

Course Outline

Course Title: Shellfish Tenure Application Process and Federal Permits for British Columbia

Course Code: AQUA 565T

Total Hours: 16 Hours

Description: This course focuses on the complex regulatory framework for shellfish aquaculture in BC. This program will provide a detailed presentation of the steps in applying for a tenure, choosing an appropriate site, the federal and provincial acts and regulations that determine the success of an application, and how a shellfish company can conduct business. The criteria of an appropriate aquaculture site will be discussed with existing federal and provincial siting criteria, with comparative evaluations of sites being conducted out in the field. The provincial application process will be reviewed and guidance will be provided on the completion of the forms. The role and basic requirements of the Federal Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA) and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (CEAA) as they pertain to shellfish aquaculture will be discussed in detail.

Course Objectives:

The student will understand the:

- Considerations when selecting a site for potential shellfish culture;
- Steps involved in the tenure application process;
- Information required to submit a tenure application;
- Federal and provincial regulations that govern the approval of a shellfish application;
- Roles of the individual federal and provincial agencies involved with the application process and how these agencies interact;
- Processes that are followed by the Federal agencies in consideration of an application;
- Responsibilities of the applicant in the shellfish tenure application process;
- Information requirements for a shellfish tenure application to obtain a permit under the Navigable Waters Protection Act;
- Role of the Federal Fisheries Act in shellfish tenure application approvals;
- Requirements of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act in shellfish tenure application approvals;
- Marine Foreshore Environmental Assessment Procedures applicable for shellfish tenure applications; and
- Marine Foreshore Environmental Assessment Procedures that can be completed by applicants for a shellfish aquaculture site.



Course Modules:

Module 1: Introduction

Module 2: Provincial Agencies

Module 3: Federal Agencies

Module 4: Navigational Waters Protection Act

Module 5: Canadian Environmental Assessment Act

Module 6: Summary of Roles

Module 7: Site Selection

Module 8: Marine Foreshore Environmental Assessment Procedures Fieldwork

Prerequisites: None

Evaluation: Students will be evaluated through a combination of attendance, completion of classroom, field exercises, and assigned reading, and written examinations.