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NSARB-2025-001-APP-005

EXB 005c

REPORT ON THE OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION

Volume 3

AQ#0814x, AQ#1430, AQ#1431

Submission to the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board

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AQ#0814x, AQ#1430, AQ#1431

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APPENDIX N – COMPILATION OF NETWORK COMMENTS FOR AQ#0814x,
AQ#1430 and AQ#1431

**Compilation of Network Comments
AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment – We’koqma’q First Nation**

Contents

1. Canadian Food Inspection Agency
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8. Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (Inland Division)
9. Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry

1. CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	CFIA
Division (if applicable)	
Date	August 9, 2019
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

2. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN SHELLFISH SANITATION PROGRAM

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	ECCC - CSSP
Division (if applicable)	
Date	August 21, 2019
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

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3. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE

From: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>

Sent: September 17, 2019 11:28 AM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>; Hanson, Al (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>

Subject: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

Hi Lynn,

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service has reviewed the proposed boundary amendment aquaculture application No. 0814 in Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County, Nova Scotia, and we have a number of questions related to this application:

- There was no map showing the proposed lease boundaries included in the application submitted for our review. A map, clearly showing the proposed lease boundaries, and including coordinates for each corner of the proposed lease, should be submitted so that we can better review this application.
- It should be clarified how feed and fish mortalities would be made inaccessible to birds and other wildlife.
- It should be clarified whether grow lights are proposed for this lease. Bright lights can cause problems for night migrating birds and night-flying seabirds (e.g. storm-petrels), especially during periods of fog, drizzle, and haze. A powerful pencil of light shining upwards into the fog can appear as a corridor through darkness into which the birds fly. Birds then get killed or injured by flying into the lit object, by flying into the light itself, or by colliding with other birds. For those that don't get killed or injured but flutter in the light pencil for a long period, they may deplete their energy reserves and either die of exhaustion or drop to the ground where they are at risk from predators. In order to avoid impacts on migratory birds, it is recommended that lights be shielded and aimed downwards.
- A "wildlife interaction plan" is mentioned on page 34 of the application, but has not been included with the application. This document should be provided for review.

We will be in a better position to comment on the proposal once the information requested above has been submitted. In the meantime, we have the following comments in the event that the project is ultimately approved:

- Food scraps and other garbage left on beaches and other coastal habitat can artificially enhance the populations of avian and mammalian predators of eggs and chicks of migratory birds. A similar effect could occur if gulls are attracted and have access to excess feed. The proponent should ensure that no litter (including food wastes) is left in coastal areas staff and/or contractors. Also the feed program should be managed to minimize waste, and should include use of tarps to prevent bird access to fish feed.
- Project staff/contractors and vessels should not approach concentrations of seabirds, waterfowl or shorebirds.
- Project staff/contractors should use well muffled vessels.
- Beaches and wetlands are sensitive habitats and proponents should not utilize these habitats for construction, operational or decommissioning activities, with the exception of beach clean-up activities, which should be timed to not coincide with sensitive periods for breeding birds and other wildlife.

- Since even small spills of oil can have very serious effects on migratory birds, every effort should be taken to ensure that no oil spills occur. The proponents should ensure that all precautions are taken by the contractors and staff to prevent fuel leaks from equipment, and that a contingency plan in case of oil spills is prepared.

Applicable Legislation

The *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) protects most bird species in Canada however, some families of birds are excluded. A list of species under MBCA protection can be found at <https://ec.gc.ca/nature/default.asp?lang=En&n=421B7A9D-1>.

Under Section 6 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (MBR), no person shall disturb, destroy or take a nest or egg of a migratory bird; or to be in possession of a live migratory bird, or its carcass, skin, nest or egg, except under authority of a permit. It is important to note that under the current MBR, no permits can be issued for the incidental take of migratory birds caused by development projects or other economic activities. Furthermore, Section 5.1 of the MBCA describes prohibitions related to deposit of substances harmful to migratory birds:

“5.1 (1) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance that is harmful to migratory birds, or permit such a substance to be deposited, in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which the substance may enter such waters or such an area.

(2) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance or permit a substance to be deposited in any place if the substance, in combination with one or more substances, results in a substance — in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which it may enter such waters or such an area — that is harmful to migratory birds.”

It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that activities comply with the MBCA and regulations. In fulfilling its responsibility for MBCA compliance, the proponent should take the following points into consideration:

- Information regarding regional nesting periods can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods.html>. Some species protected under the MBCA may nest outside these timeframes
- Most migratory bird species construct nests in trees (sometimes in tree cavities) and shrubs, but several species nest at ground level (e.g., Common Nighthawk, Killdeer, sandpipers), in hay fields, pastures or in burrows. Some bird species may nest on cliffs or in stockpiles of overburden material from mines or the banks of quarries. Some migratory birds (including certain waterfowl species) may nest in head ponds created by beaver dams. Some migratory birds (e.g., Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Eastern Phoebe) may build their nests on structures such as bridges, ledges or gutters.
- One method frequently used to minimize the risk of destroying bird nests consists of avoiding certain activities, such as clearing, during the regional nesting period for migratory birds.
- The risk of impacting active nests or birds caring for pre-fledged chicks, discovered during project activities outside the regional nesting period, can be minimized by measures such as the establishment of vegetated buffer zones around nests, and minimization of activities in the immediate area until nesting is complete and chicks have naturally migrated from the area. It is incumbent on the proponent to identify the best approach, based on the circumstances, to complying with the MBCA.

Further information can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds.html>

The proponent should also be reminded that the prohibitions under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) are now in force. The complete text of SARA, including prohibitions, is available at www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

Rachel

From: Winfield, Lynn [<mailto:Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2019 2:22 PM

To: donalddavis@waycobah.ca; Melissa Rommens

Subject: AQ0814 - Additional Info Required

Good Afternoon,

Please see the attached letter, if you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

Licensing Coordinator,

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture



1575 Lake Road

Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Phone: 902-875-7440

Fax: 902-875-7429

Email: Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca

[NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Website](#)

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Fisheries and Aquaculture
1575 Lake Road
Shelburne, Nova Scotia
BOT 1W0

novascotia.ca

Additional Information

AQ#0814

BN#703649483NS0001

September 17, 2019

We'koqma'q First Nation
Attn: Mr. Donald Davis
PO Box 149 - 150 Reservation Road,
Whycocomagh, NS BOE 3MO

Dear Mr. Davis;

**RE: Aquaculture Licence and Lease Application AQ#0814
Located in Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County**

Your aquaculture application is currently in the Network review stage of the application process. Network partners have identified missing or incomplete information from the submitted development plan. If you could please answer the following questions, the review of your application will proceed:

1. It should be clarified how feed and fish mortalities would be made inaccessible to birds and other wildlife.
2. It should be clarified whether grow lights are proposed for this lease. Bright lights can cause problems for night migrating birds and night-flying seabirds (e.g. storm-petrels), especially during periods of fog, drizzle, and haze. A powerful pencil of light shining upwards into the fog can appear as a corridor through darkness into which the birds fly. Birds then get killed or injured by flying into the lit object, by flying into the light itself, or by colliding with other birds. For those that don't get killed or injured but flutter in the light pencil for a long period, they may deplete their energy reserves and either die of exhaustion or drop to the ground where they are at risk from predators. In order to avoid impacts on migratory birds, it is recommended that lights be shielded and aimed downwards.
3. A "wildlife interaction plan" is mentioned on page 34 of the application, but has not been included with the application. Please provide this document for review.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 902-875-7440 or by email at Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca.

Sincerely,


Lynn Winfield,
Licensing Coordinator

c. NSDFA – Staff
Melissa Rommens

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>
Sent: September 25, 2019 8:41 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Robin Stuart <robinstuart@ns.sympatico.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Additional Info Required

Hello Lynn:

See attached in response to the letter referred to in the e-mail below. If you require a hard copy, please let me know.

Be sure to reach out with any additional questions or concerns.

Kind regards,
Melissa



Additional info 0814 WIP Excerpts
response 0814 Sept 2019 20 FMP Attachr

**WE'KOQMA'Q
PROUD**

September 20, 2019
Nova Scotia Fisheries and Aquaculture
1575 Lake Road
Shelburne, NS
BOT 1W0

Dear Ms. Winfield:

**Re: Aquaculture Licence and Lease Application AQ#0814
Located in Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County, NS**

Please accept the following in response to your questions and request for additional information for the above-mentioned application in the letter dated September 17, 2019.

Question:

1. The means for ensuring that feed and fish mortalities would be made inaccessible to birds and other wildlife is described in the Farm Management Plan. This information is reiterated below:

Feed:

- Primary feed storage is located in a large building in the local area that was previously a rink. This has been renovated to ensure its integrity and suitability for this purpose. Feed is delivered directly to this building where it is stored until needed at the site. Pest control for this building is managed by a third party contractor – Abell Pest Control.
- Only one to two days' worth of feed is stored at the shore-based facility that is adjacent to the site. Here it is stored in five steel transport containers that are kept closed unless accessing the feed for immediate use. The amount of feed on site at any one time is limited to the amount that can be safely and properly stored at the site.
- Bags or open containers of feed are not left exposed or uncovered at the site.
- Any feed that is unusable is removed from the site and disposed of at an approved waste management facility.
- The pathway for feed delivery and passage is adequate and kept free of obstacles.
- Feed being fed by blower is enclosed in metal hoppers.
- Accurate records are kept of the amount of feed delivered to the site, stored at the site, fed to the fish, spilled and/or returned unused to the manufacturer.
- Feeding equipment is properly maintained to avoid feed spillage and to ensure the maintenance of the integrity of the pellet (e.g. minimize crushing of the feed pellets).
- A feed spill is managed by:
 - Immediate clean up to minimize the loss of feed into the ocean or attraction of pests.
 - Disposal according to waste management plan.

P.O. Box 149 ♦ 150 Reservation Road ♦ We'koqma'q, Nova Scotia ♦ B0E 3M0

PHONE 902-756-2337 ♦ FAX 902-756-2393 ♦ WEKOQMAQPROUD.CA

WE'KOQMA'Q PROUD

- Recording of amount of feed spilled (if over 50kg).

Mortalities:


- All mortalities collected during a mortality dive or by other means must be brought to shore for disposal.
- All mort totes and fish boxes containing mortalities must have a lid/cover that is securely fitting, and free from holes and/or cracks.
- If fish totes (Xactic™ totes) are used for mortality containment, the bungs must be secured as to prevent blood water leakage.
- All morts are taken to the Guysborough land fill site for disposal by half ton truck in mort totes/fish boxes that are covered.
- Prior to transport for disposal, mortalities are stored in plastic lined X-actic totes that have a lid/cover that is securely fitting, and are free from holes and/or cracks with secured bungs to prevent leakage. These totes are stored along the driveway, before the office trailer, away from the working area around the wharf.

2. There will not be any grow lights used on this lease.

3. The procedures that make up the "Wildlife Interaction Plan" are integrated into the Farm Management Plan (FMP). These have been collated and are attached as the document "WIP Excerpts 2019 20 FMP" (Attachment 1).

If you need additional information or have any questions regarding the above, please contact Melissa Rommens and Robin Stuart.

Sincerely,


Donald Davis,
Chief Operating Officer,
We'koqma'q First Nation.

Attachment 1: Excerpts from the Farm Management Plan that Form Parts of the Wildlife Interaction Plan

Excerpts from Appendix B of FMP:

Title	Bird & Predator Deterrent Strategy
SOP number	<i>N/A - Strategy</i>
Created by	Waycobah First Nation
Date created	November 15, 2018
Date revised	September 12, 2019

Strategy

- THE GREATEST PREDATOR PROBLEM IN THE BRAS D'OR, OTHER THAN HUMANS, IS BIRD PREDATION.
- THE BEST METHOD TO DEAL WITH BIRDS IS TO REMOVE THE FEED OPPORTUNITY FROM THE SITE.
- THIS CAN BE DONE BY COVERING EACH PEN WITH A BIRD NET THAT IS PLACED OVER A FLOATING BIRD STAND LOCATED IN THE CENTRE OF THE PEN.
- MESH SIZE HAS TO BE SMALLER THAN THE SMALLEST PREDATOR BIRD WHICH IS USUALLY A SEA GULL, ALTHOUGH IN SOME INSTANCES KINGFISHERS MAY BE BOTHERSOME TO SMALLER FISH(<100G). IF TOO SMALL A MESH IS USED IT WILL BE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE WHEN FISH GET LARGER WITHOUT GILLING THEM.
- IT IS VITAL THAT THE NET IS LARGE ENOUGH TO SPAN THE ENTIRE PEN TOP INCLUDING THE BIRD STAND.
- MAKE SURE THERE ARE NO HOLES IN THE BIRD NET BEFORE INSTALLATION.
- ONE MIGHT CONSIDER USING SMALLER MESH NETS FOR SMALL FISH AND REPLACING WITH LARGER MESH ONCE FISH GROW (>200G).
- THERE CAN BE NO GAPS OR LOW SPOTS IN THE BIRD COVER AS HERONS WILL TAKE ADVANTAGE AT NIGHT BY WORKING IN CONCERT TO GET A MEAL BY WEIGHING DOWN THE COVER TO REACH A MEAL. THE COVER MUST BE MADE LARGER THAN THE

HANDRAIL TO PROVIDE SOME OVERLAP. THE NET SHOULD BE “ZINGING” TIGHT USING THE SHACKLES ON THE STANCHIONS AND ANY EXTRA ROPE REQUIRED.

- TIE THE BIRD STAND WITH AT LEAST THREE ROPES TO CENTRE IT IN THE MIDDLE.
- IT IS ALSO VERY IMPORTANT TO NEVER LEAVE FEED EXPOSED OR UNATTENDED AS THIS MAY ALSO ATTRACT BIRDS.
- SIMILARLY, MORTS AND OTHER ORGANICS MUST ALSO BE CONTAINED IMMEDIATELY.
- IN UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES THE CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE WILL ISSUE A PERMIT TO SHOOT PROBLEM BIRDS SUCH AS CORMORANTS, GULL, OR HERONS - BUT THEY USUALLY WANT THE BODIES KEPT IN THE FREEZER FOR GUT INSPECTION. THIS IS A LAST CASE SCENARIO AS REMOVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO GET FOOD IS THE BEST REMEDY.
- A NEW SYSTEM CALLED: BIRD AWAY HAWK SYSTEM HAS PROVEN TO BE EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE TO SCARE BIRDS SUCH AS CORMORANTS AND SEA GULLS BY AN IMITATION HAWK FLYING. THE PLAN IS TO USE THIS ON THE WHARF DURING OVERWINTERING. IT IS QUIET AND UNOBTRUSIVE.
- NO PREDATOR NETS HAVE BEEN REQUIRED IN THE BRAS D’OR AS THERE HAVE BEEN NO RECORDED BREACHES OF NETS BY SEALS IN 40 YEARS
- ALTHOUGH NOT SEEN IN WHYCOCOMAGH, PREDATORS SUCH AS OTTERS & MINK CAN BE FOUND. THEY CAN BE CAUGHT USING BAITED LIVE TRAPS AND TAKEN TO REMOTE LOCATIONS.
- REMOVAL OF MORTS REGULARLY PREVENTS PREDATORS SUCH AS COD, EELS, STRIPED BASS, ETC. FROM TRYING TO CHEW THROUGH THE NET.
- IN ORDER TO FURTHER REDUCE THE INCIDENCE OF INTERACTION WITH WILDLIFE, BOAT TRAVEL TO AND FROM THE CAGES TO BE WORKED WILL BE VIA THE MOST DIRECT ROUTE POSSIBLE, RESPECTING ANY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS INSTITUTED FOR BIOSECURITY CONCERNS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, APPROACH OF THE SHORE OR OTHER WILDLIFE HABITAT AND WILDLIFE ITSELF WILL BE AVOIDED AS MUCH AS FEASIBLE.
- A RECORD OF ANIMAL INTERACTIONS IS KEPT TO HELP IMPROVE PROCEDURES TO REDUCE INTERACTIONS IN THE FUTURE.

Title	Pest Management Strategy
SOP number	<i>N/A - Strategy</i>
Created by	Waycobah First Nation
Date created	November 15, 2018
Date revised	September 12, 2019

Strategy

- **RODENTS ARE THE BIGGEST PEST PROBLEM FOR BOTH STORED FOOD AND NETS**
- **THE MAJORITY OF THE FEED IS STORED AT THE RINK WHICH HAS A PEST CONTROL CONTRACT WITH ABELL PEST CONTROL.**
- **THE CONTAINERS IN WHICH THE FEED ARE STORED ADJACENT TO THE SITE ARE STEEL, SEALED AND RODENT PROOF AS WELL AS WEATHER PROOF AS LONG AS THE DOORS ARE CLOSED AT ALL TIMES.**
- **NETS ARE ALSO STORED AT THE RINK.**
- **FEED THAT IS ON THE FEED BARGE DURING A PERIOD LONGER THAN AN HOUR SHOULD BE TARPED TO PREVENT BIRDS PECKING HOLES IN THE BAGS.**
- **ALL OLD FEED IS PLACED IN STEEL GARBAGE CONTAINERS WITHIN PLASTIC BAGS TO PREVENT ATTRACTING PESTS OR IN DYNAPLAST TUBS FOR DISPOSAL.**
- **SITE CLEANUP IS SCHEDULED FOR ONCE A WEEK TO PICK UP ANY GARBAGE INCLUDING FOULING ORGANISMS AND FEED.**
- **OCCASIONALLY DURING UNLOADING OF FEED, BAGS GET BROKEN. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES FEED IS PICKED UP AND PLACED IN CONTAINERS WHICH ARE PLACED IN SIDE THE FEED CONTAINERS UNTIL USED OR DISPOSED OF.**

Other excerpts from main body of FMP:

Regarding use of bird nets:

6.3 Equipment Maintenance

6.3.3 Bird nets

Bird nets must be inspected regularly for holes, areas of weakness or damage. Their condition should be observed daily. Bird nets will be formally inspected weekly according to the weekly above water inspection schedule described in 6.4.1.

Issues with bird nets will be repaired and records will be kept regarding location of repair, date damage observed, date of repair, and the person who performed the repair. The reason for the issue will be determined and fixed as soon as possible (e.g. chafing, other).

**(Records kept include: Weekly Surface Inspection Checklist, Net Maintenance Record)*

From: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>
Sent: October 3, 2019 12:02 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Hanson, Al (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>; Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

Hello,

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service has reviewed the additional information, and we still cannot provide site-specific comments since we have not yet been provided a map showing the proposed lease boundaries. A map, clearly showing the proposed lease boundaries, and including coordinates for each corner of the proposed lease, should be submitted so that we can better review this application.

We have no additional comments regarding bullets #2,3 and 4 of our September 17, 2019 email, other than the fact that cormorants are not protected under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA). Therefore, the proponent should contact provincial wildlife biologists in the event that cormorants became a problem at the aquaculture site.

Sincerely,

Rachel

Rachel Gautreau

Coordinator, Environmental Assessment / Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment and Climate Change Canada / Government of Canada
rachel.gautreau@canada.ca / +1-506-364-5028

Coordinatrice, Évaluations environnementales / Service canadien de la faune
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
rachel.gautreau@canada.ca / +1-506-364-5028

From: Winfield, Lynn
Sent: October 3, 2019 12:11 PM
To: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>
Cc: Hanson, Al (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>; Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

Hi Rachel,

Please see the attached Schedule "A" (maps) for site AQ0814

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



Schedule_A_0814x.
pdf

From: Winfield, Lynn
Sent: November 25, 2019 12:21 PM
To: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>
Cc: Hanson, AI (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>; Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

Hi Rachel,

Can you please advise if I have provided all the information you require?

Are your comments complete?

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: January 13, 2020 3:18 PM
To: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>
Cc: Hanson, AI (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>; Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

Hi Rachel,

Can you please advise if you have any additional comments for this Boundary Amendment for AQ0814?

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Wilhelm, Sabina (EC) <sabina.wilhelm@canada.ca>
Sent: January 14, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>
Cc: Hanson, AI (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>
Subject: RE: Boundary Amendment Aquaculture Application No. 0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co., N.S.

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Hi Lynn,

I check with Rachel, and she said that she does not have any additional comments.

Cheers,

Sabina

4. TRANSPORT CANADA

From: Winfield, Lynn
Sent: July 15, 2019 11:00 AM
To: NPPATL-PPNATL@tc.gc.ca
Subject: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Morning,

Please see the attached information on a boundary amendment application No. 0814, in Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County, along with the Notice of Works Form.

Please respond with your feedback by September 16, 2019.

If you have any questions please let me know.

Thanks,
Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



1575 Lake Road
 Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0
 Phone: 902-875-7440
 Fax: 902-875-7429
 Email: Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca

[NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Website](#)

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AQ0814 Network
 Memo (Transport Ca)



Dev Plan.pdf



Whycomomagh
 Amendment NPA Nc

From: LeBlanc, Mélanie <melanie.leblanc@tc.gc.ca>
Sent: July 9, 2020 10:01 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: 0814, 1430

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Hi Lynn,

Hope all is well, and that summer is helping with the nicer weather – I seem to feel a bit less confined.

I got the Indigenous relations for 0814 and 1430.

Are those leases ready to go... I'm just looking for timeline and such?...

Thanks

Mélanie LeBlanc

Navigation Protection Program Officer

Transport Canada / Atlantic Region / Heritage Court, P.O. Box 42, Moncton, N.B. E1C 8K6 |

melanie.leblanc@tc.gc.ca / Tel: [506-962-1412](tel:506-962-1412)

Agente, Programme de la protection de la navigation

Transports Canada / Région de l'Atlantique / Place Héritage, C.P. 42, Moncton, N.-B. E1C 8K6

melanie.leblanc@tc.gc.ca / Tél. : [506-962-1412](tel:506-962-1412)

From: Winfield, Lynn [<mailto:Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, July 09, 2020 11:49 AM

To: LeBlanc, Mélanie <melanie.leblanc@tc.gc.ca>

Cc: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: 0814, 1430

Hi Melanie,

Yes I have to agree, I'm getting out more and feeling less restricted, although still being cautious.

These applications will need to go to the Aquaculture Review Board for review and decision. I do not have a timeline for these at this time. I will keep you posted as these move forward.

Enjoy the summer weather.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

Licensing Coordinator,

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

5. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Agriculture
Division (if applicable)	Industry Protection – Animal & Crop Services
Date	04 September 2019
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

6. NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITIES CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	CCH
Division (if applicable)	Archives, Museums & Libraries
Date	September 18, 2019
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	archaeology

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Given this application concerns a boundary change, I do not have archaeological concerns at this time. If during aquaculture construction or operation activities, archaeological materials are recovered, please contact the Coordinator of Special Places Program immediately.

