AQUACULTURE DIRECT LTD PO Box 213 Blenheim 7240 New Zealand

M. +64 (0)21 451 284 E. Infogaquaculturedirectico.nz www.aquaculturedirectico.nz



14 July 2015

Anna L Eatherley **Manager Resource Consents Marlborough District Council** 15 Seymour Street PO Box 443, Blenheim 7240

Dear Anna

Application for the renewal of resource consent MFL 111 in Laverique Bay- Marine Farm 8258

Please find attached a renewal application for the above resource consent. Included with this application are the following documents;

- 1. Resource Consent Application
- 2. Locality Map
- 3. Site Plan
- 4. Structure Plan
- 5. Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE)
- 6. Ecological report

Please contact me if you have any questions, bruce@aquaculturedirect.co.nz or 021 451 284.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Cardwell

Aquaculture Direct Limited

RECEIVED 16 JUL 2015 MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

Resource Consent Application

This application is made under Section 88 of the Resource Management Act 1991

Please read and complete this form thoroughly and provide all details relevant to your proposal. Feel free to discuss any aspect of your proposal, the words used in this form or the application process with Council staff, who are here to help.

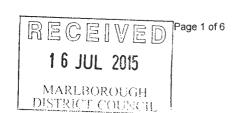
This application will be checked before formal acceptance. If further information is required, you will be notified accordingly. When this information is supplied, the application will be formally received and processed further.

You may apply for more than one consent that is needed to cover several aspects of the activity on this form.



For Office Use	ISO 9001:2008 Document Number: RAF0002-CI1579
Lodgement Fee Pai	d\$ 930-∞
Receipt No.	1738177
Consent No.	
Case Officer:	
Date Received:	
1	

1.	Applicant Det	ails (If a trust, list full names of all trustees.)
		Sanford Ltd
		PO Box 13, Havelock 7150
	(including post code)	
	Email Address:	zcharman@sanford.co.nz
0	Phone: (Daytime)	
2.	-	(If your agent is dealing with the application, all communication regarding the application will be sent to the agent.)
	Name:	Bruce Cardwell- Aquaculture Direct Ltd
	Mailing Address: (including post code)	
	Email Address:	bruce@aquaculturedirect.co.nz
	Phone: (Daytime)	578 5044 Phone: (Mobile) 021 451284



	Discharge Permit	☐ Land Use	☐ Subdivision	
Brief Description of	the Activity			
To renew and existing re-	source consent for Marine of the marine farm for a te		ique Bay, Pelorus Sou	und including activities
Supplementary Info	ormation Provided? ary forms for some activities	Y		stic wastewater
	ist applicants with providing	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•	sile wastewater,
Property Details				
The location to which the	application relates is (add	ress): Marine Farr	n 8258	
Legal description (i.e. Lo	t 1 DP 1234): N/A			
readily identified, e.g. hot or other water body to wh Number, Property Numbe	cality and activity points. Euse number and street add nich application may relate, er.) The Certificate of Title th	ress, Grid Reference proximity to any we	e, the name of any rele Il known landmark, DF	evant stream, river, P number, Valuation
The names and addresse the owner and occupier of land (other than the appli	of the			
	en approval of affected pa		1	

7. Assessment of Effects on the Environment (AEE) (Attach separate sheet detailing AEE.)

I attach, in accordance with Schedule Four of the Resource Management Act 1991, an assessment of environmental effects in a level of detail that corresponds with the scale and significance of the effects that the proposed activity may have on the environment. Applications also have to include consideration of the provisions of the Resource Management Act 1991 and other relevant planning documents.

Note: Failure to submit an AEE will result in return of this application.



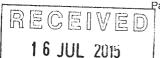
8.	Other Information
	Are additional resource consents required in relation to this proposal? If so, please list and indicate if they have been obtained or applied for.
	I attach any other information required to be included in the application by the relevant Resource Management Plan Act or regulations. Yes No
9.	Fees
	1. The applicable lodgement (base) fee is to be paid at the time of lodging this application. If payment is made into Council's bank account 02-0600-0202861-02, please put Applicant Name and either U-number, property number or consent type as a reference. If you require a GST receipt for a bank payment, please tick
	2. The final cost of processing the application will be based on actual time and costs in accordance with Council's charging policy. If actual costs exceed the lodgement fee an invoice will be issued (if actual costs are less, a refund will be made). Invoices are due for payment on the 20th of the month following invoice date. Council may stop processing an application until an overdue invoice is paid in full. Council charges interest on overdue invoices at 15% per annum from the date of issue to the date of payment. In the event of non-payment, legal and other costs of recovery will also be charged.
	3. Please make invoice out to: ✓ Applicant ☐ Agent (if neither is ticked the invoice will be made out to Applicant)
10	. Declaration
	I (please print name) Bruce Cardwell
	confirm that the information provided in this application and the attachments to it are accurate.
	Signature of applicant or authorised agent:
	Date: 14/07/15
	Privacy Information

The information you have provided on this form is required so that your application can be processed and so that statistics can be collected by Council. The information will be stored on a public register and held by Council. Details may be made available to the public about consents that have been applied for and issued by Council. If you would like access to or make corrections to your details, please contact Council.

Reset Form

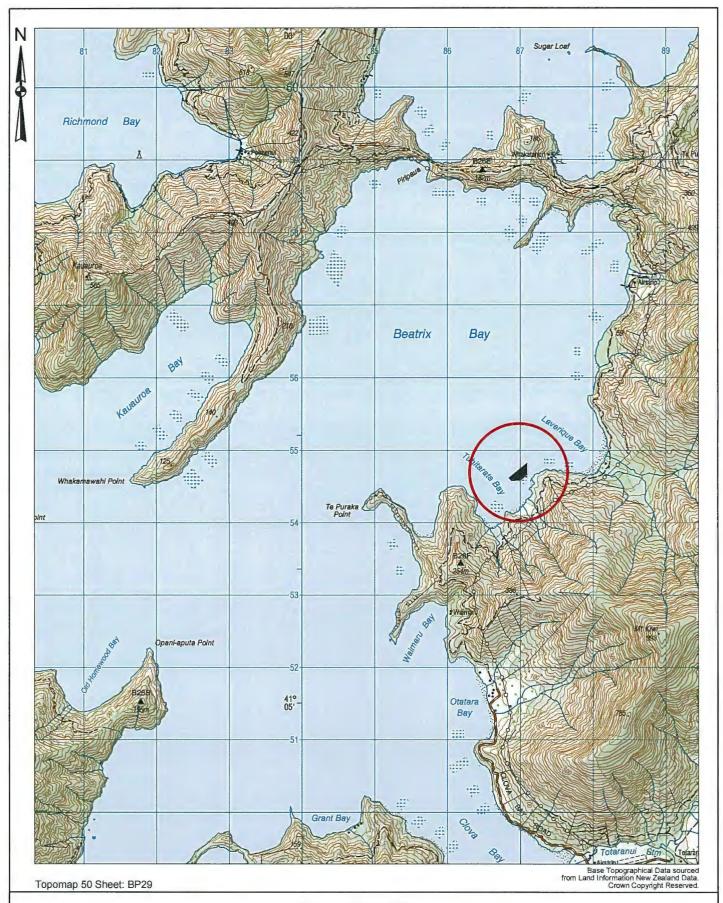
Marlborough District Council PO Box 443 Blenheim 7240 Telephone: (03) 520 7400 Website: www.marlborough.govt.nz Email: mdc@marlborough.govt.nz





