Naturally set kelp

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION





BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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Lantern nets



Kelp line

(Photo courtesy of the Ecology Action Centre)



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Who we are

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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Our Team

Paul MacInnis and Chaz Thorne are entrepreneurs from Nova Scotia who believe that scallop farming is a valuable and sustainable industry for our province.

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Chaz Thorne

- Filmmaker
- Strategic Planning
- FEED Nova Scotia

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



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Paul MacInnis

- Chef /Restaurateur
- Innkeeper
- Event Producer

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

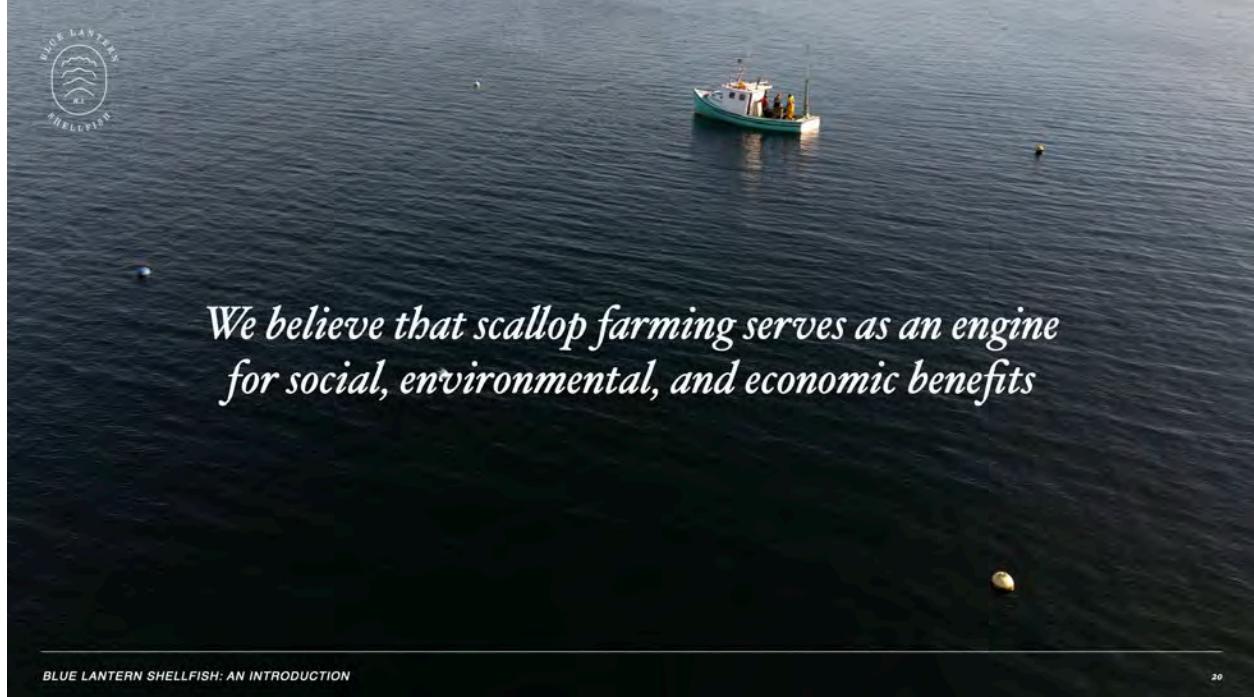
19



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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We believe that scallop farming serves as an engine for social, environmental, and economic benefits





Minimal impact on recreational users

- Small vessels can pass over the lease
- Large vessels can easily navigate past
- No horizontal lines near the surface

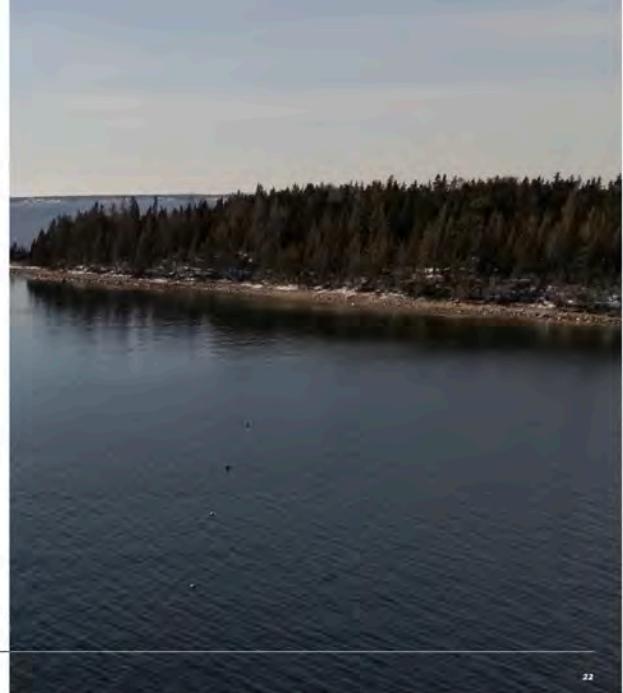
BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



Minimal impact on neighbours

- Quiet, unobtrusive operations conducted by small crews on small vessels
- Scallop lanterns hang well below the surface
- Minimal number of buoys visible on the surface

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION





Improves water quality

- Scallops naturally filter and clean the water
- No feed or supplements are required
- Zero chemical inputs into the marine environment

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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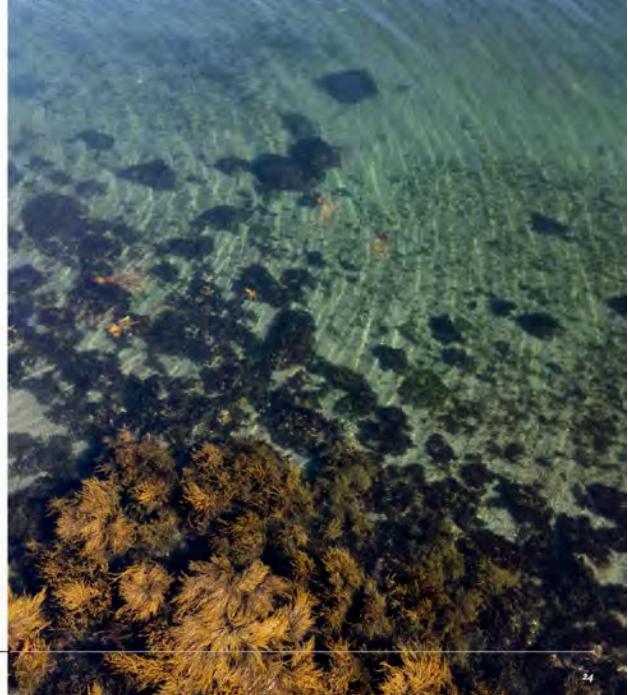


BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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Supports marine ecosystem

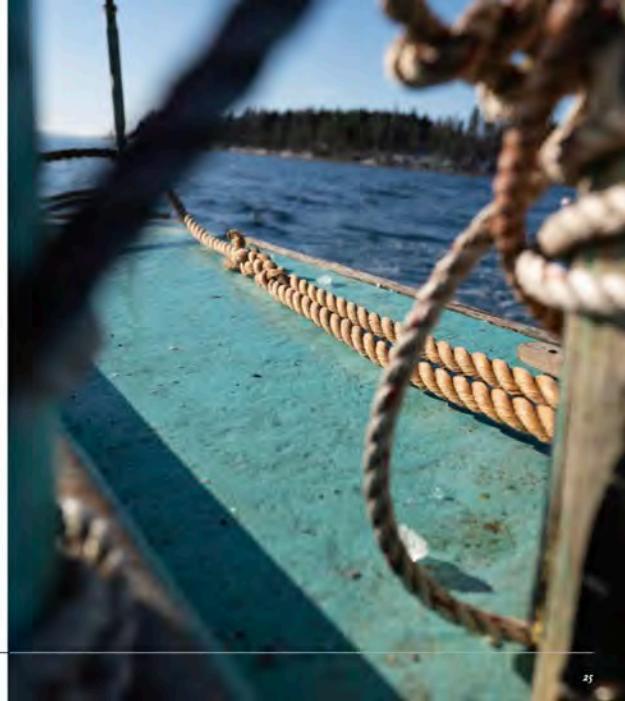
- Support for local marine biodiversity (essentially an artificial reef)
- Blue carbon sequestering
- Minimal seabed impact





Strengthens local economy

- Creates skilled middle-class jobs and opportunities for youth
- Diversifies local maritime economy
- Enhances food security with sustainable protein production



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

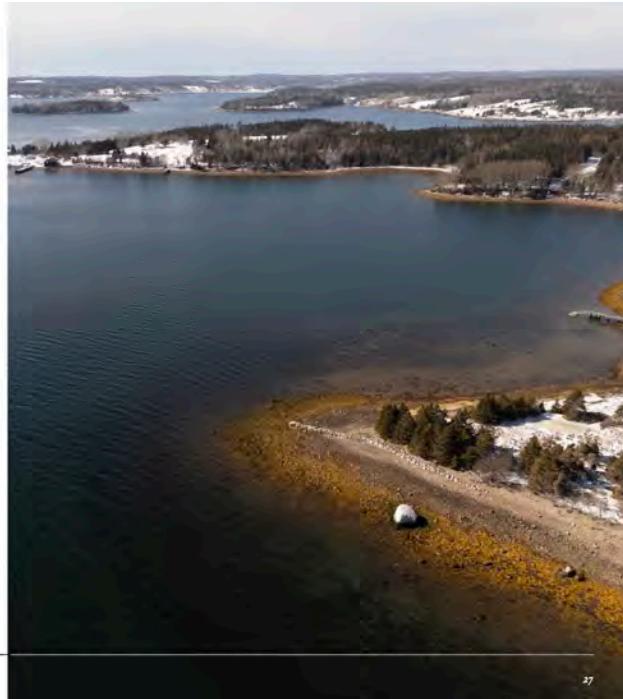
26

Option to Lease Phase



Current phase

During the option-to-lease phase, we consult with the community and do further scientific testing to identify the specific location(s) where the scallop farm will potentially be established.



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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What is the process for creating a shellfish farm in Nova Scotia?

Initial Application

+

WE ARE HERE ↓

Option to Lease

+

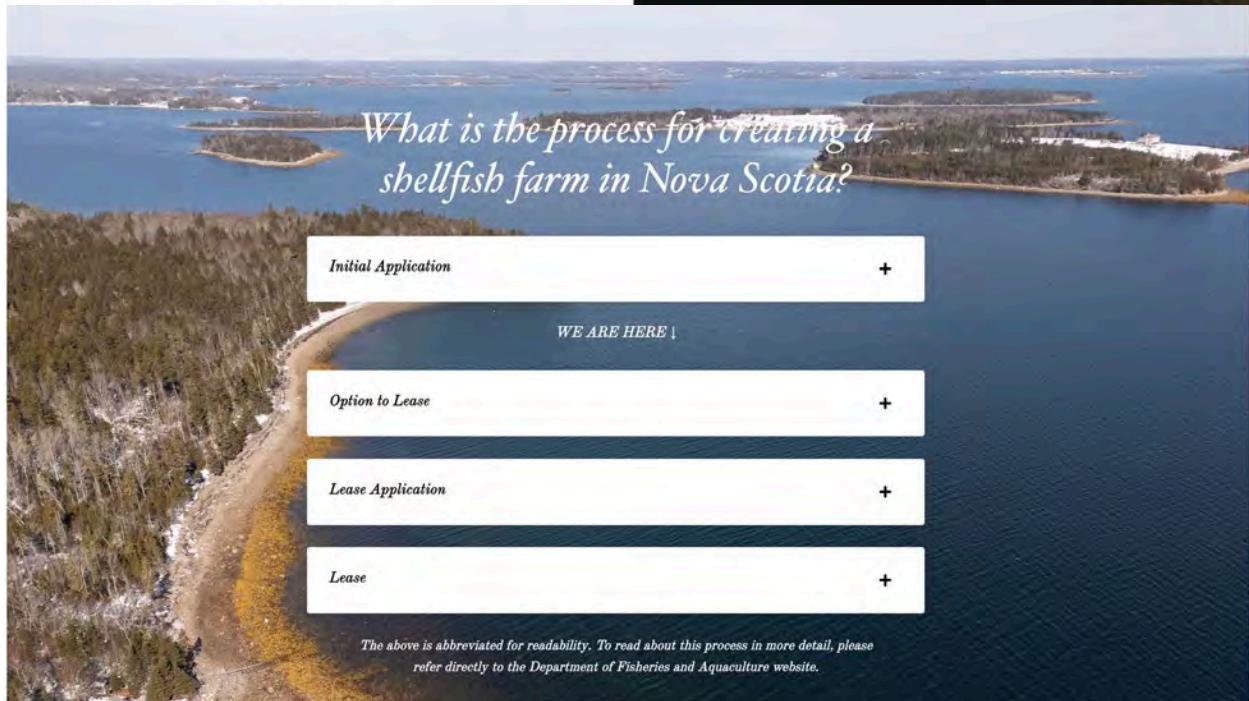
Lease Application

+

Lease

+

The above is abbreviated for readability. To read about this process in more detail, please refer directly to the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture website.



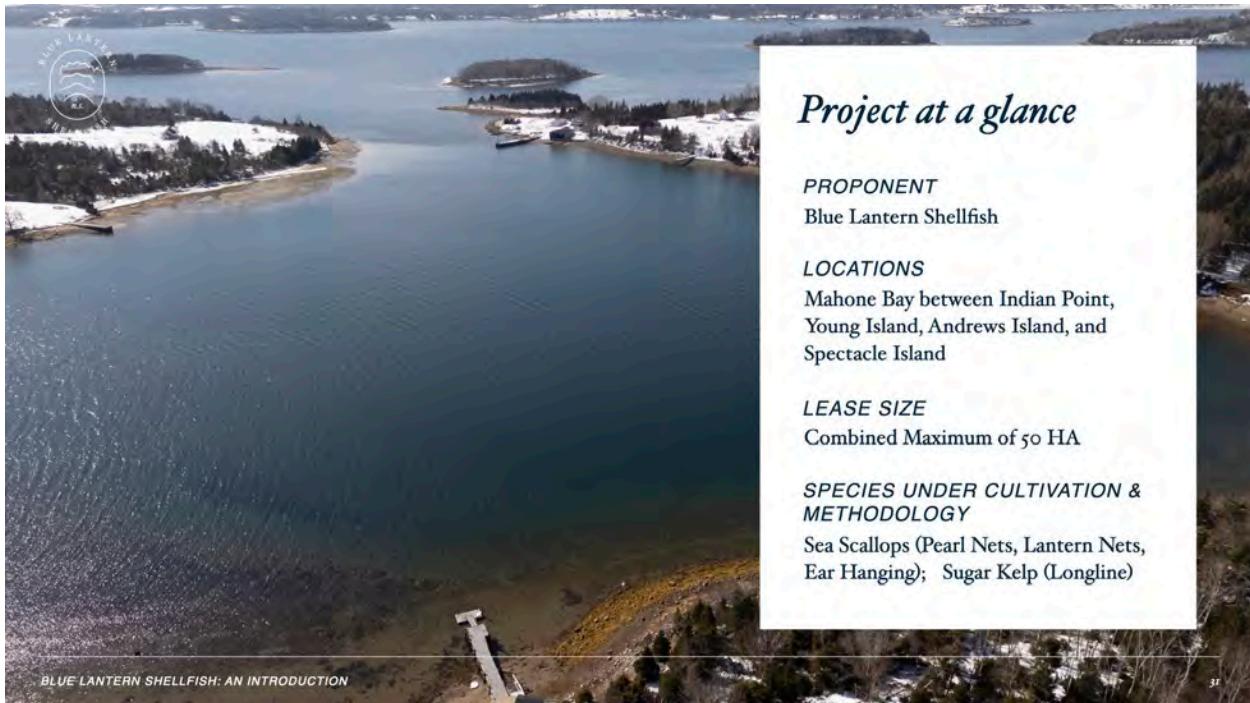


Scientific testing & recording

On the scientific side, we will ensure that the specific locations will result in the healthy growth of scallops without causing any environmental interference with other species. Below are some of the tasks we will undertake:

- Video recording of the seafloor at each corner of the proposed lease boundary
- Video recording of the seafloor conducted along three, equally spaced transects, each running the entire length of the proposed lease boundary
- Water current speed and direction
- Wind speeds and wave heights
- Bathymetry
- Water temperatures at rearing depths
- Salinity at rearing depths





PROPOUNDER

Blue Lantern Shellfish

LOCATIONS

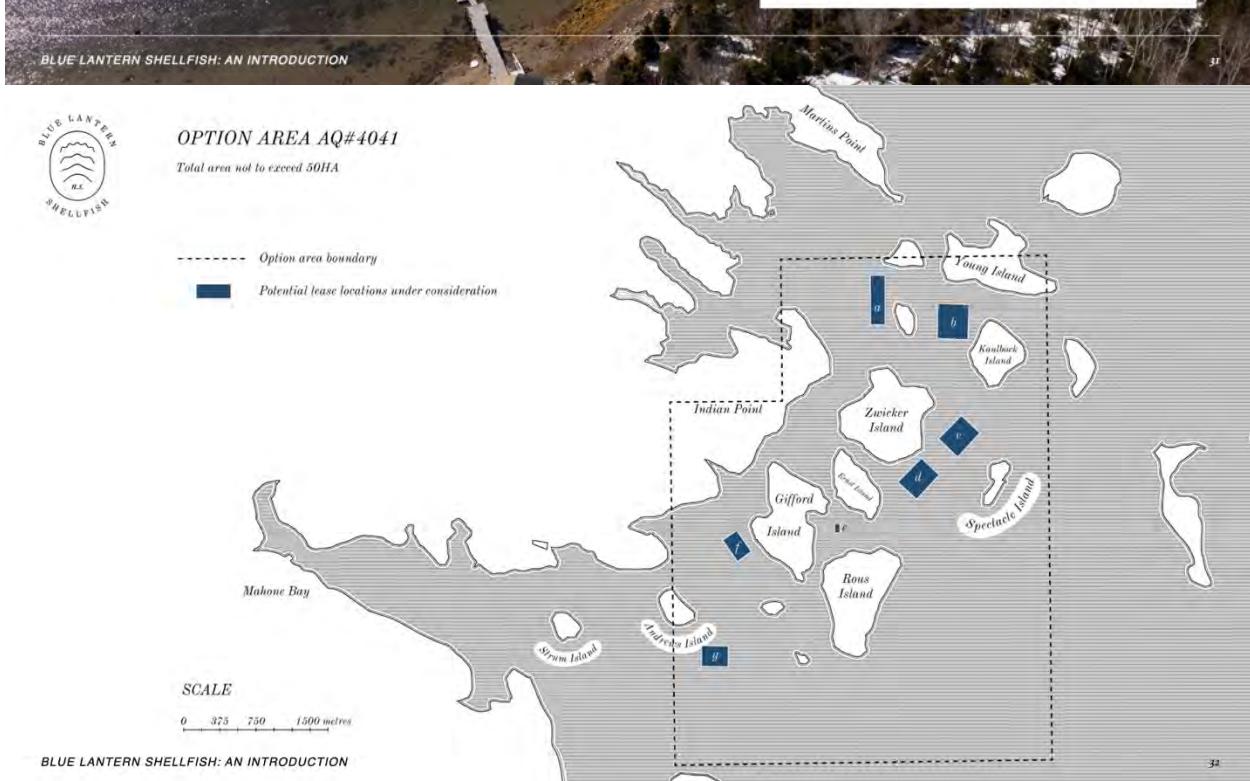
Mahone Bay between Indian Point, Young Island, Andrews Island, and Spectacle Island

LEASE SIZE

Combined Maximum of 50 HA

SPECIES UNDER CULTIVATION & METHODOLOGY

Sea Scallops (Pearl Nets, Lantern Nets, Ear Hanging); Sugar Kelp (Longline)





OPTION AREA AQ#4041

Total area not to exceed 50HA

----- Option area boundary

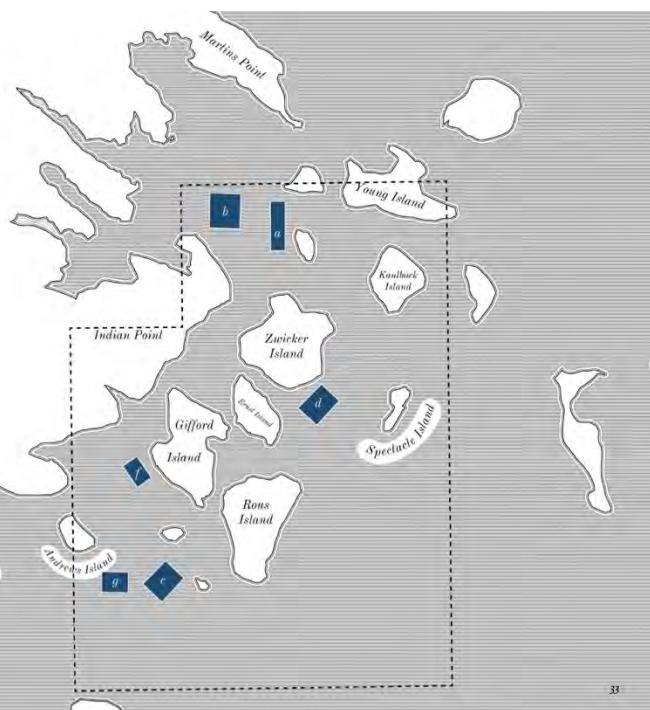
■ Potential lease locations under consideration

Mahone Bay

SCALE

0 375 750 1500 metres

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



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OPTION AREA AQ#4041

Total area not to exceed 50HA

----- Option area boundary

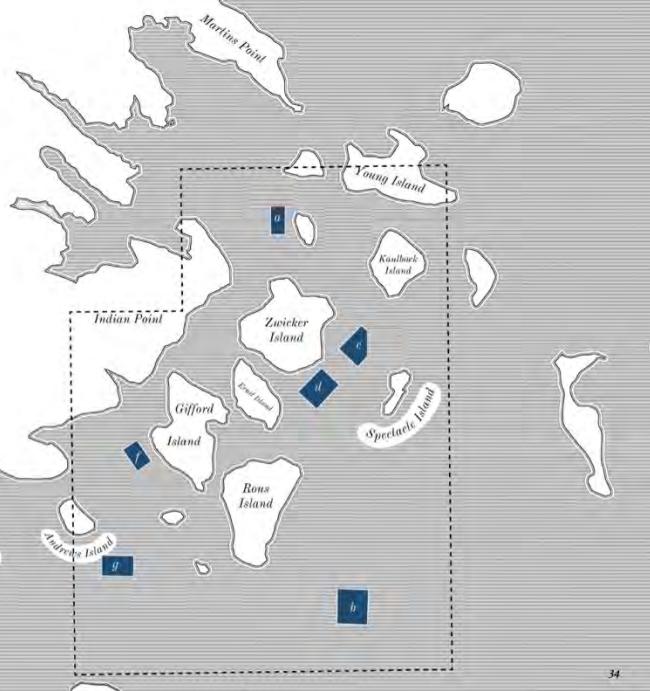
■ Potential lease locations under consideration

Mahone Bay

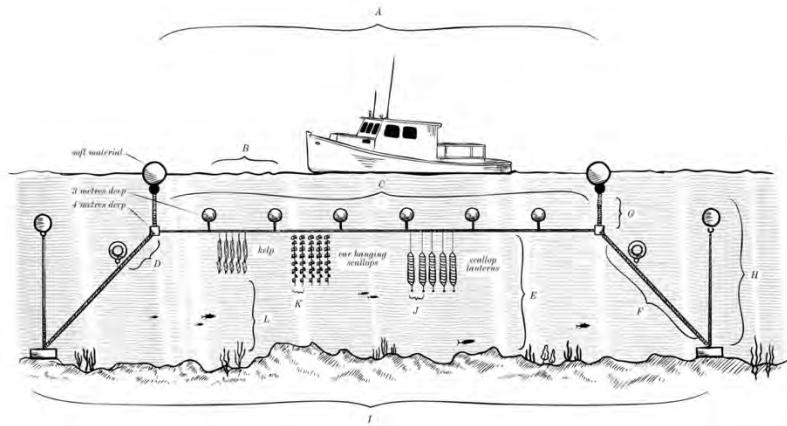
SCALE

0 375 750 1500 metres

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



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SCALLOP LANTERN, EAR HANGING & KELP GROWLINES

—	5/8 inch growline	
—	1 inch anchor line	
○	Submerged groundline flotation buoy	
○	Tension buoy	
○	Retrieval buoy	
○	Anchor line buoy	
■	Anchor	
<hr/>		
A	Groundline footprint	105m
B	Groundline flotation buoy spacing	15m
C	Groundline length	100m
D	Tension buoy spacing	5m
E	Groundline clearance (low tide)	site specific
F	Anchor rope length	site specific
G	Groundline depth	site specific
H	Water depth	site specific
I	Array length	site specific
J	Lantern downline spacing	1m
K	Ear downline spacing	0.5m
L	Kelp clearance (low tide)	site specific

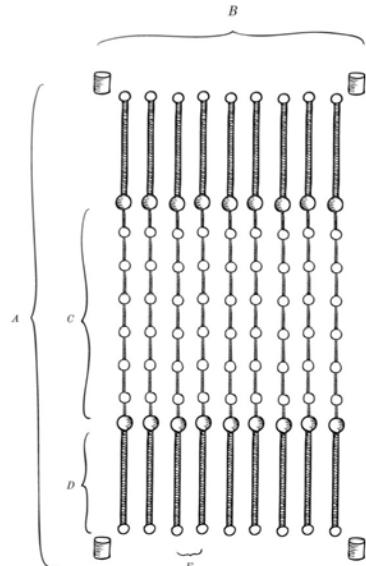


Anchor placement and mooring line length will be based on water depth, currents, and other relevant factors. This illustration is not to scale.

