
Aquaculture Policy – Remote Re-Inspection Verification

Effective Date: January 30, 2026

Policy Cross References: Aquaculture Licence Policies

Legislative References: Aquaculture Act, 2023

Aquaculture Regulations, 2025

Aquaculture Administrative Regulations

Aquaculture Ticket Offences Regulations

Scope:

As per the Aquaculture Licensing Inspection Program, inspections are conducted by inspectors to ensure aquaculture facilities are operating in accordance with the Aquaculture Act, 2023 and Aquaculture Regulations, 2025.

This policy provides a structured process for verifying compliance when on-site re-inspection is delayed, ensuring that licensees can demonstrate corrective action while maintaining regulatory confidence.

This policy applies to all licensed aquaculture operators that have received a formal warning and implemented corrective measures, but those measures cannot be inspected by an inspector within the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture (DFA) within five business days of the formal warning compliance date. This policy will provide the opportunity for licensees to receive a remote re-inspection verification in an effort to prevent penalization for delays beyond their control while allowing DFA to maintain regulatory compliance and oversight.

It is the responsibility of the licensed aquaculture operator to be in compliance with the Aquaculture Act, 2023, Aquaculture Administrative Regulations and Aquaculture Regulations, 2025, at all times.

Policy:

- Where a licensee has received a Formal Warning and has completed the required corrective measures but an inspector from the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture is unable to conduct an on-site re-inspection within five business

days of the compliance date identified, due to safety or scheduling constraints, the licensee may request remote compliance verification.

- To request remote compliance verification, the licensee shall complete the Remote Compliance Verification Form (Annex 1) and submit the required evidence demonstrating compliance with any deficiencies identified in the formal warning.
- A licensee choosing to utilize the Remote Compliance Verification Form shall submit evidence of compliance with the deficiencies outlined on the formal warning. This evidence may include records, photographs, video, documentation, third-party certification or remote assessment via interactive digital technology (ie. Zoom, TEAMS, etc.) to the Manager of Inspections for review and compliance verification. The evidence provided must be sufficient to enable the inspector to verify the specific geographical location is aligned with the location identified in the formal warning; that the date of the evidence aligns correctly; and that the non-compliance has been remedied
- Within 7 to 10 business days of receiving complete documentation, the Manager of Inspections will provide the licensee, in writing, the decision of the Department.

Annex 1: Remote Compliance Verification Form



Government of Newfoundland and Labrador
Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture

Remote Compliance Verification Form

This form is used to document Remote Compliance Verification when on-site re-inspection is delayed. Complete all applicable sections: Remote Assessment, Records or Documentation Audit, and/or Third-Party Certification.

Licensee Information

Licensee – Company Name	
License Number and Address	
Warning Reference Number and Date	
Date Corrective Actions Completed	

Verification Method

Select applicable method(s) and provide details below.

- Remote Assessment
- Records or Documentation Audit
- Third-Party Certification

Documentation Submitted

- Updated SOPs / Policies
- Corrective Action Reports
- Maintenance Records
- Date-stamped Photos / Videos (including metadata)
- Third-Party Certificates

Compliance Attestation

I, _____, _____, attest that the information provided is accurate and complete. I acknowledge that false or misleading information may result in enforcement action.

Name (Printed): _____

Signature: 

Date: _____