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

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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.

7. NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

From: Winfield, Lynn

Sent: July 15, 2019 11:05 AM

To: 'Angela Smith' <angela.smith@inspection.gc.ca>; shane.hood@inspection.gc.ca; david.macarthur@ec.gc.ca; rachel.gautreau@ec.gc.ca; Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>; Miller, L (Dawn) <Dawn.Miller2@novascotia.ca>; Cottreau-Robins, Catherine M <Catherine.Cottreau-Robins@novascotia.ca>; Murrant, Darryl D <Darryl.Murrant@novascotia.ca>; Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>

Subject: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Morning,

Please see the attached information on the boundary amendment application No. 0814, in Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County, along with the Network Agency Review Form.

Please respond with your feedback by September 16, 2019.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

Licensing Coordinator,

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture



1575 Lake Road

Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Phone: 902-875-7440

Fax: 902-875-7429

Email: Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca

[NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Website](#)

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AQ0814 Network
Memo.pdf



Dev Plan.pdf



AQ0814 Network
Agency Review Form

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Friday, August 30, 2019 12:42 PM
To: rachel.gautreau@ec.gc.ca; Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>; Miller, L (Dawn) <Dawn.Miller2@novascotia.ca>; Cottreau-Robins, Catherine M <Catherine.Cottreau-Robins@novascotia.ca>; Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>
Subject: FW: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Afternoon

Please be reminded that our office has not received comments from your Department for the proposed aquaculture site in Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co. AQ0814. Your comments are due on or before **September 16, 2019**.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Winfield, Lynn
Sent: January 14, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Murrant, Darryl D <Darryl.Murrant@novascotia.ca>; Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>
Subject: FW: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Afternoon

Please be reminded that our office has not received comments from your Department for the proposed aquaculture site in Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co. AQ0814.

Can you please provide your comments by **January 21, 2020**?

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>
Sent: January 24, 2020 4:20 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

We didn't have any comments from our protected areas team on this one. I still haven't heard back from our compliance team (I sent a reminder), but I'll assume there are no comments from them. Sorry for the slow response

Angela

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: April 14, 2020 11:21 AM
To: Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Morning Angela,

Hope you are doing well.

Did you receive an additional comments from the Compliance Team for this application?

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>
Sent: April 14, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good morning Lynn,

No, I did not receive anything from the Compliance Team for AQ814. Sorry!

Angela

8. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE (INLAND DIVISION)

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Fisheries & Aquaculture
Division (if applicable)	Inland Fisheries
Date	April 24, 2020
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

General comments:

Whycomomagh Bay is a popular destination for anglers fishing both from shore and from boats. The most popular species are: Rainbow trout, presumed escapees or from provincial stocking, Brook trout, Brown trout and smelt. While anglers, for the most part, are supportive of the current operation, there may exist the potential for conflict, particularly from boaters given the scale of the increased acreage; from less than 5Ha to 65Ha.

These comments speak only to changes with regards to increased Rainbow trout production although the license includes Atlantic salmon.

Corrections in 3.1:

- The recreational fishing season in the Bras d’Or Lakes for Rainbow trout and Brown is year-round.
- There are no smallmouth bass in the Bras d’Or Lakes.

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

9. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTRY

From: Winfield, Lynn

Sent: July 15, 2019 11:05 AM

To: 'Angela Smith' <angela.smith@inspection.gc.ca>; shane.hood@inspection.gc.ca; david.macarthur@ec.gc.ca; rachel.gautreau@ec.gc.ca; Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>; Miller, L (Dawn) <Dawn.Miller2@novascotia.ca>; Cottreau-Robins, Catherine M <Catherine.Cottreau-Robins@novascotia.ca>; Murrant, Darryl D <Darryl.Murrant@novascotia.ca>; Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>

Subject: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Morning,

Please see the attached information on the boundary amendment application No. 0814, in Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County, along with the Network Agency Review Form.

Please respond with your feedback by September 16, 2019.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



1575 Lake Road
Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0

Phone: 902-875-7440

Fax: 902-875-7429

Email: Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca

[NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Website](#)

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AQ0814 Network
Memo.pdf



Dev Plan.pdf



AQ0814 Network
Agency Review Form

From: Winfield, Lynn

Sent: August 30, 2019 12:42 PM

To: rachel.gautreau@ec.gc.ca; Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>; Miller, L (Dawn)

<Dawn.Miller2@novascotia.ca>; Cottreau-Robins, Catherine M <Catherine.Cottreau-Robins@novascotia.ca>;
 Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>
Subject: FW: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Afternoon

Please be reminded that our office has not received comments from your Department for the proposed aquaculture site in Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness Co. AQ0814. Your comments are due on or before **September 16, 2019**.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 9, 2019 10:05 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; Logue, Melanie <Melanie.Logue@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Question: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

I received a question from one of our reviewers re #0814. She would like to know if the new site 0814 will replace existing sites 0814, 0845 and 0600 into one large single lease? She would also like to confirm if #0814 covers new area not previously applied for or if it does.

My contact is just getting back from vacation and is very busy so I'd like to get back to her soon.

Warm Regards,

Louise

Louise Boudreau
 Policy Analyst
 Department of Lands and Forestry
 Founders Square | 1701 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor | Halifax, NS B3J 2T9 |
 424-3530

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 10, 2019 12:57 PM
To: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; Logue, Melanie <Melanie.Logue@novascotia.ca>; Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: Question: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Afternoon Louise,

Sorry for the delay, but our office was without power yesterday.

The boundary amendment for AQ#0814 will overlay all three existing sites (AQ#0814, 0845 and 0600) and includes an expansion of the site area. The three existing sites cover approximately 4.26HA combined, and the expansion would increase the size of the single site to 75HA with a navigational corridor.

An updated site map was submitted by We'koqma'q in our request for more information letter (see attached response and map for reference).

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



Additional info
attachment 0814 Ju



Additional info
reponse 0814 July 4.

0814 Amendment:
Overwintering locations on lease
indicated by blue polygon.
Grow-out locations indicated by
orange polygons.



0814 Amendment: Sample configuration of gear on site during summer months.

*The location of the arrays may change from year to year, but the cages and mooring systems will be contained within the lease area which is indicated by the red lines.



WE'KOQMA'Q PROUD

July 4, 2019
Nova Scotia Fisheries and Aquaculture
1575 Lake Road
Shelburne, NS
BOT 1W0

Dear Ms. Winfield:

**Re: AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment
Whycomagh and Indian Island, Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County, NS**

Please accept the following in response to your questions and request for additional information for the above-mentioned application in the letter dated July 2, 2019.

Questions:

1. & 3. The rainbow trout will be from either or both of two egg sources, with the strains identified as follows:

- Trout Lodge: "Silver Steelhead" or "Winter and Fall Strain" See <https://www.troutlodge.com/en/trout-genetics/trout-eggs/>.
- Riverence: "Steelhead Trout" which were developed from the "Donaldson strain"

2. There was no fallow period identified for the lease since the intent is to not fallow the entire lease, but rather to fallow areas of the lease. The lease will have over-wintering locations as well as grow-out locations with fallow regimes for these locations as described below.

The over-wintering locations will be inshore, next to the wharves. These locations can be protected from moving ice, and the cages can be provided with upwellers and oxygen supplementation to allow the fish to survive the winter conditions. The over-wintering locations will be used to hold fish to be harvested over the winter months as well as juveniles received in the fall of the year from the hatchery. The fall juveniles are moved off of the over-wintering locations in the spring. No feeding occurs at the over-wintering locations due to low temperatures. The over-wintering locations will be fallow from May to December.


The grow-out locations will be areas away from the wharves, within the boundaries of the lease. The placement of arrays in the grow-out locations will be determined according to results from environmental monitoring and requests from regulators. The grow-out locations will receive fish in the spring. Fish will come from the over-wintering arrays as well as from the hatchery. Feeding will occur at the grow-out locations and the fish will be grown to harvest size. Harvesting will begin in July and continue through to December. In December, any unharvested fish will be moved to the over-wintering locations for winter harvest. The grow-out locations will be fallow from December to April/May.

**WE'KOQMA'Q
PROUD**

4. The array locations within the lease will change with the season and from year to year, as indicated in the paragraphs above. We have attached a diagram to show the winter and the grow-out locations for reference. We have also attached a sample configuration of gear on the lease map during the summer months. However, it should be noted that in a proceeding year, the cage arrays may be located elsewhere within the lease area. The intent is to move them to different locations every couple of years or from year to year in order to reduce the risk of cumulative environmental impact.

If you need additional information or have any questions regarding the above, please contact Melissa Rommens and Robin Stuart.

Sincerely,



Donald Davis,
Chief Operating Officer,
We'koqma'q First Nation.

From: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 10, 2019 1:28 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; Logue, Melanie <Melanie.Logue@novascotia.ca>; Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: Question: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thanks very much Lynn for answering Melanie's question.

Warm Regards.
Louise

Louise Boudreau
Policy Analyst
Department of Lands and Forestry
Founders Square | 1701 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor | Halifax, NS B3J 2T9 |
424-3530

From: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2019 2:19 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; O'Brien-Latham, Lesley <Lesley.O'Brien-Latham@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Request for extension. AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

We are doing our best to respond to AQ 0814 however one of our reviewers cannot respond this week due to time pressures and competing priorities. Could we have an extension until Sept. 24? If I get the information sooner. I will send it to you right away.

Warm Regards,
Louise
Louise Boudreau
Policy Analyst
Department of Lands and Forestry
Founders Square | 1701 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor | Halifax, NS B3J 2T9 |
424-3530

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 11, 2019 2:37 PM
To: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; O'Brien-Latham, Lesley <Lesley.O'Brien-Latham@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: Request for extension. AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Louise,

Yes, an extension to September 25th is OK.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>

Sent: September 11, 2019 2:52 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Blackburn, Lori M <Lori.Blackburn@novascotia.ca>; O'Brien-Latham, Lesley <Lesley.O'Brien-Latham@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: Request for extension. AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thanks very much Lynn

Much appreciated,
Louise

Louise Boudreau
Policy Analyst
Department of Lands and Forestry
Founders Square | 1701 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor | Halifax, NS B3J 2T9 |
424-3530

From: Boudreau, Louise O <Louise.Boudreau@novascotia.ca>

Sent: September 23, 2019 4:33 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: O'Brien-Latham, Lesley <Lesley.O'Brien-Latham@novascotia.ca>

Subject: Lands and Forestry comments re. AQ0814

Hi Lynn,

Attached is Lands and Forestry's response to AQ 0814 Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County. Thanks very much for providing the opportunity to comment and granting an extension. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Warm Regards,

Louise

Louise Boudreau
Policy Analyst
Department of Lands and Forestry
Founders Square | 1701 Hollis Street, 3rd Floor | Halifax, NS B3J 2T9 |
424-3530



L&F response
AQ0814 Network Ag

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Lands and Forestry
Division (if applicable)	Louise Boudreau (policy) on behalf of Lands and Forestry
Date	September 25th 2019
File No.	AQ#0814 - Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

<p>The Department of Lands and Forestry is aware that the proponent has had recent issues with the storage of nets and fish food outside and in a building close to the village. Bears have been attracted to the site and without intervention this will continue. This is a safety issue for both the proponent and the bears.</p> <p>The Department of Lands and Forestry recommends the following conditions to alleviate this and other issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <u>Storage of nets/fish food/wildlife attractants:</u> The proponent must ensure that all nets, fish food and other potential wildlife attractants which are stored on land are stored in a fashion that will not attract bears and other scavenging animals. All waste should be disposed of quickly and/or rendered non attractive for bears/ coyotes eagles etc. 2. <u>Mitigation measures to protect diving fish eating birds</u> There are currently no mitigation in place for diving fish eating birds (cormorants, loons etc.). The Department recommends that mitigation measures be put in

place to ensure species are not entangled in the below water portion of the net if at all possible.

3. Monitoring impacts to the bald eagle:

There are multiple areas of bald eagle significant habitat surrounding the proposed expansion area. The proponent has outlined mitigation for eagle predation resulting in entanglement. It is not expected that these areas will experience significant additional stress compared to current operation assuming mitigation is put in place. However, it is difficult to predict if the situation could change.

The Department recommends that the proponent monitor the bald eagle population and make additional mitigations when necessary. This is required because of:

- The increase in the size of the operation
- This project has the potential to artificially increase the presence of eagles to the area and increase competition between them due to an increase in anthropogenic food sources (waste fish etc.). These effects would be difficult to measure.
- Increased human presence in the area could have a negative impact on the nesting success of the eagles in the area.
- Lastly, increased human activity may increase human wildlife conflicts in the area.

4. Mitigations to protect the shoreline from waste pollution:

There is a tendency for waste to be produced by these projects that ends up on the shore. This may have a negative impact on terrestrial biodiversity and potentially the cleanliness of the park. The Department recommends that measures be undertaken to ensure waste remains onsite and does not pollute the shoreline.

Other Considerations:

There is wood turtle significant habitat near the area. This project should not have a negative impact on this habitat feature nor the individual turtles.

The Department defers to federal and provincial fisheries for expertise on the effects on the marine ecosystem. Any negative effects on the marine ecosystem may carry over to terrestrial species.

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

**Compilation of Network Comments from
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment – We'koqma'q First Nation**

1. FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: September 20, 2019 4:33 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Laking, Erin <Erin.Laking@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

DFO has reviewed the application and supporting information received July 15, 2019 from your department. As a result of our comparison of the application against our “DRAFT Checklist of Information Submitted by Proponent” and feedback from our internal reviewers, DFO requests the following additional information to continue our review:

Contact information:

- Primary mailing address for the proponent
- Full legal registered name of the company (if applicable)
- Contact information of the duly authorized representative of the proponent (if applicable)

Location of the project:

- Description of the location of the point of access for the proposed site (i.e., wharf, slipway) and locate it on the topographic map or nautical chart
 - Note: Where will the construction of the cages take place; and where is the wharf at which service vessels will tie up?

Description of the project

- Labelled, scale drawings of the proposed culture facility in two dimensions (plan view and cross sectional view) including all equipment such as cages (include length, width and depth) walkways, mooring system, anchors, feed sheds, mortality storage, net washing and feed barges, etc.
 - Note: a diagram is provided in the NPA application, but does not include equipment other than cages, lines and anchors/moorings. If there is other equipment, please include it.
- Drawings of alternate siting configurations if it is anticipated that the infrastructure will be moved within the tenure boundaries
 - Note: it is stated that the cages may be moved around to enable fallowing of areas.
- Description of the construction materials to be used and the name of the cage system manufacturer.
- Description of the anchoring / mooring system (e.g. screwed in, non-attached, etc.), dimensions of all materials, and placement and installation procedures to be employed. This should include a description of plans, if any, to uninstall and reinstall anchors and weights (or any equipment associated physically attached to the benthic substrate) in different locations as they rotate equipment.

Production

- Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds
- For boundary amendments, details of provincial EMP data for the existing site spanning the previous 2 production cycles

- Description of harvesting procedures and schedule, including transportation of product from the production site to the processing plant and the disposal of bloodwater and offal
 - Procedures to mitigate any potentially harmful effects resulting from harvesting and transportation activities
- Will there be introduced artificial light?

Anti-fouling

- Details for any anti-fouling materials that may be used and description of how each may be applied, including the location, method and frequency of application and other water/material will be disposed.

Decommissioning

- Description of the decommissioning process, including measures to restore the area to its pre-development state.

Socio-Economic Environment

- List of contact names and comments received from fishers and fishing that have been contacted to discuss the proposed development.

Description of the Aquatic Environment

- Confirmation on whether or not the site lies within the migratory route of any fish species and if so, identification of species and the predicted time(s) of migration.

Predator Control

- Will there be any use of acoustic predator deterrents?

Should you or the proponents have any questions regarding these additional information requirements, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-1489
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
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CP 1006, P500, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 23, 2019 11:13 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: FW: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good Morning Ed,

Rob has requested that I forward you the emails that were sent to Tammy on July 15, 2019 to ensure that you received all the info, this is Email #1 and I will forward #2 separately.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 23, 2019 11:13 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: FW: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi,

Email #2

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

From: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Sent: September 23, 2019 11:14 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Map Info

Hi,

Please see attached Map.

Thanks,

Lynn

E. Lynn Winfield

**Licensing Coordinator,
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**



1575 Lake Road
 Shelburne, NS B0T 1W0
 Phone: 902-875-7440
 Fax: 902-875-7429
 Email: Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca

[NS Department of Fisheries & Aquaculture Website](#)

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Map for Boundary
 Amendment - 18091

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: September 30, 2019 1:40 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thank you Lynn,

Yes, we've seen these documents and after review of them, we have requested the additional information. We are hereby still requesting the information, except for that provided by the map and application form you sent me in response to the request.

Thanks,
 Ed

Edward Parker
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-1489
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: December 13, 2019 1:04 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Williams, Wendy <Wendy.Williams@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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Hi Lynn,

May we please have the following questions answered and issues explained for the application for site 0814:

- Is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on site 0814? There is a lack of clarity how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two sites proposed.
- The production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages. But, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?
- Will there be any use of acoustic predator deterrents?
- Will there be artificial illumination of cages?

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
 Senior Advisor, Aquaculture Management
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: February 3, 2020 9:58 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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Hi Lynn,

I understood from our January 7, 2020 routine 'aquaculture file update' meeting that DFA was waiting on further discussions between our two departments to address questions we asked below. However, information pertaining to the first two questions would allow our department to progress further with our review and I don't think that they are actually related to ongoing discussions our two departments have been having. These two questions that we would hereby like to receive a response for are as follows:

- Is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on site 0814? There is a lack of clarity how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two sites proposed.
- The production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages. But, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Senior Advisor, Aquaculture Management
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From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: March 4, 2020 2:02 PM
To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca' <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

1. For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.
2. For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?

3. For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: March 10, 2020 3:03 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: FW: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

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Hi Jennifer:

Please see the responses below in red.

Be sure to contact Donald and myself if you have other questions.

Kind regards,
Melissa

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:02 PM

To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca'; Melissa Rommens

Cc: Winfield, Lynn

Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

- For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.

The intent is to harvest 1,000,000 total from Whycomomagh Bay annually, all sites combined (west end of Whycomomagh Bay plus Aberdeen).

The intended capacity of the sites is shown below:

Site #	Location	Total fish harvested/ site	Total biomass/ site (tons)*	Notes
0814 amended	West end Whycomomagh Bay	720000	1500	The intent is to use this area on a consistent basis, moving cages around within the bay for fallowing purposes.
1430	Aberdeen North	360000	750	The intent is to use <u>either</u> the north side <u>or</u> the south side of the bay at any one time. This would allow a rotation of fallowing to be used.
1431	Aberdeen South	360000	750	
Harvest production capacity in Whycomomagh Bay:		1080000 fish	2250 tons	Only one of Aberdeen North OR Aberdeen South is used in this production capacity calculation because of the intent to use regular fallowing in these areas, as described above.

* Assumes growth of fish to 4.5 lbs

- For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?

The ORGANIX model is only shown for one array because the intent is to move the arrays around within the lease to allow fallowing. The site configuration is not intended to be static but adjusted to allow fallowing.

- For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

The intent for 1430 and 1431 is to use We'koqma'q's existing wharf in the west end of Whycomomagh Bay. Not a Small Craft Harbour wharf.

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:09 PM

To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Hi Ed,

In response to your request for more information regarding aquaculture applications AQ#0814, 1430 and 1431, please find below (in red) the responses from We'koqma'q First Nation.

For reference, this information is in response to your emails sent to NSDFA on February 3, 2020 (AQ#0814) and January 3, 2020 (AQ#1430 & 1431).

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional comments or questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

***See March 10, 2020 email from Melissa Rommens, with reference to responses in red within March 4, 2020 email.**

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: March 11, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Thank you!

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: May 4, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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Hi Lynn,

In order for DFO to continue its review, we are requesting the following information for site 0814 and the other 2 sites it is replacing:

- date site was first licensed by the province
- date (month/year) of every historical stocking event, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event
- all historical provincial environmental monitoring results
- historical mass mortality events, disease outbreaks, and sea lice infestations and details surrounding them
- historical fish escape events and the details surrounding them
- historical entanglements and the details surrounding them

Regarding the current meter data:

- was the default Teledyne RDI QC criteria used?
- was the pitch within specifications?
- how was the current meter deployed (i.e. any pictures/diagrams of the deployment configuration)?
- were any data screening checks used, and if so, what?
- what were the data processing settings?

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: July 3, 2020 1:30 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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Hi Lynn,

Our review of the proposed boundary amendment of site 0814 is progressing well. We've reached a point in DFO Science's review where the information listed directly below would be especially timely for DFO Science's components of the review. For site 0814 and the other 2 sites it is replacing:

- date (month/year) of every historical stocking event, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event
- all historical provincial environmental monitoring results
 - Note: We've accessed historical EMP data on the provincial open data portal, is this complete? There are a number of years with no data.
- historical mass mortality events, disease outbreaks, and sea lice infestations and details surrounding them
 - Note: Basically, is there a history of pathogen, disease or pest outbreaks? If so, what are some basic details regarding these outbreaks?
- historical fish escape events and the details surrounding them
- historical entanglements and the details surrounding them

The other information requested below is still needed, but the list above is priority from a timeline perspective for DFO.

Regards,
Ed

Edward Parker
 Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
 PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
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 Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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From: Parker, Edward V
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 4:58 PM
To: 'Winfield, Lynn' <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

In order for DFO to continue its review, we are requesting the following information for site 0814 and the other 2 sites it is replacing:

- date site was first licensed by the province
- date (month/year) of every historical stocking event, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event
- all historical provincial environmental monitoring results We've accessed historical EMP data on the open data portal, is this complete? There are a number of years with no data.
- historical mass mortality events, disease outbreaks, and sea lice infestations and details surrounding them Basically, is there a history of disease, pest or pathogen outbreaks?
- historical fish escape events and the details surrounding them
- historical entanglements and the details surrounding them

Regarding the current meter data:

- was the default Teledyne RDI QC criteria used?
- was the pitch within specifications?
- how was the current meter deployed (i.e. any pictures/diagrams of the deployment configuration)?
- were any data screening checks used, and if so, what?
- what were the data processing settings?

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
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From: Feehan, Jennifer

Sent: July 9, 2020 3:05 PM

To: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: AQ#0814 - Request for Information from Network

Hi Donald and Melissa,

This email is regarding your Boundary Amendment Application for AQ#0814. We have received a request from our Network Partner at Fisheries and Oceans Canada for additional historical information on AQ#0814 along with the other two sites it is replacing, AQ#0600 and AQ#0845.

