

## Decision – Application to Administrator

### Application Summary:

<b>Application Reference Number:</b>	REF#548
<b>Aquaculture Site Number:</b>	AQ#0595
<b>Application Class:</b>	Class III
<b>Application Type:</b>	Assignment
<b>Abstract:</b>	Application to assign licence and lease no. 0595 to Scotch Cove Shellfish Ltd.
<b>Applicant Name:</b>	Paul-Aime Joncas
<b>Date Received by Department:</b>	May 28, 2025
<b>Location:</b>	Mahone Bay
<b>County:</b>	Lunenburg
<b>Site Type:</b>	Marine
<b>Operation Type:</b>	Commercial

### Current Licence / Lease Information:

<b>Site Size (in hectares):</b>	2.03
<b>Method(s) of Cultivation:</b>	Suspended
<b>Species:</b>	Blue mussel, American oyster, Bay scallop, Giant sea scallop
<b>Term of Licence:</b>	December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2025
<b>Term of Lease:</b>	December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2035

### Decision:

<b>Decision Issued:</b>	Approved
<b>Signature and Date:</b>	Robert Ceschiutti, Aquaculture Administrator

## Definitions:

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

**Act** means the Nova Scotia *Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act*

**Department** means the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

**Regulations** means the Nova Scotia *Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations*

## Site History:

Aquaculture licence and lease no. 0595 was initially issued to Michael Dadswell on January 27, 1993, for a 10-year term (February 1, 1993 to February 1, 2003), for the suspended cultivation of Giant sea scallop, on a 2.03 hectare site within Mahone Bay, Lunenburg County. In February, 1993, the licence and lease were amended to add the species Bay scallop and American oyster. In April, 1993, the licence and lease were amended to add the species Blue mussel. In September, 2003, the licence and lease were renewed for a 5-year term (July 1, 2004 to July 1, 2008). In October, 2004, the licence and lease were assigned to Paul-Aime Joncas. In September, 2008, the licence and lease were renewed for a 5-year term (July 2, 2008 to July 1, 2013). In March, 2015, the licence and lease were renewed for a limited term (July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2015). In May, 2016, the licence was renewed for a 10-year term (December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2025) and the lease was renewed for a 20-year term (December 31, 2015 to December 31, 2035). In July, 2018, the licence and lease were amended to add Federal requirements related to the harvesting of Giant sea scallop.

There is currently an application in process to renew aquaculture licence no. 0595.

## Consultations on Application to Administrator:

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

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

With respect to this assignment application, no consultations were required to be undertaken pursuant to Clause 32(a) of the Regulations.

## Factors to be Considered:

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

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

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

***The optimum use of marine resources***

As this is an application to assign an existing Aquaculture licence and lease, there are no expected novel impacts to the use of marine resources. There were no proposed changes to the existing operation of the aquaculture site related to this assignment application.

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

The application to assign this site did not appear to have any novel impacts (positive or negative) to the economic development of the community or Province.

***Fishery activities in the public waters surrounding the proposed aquacultural operation***

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

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

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

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

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

***The public right of navigation***

This application to assign an existing Aquaculture licence and lease contained no expected novel impacts to the public's right of navigation. The operator is required to adhere to the site marking requirements according to their Notice of Works issued by Transport Canada under the Canadian Navigable Waters Act, reference number NPP# 1991-200015.

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

Aquaculture site no. 0595 is located approximately 1.5 km from the shoreline of Mahone Bay. There are currently a total of 14 marine aquaculture sites in Mahone Bay. There is no evidence to suggest that the assignment of this licence and lease would negatively impact the productivity of other aquaculture sites.

**Decision:**

Based on the factors considered above, the application to assign licence and lease no. 0595 is hereby approved.

***Implementation:***

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