

Nova Fish Farms Inc.

September 6, 2023

**A Statement on the Conclusion of Enhanced Monitoring
Following Abnormal Mortality Event of July 1, 2023**

Nova Fish Farms Inc. wishes to advise the public of the end of enhanced monitoring following an abnormal mortality event on July 1, 2023. Fish losses totaling 17,254 juvenile steelhead trout occurred during the last transfer of fish from Atlantic Canada to Newfoundland.

Nova Fish Farms has thoroughly assessed the event and determined that a combination of transport stress and low oxygen/elevated carbon dioxide levels in the transport water resulted in the fish losses. NFF is committed to working diligently with our third-party transportation partners and has enacted mitigation strategies to ensure a similar event does not occur in the future.

These strategies include:

- Reducing maximum stocking density and maximum fish numbers for transfer,
- Expanding fish transfer timeframes,
- Updating Standard Operating Procedures for fish transport, and,
- Acquiring additional transfer equipment, expanding capacity.

All mortalities have been removed from net pens and disposed of according to approved waste management plans. The company has taken all responsible steps under the oversight of the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture and is following government approved policies and directives for reporting.

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