

**Findings and Decision – New Application of Mike Mullen Smolt Inc for AQ#1437**

**1. Overview:**

On September 23, 2019, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Mike Mullen Smolt Inc. for a new Aquaculture Licence #1437 (AQ#1437), as described in Table 1.

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #1437

<b>Type:</b> Landbased	<b>Location:</b> Weymouth, Digby County
<b>Number:</b> AQ#1437	<b>Species:</b> Atlantic salmon
<b>Applicant:</b> Mike Mullen Smolt Inc.	<b>Proposed Term:</b> 10 year Licence

**2. History:**

AQ#1437 is an application for a new licence. The applicant, Michael Mullen, currently holds a landbased Aquaculture licence in Hassett, Digby County.

**3. Procedure:**

*3.1 Network Review*

AQ#1437 was sent for review on March 6, 2020 to the following agencies: Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture, Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture, Tourism and Heritage, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables, Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal, Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Climate Change, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, and Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

*3.2 Public Comment Period*

Notice of the application for AQ#1437 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<https://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of June 9, 2022 to July 8, 2022. Notice of the application was also published in the Royal Gazette on June 8, 15, 22, and 29, 2022.

*3.3 Submissions*

Zero submissions were received by NSDFA during the 30-day public comment period.

**4. Factors:**

The nature in which Mike Mullen Smolt Inc. intends to develop and operate this landbased site is consistent with the Acts, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines and policies of the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture.

Upon consideration of all information submitted by the applicant, feedback from other government Departments and Agencies, the applicant's proposal was determined to be technically viable. The technical information provided suggests that the proper infrastructure will be put in place for the proposed method and scale of operation. All aspects of the application information submitted, and the subsequent review of this information supports the issuance of this licence.

Mike Mullen Smolt Inc will be required to prepare a Farm Management Plan (FMP) and will require approval prior to stocking the site.

The operators would be required, by condition of licence, to comply with any permits, protocols, approvals, licences or permissions which may be required under the laws of the relevant Municipality, the Province or Canada. Mike Mullen Smolt Inc. will be responsible for confirming any of the before-mentioned requirements and ensuring compliance with them. Such requirements may include, but not be limited to, an Introductions and Transfers permit from Fisheries and Oceans Canada for the movement of finfish, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables and Transport Canada for the placement of pipelines or associated structures.

**5. Decision:**

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #1437 shall be issued to Mike Mullen Smolt Inc. for a term of ten years (August 5, 2022 to August 4, 2032).

The Licence document shall be prepared in accordance with the standard operating documents of NSDFA, and shall be made publicly available subject to the provisions of the *Freedom of Information and Protection Privacy Act*.



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**Robert Ceschiutti**  
**Aquaculture Administrator**  
**Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture**

August 5, 2022

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**Date**