



Fisheries and Oceans
Canada

Pêches et Océans
Canada

Annual Report under the *Aquaculture Activities Regulations* for Marine and Freshwater Cage Finfish Operations

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Instructions:

All holders of provincial or federal aquaculture licences are required to submit an annual report providing information on the operations of the aquaculture facility during the calendar year, if those operations have the potential to deposit deleterious substances into fish-bearing waters or to cause serious harm to fish that are part of or support a commercial, recreational or Aboriginal fishery.

The completed report is to be submitted to your [Regional Aquaculture Management Office](#) on or before April 1 of the year following the year that is the subject of the report.

If at any point during the completion of this document you require extra space for text, please attach additional pages and mark them with the appropriate section number.

Use of this template is not mandatory; however, this template supports meeting the requirements of the *Aquaculture Activities Regulations*.

Indicate the operational status for current reporting year (as applicable):

☐ **A** - Fallow for all of the year – **complete Section I only.**

Section I: Aquaculture Facility Information

(Do not fill Section I if facility is regulated by the Pacific Aquaculture Regulations)

Reporting Period Year (YYYY):

Date Filed:

Province:

DFO Region:

Licence Holder Name(s) (exactly as specified on licence):

Facility Reference Number (if known):

Provincial or Federal Licence Number (if applicable):

Provincial or Federal Lease Number (if applicable):

(Do not fill the remainder of Section I if facility is regulated by the Pacific Aquaculture Regulations)

Is your operation a:

- ☐ Sole proprietorship
- ☐ Corporation
- ☐ Partnership
- ☐ Other / specify

Site Location (provide Latitude/Longitude or UTM coordinates)

Latitude/Longitude (Degrees, Decimal Minutes):

Latitude: Degrees Minutes

Longitude: Degrees Minutes

UTM (metres):

Northing metres Easting metres UTM Zone

Licensed Tenure Size (as specified on licence)

Hectares OR Acres

Contact Name:

Telephone Number (999-999-9999):

Email Address:

Licensed species for cultivation and licensed production volume limit(s)
(If applicable and as specified on the licence)

Notes:

1. Enter all licensed species for cultivation in **Table 1**
2. If licensed production volume limits are per species, enter this information in **Table 1**
3. If licensed production volume limit is per facility, enter this information in **Table 2**

Table 1 – Licensed Species and Production Volume Limits

Species	Maximum Number of Fish	Maximum Biomass (tonnes)	Feed Quota (tonnes)

Table 2 – Facility Production Volume Limit

Note: Only record facility production volume limit if specified on the licence. Do not enter a sum of species limits from Table 1.

Maximum Number of Fish	Maximum Biomass (tonnes)	Feed Quota (tonnes)

Section II: Regulatory Reporting Requirements

1. Practices to minimize accidental release of drugs into waters – storage and handling. [AAR s.5(b)]

- ☐ 1.1 – Not applicable – no drugs were deposited.

Provide an attestation to the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 1.2 – medicated feeds or other drug products are stored in containment structures to avoid accidental spills;

Otherwise, provide a brief description of measures taken to minimize accidental deposit of drugs, if not listed above. This information may be extracted from Standard Operating Procedures, Best Management Practices, provincial/territorial regulations, or other relevant documentation.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

- ☐ Report attached.

2. Practices to control pathogens and/or pests – assessment of alternatives to the use of drugs and pest control products on record. [AAR s.5.(c) and 6.(c)]

- ☐ 2.1 – Not applicable – no drugs or pest control products were deposited.

Provide an attestation to one or more of the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 2.2 – there are no cost-effective commercially available containment technologies to avoid deposits of the therapeutant into fish-bearing waters;
- ☐ 2.3 – there are no cost-effective commercially available non-chemical biological treatment technologies in Canada that may be used;
- ☐ 2.4 – there are no cost-effective commercially available treatment technologies in Canada to render the therapeutant non-toxic to fish;
- ☐ 2.5 – the use of the therapeutant is the most suitable and effective means of treating fish pests or pathogens for proper fish health management.

Otherwise, provide a brief description of other measures taken, if not listed above.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

- ☐ Report attached.

3. Mitigation measures for the prescribed deleterious substances:

3.1 Measures taken to minimize detriment to fish and fish habitat from the deposit of drugs and pest control products. [AAR s.7]

- ☐ 3.1.1 – Not applicable - no drugs or pest control products were deposited.

