



SEPTEMBER 2018 NEWSLETTER

Nordic Aquafarms, Belfast

Water discharge permit application coming soon

Nordic Aquafarms expects to submit an application for a Maine Pollution Discharge Elimination System (MEPDES) permit in the next month or so. In advance of that submission, we will be holding a required public information meeting for the application in Belfast. We anticipate that the meeting will take place during the last week of September or the first week of October.

This meeting will be the first of several: one is needed for each of the major applications to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (Maine DEP). As required by Maine DEP regulations, we will send notices to abutters and publish them locally. We also will send out an alert about the meeting to those who receive this newsletter.

At the public information meeting, we will present a summary of the work done to bring the project to the permitting stage and what permits are required. We will also provide written data detailing the planned residual discharge numbers, as well as the technologies used to achieve them. The meeting will provide an opportunity for people to ask us questions about the MEPDES licensing process, timeline, and discharge.

We anticipate that our application will propose discharge of water about a kilometer offshore. Prior to discharge, the way we are treating the water will achieve a new standard for the fish farming industry in terms of the environmental profile per pound of fish produced.

Why are we investing in such high levels of treatment?

Because we recognize that our oceans are under tremendous pressure and that we have an obligation to be responsible stewards of our ocean resources, in Maine and around the world. Limiting the amounts of nutrients discharged, determining how they are diluted in the ocean and assessing environmental impacts, if any, have all been key priorities for Nordic Aquafarms in planning our facility and preparing this application.

We have gone above and beyond in ensuring a minimal impact from our operations, and Maine has an opportunity to be home to a “best in class” operation when it comes to environmental profile.

However, we recognize that some may have questions regarding the planned discharge as land-based farming on this scale is new in Maine, and we look forward to addressing them at the public information meeting.

Additional land will increase buffers

As we will discuss in much greater detail upon submission of applications to the City of Belfast and to the Maine DEP for Site Location of Development Act and Natural Resource Protection Act permits, we have acquired an additional 14 acres of land for the project area. The additional land will allow Nordic Aquafarms to establish optimal buffers between our facility and the nearby trails, dam and reservoir, and to ensure that we are compliant with set-back requirements and fire codes.

The footprint of the facility itself and the overall production capacity remains unchanged.

Road access to the facility will remain at the existing Belfast Water District entrance on Northport Avenue. The facility will be surrounded by green buffers, and where appropriate, we will construct mounds and plant trees to minimize the visual impact of the facility.

The facility will be built in two phases over the next few years.

Ecologically sensitive ocean access obtained

The initial option for routing the Nordic Aquafarms' ocean intake and discharge pipes was through the Little River. However, we considered this to have more environmental impacts than other potential options.

We are pleased that as a result of negotiations this summer, we have secured an easement through a neighboring property across Route 1 that faces the ocean. This option gives us the shortest route to deep water, and underwater surveying shows that other ecological impacts are much lower than the Little River route.

All pipes will be buried below the surface in the intertidal area and will not be visible or noticeable to project neighbors or the community. More information about this will soon be available in our upcoming permit applications at the federal, state, and local levels.

FocusMaine says state can be global leader in aquaculture

Kim Hamilton, PhD, the president of [FocusMaine](#), a group whose purpose is to accelerate the creation of quality jobs in Maine within a few key sectors that have high growth potential, recently penned an op-ed, "Maine has an opportunity to be a global player in aquaculture."

In her guest column, published in the *Bangor Daily News*, Hamilton said: “Each new aquaculture company grown in Maine or recruited to Maine will help pave the way for the next one, training our workforce and bringing in new technology along the way.”

She went on to say: “Mainers up and down the coast stand to benefit greatly from this new dynamic: good jobs, revitalized communities, old facilities given a new life, and more sustainable and nutritious food on our tables and for the world.”

The entire piece is worth reading and can be found [here on the Bangor Daily News website](#).

Belfast office now open

Construction at the new Nordic Aquafarms office at 159 High Street in Belfast has recently been completed.



Educational materials for the office’s public display area are still being finalized, but visitors are welcome to stop by to say hello and learn more about the project whenever staff are present. Find the location of our new office [on Google Maps](#).

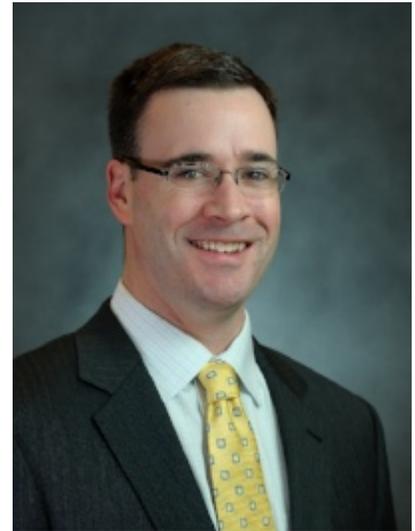
More key positions filled

Ed Cotter joins as Project Director

Ed Cotter will be joining Nordic Aquafarms as Project Director. He will oversee engineering, design, and construction for the Belfast facility, as well as other follow-on projects. Ed joins NAF from Gilbane Building Company, where he spent more than 12 years building complex commercial, institutional, and infrastructure projects.

Born and raised in Boston, Ed received a bachelor's degree in Ocean Engineering from the University of Rhode Island, and has spent much of his career in design, construction, and oversight of coastal projects throughout southern New England, work that has included permitting, environmental reviews, and site logistics.

Beyond work, Ed enjoys spending his time with his family, as well as being on the water as much as possible, whether sailing, spending time at the beach, or just enjoying life on the coast. Ed has taken an apartment in downtown Belfast and looks forward to getting to know the community. Learn more about Ed [at his LinkedIn profile](#).



Cathal Dinneen joins as Grow-out Manager

Our future grow-out director for the Belfast farm will be Cathal Dinneen. Cathal is widely recognized as one of the most experienced RAS farmers in the world, with more than two decades of land-based farming in Canada, Iceland, Ireland and Norway involving a variety of different species.

Cathal has undergraduate and master's degrees in aquaculture and managed the high profile 'Namgis First Nation Kuterra land-based project in British Columbia, before moving to Norway to be part of Nordic Aquafarms' ground-breaking facility in Fredrikstad, where he is currently production lead.

Cathal and his family are Irish nationals and are looking forward to moving to Maine next year. Learn more about Cathal [at his LinkedIn profile](#).

As previously announced, Erik Heim, NAF founder and CEO, and Marianne Naess, director of operations, are moving to Maine at the end of the month and look forward to becoming Mainers.



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