

SOUTHLAND CONSERVATION BOARD

TE ROOPU ATAWHAI O MURIHIKU

Hearing Panel
Environmental Protection Authority

15 June 2026

Re: Hananui Aquaculture Project – Proposed Consent Conditions

The Southland Conservation Board has reviewed the updated proposed consent conditions and generally supports the amendments and refinements that have been made through the hearing process.

We acknowledge the significant work undertaken by the applicant, technical advisers, Department of Conservation and Environment Southland in responding to matters raised through Minute 4, section 53 comments, and subsequent technical feedback. In particular, we are supportive of the strengthened certification processes, clearer definitions, improved adaptive management framework, and the refinement of monitoring and management plans relating to marine mammals, seabirds, sharks, biosecurity, seabed and water column effects.

The Board notes positively the inclusion of:

- Clearer adaptive management and environmental monitoring provisions.
- Strengthened requirements for Marine Mammal, Seabird and Shark Management Plans.
- Improved recognition of threatened species and ecosystem function,
- Enhanced consultation and feedback processes involving DOC and Ngā Rūnanga ki Murihiku.
- Stronger operational and reporting requirements around entanglement risks, biosecurity and waste management, and
- Improved clarity around certification, review and implementation of management plans.

Overall, the Board considers that the revised conditions demonstrate a more robust and precautionary framework than earlier drafts and better reflect the sensitivities of the Rakiura/Stewart Island marine environment.

The Board generally concurs with the positions and technical comments provided by both DOC and Environment Southland and supports their continued involvement through certification, monitoring and review processes over the life of the consent.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'McRobie', followed by a comma.

Keith McRobie- Chairperson
Southland Conservation Board