—	5/8 inch growline (submerged)
—	1 inch anchor line (submerged)
○	Growline flotation buoy (submerged)
○	Mooring (submerged)
○	Anchor line buoy (visible)
○	Corner marker buoy (visible)

A	Array length	200m
B	Lease width	100m
C	Growline length	100m
D	Mooring length (depth = 15m)	45m
E	Growline spacing	10m
	Total area	2HA
	Area under cultivation	1HA

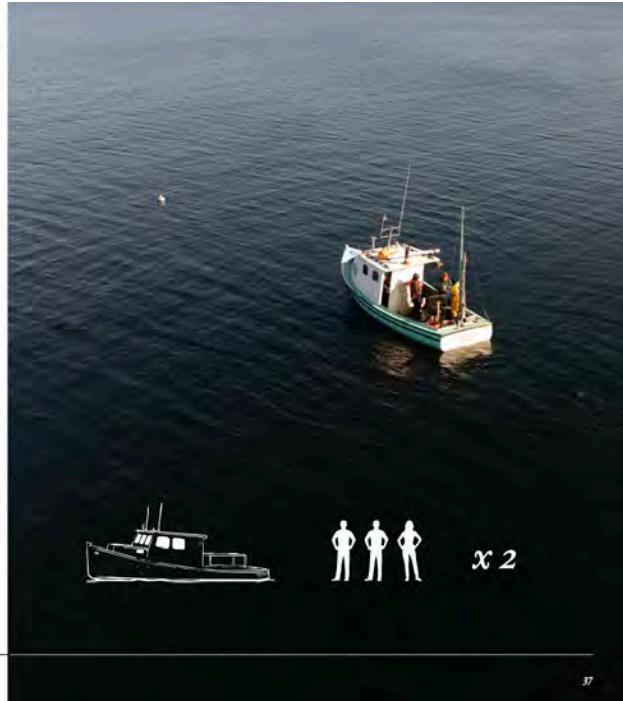
BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF GROWLINE ARRAY





Peak on-farm activity (est. 2030-2032)

- 2 Vessels
- 3 Crew per work vessel
- Quiet equipment
- No bright lights
- Preference for early morning work
- Work done when winds are low



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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Examples of Received Feedback



Frequently Raised Concerns

- Boating and navigation hazards
- Impact on local races
- Environmental impact
- Aesthetics
- Implications for tourism
- Implications for property valuations



BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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IPYC Course Chart: Class A



MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes Class A



- Submitted by IPCY Representative

IPYC Course Chart: Class B

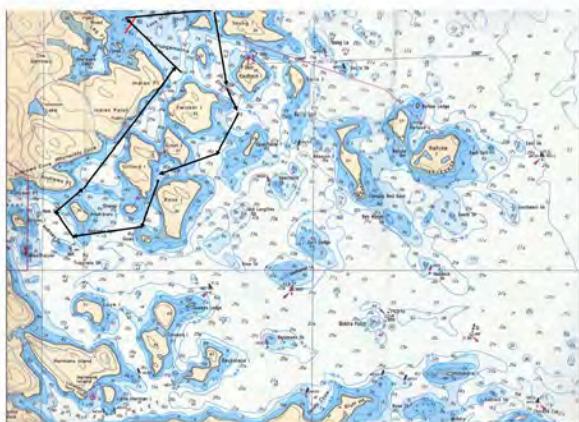


MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes Class B



- Submitted by IPCY Representative

IPYC Course Chart: Class C

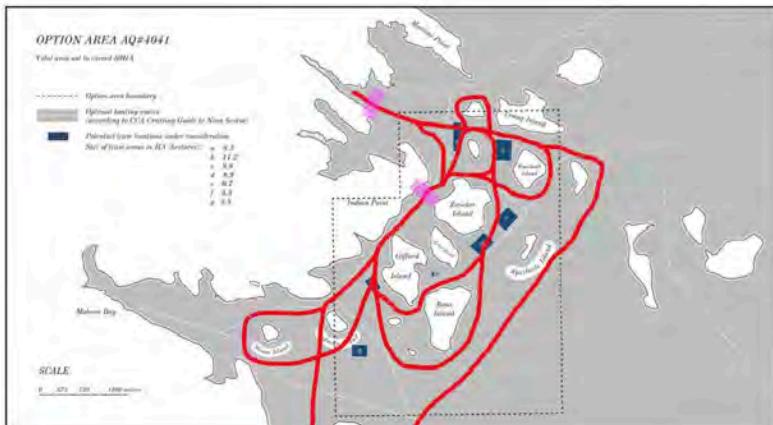


MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes course C



- Submitted by IPCY Representative

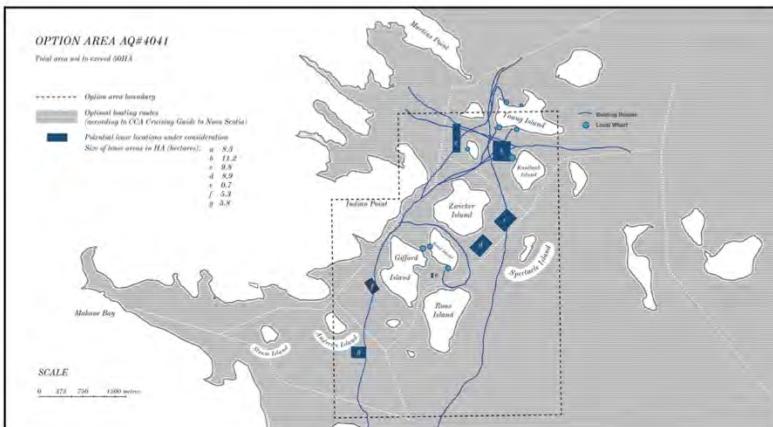
IPYC Course Chart: Collective Routes



- Submitted by IPCY Member

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IPYC Course Chart: Collective Routes



- Submitted by Young Island Resident

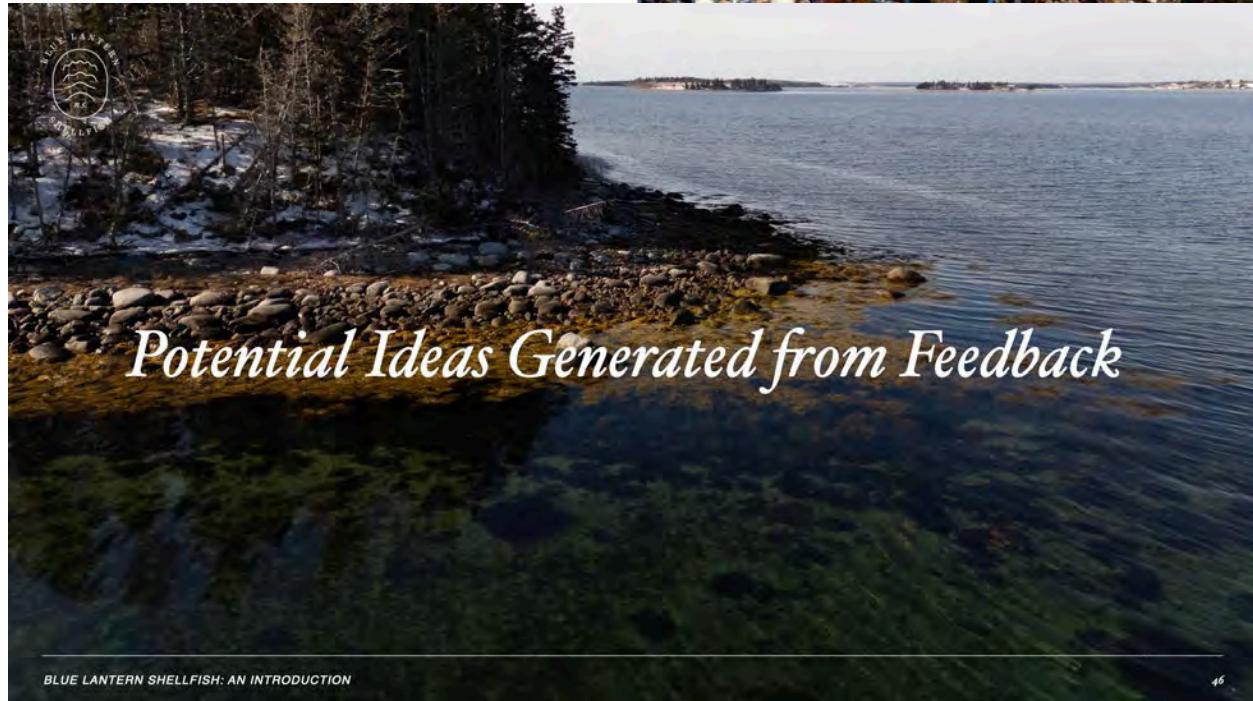
44



Examples of Positive Feedback

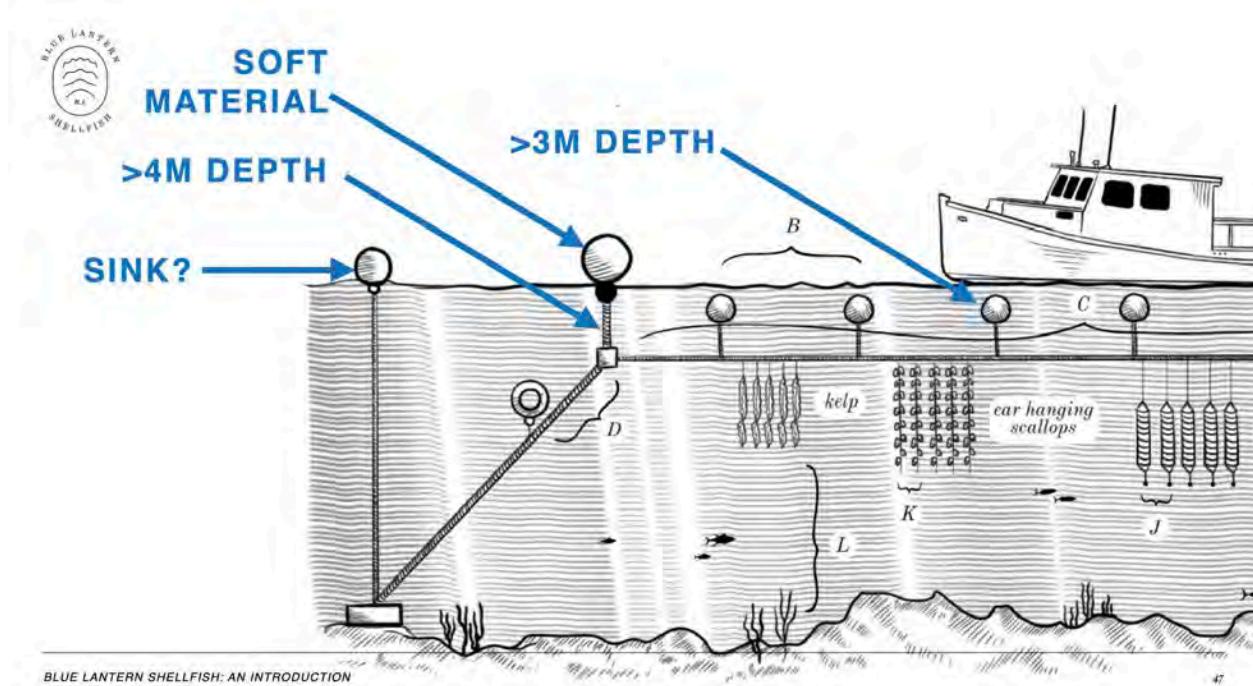
- Satisfaction with accommodation of pleasure boats
- Satisfaction with environmental impact
- Satisfaction in impact on local economy

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION



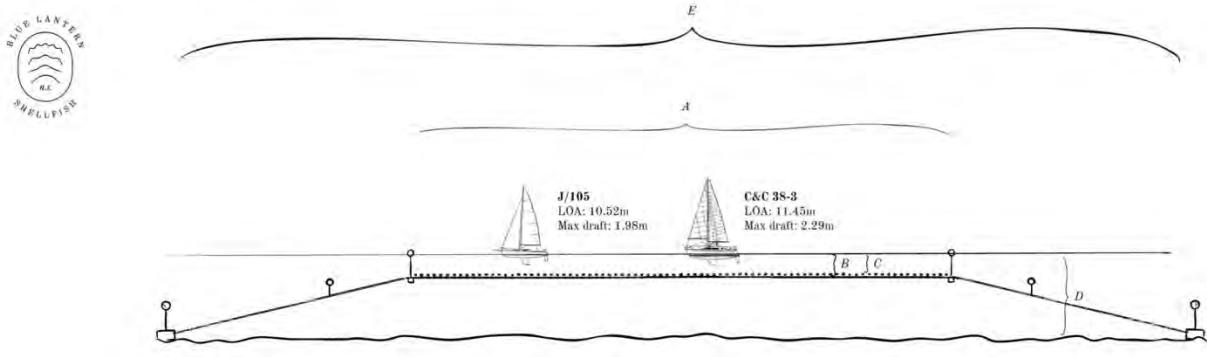
BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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—	5/8 inch growline (submerged)	A	Growline length	100m
—	1 inch anchor line (submerged)	B	Minimum growline clearance (low tide)	4.0m
○	Growline flotation buoy (submerged)	C	Minimum top of flotation buoy clearance	3.5m
○	Tension buoy (submerged)	D	Farm depth (low tide)	15m
○	Mooring retrieval buoy (submerged)	E	Array length	200m
○	Anchor line buoy (visible)			10m

CONCEPT: SCALED ARRAY
WITH SAILBOAT DRAFTS

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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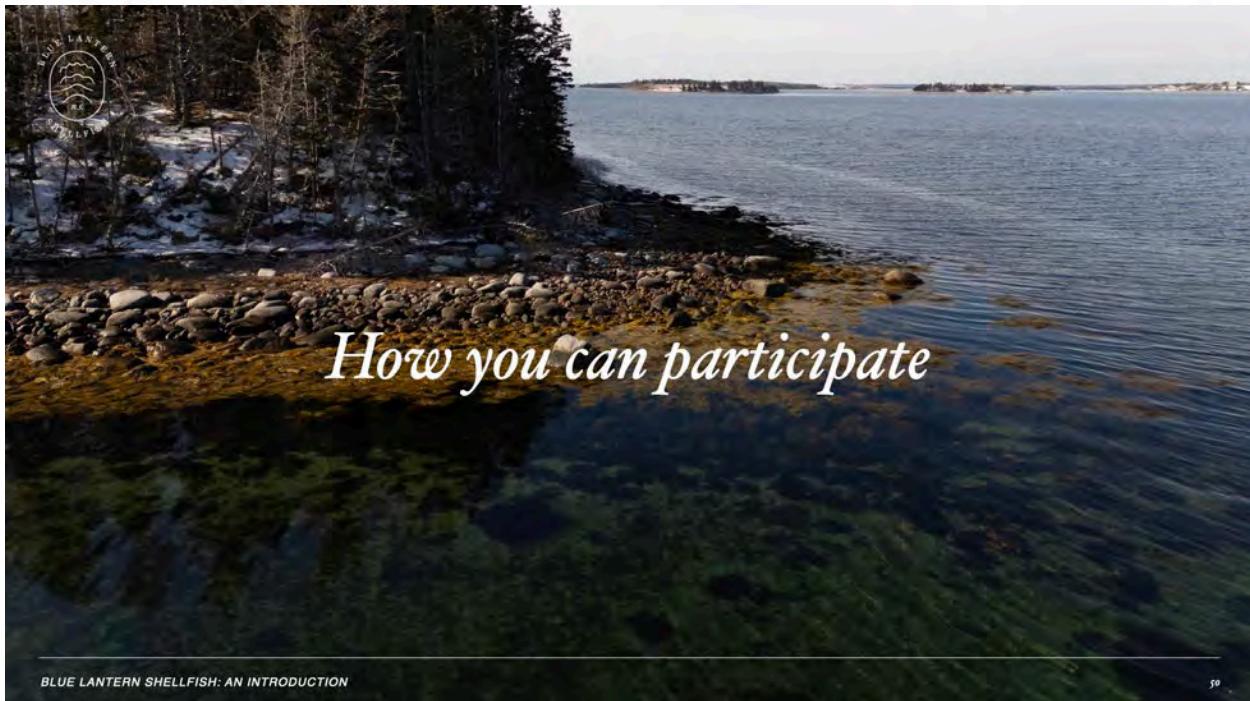
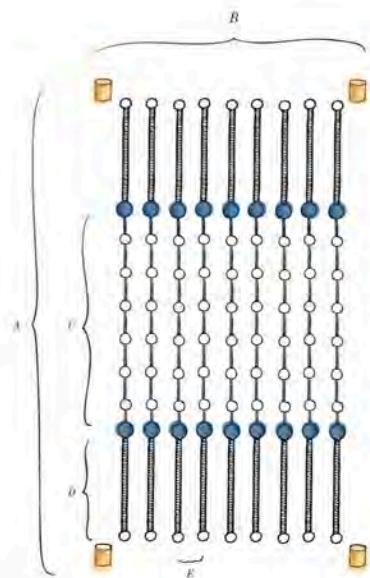


Anchors placement and mooring line length will be based on water depth, currents, and other relevant factors. This illustration is not to scale.

- $5/8$ inch growline (submerged)
- 1 inch anchor line (submerged)
- Growline flotation buoy (submerged)
- Mooring (submerged)
- Anchor line buoy (visible)
- Corner marker buoy (visible)

A	Array length	200m
B	Lease width	100m
C	Growline length	100m
D	Mooring length (depth = 15m)	45m
E	Growline spacing	10m
	Total area	2HA
	Area under cultivation	1HA

BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF GROWLINE ARRAY



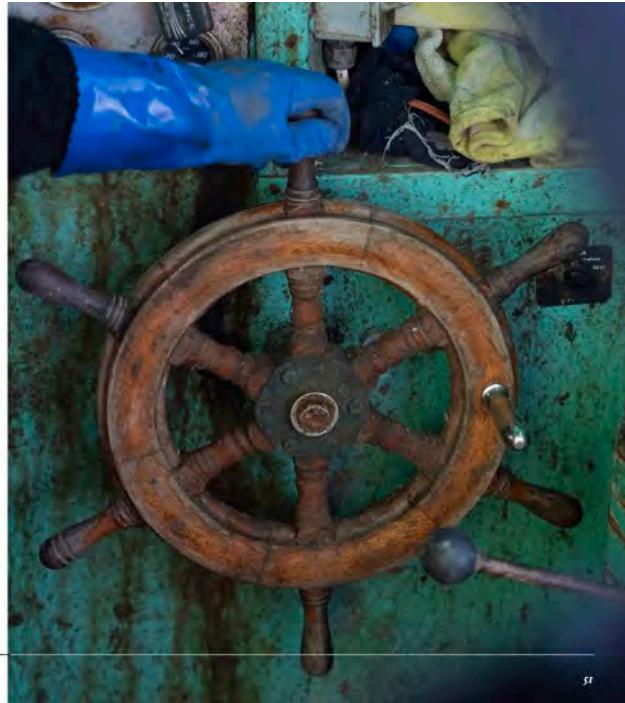


Here's how you can participate in this process:

- Fill out a public comment form
- Email a letter of concern
- Email a letter of support

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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What will happen when you submit a letter or form:

- We will respond in a timely manner
- This information will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Your comments may be made public by the department
- Your input will be considered as we refine our lease application (the next step in the process)

BLUE LANTERN SHELLFISH: AN INTRODUCTION

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bluelantern.ca

Paul MacInnis
paul@bluelantern.ca

Chaz Thorne
chaz@bluelantern.ca



Thank you!