Page 3 of 6

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL



Locality Map

Marine Farm Site 8258 Tuhitarata Bay - Beatrix Bay RECEIVED

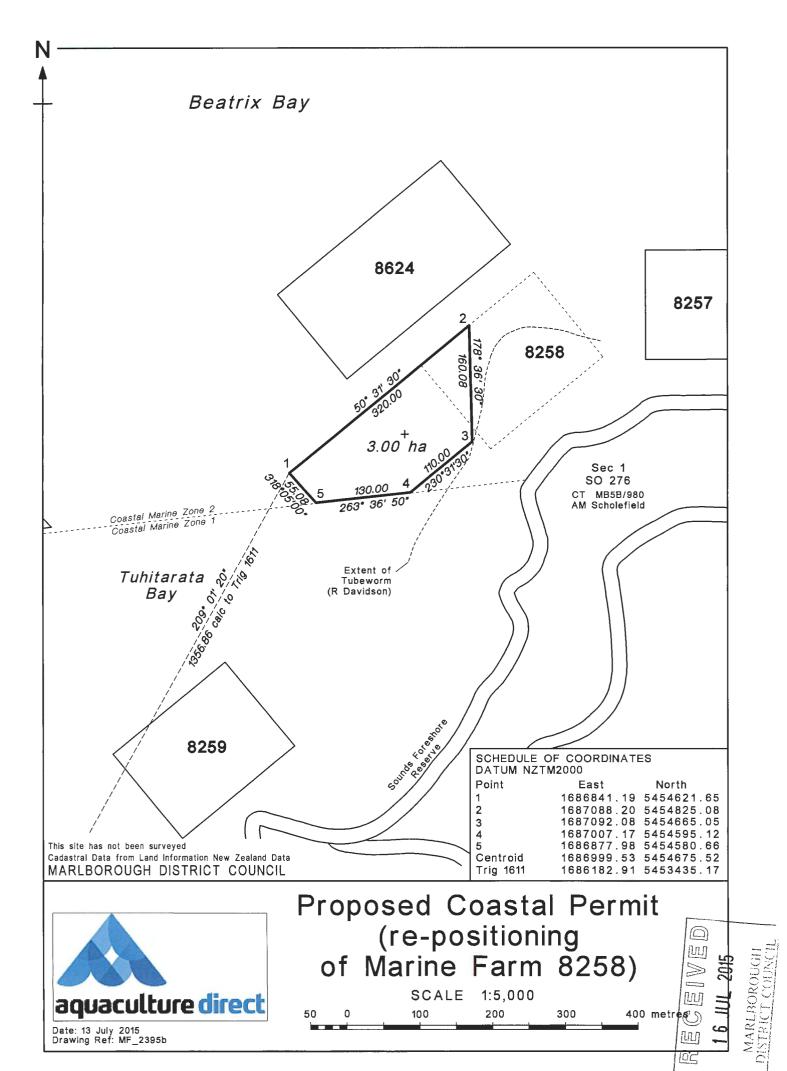
1 6 JUL 2015

MARLBOROUGH 5500 DHSTRICT COUNCIL

aquaculture direct

Prepared: 16 July 2015

Scale 1:50,000 500 0 500 1000 1500 2000 2500 3000



Tuhitarata Bay

Longline Spacing = 19.33m

Total Longlines = 6

Backbone Length = as shown

Total Backbone Length = 880m

Warp Surface Loss = as shown

Warp Ratio = 2:1 minimum

REFERENCE

O Orange Float

Anchors

----- Anchor Warp (32mm Rope)
Backbone (24-28mm Rope)



Date: 13 July 2015 Drawing Ref: MF_2395b

Layout Details

Proposed Coastal Permit (Marine Farm 8258)



ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS FOR A COASTAL PERMIT OCCUPANCY AND DISTURBANCE OF THE SEABED

APPLICATION BY SANFORD LIMITED TO RENEW AN EXISTING CONSENT FOR MARINE FARM SITE 8258 IN LAVERIQUE BAY, BEATRIX BAY, PELORUS SOUND, MARLBOROUGH

1.0 Introduction – the applicant

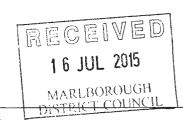
SANFORD LIMITED has applied to relocate and renew the existing deemed resource consent (original licence number MFL111, granted 25th March 1981) for marine farm site 8258 (3ha) for the purpose of farming Greenshell Mussels, (*Perna canaliculus*), pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Dredge oysters (*Tiostrea chilensis*), Paua (*Haliotis australis, Haliotis iris, Haliotis virginea*), Scallop (*Pecten novaezelandiae*), Seaweeds (*Ulva lactuca, Macrocystis pyrifera, Ecklonia radiate, Lessonia variegate, Gracilaria spp, Pterocladia lucidia*) using conventional structures. (See attached layout diagrams illustrating the site).

The main purpose of this application is to tidy up the farm location as it has been offsite since its installation in 1981. The farm is partially inside a CMZ1 zone and parts of the existing consented site is currently covering benthic areas unsuitable for marine farming. This application addresses both of these issues that have been outstanding for some time.

The current status of the existing consent is a controlled activity. However, the farm is not located in its entirety on the consented site due to benthic considerations. As a result of a benthic survey the applicant is applying for a new site which is partially over the existing consent but away from benthic areas identified in the survey. The balance of the site is to the southwest of the original consent. The application is for a marine farm that is the same size (3ha) and same total backbone length (880m) but with differing line lengths. The applicant is also applying to change the consented species at the site. This is a new application and therefore a discretionary activity.

Sanford's history extends over 100 years. Sanford is a large and long established fishing company devoted entirely to the harvesting, farming, processing, storage and marketing of quality seafoods and aquaculture products, with a focus on the clear waters of New Zealand. Sanford employs approximately 1,430 employees throughout the various regions in which they operate, Auckland, Coromandel, Tauranga, Nelson, Havelock, Timaru, Waitaki, Kaitangata, Bluff, Stewart Island & Melbourne, 230 of these employees are based in the Havelock.

