



Office Use Only

# Aquaculture Renewal Application

Licence/Lease No: 1198

## Licence/lease holder:

Applicant: Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd Contact Person: Brian Fortune

Nova Scotia Registry of Joint Stocks Number: 3272052

Revenue Canada Business Number: [REDACTED]

Telephone No. (Work): \_\_\_\_\_ (Home): \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell): [REDACTED]

Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: [REDACTED]

Mailing Address: 931 Brush Wharf Road

Vernon Bridge, PEI Postal Code: C0A 2E0

Civic Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

## Application Materials

A complete application includes the following:

- Renewal 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
- Copy of up-to-date Shareholder’s Register which sets out the shareholdings of the company (if applicable)

## Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an aquaculture application, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) will disclose application information to other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application.

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](mailto:aquaculture@novascotia.ca)



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In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture may disclose application information – not including, however, personal or business confidential information – on the departmental website.

**Privacy Statement**

The personal and business confidential information collected as part of an aquaculture application will only be used or disclosed by Fisheries and Aquaculture for the purpose of deciding on the application.

All application information collected is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (“FOIPOP”) and will only be used or disclosed in accordance with FOIPOP.

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

[Redacted Signature]

Date

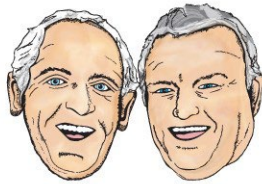
October 9, 2025

Signature of Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture Designate

[Redacted Signature]

Date

October 13, 2025



**BILL & STANLEY**  
- *Oyster Company* -

**Lease Renewal Plan**

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd

**Lease # AQ1198**

October 9, 2025

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## Section 1 Optimum Use of Marine Resources

Lease AQ1198 was originally applied and used as a mussel lease. Bill and Stanley Oyster Company is the third company to own this lease and use it for aquaculture purposes.

The lease is currently used as a grow-out lease holding product anticipated to be of market size within 12 – 18 months of deployment. It is currently outfitted with 1745 OysterGro cages with a capacity of 2,617,500 market size oysters to feed the processing plant at 31 Deming Point Road, Whitehead, Nova Scotia

## Section 2 Contribution to the Community and Provincial Economic Development

Shellfish farming has a proven track record in Nova Scotia waters. It is felt that with the renewed interest in the province for people to move to rural communities, it is only a matter of time before aquaculture operations like ours can be a key component to renewing an economic base in rural coastal areas. We currently have a viable processing plant in the area, the necessary marine equipment and the financial resources to cultivate oysters.

The processing and packing plant currently employs 20 people on a year-round basis with an added 4 employees working full time on the water in Whitehead from April through December and periodically through the months of January to March. These numbers do not include operations in other areas of the province and will increase with the growth of sales through this processing facility.

### Section 3 Activities in Terms of Public Waters

Lease AQ#1198 is positioned in an estuary outside the navigation corridor of Whitehead Harbour. The area has exceptionally little vessel traffic. There is no commercial traffic in the Northwest Arm (location of AQ#1198) The depth of the waters on the lease and surrounding this lease do not make it an ideal area for lobster fishing in proximity to the lease.

## Section 4 Oceanographic and Biophysical Characteristics of the Public Waters

Oysters and mussels are filter feeders. Studies over the years have determined that there is no impact to the ocean floor under the leases and very little concern for public waters.

The lines run north to south to avoid unnecessary strain to the back lines and any floating gear during the most severe environmental conditions in the area.

The area is monitored for bio toxins by CFIA. The Plant Manager and the Area Bay Manager are responsible for ensuring that conditions always meet regulatory requirements to ensure harvests for market ready animals are made from open and approved waters.

BSOC monitors for potential rain fall events that would hamper harvest plans and for any environmental events that might potentially cause harm to gear and animals on this lease

## Section 5 Other Users of Public Waters Surrounding the Site

There are no other users of the waters surrounding this lease site. There is an abundance of seals in the harbour and an annual visit from basking whales is not uncommon. Neither the seals nor the sharks have caused any concern in the lease, as they appear to like the fish abundant water in other areas of the harbour.

## Section 6 Public Right to Navigation

Lease AQ#1198 is located outside the normal navigation route to and from the public wharf in Whitehead Harbour. The lease site is marked following the NWPA requirements for the site. When not in use the gear is sunk deep enough below the surface.

Due to a low population in the area, combined with the absence of cottages and campgrounds, and high prevalence of fog in the area during the prime boating season, recreational boaters have not historically been seen in the area, and certainly not during the time of year this lease will be most active. If this changes in the future pleasure craft owners will be welcome to use the area and there will be nothing that would hamper their boating experiences.

The back lines from this system sit well below the surface and would have no effect on any boat operator who did not understand the markings for the lease and unintentionally navigated inside the marked lease boundaries.

## Section 7 Development Viability

Bill and Stanley Oyster Company Ltd has operated a shellfish growing and processing operation in Nova Scotia for the past 10 years. We have 35 employees in the province that rely on the sales through the plant in Whitehead for their pay cheques. Lease 1198 is a strategic lease in BSOC's portfolio.

The owners of the company have a long history in the aquaculture industry in Nova Scotia. At this time, we feel we can reliably sell any product we produce on the lease.

## Section 8 Technical Ability

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company Ltd has a well-trained team of employees working for the company both on and off the water. The company has been the leader of innovation in the oyster industry in Atlantic Canada. Many of our growing techniques and equipment were developed in-house and were later adopted by farmers across the region. The processing operations have followed the same path and in every progressive processing facility in the region you will find equipment that was developed or improved by the team at BSOC. Examples would be vision grading, automated counting systems, temperature controlled wet holding systems as well as patented packaging technologies.