NSDFA is compiling information that we have on file to provide to DFO, but require input from you on the following:

- Date (month/year) of every historical stocking event, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event

Would you be able to provide this information to us by July 17th? Let me know if you need more time or have any questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@aquaculture-solutions.com>

Sent: July 10, 2020 10:15 AM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: FW: AQ#0814 - Request for Information from Network

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Hi Jennifer:

Can you please clarify how far back you are looking for?

Kind regards,

Melissa

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Friday, July 10, 2020 10:34 AM

To: Melissa Rommens

Cc: donald; Winfield, Lynn

Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - Request for Information from Network

Hi Melissa,

Stocking information back to 2015 should be sufficient for the request and will correspond with what our team is putting together as well.

Let me know if you have any other questions.

Cheers,
Jennifer

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@aquaculture-solutions.com>
Sent: July 10, 2020 10:35 AM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - Request for Information from Network

Ok. Thanks Jennifer. I'll get started and you know if I need more time.
Melissa

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>
Sent: July 17, 2020 11:14 AM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: 'donald' <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - Request for Information from Network

Hello Jennifer:
See attached, as requested. If you need more information, please let us know.
Kind regards,
Melissa



Historical stocking
0814 0845 0600 for s

Date (month/year) of every historical stocking event on 0814, 0845, 0600, back to 2015, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event

Date	Species	Fish Number
Aug-15	Rainbow trout	53,673
Dec-15	Rainbow trout	129,822
Jun-16	Rainbow trout	133,446
Jul-16	Rainbow trout	138,449
Mar-17	Rainbow trout	145,364
Jun-17	Rainbow trout	151,068
Oct-17	Rainbow trout	148,534
Nov-17	Rainbow trout	96,880
Dec-17	Rainbow trout	60,711
May-18	Rainbow trout	144,780
Sep-18	Rainbow trout	353,100
Oct-18	Rainbow trout	12,000
May-19	Rainbow trout	384,500
Sep-19	Rainbow trout	461,400
Dec-19	Rainbow trout	125,600

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2020 10:52 AM

To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Good morning Ed,

This email is in response to DFO's request for additional information regarding the boundary amendment application for AQ#0814.

Please find attached the response to the requested information, including supporting documents, for sites AQ#0814, 0845 and 0600.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



AQ#0814 Response to DFO Information stocking 0814 0845



1. Historical



2. 20200721 DFO Information Reques



5.a Update Aquaculture



5.b Update MMPA Reporting 2019_Nov

Email includes seven attachments. See attachments below labelled A-G.

Attachment A: "AQ#0814 Response to DFO Information Request 2020.08.12.docx"



AQ#0814 Response
to DFO Information

**AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment:
Response to Information Request by DFO (May 4, 2020 and July 3, 2020)**

Requested Information	Response
<p>1 Date (month/year) of every historical stocking event, including the species and number of fish stocked for each stocking event</p>	<p>See attachment provided by We'koqma'q First Nation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Historical stocking 0814 0845 06000 for submission to NSDFA
<p>2 All historical provincial environmental monitoring results Note: We've accessed historical EMP data on the provincial open data portal, is this complete? There are a number of years with no data.</p>	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquaculture Operations. See also attachment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. 20200721 DFO Information Request – 2016 Data.xlsx <p>It has been identified that historical AQ#0600, 0814, 0845 EMP data from 2016 is not available for download from the provincial open data portal. Please see the attached historical EMP data from 2016. EMP monitoring events were not conducted on AQ#0845 during 2015 and 2018, which is why historical data for those years is not available for download.</p> <p>In addition, data collected within the proposed AQ#0814 boundaries during May 2020 is also not available for download from the provincial data portal. Danielle St. Louis, Acting Manager of Aquaculture Operations, provided this data to Ed Parker on June 15, 2020 as part of a Nova Scotia Aquaculture Environmental Site Management Committee (NSAESMC) meeting. As part of this sampling event, NSDFA also received video footage from each station. If DFO would like a copy of the video footage to assist with their review, this can be provided by NSDFA.</p>
<p>3 Historical mass mortality events, disease outbreaks, and sea lice infestations and details surrounding them Note: Basically, is there a history of pathogen, disease or pest outbreaks? If so, what are some basic details regarding these outbreaks?</p>	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquatic Animal Health.</p> <p><u>Historical Mass Mortality Event</u> Since the inception of the Aquaculture Management Regulations in 2015 there have been no reportable mortality occurrences at the Whycocomagh Bay Finfish Aquaculture sites.</p> <p><u>Disease Outbreaks</u></p>

		<p>Similarly, since the inception of the Aquaculture Management Regulations in 2015 there have been no reportable disease events at the Whycomagh Bay Finfish Aquaculture sites.</p> <p><u>Sea Lice Infestations</u> Due to the brackish and freshwater levels at these sites' sea lice can rarely be detected. Consequently, there has never been treatment at the Whycomagh Bay Finfish Aquaculture sites.</p>
4	Historical fish escape events and the details surrounding them	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquatic Animal Health and Aquaculture Operations.</p> <p>The record of yearly escapes recorded and released on the DFO public website can be found here: https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/aquaculture/protect-protege/escape-prevention-evasions-eng.html.</p> <p>August 16, 2017 - An escape is noted in 2017 for site AQ#0600, expected to be less than 600 fish.</p> <p>Record of the following Breach Notifications were made to NSDFA:</p> <p>May 5th, 2018 (date of breach) – AQ#0600</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated number of fish released is 29,000. • Suspected cause of breach is a windstorm combined with an operational error. • Average size of fish in holding unit(s) where breach occurred was 60 g. <p>September 8, 2019 (date of breach) – AQ#0814</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated number of fish released is unknown and will be determined during harvest. • Suspected cause of breach is the collapse of cages during Hurricane Dorian. • Size of fish on-site ranged from 100-2000 g. <p>October 22, 2019 (date of breach) – AQ#0814</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated number of fish released is 600 dead/harvested fish. • Suspected cause of breach is operational error (detached pump hose). • Size of fish on-site ranged from 100-2100 g. <p>November 28, 2019 (date of breach is unknown - suspected date is provided) – AQ#0814</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated number of fish released is unknown and will be determined during harvest.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suspected cause of breach is operational error (hole found in net due to prop). • Estimated number of fish in holding unit(s) where breach occurred was 14,900 at 1720 g. <p>December 18, 2019 (date of reporting - date of breach is unknown) – AQ#0814</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimated number of fish released is unknown and will be determined during harvest. • Suspected cause of breach is operational error (hole found in two nets either from prop or chafing). • Size of fish on-site ranged from 100-2100 g. <p>As per the Aquaculture Management Regulations, all procedures and processes have been followed as required by NSDFA to address and mitigate for the causes of the outlined breach events in order to minimize the likelihood of breach events occurring in the future.</p>
5	Historical entanglements and the details surrounding them	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquaculture Development.</p> <p>See also attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.a Update Aquaculture Written Responses_MMPA 2019_Nova Scotia • 5.b Update MMPA Reporting 2019_Nova Scotia <p>There have been no reported entanglements at this site to date as per NSDFA's report submitted to Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Marine Mammal Protection Act group (see attached).</p>
6	Date site was first licensed by the province	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquaculture Licensing and Leasing.</p> <p><u>File History AQ#0814:</u> Site was first issued on July 28, 1994. Licence and Lease issued to Waycobah First Nations Band Council on February 16, 2011.</p> <p><u>File History AQ#0600:</u> Site was first issued on July 28, 1994. Licence and Lease issued to Waycobah First Nations Band Council on February 16, 2011.</p> <p><u>File History AQ#0845:</u> Site was first issued on February 20, 1995. Licence and Lease issued to Waycobah First Nations Band Council on February 16, 2011.</p>

7	<p>Regarding the current meter data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • was the default Teledyne RDI QC criteria used? • was the pitch within specifications? • how was the current meter deployed (i.e. any pictures/diagrams of the deployment configuration)? • were any data screening checks used, and if so, what? • what were the data processing settings? 	<p>Information provided by NSDFA Aquaculture Operations.</p> <p>See also attachments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7.a SUBS • 7.b SUBS2 <p>This ADCP was deployed in SUBS buoy, suspended within the water column. Attached are a picture of the SUBS frame and a generalized diagram of the deployment configuration. In this case, I believe the meter would have been at an altitude of 5-6m off bottom. The profiling setup was for 200 pings, averaged over 5 minutes, once every 15 minutes. Cell size was 1m. Pitch and roll values were $<1^\circ$ for the duration of the deployment.</p> <p>Data were provided to the proponent as a raw export of speed and direction values from the Teledyne file. No additional processing was performed. This includes no adjustment to the current direction data to correct for magnetic declination.</p> <p>CMAR contracted FORCE to do a long term ADCP deployment at 0814 as well. It was from December 14, 2019 to April 30, 2020.</p>
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Attachment B: “1. Historical stocking 0814 0845 0600 for submission to NSDFA”

1. Historical
stocking 0814 0845 (

**Date (month/year) of every historical stocking event on
0814, 0845, 0600, back to 2015, including the species and
number of fish stocked for each stocking event**

Date	Species	Fish Number
Aug-15	Rainbow trout	53,673
Dec-15	Rainbow trout	129,822
Jun-16	Rainbow trout	133,446
Jul-16	Rainbow trout	138,449
Mar-17	Rainbow trout	145,364
Jun-17	Rainbow trout	151,068
Oct-17	Rainbow trout	148,534
Nov-17	Rainbow trout	96,880
Dec-17	Rainbow trout	60,711
May-18	Rainbow trout	144,780
Sep-18	Rainbow trout	353,100
Oct-18	Rainbow trout	12,000
May-19	Rainbow trout	384,500
Sep-19	Rainbow trout	461,400
Dec-19	Rainbow trout	125,600

Attachment C: "2. 20200721 DFO Information Request – 2016 Data"



2. 20200721 DFO Information Request

Day	Month	Year	Data type	Fin/Shell	Soft or Hard Bot	Old Station ID	NSDFA ID	Lat	Long	Locatid	Lease	Redox	Sulphide (µM)	Porosity (%)	Organic Matter (%)	Collected/Analyzed	
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 10	WYB10	45.951508	61.12646	Whyccocor	814	51.1		290	80.7642631	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 10	WYB10	45.951508	61.12646	Whyccocor	814	-154.3		2280	87.7124491	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 10	WYB10	45.951508	61.12646	Whyccocor	814	83.1		423	76.93206213	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 28	WYB28	45.951385	61.12605	Whyccocor	814	-141.1		1330	85.07232779	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 28	WYB28	45.951385	61.12605	Whyccocor	814	-83.9		625	77.76127546	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 28	WYB28	45.951385	61.12605	Whyccocor	814	-145		2960	84.42736754	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 30	WYB30	45.95108	61.12618	Whyccocor	814	-141.1		2350	87.48139126	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 30	WYB30	45.95108	61.12618	Whyccocor	814	-83.9		2310	84.33783242	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 30	WYB30	45.95108	61.12618	Whyccocor	814	-145		823	88.09382733	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 23	WYB23	45.951255	61.12558	Whyccocor	814	-155.7		2090	87.91483772	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 23	WYB23	45.951255	61.12558	Whyccocor	814	-152.4		828	89.23839152	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 23	WYB23	45.951255	61.12558	Whyccocor	814	-144.2		2240	86.94572416	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 32	WYB32	45.950825	61.12579	Whyccocor	814	-157.6		2760	88.43007351	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 32	WYB32	45.950825	61.12579	Whyccocor	814	-135.5		1710	87.06257386	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 32	WYB32	45.950825	61.12579	Whyccocor	814	-151.1		1960	87.00169779	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 31	WYB31	45.950764	61.1256	Whyccocor	814	-149.4		2310	85.72148366	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 31	WYB31	45.950764	61.1256	Whyccocor	814	-125.8		1640	88.65309172	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 31	WYB31	45.950764	61.1256	Whyccocor	814	-153.6		1960	88.29532824	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 27	WYB27	45.950481	61.12532	Whyccocor	814	-152.3		6160	87.25682808	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 27	WYB27	45.950481	61.12532	Whyccocor	814	-144		1230	85.43520166	Not available	EFWC
17	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 27	WYB27	45.950481	61.12532	Whyccocor	814	-146.1		1520	85.22167488	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 29	WYB29	45.949974	61.12521	Whyccocor	814	-153.2		2240	89.9768207	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 29	WYB29	45.949974	61.12521	Whyccocor	814	-132.5		2860	87.60129551	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 29	WYB29	45.949974	61.12521	Whyccocor	814	-152.4		2000	85.18067243	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 24	WYB24	45.9503	61.12512	Whyccocor	814	-143.4		2150	88.63337205	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 24	WYB24	45.9503	61.12512	Whyccocor	814	-145.9		2640	88.53207694	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 24	WYB24	45.9503	61.12512	Whyccocor	814	-145.7		2740	87.04024573	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14a	WYB24	45.95088	61.1263	Whyccocor	814	-180.7		3760	83.26672376	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14a		45.95088	61.1263	Whyccocor	814	-166.7		5500	85.55670614	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14a		45.95088	61.1263	Whyccocor	814	-169.3		3400	78.05623472	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14b		45.950726	61.12748	Whyccocor	814	-149.4		4340	78.43574336	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14b		45.950726	61.12748	Whyccocor	814	-120.5		4260	81.45775814	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B14b		45.950726	61.12748	Whyccocor	814	-139.3		3420	78.49529066	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 34	WYB34	45.950859	61.12095	Whyccocor	600	-148.9		4950	86.7405545	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 34	WYB34	45.950859	61.12095	Whyccocor	600	-161.1		4170	85.54590571	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 34	WYB34	45.950859	61.12095	Whyccocor	600	-168.5		4920	85.82237616	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 35	WYB35	45.951092	61.12162	Whyccocor	600	-161.8		1730	84.31980991	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 35	WYB35	45.951092	61.12162	Whyccocor	600	-137.7		4170	85.21466379	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 35	WYB35	45.951092	61.12162	Whyccocor	600	-162.7		4560	85.19581946	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 21	WYB21	45.951645	61.12114	Whyccocor	600	-145.9		1730	87.74710472	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 21	WYB21	45.951645	61.12114	Whyccocor	600	-154		1390	88.4253524	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 21	WYB21	45.951645	61.12114	Whyccocor	600	-130.5		1930	85.71428571	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 20	WYB20	45.951794	61.12065	Whyccocor	600	-152.6		1840	84.80124708	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 20	WYB20	45.951794	61.12065	Whyccocor	600	-143.9		1910	87.18486672	Not available	EFWC
18	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 20	WYB20	45.951794	61.12065	Whyccocor	600	-150.2		1860	86.27164268	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 600a		45.9508167	61.12148	Whyccocor	600	-215.3		7360	87.92249627	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 600a		45.9508167	61.12148	Whyccocor	600	-177		6300	85.18127758	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB 600a		45.9508167	61.12148	Whyccocor	600	-173.2		3400	83.992373	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45a		45.951527	61.12542	Whyccocor	845	-146.1		1500	79.88966008	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45a		45.951527	61.12542	Whyccocor	845	-164.5		2640	73.9703598	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45a		45.951527	61.12542	Whyccocor	845	-167		3400	84.74529395	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45b		45.95088	61.12716	Whyccocor	845	-93.6		1410	86.48473335	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45b		45.95088	61.12716	Whyccocor	845	-136.4		1350	81.45212718	Not available	EFWC
21	NOV	2016	EMP - Lev Fin		Soft	WYB B45b		45.95088	61.12716	Whyccocor	845	-134.1		1040	82.48284936	Not available	EFWC

Attachment D: “5.a Update Aquaculture Written Responses_MMPA 2019_Nova Scotia”



5.a Update
Aquaculture Writer

Nova Scotia Aquaculture Response for the U.S. MMPA Progress Report

Section 2: Regulatory - Fishery-Specific Questions

- 1) **Do you have a monitoring program for marine mammal bycatch in place for this fishery? If Yes, please specify the monitoring program (logbook, ASOP, electronic, dockside monitoring, interviews) and provide information on the percent coverage or time that the fishery is observed. If No, please indicate future plans to implement a monitoring program (if any), and percent coverage. Include documentation.**

Marine Finfish Aquaculture

- Yes, a monitoring program is operational.
- Two program types: “Vessel Logbooks”, “Dockside Inspection Report” and the “Marine Mammal Response Program”.
- 100% monitoring coverage of all operations in the Province.

Details on “Vessel Log Books” and “Dockside Inspection Report” programs– In Nova Scotia, these types of reports would be considered what is known as a Marine Finfish Farm Management Plan (FMP), as required under the Nova Scotia *Aquaculture Management Regulations* (AMRs).

- As of 2015, all active aquaculture lease holders in Nova Scotia are required to have an FMP, which includes the operator’s deterrent strategy for wildlife interactions, including marine mammal predators.
- The deterrent strategy in the FMP must be approved by the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA).
- Any issues/deficiencies with the deterrent strategy at/for a site or changes to its operations require documentation or amendment and are to be documented in the FMP.
- The deterrent strategy includes continuous monitoring (100%) by operators for interactions with marine mammals, although this is not explicitly stated within the FMP. The FMP is a physical document that stays with the operator and can be audited by the Province upon visitation or as required by the Minister.
- The FMP requires farm operators to undertake weekly above water infrastructure inspections. Any irregularities, damage, or points of wear to gear must be investigated as soon as possible and recorded on the surface inspection record. Informal above-water inspections are continuous because staff work on-site on a daily basis. Formal inspections must occur on a weekly basis for surface components.
- The FMP requires operators to undertake formal below-water net inspections at a maximum of every 60 days and documented on an underwater inspection checklist record. Mortality dives are also required at a minimum of once per week, which includes inspection of nets.
- No marine mammal deaths have been reported from marine finfish farms in Nova Scotia. Any interactions are recorded by the operator in the Marine Finfish FMP.

Shellfish & Marine Plants

- Yes, a monitoring program is operational.
- Two program types: “Vessel Logbooks” and “Marine Mammal Response Program”
- These monitoring programs cover 100% of all shellfish and marine plant operations in the Province.

Details on “Vessel Log Books” and “Dockside Inspection Report” programs – In Nova Scotia, these types of reports would be included in what is known as a Marine Shellfish or Marine Plant FMPs, as required under the Nova Scotia *Aquaculture Management Regulations (AMRs)*.

- No marine mammal deaths have been reported from shellfish and marine plant farms in Nova Scotia. Any interactions are recorded by the operator in the Shellfish FMP.
- 2) A. Which marine mammals are known to interact with this fishery (from historical bycatch data, sightings, literature, reports in analogous fisheries)?**

Marine Finfish

- For finfish operations in Nova Scotia, operator logbooks, FMPs, and reports to Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), indicate that gray seals and harbour seals interact with aquaculture operations on occasion.
- Production records (which include stock losses) submitted to NSDFA, indicate that the only recorded interaction with marine mammals in the past seven (7) years was salmon loss, due to seals in 2013 at one site. Losses due to predator were also indicated at this site in 2014. This may also have been due to seal interaction, however there are no specific details.
- There have been no other interactions with aquaculture in Nova Scotia as detailed in the Marine Mammal Response Program reports, the past five (5) years.

Shellfish & Marine Plants

- For shellfish and marine plant operations in Nova Scotia, operator logbooks, FMPs, and reports to DFO, indicate that no records of marine mammal interaction with aquaculture shellfish or plant operations.

B. Are marine mammals present in the area at another time? Indicate dates or times of the year that marine mammals are present in the fishing area, exclusive of when the fishery is active.

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

- With the exception of regulated fallow periods, aquaculture operations are conducted year-round.
 - As indicated above, seal species are present year-round for aquaculture operations
 - Other marine mammal species are present in all waters throughout Nova Scotia, however, there have been no reported cases of other marine mammals interacting with aquaculture operations.
- 3) For each marine mammal listed in Q2, what is the marine mammal Incidental Mortality and Serious Injury (IMSI) for the past five (5) fishing seasons (number of incidents per marine mammal species, and condition of the animal).**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

- 2019 – 0
 - 2018 – 0
 - 2017 – 0
 - 2016 – 0
 - 2015 – 0
- 4) What fishery management or mitigation measures are currently in place for your fishery, for the purpose of reducing marine mammal Incidental Mortality and Serious Injury? (Example: gear modification, deterrent devices, time/area closures, fishery best practices, etc.) Include documentation.**
- A. When did this mitigation go into effect (date)?**
- B. What % reduction in marine mammal bycatch has been achieved since implementing?**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

A.

- The Farm Management Plan (FMP) went into regulation under the AMRs in 2015. The FMP includes the operator's deterrent strategy for wildlife interactions, including marine mammal predators. The deterrent strategy is approved by the Province. Typically, predator netting is the most common deterrent and has proven to be effective. If an incident occurs, it is a requirement for operators to propose a mitigation strategy to the Province for approval, which is then implemented to ensure the incident does not occur in the future.
- Most finfish farms have personnel or security 24/7 and notification of marine mammal interaction can occur quickly, and appropriate action(s) taken, if necessary.
- (not applicable) There is no calculated reduction in bycatch as there is no by-catch associated with these aquaculture operations.

B.

- 100%
- 5) **What fishery management or mitigation measures are being planned to be implemented for your fishery, between now and 2021, for the purpose of reducing marine mammal Incidental Mortality and Serious Injury? (Example: gear modification, deterrent devices, time/area closures, fishery best practices, etc.) Include documentation.**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

- Explicit requirements in the FMP to document marine mammal interactions are being explored but would like to see what other jurisdictions are considering nationally and internationally and determine what will work for the Nova Scotia industry and the various growing environments.
- 6) **How are bycatch estimates calculated for this fishery? (harvester logbook or At-Sea Observer; observed minimum counts or extrapolated estimates for the whole fishery)**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

- Farm Management Plan / "harvester logbook"
- 7) **Do you have any certification programs for this fishery? (Example: Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), Shrimp-turtle, Affirmative finding, Certificate of Admissibility)**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Marine Plants

- Operators participate in external aquaculture best practices certification programs, such as Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) and Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC).
- 8) **What other measures is this fishery is taking to reduce marine mammal Incidental Mortality and Serious Injury? (Example: meetings with government officials, meetings with other industry groups, research projects, gear innovation, etc.) Include documentation.**

Marine Finfish, Shellfish, and Plants

- In 2019, DFO undertook a review of existing research on the kinds of marine mammal deterrence methods that are used at aquaculture operations in Canada and around the world. Using the report outcomes, DFO is currently considering which non-lethal marine mammal deterrence methods may be required in the future.
9. **Does this cultivation occur only in freshwater or an inland aquaculture facility?**

- There are some freshwater hatcheries and a few onshore facilities. There is no net pen culture in freshwater in Nova Scotia

10. Does farming this product occur year-round? If not, please indicate the seasons (months/precise dates).

- Typically, production can occur all year round. Although there is a minimum of a three (3) months fallow period between production cycles. Some shellfish sites are seasonal to hold produce for depuration, prior to market. Seasons vary.