The Company supports the sustainable utilisation of seafood from New Zealand's unique marine environment, and in other waters in which the company operates.



Sanford is responding to existing and emerging environmental issues by seeking to improve performance standards in all its operations and through active participation in industry environmental initiatives and forums.

Environmental performance improvement is being achieved by;

- The implementation of Environmental Management Systems (EMS) incorporating compliance with ISO 14001 standards. All shore based and on board processing facilities are certified to ISO 14001 standard.
- Continually investigating the implementation of methods to improve the Company's ecoefficiency in terms of farmed and harvested seafood, energy, water, packaging and waste management.
- Protecting and enhancing the natural environment through active management programs
 to prevent events such as oil spills from occurring, and formal contingency planning in the
 event they do. We also undertake active maintenance of marine areas nearby to where
 we operate.

The applicant adheres to the 'Greenshell Mussel Industry Environmental Code of Practice' and its successor the Environment Management Framework and is an active participant of the Marine Farming Association's Environmental Programme. This programme covers the activities of marine farmers' "on water" activities. This Programme includes being an active participant in beach clean ups and adhering to the following Codes of practice:

- 'Marine Farming Operating Standards Marlborough Sounds, Tasman and Golden Bays'
- 'Code of Practice to avoid, remedy or mitigate noise from marine farming activities in the Marlborough Sounds, Golden Bay and Tasman Bay on other users and residents'
- 'Reducing Pollution and Emissions from Marine Farming 'On Water' Activities'
- 'Reducing Waste taken to Landfill from Marine Farming 'On water' Activities'

The applicant's adherence to the codes of practice mentioned above, and its commitment to environmental programmes and activities, along with its compliance with the conditions of the existing consent, are conduct in the applicant's favour in terms of s 165ZJ(1).

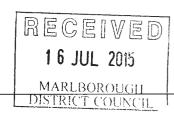
2.0 Introduction – the application

2.1 Size: The site is 3ha.

2.2 Structures: The site dimensions will be: inshore boundary 110m long, outer boundary 320m, north eastern boundary 160m long and south western boundary 185m long.

There will be a total of 6 longlines (see attached layout diagram).

2.3 Species: It is proposed to farm and harvest Greenshell Mussels, (*Perna canaliculus*), pacific oysters (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Dredge oysters (*Tiostrea chilensis*), Paua (*Haliotis australis, Haliotis iris, Haliotis virginea*), Scallop (*Pecten novaezelandiae*), Seaweeds (*Ulva lactuca, Macrocystis pyrifera, Ecklonia radiate, Lessonia variegate, Gracilaria spp, Pterocladia lucidia*) using conventional structures.



3.0 Permitted Activities

Consent is also sought to allow the seabed anchoring devices to be installed (and be replaced as required), to harvest marine farming product from the marine farm (including the taking and discharging of coastal seawater and discharge of biodegradable and organic waste matter) and all other activities that are ancillary to the operation on site 8258.

The movement of vessels is a permitted activity: s27 Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011. This right includes anything reasonably incidental to vessel movement (s27(2)).

4.0 Terms of Consent

The original Marine Farm Licence MFL111, now a deemed resource consent, site number 8258 is due to expire on 31 December 2024.

There is 9 years remaining on the consent and the applicant wished to address the issues described above, whilst also securing the future for this site. Therefore the applicant seeks a 20 year term expiring in 2035.

5.0 The Site - Location

Marine farm 8258 is located along the central shoreline between Laverique and Tuhitarata Bay. The Bay is small and located at the south end of Beatrix Bay; a large bay in Pelorus Sound. Laverique Bay is approximately 40 km by sea from Havelock and has a coastline length of approximately 1875 m and covers an area of sea of approximately 37 ha. The mouth of the Bay is approximately 950 m wide.

The actual farm site lies partially within the boundary of coastal marine zone 1 (CMZ1). The new application is located outside the (CMZ1 zone).

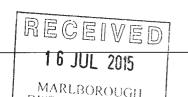
The site is bounded by marine farms to the north east (8257) to the north (8624) and to the south (8259). See attached locality map.

6.0 The Site - Dimensions

The site dimensions have been described above are as per the layout plans attached. The depth of the water at each of the corners of the site is 28m (N), 26m (SW), 22-20 m (S), and 15 (E).

The application includes 6 long lines ranging from 100m to 173m in length. The site layout is attached to the application. The long lines will be no more than 19.33m apart. The application is for the same backbone metres (880m) and area (3 Ha) as the original consent.

The warp lengths range from 30m-72m from each end of the backbone (see line layout diagram for individual longline lengths). The warp ratio is 2:1. The existing farm is located offsite.



7.0 THE PRESENT ENVIRONMENT

7.1 The Marine Environment

In June 2015 Mr RJ Davidson, of Davidson Environmental Ltd, undertook a biological study of the ecology of the marine area of site 8258. The report provides an overview of the bay and site specific information for each marine farm. The report is attached as part of this application. The aim of that study was to provide a report on the habitats and the impact zone associated with the current activities at site 8258 and also to identify any potential threats to any ecological, scientific or conservation values posed by the activities sought in the application.

The Report indicates that the impact of the existing activity is similar to other mussel farming activities in the Pelorus Sound. In particular the report states the following;

"5.1 Benthos

The benthos under the proposed consent area was dominated by combinations of silt, fine sand, natural and mussel shell. Areas >20 depth were muddy and areas <20 were less muddy with a higher component of fine sand and natural shell. These types of substratum are traditionally regarded as suitable for consideration for mussel farming as they are common and widespread in the Sounds and support a community that is also widespread. Mud and mud and shell habitats also support many species that are relatively tolerant to elevated sediment and the introduction of more shell material. The community change associated with the introduction of a mussel farm into this type of substratum is smaller than would be expected for an area characterised by coarse or rocky substratum. The proposed consent area has been influenced by the existing mussel lines and it is expected that the community living there will already have shifted from its original state.

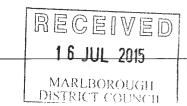
A small area of low rock was observed on the sonar at the north-east inshore corner of the proposed consent. It is suggested that this be avoided (see 5.4).

The existing consent area supported a large reef and rocky substratum area. No mussel lines are located in this area and there was no indication from photos that these habitats had been influenced by the adjacent mussel farm. Habitats and communities recorded from this area would likely be impacted by the addition of mussel lines. The change would likely be dramatic for some species like tubeworms that would likely decline in abundance as they are filter feeders and not able to cope well with increased fine sediment or shell deposition.