Appendix I: Petition

An online petition was created by a project opponent, and a hard copy of it was handed to us at the Public Meeting on May 1, which is included below.

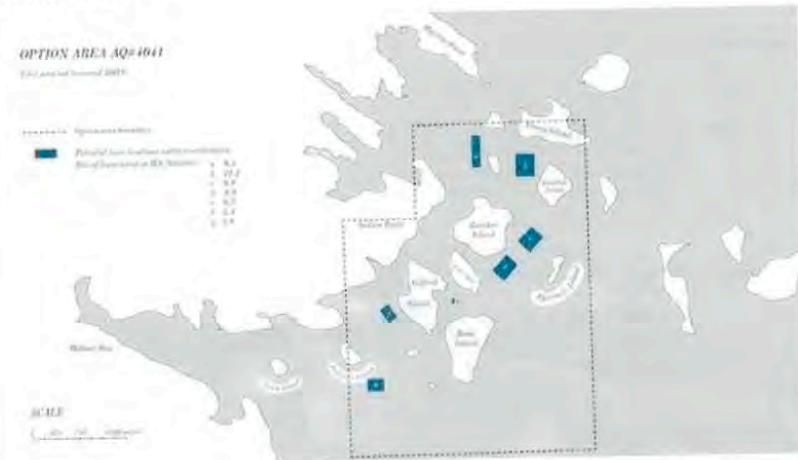
We include it here for information only, as we have no way of verifying whether the individuals signing are actual stakeholders and no way of hearing and addressing their specific concerns directly.

The statements within the petition are either inappropriate (i.e. the expectation of the public release of private financial information) or reveal a lack of knowledge of the aquaculture leasing process and its requirements in Nova Scotia.

Any legitimate concerns were previously vetted by NSDFA in the option to lease process or will be by various provincial and federal departments in the leasing process.

Petition: No to the Blue Lantern Scallop Farm

(<https://chng.it/V6kSNqHTRt>)



The Issue

No to the Mahone Bay, Blue Lantern Shellfish Scallop Farm Proposal

We the undersigned citizens of the Mahone Bay surrounding area, as well as area sailors and boaters, vehemently object to the Blue Lantern scallop farm proposal.

The main concern

- The proposed location is in a highly trafficked sailing and boating area, an area also used for island access to local residents. The location is inconceivable in logic, when considering the many options to farm scallops away from such a populous community and sailing/boating area.
- The sheer scale of the proposed scallop farm in such a highly trafficked and populated recreational and residential area is disrespectful and offensive to the local community and its stakeholders. The proposal and project is completely ill conceived. The proposal comprises of seven highly trafficked locations totaling 50 hectares, which when putting it into perspective is the equivalent of over 70 soccer fields.

Additional concerns

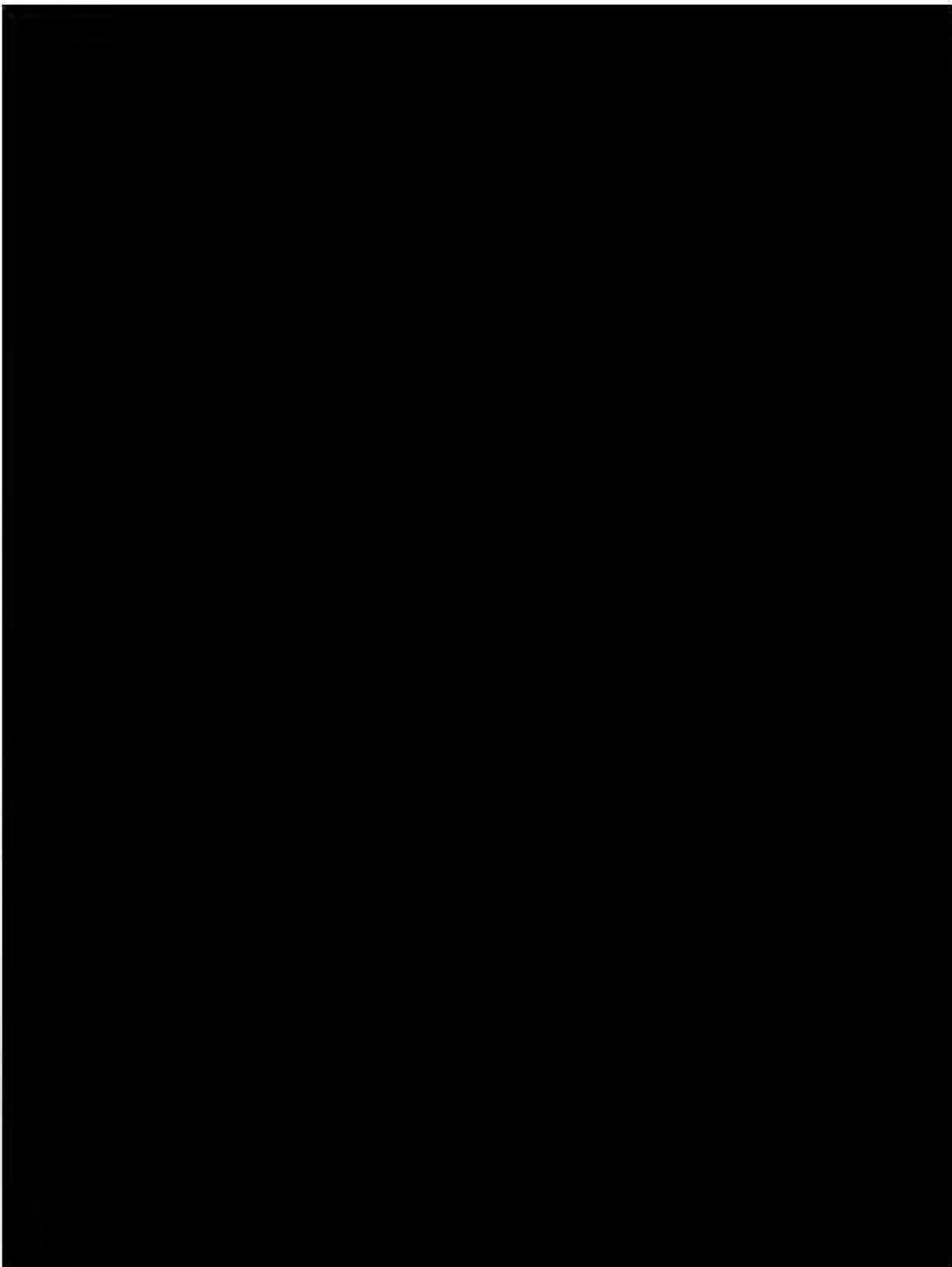
- No land staging station has been identified.
- No boat and equipment plan has been contemplated.

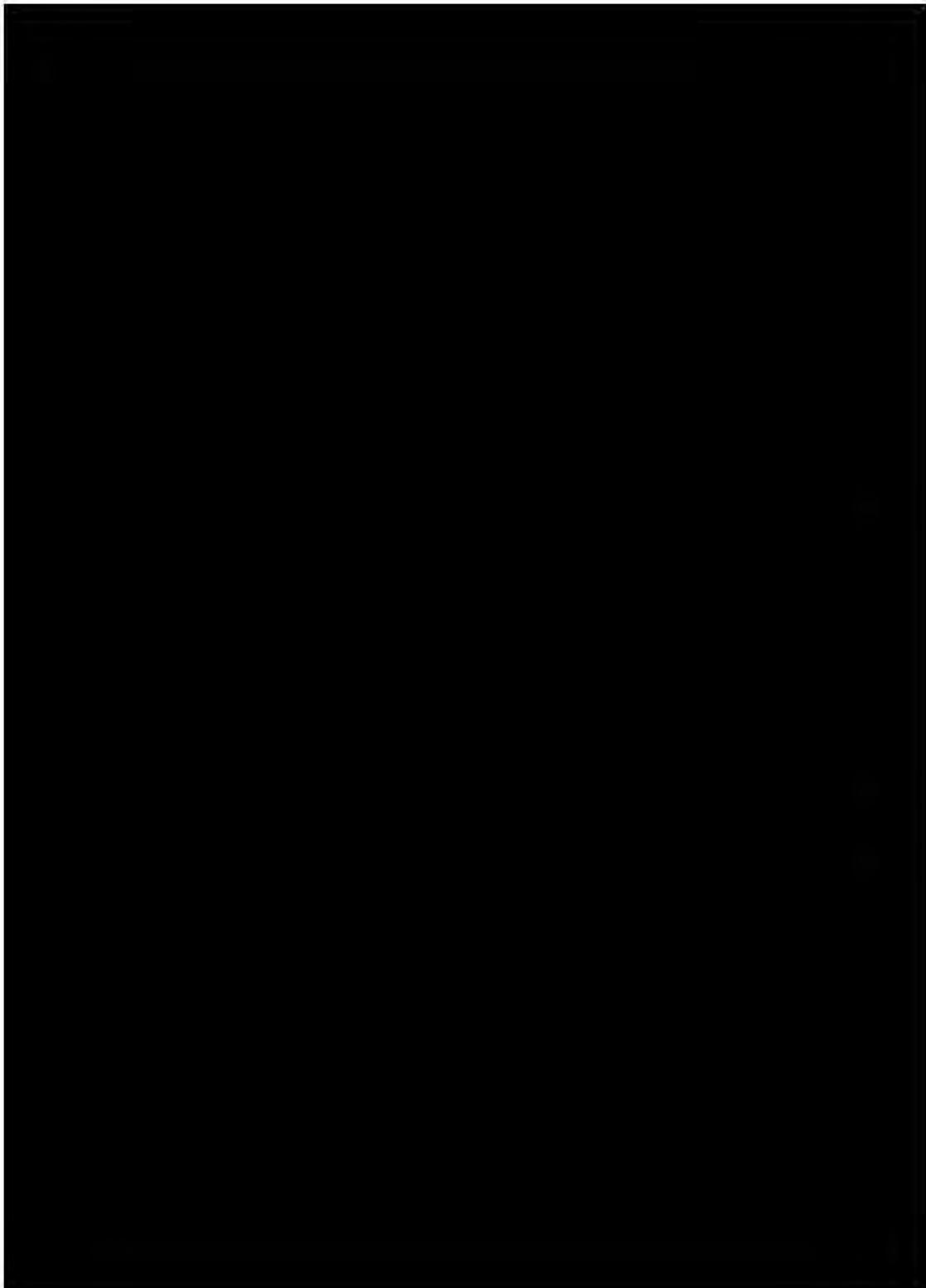
- o The promoters are not from the community and have no knowledge of the marine area or traffic.
- o The promoters have no marine or aquaculture experience, and as such should not be granted a license of this scale and scope.
- o The promoters have not disclosed to the community their financial plan to capitalize a project of this scale, one that is very capital intensive, and will likely be cash negative for close to 5 years.
- o The promoters have not disclosed to the community the source and scale of their financing.
- o A project of this scale has a high potential for failure for a number of reasons, including but not limited to; mismanagement, disease, financing, weather events and more. No financial contingency plan for failure, has been shared with the community, if in fact one exists. A cleanup of a failed farm of this size is massive, can have dire ecological consequences and could be very expensive, not a cost that taxpayers should have to bear the brunt of.

Proposed sites and size, not sure they are to scale but this is directly from the Blue Lantern Shellfish (<https://www.bluelantern.ca/>).

As of May 1, 2025 at 1330hrs this petition has the following signatures:







Appendix J: Meeting with MICA Board

7 pm-8:30 pm, April 14th, 2025

Anglican Parish of Mahone Bay, 14 Parish Street, Mahone Bay

Presenter: Paul MacInnis

Meeting Summary

Overview:

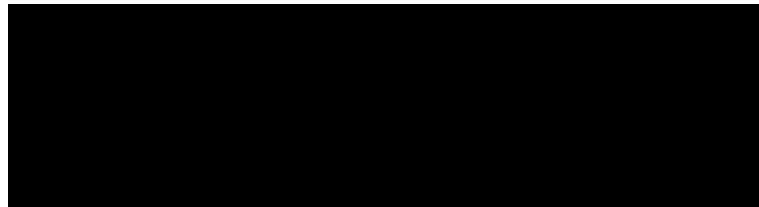
The meeting was generally positive, with strong interest in the presentation about the proposed farm. Attendees were engaged and attentive throughout. They were particularly focused on the map section of the presentation.

The consensus of the board seemed to be that scallop farming is excellent; however, they feel the option area is not suitable because there's excessive recreational boating activity.

The most vocal opponent took a maximalist position – this is their water, and they don't want to share it with other users.

A list of MICA islands was provided (see below).

Attendees:





MICA MISSION:

To protect and conserve the natural environment of the islands and shoreline of Mahone Bay and the traditional, social and recreational opportunities valued by its various communities.

MICA WEB SITE: www.mahoneislands.ns.ca

MICA FORMATION:

- Formed by local residents in 2003 in response to the accelerated private development of many of the Mahone Bay islands.
- Registered non-profit society with charitable status. Volunteer Board of Directors and volunteer work efforts.

MICA PARTNERED ISLAND AND SHORELINE PROPERTY ACQUISITIONS and DONATIONS: (Reference photos on back)

PROJECT	TIMING	ACQUISITION PARTNER	TITLE HOLDER
• Andrews Island	Fall 2005	PNS	PNS
• Backmans Island	Spring 2007	PNS	PNS
• Covey Island	Spring 2007	PNS	PNS
• Masons Island (northern end)	Fall 2007	MODL	MODL
• Long, Dry, Snipe and Centre Islands	Fall 2007	Donation by LIPS	PNS
• Sacrifice Island	Spring 2009	PNS	PNS
• Shag Island	Spring 2012	PNS	PNS
• Bella Island	Fall 2013	PNS	PNS
• Masons Island (big cove and center)	Fall 2014	MODL, PNS	PNS
• Little Duck Island	Fall 2014	MICA	PNS
• Squid Island	Spring 2015	PNS	PNS
• Goat Island	Spring 2015	Donation by the McLennan family	PNS
• Zwicker Island property	Fall 2016	Donation by the Cluett family	PNS
• Zwicker Island property	Fall 2016	Donation by the Court family	PNS
• Ernst Island property	Fall 2016	Donation by the Reynolds family	PNS
• Snake, Lynch, Quaker Islands	Spring 2017	NCC	NCC
• Moland Point lots	Fall 2017	Donation by the late Rudy Haase	MOC
• Sheep Island	Spring 2018	NCC	NCC
• Oakland Waterfront Property	Fall 2020	MODL	MODL
• Birch Island	Spring 2022	MOC, PNS	PNS
• Chockle Cap	Spring 2024	PNS	PNS
• PUBLIC MOORINGS	Fall 2022/Spring 2023/4	MODL, PNS	MODL

PNS: Province of Nova Scotia

NCC: Nature Conservancy of Canada

LIPS: Long Island Preservation Society

MODL: Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

MOC: Municipality of Chester

MICA FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARDS ACQUISITIONS:

- MICA has contributed over \$1,700,000 towards the acquisition of the above properties.

MICA MEMBERSHIP:

- MICA's membership goal is that all who enjoy MICA properties are members. \$ 25 per person. \$500 lifetime.

MICA FUNDRAISING:

- Annual Gala Fall Dinner and Auction. (GDA) - Our major annual fundraiser. November 10 this year.
- Corporate Support program.
- Donations and financial campaigns for specific projects.

ISLAND STEWARDSHIP:

- MICA stewards the properties in partnership with the title holder to ensure their usage is monitored and respected.
- MICA's stewardship goal is that the property users are the property stewards.

YOU CAN HELP BY:

- Joining MICA. Annual membership is \$25 per person or \$500 for lifetime membership.
- Making a general donation for future acquisitions or to support our Public Mooring Program.
- Becoming a Corporate Supporter.

Appendix K: Correspondence Groups, Clubs and Officials

Overview

A key part of our public engagement was to communicate and work with local officials and community leaders. We did this throughout the scoping period. Samples of templates used for this outreach can be found below.

We documented our outreach in the table below. In many cases, our initial contact led to multiple emails back and forth, often with additional parties Cc'd to the conversation. In some cases, the correspondence led to an informal phone call, coffee meeting, or video call. In one case, it led to us presenting our plan at a lunch and learn hosted by a MICA board member.

Most people supported shellfish aquaculture overall, but warned us that we may face strong opposition from various third parties interested in recreational boating. Throughout this process, we encouraged participation by asking people to fill out a form or upload a document on our website.

A few people expressed concerns about the environmental impact of scallop farming. These concerns led to a conversation about the environmental benefits of scallop farming and clarification about the difference between this and other forms of aquaculture.

Table of Correspondence to Groups, Clubs and Officials

1	Name	Organization	Email Sent	Met / Called
2		Harbour Authority of Indian Point		3-31-2025
3		Exisiting Lease Holders		2-28-2025
4		Exisiting Lease Holders	2-25-2025	
5		Lobster / Lease Holders	2-14-2025	
6		Exisiting Lease Holders		2-28-2025
7		Exisiting Lease Holders		2-28-2025
8		Port cluster for Indian Point/ Mahone Bay LFA 33	3-25-2025	
9	Susan Corkum Greek	MLA	2-10-2025	
10	Admin	Mahone Bay Civic Marina	2-25-2025	
11	Admin	Gold River Marine	2-25-2025	
12		Healthy Bays Network	2-16-2025	
13		Ecology Action Centre	2-18-2025	
14		Ecology Action Centre / Healthy Bays Network		5-1-2025
15		Twin Bays Coalition	2-18-2025	
16		Mahone Islands Conservation Association	2-20-2025	
17	Mayor Suzanne Lohnes-Croft	Mayor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
18	Deputy Mayor Colin Kingsmill	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
19	Councillor Penny Carver	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
20	Councillor Joseph Feeney	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
21	Councillor Bryan Palfreyman	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
22	Councillor Rebecca Twanow	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
23	Councillor Kelly Wilson	Councillor	Town Council of Mahone Bay	2-25-2025
24	Dave Waters	Economic Dev Officer	MODL	2-19-2025
25		Coastal Action Foundation		2-25-2025
26		Mi'kmaq Conservation Group		2-19-2025
27		Ecology Action Centre		2-10-2025
28	Blair Veniot		NSDFA, Marine Industry Liason Officer	6-24-2024
29			Nova Scotia Coastal Coalition	2-16-2025
30			Nova Scotia Nature Trust	2-18-2025
31	Elspeth McLean-Wile	Mayor	MODL	2-25-2025
32	Morgen Reinhhardt	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
33	Martin Bell	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
34	Wendy Oickle	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
35	Pam Hubley	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
36	Cathy Moore	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
37	Edgar Burns	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
38	Allison Smith	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
39	Ben Brooks	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
40	Kacy DeLong	Councillor	MODL	2-25-2025
41	Chasidy Veinolte	Deputy Mayor	MODL	2-25-2025
42		Twin Bays Coalition		3-28-2025
43		MICA		4-15-2025
44		Indian Point Yacht Club		3-28-2025
45		Indian Point Fire Captain		4-3-2025
46		Indian Point Fire Hall Events		4-21-2025
47		Manager	Lunenburg Yacht Club	3-28-2025
48			GNS First Nations Policy Making and Analysis	3-31-2025

Template for Letters to Yacht and Sailing Clubs

Dear NAME,

I'm writing you on behalf of Blue Lantern Shellfish. We are proposing a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay and want to invite the community to participate in the process.

We know your members have a special relationship with the area, and we want to make sure they feel seen and heard during this process.

We believe scallop farming can positively impact society, the environment, and the economy. However, we understand that not everyone shares these beliefs, and we want to ensure the community is well-informed about our proposed farm and has an opportunity to share their thoughts.

If you visit our website, bluelantern.ca, you will find an overview of our farm and places to fill out a public comment form or upload a letter of concern or support.

We will also hold several in-person events in the community. We'll host a casual coffee and conversation session at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 pm or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm.

Finally, we invite you and your members to attend our official public information meeting on May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium.

We would appreciate any opportunity to share our vision with your members and hear their feedback.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
L Paul MacInnis
Blue Lantern Shellfish

Template for Letters to Conservation Groups

Dear NAME,

I hope this note finds you well. [REDACTED] gave me your contact info and suggested I get in touch.

I'm writing you on behalf of Blue Lantern Shellfish. We are proposing a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay and want to invite the community to participate in the process.

We know that ORGANIZATION members have a special relationship with the area, and we want to make sure they feel seen and heard during this process.

We believe scallop farming can positively impact society, the environment, and the economy. However, we understand that not everyone shares these beliefs, and we want to ensure the community is well-informed about our proposed farm and has an opportunity to share their thoughts.

If you visit our website, bluelantern.ca, you will find an overview of our farm and places to fill out a public comment form or upload a letter of concern or support.

We will also hold several in-person events in the community. We'll host a casual coffee and conversation session at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 pm or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm.

Finally, we invite you and your members to attend our official public information meeting on May 1 at 6:30 pm at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium.

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns. I would appreciate any opportunity to share our vision with your members and hear their feedback.

Sincerely,
L Paul MacInnis
Blue Lantern Shellfish

Template for Letters to the Elected Officials

Dear NAME,

I hope you are doing well. I am writing to you on behalf of Blue Lantern Shellfish. We are proposing a sustainable scallop farming operation in Mahone Bay, focused on minimal environmental impact and maximum community benefit.

As part of the option to lease process, we are taking this opportunity to inform area residents and officials about our project and collect their feedback.

We will focus heavily on public engagement over the next several months and would appreciate your guidance and insight as we proceed.

I'd be happy to meet with the Council and answer any questions that you may have or meet with you individually.

If you would prefer to meet with me individually, please feel free to correspond in any way that is convenient:

-Reply to this email

-Call me at 902-220-3928

-Request an in-person or video meeting

We are in the process of scheduling a public meeting and will send you an invitation once we confirm the date and location.

