

28 June 2016

ID: 1633

Marlborough District Council
PO Box 443
BLLENHEIM 7240

Attention: Lauren Kensington

Dear Lauren

Otanerau salmon farm: recommendation regarding benthic effects

It has been brought to my attention by New Zealand King Salmon Company Limited (NZKS) that Marlborough District Council has requested an additional recommendation for a potential management response to address the measured benthic effects at the Otanerau farm site managed by NZKS. Although some recommendations were included in the annual monitoring report for the site¹, a specific recommendation that New Zealand King Salmon Company Limited explore an appropriate management action to mitigate the measured benthic effects was not made. Therefore, this letter is to clarify that we recommend that: **an appropriate management action is explored to mitigate the measured benthic effects at the Otanerau farm site.**

For clarification, the current management actions to remove, remedy, or mitigate benthic effects related to salmon farming in the Marlborough Sounds include: (1) moving the existing farm structures within the consented structures area, (2) spreading feed inputs over more pens within the existing structures area, (3) reducing feed inputs, or (4) moving the existing structures to an alternative marine farm site and following the Otanerau site for an extended period. We are aware that NZKS has informed MDC that it intends to move the Otanerau farm site within the structures boundary to mitigate benthic effects.

¹ Elvines D, Taylor D, Newcombe E, Berthelsen A. 2016. Environmental Impacts of the Otanerau Bay Salmon Farm: Annual Monitoring 2015. Prepared for The New Zealand King Salmon Co. Ltd. Cawthron Report No. 2785. 21 p. plus appendices.

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Please contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Kind regards,

Scientist:



Dr David Taylor
Aquacultural Monitoring Team Leader
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Reviewed by:



Dr Grant Hopkins
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