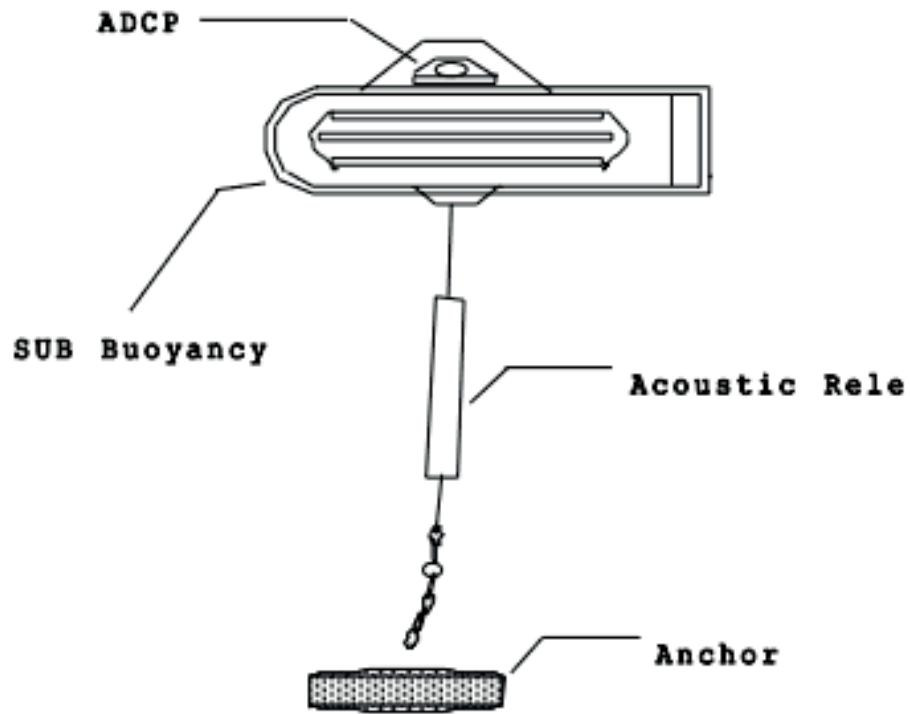
11. Are there any marine mammals present in waters around the operation(s)? Please list.

- Grey and harbour seals are common around marine aquaculture sites.
- Other marine mammal species are present in all waters throughout Nova Scotia, however, there have been no reported cases of other marine mammals interacting with aquaculture operations
- Operators are not required to document marine mammal sightings however they are required to document interactions, and report interactions when requested.

12. Are there any marine mammals that have been seen interacting directly with the aquaculture operations? Please list.

- Production records (which include stock losses) submitted to the department, indicate that the only recorded interaction with marine mammals in the past seven (7) years was salmon loss, due to seals in 2013 at one site. Losses due to predator were also indicated at this site in 2014. This may have been due to seal interaction, however there are no specific details. There have been no other recorded interactions with aquaculture in Nova Scotia as detailed in the Marine Mammal Response Program reports, the past five (5) years.

Attachment F: "7.a SUBS"



Attachment G: "7.b SUBS2"



From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: August 12, 2020 1:48 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thank you!

Edward Parker
 Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
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 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
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 Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: August 24, 2020 3:18 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Jennifer,

After review of the information, we have some follow up questions for clarification purposes:

- To assist us in understanding whether or not the habitat data we have is representative of pre- or post-aquaculture conditions, can confirmation be provided of the year the three sites first had fish on them? We have 2007 eel grass surveys and want to understand the co-existence of aquaculture and the eel grass beds.
- Is there pre-2015 stocking data available for the three sites? Because we have EMP data from 2012 onwards, having stocking data back to the same year would be useful in interpreting the two data sets. For example, in 2014 site 0814 was anoxic but we have no stocking data.
- Regarding 2018 EMP data, can it be confirmed that no sampling was done at any of the three sites?

Thanks,
 Ed

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From: Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Sent: August 25, 2020 11:29 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

The 2018 EMP data for Whycomomagh Bay is attached. This should take care of the request outlined in the last bullet below.

Cheers,
 Jessica

Date	Day	Month	Year	Data Type	Fin/Shell or Ref	Soft or Hard Bottom	Station	Old Station ID	NSDPA ID	Lat	Long	Location	Lease/Reference	Region (m/NHE)	Subside (m)	Porosity (%)	Organic Matter (%)	Collected/Analyzed by	Grid
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB A	WB54	45.9484	-61.1297	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-195	2130	82.52	28.65	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB A	WB54	45.9484	-61.1297	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-199	1340	82.60	17.24	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB A	WB54	45.9484	-61.1297	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-197	1670	83.59	17.91	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB B	WB55	45.9489	-61.1305	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-195	1340	79.59	17.91	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB B	WB55	45.9489	-61.1305	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-201	1340	82.17	38.09	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB B	WB55	45.9489	-61.1305	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-199	1020	78.23	17.47	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB C	WB56	45.9492	-61.1277	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-202	5740	85.70	17.36	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB C	WB56	45.9492	-61.1277	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-204	2720	83.14	17.05	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB C	WB56	45.9492	-61.1277	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-206	4020	81.87	17.57	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB D	WB57	45.9497	-61.1276	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-195	1720	84.56	17.06	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB D	WB57	45.9497	-61.1276	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-204	1880	81.67	26.73	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB D	WB57	45.9497	-61.1276	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-204	2300	83.52	17.56	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 10	WB10	45.9514	-61.1264	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-198	2010	72.72	38.30	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 10	WB10	45.9514	-61.1264	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-203	3340	83.33	22.18	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 10	WB10	45.9514	-61.1264	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-203	18	69.84	36.66	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 28	WB28	45.9513	-61.1261	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-202	3180	82.56	22.37	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 28	WB28	45.9513	-61.1261	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-201	3080	83.31	21.03	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 28	WB28	45.9513	-61.1261	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-203	2970	82.98	21.96	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 23	WB23	45.9511	-61.1255	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-201	2260	90.45	25.70	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 23	WB23	45.9511	-61.1255	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-203	2860	86.80	28.00	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 23	WB23	45.9511	-61.1255	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-215	2320	88.02	29.54	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 32	WB32	45.9509	-61.1258	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-198	2360	81.49	16.48	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 32	WB32	45.9509	-61.1258	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-200	2580	88.66	29.07	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 32	WB32	45.9509	-61.1258	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-205	2240	87.06	39.04	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 27	WB27	45.9505	-61.1250	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-201	2890	88.85	30.71	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 27	WB27	45.9505	-61.1250	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-203	1930	86.91	25.83	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 27	WB27	45.9505	-61.1250	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-208	2480	86.72	35.04	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 24	WB24	45.9504	-61.1252	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-201	2220	89.62	31.27	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 24	WB24	45.9504	-61.1252	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-206	2050	87.68	31.32	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 24	WB24	45.9504	-61.1252	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-210	2150	87.91	28.20	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 30	WB30	45.9511	-61.1263	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-200	3180	84.49	17.60	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 30	WB30	45.9511	-61.1263	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-202	2060	79.67	17.65	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB 30	WB30	45.9511	-61.1263	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-199	2650	84.35	18.14	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB E	WB58	45.9502	-61.1263	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-199	2560	83.91	17.47	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB E	WB58	45.9502	-61.1263	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-207	2580	82.71	18.22	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB F	WB59	45.9508	-61.1266	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-193	2280	86.69	44.06	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB F	WB59	45.9508	-61.1266	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-186	1750	89.76	48.83	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Fin	Soft	WVB F	WB59	45.9508	-61.1266	Whycomomagh Bay	0814	-198	1980	88.40	25.20	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-189	37	76.44	12.84	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-195	84	77.08	14.76	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-200	19	76.34	13.91	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-138	1220	85.46	16.88	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-141	693	85.20	17.74	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-137	1020	83.73	18.40	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	22	1	73.67	17.05	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-3	355	75.26	17.23	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-56	158	74.64	18.07	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-146	2780	86.85	26.15	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-138	2190	86.89	28.27	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-146	2740	87.13	26.70	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-112	270	86.10	18.80	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-161	2330	86.00	20.20	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-163	1760	83.99	26.73	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-111	8780	84.11	24.11	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-166	2410	87.48	22.63	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-169	2740	88.27	26.39	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-139	2250	88.20	48.45	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-132	1850	84.33	28.48	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-130	1840	88.79	36.29	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-154	5600	85.90	23.13	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-149	2300	87.61	59.12	EWFC	Petit Ponar	
27-Sep-18	27	SEP	2018	EMP Level I	Ref	Soft	REF A	WB61	45.9456	-61.1349	Whycomomagh Bay	0000/0814	-154	198	89.59	47.60	EWFC	Petit Ponar	

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: August 25, 2020 3:12 PM
To: Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thank you Jessica!

Edward Parker
 Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
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From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: September 4, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

To address the first bullet, please find the summary of industry reported production statistics for the three sites (see below), as well as the corresponding file history summary (see attached). We have a number of different means of gaining information, so please let me know if this production data satisfies your request.

Note that we previously reported that the sites were first licenced in 1994 and 1995; however, we found records that pre-date this from another producer at the sites. We can inquire with our Records Centre should you require more information on this.

Summary of Industry Reported Production

AQ#0600

- 1992: 61,168 kg Atlantic salmon produced.
- 1993: report not available in digital file.
- 1994-2001: no production reported.
- 2002: 2,000 kg rainbow trout produced (same at all three sites).
- 2003-2012: no production reported.

AQ#0814

- 1993-1994: no production reported.
- 1995: 72,535 kg Atlantic salmon produced.
- 1996-2001: no production reported.
- 2002: 2,000 kg rainbow trout produced (same at all three sites).
- 2003-2011: no production reported.

AQ#0845

- 1993: 67,014 kg Atlantic salmon produced.
- 1994: no production reported.
- 1995: 67,062 kg steelhead trout produced.
- 1996: 42,270 kg steelhead trout produced.
- 1997-2001: no production reported.
- 2002: 2,000 kg rainbow trout produced (same at all three sites).
- 2003-2010: no production reported.

In response to your second bullet, please find attached the EMP data for AQ#0600, 0814 and 0845 from 2012 onward.

Please let me know if you have any questions or require clarification.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



AQ#0814 0845 0600 2012-2015 Stocking
File History.docx Info Waycobah Site:

**AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment:
Response to Information Request by DFO on August 24, 2020**

File History Summary

AQ#0600:

- 1992 Annual Production Report submitted by Golden Eagle Fisheries Ltd., received April 20, 1993.
- AQ#0600 Licence and Lease issued to Eskasoni Fisheries Limited on July 28, 1994 for a ten-year term from August 2, 1994 to August 2, 2004;
- Assignment of Licence and Lease to 3057289 Nova Scotia Limited on June 20, 2001;
- AQ#0600 Licence and Lease issued on February 16, 2011 to Waycobah First Nations Band Council for a ten-year term from February 2, 2011 to February 1, 2021.

AQ#0814:

- 1993 Annual Production Report submitted by Golden Eagle Fisheries Ltd., received February 7, 1994.
- AQ#0814 Licence and Lease issued to Eskasoni Fisheries Limited on July 28, 1994 for a ten-year term from August 2, 1994 to August 2nd, 2004;
- Assignment of Licence and Lease to 3057289 Nova Scotia Limited on June 20, 2001;
- AQ#0814 Licence and Lease issued on February 16, 2011 to Waycobah First Nations Band Council for a ten-year term from February 2, 2011 to February 1, 2021.

AQ#0845:

- 1993 Annual Production Report submitted by Golden Eagle Fisheries Ltd., received February 7, 1994.
- AQ#0845 Licence and Lease issued to Eskasoni Fisheries Limited on February 20, 1995 for a ten-year term from February 27, 1995 to February 27, 2005;
- Assignment of Licence and Lease to 3057289 Nova Scotia Limited on June 20, 2001;
- AQ#0845 Licence and Lease issued on February 16, 2011 to Waycobah First Nations Band Council for a ten-year term from February 2, 2011 to February 1, 2021.

Note: There is a gap from 2001 to 2011 for all three sites. The sites were previously issued to Eskasoni Fisheries Ltd. and were assigned to 3057289 Nova Scotia Limited in June 2001. The sites became inactive and were therefore cancelled in November 2004. They were then reissued to Waycobah in 2011.

0814 *INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS WORKSHEET ORIGINATES FROM THE LICENCE HOLDER AS PART OF A STOCKING LEVEL APPROVAL APPLICATION

2015 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	NO STOCKING DATA			Jul-15	Hypoxic B	0	NO STOCKING DATA			01-Nov-14	365	
SPRING													
FALL													
2014 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	289314	Jan-14	419	Jul-14	Anoxic	187200	205370	Aug-14	254855	1.04	Nov-14	45
SPRING		53107	May-14	55									
		31978	Jun-14	55									
		13400	Jul-14	45									
2013 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	310881	Jan-13	299	Jul-13	Oxic B	106995	106995	Nov-13	225380	0.98	0	0
SPRING		110211	Jun-13	70									
		12000	Jul-13	60									
		34000	Jul-13	45									
FALL		129000	Oct-13	53									
		55600		45									
2012 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	178198	Jan-12	396	Jul-12	Hypoxic A	185486	198977	Dec-12	142835	0.994	0	0
SPRING		166000	May-12	45									
		50000	Jun-12	103									
		108767	Oct-12	44									
FALL		166113	Nov-12	45									

0600 *INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS WORKSHEET ORIGINATES FROM THE LICENCE HOLDER AS PART OF A STOCKING LEVEL APPROVAL APPLICATION

2015 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
SPRING	Rainbow trout	53673	Aug-15	83	Jul-15	Hypoxic A	0	39745	Dec-15	0	0	Jan-May-15	169
		29559	Dec-15	31									
		84963	Dec-15	70									
		15000	Dec-15	500									
2014 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	28850	Jun-14	62	Jul-14	Hypoxic B	4269	20800	Dec-14	0	0	Jan-May-14 Dec-14	171
2013 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	200964	Sep-13	426	NO EMP DATA			143445	Dec-13	21836 95564	1.04 0.97	0	0
2012 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	NO STOCKING DATA											
SPRING													
FALL													

0845 *INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS WORKSHEET ORIGINATES FROM THE LICENCE HOLDER AS PART OF A STOCKING LEVEL APPROVAL APPLICATION

2016 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	50,000	May-16	55	NO EMP DATA			90,000					
2015 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	118,889	Jan-15	561	NO EMP DATA			72,496	Jun-15	62099	1.1	May to December 2015	165
2014 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout				NO EMP DATA							01-Jan-14	365
2013 PRODUCTION													
	Species and Strain	Total Number of Fish Introduced	Date of Stocking (mo/yr)	Average Weight of Fish Introduced (g)	EMP Results Summary			Maximum Biomass (kg)	Date of Highest Biomass (mo/yy)	Total Number of Fish Harvested	Average Harvest Weight (kg)	Fallow Period Start Date (mo/yy)	Length of Fallow Period (days)
					Date of EMP Sampling (mo/yy)	Site Classification	Biomass (kg)						
On-site inventory	Rainbow trout	507,306	Dec-13	192	NO EMP DATA			214,117	May-13			May to December 2013	210

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: September 8, 2020 2:22 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: UPDATE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Jennifer, 'Thank You' to you and the DFA team for pulling this information together to assist us in our review.

Ed

Edward Parker

Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer

Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298

Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967

Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2

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From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: September 23, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

I am following up on the AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment Application regarding possible outstanding information as per your email dated September 20, 2019 (see below).

Do you still require the information requested based on DFO's checklist, or has the subsequent information provided on this application and the aquaculture application review process information sessions between our departments satisfied DFO's review of this file?

I have added notes to the list below that state if the request has since been resolved (in green), if information from the proponent has been provided (in purple), or that information may be outstanding (in red).

Please let me know if any additional information is required at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,
 Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
 1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
 Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
 902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: September 20, 2019 4:33 PM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Laking, Erin <Erin.Laking@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

DFO has reviewed the application and supporting information received July 15, 2019 from your department. As a result of our comparison of the application against our "DRAFT Checklist of Information Submitted by Proponent" and feedback from our internal reviewers, DFO requests the following additional information to continue our review:

Contact information: Resolved – information provided to DFO on September 23, 2019 by Lynn Winfield.

- Primary mailing address for the proponent

- Full legal registered name of the company (if applicable)
- Contact information of the duly authorized representative of the proponent (if applicable)

Location of the project:

- Description of the location of the point of access for the proposed site (i.e., wharf, slipway) and locate it on the topographic map or nautical chart **Resolved – map provided to DFO on September 23, 2019 by Lynn Winfield.**
 - Note: Where will the construction of the cages take place; and where is the wharf at which service vessels will tie up? **Note: Identification of wharf in map submitted Sept 23, 2019 and wharves are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 5.1.2.6). Is clarification on location of cage construction and wharf for service vessels still required?**

Description of the project

- Labelled, scale drawings of the proposed culture facility in two dimensions (plan view and cross sectional view) including all equipment such as cages (include length, width and depth) walkways, mooring system, anchors, feed sheds, mortality storage, net washing and feed barges, etc. **Note: Site Plan and Site, Infrastructure and Holding System are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 2.2, 5.1).**
 - Note: a diagram is provided in the NPA application, but does not include equipment other than cages, lines and anchors/moorings. If there is other equipment, please include it.
- Drawings of alternate siting configurations if it is anticipated that the infrastructure will be moved within the tenure boundaries **Please see attached “Additional info attachment 0814 July 4” and advise if additional information is required.**
 - Note: it is stated that the cages may be moved around to enable following of areas.
- Description of the construction materials to be used and the name of the cage system manufacturer. **Note: Description of equipment and materials, including cage materials are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 5.1.2.2).**
- Description of the anchoring / mooring system (e.g. screwed in, non-attached, etc.), dimensions of all materials, and placement and installation procedures to be employed. This should include a description of plans, if any, to uninstall and reinstall anchors and weights (or any equipment associated physically attached to the benthic substrate) in different locations as they rotate equipment. **Note: Description of equipment and materials for anchoring and mooring systems including installations are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 5.1.2.1 and 5.1.3).**

Production

- Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds **Note: Feed storage and management is addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.8.3).**
- For boundary amendments, details of provincial EMP data for the existing site spanning the previous 2 production cycles **Resolved – NSDFA Operations provided DFO with 2018 and 2019 EMP data.**
- Description of harvesting procedures and schedule, including transportation of product from the production site to the processing plant and the disposal of bloodwater and offal
 - Procedures to mitigate any potentially harmful effects resulting from harvesting and transportation activities **Note: Production Plan, Waste Management Strategy, SOPs for Fish Transport and Harvesting are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 2.1, 6.10.6, 6.13.6, 6.14.1, 6.14.2, 7.2.2, 9.2.1).**
- Will there be introduced artificial light? **Response from Applicant: “There will not be any grow lights used on this lease.”**

Anti-fouling

- Details for any anti-fouling materials that may be used and description of how each may be applied, including the location, method and frequency of application and other water/material will be disposed. **Note: Antifouling is addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.3.1.3).**

Decommissioning

- Description of the decommissioning process, including measures to restore the area to its pre-development state. **Note: Decommissioning is addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 8.2).**

Socio-Economic Environment

- List of contact names and comments received from fishers and fishing that have been contacted to discuss the proposed development. **Is this information required?**

Description of the Aquatic Environment

- Confirmation on whether or not the site lies within the migratory route of any fish species and if so, identification of species and the predicted time(s) of migration. **Is this information required?**

Predator Control

- Will there be any use of acoustic predator deterrents? **Note: Predator deterrents are addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.1, 6.2).**

Should you or the proponents have any questions regarding these additional information requirements, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-1489
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
PO Box 1006, P500, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
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Additional info
attachment 0814 Ju

0814 Amendment:
Overwintering locations on lease
indicated by blue polygon.
Grow-out locations indicated by
orange polygons.



0814 Amendment: Sample configuration of gear on site during summer months.

*The location of the arrays may change from year to year, but the cages and mooring systems will be contained within the lease area which is indicated by the red lines.



From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: November 17, 2020 1:22 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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

Hi Jennifer,

Thank you for the information. The only remaining information we need is that which I highlighted. In light of discussions to date between our two departments to date regarding information in FMP's, we are happy to discuss the request.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
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From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, September 23, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

I am following up on the AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment Application regarding possible outstanding information as per your email dated September 20, 2019 (see below).

Do you still require the information requested based on DFO's checklist, or has the subsequent information provided on this application and the aquaculture application review process information sessions between our departments satisfied DFO's review of this file?

I have added notes to the list below that state if the request has since been resolved (in green), if information from the proponent has been provided (in purple), or that information may be outstanding (in red).

Please let me know if any additional information is required at your earliest convenience.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: September 20, 2019 4:33 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Laking, Erin <Erin.Laking@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Lynn,

DFO has reviewed the application and supporting information received July 15, 2019 from your department. As a result of our comparison of the application against our “DRAFT Checklist of Information Submitted by Proponent” and feedback from our internal reviewers, DFO requests the following additional information to continue our review:

Contact information: Resolved – information provided to DFO on September 23, 2019 by Lynn Winfield.

