

BRITISH COLUMBIA Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations

The Role of the Province for Licencing Aquaculture in British Columbia

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Welcome

- Kathy Evans – Manager for Aquaculture
- Sean Herbert – Director for Provincial Program Delivery

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The conversation today will cover:

- Changes to aquaculture licencing
- BC's role when reviewing applications for aquaculture
- Exploring opportunities to harmonize with local government processes

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The desire to have a healthy aquaculture sector hasn't changed even though the name of the agencies has

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- In 2009, the BC Supreme Court ruled that finfish aquaculture is a fishery and must be managed by Canada
- BC and Canada entered into a MOU to clarify the roles for both parties
- BC initiated a transfer of authority to Canada to also manage shellfish and fresh water aquaculture
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada granted aquaculture licences beginning December 2010

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All applications to use Crown land and foreshore for aquaculture purposes are processed by the MFLNRO West Coast Region offices in Nanaimo and Courtenay

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- MFLNRO is in the preliminary stages of an aquaculture policy review
- The effort is best described as house-keeping



- The goal is to make the policy consistent with the 2009 decision
- Major changes are not anticipated

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BC and Canada are separate jurisdictions having separate mandates and employ different operating styles



- BC and Canada developed a harmonized application process
 - FCBC is the one-window application submission point
 - Proponents submit a single application covering all aspects of Provincial and Federal licencing requirements
- Wherever possible, the agencies communicate jointly and share access to all communications
- Wherever possible, agencies will consult jointly with First Nations

Each agency must make its own , independent , decision

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What's missing?



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A discussion about the role of local governments

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Thank you for sharing your time with us

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Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations
www.for.gov.bc.ca/Land_Tenures/Crown_land_application_information/policies

Transport Canada
www.tc.gc.ca/eng/marinesafety/oep-nwpp-requirements

Department of Fisheries and Oceans
www.pac.dfo-mpo.gov.ca/aquaculture/index-eng

Crown Land Applications and Reasons for Decision
www.arfd.gov.bc.ca/ApplicationPositng/index

Ministry of Agriculture
www.agf.gov.bc.ca/fisheries

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BC AQUACULTURE ONLINE