Provide an attestation to one or more of the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 3.1.2 – mechanical or biological pest controls are used;
- ☐ 3.1.3 – pesticide label instructions related to optimum concentrations, delivery, spill avoidance, and re-infection prevention are followed;
- ☐ 3.1.4 – pesticides are handled by a certified user;
- ☐ 3.1.5 – appropriate procedures are used for storage, disposal, and equipment cleaning to avoid excess deposit of pesticides;
- ☐ 3.1.6 – drug and pesticide application is timed to minimize exposure to non-target organisms (e.g., lobsters);
- ☐ 3.1.7 – vaccines are used to minimize use of antibiotics and pest control products;
- ☐ 3.1.8 – handling procedures and adequate stocking densities are used to minimize stress and risks of injury to fish related to crowding, removal from water, and other activities to minimize necessity for drug or pesticide use and deposit;
- ☐ 3.1.9 – nutritional supplements and feed products are used to maintain optimum fish health to reduce the use of drugs and pest control products;
- ☐ 3.1.10 – procedures are used to minimize the exposure of infected fish to others on-site or at nearby sites by implementing appropriate isolation and containment measures.
- ☐ 3.1.11 – staff and equipment disinfection procedures are used, employing effective and environmentally friendly products for all gear, personnel, equipment, and working platforms, including boats, when moving between facilities and between containment structures (e.g., cages, tanks);
- ☐ 3.1.12 – control measures for pest and predator interactions are used to reduce risk of stress to fish (e.g., feed storage to minimize attracting animals; disposal of excess feed off-site; use of physical exclusion devices), thus minimizing the need for drugs or pesticides;
- ☐ 3.1.13 – procedures are used to limit the movement of personnel, contractors, suppliers, and visitors to and between facilities when there is suspicion of, or an actual, infectious disease outbreak;
- ☐ 3.1.14 – procedures are used to limit the sharing of equipment or gear (e.g., equipment/vehicles, floating structures, nets, containers) between active sites;
- ☐ 3.1.15 – fallowing of farms is used to support the breaking of disease cycles between successive crops of fish; and/or
- ☐ 3.1.16 – year-class separation is used (i.e., stocking one year-class of fish on individual farms and in designated bay areas, in order to minimize the intergenerational transfer of pathogens and pests between fish).

Otherwise, provide a brief description of other measures taken, if not listed above.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

☐ Report attached.

3.2 Measures taken to minimize detriment from the deposit of feces, unconsumed feed and other biochemical oxygen demanding (BOD) matter, as applicable. [AAR s.7]

- ☐ 3.2.1 – Not applicable – facility with standing biomass less than 2.5 tonnes or annual production of less than 5 tonnes.

Provide an attestation to one or more of the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 3.2.2 – procedures are in place with respect to feeding methods, feed selection and/or equipment, designed to minimize waste feed and to optimize feed conversion rates without compromising fish health including:
- ☐ 3.2.2 (i) – use of underwater cameras or hand feeding to observe when feeding by fish has slowed or stopped;
 - ☐ 3.2.2 (ii) – use of optimal food to reduce amount given to lower (better) feed conversion rates and reduce rate and volume of released organic matter;
 - ☐ 3.2.2 (iii) – procedures used to collect and retain, with minimal leakage, blood generated during harvest and disposal at a licensed processing facility; and
 - ☐ 3.2.2 (iv) – feed stored in appropriate containment structures to prevent spillage.
- ☐ 3.2.3 – provincially required or operator-initiated sediment and/or water-quality monitoring programs. Specific to facilities with a point-source discharge of waste water, facility plans should be in place for the following:
- ☐ 3.2.4 – for marine finfish facilities with floating overnight living quarters, BOD matter that is produced by the living quarters and discharged as effluent is retained in a septic tank designed with a retention time of not less than two (2) days prior to discharge, or other similar measures are employed to limit BOD matter discharge.

Otherwise, provide a brief description of other measures taken, if not listed above.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

☐ Report attached.

4. Measures taken to minimize serious harm to fish that are part of or support commercial, recreational and Aboriginal fisheries. [AAR s. 15]

Provide an attestation to one or more of the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 4.1 – regular removal of bio-fouling from infrastructure and nets to ensure that organisms are small when they are removed, thus creating less impact if settling to benthic habitat occurs;
- ☐ 4.2 – the operator avoids locating moorings in important fish habitat and minimize disturbance to submerged aquatic vegetation when securing mooring structures to the seabed;
- ☐ 4.3 – one or more of the measures mentioned above were considered during siting of the operation.

Otherwise, provide a brief description of other measures taken, if not listed above.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

- ☐ Report attached.

5. Sediment sampling and visual monitoring data (collected according to the procedures described in the Monitoring Standard) for finfish sites in tidal waters. [AAR s.10 or 11]

- ☐ 5.1 – Not applicable – not a finfish site in tidal waters.
- ☐ 5.2 – Not applicable – no peak event or no operational monitoring required.
- ☐ 5.3 – Report(s) already submitted (Pacific Region only)
- ☐ 5.4 – Prevented from conducting sediment sampling and/or visual monitoring.

Explain:

Complete and attach **Sediment BOD Monitoring Data Template**, including data to demonstrate concentrations of free sulfide referred to in AAR s.10.

Complete and attach **Visual BOD Monitoring Data Template**, including applicable monitoring data to demonstrate visual monitoring referred to in AAR s.11.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the AAR using the methodology set out in the [Monitoring Standard](#) the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

- ☐ Report attached.

6. Product(s) deposited during the reporting period. [AAR s.16]

- ☐ 6.1 – Not applicable – no drugs or pest control products were deposited.
Complete and attach **Drug and Pesticide Deposit Data Template**, to include all products deposited during the reporting period according to requirements in AAR s.16.

Provide an attestation to one or more of the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ 6.2 – the prescription drugs were administered under the supervision of a person who is authorized to practise veterinary medicine; and
- ☐ 6.3 – the pest control products were used in accordance with the label conditions.

Note: If this information is required by provincial or territorial regulations, attach the report. However, if the information does not conform to the requirements of the Regulations, the owner or operator is required to provide the information as described in this section.

- ☐ Report attached.