- Primary mailing address for the proponent
- Full legal registered name of the company (if applicable)
- Contact information of the duly authorized representative of the proponent (if applicable)

Location of the project:

- Description of the location of the point of access for the proposed site (i.e., wharf, slipway) and locate it on the topographic map or nautical chart **Resolved – map provided to DFO on September 23, 2019 by Lynn Winfield.**
 - Note: Where will the construction of the cages take place; and where is the wharf at which service vessels will tie up? **Note: Identification of wharf in map submitted Sept 23, 2019 and wharves are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 5.1.2.6). Is clarification on location of cage construction and wharf for service vessels still required?**

Description of the project

- Labelled, scale drawings of the proposed culture facility in two dimensions (plan view and cross sectional view) including all equipment such as cages (include length, width and depth) walkways, mooring system, anchors, feed sheds, mortality storage, net washing and feed barges, etc. **Note: Site Plan and Site, Infrastructure and Holding System are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 2.2, 5.1).**
 - Note: a diagram is provided in the NPA application, but does not include equipment other than cages, lines and anchors/moorings. **If there is other equipment, please include it.**

- Drawings of alternate siting configurations if it is anticipated that the infrastructure will be moved within the tenure boundaries **Please see attached “Additional info attachment 0814 July 4” and advise if additional information is required.**
 - Note: it is stated that the cages may be moved around to enable fallowing of areas.
- Description of the construction materials to be used and the name of the cage system manufacturer. **Note: Description of equipment and materials, including cage materials are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 5.1.2.2).**
- Description of the anchoring / mooring system (e.g. screwed in, non-attached, etc.), dimensions of all materials, and placement and installation procedures to be employed. This should include a description of plans, if any, to uninstall and reinstall anchors and weights (or any equipment associated physically attached to the benthic substrate) in different locations as they rotate equipment. **Note: Description of equipment and materials for anchoring and mooring systems including installations are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 5.1.2.1 and 5.1.3).**

Production

- Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds **Note: Feed storage and management is addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.8.3).**
- For boundary amendments, details of provincial EMP data for the existing site spanning the previous 2 production cycles **Resolved – NSDFA Operations provided DFO with 2018 and 2019 EMP data.**
- Description of harvesting procedures and schedule, including transportation of product from the production site to the processing plant and the disposal of bloodwater and offal
 - Procedures to mitigate any potentially harmful effects resulting from harvesting and transportation activities **Note: Production Plan, Waste Management Strategy, SOPs for Fish Transport and Harvesting are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP (Sections 2.1, 6.10.6, 6.13.6, 6.14.1, 6.14.2, 7.2.2, 9.2.1).**
- Will there be introduced artificial light? **Response from Applicant: “There will not be any grow lights used on this lease.”**

Anti-fouling

- Details for any anti-fouling materials that may be used and description of how each may be applied, including the location, method and frequency of application and other water/material will be disposed. **Note: Antifouling is addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.3.1.3).**

Decommissioning

- Description of the decommissioning process, including measures to restore the area to its pre-development state. **Note: Decommissioning is addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 8.2).**

Socio-Economic Environment

- List of contact names and comments received from fishers and fishing that have been contacted to discuss the proposed development. **Is this information required?**

Description of the Aquatic Environment

- Confirmation on whether or not the site lies within the migratory route of any fish species and if so, identification of species and the predicted time(s) of migration. **Is this information required?**

Predator Control

- Will there be any use of acoustic predator deterrents? **Note: Predator deterrents are addressed in Marine Finfish FMP (Section 6.1, 6.2).**

Should you or the proponents have any questions regarding these additional information requirements, please feel free to contact me.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-1489
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
PO Box 1006, P500, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
CP 1006, P500, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 18, 2020 11:50 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

Thank you for your response. We would like to schedule a meeting with you and your review team to discuss the request and how it relates to DFO's stressor categories so we can ensure the appropriate information is provided by NSDFA and/or the proponent for your review.

Please let me know a day and time that would work for you in the coming weeks and who you would like included on the call, and I will follow up with the meeting request.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: November 20, 2020 4:10 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>;
Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thanks Jennifer.

For your consideration, please find below a clarification (removed information request related to decommissioning and anti-foulant use) of the highlighted sections in the below email and an explanation as to what information is being requested and why (context) we are requesting it. We are not in possession of the Farm Management Plan. Although we are appreciative of NSDFA's efforts to inform us of the role of FMP's to date, we are still at the stage of needing more specific information. After review of the details below, please advise if you still need to meet to discuss. Thanks!

Clarification on location of cage construction

- Cage construction activities can impact fish and fish habitat. If they are planned to occur, further details will be required, including mitigation measures:
 - Description of construction and installation activities that are intended to take place in water, on wetlands or on beaches. Schedule of what activities are intended to take place and where. List of specific types of heavy machinery, vehicles or vessels to be used on wetlands or beaches or within the intertidal or deep water area for the installation and construction phases. Explain when and how they are to be used.

If there is other equipment, please include it

- This is in the context of other associated infrastructure that may be constructed/installed and may impact fish and fish habitat. If there are such plans, further details will be required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.

Description of equipment and materials for anchoring and mooring systems including installations are addressed in the Marine Finfish FMP

- The use of heavy equipment and the installation of anchoring and mooring systems can result in impacts to fish and fish habitat. Further details are required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.

Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds

- The placement and installation of infrastructure related to feed management can impact fish and fish habitat.
- Potential for spills is considered in our risk assessment.

Use of acoustic predator deterrents

- Acoustic deterrent devices for example represent sources of sensory disturbance (e.g. noise) to a variety of fish species, marine mammals and aquatic species-at-risk. Depending on the time of year, these activities can result in altered biological behavior for species using this area to carry out life processes.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
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From: Feehan, Jennifer

Sent: February 11, 2021 10:48 AM

To: 'donald' <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Melissa Rommens <melissa@aquaculture-solutions.com>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>;

Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Subject: AQ#0814 - Request for Additional Information

Hi Donald and Melissa,

Hope you are well. We have received a follow up request from Fisheries and Oceans Canada for additional information on the Boundary Amendment application for AQ#0814 (see list below).

Some of the information requested would be present in your Farm Management Plan, and I have indicated corresponding sections of the FMP in [blue](#). This may help in compiling your response, although additional information may be required as described below.

1. Clarification on location of cage construction ([Section 5.1](#))

- Cage construction activities can impact fish and fish habitat. If they are planned to occur, further details will be required, including mitigation measures:
 - Description of construction and installation activities that are intended to take place in water, on wetlands or on beaches. Schedule of what activities are intended to take place and where. List of specific types of heavy machinery, vehicles or vessels to be used on wetlands or beaches or within the intertidal or deep water area for the installation and construction phases. Explain when and how they are to be used.

2. If there is other equipment, please include it ([Section 5.1](#))

- This is in the context of other associated infrastructure that may be constructed/installed and may impact fish and fish habitat. If there are such plans, further details will be required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.

3. Description of equipment and materials for anchoring and mooring systems including installations ([Sections 5.1.2.1 and 5.1.3](#))

- The use of heavy equipment and the installation of anchoring and mooring systems can result in impacts to fish and fish habitat. Further details are required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.

4. Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds ([Section 6.8.3](#))

- The placement and installation of infrastructure related to feed management can impact fish and fish habitat.
- Potential for spills is considered in our risk assessment.

5. Use of acoustic predator deterrents ([Sections 6.1 and 6.2](#))

- Acoustic deterrent devices for example represent sources of sensory disturbance (e.g. noise) to a variety of fish species, marine mammals and aquatic species-at-risk. Depending on the time of year, these activities can result in altered biological behavior for species using this area to carry out life processes.

Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions or wish to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Thursday, February 18, 2021 8:39 AM

To: Melissa Rommens

Cc: Winfield, Lynn

Subject: FW: AQ#0814 - Request for Additional Information

Hi Melissa,

I just noticed that I sent the email below to possibly an outdated email address for you. Apologies for that.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks,
Jennifer

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: February 18, 2021 9:51 AM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - Request for Additional Information

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Thank-you for resending Jennifer.

I will begin to work on the response.

Melissa

Feehan, Jennifer

Subject: Waycobah Adjudicated Applications - Meeting (via Teams)**Location:** Microsoft Teams Meeting**Start:** Mon 2021-02-22 1:00 PM**End:** Mon 2021-02-22 1:30 PM**Recurrence:** (none)**Meeting Status:** Accepted**Organizer:** Forgeron, Joanna L**Required Attendees:** Forgeron, Joanna L; donald davis ; Feindel, Nathaniel J; 'Dobson, Suzanne'; Hancock, Bruce H; Feehan, Jennifer; Winfield, Lynn; melissa@sustainaqua.ca; Robert Ceschiutti**Optional Attendees:** Parker, Edward V; Ceschiutti, Robert

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app[Click here to join the meeting](#)**Join with a video conferencing device**[20014895@t.plcm.vc](tel:20014895@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 119 657 277 4

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From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>**Sent:** February 26, 2021 1:11 PM**To:** Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>**Cc:** Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>**Subject:** RE: AQ#0814 - Request for Additional Information**** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE ****

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Hello Jennifer:

Find attached a response to the questions below.

Kind regards,

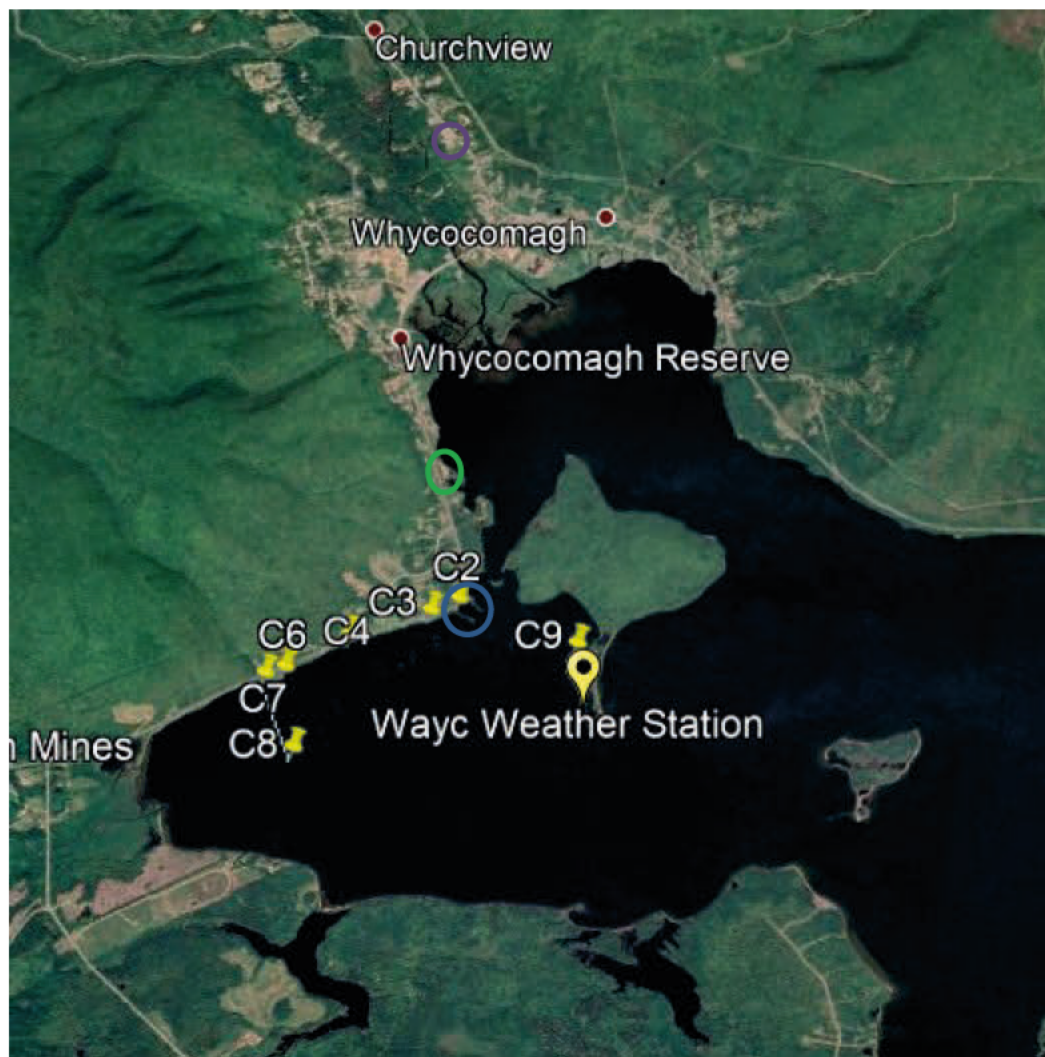
Melissa

Additional info
response 0814 Febr

Response to additional information boundary amendment AQ # 0814

Feb. 26, 2021

Below find a map showing location of We'koqm'aq's activities to support AQ #0814, as described in the text that follows. The boundaries for the requested site amendment are shown as yellow pins.



1. Clarification on location of cage construction

- Cage construction activities can impact fish and fish habitat. If they are planned to occur, further details will be required, including mitigation measures:
 - Description of construction and installation activities that are intended to take place in water, on wetlands or on beaches. Schedule of what activities are intended to take place and where. List of specific types of heavy machinery, vehicles or vessels to be used on wetlands or beaches or within the intertidal or deep water area for the installation and construction phases. Explain when and how they are to be used.

Many of the cages for use in the amended site are already constructed and in the water. Any new cage construction will occur at We'koqma'q's existing local near-shore cage construction location shown in the map by the green circle.

This is a maintained area adjacent to the lake on reserve land which is used exclusively for the purpose of assembling cages and pulling them into the water. This area used for cage construction is neither a wetland nor a beach nor an intertidal area.

Once assembled, the cages are pulled over the intertidal area into the water using a lake-based vessel. The shortest path over the intertidal area is used to reduce impacts. In this area, the water gets deep enough to float the cages almost immediately. The floating cages are then pulled to their location by being towed behind a vessel through water deep enough to ensure no drag.

2. *If there is other equipment, please include it*

- *This is in the context of other associated infrastructure that may be constructed/installed and may impact fish and fish habitat. If there are such plans, further details will be required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.*

There are two existing wharves which service the AQ#0814 site whose ends are moored on the lake bottom. Their location is indicated on the map via the blue circle. The moorings for these wharves are in place. Cage system mooring details follow in #3.

3. *Description of equipment and materials for anchoring and mooring systems including installations*

- *The use of heavy equipment and the installation of anchoring and mooring systems can result in impacts to fish and fish habitat. Further details are required such as placement and installation procedures, including mitigation.*

Mooring deployment is described below:

Moorings (concrete blocks) are transferred from land to a barge at the main existing shore-based location (blue circle on map). The barge is motored out to the pre-determined GPS waypoint and the mooring is dropped/pushed off the barge.

The end moorings and center lines are dropped first. They are pulled tight before the cross grids are installed. Two moorings are used for each end line. Two moorings are also used on each of the cross grids on the sides. The inside mooring is dropped first, the line is pulled tight, then the second mooring is dropped. The grid and scope lines are assembled prior to installation so that all connections and intersections of the lines can be properly secured. The scope of the mooring lines is targeted to be at least 3:1 at high tide.

The only items that contact the bottom for the mooring system are the moorings themselves. All other equipment used in installation is barge or vessel mounted.

4. Details on the use and storage of both medicated and non-medicated feeds

- *The placement and installation of infrastructure related to feed management can impact fish and fish habitat.*
- *Potential for spills is considered in our risk assessment.*

Bulk feed storage is located at a repurposed rink that was acquired by We'koqma'q for this purpose in 2019. It is located several kilometers away from the shore, indicated by the purple circle in the map. This is also the location that the feed is delivered to. Abell Pest control is contracted to manage pests in and around the building.

Only feed fed during the same day is brought to the main existing shore-based location (blue circle on map). If an excess of feed happens to be delivered, it is stored in secure, steel transport containers located across the parking lot for the wharves. The amount of feed stored is minimal, far less than the amount that can be safely and properly stored according to space in the containers.

Feed is loaded onto vessels according to daily use. On the vessels it is covered to protect it from birds. It is not left on a vessel unless it will be fed within the day. Bags or open containers of feed are not left exposed or uncovered.

Any feed that is unusable is removed from the site as soon as possible and disposed of at an approved waste management facility. Feed spills are cleaned up immediately. The pathway for feed delivery and passage is kept clear and free of obstacles to reduce spillage.

Records of feed use are maintained and amounts are entered into production control software.

5. Use of acoustic predator deterrents

- *Acoustic deterrent devices for example represent sources of sensory disturbance (e.g. noise) to a variety of fish species, marine mammals and aquatic species-at-risk. Depending on the time of year, these activities can result in altered biological behavior for species using this area to carry out life processes.*

No acoustic predator deterrents are used.

From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: February 26, 2021 1:42 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Jessica A <Jessica.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

Please find attached the response from We'koqma'q First Nation in reference to the additional information requested below for AQ#0814.

Let me know if you require any additional information or clarification from the proponent.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



Additional info
response 0814 Febr

***See above email dated February 26, 2021 for attachment.**

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: February 26, 2021 1:45 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thank you Jennifer.

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
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CP 1006, P600, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: March 2, 2021 5:50 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

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Hi Lynn,

DFO is hereby requesting the following information in order to continue with its review of the boundary amendment application for site 0814:

- Please provide all mitigation measures related to fish containment, including but not limited to the following:
 - Operating procedures that limit the risk of a breach, including the identification of critical control points, critical control limits, monitoring and corrective actions.
 - Operating procedures for net maintenance (surface and below surface) such as inspection procedures, cleaning, disinfection, testing, repair, changing procedures, biofouling strategies as well as recording and reporting procedures for these activities.
 - Mooring and anchor inspection, grid system inspection and recording and reporting procedures for these activities.
 - Engineer approved minimum infrastructure requirements, and minimum infrastructure maintenance and inspection requirements in place for containment management.
 - Corrective actions related to the above procedures.
 - Procedures for site management in the event of severe weather.
 - Procedures for response to breaches or suspected breaches, including mandatory reporting.
 - Security protocols to reduce risk of vandalism and release of fish.
 - In the Development Plan submitted by the proponent, it is stated that We'koqma'q First Nation hopes to become certified to the Global Aquaculture Alliance's Best Aquaculture Practices, which includes enhanced monitoring and global performance standards. Please advise if this certification has been obtained and if so, please provide all enhanced mitigation measures related to fish containment.
- Please provide all mitigation measures related to oxygen supplementation, including but not limited to the following:
 - Protocols for monitoring of dissolved oxygen, and mitigation protocols in the event of low levels.
 - Description of equipment used for oxygen supplementation i.e. type, quantity.
 - Operating procedures for the use of the oxygenation system and monitoring procedures for effectiveness.

- Reporting procedures for mass mortality events, or significant mortality of unknown cause
- Will artificial illumination be used?
 - If so, please provide details of equipment used, timing, and procedures, etc.

Thanks,
Ed

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
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From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 11:26 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

Thank you for the request for additional information for AQ#0814. We will forward the request to the applicant.

In the meantime, we are looking to set up a call between NSDFA and DFO's reviewers to discuss and get some clarification on the request.

Our group currently has availability all **morning** on **Thursday, March 18th**. Let me know if maybe 10-11 am would work for your group or please suggest another time/day that might work better.

Thanks,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: March 8, 2021 11:57 AM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>; Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

I am not available at 10am on the 18th, but I also may not be required for this meeting.
Sue

From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: Monday, March 8, 2021 12:14 PM
To: donald; Melissa Rommens
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N; Feindel, Nathaniel J; Ceschiutti, Robert
Subject: AQ#0814 - DFO Request for Additional Information

Hi Donald and Melissa,

Fisheries and Oceans Canada has requested additional information for the boundary amendment application for AQ#0814.

Please see DFO's request listed in the bullets below:

- Please provide all mitigation measures related to fish containment, including but not limited to the following:
 - Operating procedures that limit the risk of a breach, including the identification of critical control points, critical control limits, monitoring and corrective actions.
 - Operating procedures for net maintenance (surface and below surface) such as inspection procedures, cleaning, disinfection, testing, repair, changing procedures, biofouling strategies as well as recording and reporting procedures for these activities.
 - Mooring and anchor inspection, grid system inspection and recording and reporting procedures for these activities.
 - Engineer approved minimum infrastructure requirements, and minimum infrastructure maintenance and inspection requirements in place for containment management.
 - Corrective actions related to the above procedures.
 - Procedures for site management in the event of severe weather.
 - Procedures for response to breaches or suspected breaches, including mandatory reporting.
 - Security protocols to reduce risk of vandalism and release of fish.
 - In the Development Plan submitted by the proponent, it is stated that We'koqma'q First Nation hopes to become certified to the Global Aquaculture Alliance's Best Aquaculture Practices, which includes enhanced monitoring and global performance standards. Please advise if this certification has been obtained and if so, please provide all enhanced mitigation measures related to fish containment.

- Please provide all mitigation measures related to oxygen supplementation, including but not limited to the following:
 - Protocols for monitoring of dissolved oxygen, and mitigation protocols in the event of low levels.
 - Description of equipment used for oxygen supplementation i.e. type, quantity.

- Operating procedures for the use of the oxygenation system and monitoring procedures for effectiveness.
- Reporting procedures for mass mortality events, or significant mortality of unknown cause
- Will artificial illumination be used?
 - If so, please provide details of equipment used, timing, and procedures, etc.

Much of this information would be found within the Farm Management Plan. Can you let us know what information you have and could provide and what information you do not have? We will be reaching out to DFO to get clarification on the request and your input would be helpful.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>
Sent: March 8, 2021 12:56 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - DFO Request for Additional Information

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

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Thanks Jennifer:

We will be able to develop responses (mostly extract from the FMP) for all questions and hope to submit within a week.

Melissa

Feehan, Jennifer

Subject: Meeting with NSDFA re 0814 request for additional info
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Start: Thu 2021-03-18 10:00 AM
End: Thu 2021-03-18 11:00 AM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Parker, Edward V

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

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Hi,

In response to our request for additional info for 0814, NSDFA is asking if we are available at this date and time to discuss and clarify the request. Please advise.

Thanks,
Ed

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 647-484-5913,,266369741#](#) Canada, Toronto

Phone Conference ID: 266 369 741#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>
Sent: March 18, 2021 3:18 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>; 'donald' <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814 - DFO Request for Additional Information

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

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

Hello Jennifer:

Find attached the additional information requested as per the e-mail below.

Please be sure to contact us with questions or concerns.

Kind regards,

Melissa



Additional info
response 0814 Marc

Response to additional information boundary amendment AQ # 0814

Mar. 8, 2021

1) Please provide all mitigation measures related to fish containment, including but not limited to the following:

a. Operating procedures that limit the risk of a breach, including the identification of critical control points, critical control limits, monitoring and corrective actions.

Operating procedures that limit the risk of a breach including net maintenance, mooring and anchor maintenance, infrastructure maintenance, engineer approval, and severe weather are described further on in this document while answering succeeding questions.

More general operating procedures described for the site also recognize the necessity to mitigate escape risk and have steps or actions required within them to do so. These procedures and their containment specific actions are listed below. In addition, a hazard analysis of the processes conducted at the farm has been completed to reveal critical control points. There was one identified and it is listed according to its corresponding operational procedure.

These procedures form part of the farm's Farm Management Plan which has been approved for implementation by NSDFA.

- Routine mortality collection and disposal procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - Securing of the enclosure net asap after its lowering for diver entry.
 - Controlled removal of morts to ensure that the tote is not over-filled, and it is hoisted in a manner so that spillage of morts does not occur upon mort retrieval.
 - The path of travel of the tote is not over open water.
 - Through a hazard analysis, it was determined that ensuring closure of the cages - both the containment and bird nets - prior to moving onto the next subsequent cage is a critical control point and must be checked and initialed by the tender. The HACCP plan is attached as Appendix A.
- Weight sampling procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - Laying down a piece of netting between the barge and the cage to catch any fish that may fall out of the dip net onto the deck of the barge.
- Grading and/or splitting procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - Secure all pipes with rope to pen railings to prevent slippage.
 - Assure there are no areas that fish can escape either at the input end or discharge. Escape can be prevented by tying the pipes to the head rope of the net and placing catch nets between the ungraded fish pen and the barge or wharf or placing catch nets between the receiving pen and the discharge pipe.
 - Check pipes and catch nets frequently to ensure that containment is secure.
 - At completion of grade of a cage, net is removed from pen vertically (hydraulic boom) once pursed so that no fish are left behind or can escape.