I want to thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Kind regards,

Paul

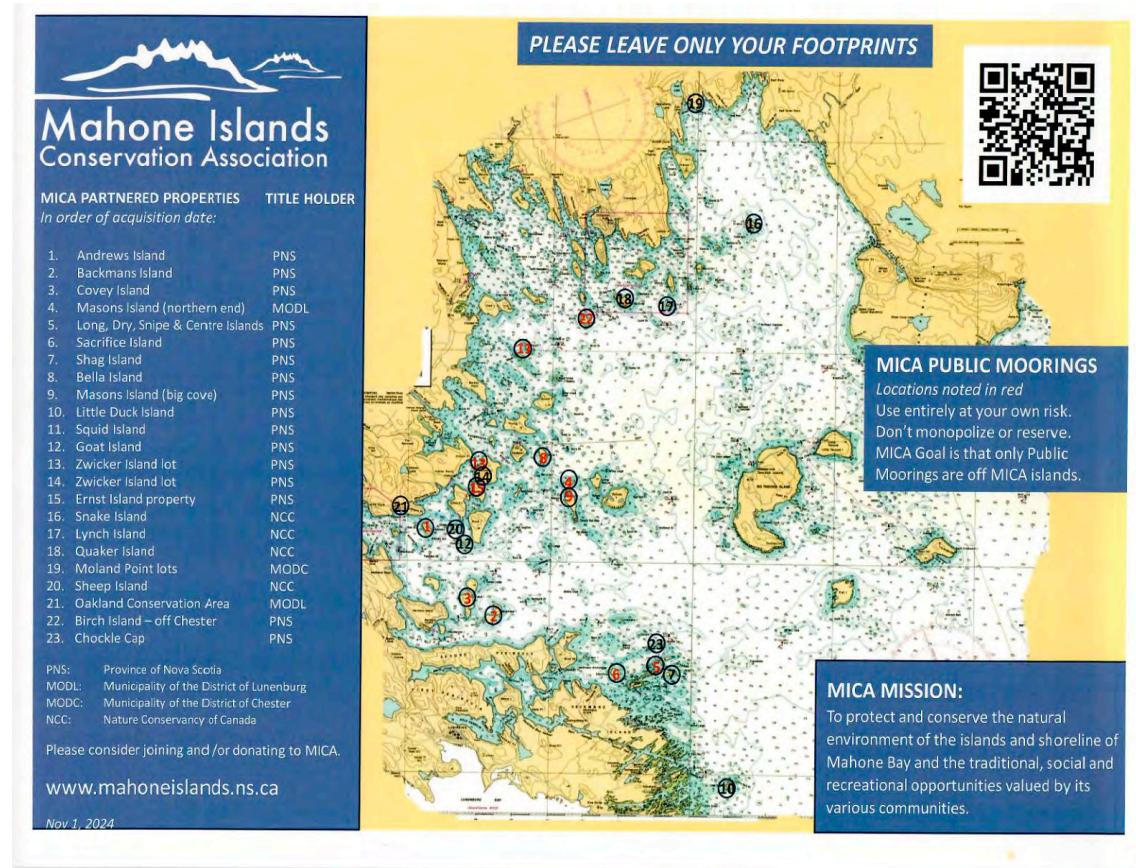
L. Paul MacInnis

Partner

Blue Lantern Shellfish

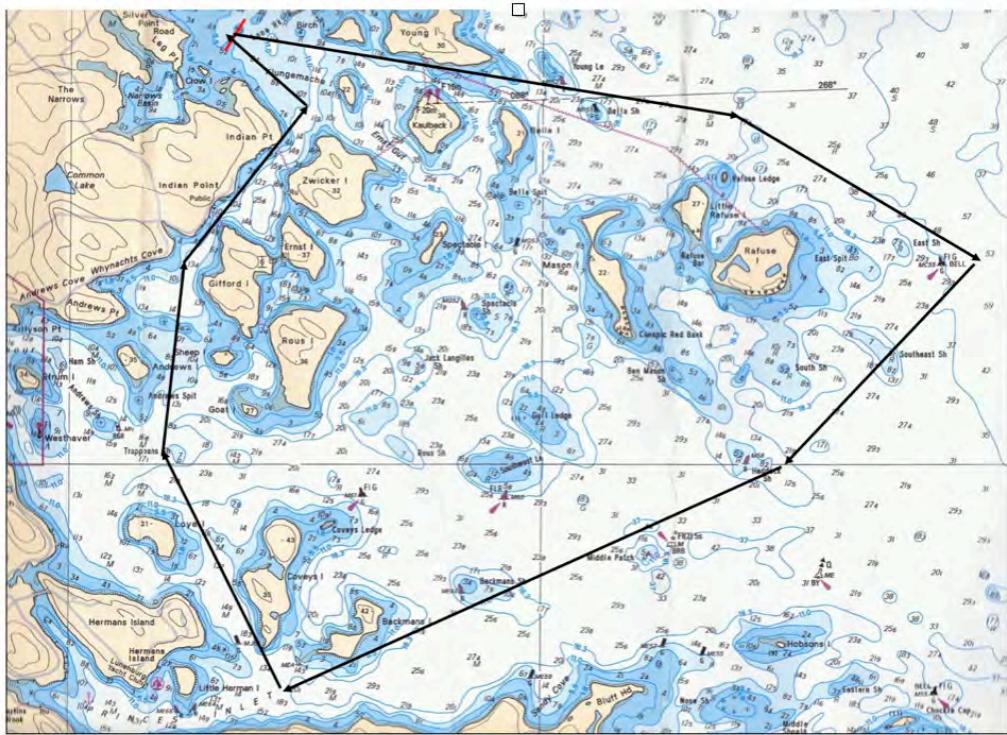
Appendix L: Maps Submitted by the Public

SUBMITTED IN PERSON AT MICA MEETING



SUBMITTED BY IPCY REPRESENTATIVE

IPYC Course Chart: Class A

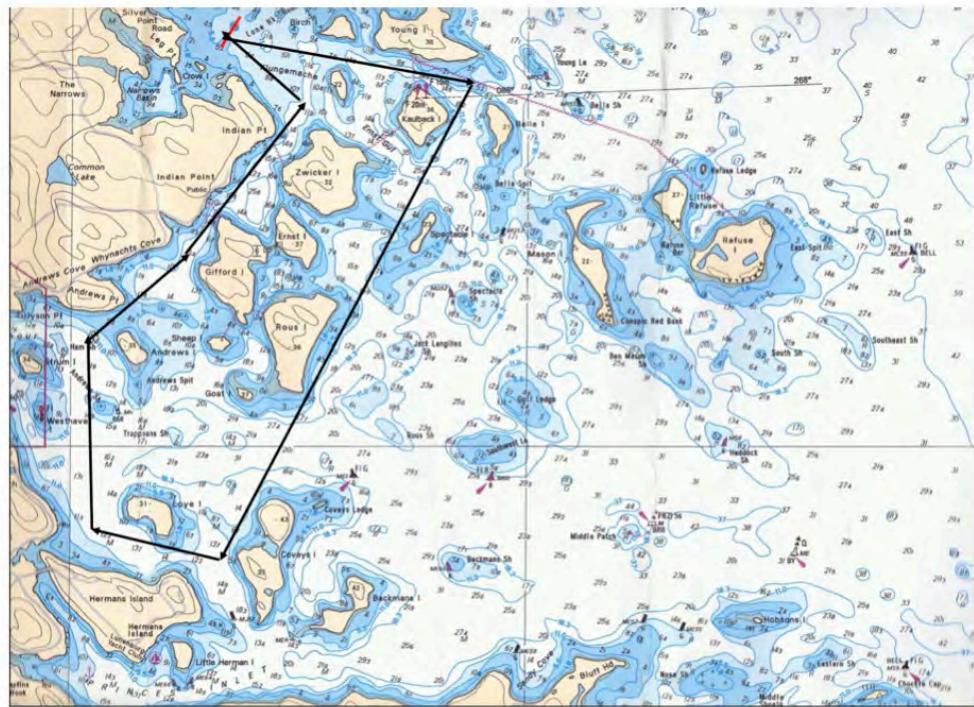


MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes Class A



SUBMITTED BY IPCY REPRESENTATIVE

IPYC Course Chart: Class B

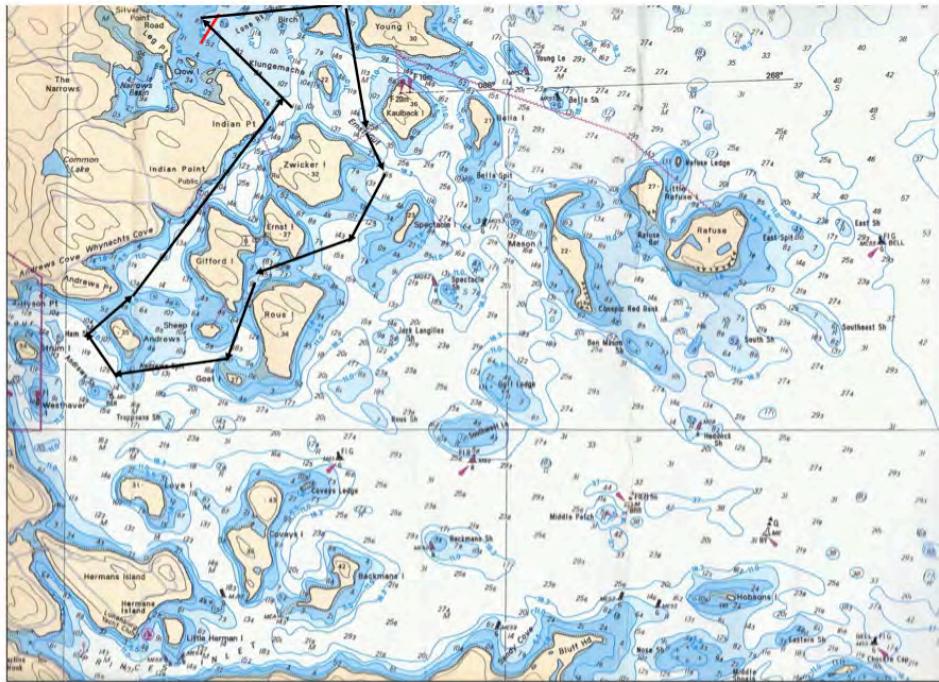


MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes Class B



SUBMITTED BY IPCY REPRESENTATIVE

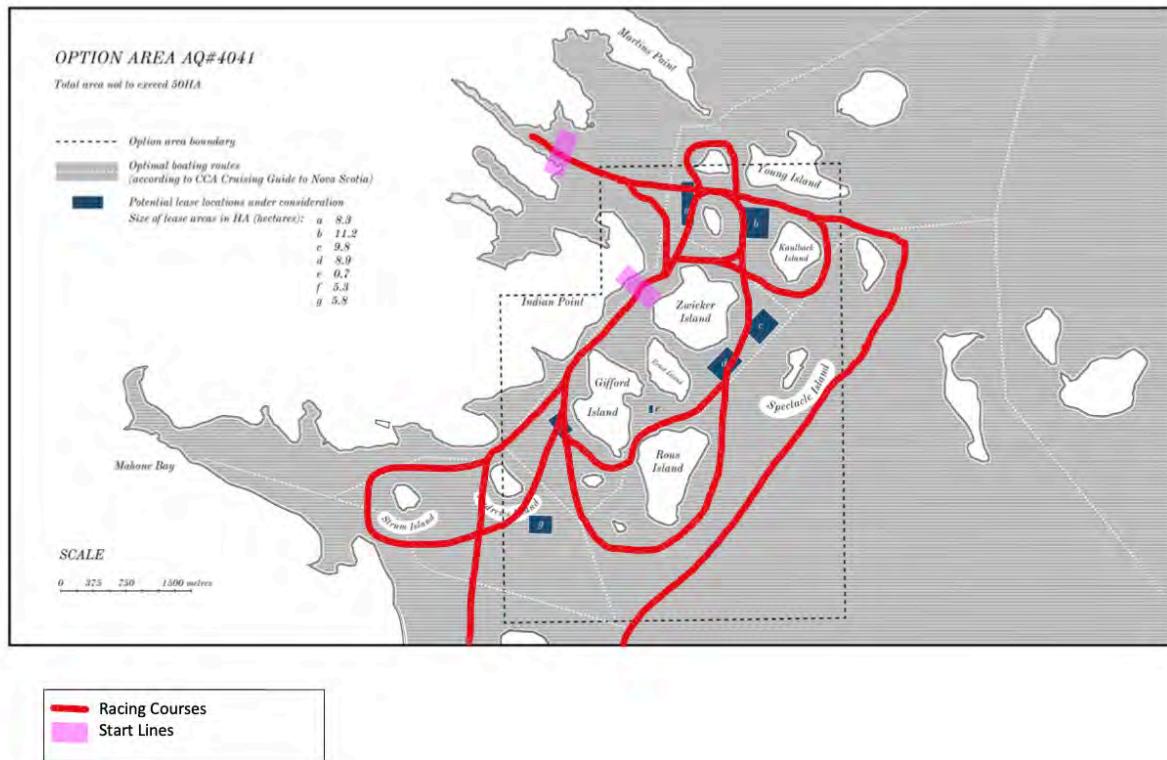
IPYC Course Chart: Class C



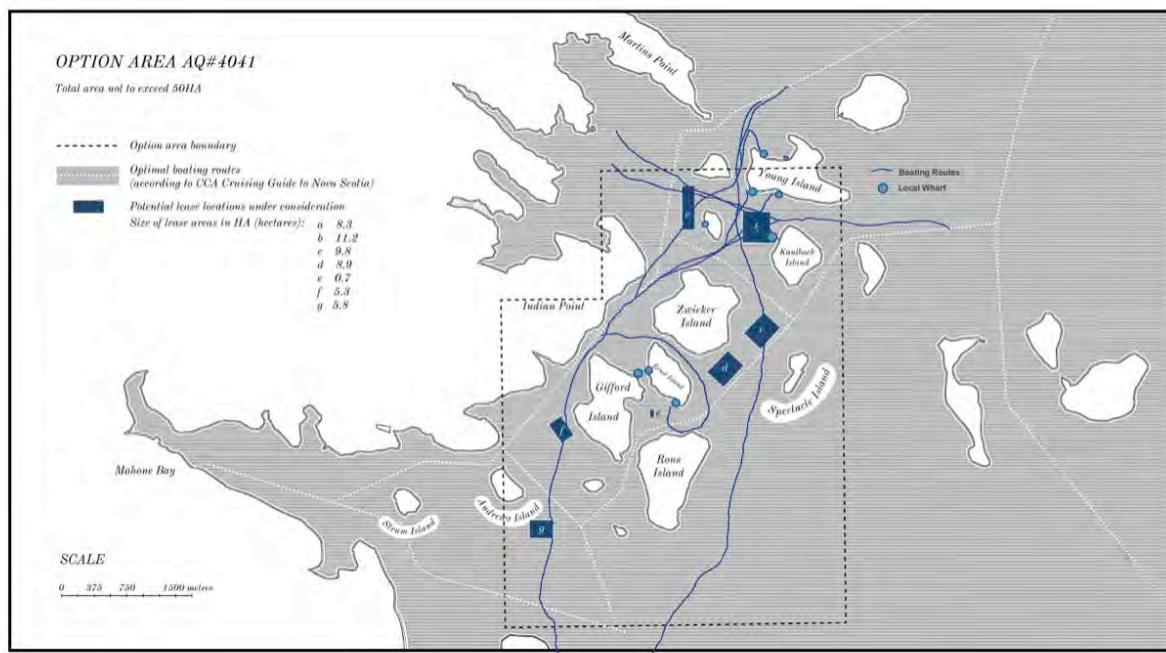
MARTINS RIVER INVITATIONAL 2024 Not for Navigational Purposes course C



IPYC Course Chart: Collective Routes



IPYC Course Chart: Collective Routes



Appendix M: Public Comment Web Submissions

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[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	154
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	156
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	156
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	158
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	160
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	162
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	163
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	164
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	165
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	167
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	168
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION 04/05	169
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[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	200
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION (04/23)	202
[REDACTED] (BL RESPONSE)	203
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION (04/25)	204
[REDACTED] SUBMISSION (BL RESPONSE)	204
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██████████ (BL RESPONSE)	207
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Overview

This section includes correspondence that was received through our website, bluelantern.ca. Our system gave members of the public the option to engage using a customized form or by uploading a document or letter. The first submission was received on March 29th, 2025, and the final submission was received on June 17th, 2025. Eight people used the document uploader option, and twenty-three people used the customized form.

Of twenty-three submissions made through the form, twenty-two answered “recreation” to the question, “Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?” Only one respondent answered “commercial.”

Submissions made via the document uploader system often covered a variety of topics in a single letter. Maps were uploaded using this system.

Our policy was to respond to every submission via email and to address as many concerns as possible. In some cases, several letters were exchanged. Our approach was not to argue or attempt to change minds, but to present our position as clearly as possible and hope that it was well received.

Several people responded to say that their concerns had been addressed, and they were satisfied with our response. In cases where people wrote back to let us know that they remained dissatisfied, we did not feel the need to prolong the argument or have the final word.

Information Collected

The header of each form contained the following information:

AQ#4041 Proposal for Option to Lease
Mahone Bay, Lunenburg County

Your comments will help us define our development plan.

Please note that your comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be made public. We will redact your civic address, mailing address, email address and phone number.

The customized form captured the following information:

- i. Name
- ii. Community
- iii. Email
- iv. Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?
- v. Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.
- vi. Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?
- vii. By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with the public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.
- viii. Your Signature

The document uploader form captured the following information:

- i. Name
- ii. Email
- iii. Upload your letter
- iv. I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Submission 03/29

Saturday, March 29, 2025 23:41 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community

Maders Cove

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational , boating

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Areas identified are in my usual recreational boating avenues. My concern would directly be about prop being caught-up in the rope lines. Questions then become: how are the affected areas generally and lines (traps) specifically going to be identified on-site? Is there a possibility that marked areas completely block the pathways for boating or will there always be room to manoeuvre around?

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

It is my understanding that mussel farming in the past had to be stopped due to contaminants or poisons (unsure of the cause) making them inedible for human consumption in this area (Indian Point). What is different now: environment, circumstances, species, etc. that would ensure consumer confidence in the health of this seafood? Thank you

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[Signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, March 31st, 11:42 AM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Follow Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us. I appreciate you taking the time to fill out the form and express your concerns.

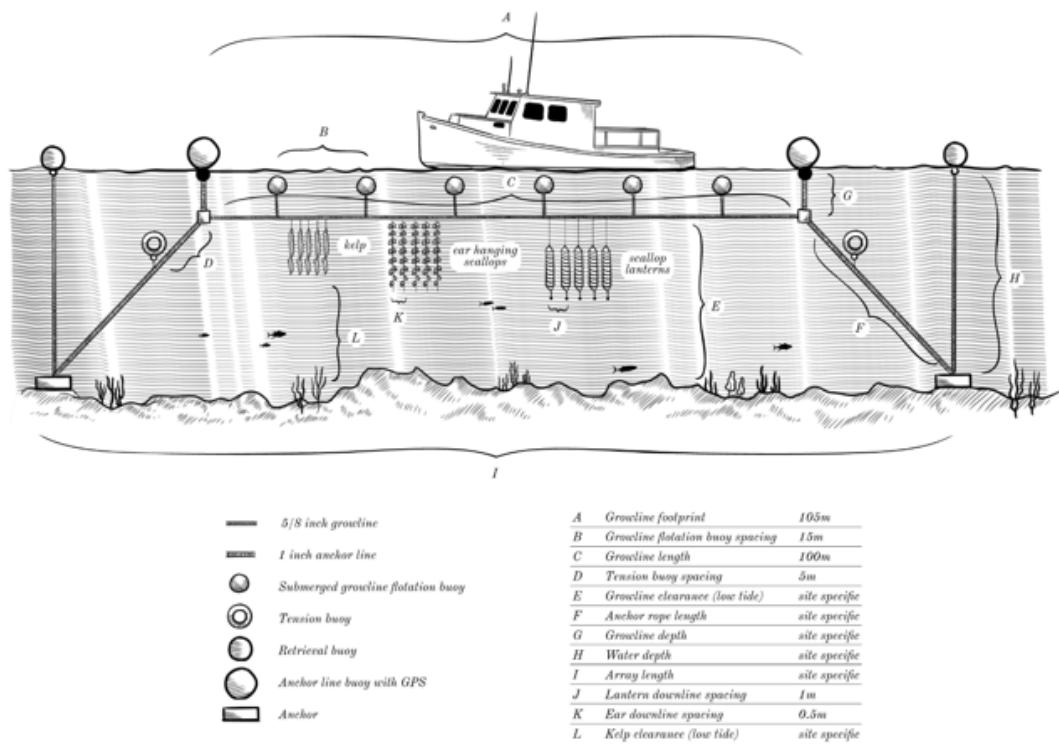
I'll go through your concerns one by one. I've attached a cross section of the farm for reference.

1. Areas identified are in my usual recreational boating avenues: We tried to tuck the sites away from known boating routes. Which specific sites are in your way? We've labelled the a-g for easy reference.
2. Concern about prop being caught-up in the rope lines: We have designed the site to be friendly to recreational users. Scallops grow best in deep water, so the horizontal growlines are quite far below the surface (4-5m). The growline flotation buoys are submerged (3-4m) as well. We've observed similar strategies in use on other scallop farms and it seems to have been very effective.
3. How are the affected areas generally and lines (traps) specifically going to be identified on-site?: The corners of the sites will be marked with navigation buoys. The anchor line buoys on either end of the growline will also be visible and the farms are arranged in grid patterns so it is easy to understand where the growlines are by observing the surface buoys.
4. Is there a possibility that marked areas completely block the pathways for boating or will there always be room to manoeuvre around?: We have purposefully left ample deep and navigable water around every proposed lease. However, this is a work in progress. We are interested in community feedback and insight. We are open to adjusting the size and shape of the individual leases.
5. It is my understanding that mussel farming in the past had to be stopped due to contaminants or poisons (unsure of the cause) making them inedible for human consumption in this area (Indian Point). What is different now: environment, circumstances, species, etc. that would ensure consumer confidence in the health of this seafood?: The ability to harvest shellfish is highly regulated and there is frequent monitoring of water quality and biotoxins. The meats are tested weekly for biotoxins that come and go depending on algae and other natural factors. The threshold for shutting down the harvest is rightfully very low as no one wants to see people hurt by our product. The rigorous testing allows us to sell the product live, unlike wild caught where they can only sell the scallop's abductor muscle. As an aside, I can't speak to it directly, but my understanding is that the Indian Point farm got out of mussel farming because of changes in the market and issues with ducks and tunicates. They are now farming scallops and kelp.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns and feel free to follow up for additional clarification of any of these points.

Kind regards,

SCALLOP LANTERN, EAR HANGING & KELP GROWLINES



████████ (Follow up to BL Response)

Monday, March 31st, 11:42 AM

Hi Paul,

Thank you for the quick and comprehensive response - greatly appreciated.

As a recreational boater, my primary concern is entanglement with buoy lines (B, G, H). The depth is far below my draft (0.8 m) so shouldn't be an issue unless they come free.

As long as the overall site boundaries are visible I do not see any issues unless the site completely impedes passage by. The only site that may have this issue looks to be "b" between Young and Zwicker Islands.

I see no further issues and once again appreciate your response.

Good luck on your new venture.

I may see you at one of the info sessions to be held at MBC.