5.2 Species and communities

Tubeworm beds are of biological interest and a number of sites that support dense beds in the Marlborough Sounds have been ranked as significant (Davidson et al. (2011). This bed has not been through the ranking procedure, however, it is probable that it would be regarded as the best bed of its kind in the Pelorus biogeographic zone.

No other species or communities of scientific, conservation or ecological importance were observed during the present study (see Davidson et al., 2011 for criteria and biological features). Muddy areas under the proposed consent area will likely support a community dominated by mud dwelling species (see McKnight and Grange 1991 for descriptions). It is likely that the



introduction of shell will have resulted in the appearance of some new species and a decline in abundance of other species. It is probable that the areas under the mussel growing structures will have a component of mud-shell communities. This type of community is less common and widespread than the mud community in the Sounds.

5.3 Mussel farming impacts

5.3.1 Benthic impacts

Benthic mussel shell was recorded from drop camera photos collected under and near backbones in the proposed consent area. No shell or impact from mussel farming was observed in the existing consent.

At particular locations under structures high levels of shell was recorded, however at most sites low to moderate levels were seen. Shell debris impact levels were within the range known for mussel farms in the Marlborough Sounds.

It is probable that the impact of continued mussel farming at this site will result in the deposition of more mussel shell and fine sediment under and in close proximity to droppers. Assuming the present level of activity remains relatively consistent, it is very unlikely that the surface sediments would become anoxic, especially as the site is relatively shallow (<30 m depth) and subjected to wave action during northerly weather. Tidal flows are expected to be relatively low.

Based on a long term monitoring programme conducted by Davidson and Richard (2014) is expected that tubeworms and the reef located east of the proposed consent would not be adversely impacted if the farm was located to the proposed consent area. Further tubeworms and the reef are located in relatively shallow water and it is expected that any fine material that reaches these areas from the adjacent mussel farms or from other sources in the Sounds would be resuspended due to northerly wave action and tidal currents.

5.4 Boundary adjustments and monitoring

The existing consent is located over habitats considered unsuitable for consideration for mussel farming. It is therefore strongly recommended that mussel lines are not moved into the consent from their present location. The farm owner has suggested a new consent located around most of the existing mussel lines. The proposed consent is located offshore of the inshore two existing mussel lines. This means these inshore lines would be removed from this area of coarser substratum allowing it to recover (Davidson and Richards 2014). Again this represents a positive environmental outcome compared to moving lines into the existing consent.

A small and localised area of low rock was observed in the north-eastern inshore corner of the proposed consent. It is suggested this is avoided by adjusting the eastern boundary (Figure 8). A comparable area could be added to the south-western edge of the consent as the benthos in this area is silt and shell thereby providing a more suitable substratum to place the consent. This adjustment also provides greater separation between the farm and tubeworms.

Based on the literature, it is unlikely that tubeworms or the reef would be adversely impacted by the alteration of lines to fit within the proposed consent. Apart from the inshore line and warp (26 m long warp), all warps are >35 m in length. Based on the literature, the impact distance for a mussel farm is 10 to 35 m distance. The suggested adjustment adds further separation between farm structures, tubeworms and the reef.



For the inshore line located closer to the tubeworms, it is recommended that it only be used for species with a low level of impact (e.g. algae, sponges etc.). With these adjustments made there is no need to monitor for an impact on inshore communities as the distance between tubeworms and growing structures is greater than the known impact range for mussel farms."

The report suggests a realignment of the farm on the eastern boundary to avoid sensitive tubeworm habitat. The re alignment has been agreed to by the applicant and the boundaries have been adjusted to the western end on the site plans to reflect the recommendation. The applicant agrees to remove the inside line as identified in the structure plan to further reduce any effect on the tubeworm habitat. Installation of anchors on this site will use methods that will place them within a metre of the correct position.

The report also indicates that the impact of the current activities is in line with expectations of the environmental impacts of mussel farming. In addition, the current study supports the Ministry of Fisheries assessment which was used to assess the sustainability of the farm and its impact on fishing and fishery resources.

7.2 The Land Environment

The site lies near other marine farms in Laverique Bay. The site is bounded by marine farms to the north east (8257) to the north (8624) and to the south (8259). See attached locality map.

The land behind the marine farm is Rural 1 and zoned Sounds Residential. This land has not been developed for residential purposes.

The coastline adjacent consists of steep hill slopes with short to moderate coastal cliffs.

The beach is dominated by hard rock and boulders, although small beaches have formed along the coastline in this area.

8.0 NAVIGATION MATTERS

8.1 The Shoreline

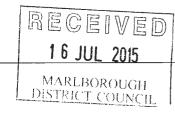
The distance from the shoreline according to the original Cadastral mapping holds with the conventions established in the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan. That is, the inshore boundary of the farm is beyond 50m from the mean low water mark.

8.2 Headlands

There are no headlands immediately adjacent to the site.

8.3 Navigational Routes (Formal/Informal)

The shoreline in which the farm sits is not on a normal navigation route, however, vessels that wish to navigate within the area can go through the farm and either inside or outside of the site. The farm does not impede vessel movements along the coastline.



8.4 Anchorages or Mooring Areas (Formal/Informal)

There are no registered moorings in the immediate vicinity of the site.

8.5 Indirect Effects-Servicing vessels at site

The applicant estimates their farming and harvesting vessels will visit the site on an average of 20-25 days a year for periods of 0.5 to 5 hrs to undertake farm maintenance, seeding and harvesting. The total amount of hours spent on these activities is estimated to be 60 - 65hrs annually.

8.6 Water Ski Lanes

There are no formal water ski lanes in the vicinity.

8.7 Sub-Marine Cables

There are no sub-marine cables in the immediate vicinity of the farm.

9.0 AESTHETIC

9.1 Land Zoned for Residential Use or Proximity to Residences

There are no residences near the site. The land behind the marine farm is Rural 1 and zoned Sounds Residential. This land has not been developed for residential purposes.

The closest residence is 3.4 kilometres from the site to the north.

9.2 Scenic Value

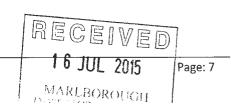
The reserve land on the western side of Tuhitarata Bay (approximately 700 metres from the site) is identified in the current Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan as having outstanding landscape value. This application is well clear of this Reserve Area. The area to the south and east of the site are described as Outstanding Natural Features and Landscapes 2009 (ONFL) Boffa Miskell report. There was no direction given in the plan that the marine farm should be removed for the area to be assessed as being an outstanding landscape. The marine farm is one of the original licences (now deemed consents) issued for marine farming in the Marlborough Sounds.

The effect of the marine farm on the adjacent area along with other marine farms will have a less than minor effect on the landscape.