- Harvesting using a barge or wharf procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - If using a net to transfer:
 - Ensure “jump netting” is in place below the path of travel of the fish to be harvested.
 - If using a fish pump:
 - Secure all pipes with rope to pen railings to prevent slippage.
 - Assure there are no areas that fish can escape either at the input end or discharge.
 - Check pipes and catch nets frequently to ensure that containment is secure.
 - Ensure all fish are removed from the pen by pursing the net towards the side and use a dip net to collect any remaining fish. Net is removed from pen vertically (hydraulic boom) once pursed so that no fish can be left behind or can escape.

- Harvesting using a harvest vessel procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - Secure all pipes with rope to pen railings to prevent slippage.
 - Assure there are no areas that fish can escape either at the input end or discharge.
 - Check pipes and catch nets frequently to ensure that containment is secure.
 - Ensure ends and connections of pipes are secure.
 - Ensure all fish are removed from the pen by pursing the net towards the side and use a dip net to collect any remaining fish. The net is removed from the pen vertically (hydraulic boom) once pursed so that there is no possibility of fish left behind or fish escape.
 - The pump assembly is completed and double-checked to ensure all fittings and attachments are secure and the fish flow will not allow release of fish (dead or alive) into the wild.

- Winter harvesting procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspection of equipment prior to use.
 - If using a net to transfer:
 - Ensure “jump netting” is in place below the path of travel of the fish to be harvested.
 - If using fish pump:
 - The fish pump hoses must be connected and secured, as necessary to ensure they cannot become detached. Attachments must be double checked prior to harvest.
 - Assure there are no areas that fish can escape, particularly at the discharge end of the pump and the dewatering table.
 - There must be nets (jump netting) laid out around, under, and between any equipment where live fish (or dead fish) are able to escape into the wild.

- Live fish transport procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Inspect equipment to ensure it is in proper operational condition.
 - Ensure jump netting or tarp is in place under any open path of travel of fish.

- Pushing stocked cages procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - The cage frame and net is inspected prior to pushing to ensure structural integrity.
 - The nets must be clean and free from fouling to decrease drag, stress on the nets and increase water flow within the cage.

- (After relocation) An inspection occurs to ensure the cage and nets remain in good condition.
- Unusual event response procedure. Specific actions within this SOP that are directed at mitigating risks to fish escape include the following:
 - Stabilize structures, if applicable, and block source or possible source of a breach, if applicable. (As soon as can be conducted safely.)
 - Contact (Site Manager) to assess and correct the failure.
 - If there is a breach or suspected breach, report to company and authorities and follow escape response SOP.
 - Conduct necessary follow up repair or replacement. (As soon as can be conducted safely.)
 - Conduct necessary post repair inspections. (As soon as can be conducted safely.)
 - Amend inspection schedules, or procedures, as required to prevent recurrence.

b. Operating procedures for net maintenance (surface and below surface) such as inspection procedures, cleaning, disinfection, testing, repair, changing procedures, biofouling strategies as well as recording and reporting procedures for these activities.

Operating procedures for net care and maintenance are summarized below. Corresponding records or are indicated by red text. Corresponding SOPs are indicated by blue text.

- All nets must be tagged with a number to identify them.
- All nets must be listed in an inventory (**Net Inventory** sheet).
- Each net must have a net history record. This must include the date it is put in use, cage it is used on, date it is removed from the water, repair work that is completed, date it is cleaned, date it is disinfected, date it is tested, testing results, and any other details that demonstrate proper net maintenance (**Net History Record** sheet).
- Nets must be changed to ensure mesh size is appropriate to fish size. (**Net changing SOP**)
- Surface inspections occur at least once a week and this inspection must be recorded (**Surface Inspection Checklist**).
- Nets containing fish must be inspected underwater every four weeks with the inspection recorded (**Monthly Underwater Net Inspections** sheet).
- Nets containing fish must also be inspected underwater after a storm or strong winds, a vessel collision or other event which could weaken the net, an unexplained drop in feeding level, suspected fish outside of cages, evidence of damage or suspicion of damage. These inspections must be recorded. (Use **Monthly Underwater Net Inspections** sheet.)
- Nets must be removed from the water after each production cycle, then cleaned, and disinfected before re-use.
- Nets must be tested for strength and examined for holes prior to use (or re-use). Net testing strength results must be recorded (**Net Stress Test Record** sheet). (**Net testing SOP**)
- When in water, nets must be cleaned regularly. (**Net cleaning SOP**)
 - July – August : every three weeks since heavy mussel sets are recurring.
 - Outside of this period: according to observation for the 45m and 60m nets, but still on a regular 3 week rotation for the 90m and 100m nets.
 - A record of the cleaning must be kept (**AutoBoss Net Cleaning Record** sheet).
- Net repair must follow **Net repair SOP**.

c. Mooring and anchor inspection, grid system inspection and recording and reporting procedures for these activities.

Operating procedures for cage equipment and supporting system care are summarized below. Corresponding records are indicated by red text.

- All cages must be tagged with a number to identify them.
- All cages must be listed in an inventory (**Cage Inventory** sheet).
- Any repairs or modifications to the cages must be recorded (**Mooring, Grid or Cage Repair Record** sheet).
- Any repairs or modifications to the cage system or moorings or mooring systems must be recorded (**Mooring, Grid or Cage Repair Record** sheet).
- Cage systems must be inspected from the surface at least once a week and this inspection must be recorded (**Surface Inspection Checklist**).
- The bridles and other lines, chains, points of attachment, buoys, cages, as well as the moorings must be inspected under water in the spring and fall. The results of the inspection must be recorded (**Below-water Infrastructure Inspection Checklist** sheet). These inspections are to occur only to a depth that is safe for the divers.

d. Engineer approved minimum infrastructure requirements, and minimum infrastructure maintenance and inspection requirements in place for containment management.

Historically, Janega Engineering has approved structures in place for containment management. Maintenance and inspection requirements have been described previously.

e. Corrective actions related to the above procedures.

Corrective actions are determined by the situation and are initiated when procedures are not followed. A blank corrective actions form is attached as Appendix B.

f. Procedures for site management in the event of severe weather.

As written in the FMP, the following describes site management procedures for severe weather.

Severe weather conditions or expected conditions that trigger severe weather management measures: Southeast winds represent the strongest winds that the farm is exposed to. These winds hit the farm at a 90° angle. Those greater than 30 knots would be a concern for the farm. The farm is protected from winds coming from other directions because of the lay of the land adjacent to the farm.

Severe weather management measures undertaken:

- The Operations Manager monitors weather forecasts to track severe weather events so that reasonable preparations can be made.
- Time permitting, impending bad weather will trigger inspection of the net pens above water.
 - “Pre-storm” inspections will ensure infrastructure is adequate.
 - Above water structures will be checked, and reinforced, if appropriate.
- After the severe weather, inspection of the net pens above water will occur as soon as possible (relative to crew safety).

- After the severe weather, inspection of the net pens below water will occur as soon as possible (relative to crew safety).
- Repairs will occur as soon as possible

g. Procedures for response to breaches or suspected breaches, including mandatory reporting.

The SOP for Escape Response is attached as Appendix C.

h. Security protocols to reduce risk of vandalism and release of fish.

The land-base for the site, including access wharves, is manned 24 hours a day. During the day, the regular farm crew keeps a look out for suspect activity. Outside of working hours (7 pm to 7am), a security person is on site, stationed at the farm office, and does regular walking rounds of the site.

i. In the Development Plan submitted by the proponent, it is stated that We'koqma'q First Nation hopes to become certified to the Global Aquaculture Alliance's Best Aquaculture Practices, which includes enhanced monitoring and global performance standards. Please advise if this certification has been obtained and if so, please provide all enhanced mitigation measures related to fish containment.

We'koqma'q is still in the training phase of BAP certification for the farm but on the path to achieving this goal as soon as possible. A new Farm Standard was released March 1, 2021 which will be the issue used for We'koqma'q's certification. Requirements for containment are shown in Appendix D, as excerpted from Issue 3.0 Aquaculture Facility Certification BAP Farm Standard. These include the specific audit clauses as well as expanded explanations of implementation of the requirements. It is notable that this certification will require an annual (minimum) audit by a third party to demonstrate achievement of the minimum requirements.

2) Please provide all mitigation measures related to oxygen supplementation, including but not limited to the following:

a. Protocols for monitoring of dissolved oxygen, and mitigation protocols in the event of low levels.

i. Oxygen and temperature monitoring

Oxygen and temperature must be measured daily with a handheld probe. This is necessary in order to ensure the welfare of the fish and manage activities at the site according to the environment.

Procedures:

- Check the oxygen meter for proper calibration while still in the area where it was stored. Recalibrate or perform required maintenance (change membrane, solution, etc.).
- Choose a cage within each array that is most heavily stocked with fish.
- The oxygen and temperature must be monitored inside of the heaviest stocked cage of each array.
- The oxygen and temperature must be measured at 2m, 4m and 6m depths for each location.
- The measurements must be recorded.
- During times when oxygen readings are below 6.8mg/L, more cages must be monitored and the measurements must be taken twice daily, or more frequently.

ii. Mitigation protocols

6.0 mg/L is used as the lower threshold for implementing additional mitigation procedures according to past trout growing experience in these waters. The mitigation procedures follow:

- Increase dissolved oxygen monitoring to twice daily or more
- Limit feeding
- Limit activity in the cages (reduce mort dives to once weekly if mort rates are <0.05% per day, limit cage repairs/maintenance to essential work only)
- Increase net cleaning activity if biofouling is an issue
- Depending on the circumstances causing the low oxygen, the nets may be changed or the fish may be split into more cages.
- Oxygen supplementation may be provided.

b. Description of equipment used for oxygen supplementation i.e. type, quantity.

Ceramic oxygen diffusers are used with liquid oxygen as the source.

c. Operating procedures for the use of the oxygenation system and monitoring procedures for effectiveness.

The diffusers are suspended in cages with known low oxygen and/or prone to low oxygen due to high biomass. These are connected to a liquid oxygen cylinder. Flow meters set the oxygen flow rate according to oxygen levels measured in the cages. Oxygen monitoring may be increased to two times daily at these times.

d. Reporting procedures for mass mortality events, or significant mortality of unknown cause

Mortality reporting (On site mortality)

- Unusually high mortality levels must be reported by contacting the veterinarian on call: (902) 893-5359 followed by a written report (Mandatory Disease and/or Mortality Report).
- This reporting must be done for mass mortality and significant mortality events.
 - o Mass mortality means the death of fish at an aquaculture site whose:
 - o total weight exceeds 4000 Kg within a 24 hour period, OR
 - o number is equivalent to at least 2% of the site inventory in 24 hours, OR
 - o total weight exceeds 10,000 K within a 5-day period, OR
 - o number is equivalent to at least 5% of the inventory in a 5 day period.
 - o Significant mortality means the death of fish at an aquaculture site that results in a daily mortality rate of over 0.05% of the fish in the same holding unit for 3 consecutive days, without a known cause.
- This reporting must be done even if not all of the information requested on the form is available.

The Mandatory Disease and/or Mortality Report is attached as Appendix E.

3) Will artificial illumination be used?

Artificial illumination will not be used.

Appendix A: HACCP Plan for Containment CCP

Waycobah Hazard Control Plan – Containment

Critical Control Point (CCP)	Significant Hazard	Control Measure	Critical Limit for each control measure	Monitoring					Corrective Action and Records
				What	How	Frequency	Who	Records	
CCP2 Mortality and maintenance dives	Not closing the net after dive entry may allow fish escape	Check that nets are secured before leaving cage after dive	Nets secured	Nets	Visual	After each cage dive	Dive tender	Initials on Mort Collection Record	<p>Cages that were not checked for closing will be re-checked and secured, if applicable.</p> <p>Review requirements with staff.</p> <p>Record corrective action.</p>

Waycobah Corrective Action Report

Date:	Site #:
FMP Section:	
Description of non-compliance item:	
Date non-compliance item was identified:	
Description of how the non-compliance item was identified:	
Date corrective actions were taken:	
Description of corrective actions:	
Outcome of corrective actions:	
Actions taken to prevent reoccurrence:	
Signature:	Date:

Title	Escape Response Standard Operating Procedure
SOP number	<i>n/a</i>
Created by	Waycobah First Nation
Date created	November 15, 2018
Date revised	

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this SOP is to define the minimum steps to be taken in the event that a breach of the marine finfish containment structure occurs at Waycobah Fisheries.

A breach refers to any escaping of fish from an aquaculture site.

Required Documents

Related SOPs: Net Repair SOP, Waste disposal SOP

Related MSDS: N/A

Materials and Supplies

Escape response kit consisting of:

- Net repair kit
- Recovery gear (if applicable), and
- Transfer cage complete with containment net.
- (All spare containment nets and bird nets are housed near the marine farm so that they are readily accessible.)

Pre-escape procedures (available at all times)

1. Proposed recapture activities description is completed (directly follows this SOP).

Immediate response procedures

1. Block source of the escape or stop the practice causing the escape.
2. Feed within the area to try to keep escaped fish on site.
3. Contact (Site and operations Manager) to assess and correct the failure.
4. Report breach to company and the NSDFA Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarian on-call at **902-893-5359**.
5. Seek licences and permits for recovery (if applicable) using the attached Proposed Recapture Activities Description, if applicable. Note that Waycobah's recapture activities are all planned to occur within the farm boundaries
6. Repair failed structure or equipment.

Stock recovery (if applicable)

1. Assemble required staff, vessels and gear.
2. Deploy gear.

Appendix C: Escape Response SOP

3. Complete recapture activities according to licences and permits.
4. Report recapture efforts according to licences and permits.
5. Dispose of mortalities according to waste disposal SOP. Transfer captured fish to new cage after inspection by DFO and DNR, if applicable.

Post escape procedures

1. Conduct necessary post repair follow up.
2. Conduct necessary post repair inspections.
3. Amend inspection schedules, or procedures, as required to prevent recurrence.

Records

- Proposed recapture activities description (if applicable)
- Recapture effort results (If applicable)
- Breach reporting form
- Amended procedures to prevent recurrence.

Breach of Containment Notification to NSDFA

A breach is defined as any escaping fish from an aquaculture site.

Contact the NSDFA on call veterinarian immediately (within 1 hour) upon suspicion of a breach of containment or known loss of fish: 902-893-5359

This report is to be completed and faxed or e-mailed to: 902-875-7429, Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca, upon suspicion of a breach of containment or known loss of fish.

Name of reporter: _____

Reporter's contact phone number: _____

Reporter's email address: _____

Name of the Aquaculture Licence Holder (*if known*): _____

License or lease number: _____

Site location (area): _____

Site address: _____

Number of holding units affected: _____

Total number of holding units at the marine site: _____

Identification number(s) of the holding unit(s) where breach occurred: _____

Number of fish in holding unit(s) where breach occurred: _____

Species of fish on-site: _____

Age of fish on-site (months): _____

Average weight and size of fish on-site: _____

Freshwater hatchery of origin (include watershed source): _____

Estimated number of fish released: _____

Suspected date of breach: _____

Suspected or confirmed cause of the breach:

Describe the mitigation efforts that will be taken, are in progress, or are proposed to address the breach of containment:

Company Representative Signature: _____

Proposed Recapture Activities Description¹Company: Waycobah First NationContact person: Jim MartinAquaculture site (Licence #): 0600, 0845, 0814 OR
5010Species on Site: Rainbow troutFishing location (coordinates): Within the boundaries of the farmVessels to be employed: No vessels used for recapture.
Recapture is passive.

Type of gear:

Transfer net with dropped side

Description of gear: (e.g. # of gillnets by mesh size, length, depth, etc.):

Feeding will take place to draw fish into a transfer cage with a dropped side. A belt feeder can trickle the feed in. The fish will be corralled in the transfer cage. DFO, NSDoE, and DNR will be contacted to enable them to inspect the captured fish, if they choose. The recaptured fish are then moved back to their original cage that has since been repaired or to a new cage that is ready to receive them.

Personnel and/or contractors to conduct activity:

Jim Martin, other farm workers.

Plan for transportation and disposal of recaptured fish:

Recaptured fish will be moved back into production cages live.

Applicant: _____

Date: _____

¹ Adapted from AANS Codes of Practice

I. Control of Escapes - All Production Systems

Audit Clauses

All Production Systems

3.49: All holding, transport and culture systems shall be designed, operated and maintained to minimize the release of aquatic animals at any life stage.

3.50: Screens and nets of a size to retain the smallest farmed animals present at the farm shall be installed as a barrier between the culture unit and the environment.

3.51: During harvesting and stock transfer operations, effective secondary containment measures shall be applied to control the escape of animals.

3.52: All incidents involving escapes of aquaculture animals shall be accurately documented.

3.53: For tilapia farms in watersheds where tilapia are not indigenous and not established, farms shall have at least two independent containment systems to prevent escapes. Additionally, they shall only stock monosex juveniles (minimum 99% phenotypically monosex).

Net Pens

3.54: The farm shall have a written Containment Plan that includes procedures to prevent, detect and respond to incidences of escapes of aquatic animals from culture units.

3.55: The farm shall provide documents to show that all staff members have received training in the Containment Plan, which shall be verifiable by training certificates in workers' files and verified during the audit by interviews with a subset of workers.

3.56: Cages, nets and pens shall be labeled and maintained in good condition, and records of repairs shall be kept.

3.57: Regular inspections by divers or underwater cameras of mooring lines and cage mesh condition shall be documented.

3.58: Jump nets that extend above the water line shall surround the perimeter or cover the entire surface of net pens and shall have appropriate mesh sizes to contain the aquatic animals.

Implementation

Containment System Integrity

Avoiding breaches in containment leading to escapes of aquatic animals is in the economic interest of producers. It is also in the interest of minimizing environmental interactions between farmed and wild organisms, such as disease transfer and changes in gene frequency in wild populations. Thus, containment systems for any life stage shall be designed, constructed and operated to minimize the escape of culture animals. These containment systems can be used to grow, hold temporarily or transport cultured aquatic animals.

Containment systems should be designed and constructed using applicable standards or best practices. For example, earthen pond embankments should be designed with proper slopes, using soils

that are suitable for holding water, and construction techniques that provide sufficient compaction to avoid embankment failure.

The infrastructure and equipment used to contain aquatic animals shall be inspected according to a regular schedule. A program should be in place for regular preventative maintenance and repair of containment infrastructure and equipment. A reporting system shall be in place to indicate inspection results and preventative maintenance undertaken.

Screening

Screens and nets of a size to retain the smallest aquatic animals present shall be installed as a barrier between the culture unit and the environment. This applies to cages or net pens and outlets (pipes, gates, etc.) from land-based pond, tank or flow-through systems. Examples of acceptable filter devices include a series of mesh screens capable of screening all water, dry-bed filters constructed with gravel and sand, microscreen solids filters, and pond traps with screened discharge.

Escape Detection and Incidence Response

All incidents involving animal escapes shall be accurately documented, including the reason for the escape, the number of organisms that escaped, the health status of the escapes, and any recovery plans/effectiveness statistics. Farms shall maintain equipment for attempted recapture of escaped animals and have written procedures for its use. The procedures must enable rapid response, subject to legal constraints on the types of equipment that can be used. If an escape is known or suspected to have occurred, the root cause shall be investigated immediately, the steps shall be taken to correct it, and plans and actions proposed to address future escape risks. These actions shall be documented in farm records. If, after investigation, there are grounds for believing an escape occurred, the remaining aquatic animals in the culture system shall be counted, if and/or when **water and welfare indicators indicate this can be done without causing excessive distress to the aquatic animals, and any loss of inventory shall be recorded.**

Net Pens

Every effort shall be made to assure that fish do not escape from enclosures in water bodies. Cages and net pens shall be constructed of sturdy material and maintained in good condition to minimize the likelihood of holes and rips in the cage mesh through which fish can escape. It is particularly important to use material that does not corrode, as holes can suddenly appear without warning in nets made of corrodible wire.

Cages and pens should be placed in areas where there is little danger of collisions with boats or floating debris and where heavy waves are not likely to damage them. Brightly colored buoys or navigation lights should be placed to mark location of cage arrays. Placement of cages and pens in navigable waters may need approval from governmental authorities. Divers or underwater cameras shall periodically inspect cages for holes, rips and tears.

Containment Plan

Farms using cages or net pens shall have a written Containment Plan that covers escape prevention and deals with known or suspected escapes. The Containment Plan shall include the following elements:

- Integrity of Infrastructure and Equipment – design and construction standards for an effective containment system, equipment testing

Appendix D: Mitigation Measures to Control Escapes. Excerpted from BAP Farm Standard, Issue 3.0

- Inspections – inspection program for infrastructure and equipment, including preventative maintenance program and repair
- Inventory Control Procedures – counting methodology and verification, aquatic animal inventory reconciliation
- Aquatic Animal Handling Practices – precautions during transfers, counting, grading, disease treatment, harvesting, transport and other farm operations
- Predator Deterrence and Control Plan – predator control structures (as appropriate), control of predator access, control methods
- Response Procedures and Escape Mitigation – recapture and recovery of stock, escape incident reporting requirements, root cause analysis of escapes or containment failure
- Recordkeeping – equipment testing results, aquatic animal inventory reconciliation or escape detection, escape event log, training activities.
- Training – definition of employee responsibilities, oversight.

Escape Prevention

- Documents shall show the farm’s moorings were installed according to the manufacturer’s and/or marine engineer’s specifications.
- A site risk analysis updated at least annually shall identify the potential and actual causes of fish escapes, determine their relative likelihood of occurrence or recurrence at the farm site, and identify critical control points for effective escape risk monitoring, reduction and response by farm staff.
- Procedures based on the risk analysis shall include management protocols and actions designed to monitor escape risks, reduce them when identified and respond to escape events in a timely and effective manner. The efficacy of these measures shall be verified and documented through the year.
- Procedures shall require the main surface components of the system to be inspected at least annually and repaired or replaced as needed. The sub-surface components must be inspected and replaced as needed at least every two years or between each crop cycle, whichever is shorter. Equipment shall be replaced as needed.
Net inventory management procedures shall track the ages of all nets on the farm or in storage, and provide strength tests on all nets between crops or every two years, whichever period is shorter. Nets shall be retired when their strength is below levels specified in local regulations or, where there are none, below the manufacturer’s or supplier’s recommendations.
- Cage inspection procedures shall ensure all operational nets are surface checked for holes at least weekly and checked sub-surface at least every four weeks. Nets and cage superstructure shall be checked for holes and other indications of structural damage after risk events such as storms or big tides.
- Predator deterrence procedures shall minimize the risk that predators can make holes in nets.
- Boat equipment shall include guards on propellers and staff training procedures that minimize the risk of contact between boats and farm nets.
- At marine sites, procedures and equipment consistent with local Coast Guard rules shall warn non-farm marine traffic of the farm’s presence.
- Procedures for handling live fish shall prevent “spillage” during transfers.