Cheers & Best - █████

████████
████████

[REDACTED] Submission 04/04

Friday, April 04, 2025 21:20 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Mahone Bay

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I live on the water in Mahone Bay. My neighbours and friends are on the water from April to December. The proposed area for your farm is our backyard, playground and where we boat and scuba dive. Before this farm happens we had better have a really good idea of what this entails. I can't imagine lines and buoys all over this super high traffic area in our backyard. I am away May 1 but want to raise a red flag as this scares the heck out of me. We are here because of the great water, boating and diving area in our backyard

[REDACTED]

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

██████████ (BL Response)

Saturday, April 5th, 12:32 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Follow Up

Dear █████

Thank you for participating in this process with us. I appreciate you taking the time to fill out the form and express your concerns. I also understand the sentiment of your letter and your concerns about a farm operating in the space that your friends and neighbours enjoy.

We've already done a lot of thinking and planning around how we can minimize our impact on recreational users. I'd welcome a chance to show this to your friends and neighbours and get their feedback. Your letter specified boating and diving, so I'll speak to that specifically below.

Boating and Sailing:

1. We tried to tuck the sites away from known boating routes. Which specific sites are in your way?

We've labelled the a-g for easy reference: <https://www.bluelantern.ca/farm-overview>

2. We have designed the site to be friendly to recreational users. Scallops grow best in deep water, so the horizontal growlines are quite far below the surface (4-5m). The growline flotation buoys are submerged (3-4m) as well. This will mitigate the risk of entanglement. We've observed similar strategies being used on other scallop farms, and they seem to have been very effective. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.

3. We have purposefully left ample deep and navigable water around every proposed lease. However, this is a work in progress. We are interested in community feedback and insight. We are open to adjusting the size and shape of the individual leases.

Scuba Diving:

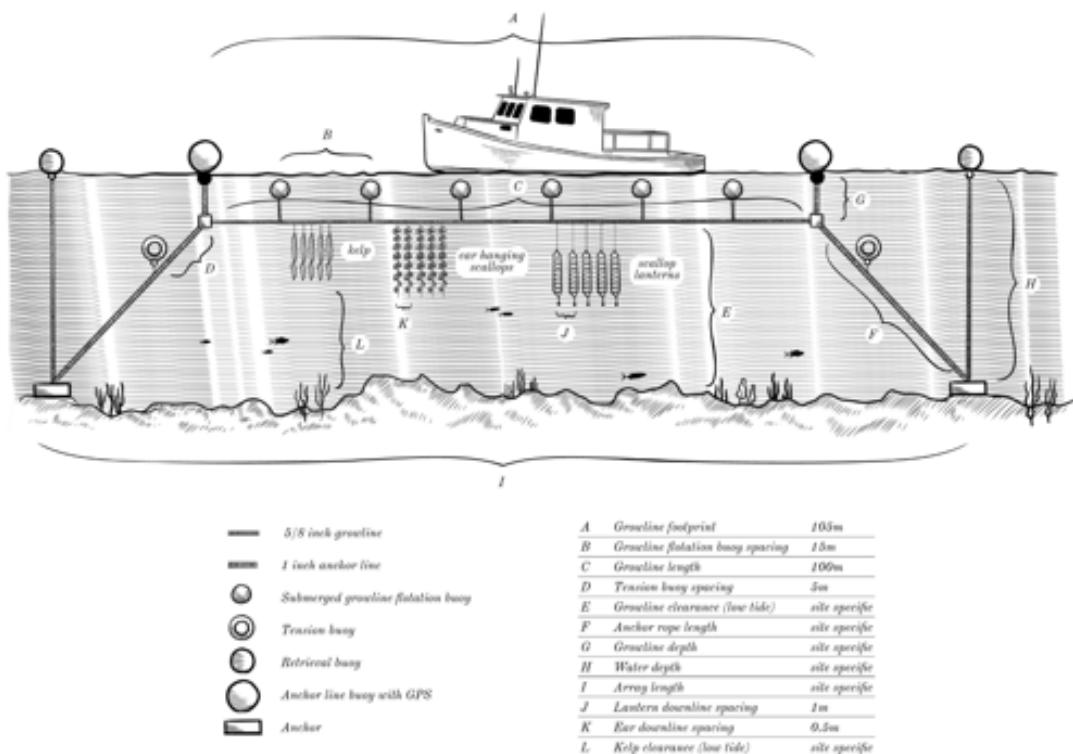
██████████ dives near his scallop farm off Snake Island, and he reports that the lantern nets almost create an artificial reef that attracts various fish and wildlife. We also plan to use reef balls for some of our moorings to help support marine life. I don't think that our farm will negatively impact scuba diving. However, I am not an expert in this area and would like to learn more about your concerns.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up for additional clarification of any of these points or others that may come up.

I understand that you will be away on May 1st, but perhaps you could drop into one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 7th at 2 p.m. or April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be a little more casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. Please let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Kind regards,

SCALLOP LANTERN, EAR HANGING & KELP GROWLINES



*Objects not to exact scale

████████ (Follow up to BL Response)

Saturday, April 5th, 4:15 PM

Hi Paul. I appreciate your response. Just FYI, I've also engaged Mahone Bay citizen group on their community post.

I will attend your sessions and might actually be able to attend May 1st as I land at 3:30pm. In any event, I'm always open to listen, but I don't think that you can appease myself and all boaters and waterfront residents. There is 300 kilometres of almost barren water between Mahone Bay and Yarmouth, why plan a farm in a highly trafficked and used backyard to anyone boating between Chester and Mahone Bay. Putting a scallop farm in our backyard and recreation area makes zero sense to me. Many of us have pretty significant waterfront investments and a scallop farm can only be a negative in my view. There is zero benefit to the residents or the ocean, including the many porpoises that love the Indian Point route.

I never get involved in citizen protests, but this project is a massive red flag to me and my neighbours and we will not just roll over and accept something that, like I said, has no benefit to us who live here and use the waters. The only ones who stand to benefit are the promoters. See you on the 7th.

████

Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 18:45 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Chester

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Those proposed leases are right on the IPYC racecourse. All of them. Directly on the most heavily travelled part of the racecourse. Of all possible locations in Mahone Bay they are in absolutely the worst possible place. Competing boats WILL hang up on the buoys. The competitors will not alter course to go around if this means losing ground, even just inches, in the race. The lines will wedge in between the keel and the rudder. Once hung up the racers will cut the lines to get free. The only way this will work in this location is if the gear is removed or sunk between June and Mid-October.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[line drawn]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Saturday, April 5th, 5:17 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to fill out the form and express your concerns.

We are designing the farm areas to be very friendly to recreational users and want to make sure we create plenty of space around high-traffic routes. On the advice of some local sailors, we've been using the CCA cruising guide as a reference, but that doesn't account for special events and other uses of the space. I'd like to learn more about the IPYC race. I have been trying to track down a map of the route and have reached out to the organizers.

We've done a lot of thinking and planning about how to minimize our impact on recreational users. We'll discuss this in more detail in the in-person meetings, but below are a few specifically relevant points.

Scallops grow best in deep water, so the horizontal growlines are quite far below the surface (4-5m). The growline flotation buoys are submerged (3-4m) as well. This will mitigate the risk of entanglement. We've observed similar strategies being used on other scallop farms, and they seem to have been very effective. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.

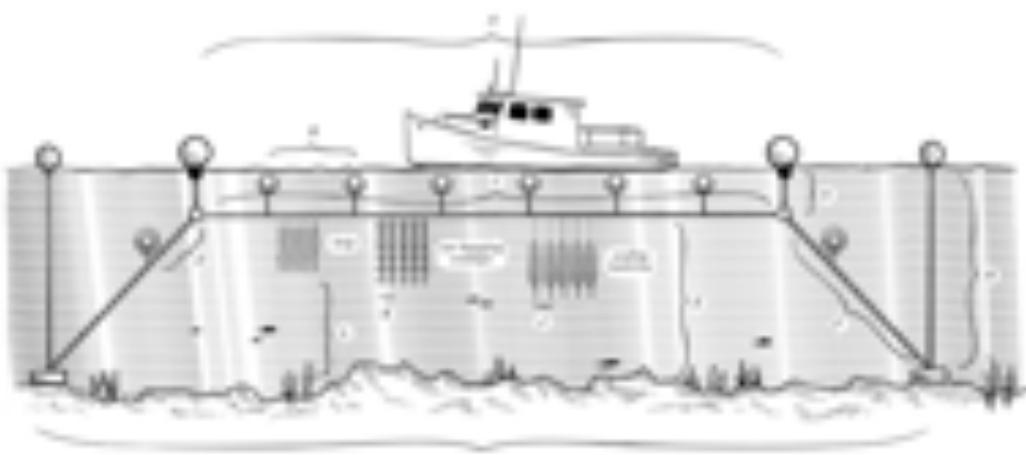
We have purposefully left ample deep and navigable water around every proposed lease. However, this is a work in progress. We are interested in community feedback and insight and are open to adjusting the size and shape of the individual leases.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul

SCALLOP LAXTERS, EAR RANGERS & KELP CROWLINES



1. <i>distortion response</i>	100%
2. <i>distortion response latency</i>	100%
3. <i>distortion response strength</i>	100%
4. <i>distortion response frequency</i>	100%
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7. <i>distortion response strength</i>	100%
8. <i>distortion response frequency</i>	100%
9. <i>distortion response amplitude</i>	100%
10. <i>distortion response latency</i>	100%
11. <i>distortion response strength</i>	100%
12. <i>distortion response frequency</i>	100%
13. <i>distortion response amplitude</i>	100%

Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 18:24 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Petite Rivière

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I moor my 28' sailboat at the Mahone Bay Civic marina and frequently sail in and around the area you are proposing to farm. This is a beautiful, natural area unencumbered, to date, by unsightly obstacles like fish farming. In principle, I'm not opposed to fish farming as long as it is done responsibly and doesn't create contamination and endanger the natural life and environment. You are proposing a farm is a great tourist and recreation area. There must be many other locations that would meet your needs while not infringing on such a special location. For example, have you considered the Blue Rocks, Bayport areas? They are not nearly as scenic and popular for recreational boating in my opinion. Thanks, [REDACTED]

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED]

(BL Response)

Saturday, April 7th, 10:52 AM

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and expressing your point of view.

I appreciate that you are open to the idea of aquaculture in Nova Scotia. There are many different types of fish farming, and part of our work is to help distinguish shellfish aquaculture, and specifically scallop farming, from other practices. We think it is appropriate for these waters because of its unobtrusive nature:

- Vessels can easily navigate past the lease
- Quiet, unobtrusive operations conducted by small crews on small vessels
- Scallop lanterns hang well below the surface
- Minimal number of buoys visible on the surface

I've attached photos of one of the scallop farms already in Mahone Bay, and you can see that they are minimally disruptive to the surface. Our hope is that the presence of a sustainable shellfish farm will add interest and texture to the area and not take anything away.

We have designed the site to be friendly to recreational users. Scallops grow best in deep water, so the horizontal growlines are quite far below the surface (4-5m). The growline flotation buoys are submerged (3-4m) as well. This will mitigate the risk of entanglement, even if you accidentally sailed right through the farm in your 28-foot boat. We've observed similar strategies being used on other scallop farms, and they seem to have been very effective. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.

As for your question about the choice of this location, we have considered waters all over Nova Scotia and have been in dialogue with regulators and elected officials for over two years about the choice of this location. We think it is perfect for growing scallops, but we understand that we have a lot of work to do to convince people that the community benefit outweighs the annoying parts.

Finally, here is a quick overview of what will happen next with your Public Comment Form submission:

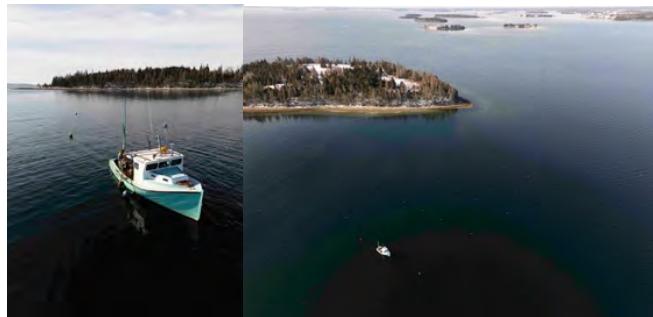
- Your comments will help us define our development plan.
- Your comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

At the completion of this option-to-lease phase, we will submit our complete lease application to the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The administrator will review and verify all the information we provide, seek further public comment, and then decide to either approve, deny, or amend our proposal.

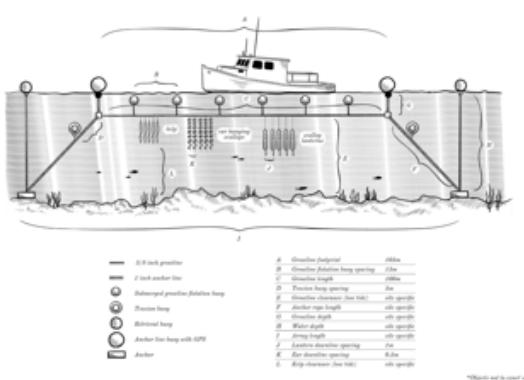
Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul



SCALLOP LANTERN, EAR HANGING & KELP GROWLINES



Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 22:34 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Herman's Island

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Will the locations of the farm Impact pleasure boating

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 1:24 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and asking your question.

We recognize that Mahone Bay is a treasured destination for recreational boaters, and minimizing our impact on safe navigation is a top priority. Our farm has been carefully designed with boater access and safety in mind. The horizontal grow lines will be submerged approximately 4 to 5 meters below the surface, significantly reducing the risk of entanglement or obstruction. The only surface markers will be corner buoys and those marking anchor points—ensuring visibility without creating unnecessary clutter. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.

In addition, the lease areas are arranged in a clean, gridded layout that allows for predictable, navigable spacing around and between the sites. We've also intentionally left wide corridors between lease areas to ensure free movement through the bay, including commonly used boating routes.

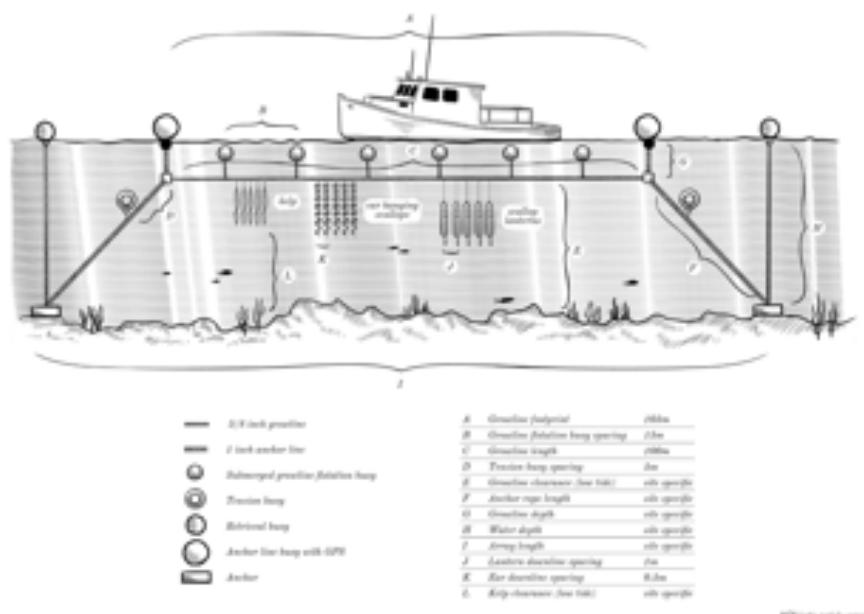
We're committed to ongoing dialogue with the boating community and have already adjusted some aspects of our plan based on local feedback. Our goal is to integrate the farm seamlessly into the existing use of the bay, supporting both sustainable aquaculture and recreational enjoyment.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul

SCALLOP LANTERN, EAR HANGING & KELP GROWLINES



[REDACTED] Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 22:47 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Zwickers Island

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

I think I and can speak for everyone on this. We are all for the proposed farm but those site locations are probably not the best. Those water ways are probably most travelled areas in all of the Mahone Bay area for all recreational boating.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Yes

[Signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 1:48 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion.

We recognize that Mahone Bay is a treasured destination for recreational boaters, and minimizing our impact on safe navigation is a top priority.

We're committed to ongoing dialogue with the boating community and have already adjusted some aspects of our plan based on local feedback. Our goal is to integrate the farm seamlessly into the existing use of the bay, supporting both sustainable aquaculture and recreational enjoyment.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul

Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 22:51 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Windsor

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Mahone Bay is where we sail from June to November. It's world famous for beautiful sailing. We anchor at islands and are wondering if you couldn't find a place that isn't so heavily enjoyed by sailors? We have lobster fishing here but that is over by June - a month after we'd really love being out on the water.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

If it's true that there are no adverse effects to the environment, could these be grown deeper so we can still move over them safely?

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 1:48 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and asking your questions.

I'll start with your question about the location. Scallop farms need to be in deep water that is sheltered from the wind and waves. Deep waters around islands are ideal for this. You also asked if they are truly good for the environment. They are: scallop farming is endorsed by many environmental organizations, including the EAC: <https://ecologyaction.ca/our-work/marine/sustainable-aquaculture>

With that in mind, we recognize that Mahone Bay is a treasured destination for recreational boaters, and minimizing our impact on safe navigation is a top priority. Our farm has been carefully designed with boater access and safety in mind. The horizontal grow lines will be submerged approximately 4 to 5 meters below the surface, significantly reducing the risk of entanglement or obstruction. The only surface markers will be corner buoys and those marking anchor points—ensuring visibility without creating unnecessary clutter. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.

In addition, the lease areas are arranged in a clean, gridded layout that allows for predictable, navigable spacing around and between the sites. We've also intentionally left wide corridors between lease areas to ensure free movement through the bay, including commonly used boating routes.

We're committed to ongoing dialogue with the boating community and have already adjusted some aspects of our plan based on local feedback. Our goal is to integrate the farm seamlessly into the existing use of the bay, supporting both sustainable aquaculture and recreational enjoyment.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] Submission 04/05

Saturday, April 05, 2025 23:05 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Martin's River

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

It looks, after a quick perusal, that the kelp and scallops will be grown suspended above the sea bed similar to mussels. Mussels have been grown and harvested in some of these areas since the mid 1980s with no adverse affects as far as I am aware. Local boaters have been familiar with the marker bouys and the harvest areas. I really don't feel they will impact my use of the area at all. I mainly kayak in the area.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 4:31 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so you'll be able to kayak over the lease without any issues. Maybe, one day, you can paddle up and say hello!

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] Submission 04/05

Sunday, April 05, 2025 20:12 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter [Yes]]

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

LETTER:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Chester, Nova Scotia, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

April 5, 2025

Blue Lantern Shellfish

Dear Blue Lantern,

I am writing to formally express my opposition to the Blue Lantern Shellfish project, specifically the proposed sustainable scallop farm in Mahone Bay. While I understand the proponents' claim of minimal environmental impact, I remain deeply concerned about the potential long-term consequences this project may have on the local ecosystem, community, and economy.

One of my primary concerns is the potential harm to Mahone Bay's delicate marine biodiversity. Despite claims that the farm will support local biodiversity, I believe that introducing large-scale farming operations in this sensitive area could disrupt natural habitats and affect species that rely on the existing ecosystem. Scallop farming, even with the best intentions, will introduce new risks such as the spread of disease, genetic pollution, or unintended impacts on local fish populations. Specifically, I am a scallop diver in these areas and this will impact my ability to do this activity.

Moreover, the claim that this project will create sustainable employment and improve food security is overly optimistic and does not take into account the potential disruption it may cause to the existing local economy. Many small businesses and tourism-related activities depend on the natural beauty and health of Mahone Bay. This project could negatively affect these industries by altering the visual and environmental quality that attracts visitors to our community.

Another significant concern is the impact the project could have on recreational boating in the area. Mahone Bay is a popular destination for boating enthusiasts, and the placement of large-scale aquaculture infrastructure could create navigational hazards or limit access to certain areas. Boating is an integral part of local recreation and tourism, and any reduction in safe, accessible waters could diminish the enjoyment of residents and visitors alike. It is essential to assess how the presence of aquaculture operations might affect boating routes, safety, and overall access to the bay for leisure and commercial vessels.

Finally, I am disappointed with the current level of community consultation. While public meetings have been scheduled, no detailed studies regarding the potential environmental and social impacts of the project have been shared with the community. It is concerning that critical information needed to properly assess the full scope of the project has not been made available to residents. For decisions of this magnitude, it is vital that the community has access to thorough, independent studies and that the consultation process is truly transparent and inclusive.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to reconsider moving forward with large-scale aquaculture operations in such a sensitive area.

I am unable to attend the meeting on the 1st of May and ask that a second one be scheduled or at the very least the studies that help evaluate the appropriateness of this infrastructure are made public. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Friday, April 11, 2025 12:12

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for participating in this process with us. I appreciate you taking the time to fill out the form and express your concerns. I also understand the sentiment of your letter and your concerns about a farm operating in the space that your friends and neighbours enjoy.

Your letter raised several points, but I will start with your final concern regarding community consultation.

Consultation Process:

One point to consider here is that our community consultation process is just getting started. While none of this is a foregone conclusion, we sought to present an accurate picture of what a scallop farm might look like so that the public might have a chance to comment on specific elements of the plans.

We are in what's referred to the option-to-lease phase, in which we will consult with the community and do further scientific testing to identify the specific location(s) where the scallop farm will potentially be established.

On the community side, we will be meeting with individuals and organizations in the community that have a stake in what happens on and under the waters of Mahone Bay. Our goal is to ensure that all are well-informed of our proposal and its benefits.

On the scientific side, this means ensuring that the specific locations will result in the healthy growth of scallops without causing any environmental interference with other species. This is not merely our opinion: scientists and experts from the provincial government will review every aspect of our reports.

All of this information collection will inform our eventual lease application, which will then go through additional rigorous review.

Environmental Concerns:

You challenged the contention that scallop farms are truly good for the environment. We believe that they are, and that is a major motivator for us. It is worth noting that scallop farming is endorsed by many environmental organizations, including the EAC: <https://ecologyaction.ca/our-work/marine/sustainable-aquaculture>. We've also had very constructive discussions with community leaders from MICA, the Healthy Bays Network, and the Twin Bays Coalition.

Recreational Users:

We've already done a lot of thinking and planning around how we can minimize our impact on recreational users. I'd welcome a chance to show this to your friends and neighbours and get their feedback. Your letter specified boating and diving, so I'll speak to that specifically below.

