



BRITISH
COLUMBIA



Finfish Aquaculture

June 20, 2018



History of Aquaculture Management in B.C.

Prior to 2010 the Province was responsible for management for most all aspects of the industry including:

- licensing and regulating industry including production, animal health and compliance and enforcement (*BC Fisheries Act* and *Aquaculture Regulation*);
- tenuring the seabed (*Land Act*);
- regulating waste discharge (*Environmental Management Act*; *Finfish Aquaculture Waste Control Regulation*); and,
- issuing permits for pesticide use (*Integrated Pest Management Act*).

The federal role at that time focused on assessment of potential impacts of aquaculture on wild fish and fish habitat

- fish habitat impact authorizations (*Fisheries Act*);
- introductions and transfers permits (*Fisheries Act*); and,
- environmental assessment screening (*Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*).



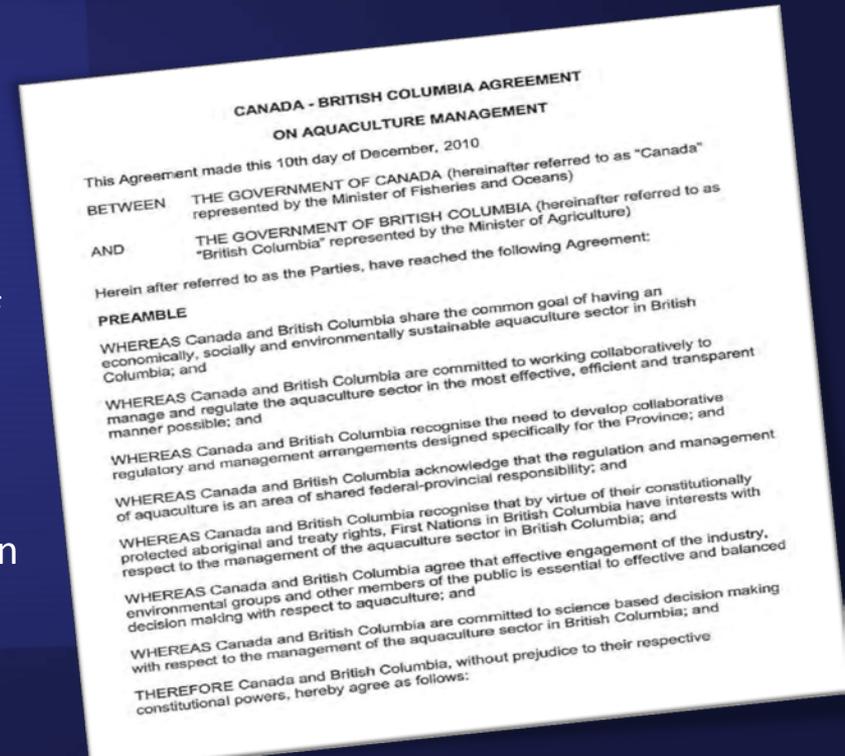
Hinkson Decision

- 2009 BC Supreme Court decision in the case of *Morton v. British Columbia (Agriculture and Lands)* determined a fish farming operation was a “fishery” within the meaning of the s. 91 of the Constitution Act, 1867 which gives the Parliament of Canada exclusive legislative authority in relation to “seacoast and inland fisheries”.
- This ruling is often referred to as the Hinkson decision.
- Management of finfish aquaculture and shellfish aquaculture fisheries transferred back to the federal government in 2010.
- Provincial government continues to dispose use of crown land (FLNRORD), develop strategic policy (AGRI) and regulate waste discharge and pesticide use (ENV).

Current Canada-BC Agreement on Aquaculture Management

The Canada-British Columbia agreement on aquaculture management (2010):

- Sets out the responsibilities of both governments with respect to the management and regulation of the aquaculture sector in B.C.;
- Provides certainty regarding the manner in which the two governments will collaborate; and,
- Facilitates common planning, consultation, decision making and data/information sharing to support effective, efficient and transparent management.





What do you need to operate in B.C.?

