



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES
21 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0021

JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

CARL J. WILSON
COMMISSIONER

Date: August 26, 2025

To: Town of Machiasport, Municipal Officials and David Cale, Harbormaster
Lease applicant
Riparian (shorefront) landowners within 1,000 ft. of the proposal
ME IF&W, and DACF
GovDelivery Aquaculture List

From: Department of Marine Resources (DMR) Aquaculture Division

Re: Re-notice of Completed Aquaculture Application and Comment Period

The DMR has received a completed lease application for the following:

Name of Applicant and Type	Cooke Aquaculture USA, Inc.	☒ Renewal (MACH II)
Culture Type	☐ Bottom culture (No gear)	☒ Suspended culture (Bottom and/or surface gear)
Species	☐ Shellfish ☐ Marine algae ☒ Finfish ☐ Other	
Waterbody, Town	Machias Bay, Machiasport	
Lease Size and Term	40 Acres	20 Years
Comment Submission Deadline	No later than 4:00 p.m. on September 28, 2025	DMR Attn: Aquaculture Division 21 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0021 DMRaquaculture@maine.gov

COMMENT PERIOD:

- This site was previously noticed and received hearing requests. However, a recent law change made renewal proceedings non-adjudicatory, so hearings are no longer part of the renewal process. This proposal is being re-noticed with a 30-day public comment period to provide stakeholders with an opportunity to submit additional feedback.
- Written comments must be submitted by mail **or** email to the address provided above by the deadline. For full consideration, the comments should address one or more of the lease renewal decision criteria.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To view the respective renewal application, please visit DMR's aquaculture webpage. Pending applications are available under 'Maine Aquaculture Leases and LPAs'

To learn more about the law change and access additional resources specific to lease renewals, including decision criteria, please visit <https://www.maine.gov/dmr/aquaculture> and see “Announcements.”

Relevant Authority: 12 MRSA §6072 (12) and DMR Rules Chapter 2.45