10.0 ECOLOGICAL VALUE

The land area on the western side of the Tuhitarata Bay (approximately 700 metres from the site) is identified in the current Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan as having ecological significance. The area is significant for Alpine daisy (endangered), yellow head, Powelliphanta snails, NZ falcon, yellow crowned parakeet and alpine plants. The farm is located 700 metres from this area.

The marine farm will have no effect on the adjacent land including flora and fauna.



11.0 RECREATIONAL VALUE

In terms of recreational use, there is no road access to the area and the only access to this part of the Pelorus Sound is by boat.

Access to the coast for recreationalists is maintained.

12.0 HISTORICAL, TRADITIONAL AND CULTURAL VALUES

No sites of archaeological, historical or traditional value are known by the applicant to be present in the area.

In preparing this application, the applicant has had regard to the Te Tau Ihu Statutory Acknowledgments and has reviewed the statements of association for each iwi. The applicant understands that this application will be notified to iwi with statutory acknowledgements in the area and will discuss the application further with iwi representatives.

13.0 COMMERCIAL AND RECREATIONAL FISHING

Matters impacting on commercial and recreational fishing are controlled by the Ministry of Primary Industry's (MPI) Undue Adverse Effects test (UAE)

13.1 Commercial Fishing

Commercial fishing is not known to occur in Laverique Bay but may occur offshore. The farm will not interfere with commercial fishing operations. No artificial feed or attractants are added.

13.2 Recreational Fishing

It is the applicant's view that the marine farm at the site enhances opportunities for recreational fishing, as marine farms generally tend to create an ecosystem which is conducive to the presence of reef fish and other fish species.

14.0 VISUAL EFFECTS OF THE FARM

Visual effects will remain relatively the same as they exist at the present. The farm structures consist of 6 long lines of between 173 and 100 metres in length containing black mussel buoys ranging between approximately 4 and 70 per line. There will be approximately 146 floats on the farm although each line will have different numbers of floats depending on stage of the growth cycle. On average there will be one float to 5.5 metres of backbone. At the end of each longline an orange buoy will be displayed and an orange buoy will be displayed in the middle of each of the seaward most and landward most longlines.

A yellow light, radar reflector and a band of reflective tape will be displayed on the seaward corners and radar reflectors and a band of reflective tape will be displayed on the landward corners or as requested on the lighting plan provided by the Harbour Master.



15.0 EFFECTS ON WATER QUALITY AND ECOLOGY

Water quality of the area is high, both in relation to productivity and suitability for harvesting for human consumption, and suitability for mussel farming. The site relies on this high water quality to enable the process of mussel farming to flourish. The site 8258 has a good capacity for mixing of water with regular tidal currents, wind and wave action.

The effect on the ecology of the site from the existing activity is attached in the Davidson Environmental Limited report 816. No specific sites of marine ecological significance have been identified in Laverique Bay in the 'Ecological Significant Marine Sites in Marlborough New Zealand' published by Rob Davidson and others in 2011.

16.0 EFFECTS ON PRODUCTIVITY

Water quality is unlikely to be a problem for mussel farming in Laverique Bay. The continuing activity itself is unlikely to create any significant detrimental effects on water quality.

17.0 THE BENTHIC ENVIRONMENT

In terms of the benthic environment, the ecology of this area has been documented in Davidson Environmental Ltd report 816 (refer to 7.1 above). Davidson identified that "The existing consent is located over habitats considered unsuitable for consideration for mussel farming. It is therefore strongly recommended that mussel lines are not moved into the consent from their present location".

This application addresses the issues raised by Davidson Environmental Report 816 and the mussel growing lines will be well clear of any sensitive areas.

18.0 ALIENATION OF PUBLIC SPACE

The general area of this part of the Pelorus Sound has been utilised by marine farmers in excess of 35 years. Recreation and commercial boat owners are aware of marine farms in this area and all vessels have the opportunity to use the site and transit through it. The spacing between the long lines provides opportunity for access by vessels wanting to transit the site.

19.0 HARVESTING

As part of this application, the applicant seeks to harvest mussel crops. The right to navigate to and from the farm, and to anchor, moor and load crop is preserved by s27 of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011. However, consent is required for the amount of organic waste matter which is discharged during the harvesting process and for the take and use of coastal water. No significant historical adverse effects have been recorded or are anticipated and any visual evidence of harvesting quickly dissipates in the coastal environment.

Vessels will be required to service the farm on an irregular basis (refer to 8.5)



20.0 ON SHORE FACILITIES

The applicant already has onshore marine farm facilities based in Havelock on land leased from Port Marlborough Limited. Farm work is undertaken by the applicant's staff based out of Havelock. The direct number of staff employed by the applicant, based in Havelock, is 70 FTE. The mussels are processed in Havelock where they provide a critical part of the production to maintain processing to the factory which employees 163 FTE.

21.0 VALUE OF INVESTMENT

As part of this application to renew site 8258, the applicant is seeking to re-consent the site as a single unit and surrender the existing consents when the application is granted for a period of 20 years. As a result, this is an application to which s165ZH(1)(c) applies and the Council must, when considering the application, have regard to the value of the investment of the existing consent holder under s 104(2A).

The existing site has been held by the applicant for 39 years, since 1986. Over that time the applicant has expended significantly on the maintenance and upkeep of the farm. The existing farm was eight lines and were installed at a cost of \$20,000 per line, total cost of \$160,000. The cost of seeding the farm per cycle (18 months) is \$50,000 - \$70,000. The repairs and maintenance is \$15,000 - \$25,000 per cycle.

The farm produces approximately 160 tonnes per annum (\$950/ Green Weight Tonne (GWT)) and after processing the final ½ shell product would be sold on the export market at approximately \$460,000. Approximately 95% of Sanford Ltd mussel products are exported. All lines are restocked after harvest to achieve 160 GWT/per annum harvest. The applicant leases berthage and land in Havelock from Port Marlborough Ltd.

The mussels are processed in Havelock where they provide a critical part of the production to maintain processing to the factory which employees 163 FTE.

22.0 PART II RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT ISSUES

22.1 Section 5

Section 5 of the Resource Management Act 1991 is given effect through the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, Marlborough Regional Policy Statement and Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan.

In terms of the enabling provisions in Section 5 of the Resource Management Act, the marine farm industry has been, and will continue to be, a source of substantial revenue generation and job creation in the Sounds and in the Nelson/Marlborough region.

The majority of mussels produced from the site will be exported, therefore generating foreign exchange earnings for the country. Applications such as this enable the sustainable use of the marine environment.



22.2 Section 6

Matters of national importance have been assessed under the requirements of the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan.

