

Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Responsibilities

The Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture has a legislated mandate to promote support and develop the fishing, aquaculture, seafood processing and sportfishing industries that contribute to the economic, environmental and social prosperity of Nova Scotia.

OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY MINISTER

The Deputy Minister, responsible to the Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture, oversees the overall administration and corporate planning of the department.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

The Executive Directors responsible to the Deputy Minister, provide advice and support on issues related to strategic direction and management of the Department and the seafood, aquaculture and sport fish sectors. The Executive Directors directly supervise the management team and oversee the operations of the divisions of the Department.

Marine and Coastal Division

Provides marine advisory and coastal zone management services to the Province's commercial fisheries and supports coastal infrastructure and development projects through marine advisory services, federal/provincial stakeholder interaction, licensing of fish processing, buying and selling, industry development and frontline service delivery.

Aquaculture Division

Responsible for aquaculture site leasing and licensing, environmental management, aquatic animal health services, aquaculture development and community/public outreach activities.

Inland Fisheries Division

Promotes recreational fishing through issuing licenses, outreach services, providing education and research, participating in habitat rehabilitation projects and operating three fish hatcheries to enhance salmon and trout stocks for inland waters.

Marketing Division

Engages in raising the value and sales of Nova Scotia's seafood among consumers under the Buy Local Program, encouraging seafood companies to sell products worldwide and emphasizing the diversification of markets and market distribution channels.

Policy and Corporate Services Division

Supports all divisions within the Department by providing centralized and coordinated policy and corporate services. This includes leading, coordinating and managing the Department's policy, legislative and regulatory agenda. The Policy and Corporate Services Division leads planning across the Department among other enabling services such as contract processing and Agency, Board and Commission (ABC) Coordination.

Acts Administered

- *Fisheries and Coastal Resources Act*
- *Fish Harvester Organizations Support Act*
- *Fish Harvester Registration and Certification Board Act*
- *Wildlife Act (Fishing Regulations)*

Administrative update: ***June 9, 2022***
