Northern Harvest Sea Farms Statement Regarding ISAv Detection October 9, 2020

Northern Harvest Sea Farms NL Limited advises that there has been a suspect detection of Infectious Salmon Anaemia virus (ISAv) at the McGrath Cove North marine site (AQ #886) and the Ironskull Point marine site (AQ#865) located off the south coast of Newfoundland.

In each case, these suspect detections of ISAv occurred in one Atlantic salmon from one cage at each site that was sampled through the Provincial Government Department of Fisheries, Forestry, and Agriculture's species-specific aquatic animal health surveillance program.

The cage at the McGrath Cove North site from which the suspect detection occurred contains approximately 185,000 fish, and the marine site is comprised of 3 cages containing a total population of approximately 560,000 fish. The cage at the Ironskull Point site from which the suspect detection occurred contains approximately 225,000 fish, and the marine site is comprised of 3 cages containing a total population of approximately 500,000 fish.

Northern Harvest Sea Farms is working with federal and provincial authorities and following best practices in the handling of these farms. These marine sites have been quarantined, and the company is following all regulatory requirements.

ISAv is a naturally occurring virus and is not a human health issue or a food safety issue. The disclosure of this suspect detection on the provincial industry association website within 24 hours of the detection complies with policy AP 17.

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