The Proposal recognises:

a. The preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment (including the coastal marine area), wetlands, and lakes and rivers and their margins, and the protection of them from inappropriate subdivision use, and development:

Section 6(a) is given effect through Policy 13 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and is considered further below.

b. The protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate Subdivision, use, and development:

The area of the application is not identified as being in an area of outstanding landscape value in the current Plan.

c. The protection of areas of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna:

The adjacent vegetation next to the farm is regenerating bush.

d. The maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the coastal marine area, lakes, and rivers:

Public access is maintained with good separation from the coast and main navigational routes.

e. The relationship of Maori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, water, sites, waahi tapu, and other taonga.

The site is not known to be of importance to Maori. The applicant is unaware of any new historical sites on land nearby identified since the last application. This will be confirmed through consultation with Iwi.

22.3 Section 7

In achieving the purpose of this Act, all persons exercising functions and powers under it, in relation to managing the use, development, and protection of natural and physical resources, shall have particular regard to —

- (a) Kaitiakitanga:
- (b) The efficient use and development of natural and physical resources:
- (c) The maintenance and enhancement of amenity values:
- (d) Intrinsic values of ecosystems:
- (e) Recognition and protection of the heritage values of the sites, buildings, place, or areas:
- *(f)* Maintenance and enhancement of quality of the environment:
- (g) Any finite characteristics of natural and physical resources:
- (h) The protection of the habitat of trout and salmon.

RECEIVED

Matters under Section 7 (a-g) have been considered earlier in the original proposal. This application is not anticipated to have any additional effects over and above what already exists. Section (h) is not relevant to this application.

23.0 NEW ZEALAND COASTAL POLICY STATEMENT 2010 (NZCPS)

The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010 is of general relevance to this application and all policies have been considered in the development of the proposal. Policies of specific relevance are considered below.

23.1 Policy 2

Policy 2 sets out a number of matters which are relevant to the taking into account of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi and kaitiakitanga, in relation to the coastal environment.

The applicant recognises that Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō, Ngāti Kuia, Rangitāne o Wairau, Ngāti Kōata, Ngāti Rārua, Ngāti Tama ki Te Tau Ihu, Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui and Ngati Toa Rangatira have statutory acknowledgments in the area of the application site. Those acknowledgements have been considered during the preparation of this application, as outlined above.

The iwi management plans of Ngāti Kōata and Te Ātiawa o Te Waka-a-Māui have been reviewed. No areas of conflict have been identified.

There are no taiāpure or mahinga mātaitai in the area of the application. There are also no established areas of protected customary rights or customary marine title within the meaning of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011.

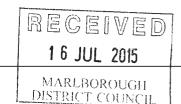
The applicant will discuss the proposal further with relevant iwi representatives if this is requested.

23.2 Policy 6

Policy 6 of the NZCPS is in two parts, the first dealing with activities in the coastal environment more broadly, and the second with those in the coastal marine area more specifically.

The farm is part of the existing built environment, so is in accordance with subpart 1(f), as continuation of the farm would not result in a change in the present character of Laverique Bay. As noted above, the visual impact of the farm has been considered, in line with subpart 1(h), and this did not exclude the area from being considered an outstanding natural landscape. No areas of indigenous biodiversity or historic heritage value have been identified in relation to the site, so the farm complies with subpart 1(j).

Subpart 2 of Policy 6 is particularly relevant. Mussel farming clearly has a functional need to be located in the coastal marine area. The farm directly contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of people and communities, in accordance with subpart 2(a). This is discussed in relation to Policy 8 below.



23.3 Policy 8

Policy 8 of the NZCPS provides for the recognition of the significant existing and potential contribution of aquaculture to the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of people and communities by:

- (a) including in regional policy statements and regional coastal plans provision for aquaculture activities in appropriate places in the coastal environment, recognising that relevant considerations may include:
 - i. The need for high quality water for aquaculture activities; and
 - ii. The need for land-based facilities associated with marine farming.
- (b) Taking account of the social and economic benefits of aquaculture, including any available assessments of national and regional economic benefits; and
- (c) Ensuring that development in the coastal environment does not make water quality unfit for aquaculture activities in areas approved for that purpose.

The application will enable the continuation of production from the site, contributing to the social and economic benefits of aquaculture to the community. No changes to the impact on water quality are anticipated. This application satisfies the requirement of Policy 8.

23.4 Policy 11

Policy 11 relates to protecting the indigenous biological diversity of the coastal environment.

The farm is located over mud habitat and avoids any reef areas or any other areas of significant biodiversity. There will be no adverse modified effects on indigenous biodiversity.

23.5 Policy 13

Policy 13 provides for the avoidance of significant adverse effects on areas of the coastal environment with outstanding natural character and the avoidance, remediation and mitigation of other adverse effects on natural character.

The area of the application site is not recognised as an area of outstanding natural character in the most recent comprehensive natural character study "Natural Character of the Marlborough Coast" (June 2014).

23.6 Policy 15

Policy 15(a) provides for the avoidance of adverse effects of activities on outstanding natural features and outstanding natural landscapes in the coastal environment. Policy 15(b) provides for the avoidance of significant adverse effects and the avoidance, remediation, and mitigation of other adverse effects of activities on other natural features and natural landscapes in the coastal environment.

This application is not within an area of outstanding landscape value under the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan.

23.7 Policy 18

Policy 18 recognises the need for public open space within and adjacent to the coastal marine area, for public use and appreciation including active and passive recreation.



As noted above, the only means of access to this area is by boat. The visual impact of the marine farm will not change. Access to the coast for recreationalists is maintained.

There are no registered moorings in the immediate vicinity of the site, and no formal water ski lanes. Opportunities for recreational fishing may be enhanced by the presence of the marine farm.

23.8 Policy 22

Policy 22 requires an assessment of sedimentation levels, and that use will not result in a significant increase in those levels. Davidson's biological report, discussed above, stated that while shell and fine sediment would be deposited under and in proximity to droppers, the farm structures are located over habitat considered suitable for this type of activity. No monitoring appeared to be necessary.

23.9 Policy 23

Subpart 1 of Policy 23, which relates to managing discharges to water in the coastal environment, is relevant to this application. Silts and organic matter released at harvest are readily assimilated into the water column and seabed. The effects of harvesting mussels are only transitory, and quickly become indistinguishable from background sedimentation.

CONCLUSION

This application is not within an area of outstanding landscape value under the Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan. The original consented area which has only been partially used due to the farm being offsite was one of the original licences issued for marine farming. The effects of the application on the landscape will be no more than minor.

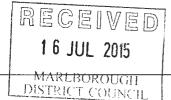
24.0 REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT/MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Certain provisions of the Marlborough Regional Policy Statement have relevance to this application and are considered in Appendix A.

The Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan contains a number of provisions that are relevant this application. An assessment of the application against the requirements of the plan is contained in Appendix B.

