

Land-based Farm Management Plan Minimum Compliance Requirements

The following document outlines the minimum compliance requirements for land-based aquaculture operations in Nova Scotia. The minimum compliance requirements are organized by Farm Management Plan (FMP) section.

- Includes aquatic plants, shellfish and finfish requirements
- “All species” means the requirement is applicable to aquatic plants, shellfish and finfish
- “All fish” means the requirement is applicable to both shellfish and finfish
- “All finfish” means the requirement is applicable to finfish only

Section 2.0: Stocking Level

This section outlines the stocking plan of the site for the time period covered within the FMP.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
2.1 Production plan	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Production plan must be provided
2.1 Finfish species and year class	<i>All finfish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allowed year classes and species subject to review by Chief Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarian or Veterinary Administrator
2.2 Inventory control and reporting	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records of inventory levels • Reporting of stocking levels upon request

Section 5.0: Description of Inputs

This section describes the physical components and material elements of the farm.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
5.1 Facility design	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical specifications of water system and holding units must be described
5.3 Veterinary service provider (for finfish)	<i>All finfish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide name of veterinary service provider

Section 6.0: Procedures for Fish Health Management

This section defines the procedures and plans required for meeting compliance requirements common for all fish operations (as defined by species) to ensure they meet the AMR requirements for Fish Health Management.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
6.1 Bird deterrence (for outdoor fish holding units)	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bird deterrent strategies described
6.2 Pest management	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pest management strategy described • Up to date pest control records
6.3 Water quality	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date daily water quality monitoring and recording of oxygen and temperature • Described strategies for responding to low oxygen, low and high temperature and other water quality extremes that affect fish health
6.4 Mortality collection	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described mortality collection schedule • Up to date mortality collection records
6.5 Biosecurity	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described biosecurity procedures OR compliance with biosecurity procedures described by the Chief Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarian.
6.6 Vaccination	<i>All finfish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described vaccination protocol • Record(s) of vaccination
6.7 Stock treatment	<i>All finfish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to date stock treatment records • Reporting of antibiotic use to the Province • Reporting of products to treat sea lice to the Province
6.8 Fish health records	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possession of health records for current stock, if applicable
6.9 Mandatory reporting	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reporting of provincially reportable diseases • Reporting of mass mortality events • Reporting of significant mortality events of unknown etiology
6.10 General health emergency measures	<i>All fish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adherence to authority requests during disease outbreak (if applicable) • Adherence to a Quarantine Order (if applicable) • Described disease management measures OR compliance with disease management measures described by the Chief Aquatic Animal Health Veterinarian.

Section 8.0: Farm Operations

This section describes aspects that demonstrate responsible operation of a land-based aquaculture farm. The FMP must include information and procedures that are consistent with industry best practices relating to the following:

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
8.2 Supply storage	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described strategy for the storage and disposal of fuel • Described strategy for the storage and disposal of lubricants and chemicals
8.3 Accumulated refuse and decommissioned farm supplies and equipment	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described strategy to deal with accumulated refuse and decommissioned farm supplies and equipment
8.4 Retrieving loose gear	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described strategy for retrieval of loose gear or debris
8.5 Wildlife interactions	<i>Aquatic plants</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife interaction strategy described
8.6 Maintaining the site in good order	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described strategy to maintain the site in good order
8.7 Noise	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Described strategy to minimize noise disruption

Section 9.0: Environmental Monitoring

NSDFA is developing an environmental monitoring program for land-based aquaculture. The goal of this program will be to examine the relationship between aquaculture and the local environment. At this time, containment of fish must be described within the FMP for finfish facilities.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
9.0 Environmental Monitoring	<i>All finfish</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procedures for fish containment described

Section 10.0: Record Keeping

This summarizes the minimum record keeping requirements for the operation, as determined by compliance requirements and procedures.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
10.1 Compliance record requirements	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Records must be kept to verify adherence to the procedures and to demonstrate that effective action was taken at critical control points, when applicable.• Records must be kept for at least seven years from the date the record is created or updated• Records must be available when requested

Section 13.0: Record of Amendments

Once the FMP is approved, records must be kept by the aquaculture licence holder of any amendments to the FMP.

Subject	Species	Minimum compliance requirement
13.0 Record of Amendments	<i>All species</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Records must be kept of any amendments to the FMP