

Federal/Provincial Authorizations for Land-Based Aquaculture Facilities in BC

In order to operate in British Columbia (BC), land-based aquaculture facilities must obtain authorizations provided by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO), Transport Canada, and BC Ministry of Forests, as presented below. The review process to acquire these authorizations occurs through a harmonized process with applications submitted to [FrontCounter BC](#).

AUTHORIZATION	AGENCY	DESCRIPTION
<input type="checkbox"/> PACIFIC AQUACULTURE REGULATIONS LICENCE	<i>DFO</i>	Federal freshwater/land-based aquaculture licence issued under the <i>Fisheries Act</i> required for any facility conducting fish and shellfish aquaculture in BC.
<input type="checkbox"/> NAVIGATIONAL AUTHORIZATION (NAVIGATION PROTECTION PROGRAM)	<i>Transport Canada</i>	Authorization may be required when proposing to construct, place, alter, rebuild, remove or decommission works that are in, on, over, under, through or across any navigable water.
<input type="checkbox"/> CROWN LAND TENURE	<i>BC Ministry of Forests</i>	Authorization required when culture occurs on Crown land.
<input type="checkbox"/> AQUATIC PLANT CULTURE LICENCE	<i>BC Ministry of Forests</i>	Licence required to culture aquatic plants in BC that may be distributed to the public for human consumption.

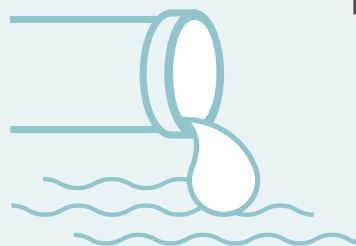
ADDITIONAL POTENTIAL FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL AUTHORIZATIONS

Below is a list of additional authorizations that may be required for land-based aquaculture facilities. This list is not exhaustive and it is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they receive any and all other applicable permits and authorizations required before commencing aquaculture.

AQUATIC SPECIES AT RISK COLLECTION PERMIT

Species at Risk Act

Approved Species at Risk permits may be required prior to submitting an aquaculture application depending on if the species is listed as protected under the *Species at Risk Act*.



LAND-BASED FINFISH WASTE DISCHARGE REGISTRATION

BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Registration required for freshwater land-based finfish facilities before construction begins.

FRESHWATER USE AUTHORIZATION

BC Ministry of Forests

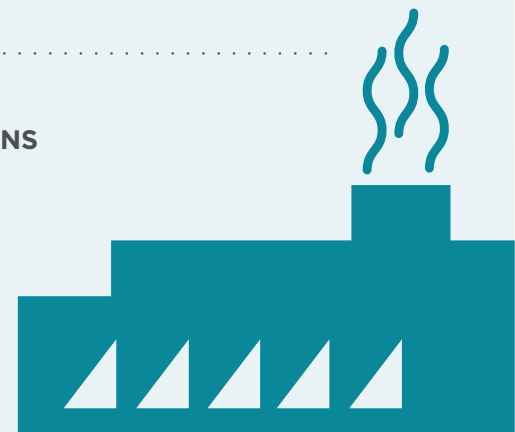
Licence required to divert, use or store surface water or ground water or to make changes in and about a stream.



WASTEWATER/EFFLUENT/ DISCHARGE AUTHORIZATIONS

BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

Written permission to release waste into the environment under the *Environmental Management Act*.





❑ AQUACULTURE ZONING

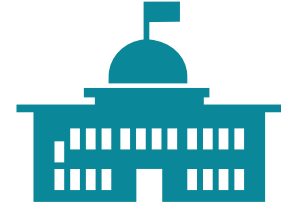
Applicants must ensure property is zoned for aquaculture use (e.g. municipal zoning, Agricultural Land Reserve, etc.).



❑ UTILITY TENURE

Ministry of Forests

Authorization is required when utilities are located on Crown land, whether buried underground, hung on poles or sunk/buried underwater. A provincial utility tenure is required for aquaculture facilities that have water intakes directly from marine or freshwater sources (i.e. marine saltwater intake or outflow lines).



❑ OTHER AUTHORIZATIONS

It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure they obtain all other authorizations (e.g. business licences, health operating permits, etc.). Additional authorizations may be required depending on circumstances, such as location of facility and type of species.

AFTER ALL AGENCY AUTHORIZATIONS AND DFO AQUACULTURE LICENCE HAVE BEEN ISSUED:

❑ INTRODUCTIONS AND TRANSFERS LICENCE

Federal/Provincial Introductions and Transfers Committee (ITC)

Authorization to intentionally release and/or transfer live aquatic organisms into fish bearing waters or fish-rearing facilities.



❑ SPECIES IMPORT PERMIT

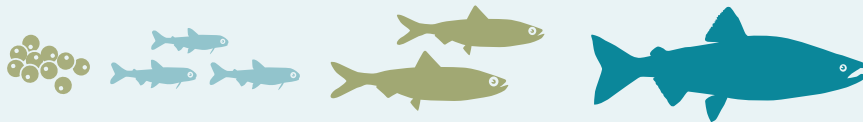
Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

Import permit or other documentation depending on the susceptibility of the aquatic animal to Canada's diseases of concern may be required when importing aquatic organisms to Canada.

❑ Access to Wild Resources Licence

Federal/Provincial Introductions and Transfers Committee (ITC)

Licence required when collection of wild stock for broodstock purposes is planned.



CAUTION

Applicants must ensure aquaculture projects avoid impacts which alter, disrupt, or cause harm to fish or fish habitat, or they could face potential charges under the *Fisheries Act*.

Please contact DFO at DFO.AQFW-AQFW.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca for more information.

Version dated 5 July 2023



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Canada

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