

Findings and Decision - Renewal Application of Dartek Transport for AQ#0832

1. Overview:

On April 12, 2019, the Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NSDFA) received an application from Dartek Transport Ltd. to renew Aquaculture Licence #0832 (AQ#0832), as described below:

Table 1. Description of Aquaculture Licence #0832

Type: Landbased	Cultivation Method: Landbased Hatchery
Number: AQ#0832	
Applicant: Dartek Transport Ltd.	Species: Atlantic salmon, Brook trout, Rainbow trout, Arctic char
Location: Barney's River, Avondale Station, Pictou County	Proposed Term: 10 year Licence

2. History

AQ#0832 was first issued on to Chris Strickland and Whit Strickland on November 18, 1994 for a ten year term (November 21, 1994 to November 21, 2004). AQ#0832 was assigned on August 4, 2000 from Chris Strickland and Whit Strickland to Strickland's Avondale Farms Limited. AQ#0832 was amended on July 16, 2002 to authorize the cultivation of Brook trout. AQ#0832 was assigned on November 18, 2015 from Strickland's Avondale Farms Limited to Barney's River Fish Farms Ltd. AQ#0832 was renewed on February 2, 2005 for a five year term (November 21, 2004 to November 21, 2009). AQ#0832 was amended on July 31, 2007 to authorize the cultivation of Rainbow trout. AQ#0832 was renewed on April 20, 2010 for a five year term (November 21, 2009 to November 20, 2014). AQ#0832 was amended on July 4, 2012 to authorize the cultivation of Arctic char. AQ#0832 was renewed on November 6, 2014 for a five year term (November 20, 2014 to November 20, 2019) and AQ#0832 was assigned on August 27, 2019 from Barney's River Fish Farm Ltd. to Dartek Transport Ltd.

3. Procedure

3.1 Performance Review

A performance review of the information submitted by the operator in support of their renewal application was completed. This review recommended that the site be renewed based on the technical and biological assessment. This performance review is required pursuant to Subsection 72(c) of the Aquaculture Licence and Lease Regulations, and was completed on October 31, 2019.

3.2 Public Comment Period

Notice of the application for the renewal of AQ#0832 for the 30-day public comment period was published on NSDFA's website (<http://novascotia.ca/fish/aquaculture/public-information/>) for the period of August 27, 2019 to September 29, 2019. Notice of the application was also

published in the Royal Gazette Part I on August 28, September 4, September 11, September 18 and September 25, 2019.

3.3 Submissions

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

4. Factors to be considered

The site has demonstrated consistent levels of production and employment. AQ#0832 is a land-based salmonid nurse operation. The production history of the operator and the proposed production levels suggest that the proposed continuation of the operation is viable. The nature in which the operator intends to continue operating the site is consistent with the Act, Regulations, licence requirements, guidelines, and policies of the Department.

The technical information submitted with respect to the assignment application indicates that the proposed continuation of the operation is technically viable. Since issuance, the site has successfully produced several salmonid species. The renewal does not involve any change to the necessary intake, fish rearing, and effluent management infrastructure in place. All other aspects of the application information and the subsequent review of this information supports the renewal of this application.

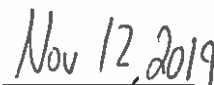
5. Decision

Based on the considerations above, Aquaculture Licence #0832 shall be renewed for a period of 10 years (November 20, 2019 to November 29, 2029).

The Licence and Lease documents 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 of Privacy Act*.



Brennan Goreham
Aquaculture Administrator
Nova Scotia Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture



Date