Mandatory Disease and/or Mortality Report

Mandatory Reporting of Disease and/or Mortality

A “***mass mortality event***” means the death of fish at an aquaculture site whose:

- total weight exceeds 4000 Kg within a 24 hour period, OR
- number is equivalent to at least 2% of the site inventory in 24 hours, OR
- total weight exceeds 10,000 K within a 5-day period, OR
- number is equivalent to at least 5% of the inventory in a 5 day period.

A “***significant mortality event***” means the death of fish at an aquaculture site that results in a **daily** mortality rate of over **0.05%** of the fish in the same holding unit for **3 consecutive days**, without a known cause.

A “***reportable disease***” means a disease that the Minister determines must be reported to the Chief Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarian and includes the following:

- *Aeromonas salmonicida* bacteria (typical and atypical furunculosis)
- *Renibacterium salmoninarum* bacteria (bacterial kidney disease)
- *Yersina ruckeri* bacteria (enteric red mouth disease)
- Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis (IHN) Virus
- Infectious Pancreatic Necrosis (IPN) Virus
- Infectious Salmon Anemia (ISA) Virus
- Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia (VHS) Virus
- Nodavirus (Viral encephalopathy retinopathy)
- Pancreas Disease (PD) (PAV)

Report

Name of reporter: _____

Reporter’s contact phone number: _____

Reporter’s email address: _____

Name of the Aquaculture Licence Holder (*if known*): _____

License or lease number: _____

Site location (area): _____

Site address: _____

Number of holding units affected: _____

Total number of holding units at the marine site: _____

Identification numbers of the affected holding units: _____

Species of fish on-site: _____

Age of fish on-site: _____

From: Feehan, Jennifer
Sent: April 6, 2021 11:00 AM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Hi Ed,

Please find attached the additional information submitted by We'koqma'q First Nation in response to your March 2, 2021 request for AQ#0814 Boundary Amendment Application.

In reference to the request for engineer approved minimum infrastructure requirements, please note the following regarding NSDFA's Containment Management Framework:

- The Containment Management content of the Aquaculture Management Regulations (AMRs) provide the basis for the Containment Management Framework for the aquaculture industry in Nova Scotia.
- The Containment Management Framework is augmented by the contents of the Farm Management Plan (FMP), which by Regulation, focus on: the infrastructure and procedures needed for containment management; reporting procedures for suspected or confirmed breaches of containment; and the marking specifics used to effectively identify the ownership of any farmed fish detected outside of a farmed fish enclosure.
- Prior to the initial stocking or re-stocking of an aquaculture site, an aquaculture licence holder must be in possession of an approved FMP, which includes approved/certified engineering documentation pertaining to the integrity of the site's infrastructure.
- Site infrastructure design and construction must have been deemed as being satisfactory to reasonably withstand the prevailing oceanographic and meteorological conditions (e.g., weather, currents, ice flow, etc.) at the site's location to ensure the fish stay contained.
- Professional engineer's approval is required after final decision on an application has been made by the Aquaculture Review Board, as the Board could determine that modifications to the site need to be implemented based on results of the hearing.

Also note that the Farm Management Plan for the three sites included in the boundary amendment (AQ#0814, 0845 and 0600) has been approved by NSDFA for current operations. If the application is successful at the Aquaculture Review Board hearing, the FMP would then be updated and reviewed by NSDFA again to ensure all recommendations from the hearing have been incorporated.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



2021.03.18-Additio
nal Info Response-C

***See above email dated March 18, 2021 for attachment.**

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: April 7, 2021 12:23 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>; FitzGerald, Jennifer L <Jennifer.FitzGerald@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ0814 - Boundary Amendment Application - We'koqma'q First Nation

Thank you Jennifer!

Edward Parker
Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer
Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
CP 1006, P600, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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Compilation of Network Comments
AQ#1430 (North Aberdeen) – We’koqma’q First Nation
As of March 29, 2021

1. CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	CFIA
Division (if applicable)	
Date	Dec 2, 2019
File No.	We’koqma’q First Nation AQ#1430 North Aberdeen, Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

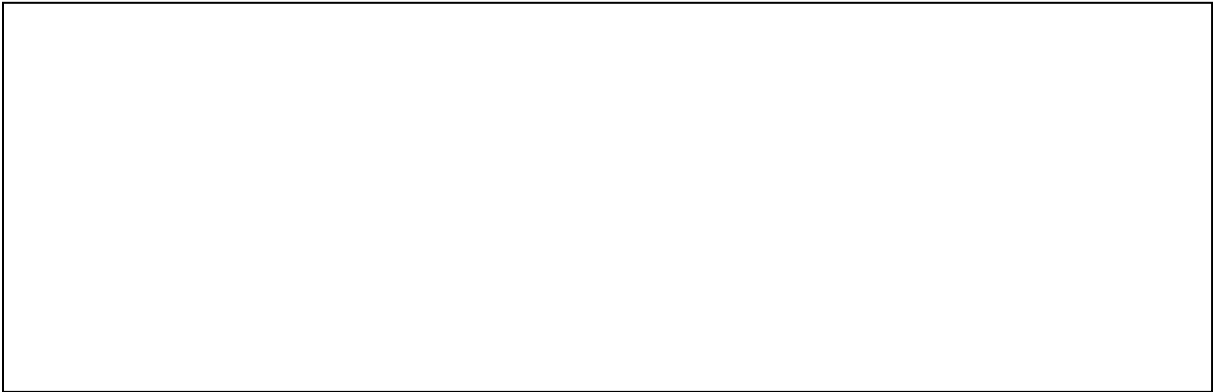
Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion/criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.



In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

2. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN SHELLFISH SANTITATION PROGRAM

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	ECCC
Division (if applicable)	SWCP
Date	Dec 20, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1430 North Aberdeen, Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

As part of the process for deciding on an application, it may be necessary for the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (“Fisheries and Aquaculture”) to disclose the collected network review information to the applicant and other government bodies, including, if applicable, the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Review Board for use at an adjudicative hearing relating to the application in question.

In accordance with departmental policy, which seeks to promote public involvement in the process for deciding on aquaculture applications, Fisheries and Aquaculture will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

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3. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE

From: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>

Sent: January 3, 2020 2:00 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Mailhiot, Joshua (EC) <joshua.mailhiot@canada.ca>; Hanson, Al (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>; Knaga, Paul (EC) <paul.knaga@canada.ca>; Worthman, Sydney (EC) <sydney.worthman@canada.ca>

Subject: New Aquaculture Licence and Lease Application No. 1430 - Inverness County, Nova Scotia

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

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Hi Lynn,

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) has reviewed the proposed new aquaculture licence and lease application No. 1430 for marine finfish cage cultivation of rainbow trout in North Aberdeen, Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County, Nova Scotia, and we have the following comments:

- On page 38, it is stated that "A wildlife interaction plan must be described in an operator's Farm Management Plan as defined by the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Management Regulations. It must be approved for implementation by NSDFA..." Neither the wildlife interaction plan nor the Farm Management Plan were submitted for review. If forwarded to us, we would be happy to review the wildlife interaction plan, or the mitigation/monitoring measures to be included in such a plan.
- It should be clarified whether grow lights are proposed for this site. Bright lights can cause problems for night migrating birds and night-flying seabirds (e.g. storm-petrels), especially during periods of fog, drizzle, and haze. A powerful pencil of light shining upwards into the fog can appear as a corridor through darkness into which the birds fly. Birds then get killed or injured by flying into the lit object, by flying into the light itself, or by colliding with other birds. For those that don't get killed or injured but flutter in the light pencil for a long period, they may deplete their energy reserves and either die of exhaustion or drop to the ground where they are at risk from predators. In order to avoid impacts on migratory birds, it is recommended that lights be shielded and aimed downwards.
- The proponent should clarify its measures to deal with migratory birds that are potential predators of fish, keeping in mind its obligations under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and associated regulations.
- The proponent should clarify whether any measures are proposed to avoid bird entanglements with nets (i.e. keeping bird nets tight and free of slack). The proponent should also prepare a clear plan for site workers to implement in the event that birds get entangled despite these measures or pass through the predator net and not be able to get back out.

We will be in a better position to comment on the proposal once the information requested above has been submitted. In the meantime, we have the following comments in the event that the project is ultimately approved:

- Food scraps and other garbage left on beaches and other coastal habitat can artificially enhance the populations of avian and mammalian predators of eggs and chicks of migratory birds. A similar effect could occur if gulls are attracted and have access to excess feed. The proponent should ensure that no litter (including food wastes) is left in coastal areas staff and/or contractors. Also the feed program should be managed to minimize waste, and should include use of tarps to prevent bird access to fish feed.

- Project staff/contractors and vessels should not approach concentrations of seabirds, waterfowl or shorebirds.
- Project staff/contractors should use well muffled vessels and machinery.
- Beaches and wetlands are sensitive habitats and proponents should not utilize these habitats for construction, operational or decommissioning activities, with the exception of beach clean-up activities, which should be timed to not coincide with sensitive periods for breeding birds and other wildlife.
- Since even small spills of oil can have very serious effects on migratory birds, every effort should be taken to ensure that no oil spills occur. The proponents should ensure that all precautions are taken by the contractors and staff to prevent fuel leaks from equipment, and that a contingency plan in case of oil spills is prepared.

Applicable Legislation

The *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) protects most bird species in Canada however, some families of birds are excluded. A list of species under MBCA protection can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-birds-legal-protection/list.html> .

Under Section 6 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (MBR), no person shall disturb, destroy or take a nest or egg of a migratory bird; or to be in possession of a live migratory bird, or its carcass, skin, nest or egg, except under authority of a permit. It is important to note that under the current MBR, no permits can be issued for the incidental take of migratory birds caused by development projects or other economic activities. Furthermore, Section 5.1 of the MBCA describes prohibitions related to deposit of substances harmful to migratory birds:

“5.1 (1) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance that is harmful to migratory birds, or permit such a substance to be deposited, in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which the substance may enter such waters or such an area.

(2) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance or permit a substance to be deposited in any place if the substance, in combination with one or more substances, results in a substance — in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which it may enter such waters or such an area — that is harmful to migratory birds.”

It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that activities comply with the MBCA and regulations. In fulfilling its responsibility for MBCA compliance, the proponent should take the following points into consideration:

- Information regarding regional nesting periods can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods.html>.. Some species protected under the MBCA may nest outside these timeframes
- Most migratory bird species construct nests in trees (sometimes in tree cavities) and shrubs, but several species nest at ground level (e.g., Common Nighthawk, Killdeer, sandpipers), in hay fields, pastures or in burrows. Some bird species may nest on cliffs or in stockpiles of overburden material from mines or the banks of quarries. Some migratory birds (including certain waterfowl species) may nest in head ponds created by beaver dams. Some migratory birds (e.g., Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Eastern Phoebe) may build their nests on structures such as bridges, ledges or gutters.

- One method frequently used to minimize the risk of destroying bird nests consists of avoiding certain activities, such as clearing, during the regional nesting period for migratory birds.
- The risk of impacting active nests or birds caring for pre-fledged chicks, discovered during project activities outside the regional nesting period, can be minimized by measures such as the establishment of vegetated buffer zones around nests, and minimization of activities in the immediate area until nesting is complete and chicks have naturally migrated from the area. It is incumbent on the proponent to identify the best approach, based on the circumstances, to complying with the MBCA.

Further information can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds.html>

The proponent should also be reminded that the prohibitions under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) are now in force. The complete text of SARA, including prohibitions, is available at www.sararegistry.gc.ca.

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

Rachel

4. FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: January 3, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: MacDougall, Robert <Robert.MacDougall@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Sites AQ1430 and AQ1431 We'koqma'q First Nation - New Marine Finfish Applications

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

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Hi Lynn,

Can you please confirm with the applicant that they do not plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of their proposed farms (1430 and 1431)?

Thanks!
Ed

Edward Parker
 Senior Advisor, Aquaculture Management
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
 PO Box 1006, P500, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
 CP 1006, P500, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:02 PM
To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca'; Melissa Rommens
Cc: Winfield, Lynn
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

1. For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.
2. For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?
3. For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: March 10, 2020 3:03 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: FW: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

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Hi Jennifer:

Please see the responses below in red.

Be sure to contact Donald and myself if you have other questions.

Kind regards,
Melissa

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:02 PM

To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca'; Melissa Rommens

Cc: Winfield, Lynn

Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

- For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.

The intent is to harvest 1,000,000 total from Whycomomagh Bay annually, all sites combined (west end of Whycomomagh Bay plus Aberdeen).

The intended capacity of the sites is shown below:

Site #	Location	Total fish harvested/ site	Total biomass/ site (tons)*	Notes
0814 amended	West end Whycomomagh Bay	720000	1500	The intent is to use this area on a consistent basis, moving cages around within the bay for fallowing purposes.
1430	Aberdeen North	360000	750	The intent is to use <u>either</u> the north side <u>or</u> the south side of the bay at any one time. This would allow a rotation of fallowing to be used.
1431	Aberdeen South	360000	750	
Harvest production capacity in Whycomomagh Bay:		1080000	2250	Only one of Aberdeen North OR Aberdeen South is used in this production capacity calculation because of the intent to use regular fallowing in these areas, as described above.
		fish	tons	

* Assumes growth of fish to 4.5 lbs

- For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?

The ORGANIX model is only shown for one array because the intent is to move the arrays around within the lease to allow fallowing. The site configuration is not intended to be static but adjusted to allow fallowing.

- For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

The intent for 1430 and 1431 is to use We'koqma'q's existing wharf in the west end of Whycomomagh Bay. Not a Small Craft Harbour wharf.

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan*Aquaculture Advisor*

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Hi Ed,

In response to your request for more information regarding aquaculture applications AQ#0814, 1430 and 1431, please find below (in red) the responses from We'koqma'q First Nation.

For reference, this information is in response to your emails sent to NSDFA on February 3, 2020 (AQ#0814) and January 3, 2020 (AQ#1430 & 1431).

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional comments or questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan*Aquaculture Advisor*

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: March 11, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Thank you!

Edward Parker

Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer

Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298

Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967

Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2

CP 1006, P600, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2
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Feehan, Jennifer

Subject: Waycobah Adjudicated Applications - Meeting (via Teams)
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Start: Mon 2021-02-22 1:00 PM
End: Mon 2021-02-22 1:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Forgeron, Joanna L
Required Attendees: Forgeron, Joanna L; donald davis ; Feindel, Nathaniel J; 'Dobson, Suzanne'; Hancock, Bruce H; Feehan, Jennifer; Winfield, Lynn; melissa@sustainaqua.ca; Robert Ceschiutti
Optional Attendees: Parker, Edward V; Ceschiutti, Robert

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

[20014895@t.plcm.vc](tel:20014895@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 119 657 277 4

[Alternate VTC dialing instructions](#)

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From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: February 22, 2021 2:42 PM

To: Aquaculture <Aquaculture@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>

Subject: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430, 1431

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

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Good afternoon:

Attached find the outcomes for depositional models for the amended production plans for each of the sites in Aberdeen, currently numbered AQ 1430 and AQ 1431. The outcomes for the modeling appear as png files. The assumptions for these models are also attached as xlsx files.

The formal request for the change to the Development Plans for these sites has also been attached as an email for reference.

If we are required to submit this information to DFO directly as well, please advise.

Please contact Donald and myself directly with questions on this submission.

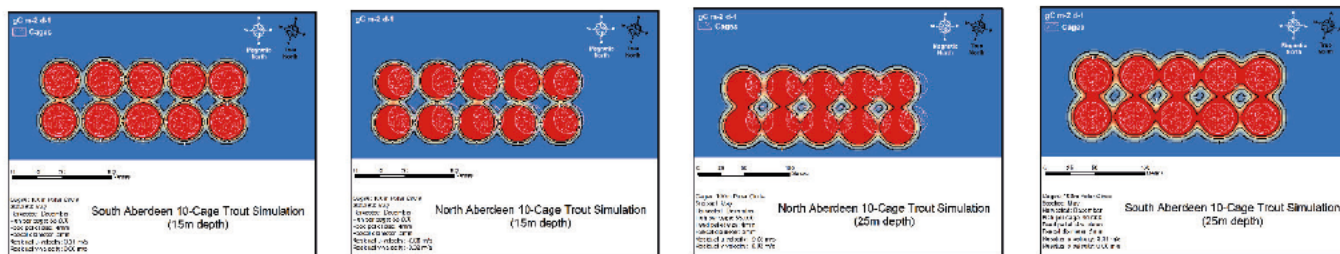
Kind regards,
Melissa



MELISSA ROMMENS
Phone 902.675.4980
Fax 902.675.3659

Melissa@sustainaqua.ca
1475 Peters Rd, Emyvale, PE, C0A 1Y0

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Data for Organix North Aberdeen 10C



Data for Organix South Aberdeen 10C



Revisions to 1430 1431.pdf

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:47 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430 &1431

Hi Ed,

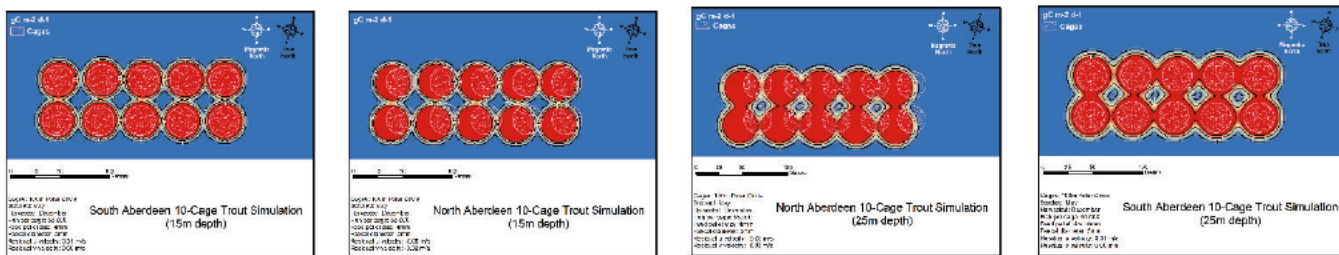
I am following up on the meeting between our departments and We'koqma'q First Nation held on February 22nd. Please find attached the proposed revisions to the development plans for AQ#1430 and AQ#1431 in Aberdeen, as well as the amended outcomes for the depositional models for the amended production plans.

The outcomes for the modeling appear as png files. The assumptions for these models are also attached as xlsx files.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kinds regards,
 Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
 1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
 Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
 902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



Data for Organix North Aberdeen 100
 Data for Organix South Aberdeen 100
 Revisions to 1430 1431.pdf

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Melissa Rommens; 'donald'
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N; Ceschiutti, Robert; Feindel, Nathaniel J
Subject: RE: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430, 1431

Hi Donald and Melissa,

I am following up to confirm that we have forwarded the depositional modelling and amended production plans for AQ#1430 and AQ#1431 to DFO.

We will be in touch if DFO has any further questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2021 5:48 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430 &1431

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

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Thank you Jennifer!

Edward Parker

Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer

Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298

Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967

Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada

PO Box 1006, P600, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2

CP 1006, P600, Dartmouth, N-É B2Y 4A2

Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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Si vous avez reçu cette communication par erreur, veuillez en aviser l'expéditeur immédiatement et la supprimer sans l'imprimer, la copier, ou la faire suivre. Merci.

5. TRANSPORT CANADA

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Transport Canada
Division (if applicable)	Navigation Protection Program
Date	December 2, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1430 North Aberdeen, Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Application received, NPP will need to issue a CNWA approval

Public Notice and Disclosure

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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 will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

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6. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Agriculture
Division (if applicable)	Industry Protection
Date	October 30, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1430 North Aberdeen, Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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7. NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

From: Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>

Sent: December 18, 2019 1:33 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: North Aberdeen, Whycobah Bay - AQ1430 We'koqma'q First Nation - New Marine Finfish Application

Hi Lynn,

Our department does not have any issues with this application.

Angela

8. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE (INLAND DIVISION)

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	
Division (if applicable)	
Date	
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1430 North Aberdeen, Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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The only concern with this from an Inland Fisheries perspective would be that there is recreational angling, primarily for trout, that occurs along the shoreline adjacent to the proposed site. Angling by boat currently occurs in the waters where the array of cages is proposed. There is some potential for conflict to occur although, admittedly, the history of angler - fish farmer interaction in Whycomomagh Bay has for the most part been one of anglers targeting escapees.

Public Notice and Disclosure

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9. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTRY

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Lands and Forestry
Division (if applicable)	Policy Division on behalf of the Department
Date	December 18 th 2019
File No.	AQ1430 1431 - Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

The Department of Lands and Forestry has the following concerns:

The proponent has had recent issues with the storage of nets and fish food that are kept outside and in a building, close to the village. Bears have been attracted to the site and without intervention this will continue. This is a safety issue for both the proponent and the bears. The Department proposes the following conditions to alleviate this issue:

1. Storage of nets/fish food/wildlife attractants:
The proponent must ensure that all nets, fish food and other potential wildlife attractants which are stored on land are stored in a fashion that will not attract bears and other scavenging animals. **The Department recommends that all waste be disposed of quickly and/or rendered non attractive for bears/ coyotes and eagles etc.**
2. The proponent has not provided any mitigations for diving fish eating birds (cormorants, loons etc.). **The Department recommends that mitigation measures be put in place to**

ensure species are not entangled in the below water portion of the net if there is a possibility that this is an issue.

3. There is loon significant habitat located close to the proposed location. The Department does not anticipate that there will be many adverse effects provided that the proponent conducts mitigations to reduce loon entanglement. **The Department requires that the proponent report all diving bird entanglement/mortalities to the Department.**
4. There is a tendency for waste to be produced by these projects that ends up on the shore and this may have a negative impact on our terrestrial biodiversity and potentially the cleanliness of the park. **The Department recommends that the proponent take all measures necessary to ensure waste remains onsite and does not pollute the shoreline.**

Other Considerations:

There are multiple areas of bald eagle significant habitat surrounding the proposed expansion area. It is not expected that these areas will experience significant additional stress compared to the current operation assuming mitigation is put in place. The proponent has outlined a mitigation for eagle predation resulting in entanglement. Due to the increase in the size of this project, it is possible that further mitigation will be necessary. This project has the potential to artificially increase the presence of eagles to the area and increase competition between them due to an increase in anthropogenic food sources (waste fish etc.). These effects would be difficult to measure. Increased human presence in the area could have a negative impact on the nesting success of the eagles in the area. Lastly, increased human activity may increase human wildlife conflicts in the area.