Boating and Sailing:

1. We tried to tuck the sites away from known boating routes. Which specific sites are in your way? We've labelled the a-g for easy reference: <https://www.bluelantern.ca/farm-overview>
2. We have designed the site to be friendly to recreational users. Scallops grow best in deep water, so the horizontal growlines are quite far below the surface (4-5m). The growline flotation buoys are submerged (3-4m) as well. This will mitigate the risk of entanglement. We've observed similar strategies being used on other scallop farms, and they seem to have been very effective. I've attached an illustration of a cross-section of the farm for reference.
3. We have purposefully left ample deep and navigable water around every proposed lease. However, this is a work in progress. We are interested in community feedback and insight. We are open to adjusting the size and shape of the individual leases.

Scuba Diving:

[REDACTED] dives near his scallop farm off Snake Island, and he reports that the lantern nets almost create an artificial reef that attracts various fish and wildlife. We also plan to use reef balls for some of

our moorings to help support marine life. I don't think that our farm will negatively impact scuba diving. However, I am not an expert in this area and would like to learn more about your concerns.

Public Meeting:

I understand that you will be away on May 1st, but perhaps you could drop into one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be a little more casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. Please let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Next step for your letter:

I'll share your comments with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. As mentioned above, at the completion of this option-to-lease phase, we will submit our complete lease application to the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The administrator will review and verify all the information we provide, seek further public comment, and then decide to either approve, deny, or amend our proposal.

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up for additional clarification of any of these points or others that may come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] Submission 04/06

Sunday, April 06, 2025 13:38 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Mahone bay

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

O2

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

How does an actor and a chef acquire a piece of the ocean to set up their business in? That ocean does not belong to them. It belongs to no one and everyone. Who do people think they are to just take over something that is not theirs for the taking, like a piece of the ocean, for their personal gain?! No . No. And NO!!!

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

Water is life.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[Signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 6:16 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion.

I assure you that we wouldn't be undertaking this lengthy and challenging process if we didn't believe it was beneficial for the community and the ocean. We've shared that position on our website, so I won't rehash it here. I don't expect you to take my word for it, but you might be interested in the Ecology Action Centre's take on the matter: <https://ecologyaction.ca/our-work/marine/sustainable-aquaculture>

I'll share your comments with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. At the completion of this option-to-lease phase, we will submit our complete lease application to the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. The administrator will review and verify all the information we provide, seek further public comment, and then decide to either approve, deny, or amend our proposal.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] Submission (04/07)

Monday, April 07, 2025 12:56 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter (yes)

(67.16 Kb)

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes



7 April 2025

Blue Lantern Shellfish
Att'n Paul MacInnis and Chaz Thorne

Re: AQ#4041 Proposal for Option to Lease, Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia

Gentlemen,

I write to you to comment on your plans to establish aquaculture sites in the waters near Indian Point, Mahone Bay. I have sailed through the islands and passages of Mahone Bay countless times, counting my blessings at living in an area of such beauty.

I am the Editor of the CCA Cruising Guide to Nova Scotia. Your website graphic of proposed sites refers to "Optimal boating routes according to the CCA Cruising Guide to Nova Scotia". These routes, taken from the map on page 100 of the Guide, are not the only ones in common use, let alone "optimal". The Guide is intended for visitors to our waters who typically travel in largish sail or power boats, are unfamiliar with local conditions and want safe deep-water routes. The paths shown in the Guide are no more than schematic illustrations for that audience. Local boaters, power and sail, racing and cruising, don't always follow straight lines. Sailboats tack back and forth according to wind direction, going way off the lines shown on the map.

You have implied that the CCA somehow endorses your proposed lease locations as not interfering with navigation. That is not the case, and I ask that you remove the reference to the CCA Cruising Guide to Nova Scotia.

Having said that, I recognize that, depending on location, the type of aquaculture gear that you propose may not present serious obstructions to pleasure boats. It doesn't seem to be very different than the mussel farms that were in the Indian Point area until a few years ago.

I think that your proposed sites "c", "d", "f" and "g" won't present much difficulty. However, sites "a", and "b" will significantly interfere with navigation. Site "e" is in the middle of one of the nicest anchorages in Mahone Bay, right about where boats manoeuvre to take sails down before dropping an anchor. It would be OK if it was a bit further north and east, between the Ernst Island shore and the un-marked rock at 44°27.05N and 64°18.0W.

Respectfully submitted,

Editor, CCA Cruising Guide to Nova Scotia
[Redacted]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, April 7th, 2025 12:31PM

Subject: Response to your letter re: aquaculture sites

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for submitting the letter via our Blue Lantern web portal today.

We in no way meant to imply an endorsement from the CCA Cruising Guide to Nova Scotia. We incorporated this information on the advice of several sailors.

We will remove the reference to the CCA. However, please bear with us as we have our designer make these changes, so you will not see it happen immediately.

We really appreciate the specific feedback you provided regarding our proposed sites.

This is precisely why there is this public consultation process: to dialogue with other users of the water in the area.

Though you likely know that we have several public engagements, we would like to speak with you directly to learn more about how we can potentially accommodate the needs of the local boating community in our proposal.

Are you open to speaking with one of us?

Many thanks,

Chaz

[REDACTED] (Phone Conversation Notes)

Friday, April 11th, 2025 10:31AM (41 Minutes)

Suggested we talk to local yacht and sailing clubs

Suggested that we make surface marking buoys bright and soft (inflatable)

Suggested that our diagram clarify depth between float buoy, growline, and surface

Notes on proposed locations of leases:

- A & B are in the way of recreational users
- C & D look like they are in a much better location
- E is high traffic and right in the middle of a deep section that sail boats use to “Round up” before anchoring off Gifford and Ernst
- F is in a good location
- G is in a good location and might help mariners wayfind past some tricky areas by defining where the deep water is.

[REDACTED] Submission (04/07)

Monday, April 07, 2025 20:34 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Blockhouse

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

All lease locations except one are areas that I travel regularly. These are very highly traveled locations. I expect you will receive much opposition to the lease locations indicated.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

I have no problem with the type of aquaculture you propose but there are less traveled locations within your option area boundary.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 5:11 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for joining us in this process, attending our session yesterday, taking the time to fill out this form, and sharing your thoughts. I appreciate your comment that you have no issues with this type of aquaculture; that was nice of you to say.

I hope we have demonstrated that we are open to input; please let us know if you'd like to help us identify less-travelled areas in the option area. If that's not your cup of tea, please know that we will continue to actively seek consultation and input from boaters and sailors.

You may also be interested to know that we are already in conversation with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture to explore ideas around sinking leases and allowing passage for certain vessels. That is very new territory for everyone, but we are committed to exploring any viable option that improves our relationship with the local community.

Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

Submission (04/08)

Tuesday, April 08, 2025 17:55 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

MARTINS RIVER, MAHONE BAY

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Resident at waterfront in Martins River, Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I support shellfish farming in Nova Scotia. However, I am opposed to Blue Lantern's planned farm site locations as they are within some of the most intensely used coastal waters along the South Shore. This involves recreational motor boat use, cruising and racing under sail, and commuter boat traffic to and from island cottages. I am member of the INDIAN POINT Yacht Club. Members are using the waters within Blue Lantern's Option Area for sailing races throughout the summer and fall season. Races take place weekly and during key weekends. Fleets range from 10 to 20 boats or various sizes. This has been going on since about two decades. The race courses are determined prior to each race and depend on wind and weather conditions. The proposed scallop grow sites are located within most frequently used race courses. If the sites are developed in the proposed locations, this would considerably restrict the racing activities. The courses are laid out so that the sailboats typically tack to windward on one or more legs of the course. This requires sufficiently large (and deep) waters and cannot be done within narrow navigation channels. I myself and neighbours are also using the waters for leisurely sailing trips and occasional stops at various protected bays suitable for safe anchoring. The presence of large numbers of buoys associated with the proposed scallop farm would significantly reduce the visual aesthetics and with it the enjoyment of the largely undeveloped local island environments. It is of note that several islands within the delineated Option Area are owned by MICA (Mahone Bay Island Conservation Association) and have been set aside for conservation purposes. Numerous residents have contributed financially to the land acquisitions to support MICA's conservation efforts and to enjoy the islands and waters in a natural

state as much as possible. Should the development be permitted to go ahead, I therefore propose to at least concentrate farm activities in one or two locations rather than spreading the operations over a number of individual bays.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

Please specify / address concerns regarding: - Possible use of feed and antibiotics or pesticides (if any) - Planned management of tunicates - Steps taken to avoid sensitive eelgrass habitat - Risk of genetic alteration of native scallop population

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 8th, 6:00 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for joining us in this process, attending our session yesterday, taking the time to fill out this form, and sharing your thoughts. I hope we have demonstrated that we are open to input.

You raise a number of points here, so I am going to address them in point form:

- I appreciate your suggestion that we concentrate the farms into fewer lease areas.
- Race Routes: I've been back and forth with IPYC and have several race route maps. I'll continue to collect those and add them to our report to the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. Please know that we will continue to seek consultation and input from boaters and sailors.
- As discussed at yesterday's meet and greet, we will continue to explore options to minimize visual clutter. However, we feel that we have already made great strides in that regard.
- We've had very constructive discussions with community leaders from MICA, the Healthy Bays Network, and the Twin Bays Coalition. I understand that no single person represents those organizations, but we've been encouraged by the feedback we've received. [REDACTED]' scallop farm is beside MICA-owned Snake Island. He reported a positive relationship and that members of MICA appreciated that he had eyes on the island year-round and could offer members a ride to the island.
- Scallop farming uses zero inputs: no feed, no antibiotics, no pesticides.
- Tunicate management changes year to year as species of tunicate trade dominance. The trick is to scrape them off the lanterns or ear-hung shells without hurting the scallops. We expect to use some sort of brush or paddle to scrape them off the gear.
- We will not farm on or near eelgrass.

- Scallop seed is sourced locally, and we plan on collecting wild seed on-site. Seed transport is tightly regulated, perhaps for the reason you identified: the risk of genetic alteration in the native scallop population (I can't confidently speak to the reasons why).

- Related to a few of the above points: Please let us know if you'd like to help us identify less-travelled areas in the option area.

Finally, to follow up on one of the conversations that happened yesterday, we are in conversation with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture to explore ideas around sinking leases and allowing passage for certain vessels. That is very new territory for everyone, but we are committed to exploring any viable option that improves our relationship with the local community. Do you agree that an innovation like that would solve many of our problems vis a vie the sailing and boating communities?

Please let me know if this addresses your concerns, and feel free to follow up with me for additional clarification on any of these points.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (Follow Up Response)

Tuesday, April 9th, 4:21 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Thank you Paul for your response and the additional information provided. I have no follow up questions at this point. The sinking of lease markers would definitely alleviate a lot of my concerns. I look forward to the meeting on 2 May.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

PS: I didn't keep a copy of the text that I submitted via your online comment form. Could you please send me a copy for my records?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (Follow Up to Upload Map)

Sunday, April 13, 2025 22:32 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

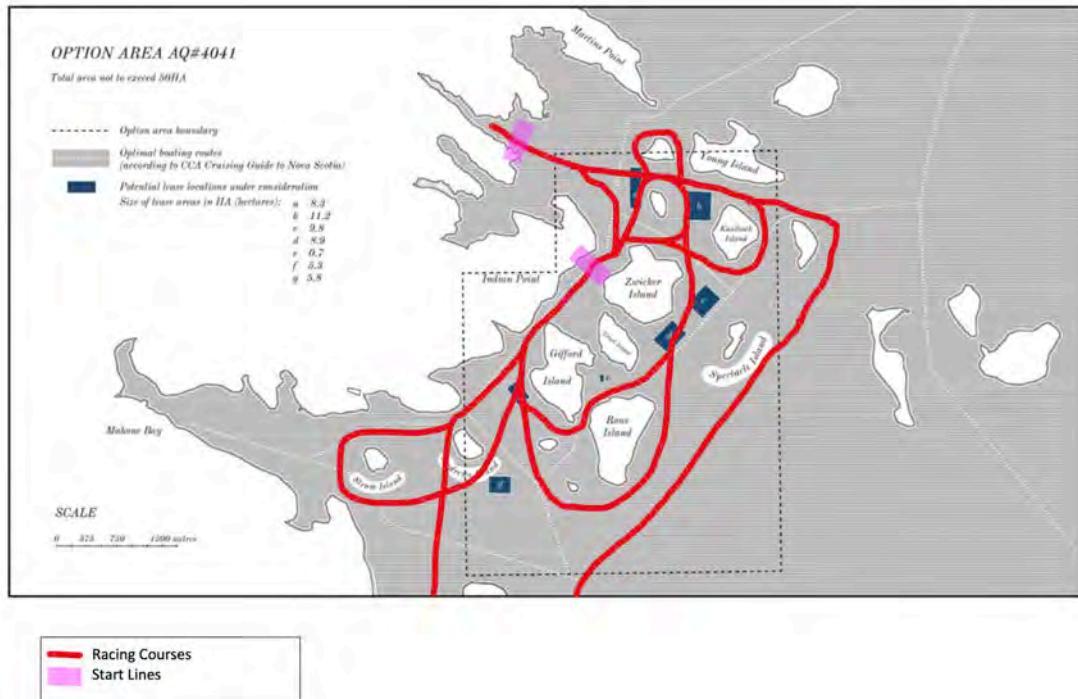
[REDACTED]

Upload your letter

- [Proposed Scallop Lease Areas and IPYC Race Courses.pdf](#) (264.1 Kb)

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes



[REDACTED] Submission (04/15)

Tuesday, April 15, 2025 13:27 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter

- [CommentsBluelanternFarm.pdf](#) (37.12 Kb)
- [BlueLanternFarmMapAmended.png](#) (444.92 Kb)

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Comments on the proposed areas for Bluelantern Farm.

The map containing the planned areas and boating routes is lacking in local knowledge.

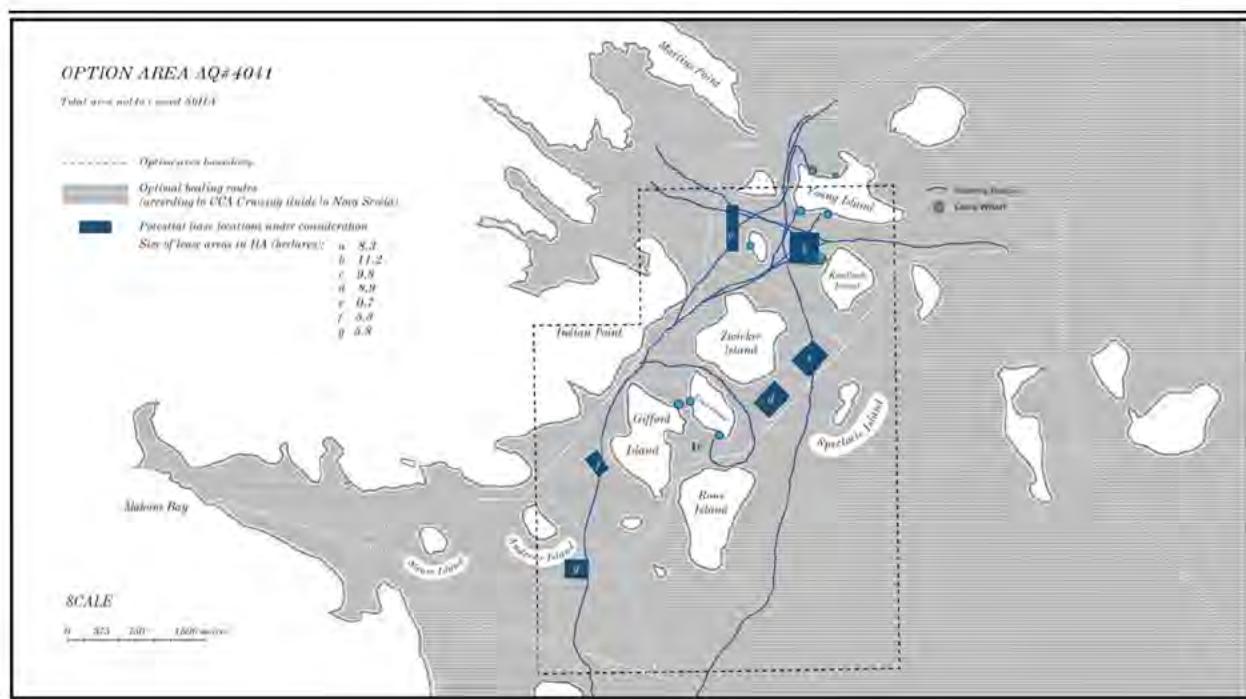
The "boating routes" were apparently obtained from the Cruising Club of America Guide. This publication is designed for visiting large boats to the province, looking for safe passage through the islands. The routes do not reflect the actual passages of local and visiting boats in the area. We note that those routes have now been deleted from the map displayed on the website, but that there has been no attempt to indicate the routes or extent of local and visiting boat traffic.

As 25-year 8-month per year Young Island residents, we note that the areas "a" and "b" are traversed very frequently by both local island residents and by recreational and visiting boaters. Indeed, these areas are among the most used areas in the western side of the bay.

We have annotated the map to show the routes that are often used by vessels transiting among the islands. It is attached as a separate document: BlueLanternFarmMapAmended.png

Our conclusion is that areas "a" and "b" are completely unsuitable for a marine farming area. In addition, area "e" is in one of the best sheltered anchorages in the area and is very popular among sail and power boats. The farm could make anchoring in this area difficult.

When Indian Point Marine Farms maintained mussel beds around Gifford, Ernst and other locations, they were never in the path of regular boating traffic. The current initiative by Bluelantern Farms seems to disregard the fact people have made their homes here and that local boaters have been using these waters for many years.



[REDACTED] (BL Response 1)

Friday, April 18th, 10:16 AM

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for submitting your map and letter. I'll respond in a little more detail shortly.

In the meantime, I'd appreciate an opportunity to continue our conversation about some of the more technical aspects of the farm. Would you like to grab a coffee sometime? Or perhaps chat on the phone? Let me know what works for you.

My number is

Best,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (BL Response 2)

Friday, April 18th, 1:02 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

I welcome and appreciate your specific feedback regarding leases A, B, and E. We will take this into account as we rework the locations of our proposed leases.

You suggested in your letter that no attempts have been made to indicate the routes or extent of local and visiting traffic. Our public comment process is designed to do just that. We've received several maps with routes and moorings drawn in (they arrive in similar format to the map that you just provided to us). We will continue to gather insight and feedback from recreational users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

As we discussed last night, we've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so most pleasure craft will be able pass over the lease without any issues. We're redesigning our array to keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] Submission (04/16)

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 16:53 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Indian Point

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

The growline depth G is critical for the recreational boaters. If less than 6 feet at low tide, it will be a significant hazard for sailboats. 8 feet would be better. Section e, bounded by Ernst, Rous, and Gifford Islands, is a popular summer anchorage for recreational boaters. I think it would be unsuitable for your purposes.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Friday, April 18th, 12:20 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so most pleasure craft will be able pass over the lease without any issues. We're redesigning our array keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with wit vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

Submission (04/17)

Thursday, April 17, 2025 18:42 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

[REDACTED]

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I have a sailboat, Tigress, which my wife and I keep in Gold River Marina in Chester Basin. We regularly sail during the summer from GRM to Mahone Bay (the town) and back again. I have carefully reviewed the sites which you are planning for your scallop farm (lease locations a–g). Of these, the only one that I feel would make this sailing route difficult is lease “a”. This location looks like it will block the northern route west of Klungemacher and then east of Birch Island. This is the most common sailing route during the summer with the usual east to southeast wind. It will also make the southern route more difficult, probably requiring multiple tacks west of Klungemacher. Note that power boats do not have this constraint, but sailing boats will have to start their engines (defeating the enjoyment of sailing) to bypass location “a” on the northern route. I would therefore appreciate your finding a different place to locate that 8 ha of scallop farm.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

I would also like to mention that your map on the website is fairly inaccurate. The islands in this area are drawn much smaller than their real sizes on a nautical chart. This misleadingly makes it look like there is more manoeuvring room between the islands than there is in reality.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Friday, April 18th, 12:20 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so most pleasure craft will be able pass over the lease without any issues. We're redesigning our array keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

What is the draft on the Tigress? Would you be able to pass through if our lines were at a dept of 4m or greater?

I appreciate your note about the map's inaccuracies. That design is for conversation purposes only and won't be what we ultimately use in our lease application.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] Submission (04/17)

Thursday, April 17, 2025 19:05 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

mahone bay/[REDACTED]

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

boating access

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Friday, April 18th, 12:31 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so most pleasure craft will be able pass over the lease without any issues. We're redesigning our array to keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

Submission (04/17)

Thursday, April 17, 2025 20:11 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Martin's River

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Lease area A and B are planned in key boating and recreational zones / lanes. In particular B which is used substantially by local residents and as a cross over area. Its current position is significantly infringing on the west side of Kaulback Island. I would recommend not licensing in zone B. Area / Zone A extends too far into a navigation lane. It could be moved more in the back westerly side of the island vs extending into the navigational lanes. Of all the areas zone B is the most concerning based on size and location.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

I would suggest more detailed surveys by lease area so that the recreational users of the areas can provide experienced insight about where key navigation lanes will be. It will help to properly align the positioning.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature [signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Friday, April 18th, 12:43 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

I also welcome your specific feedback regarding leases A & B and your suggestion that we reposition lease A. We will take this into account as we rework the locations of our proposed leases. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from recreational users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

On the design note, we've designed our farm with recreational users in mind. Scallops grow quite far below the surface, so most pleasure craft will be able pass over the lease without any issues. We're redesigning our array to keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

You may be interested in attending one of our planned meet-and-greets at the Mahone Bay Centre Kitchen on April 19th at 10 am or 2 pm. These sessions are meant to be casual and conversational so we can discuss the details and nuances of people's questions and concerns. We also have an official public information session on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. That will include a presentation and Q&A but will be more structured. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

Submission (04/23)

Monday, April 21, 2025 19:13 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Indian Point

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Generally, not much impact. We live next to the existing (formerly mussel now) scallop farm, and favor shellfish/seaweed aquaculture development in general, and employment opportunities that help maintain traditional coastal culture. Provided gear is not set in heavy traffic routes, in deep water over mud bottom, AND sunk 3-4 meters deep, it should be no particular hindrance to recreational sailors/boaters or commercial fishermen.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Wednesday, April 23rd, 11:39 AM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will continue to gather insight and feedback from recreational users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm. We're redesigning our array to keep our horizontal lines 4 m below the surface. We'll have minimal buoys on the surface and those will be soft and visible, with vertical lines that are unlikely to cause entanglement.

Our official public information session will be held on May 1st at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium at 6:30 pm. That will include a presentation and Q&A. Let me know if you plan to attend, and I'll keep an eye out for you.

