

Canadian Shellfish Sanitation Program - Manual of Operations

APPENDIX XII

PROCEDURE FOR DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL AND REVIEW OF AN INTEGRATED MULTI-TROPHIC AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT PLAN

1. Before integrated multi-trophic aquaculture commences, the proponent is required to have a documented agreement with the authority responsible for land tenure and/or licensing aquaculture activities for the exploitation of the species grown on the site, and confirmation from Environment Canada that they have surveyed and classified the surrounding waters.
2. The proponent will develop an Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture Management Plan (IMTAMP) that shall include:
 - i) location and dimensions of the tenure, including the specific location of the finfish net pens and of the shellstock products under culture, as well as any living accommodations at the site. If there is floating living accommodation on the site, shellstock products must not be located within 125 meters of living accommodation structures unless an approved zero-discharge waste management plan is in place (see CSSP Chapter 2).;
 - ii) details of the species to be cultivated and harvested;
 - iii) a process flow diagram which outlines all production steps at the aquaculture site in relation to all species to be cultivated and harvested;
 - iv) a detailed hazard analysis for all steps identified in iii) above which identifies critical control points (CCP) at the tenured site pertaining to bivalve molluscs. The resulting site-specific on-farm HACCP plan will include, for each CCP, the control measures, monitoring and verification activities and record keeping of the bivalve molluscs grown on site. The HACCP plan must also include the appropriate sampling plan for monitoring water and/or shellstock product for toxins, pathogens, drugs, and chemical contaminants identified as potential waterborne sources of contamination: this should include methods for sampling, recording and reporting data. The action levels, tolerances and other values for poisonous or deleterious substances in seafood can be found in Appendix II;
 - v) controls for sanitation and pests;
 - vi) a verification/audit system to ensure compliance to the

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management plan;

- vii) a clear description of the responsibilities/duties of involved parties;
 - viii) a statement that all shellfish products destined for interprovincial or international trade be processed in a federally registered fish processing establishment as per the *Fish Inspection Regulations*.
3. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) will review the food safety component of the IMTAMP and data collected on-site for validation purposes or during the monitoring of toxins, chemicals, drugs, and/or microbiological contamination.
 4. When documentation from both the aquaculture licensing authorities and the CFIA shows no objection to the project, the proponent will consult with Environment Canada (EC) to ensure a sampling regime can be implemented to maintain growing water classification of the defined area.
 5. The proponent shall obtain written documentation from Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) stating that all appropriate harvest licenses and/or orders, if required, to allow harvesting from the site where shellfish are being cultured, would be granted once the IMTAMP has been accepted.
 6. The proponent will submit the IMTAMP for approval to the Regional Interdepartmental Shellfish Committee (RISC), with written documentation from DFO, EC, and CFIA in support of the proposal.
 7. The RISC will consider the information on the IMTAMP and the recommendations by DFO, EC and CFIA and, where appropriate, will adopt the proposal that the area be:
 - i) reclassified from prohibited to closed (depuration or relay permitted), or;
 - ii) approved for harvest upon acceptance of the implementation of the IMTAMP and the review of growing area assessments and shellfish data.
 8. DFO will revise prohibition and/or variation order and, if required, will authorize the proponent to harvest bivalve molluscs in the newly classified area.
 9. The CFIA will verify that any federally registered bivalve molluscs processing establishment receiving bivalve molluscs

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grown under an IMTAMP has amended its Quality Management Program (QMP) plan to address the potential hazards of Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture. This may be done under a Supplier Quality Assurance (SQA) with the site operator or with a CCP at receipt of bivalve molluscs.

10. The proponent, with appropriate input from the federal, provincial or local authorities, shall submit an annual report documenting all data (as mentioned in section 2 iv) relating to the operation of the IMTAMP pertaining to bivalve molluscs. An annual audit shall be performed by an acceptable third party and a written audit report shall be submitted to the chair of the RISC.
11. The RISC shall review the proponent's annual report and the audit report. The RISC will determine if the IMTAMP is in compliance and if the proponent can continue with the operation of the Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture site.
12. The RISC shall advise the aquaculture licence authority and DFO where the IMTAMP is not in compliance, and where closure of an Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture site is recommended.