1. A federal licence from Fisheries and Oceans Canada;
2. A exemption to navigable waters from Transport Canada; and,
3. A provincial Land Act tenure issued by the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.
 - This allows for necessary foreshore infrastructure (e.g., docks, ramps, housing, storage) and seafloor anchoring of net pens structures.



Post 2010 | Roles and Responsibilities

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DFO responsible for licensing industry and protection of fish health • Will accept licence applications consistent with harmonized process with B.C.
Ministry of Agriculture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.C.'s lead for seafood industry development • B.C.'s lead for strategic aquaculture policy • Maintains Plant Animal Health Laboratory that supports DFO's audit program
Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development (FLNR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue tenures authorizing the use of the land, foreshore and marine areas for finfish and shellfish aquaculture (<i>Land Act</i>) • Issue freshwater licences (<i>Water Sustainability Act</i>). • Marine Use Planning
Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues permits for sewage discharge (<i>Environmental Management Act</i>) • Issue permits for pesticide use (<i>Integrated Pest Management Act</i>)



Broughton Discussions

- Broughton First Nations and B.C. discussing concerns around salmon farming in that region.
- First Nations representatives and government officials (AGRI, FLNRO and MIRR) involved.
- B.C. working with DFO separately as they hold substantial accountability for protection of wild salmon and regulation of aquaculture industry.
- Today's announcement does not affect this process.



Path Forward

By 2022, prior to issuing a new tenure or a renewal of a tenure, B.C. will require that open-net pen salmon farms:

1. meet all existing and future federal aquaculture licence conditions that assures protection of the health of wild salmon;
2. demonstrate they have support from relevant First Nations in the territories where they operate via industry / First Nations agreements; and,
3. meet all provincial Land Act policies related to the siting of finfish aquaculture sites.



Current Provincial Finfish Statistics

- There are currently **120** finfish aquaculture tenures across British Columbia.
- Their tenure terms are as follows:
 - 20 tenures up for renewal in 2018 (17%)
 - 5 tenures up for renewal between 2019-2022 (4%)
 - 26 tenures up for renewal between 2023-2030 (26%)
 - 38 tenures up for renewal between 2031-2035 (32%)
 - 5 tenures up for renewal between 2035-2046 (4%)
 - 26 tenures are currently on month-to-month (22%)
- **79%** of finfish farm sites (95) have federal (DFO) licences with an expiry date of 2022 with the exception of those in the Discovery area which are on an annual licensing regime.



Current Provincial Operating Areas

Current Operating Areas	Number of Tenures
1. Discovery Islands	21
2. Broughton Archipelago Area	23
3. Queen Charlotte Strait Central Coast	18
4. West Coast Vancouver Island	42
5. Sunshine Coast	10
6. Other (i.e., between Broughton and Discovery)	2

Note: *there are four sites that do not currently have DFO licences (i.e., not operational). Three in the Campbell River / Discovery Islands area and on the Sunshine Coast. Total tenures = 120. There are 5 freshwater finfish tenures as well.*



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Additional Information



Current valuation of the industry in B.C. – 2016

All Finfish Aquaculture in B.C.	Direct Industry Impact (\$000,s)	Total Supplier industry Impact (\$000,s)	Induced Impact (\$000,s)	Total Impact (\$000,s)
Total output	748,553	526,077	53,015	1,327,644
Total GDP	262,177	173,845	33,876	469,899
Total household income	100,202	100,158	23,128	223,488
Total government revenue	46,501	32,050	5,434	83,986
Total employment (jobs per \$M)	1,913	2,008	315	4,235



Current valuation of the industry in the Broughton - 2016

Broughton 2016	Direct Industry Impact (\$000,s)	Total Supplier industry Impact (\$000,s)	Induced Impact (\$000,s)	Total Impact (\$000,s)
Total output	153,453	107,846	10,868	272,167
Total GDP	59,444	35,638	6,945	96,329
Total household income	20,541	20,532	4,741	45,815
Total government revenue	9,533	6,570	1,114	17,217
Total employment (jobs per \$M)	392	412	64	868



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