Please feel free to reach out to me if any other questions or concerns come up.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] Submission (04/25)

Friday, April 25, 2025 17:38 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Indian Point Mahone Bay

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Commercial, Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Mahone Bay Area and Indian Point specifically are the most used recreational marine area on Canada's East coast excluding Halifax Harbour. Tremendous amounts of Boating traffic extend out through these waters as well as residents and property owners on the islands. Transport Canada has navigational corridors throughout the area which would impinge on traffic. Blue Lantern Aquaculture have been mislead by Nova Scotia Fisheries by pointing them to this heavily congested area when there are many less traveled sites the the greater Bay. Sustainable Marine Aquaculture has a place in our ocean economy in the right place at the right scale. Let's find them appropriate locations out of the mainstream.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] Submission (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025 12:03 pm

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the NSDFA and note that several other residents have expressed the same opinion. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Our official public information session will be held on May 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. It will include a presentation and Q&A. If you plan to attend, let me know, and I'll look out for you.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] Submission (04/26)

Saturday, April 26, 2025 01:08 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter

[file attached]

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

[Text of attached file as follows]

Thank you for the opportunity to express my concerns regarding the scallop and kelp farm proposed by Blue Lantern Shellfish for installation in Mahone Bay.

The proposed locations for installation of farm gear detailed by Blue Lantern Shellfish on their website are located in some of the areas most actively enjoyed by the recreational marine population in Mahone Bay. These locations will significantly restrict the use and enjoyment of the bay and islands in the proposed areas. There must be many other locations along the coast of Nova Scotia where installations would be less impactful to the leisure boating population.

We understand that the installations will provide a water depth over the gear of about 3 meters. There are sailing vessels that have a draft exceeding the proposed 3 meters further restricting vessels access to those areas. In wave or wake situations 3 meters is insufficient. Additionally boats with drafts of less than 3 meters may be negatively impacted by tide and wave heights which will reduce the 3 meter depth. Many of those areas are popular anchoring spots and the farming in these locations will negatively restrict and impact the use of these areas.

There is an historical and vibrant leisure marine industry in Mahone Bay. I believe that the proposed shellfish and kelp farm's footprint will negatively impact the use of these popular areas of the bay.

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, June 2nd, 2025 11:55 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write a letter, and for sharing your opinion.

I apologize for my very slow response. Somehow your letter slipped through the cracks and I just found it today.

We will pass your feedback on to the NSDFA. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

Submission (04/27)

Sunday, April 27, 2025 23:56 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Second Peninsula

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

As an area resident and a frequent boater on the waters of Mahone Bay, including through the proposed lease areas, I would want to know that the environmental footprint of the proposed aquaculture activity is minimal (if any) and that the physical structures are not going to impede the free flow of boating activity in the area of the leases. I attended one of your conversation sessions and I think I am satisfied that both of those concerns can, with proper planning, be allayed. As someone who has raised 3 children in this area and who is interested in having a thriving and viable community, I am certainly in favour of increased industry with jobs and opportunities for young people to live and work in the area, as long as the industry is compatible with preservation of the unique ecology and environment that we are privileged to enjoy.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

Care should be taken to ensure that the location of the proposed leases avoids the usual corridors for boating traffic. Direct consultation with the groups representing frequent boaters in the area will be crucial to establishing this. In addition, specific measures (buoy and line depth) should be taken to ensure that boating traffic that does travel over the lease area is unimpeded to a depth of at least 4m at low tide. Indications in our conversation were that both of these things could be accomplished.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also

certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, April 29th, 2025 1:38 pm

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, taking the time to fill out the form, and sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA and note that several other residents have expressed a similar opinion. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Our official public information session will be held on May 1st at 6:30 p.m. at the Mahone Bay Centre Gymnasium. It will include a presentation and Q&A. If you plan to attend, let me know, and I'll look out for you.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (04/29)

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 18:03 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter

- [Comments re Blue Lantern Aquaculture lease proposal.pdf](#) (1.05 MB)

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes



April 29, 2025

Public Comment in opposition to the Blue Lantern Aquaculture lease in the proposed location AQ #4041Option to Lease Mahone Bay

Via email: Blue Lantern public comment portal

Dear Sir:

I am writing to express our concerns regarding the Blue Lantern application for an aquaculture scallop farming license in Mahone Bay. We have met informally with the proponents and understand their sincerity about responsible development of their project and the economic benefit as a business. While the idea of expanding the aquaculture industry may seem beneficial for economic reasons, it is imperative to consider the appropriateness of the location(s) and impact on boater tourism.

"Location Location" as a realtor will say

The islands of Mahone Bay form a sailor's paradise for boats of all types. It can be argued that the islands of the bay form a recreational cruising area that is pristine, publicly accessible and easily within reach of many boaters. This attests to the success of the Mahone Islands Conservation Association, with private and public funds, keeping islands natural and accessible to the public. From a recreational boating perspective, the area is akin to the popular sailing areas like the Gulf Islands of British Columbia, the 1,000 Islands of Ontario, the North Channel of Lake Huron, and possibly even tropical destinations like the British Virgin Islands (except for the cold water!). Quoting from the Joni Mitchell lyrics "you don't know what you've got 'till it's gone"

It is startling that the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture would even consider such a vast area for potential commercial development given the public and private efforts at preservation.

Boater Tourism

Visiting boaters, particularly sailboat owners, drawn here by the unique features of Mahone Bay, make an important contribution to the local economy. The Mahone Bay Civic Marina is based at the Town wharf and is operated by the not-for-profit Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society. It caters to cruising boaters both local and visiting. It has 53 moorings and dock space to accommodate seasonal users and visiting boaters. It employs at least four high school aged attendants to provide customer service including operation of the water taxi to and from the mooring field. In an average season there are 700 to 800 visitor "boat nights" (seasonal renters excluded). These visitors are an important contribution to tourism in the Town of Mahone Bay. Many visitors have commented that our location and the charm of the islands in the heart of the bay make this a destination. The features and services available make the

*Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society
683 Main Street, Mahone Bay ND, B0J 2E0*

Civic Marina a preferred place to stay. The annual revenue of the Civic Marina is \$100,000 and tourism revenue to the Town of Mahone Bay is equally substantial.

Our marina has on several occasions hosted the Nova Scotia Schooner Association race week. A fleet of a dozen heritage wooden schooners under full sail is impressive

Beyond Just Navigation

The areas around Indian Point, Young Island, Andrews Island, Spectacle Island, Gifford Island, Bachmans Island and Loye Island, among others, are regularly used as sailboat cruising and racing areas. Unobstructed navigation in the strict sense is not the only issue. Cruising by boat features using islands as anchorages for lunch stops and overnight stays. As you are aware sailboat navigation requires tacking maneuvers which take up far more area than just a straight line between islands. Tacking or anchoring within 20m of an island is not unusual when the depth permits.

Nova Scotia waters are now experiencing increasing frequency and strength of Atlantic hurricanes. The season is June 1st to November 30th with most likely impacts occurring in the fall. Faced with an identified hurricane threat sailors need to find protection. Sheltering in the lee of an appropriate island is one good strategy. The scallop farming locations also seem to require these sheltered locations putting recreational boating and aquaculture farming in conflict. There is no guarantee that the farming gear, particularly in the suggested shallow sites would be clear of keel boat equipment and operation. Smaller craft like kayaks can only be landed on sheltered generally sandy shorelines: the same sort of location preferred for aquaculture operations.

Environment

We understand that high valued scallops are the target product and that farming these requires pristine waters. Can this be assumed in the locations proposed? Proper stewardship is expected of boaters but there is no enforcement in Nova Scotia of the improper use of onboard blackwater systems. The possibility of improper discharge of blackwater inside the 3-mile minimum distance from shore cannot be excluded. The Civic Marina does operate a proper pump-out facility (one of the few in Nova Scotia) but on average there are just a few dozen users. Its doubtful that is the total of all boaters who should use such facilities.

Perhaps the proponents have checked but the existence of straight pipes from properties in the area may also still exist especially from older homes along the coast.

*Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society
683 Main Street, Mahone Bay ND, B0J 2E0*

Conclusion

The locations shown by Blue Lantern and more generally the entire area allocated for study by DNR conflicts with our interests in boating and boater tourism. We feel it will, at scale, diminish the attractiveness of the area and its popularity for recreational boat cruising and racing.

There are sound reasons why Mahone Bay as opposed to say St Margarets Bay is a destination of choice for that activity.

Respectfully


Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society (aka Mahone Bay Civic Marina)

*Mahone Bay Wooden Boat Society
683 Main Street, Mahone Bay NS, B0J 2E0*

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 10:55 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write your letter, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed a similar opinion. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (04/30)

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 16:00 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Hermans Island

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational , Tourism and recreational boaters

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I own a sailboat and regularly sail in the areas that you have included in the aquaculture proposal. These areas have very high use by recreational boaters between May and October. The aquaculture operation would be a serious navigation hazard for boaters.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:11 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write your letter, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed similar opinions. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (05/01)

Thursday, May 01, 2025 11:14 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Upload your letter

- [Public Feedback Submission \[REDACTED\] \(1\).pdf](#) (112.17 Kb)

I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Public Feedback Submission
Re: Opposition to Proposed Shellfish Aquaculture Lease – Blue Lantern Shellfish NS,
Mahone Bay

April 28, 2025

Dear Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture,

I am writing to formally submit feedback regarding the proposed shellfish aquaculture project by Blue Lantern Shellfish NS in Mahone Bay.

First, I want to express my strong support for Nova Scotia's aquaculture industry. It is a vital part of our economy, supporting sustainable food production, rural development, and employment. I personally value and enjoy the exceptional shellfish our province produces and recognize the importance of a healthy and well-regulated aquaculture sector. However, I am strongly opposed to the approval of this particular project in the location proposed.

In reviewing the application through the lens of the NS Aquaculture Review Board's mandated considerations under Rule 3 of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations (N.S. Reg. 347/2015, amended to N.S. Reg. 186/2019), it is clear that the proposal raises serious concerns across multiple required factors:

1. Public Right of Navigation (Rule 3(f)) and Other Users of Public Waters (Rule 3(e))

In reviewing the specific coordinates associated with the Option to Lease approval, it is clear that the total exploratory area covers approximately **1,963 hectares**—an area far exceeding the 50 hectares referenced as the specific aquaculture farming sites in public discussions. While this is a small percentage of the total area, the entire **1,963 hectares** encompasses some of the highest-traffic recreational and commercial boating waters in Mahone Bay. The seven designated lease sites fall directly within the most heavily navigated channels between Indian Point, Oakland, and adjacent islands. Given the prominence of these waterways for tourism, community recreation, and historic boating activities, the sheer scale and location of this proposal are fundamentally incompatible with the continued safe and accessible use of Mahone Bay's public marine space.

The proposed 50-hectare farm would create serious and unacceptable obstacles to safe navigation for both recreational and commercial vessels. The infrastructure would introduce hazards, increasing the risk of vessel damage either through direct collisions or as vessels maneuver to avoid each other in constrained waterways. These waters are internationally recognized for their beauty and world-class sailing. Boaters travel from around the globe to

experience these waters, and the installation of such extensive infrastructure would materially and negatively impact that experience.

Additionally, the Bluenose II, Nova Scotia's most iconic and historically significant sailing vessel, regularly navigates these waters, drawing both marine and land-based tourism. With a length of 160 feet and a draft of 16.5 feet, the Bluenose II requires clear, unobstructed access to safely operate. Should this proposed aquaculture project proceed, it would materially limit the Bluenose II from showcasing its historic significance within the designated area—further eroding public access, visitor experience, and the community's connection to this vital symbol of Nova Scotia's maritime heritage.

It is also important to note that the proposed 50-hectare site alone would be larger than the sum total of all existing approved aquaculture sites in Mahone Bay, based on information available through the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture. This scale is unprecedented for our region and raises serious questions about how such a large installation—covering historically significant and heavily used waterways—could be considered compatible with existing recreational, commercial, and tourism activities. The scope of this proposal seems deeply out of balance with the historic and current uses of Mahone Bay.

2. Contribution to Community and Provincial Economic Development (Rule 3(b))

Rather than contributing positively, this proposal threatens existing, sustainable economic activity. The Mahone Bay Civic Marina alone leases 40 seasonal moorings and welcomes between 700–800 visiting boat nights annually. Visiting boaters contribute substantially to the economy of Mahone Bay, Oakland, Indian Point, and Martins River, supporting retail, dining, lodging, and cultural activities. Restricting and fragmenting these waters would directly diminish tourism revenue and the vibrancy of the broader community.

On a personal note, my partner and I chose to move to Mahone Bay 18 months ago because of its unparalleled access to sailing, marine recreation, and vibrant community life. The installation of an industrial-scale shellfish operation would fundamentally and negatively alter that experience—not just for us, but for thousands of visitors and residents alike.

3. Optimum Use of Marine Resources (Rule 3(a))

Mahone Bay's waters have historically been used for a range of public purposes—recreation, small-scale fishing, tourism, and community enjoyment. Turning a disproportionately large and critical section of these public waters into a private, industrial operation is not an optimum use of marine resources. It would prioritize private gain for a few over the collective interests of many.

4. Oceanographic and Biophysical Characteristics (Rule 3(d))

There is insufficient clarity provided about site-specific impacts on tidal flows, habitat structures, and species interaction. A project of this size—covering multiple prime marine areas—demands rigorous, independent evaluation to ensure that environmental risks are identified and mitigated.

5. Fishery Activities in Surrounding Waters (Rule 3(c))

Mahone Bay supports ongoing commercial and recreational fishery activities. The proposed farm could interfere with these activities and introduce navigational complexity that could have cumulative negative effects on local fisheries.

6. Sustainability of Wild Salmon (Rule 3(g))

While scallop aquaculture is generally seen as low-risk for wild salmon, comprehensive site-specific assessments must be conducted to ensure there are no indirect ecosystem impacts that could affect wild populations.

7. Number and Productivity of Other Aquaculture Sites (Rule 3(h))

Given that smaller-scale aquaculture operations already exist in Mahone Bay, introducing a single new operation of such disproportionate size risks destabilizing the historical balance of marine resource use in the area.

Additional Concerns Regarding the Proponent's Experience

Blue Lantern Shellfish NS was founded in 2022 by individuals whose backgrounds lie in hospitality, event production, and filmmaking. While their entrepreneurial spirit is commendable, they have no operational track record in aquaculture installation, management, or stewardship—particularly not at this scale.

Their framing of the project as a benefit to community and ecology does not change the fundamental nature of this venture as an entrepreneurial opportunity with high public impact. Furthermore, no clear operational plan has been provided for where harvesting and

maintenance activities will be based, raising additional concerns about future pressures on public infrastructure such as community wharves.

In Closing

While sustainable aquaculture is an important part of Nova Scotia's future, it must be carefully balanced against existing uses, environmental protection, and the long-term vitality of communities like Mahone Bay.

I respectfully request that the Department decline this application as currently proposed and work with the proponents to identify a more appropriate location—one that does not compromise historic navigation routes, tourism-driven economies, or the rich marine heritage of our coastal communities.

I have attended public information sessions related to this application and will continue to engage in available public forums and discussions to remain informed and contribute constructively to the review and decision-making process.

Thank you for considering this feedback. I trust your decision-making will prioritize the broader public interest and the responsible stewardship of Nova Scotia's invaluable marine spaces.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:05 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write your letter, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed similar opinions. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (04/30)

Wednesday, April 30, 2025 16:00 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Hermans Island

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational , Tourism and recreational boaters

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

I own a sailboat and regularly sail in the areas that you have included in the aquaculture proposal. These areas have very high use by recreational boaters between May and October. The aquaculture operation would be a serious navigation hazard for boaters.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:11 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write your letter, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed similar opinions. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (05/06)

Tuesday, May 06, 2025 10:30 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Martin's River

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

As younger person who's grown up in the area I believe this project could be a great addition to the local economy. This is a more sustainable form of aquaculture. With considerably smaller environmental impact when compared to other forms undertaken in the province. This is a refreshing change that could help to drive the industry in a more sustainable direction. Given the heavy amount of commercial/recreational boat traffic in the area this proposal does present a large barrier to overcome. However I believe that provided the concerns around this can be met this project could be a great addition to our community.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:32 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to fill out the form, and for sharing your opinion. We really appreciate hearing from you, as the benefits of this project will be realized in the future, and it is motivating to know that this idea resonates with young Nova Scotians.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:42 am

Thanks for the quick response Paul. I spoke with your partner Chaz at the last public session. Just wanted to share something positive as there were some very passionate people speaking against the project that night.

I worked for several years building, deploying and maintaining environmental monitoring equipment, and through that have traveled to a number of aquaculture sites. Almost all being fin fish sites. I think what you guys are proposing is refreshing form of aquaculture. Have you spoken with any of the other local producers? I believe there's is a small single site scallop farm located near Graves Island, it used to be operated by [REDACTED] I believe the gentleman's name was. He was formally with the Oceans Tracking Network based in Dalhousie, he may have some environmental data to help quell the fears of one of the persons at the meeting who tired to draw a compassion of the environmental impact of your proposed operation to that of a fin fish site.

Excited to see you guy again at your next event,

[REDACTED]

████████ (BL Response)

Tuesday, May 6th, 2025 11:59 am

Hi █████

I've had great talks with the local scallop farmers. There are four in Mahone Bay and at least one near Corkum Island. █████ is currently operating off Snake Island.

If you are interested in seeing a scallop farm up close, Ecology Action Centre is putting together a tour of █████ farm off Indian Point and a farm near Corkum Island. It's incredibly cool to see these things in action. I believe they are going out on May 23rd or 24th. I've CC'd █████ from EAC; she'll have all the information.

Thanks again for writing in.

Best,

Paul

[REDACTED] (05/25)

Sunday, May 25, 2025 09:56 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Narrows Basin, Martins River

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

As a recreational sailboater, I think that the proposed sites will adversely affect the sailing in and around the islands , especially the proposed site A. But also the one between Spectacle and Rous. I think you need to find sites(like the one between Gifford and Sheep/ Goat islands) that are tucked away out of any sailing or motoring areas.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, June 2nd, 2025 10:54 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to write your letter, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed similar opinions. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (05/31)

Saturday, May 31, 2025 15:14 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Second Peninsula

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

This project seems to have a sound reasoning and business basis if done with the best scientific practice and ethics behind it. The biggest thing I wanted to emphasize to the project managers is of the common areas of boating that may create areas of friction between local boaters and the project itself. Of note Area F, E, A. The biggest thing with these areas are that they interact with either common routes or common anchoring/beaching areas. Area E is the location of a common anchoring area due to the protected nature of the location. Area F is near a common entry and exit point of Indian Point. If the spot could be tucked closer to Gifford and slightly closer to Sheep I think would be beneficial. Area A interacts with a common entry point from the NE to Indian Point. It serves as a blocking point to the common route and would not be looked upon kindly by the local boating community. If Area A could be shrunk in length to only be in the lee of the island, I think this would be looked upon more kindly.

Other questions or concerns? What else would you like us to know?

I wanted to note, for the awareness of those with the project, common anchoring/beaching areas. Using Google Maps to align names, Whynacht's Cove, Bella Island, N side of Ernst/Gifford, Round Island.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, June 2nd, 2025 10:49 am

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to fill out the form, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate the level of thoughtfulness and specificity about the proposed leases that went into your response. We also appreciate the note about common beaching and anchoring areas.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (06/17)

Tuesday, June 17, 2025 14:07 UTC

What's your name?

First Name

[REDACTED]

Last Name

[REDACTED]

Community Name

Martin's River

Postal Code

[REDACTED]

Which best defines your existing use of the proposed lease site?

Recreational

Specifically describe how the proposed aquaculture activities may substantially and directly affect you.

Our community sails and motors in these exact waterways everyday for almost 6 months a year. These are some of the most busy recreational areas in NS (Mahone Bay islands) and people come from all over to enjoy these waters. It is tourist destination and used very much by our local community. These islands provide protection for our boats which create a pleasurable and safe boating experience. This area is a very unique coastal area and why many people live and pay tax here so they can use these waterways freely. Not to mention the transportation routes used by our community - to the islands and to different towns and beaches. This area is too busy for what you are proposing. Please find somewhere else where there are less boats and water activity. We are not opposed to a more sustainable way to fish but this was not properly thought out when proposing this land. This is a private venture taking away tax payers access to the water ways in and around these islands. The nexts can be dangerous to keeled boats. Please find another place to fish and make your money.

By signing and submitting this form, I acknowledge and understand that my comments will be shared with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and may be shared with public. I also certify that the information provided on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

yes

Your Signature

[signed]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, June 23, 2025 10:53 AM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for participating in this process with us, for taking the time to fill out the form, and for sharing your opinion. We appreciate it.

We will pass your feedback on to the DFA. We note that several other residents have expressed similar opinions. We will continue to gather insight and feedback from other water users and will eventually produce more detailed information about potential sites and the design of our farm.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any other questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Paul

--

L. Paul MacInnis

Co-Founder

Blue Lantern Shellfish

www.bluelantern.ca

[REDACTED] (Follow Up)

Monday, June 23, 2025 11:32 AM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Hello,

Who is giving you permission for these sites? I am assuming tax payers/ voters do not get a final say in this? Is it the provincial government that gives permission for this?

Also your proposal has very little detail.

Please advise and I have ccd [REDACTED] as well.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] (BL Response)

Monday, June 23, 2025 12:21 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

Hi [REDACTED]

The process for creating a scallop farm in Nova Scotia is described on our website, where it is abbreviated for the sake of readability. A fuller description of the regulations and process, including information on permitting responsibility and public input, can be found on the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture website: <https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/>

Kind regards,

Paul

[REDACTED] (Follow Up)

Monday, June 23, 2025 12:36 PM

Subject: Blue Lantern Shellfish Farm Follow-Up

This answers none of my questions.

It also doesn't say how close the proposed scallop nets are from the surface. THIS IS A TERRIBLE PLACE TO PUT YOUR PRIVATE FARM.

We will fight this.