CONCLUSION

Taken overall, the application is consistent with the relevant objectives and policies of the Regional Policy Statement and Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan.



25.0 CONSULTATION

Meetings have been held with Ngati Koata and Ngati Kuia and letters have been sent to all Iwi listed below identifying the site prior to the application being submitted. Ngati Koata will not submit on the proposal (per com Matthew Hippolite 15 July 2015).

Name	Address	Phone
Ngati Koata Trust	PO Box 1659, Nelson 7040	(03) 548 1639
Te Runanga a Rangitane o Wairau	PO Box 883, Blenheim 7240	(03) 578 6180
Te Runanga O Ngati Kuia	PO Box 1046, Blenheim 7240	(03) 579 4328
Ngāti Apa ki te Rā Tō	PO Box 708, Blenheim 7240	(03) 578 9695
Te Atiawa Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust	PO Box 340, Picton 7250	(03) 573 5170
Ngati Toarangatira Manawhenua Ki Te Tau Ihu Trust	PO Box 5061, Blenheim 7240	(03) 577 8801
Ngati Rarua Trust	PO Box 1026, Blenheim 7240	(03) 577 8468

The adjacent landowner has been notified that the application is being prepared. (Mr Scholefield)

26.0 CONCLUSION

The applicant considers that the relocation and renewal of site 8258 is appropriate, thereby allowing the continued farming of greenshell mussels and other species at the site.

The site is in that part of the Pelorus Sound where aquaculture has long been present and has no more than a minor impact on other values in the area.



Appendix A: Marlborough Regional Policy Statement - Policy Analysis

Appendix A.	A A: INIGHT BOLOGET INEGIONAL POINTY STATEMENT I SHEY ANALYSIS	Allery 213
Objective	Policy	Assessment
5.3.2:	5.3.5: Avoid, remedy or mitigate the reduction of	No artificial feed or attractants are added.
That water quality in the coastal marine area be	coastal water quality by contaminants arising	No Chemicals, antibiotics or other theraputants
maintained at a level which provides for the	from activities occurring within the coastal marine	added
sustainable management of the marine	area.	Any discharges of organic matter associated with
ecosystem		harvesting will be transitory.
5.3.10:	5.3.11: Avoid, remedy or mitigate habitat	Any disruption associated with the existing
The natural species diversity and integrity of	disruption arising from activities occurring within	mooring of the farm is minor in scale and
marine habitats be maintained or enhanced	the coastal marine area.	transitory. The seabed is already in a modified
		state due to terrestrial run off.
7.1.9;	7.1.10:	The marine farm is consistent with the current
To enable present and future generations to	To enable appropriate type, scale and location of	Policy and the new application area is within a bay
provide for their wellbeing by allowing use,	activities by:	well established for marine farming.
development and protection of resources	 clustering activities with similar effects; 	
provided any adverse effects of activities are	 ensuring activities reflect the character and 	
avoided, remedied or mitigated.	facilities available in the communities in	
	which they are located;	
	 promoting the creation and maintenance of 	
	buffer zones (such as stream banks or	
	'greenbeits');	
	 locating activities with noxious elements in 	
	areas where adverse environmental effects	
	can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.	
	7.1.12:	The new application area for the marine farm is
	To ensure that no undue barriers are placed on	located within an area which is approved for
) [2	the establishment of new activities (including new	marine farming.
	primary production species) provided the life	
	supporting capacity of air, water, soil and	
	ecosystems is safeguarded and any adverse	
	environmental effects are avoided, remedied or	
	mitigated.	

RECEIVED

16 JUL 2015

MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL

7.2.7	7.2.8:	The marine farm is within a bay well established
The subdivision use and development, of the	Ensure the appropriate subdivision, use and	for marine farming. The marine farm's activity is
coastal environment, in a sustainable way.	development of the coastal environment.	biologically sustainable.
	7.2.10(a) - (d)	The new application area for the marine farm is
		located within an area which is approved for
		marine farming.
7.3.2:	7.3.3:	No sites of cultural or heritage significance have
Buildings, sites, trees and locations identified as	Protect identified significant cultural and heritage	been identified on the area of the application site
having significant cultural or heritage value are	features	
retained for the continued benefit of the		
community.		
8.1.2: The maintenance and enhancement of the	8.1.3:	The site is not within an area of outstanding
visual character of indigenous, working and built	Avoid, remedy or mitigate the damage of	natural landscape as identified in the current plan.
landscapes.	identified outstanding landscape features arising	The farm is well managed and complies with the
	from the effects of excavation, disturbance of	Greenshell Mussel Environmental Code of
	vegetation, or erection of structures.	Practice.
	8.1.5:	The marine farm will have no additional impact on
	Promote enhancement of the nature and	the existing landscape values.
	character of indigenous, working, and built	
	landscapes by all activities which use land and	
	water.	
	8.1.6:	The site will have no additional impact on the
	Preserve the natural character of the coastal	natural character of the coastal environment.
	environment.	



Appendix B: Marlborough Sounds Resource Management Plan – Policy Analysis

	Objective	Policy	Assessment
1	Ch 2, 2, 2, Obj 1: The preservation	Policy 1.1: Avoid the adverse effects of subdivision.	This application is set in an area which was previously pastoral
	of the natural character of the	or development within those areas of the	farmed but is reverting back to its natural state
	of tile flatulal cilalacter of tile	מאב חו מבאבוסלווובוור אורווווו רווסאב מובמא חו רווב	Tallied Dut is leveluing back to its matural state.
	coastal environment, wetlands,	coastal environment and freshwater bodies which	The marine farm is within a bay well established for marine
_	lakes, and rivers and their margins	are predominantly in their natural state and have	farming for over 35 years.
	and the protection of them from	natural character which has not been compromised.	
· -	inappropriate subdivision, use and	Policy 1.2: Appropriate use and development will be	Refer above.
	development.	encouraged in areas where the natural character of	
		the coastal environment has already been	
		compromised, and where the adverse effects of such	
		activities can be avoided, remedied or mitigated.	
		Policy 1.3: To consider the effects on those qualities,	These matters have been considered in the assessment of
		elements and features which contribute to natural	environmental effects.
		character, including:	
		a) Coastal and freshwater landforms;	
		b) Indigenous flora and fauna, and their	
		habitats;	
		c) Water and water quality;	
		d) Scenic or landscape values;	
		e) Cultural heritage values, including historic	
		places, sites of early settlement and sites of	
		significance to iwi; and	
<u> </u>	le.	f) Habitat of trout.	
1) [-	Policy 1.4: In assessing the actual or potential	The application will not have any additional impact on the
-	- (1	effects of subdivision, use or development on	components of these policies which impact natural character
ار ال	1	natural character of the coastal and freshwater	values.
	The second	environments, particular regard shall be had to the	
₩ 20		Ś	
15 15	7.0	9.2.1, 9.3.2 and 9.4.1 in recognition of the	
] [components of natural character.	
9			