The Department defers to federal and provincial fisheries for expertise on the potential effects on the marine ecosystem. Any negative effects on the marine ecosystem may carry over to terrestrial species.

According to the records on file at the Department of Lands and Forestry's Crown Land Information Management Centre, any land lying below the original ordinary high-water mark of Whycomomagh Bay, at the location provided, is considered ungranted Crown land with no encumbrances.

It should be noted that the scope of this research only includes information on file at this office relating to Nova Scotia Lands and Forestry ownership and anything affecting that interest.

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Compilation of Network Comments
AQ#1431 (South Aberdeen) – We'koqma'q First Nation
As of March 29, 2021

1. CANADIAN FOOD INSPECTION AGENCY

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	CFIA
Division (if applicable)	
Date	December 2, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 South Aberdeen, Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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- Request additional information (described below)
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2. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN SHELLFISH SANTITATION PROGRAM

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	ECCC
Division (if applicable)	SWCP
Date	Dec 20, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 South Aberdeen, Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

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3. ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE CANADA – CANADIAN WILDLIFE SERVICE

From: Gautreau, Rachel (EC) <rachel.gautreau@canada.ca>

Sent: January 6, 2020 1:37 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Cc: Mailhiot, Joshua (EC) <joshua.mailhiot@canada.ca>; Hanson, Al (EC) <al.hanson@canada.ca>

Subject: New Aquaculture Licence and Lease Application No. 1431 - Inverness County, Nova Scotia

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

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Hi Lynn,

Environment and Climate Change Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) has reviewed the proposed new aquaculture licence and lease application No. 1431 for marine finfish cage cultivation of rainbow trout in South Aberdeen, Whycocomagh Bay, Inverness County, Nova Scotia, and we have the following comments:

- On page 34, it is stated that "CEPI, 2006 also mentioned barrows goldeneye which have been seen near Whycocomagh Bay shore..." This species is not further mentioned in the report.

Barrow's Goldeneye is a migratory bird listed on Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act*. The species is designated Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada.

The proponent should therefore ensure that contractors and staff are aware of the possibility of this species at risk occurring in the area, and that aquaculture staff and equipment not approach Barrow's Goldeneyes.

- On page 38, it is stated that "A wildlife interaction plan must be described in an operator's Farm Management Plan as defined by the Nova Scotia Aquaculture Management Regulations. It must be approved for implementation by NSDFA..." Neither the wildlife interaction plan nor the Farm Management Plan were submitted for review. If forwarded to us, we would be happy to review the wildlife interaction plan, or the mitigation/monitoring measures to be included in such a plan.
- It should be clarified whether grow lights are proposed for this site. Bright lights can cause problems for night migrating birds and night-flying seabirds (e.g. storm-petrels), especially during periods of fog, drizzle, and haze. A powerful pencil of light shining upwards into the fog can appear as a corridor through darkness into which the birds fly. Birds then get killed or injured by flying into the lit object, by flying into the light itself, or by colliding with other birds. For those that don't get killed or injured but flutter in the light pencil for a long period, they may deplete their energy reserves and either die of exhaustion or drop to the ground where they are at risk from predators. In order to avoid impacts on migratory birds, it is recommended that lights be shielded and aimed downwards.
- The proponent should clarify its measures to deal with migratory birds that are potential predators of fish, keeping in mind its obligations under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* and associated regulations.
- The proponent should clarify whether any measures are proposed to avoid bird entanglements with nets (i.e. keeping bird nets tight and free of slack). The proponent should also prepare a clear plan for site workers to implement in the event that birds get entangled despite these measures or pass through the predator net and not be able to get back out.

We will be in a better position to comment on the proposal once the information requested above has been submitted. In the meantime, we have the following comments in the event that the project is ultimately approved:

- Food scraps and other garbage left on beaches and other coastal habitat can artificially enhance the populations of avian and mammalian predators of eggs and chicks of migratory birds. A similar effect could occur if gulls are attracted and have access to excess feed. The proponent should ensure that no litter (including food wastes) is left in coastal areas staff and/or contractors. Also the feed program should be managed to minimize waste, and should include use of tarps to prevent bird access to fish feed.
- Project staff/contractors and vessels should not approach concentrations of seabirds, waterfowl or shorebirds.
- Project staff/contractors should use well muffled vessels and machinery.
- Beaches and wetlands are sensitive habitats and proponents should not utilize these habitats for construction, operational or decommissioning activities, with the exception of beach clean-up activities, which should be timed to not coincide with sensitive periods for breeding birds and other wildlife.
- Since even small spills of oil can have very serious effects on migratory birds, every effort should be taken to ensure that no oil spills occur. The proponents should ensure that all precautions are taken by the contractors and staff to prevent fuel leaks from equipment, and that a contingency plan in case of oil spills is prepared.

Applicable Legislation

The *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) protects most bird species in Canada however, some families of birds are excluded. A list of species under MBCA protection can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-birds-legal-protection/list.html>.

Under Section 6 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (MBR), no person shall disturb, destroy or take a nest or egg of a migratory bird; or to be in possession of a live migratory bird, or its carcass, skin, nest or egg, except under authority of a permit. It is important to note that under the current MBR, no permits can be issued for the incidental take of migratory birds caused by development projects or other economic activities. Furthermore, Section 5.1 of the MBCA describes prohibitions related to deposit of substances harmful to migratory birds:

“5.1 (1) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance that is harmful to migratory birds, or permit such a substance to be deposited, in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which the substance may enter such waters or such an area.

(2) No person or vessel shall deposit a substance or permit a substance to be deposited in any place if the substance, in combination with one or more substances, results in a substance — in waters or an area frequented by migratory birds or in a place from which it may enter such waters or such an area — that is harmful to migratory birds.”

It is the responsibility of the proponent to ensure that activities comply with the MBCA and regulations. In fulfilling its responsibility for MBCA compliance, the proponent should take the following points into consideration:

- Information regarding regional nesting periods can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory->

[birds/general-nesting-periods.html](#).. Some species protected under the MBCA may nest outside these timeframes

- Most migratory bird species construct nests in trees (sometimes in tree cavities) and shrubs, but several species nest at ground level (e.g., Common Nighthawk, Killdeer, sandpipers), in hay fields, pastures or in burrows. Some bird species may nest on cliffs or in stockpiles of overburden material from mines or the banks of quarries. Some migratory birds (including certain waterfowl species) may nest in head ponds created by beaver dams. Some migratory birds (e.g., Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Eastern Phoebe) may build their nests on structures such as bridges, ledges or gutters.
- One method frequently used to minimize the risk of destroying bird nests consists of avoiding certain activities, such as clearing, during the regional nesting period for migratory birds.
- The risk of impacting active nests or birds caring for pre-fledged chicks, discovered during project activities outside the regional nesting period, can be minimized by measures such as the establishment of vegetated buffer zones around nests, and minimization of activities in the immediate area until nesting is complete and chicks have naturally migrated from the area. It is incumbent on the proponent to identify the best approach, based on the circumstances, to complying with the MBCA.

Further information can be found at <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds.html>

The proponent should also be reminded that the prohibitions under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) are now in force. The complete text of SARA, including prohibitions, is available at www.sararegistry.gc.ca .

Please don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

Rachel

4. FISHERIES AND OCEANS CANADA

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: January 3, 2020 9:08 AM
To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Cc: MacDougall, Robert <Robert.MacDougall@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: Sites AQ1430 and AQ1431 We'koqma'q First Nation - New Marine Finfish Applications

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

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Hi Lynn,

Can you please confirm with the applicant that they do not plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of their proposed farms (1430 and 1431)?

Thanks!
Ed

Edward Parker
 Senior Advisor, Aquaculture Management
 Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298
 Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967
Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca
 Fisheries and Oceans Canada | Pêches et Océans Canada
 PO Box 1006, P500, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
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 Government of Canada | Gouvernement du Canada

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From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:02 PM
To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca'; Melissa Rommens
Cc: Winfield, Lynn
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

1. For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.
2. For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?
3. For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: March 10, 2020 3:03 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>; Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: FW: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

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Hi Jennifer:

Please see the responses below in red.

Be sure to contact Donald and myself if you have other questions.

Kind regards,
Melissa

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 2:02 PM

To: 'donalddavis@waycobah.ca'; Melissa Rommens

Cc: Winfield, Lynn

Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Questions

Hello Donald and Melissa,

I am contacting you regarding your aquaculture applications for AQ#0814, AQ#1430 and AQ#1431. Your applications are in the internal review and Network Review stage of the application process.

We have received questions from our network partner at DFO that require clarification before they can proceed with their review. Please see DFO's questions below:

- For AQ#0814, is the plan to have a maximum of 1,000,000 fish on this site? It is unclear based on how the number of fish referenced in the application differentiates between site 0814 and the other two proposed sites.

The intent is to harvest 1,000,000 total from Whycomomagh Bay annually, all sites combined (west end of Whycomomagh Bay plus Aberdeen).

The intended capacity of the sites is shown below:

Site #	Location	Total fish harvested/ site	Total biomass/ site (tons)*	Notes
0814 amended	West end Whycomomagh Bay	720000	1500	The intent is to use this area on a consistent basis, moving cages around within the bay for fallowing purposes.
1430	Aberdeen North	360000	750	The intent is to use <u>either</u> the north side <u>or</u> the south side of the bay at any one time. This would allow a rotation of fallowing to be used.
1431	Aberdeen South	360000	750	
Harvest production capacity in Whycomomagh Bay:		1080000	2250	Only one of Aberdeen North OR Aberdeen South is used in this production capacity calculation because of the intent to use regular fallowing in these areas, as described above.
		fish	tons	

* Assumes growth of fish to 4.5 lbs

- For AQ#0814, the production plan speaks to 6 arrays of 8 cages with a maximum of 15,000 fish per cage. This can be interpreted as a total of 48 cages; however, in the ORGANIX model setup Excel file, the number of cages shows only 8 cages. Can this be explained?

The ORGANIX model is only shown for one array because the intent is to move the arrays around within the lease to allow fallowing. The site configuration is not intended to be static but adjusted to allow fallowing.

- For AQ#1430 and AQ#1431, can you please confirm if you plan to use Small Craft Harbour infrastructure in the construction and operation of these proposed farms?

The intent for 1430 and 1431 is to use We'koqma'q's existing wharf in the west end of Whycomomagh Bay. Not a Small Craft Harbour wharf.

You may respond to these questions by replying to this email, and we will share your responses to DFO. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to discuss.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan*Aquaculture Advisor*

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 12:09 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Hi Ed,

In response to your request for more information regarding aquaculture applications AQ#0814, 1430 and 1431, please find below (in red) the responses from We'koqma'q First Nation.

For reference, this information is in response to your emails sent to NSDFA on February 3, 2020 (AQ#0814) and January 3, 2020 (AQ#1430 & 1431).

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any additional comments or questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan*Aquaculture Advisor*

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Sent: March 11, 2020 12:38 PM
To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Cc: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>
Subject: RE: AQ#0814, 1430, 1431 - DFO Network Partner Response

Thank you!

Edward Parker

Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer

Telephone | Téléphone 902-402-0298

Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967

Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

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Feehan, Jennifer

Subject: Waycobah Adjudicated Applications - Meeting (via Teams)
Location: Microsoft Teams Meeting

Start: Mon 2021-02-22 1:00 PM
End: Mon 2021-02-22 1:30 PM

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Accepted

Organizer: Forgeron, Joanna L
Required Attendees: Forgeron, Joanna L; donald davis ; Feindel, Nathaniel J; 'Dobson, Suzanne'; Hancock, Bruce H; Feehan, Jennifer; Winfield, Lynn; melissa@sustainaqua.ca; Robert Ceschiutti
Optional Attendees: Parker, Edward V; Ceschiutti, Robert

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Join with a video conferencing device

[20014895@t.plcm.vc](tel:20014895@t.plcm.vc)

Video Conference ID: 119 657 277 4

[Alternate VTC dialing instructions](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Help](#) | [Meeting options](#)

From: Melissa Rommens <melissa@sustainaqua.ca>

Sent: February 22, 2021 2:42 PM

To: Aquaculture <Aquaculture@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>

Cc: donald <donalddavis@waycobah.ca>

Subject: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430, 1431

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Good afternoon:

Attached find the outcomes for depositional models for the amended production plans for each of the sites in Aberdeen, currently numbered AQ 1430 and AQ 1431. The outcomes for the modeling appear as png files. The assumptions for these models are also attached as xlsx files.

The formal request for the change to the Development Plans for these sites has also been attached as an email for reference.

If we are required to submit this information to DFO directly as well, please advise.

Please contact Donald and myself directly with questions on this submission.

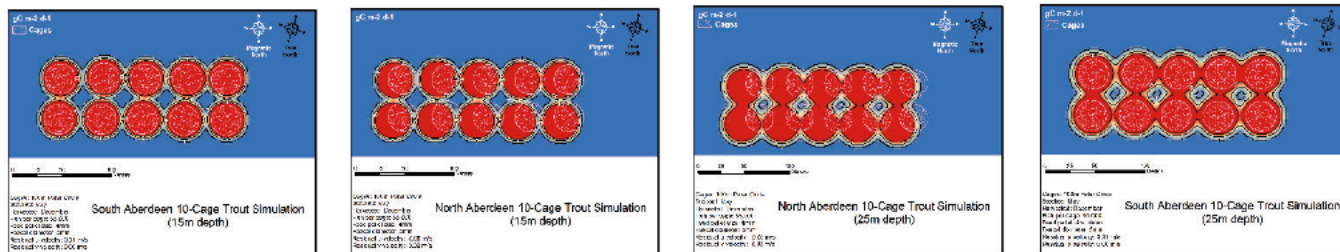
Kind regards,
Melissa



MELISSA ROMMENS
Phone 902.675.4980
Fax 902.675.3659

Melissa@sustainaqua.ca
1475 Peters Rd, Emyvale, PE, C0A 1Y0

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 Data for Organix North Aberdeen 10C
 Data for Organix South Aberdeen 10C
 Revisions to 1430 1431.pdf

From: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:47 PM
To: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>
Cc: Dobson, Suzanne <Suzanne.Dobson@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>; Greenwood, Megan N <Megan.Greenwood@novascotia.ca>; Feindel, Nathaniel J <Nathaniel.Feindel@novascotia.ca>; Ceschiutti, Robert <Robert.Ceschiutti@novascotia.ca>
Subject: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430 &1431

Hi Ed,

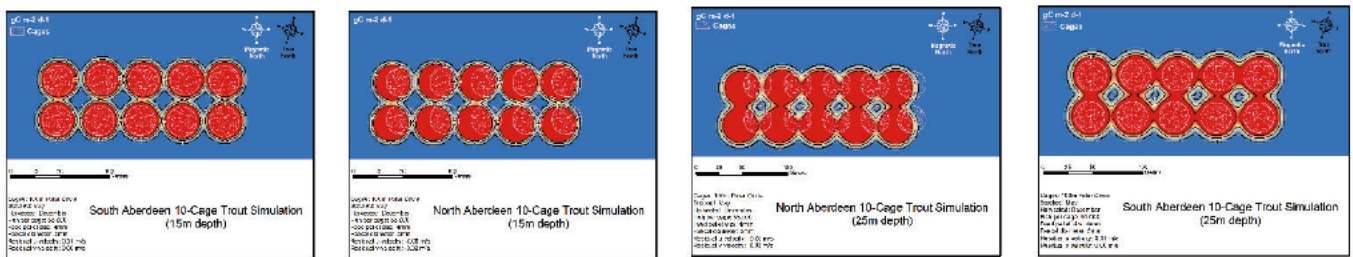
I am following up on the meeting between our departments and We'koqma'q First Nation held on February 22nd. Please find attached the proposed revisions to the development plans for AQ#1430 and AQ#1431 in Aberdeen, as well as the amended outcomes for the depositional models for the amended production plans.

The outcomes for the modeling appear as png files. The assumptions for these models are also attached as xlsx files.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kinds regards,
 Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan
Aquaculture Advisor
 Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture
 1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC
 Halifax, NS B3J 2R5
 902-237-0771
jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca



Data for Organix North Aberdeen 100
 Data for Organix South Aberdeen 100
 Revisions to 1430 1431.pdf

From: Feehan, Jennifer [<mailto:Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>]
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 2:52 PM
To: Melissa Rommens; 'donald'
Cc: Greenwood, Megan N; Ceschiutti, Robert; Feindel, Nathaniel J
Subject: RE: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430, 1431

Hi Donald and Melissa,

I am following up to confirm that we have forwarded the depositional modelling and amended production plans for AQ#1430 and AQ#1431 to DFO.

We will be in touch if DFO has any further questions.

Kind regards,
Jennifer

Jennifer Feehan

Aquaculture Advisor

Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

1800 Argyle Street, 6th Floor WTCC

Halifax, NS B3J 2R5

902-237-0771

jennifer.feehan@novascotia.ca

From: Parker, Edward V <Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca>

Sent: March 3, 2021 5:48 PM

To: Feehan, Jennifer <Jennifer.Feehan@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: Depositional models for Aberdeen sites - We'koqma'q AQ 1430 &1431

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Thank you Jennifer!

Edward Parker

Regional Senior Aquaculture Management Officer

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Facsimile | Télécopieur 902-426-7967

Edward.Parker@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

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5. TRANSPORT CANADA

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Transport Canada
Division (if applicable)	Navigation Protection Program
Date	December 2, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 North Aberdeen, Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Application received, NPP will need to issue a CNWA approval

Public Notice and Disclosure

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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 will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

Privacy Statement

The network review 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.

6. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Agriculture
Division (if applicable)	Industry Protection
Date	30 October 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 South Aberdeen, Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

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- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
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- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

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Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture
Division (if applicable)	
Date	December 20, 2019
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 South Aberdeen, Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

Public Notice and Disclosure

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7. NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

From: Birch, Angela <Angela.Birch@novascotia.ca>

Sent: December 18, 2019 1:33 PM

To: Winfield, Lynn <Lynn.Winfield@novascotia.ca>

Subject: RE: South Aberdeen, Whycobah Bay - AQ1431 We'koqma'q First Nation - New Marine Finfish Application

Hi Lynn,

Our department does not have any issues with this application.

Angela

8. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE (INLAND DIVISION)

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	
Division (if applicable)	
Date	
File No.	We'koqma'q First Nation AQ#1431 South Aberdeen, Whycomomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow Trout)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

The only concern with this from an Inland Fisheries perspective would be that there is recreational angling, primarily for trout, that occurs along the shoreline adjacent to the proposed site. Angling by boat currently occurs in the waters where the array of cages is p.....roposed. As well there is significant ice fishing activity in the winter for smelt in the immediate vicinity of the proposed site. There is some potential for conflict to occur although, admittedly, the history of angler - fish farmer interaction in Whycomomagh Bay has for the most part been one of anglers targeting escapees.

Public Notice and Disclosure

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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 will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

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9. NOVA SCOTIA DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND FORESTRY

Network Agency Review of an Aquaculture Application

Agency	Lands and Forestry
Division (if applicable)	Policy Division on behalf of the Department
Date	December 18 th 2019
File No.	AQ1430 1431 - Whycomagh Bay, Inverness County
Type of application	Boundary Amendment - Marine Finfish Cage Cultivation (Rainbow trout & Atlantic salmon)
Information Provided	

Please provide comments, concerns, recommendations, or requirements on the above stated application for a marine aquaculture licence. Please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. Similarly, if additional information is required to make a determination, please include the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your request is based upon.

- No concerns regarding the proposed development
- Concerns with development are expressed below
- Request modifications to the proposed development (described below)
- Required or recommended conditions (described below)
- Request additional information (described below)
- Request meeting with applicant and NSDFA (described below)
- No comments on the application

Comments, concerns, recommendations, and/or required conditions including the criterion /criteria within your jurisdiction or mandate that your feedback is based upon. (Attach comments if preferred, or add additional pages, as required.):

The Department of Lands and Forestry has the following concerns:

The proponent has had recent issues with the storage of nets and fish food that are kept outside and in a building, close to the village. Bears have been attracted to the site and without intervention this will continue. This is a safety issue for both the proponent and the bears. The Department proposes the following conditions to alleviate this issue:

1. Storage of nets/fish food/wildlife attractants:
The proponent must ensure that all nets, fish food and other potential wildlife attractants which are stored on land are stored in a fashion that will not attract bears and other scavenging animals. **The Department recommends that all waste be disposed of quickly and/or rendered non attractive for bears/ coyotes and eagles etc.**
2. The proponent has not provided any mitigations for diving fish eating birds (cormorants, loons etc.). **The Department recommends that mitigation measures be put in place to**

ensure species are not entangled in the below water portion of the net if there is a possibility that this is an issue.

3. There is loon significant habitat located close to the proposed location. The Department does not anticipate that there will be many adverse effects provided that the proponent conducts mitigations to reduce loon entanglement. **The Department requires that the proponent report all diving bird entanglement/mortalities to the Department.**
4. There is a tendency for waste to be produced by these projects that ends up on the shore and this may have a negative impact on our terrestrial biodiversity and potentially the cleanliness of the park. **The Department recommends that the proponent take all measures necessary to ensure waste remains onsite and does not pollute the shoreline.**

Other Considerations:

There are multiple areas of bald eagle significant habitat surrounding the proposed expansion area. It is not expected that these areas will experience significant additional stress compared to the current operation assuming mitigation is put in place. The proponent has outlined a mitigation for eagle predation resulting in entanglement. Due to the increase in the size of this project, it is possible that further mitigation will be necessary. This project has the potential to artificially increase the presence of eagles to the area and increase competition between them due to an increase in anthropogenic food sources (waste fish etc.). These effects would be difficult to measure. Increased human presence in the area could have a negative impact on the nesting success of the eagles in the area. Lastly, increased human activity may increase human wildlife conflicts in the area.

The Department defers to federal and provincial fisheries for expertise on the potential effects on the marine ecosystem. Any negative effects on the marine ecosystem may carry over to terrestrial species.

According to the records on file at the Department of Lands and Forestry's Crown Land Information Management Centre, any land lying below the original ordinary high-water mark of Whycomomagh Bay, at the location provided, is considered ungranted Crown land with no encumbrances.

It should be noted that the scope of this research only includes information on file at this office relating to Nova Scotia Lands and Forestry ownership and anything affecting that interest.

Public Notice and Disclosure

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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 will disclose aquaculture application information, including network review information, on the departmental website.

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