The team at Bill & Stanley Oyster Company would have a combined total of over 200 years of active participation in the Atlantic Canadian aquaculture industry.

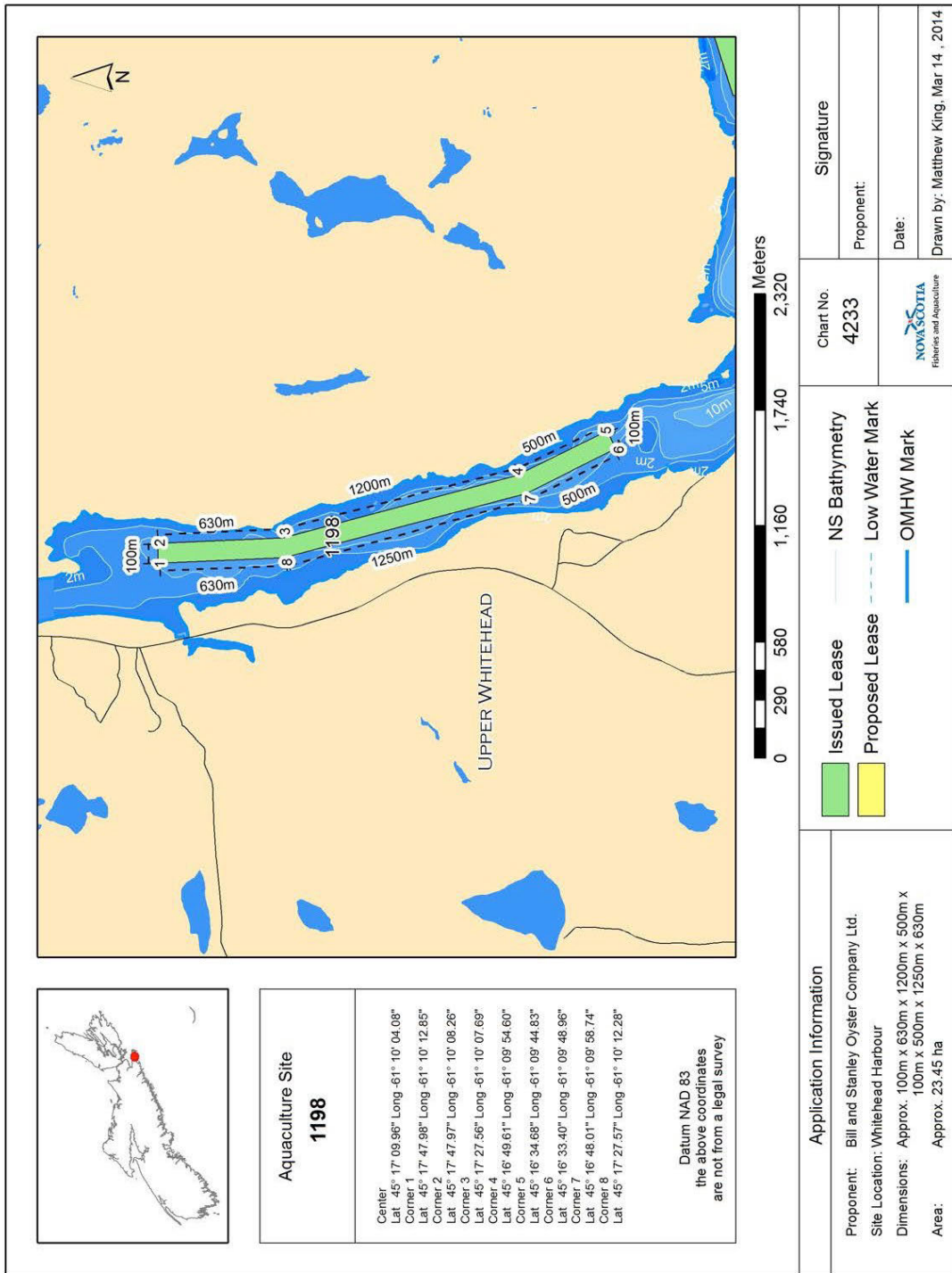
## Section 9 Compliance History

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company has had no serious compliance issues with the province or NWPAs. Any issues have been quickly resolved.

Bill & Stanley Oyster Company has an active Farm Management Plan.

Our crews must have valid vessel operator's licenses, wear approved safety flotation devices and have valid first aid certificates. The vessels are equipped with modern equipment to ensure the personal safety of all crews working on the water. The company has a zero-tolerance policy for use of alcohol or drugs while on company property and vessels.

# Section 10 Lease Map



# Section 11 Lease Layout Showing Lines, Spacing and Navigation Corridors



## Section 12 OysterGro Cages

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### **OysterGro Cages**

This system suspends 6 vexar bags in the water column through an aluminum rack, **which has two pontoon style floats attached. These floats keep the cage floating on the surface during normal conditions, allow the cage to be flipped out of water for air drying, and are also used as feet during the winter when the floats are filled with water and sunk to the bottom.**

**Lines are run between ropes that are attached to the anchors. This "backline" has two droppers every 12 feet which are weaved into the mainline and extend 8ft to the cage where they have a stopper tied into their ends. There is a bridle tied to the cage and a loop is secured to the stopper to fix the cage to the backline.**