Aquaculture Direct Limited - Assessment of Environmental Effects

MARLBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL Page: 18

	Ch 4, 4.3, Obj 1: The protection of significant indigenous flora and fauna (including trout and salmon) and their habitats from the adverse effects of use and development Ch 5, 5.3, Obj 1: Management of the visual quality of the Sounds and protection of outstanding natural features and landscapes from inappropriate subdivision,	Policy 1.6: In assessing the appropriateness of subdivision, use or development in coastal and freshwater environments regard shall be had to the ability to restore or rehabilitate natural character in the area subject to the proposal. Policy 1.7: To adopt a precautionary approach in making decisions where the effects on the natural character of the coastal environment, wetlands, makes and rivers (and their margins) are unknown. Policy 1.2: Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of land and water use on areas of significant ecological value. Policy 1.1: Avoid, remedy and mitigate adverse effects of subdivision, use and development, including activities and structures, on the visual quality of outstanding natural features and landscapes, identified according to criteria in	Any residual impact on natural character will naturally rehabilitate on removal of the farm. The effects of this application are not unknown and are discussed elsewhere in the assessment of environmental effects. A precautionary approach is not justified. The farm is not sited over an area of significant ecological value. The application site is not within an area of outstanding landscape value identified in the current plan. The area was identified in the Boffa Miskell report as ONFL. There was no direction given in the plan that the marine farm should be removed for the area to be assessed as being an
	use and development Ch 6, 6.1.2, Obj 1: Recognition and	Appendix One. Policies 1.1-1.5	outstanding landscape. The marine farm is one of the original licences (now deemed consents) issued for marine farming in the Marlborough Sounds.
	provision for the relationship of Marlborough's Maori to their culture and traditions with their ancestral lands, waters, sites, waahi tapu and other taonga.		the Statutory Acknowledgments and has reviewed the statements of association for each iwi. No areas of conflict have been identified by the applicant. An initial letter has been sent to all Iwi identifying the site prior to the application being submitted
16 JUL MARLBOI			The applicant understands there are no known wahi tapu,
2015 ROUGH	Aquaculture Direct Limited -	Assessment of Environmental Effects	Page: 19

MARLBOROUGH MARLBOROUGH COUNCIL

Page: 20

W

RLBOROUGH

AUL 8

ED

j) Public health and safety;		
k) Recreation values; and		
I) Water quality.		
Policy 1.2: Adverse effects of subdivision, use or		The marine farm is within a bay well established for marine
development in the coastal environment should as		farming. There are no additional adverse effects on the
far as practicable be avoided. Where complete		coastal environment from this farm. The navigational lighting
avoidance is not practicable, the adverse effects		will be approved by the harbourmaster.
should be mitigated and provision made for	for for	
remedying those effects to the extent practicable.	le.	
Policy 1.3: Exclusive occupation of the coastal		Consistent with other marine farms in the Marlborough
marine area or occupation which effectively		Sounds, exclusive occupation of the consent area is not
excludes the public will only be allowed to the		sought, other than for the area physically occupied by the
extent reasonably necessary to carry out the activity.		oring devices.
Policy 1.6: Ensure recreational interests retain a	ain a Not applicable	
dominant status over commercial activities that	that	
require occupation of coastal space and which	which	
preclude recreational use in Queen Charlotte Sound,	onnd,	
including Tory Channel, but excluding Port and	and	
Marina Zones.		
Policy 1.7: Avoid adverse effects fro		Exclusive occupation of the consent area is not sought.
occupation of coastal space in or around recognised		
casual mooring areas.	The Cruising	The Cruising Guide identifies an anchorage in the bay and
	notes that the	notes that there is protection from sea conditions in winds
	from the sout	from the south but there is little protection from gusts. There
	is room for ve	is room for vessels to anchor in this bay to give protection
	from the southerly winds.	erly winds.
Policy 1.12: To enable a range of activities in		Policy 1.12 enables marine farming in appropriate places. Site
appropriate places in the waters of the Sounds		8258 is consented for marine farming, there are two further
including marine farming, tourism and recreation.		marine farms adjacent to the site and this area has been
	consented for	consented for marine farming since 1978.
	The southern	The southern boundary of the farm is located along the
	CMZ1/CMZ2 k	CMZ1/CMZ2 border zone line the CMZ2 location where the

RECEIVED

users and residents'

		farm is located is in a zone where aquaculture is permitted. Overall, the application is consistent with this policy.
	Policy 1.13: Enable the renewal as controlled activities of marine farms authorised by applications made prior to 1 August 1996 as controlled activities,	This farm is a discretionary activity enabled by this policy.
Ch 9, 9.3.2, Obj 1: Management of the effects of activities so that water quality in the coastal marine area is at a level which enables the gathering or cultivating of shellfish for human consumption (Class SG).	apart from exceptions in Appendix D2 in the Plan. Policies 1.1 to 1.11	This application is not anticipated to have any impact on shellfish quality.
Ch 9, 9.4.1, Obj 1:	Policy 1.1: Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities that disturb or alter the foreshore and/or seabed on any of the following: [criteria specified in Plan].	There will be no more than minor additional disturbances of the seabed. The owners of the farms in Laverique Bay have regular beach clean ups.
Ch 9, 9.4A.1, Obj 1:	n/a	These policies are no longer relevant due to abolition of AMAs through legislation.
Ch 19, 19.3, Obj 1: Safe, efficient and sustainably managed water transport systems in a manner that avoids, remedies and mitigates adverse effects.	Policy 1.1: Avoid, remedy or mitigate the adverse effects of activities and structures on navigation and safety, within the coastal marine area.	There have been no reported navigational incidences in the bay. There will no changes to the existing consent conditions regarding the navigational aids placed on the farm.
Ch 22, 22.3, Obj 1: To avoid, remedy and mitigate the adverse effects of unreasonable noise, while allowing for reasonable noise associated with port	Policy 1.1: Avoid, remedy and mitigate community disturbance, disruption or interference by noise within coastal, rural, and urban areas.	The farm is positioned approximately 3.3 kilometres away from the closest home in the area. The applicant's servicing vessel is estimated to spend approximately 60-65 hours per annum maintaining and harvesting the lines per year. The applicant complies with the 'Code of Practice to avoid, remedy or mitigate noise from marine farming activities in the Marlborough Sounds, Golden Bay and Tasman Bay on other

Aquaculture Direct Limited - Assessment of Environmental Effects

RECEIVED

16 JUL 2015

MARLBOROUGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL