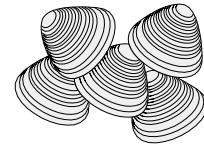




MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FISHERIES

SHELLFISH AQUACULTURE INSPECTION CHECKLIST



OPERATION DESCRIPTION

Company Name: _____ Location: _____

Site Name: _____ Aquaculture Licence Number: _____

Inspection Date and Time: _____

Person(s) Interviewed: _____

Inspection Completed by: _____

General Comments: _____

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Licensed Species and Production Level

Species	Licensed Production	Licensed Seeding	Latest ALRAS production report

Schedule of Improvements (i.e. beach enhancement, protective netting, rafts, etc.)

Management Plan Information

Information found on site

Description of Improvement	Total Area Covered m ² or ha	Description of Improvement	Comments

Special Proviso Requirements

SITE EVALUATION:

1. TENURE

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- a) All improvements and culture activities take place within the tenure boundaries. (8)
- b) All equipment including storage areas and anchor lines within site boundaries. (8)
- c) Farmers have not constructed works (such as rock walls over 14 inches) without approval. (8)

2. ACCESS, PRIVATE PROPERTY AND RIPARIAN RIGHTS

- a) Farm sites are well marked and posted as required (red blocks). (1)
- b) Seed storage piles and other temporary materials stored on inter-tidal tenures are neat and tidy, clearly marked and do not exceed two metres in height.
- c) Public access through or around shellfish tenures is provided and clearly marked.
- d) Route selection in inter-tidal areas is restricted to hard surfaces along the upper inter-tidal zone.
- e) The shore is crossed at a designated place each day and not at multiple points so disturbance to the foreshore is minimized;

3. EQUIPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS

- a) Unserviceable equipment is not present. (3)
- b) Unprotected Styrofoam floatation is not present.
- c) Rebar used to secure predatory nets is U-shaped to prevent potential accidents or injury.

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT

- a) Sewage is not allowed to enter into the waters of a shellfish site. (3)
- b) Toilet facilities are provided for use by employees. (4)
- c) All domestic sewage is disposed of in an approved sewage treatment facility. (3)

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- d) All garbage and waste has been be collected and disposed of in an approved manner or at an approved facility. (3)
- e) Synthetic material waste (e.g. oyster blue) generated in harvesting operations does not re-enter the marine environment at any point after harvest. (3)

5. CHEMICALS, FUELS AND LUBRICANTS

- a) No direct or indirect contact of toxic chemicals and compounds including creosote, wood preservatives, tin based paints, etc. with the marine environment is present.
- b) A spill response plan to handle emergencies and appropriate spill response equipment is on hand. (3)
- c) The only fuels and lubricants on site are those required to carry out operations.

6. INTERACTION WITH WILDLIFE INCLUDING PREDATOR CONTROL

- a) Modification of tenure substrate (e.g. removal of rocks, gravel) is conducted in compliance with an approved management plan. (1)
- b) Predator nets are tightly secured to prevent them from floating more than 4” off bottom and that tears are quickly repaired. (7)
- c) Protective netting of a mesh size that is too small to trap diving birds. (6)
- d) All physical barriers are visible to birds to minimize entrapment and potential injury to birds. (6)
- e) No horizontal surface net is used and vertical net panels are hung deep enough to exceed diving limits of ducks (>12 m or 40 ‘) or a bottom net is installed. (6)
- f) The raft structures are raised above at least 0.5 m above the water, to inhibit birds from landing.

7. VISUAL QUALITY

- a) With the exception of navigational safety aids, subdued colours for floatation and structures have been used.
- b) Floatation of uniform shape and colour has been used.
- c) Farm sites and infrastructure is maintained in a clean and orderly manner.

8. BIOFOULING CONTROL

- a) Farmers do not discharge biofouling waste outside their farm site. (3)
- b) The storage or discharge of biofouling waste does not adversely affect sensitive marine habitat such as eel grass beds. (5)
- c) When bio-fouling is washed or removed its impact is reduced by spreading the debris over a large area within the site.

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9. NAVIGATIONAL SAFETY

- a) All required aids to navigation including lights, navigational floats and markers are present and maintained in accordance with regulations and applicable standards. (7)
- b) Anchor lines and cables clearly marked or submerged to prevent obstruction. (7)
- c) Floating equipment is securely fastened and maintained. (7)

Comments: _____

Operational Practices (If site is being harvested at time of inspection)

10. HARVESTING

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- a) Harvesting is taking place from an approved harvesting area (CSSP).
- b) Farmers are marking harvested product as required by regulation. (1)

11. SEED COLLECTION, SETTING AND NURSERY OPERATIONS

- a) Inter-tidal cultch does not smother habitat by adequately spacing or elevating it. (5)
- b) Inter-tidal shell storage piles are kept to less than two metres in height, marked appropriately and stored in an orderly manner with a concern for appearance.

12. VESSELS, VEHICLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT

- a) Vessels, vehicles and other equipment are not damaging fish or wildlife habitat. (5)
- b) Vessels, vehicles and other equipment are not releasing contaminants into the marine environment. (5)
- c) Fuel containers and product holding areas are separated on marine vessels. (2)
- d) The risk of spills of substances from vessels, vehicles and equipment is minimized through appropriate design, employing appropriate containment devices (such as drip pans) and prompt cleanup of all spills and leaks.
- e) Use of vehicles on the beach is minimized to what is absolutely necessary.
- f) Contingency plan in place for addressing vehicle breakdowns in the inter-tidal zone is in place. (3)

13. ODOUR

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- a) There is no odour at the site due to culture operations.
- b) All equipment is stored at sea when conducting deep-water operations such as tray culture.

14. NOISE

- a) Every reasonable effort is made to minimize noise during regular farming activities.
- b) Well-maintained sound suppression devices including mufflers, barriers and baffles, are used while operating equipment.
- c) The impact of recreational radios while working on tenures, particularly at night is minimized.
- d) In areas with nearby upland residents, employees are cautioned to reduce verbal communication to the minimum necessary level at night.

15. TRANSPLANT AND IMPORT OF STOCKS

- a) Appropriate relay permits and certification are obtained prior to moving shellfish. (2)
- b) All products including waste products (such as empty shell) are stored appropriately before transferring to another ecosystem.

16. PHOTOS:

17. UPLAND OWNERS RELATIONS:

Key to legislation:

1. Terms and conditions of Aquaculture Licence
2. BC Fisheries Act and Regulation
3. Waste Management Act
4. Workers' Compensation Act and Regulations
5. Fisheries Act (Canada)
6. Migratory Bird Convention Act
7. Navigable Waters Act
8. Lands Act