Appendix N: Baseline Station Names

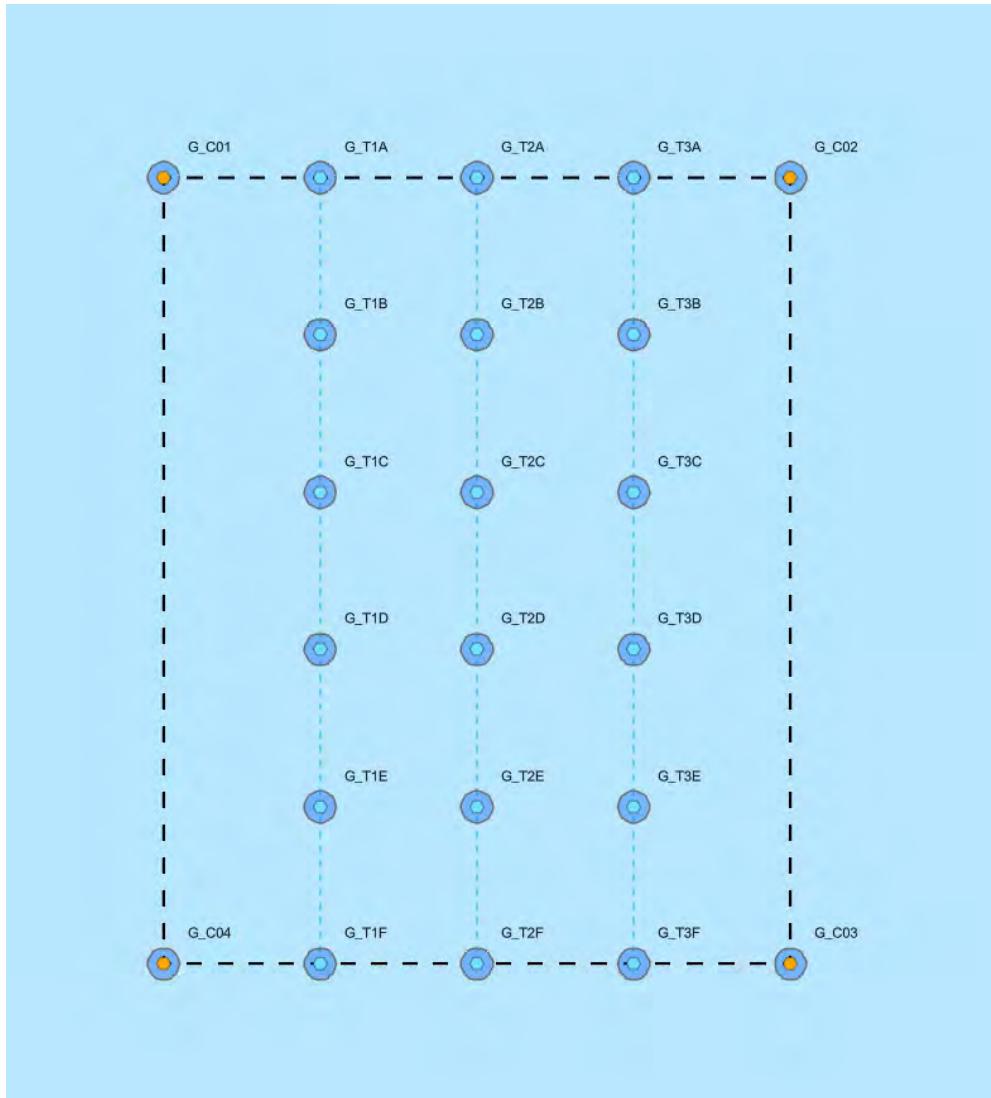
Area I



Area H



Area G



Appendix O: Transport Canada Notice of Works Forms for Leases G, H, and I



Transport
Canada

Transports
Canada

Navigation Protection Program

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Application for Approval

General Information

Registry Number

13420

Application Title

Blue Lantern Shellfish Aquaculture Farm

TC File Number

N/A

Are you the riparian property owner?

No

Is the body of water listed on the schedule to the CNWA?

Yes

Are you representing an Indigenous group?

No

Is the work near/on First Nations reserve or land claim?

No

Is there evidence of current use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Mahone Bay is a busy waterway that is dominated by recreational activity with some commercial activity as well.

Is there evidence of past/historical use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Various recreational areas take place in the area, including sailing races organized by local clubs. There are no known commercial fishing activities within the boundaries of our proposed leases.

Is there a reasonable likelihood of use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

We would expect the public to navigate past the lease on their way to and from various islands and coves. We have adjusted our farm design to reduce the risk of accidental entanglement if a vessel passes through our leases, whether intentionally or unintentionally. We did this by keeping horizontal growlines at a safe depth (4m), shortening the vertical lines on growline flotation buoys, and removing anchor retrieval buoys from the surface. Additionally, we will deploy highly visible corner marker buoys to assist navigation.

Are you applying for a Governor in Council exemption to the prohibitions (sections 21 to 24 of the CNWA)?

No

Does this project involve throwing or depositing materials in water?

No

Does this project involve dewatering a body of water?

No

Owner's Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

Address

Billing Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

4552737 Nova Scotia Ltd d.b.a Blue Lantern Shellfish

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address**Owner's Agent Contact Information****First Name**

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

.....

Primary Phone Number

.....

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address

.....

Work Site Information**Province/Territory**

Nova Scotia

Geographical Area (nearest municipality/county/district)

Lunenburg County

Body of water

Mahone Bay

Enter the name of the waterway

N/A

Site location such as Lot, Concession, Section, Township, Range, Meridian, 911 Address, Property, Identification etc...

Site G is located to the South West of Andrews Island in Mahone Bay. We will operate a scallop and kelp farm.

G_C01	Corner	44.44005	-64.3201
G_C02	Corner	44.44005	-64.3151
G_C03	Corner	44.43555	-64.3151
G_C04	Corner	44.43555	-64.3201

Legal Land Description

NA

Site Location

Latitude

44.440050

Longitude

-64.320100

Canadian Hydrographic Chart Number

N/A

Topographic Map Number

N/A

Body of Water Details

Width (meters)

N/A

Depth (meters)

N/A

Bottom Type

Muddy

Current

N/A

Additional body of water information

N/A

Potential obstructions, such as natural/man-made, other works, navigation aids, etc...

None noted.

Land use/Ownership, such as past/current, private/government, rural/suburban, coastal, environmental, etc..

NA

Body of Water Information**Navigation Types**

- Commercial
- Recreational

Maximum Vessel Length

N/A

Maximum Vessel Width

N/A

Maximum Vessel Draft

N/A

Maneuverability

Excellent

Day/Night

Day and Night

Volume

Moderate

Navigation Seasons

- Winter
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall

Other uses such as cottagers, special events, fishing, etc...

N/A

Project Information**Work Item 1****Work Type**

Aquaculture facility - species other than finfish

Work Subtype

No work subtype

Work Statuses

- Construct

Work Sub-Status

Permanent

Prohibition Type

N/A

Brief project description

Site G will be comprised of two sections that contain fifty 100 m growlines each. Growlines will run horizontally to one another and be placed at 10 m intervals. There will be anchor lines of approximately 45 m length on either end.

Method of construction

Each growline will require two screw anchors, one at each end, and these are deployed by divers who use a lever to twist the screw into the ground. If the mud is too firm for that method, we will use a mechanized system. The anchor lines are then connected to the

growlines and flotation buoys, lantern nets, and pearl nets are hung along the growline.

Anticipated impacts

N/A

Original Estimated Invoice

[REDACTED]

Expected Construction Start Date

2026-09-01

Expected Construction End Date

2031-09-01

Environmental Review Information

Is the work located on Federal lands?

No

Is the project a designated project under the Physical Activities Regulations under the Impact Assessment Act?

No

Is the project subject to Northern Environmental Assessment (EA) Regime(s)?

No

If yes, identify the northern EA regime(s) that apply

N/A

Other Federal Organizations Involved

N/A

If 'Other', Please Specify

N/A

Mandatory Documents

Documents

- Map showing location of project
- Top / Plan drawing with dimensions
- Side / Profile drawing with dimensions
- General arrangement drawing(de picting new and existing work)

List of Mandatory Documents

- BL_SiteG_0.5.pdf

Supporting Documents

Documents

N/A

List of Supporting Documents

N/A

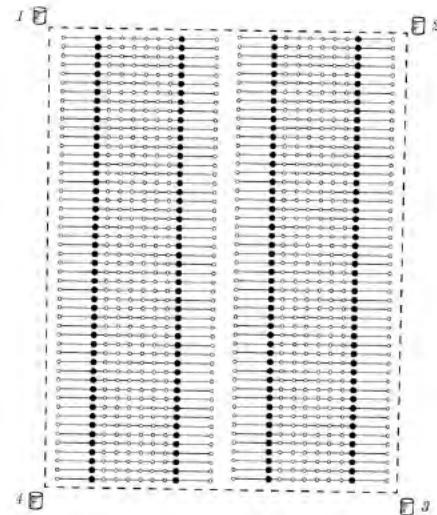
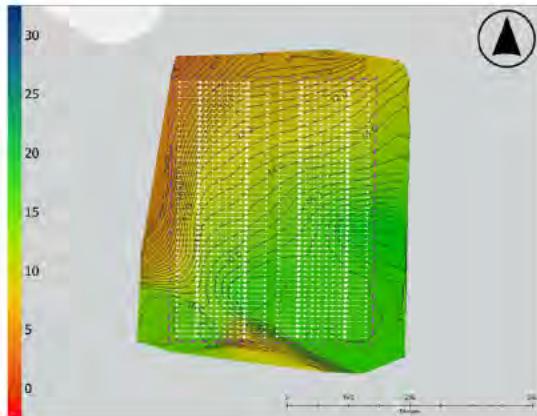
Submission Date

2025-07-24

AREA G: 400 x 500 m

This section has 100 arrays (2X50 line sections):

- 10m apart
- 100 m growline
- 45m anchor line on each end
- 2 anchors on each line



Corner 1	44.44005	-64.3201
Corner 2	44.44005	-64.3151
Corner 3	44.43555	-64.3151
Corner 4	44.43555	-64.3201



Transport
Canada

Transports
Canada

Navigation Protection Program

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Application for Approval

General Information

Registry Number

13421

Application Title

Blue Lantern Shellfish Aquaculture Farm Site H

TC File Number

N/A

Are you the riparian property owner?

No

Is the body of water listed on the schedule to the CNWA?

Yes

Are you representing an Indigenous group?

No

Is the work near/on First Nations reserve or land claim?

No

Is there evidence of current use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Mahone Bay is a busy waterway that is dominated by recreational activity with some commercial activity as well.

Is there evidence of past/historical use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Various recreational areas take place in the area, including sailing races organized by local clubs. There are no known commercial fishing activities within the boundaries of our proposed leases.

Is there a reasonable likelihood of use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

We would expect the public to navigate past the lease on their way to and from various islands and coves. We have adjusted our farm design to reduce the risk of accidental entanglement if a vessel passes through our leases, whether intentionally or unintentionally. We did this by keeping horizontal growlines at a safe depth (4m), shortening the vertical lines on growline flotation buoys, and removing anchor retrieval buoys from the surface. Additionally, we will deploy highly visible corner marker buoys to assist navigation.

Are you applying for a Governor in Council exemption to the prohibitions (sections 21 to 24 of the CNWA)?

No

Does this project involve throwing or depositing materials in water?

No

Does this project involve dewatering a body of water?

No

Owner's Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address

Billing Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

4552737 Nova Scotia Ltd d.b.a Blue Lantern Shellfish

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address**Owner's Agent Contact Information****First Name**

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

.....

Primary Phone Number

.....

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address

.....

Work Site Information**Province/Territory**

Nova Scotia

Geographical Area (nearest municipality/county/district)

Body of water

Mahone Bay

Enter the name of the waterway

N/A

Site location such as Lot, Concession, Section, Township, Range, Meridian, 911 Address, Property, Identification etc...

Site H is located on the west side of Rous Island in Mahone Bay. We will operate a scallop and kelp farm.

H_C01	Corner	44.44559	-64.2928
H_C02	Corner	44.44481	-64.2903
H_C03	Corner	44.43735	-64.2947
H_C04	Corner	44.43813	-64.2973

Legal Land Description

NA

Site Location**Latitude**

44.445590

Longitude

-64.292800

Canadian Hydrographic Chart Number

N/A

Topographic Map Number

N/A

Body of Water Details**Width (meters)**

N/A

Depth (meters)

N/A

Bottom Type

N/A

Current

N/A

Additional body of water information

N/A

Potential obstructions, such as natural/man-made, other works, navigation aids, etc...

None Noted

Land use/Ownership, such as past/current, private/government, rural/suburban, coastal, environmental, etc..

NA

Body of Water Information

Navigation Types

- Commercial
- Recreational

Maximum Vessel Length

N/A

Maximum Vessel Width

N/A

Maximum Vessel Draft

N/A

Maneuverability

Excellent

Day/Night

Day and Night

Volume

Moderate

Navigation Seasons

- Winter
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall

Other uses such as cottagers, special events, fishing, etc...

N/A

Project Information

Work Item 1

Work Type

Aquaculture facility - species other than finfish

Work Subtype

N/A

Work Statuses

- Construct

Work Sub-Status

Permanent

Prohibition Type

N/A

Brief project description

Site H will be comprised of one section of ninety 120 m growlines. Growlines will run horizontally to one another and be placed at 10 m intervals. There will be anchor lines of approximately 45 m length on either end.

Method of construction

Each growline will require two screw anchors, one at each end, and these are deployed by divers who use a lever to twist the screw into the ground. If the mud is too firm for that method, we will use a mechanized system. The anchor lines are then connected to the growlines and flotation buoys, lantern nets, and pearl nets are hung along the growline.

- Side / Profile drawing with dimensions
- General arrangement drawing(de picting new and existing work)

List of Mandatory Documents

- BL_SiteH_0.5.pdf

Supporting Documents

Documents

N/A

List of Supporting Documents

N/A

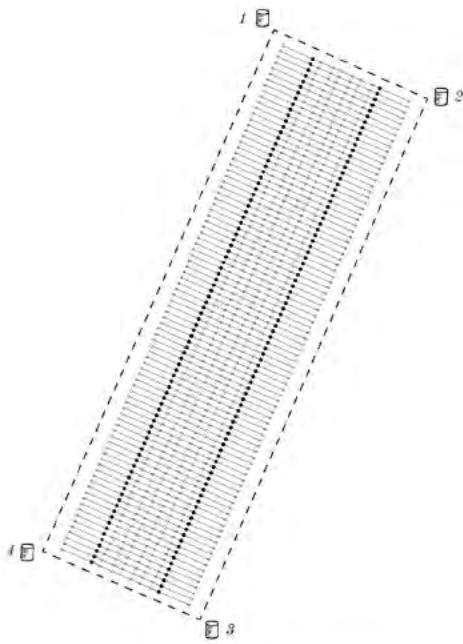
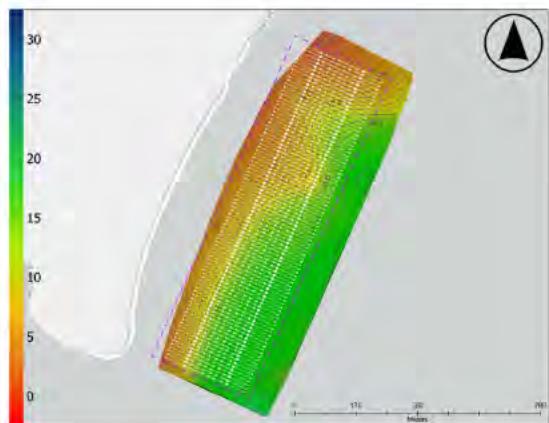
Submission Date

2025-07-24

AREA H: 222 x 900 m

This section has 90 arrays:

- 10m apart
- 120 m grocline
- 45m anchor line on each end
- 2 anchors on each line



Corner 1	44.44559	-64.2938
Corner 2	44.44481	-64.2903
Corner 3	44.43735	-64.2947
Corner 4	44.43813	-64.2973



Transport
Canada

Transports
Canada

Navigation Protection Program

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Application for Approval

General Information

Registry Number

13422

Application Title

Blue Lantern Shellfish Aquaculture Farm Site I

TC File Number

N/A

Are you the riparian property owner?

No

Is the body of water listed on the schedule to the CNWA?

Yes

Are you representing an Indigenous group?

No

Is the work near/on First Nations reserve or land claim?

No

Is there evidence of current use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Mahone Bay is a busy waterway that is dominated by recreational activity with some commercial activity as well.

Is there evidence of past/historical use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

Various recreational areas take place in the area, including sailing races organized by local clubs. There are no known commercial fishing activities within the boundaries of our proposed leases.

Is there a reasonable likelihood of use by the public for navigation purposes?

Yes

If yes, please outline details or provide attached studies/reports

We would expect the public to navigate past the lease on their way to and from various islands and coves. We have adjusted our farm design to reduce the risk of accidental entanglement if a vessel passes through our leases, whether intentionally or unintentionally. We did this by keeping horizontal growlines at a safe depth (4m), shortening the vertical lines on growline flotation buoys, and removing anchor retrieval buoys from the surface. Additionally, we will deploy highly visible corner marker buoys to assist navigation.

Are you applying for a Governor in Council exemption to the prohibitions (sections 21 to 24 of the CNWA)?

No

Does this project involve throwing or depositing materials in water?

No

Does this project involve dewatering a body of water?

No

Owner's Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

Address

Billing Contact Information

First Name

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

4552737 Nova Scotia Ltd d.b.a Blue Lantern Shellfish

Email Address

Primary Phone Number

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address**Owner's Agent Contact Information****First Name**

Paul

Last Name

MacInnis

Organization

N/A

Email Address

.....

Primary Phone Number

.....

Secondary Phone Number

N/A

Address

.....

Work Site Information**Province/Territory**

Nova Scotia

Geographical Area (nearest municipality/county/district)

Body of water

Mahone Bay

Enter the name of the waterway

N/A

Site location such as Lot, Concession, Section, Township, Range, Meridian, 911 Address, Property, Identification etc...

Site I is located to the south of Kaulbach Island in Mahone Bay. We will operate a scallop and kelp farm.

I_C01 Corner	44.46564	-64.2884
I_C02 Corner	44.46679	-64.2865
I_C03 Corner	44.46335	-64.2824
I_C04 Corner	44.46219	-64.2844

Legal Land Description

NA

Site Location**Latitude**

44.465640

Longitude

-64.288400

Canadian Hydrographic Chart Number

N/A

Topographic Map Number

N/A

Body of Water Details**Width (meters)**

N/A

Depth (meters)

N/A

Bottom Type

N/A

Current

N/A

Additional body of water information

N/A

Potential obstructions, such as natural/man-made, other works, navigation aids, etc...

N/A

Land use/Ownership, such as past/current, private/government, rural/suburban, coastal, environmental, etc..

N/A

Body of Water Information

Navigation Types

- Commercial
- Recreational

Maximum Vessel Length

N/A

Maximum Vessel Width

N/A

Maximum Vessel Draft

N/A

Maneuverability

Excellent

Day/Night

Day and Night

Volume

Moderate

Navigation Seasons

- Winter
- Spring
- Summer
- Fall

Other uses such as cottagers, special events, fishing, etc...

N/A

Project Information

Work Item 1

Work Type

Aquaculture facility - species other than finfish

Work Subtype

No work subtype

Work Statuses

- Construct

Work Sub-Status

Permanent

Prohibition Type

N/A

Brief project description

Site I will be comprised of one section of fifty 100 m growlines. Growlines will run horizontally to one another and be placed at 10 m intervals. There will be anchor lines of approximately 45 m length on either end.

Method of construction

Each growline will require two screw anchors, one at each end, and these are deployed by divers who use a lever to twist the screw into the ground. If the mud is too firm for that method, we will use a mechanized system. The anchor lines are then connected to the growlines and flotation buoys, lantern nets, and pearl nets are hung along the growline.

Anticipated impacts
NA

Original Estimated Invoice
[REDACTED]

Expected Construction Start Date

2026-09-01

Expected Construction End Date

2031-09-01

Environmental Review Information

Is the work located on Federal lands?

No

Is the project a designated project under the Physical Activities Regulations under the Impact Assessment Act?

No

Is the project subject to Northern Environmental Assessment (EA) Regime(s)?

No

If yes, identify the northern EA regime(s) that apply

N/A

Other Federal Organizations Involved

N/A

If 'Other', Please Specify

N/A

Mandatory Documents

Documents

- Map showing location of project
- Top / Plan drawing with dimensions



- Side / Profile drawing with dimensions
- General arrangement drawing(de picting new and existing work)

List of Mandatory Documents

- BL_Sitel_1.0.pdf

Supporting Documents

Documents

N/A

List of Supporting Documents

N/A

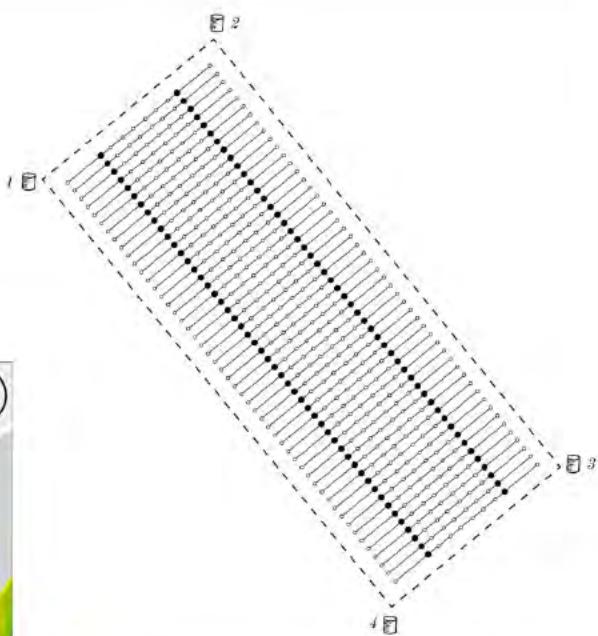
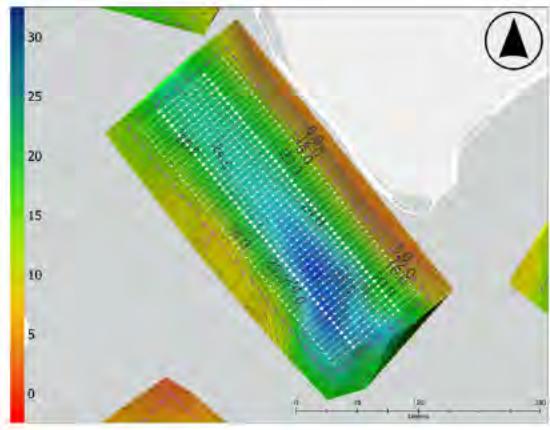
Submission Date

2025-07-24

AREA I: 200 x 500 m

This section has 50 arrays:

- 10m apart
- 120 m growline
- 45m anchor line on each end
- 2 anchors on each line



<i>Corner 1</i>	<i>44.46564</i>	<i>-64.2884</i>
<i>Corner 2</i>	<i>44.46679</i>	<i>-64.2865</i>
<i>Corner 3</i>	<i>44.46335</i>	<i>-64.2824</i>
<i>Corner 4</i>	<i>44.46219</i>	<i>-64.2844</i>