



Apex Marine Farm Limited

Biosecurity Management Plan¹ June 2026 Version 1

This document will be reviewed annually to ensure it remains up to date against biosecurity legislation and best practice in New Zealand aquaculture.

Review Date	Person(s) Involved	Description of Changes / Review

¹ This biosecurity management plan has been prepared using the A+ Sustainable Management Framework Biosecurity template <https://www.aplusaquaculture.nz/biosecurity>

Table of Contents

1. Purpose	3
2. Background	4
2.1 Biosecurity Contacts	4
2.2 Roles.....	4
2.3 National Operational Zones	5
2.4 Biosecurity Management Areas.....	6
3. Relevant Operational Zones and Management Areas.....	7
3.1 The Top of the North	7
3.2 The Top of the South	7
4. A+ Sustainable Management Framework.....	9
5. Knowing the Risk	10
6. Managing Biosecurity Risk – Best Practice Outline	16
6.1 People and PPE	16
6.2 Inspections	16
6.3 Stock.....	17
6.4 Equipment.....	18
6.5 Vessels and Vehicles	19
6.6 Waste / Disposal	19
7. Managing Biosecurity Risk – Additional Controls for Flat Oyster Farming.....	20
7.1 Stock.....	21
7.2 Equipment.....	22
7.3 Vessels and Vehicles	22
7.4 Disease and Mortality	23
7.5 Record Keeping	23
8. Reporting Procedures for New Disease / Species Suspected	23
9. Training	24
9.1 Farm Manager or Biosecurity Representative:.....	24
9.2 General Staff:	25
9.3 Contractors:	25
10. Recording, Reporting, and Review	25
APPENDIX 1: Potential Pest Pathway Assessment.....	27
APPENDIX 2: Standard Operational Procedures Recording.....	28
APPENDIX 3: Flat Oyster Farming Operational Procedures and Recording.....	31
APPENDIX 4: Report Form for New Marine Pests and / or Diseases	35
APPENDIX 5: Biosecurity Event Contingency Plan	36
APPENDIX 6: Sampling Kit and Process	37
APPENDIX 7: Reporting Suspected Aquatic Disease How to Guide	38

1. Purpose

The [A+ Biosecurity Standards](#) guide the development of Biosecurity Management Plans (BMPs), provide a national approach to marine biosecurity, and identify high risk pathways and potential controls for those risks.

The purpose of this BMP is for Apex Marine Farms Limited (Apex) to comply with the A+ Biosecurity Standards and in doing so, minimise the risk to our growing environment and our businesses from introducing and spreading disease, unwanted marine organisms, or pest species. This BMP also addresses the requirements of the National Environmental Standard for Marine Aquaculture (NESMA) 2020, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Fisheries Act 1996, and any consent requirements under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).

Aquaculture New Zealand (AQNZ), who coordinate the A+ Sustainable Management Framework, joined the Government Industry Agreement (GIA) for Biosecurity in 2019. Readiness and response activities relevant to aquaculture are managed under the GIA. AQNZ are committed to having all members working under a BMP by the end of 2024, as required under the A+ programme Biosecurity Standards and Sustainable Management Frameworks.

The A+ Biosecurity Standards are reviewed every two years to ensure that industry continues to align with best practice.

This BMP applies across the Apex farm operations and includes additional provisions for flat oyster farming operations should Apex receive permission under the Biosecurity Act to carry out such operations at its farms in Tory Channel, in the Marlborough Sounds.

For the farm sites covered by this plan, the resource consent condition(s) relating to biosecurity management is /are:

Farm Number	Consent Number	Location	
8114	U920333, MPE058, U120380	Forsyth Bay, Pelorus Sound	N/A
8328	U160041	Mary's Bay, Inner Pelorus Sound	N/A
8382	U120681	Nikau Bay, Pelorus Sound	N/A
8406	U220675	Kawhia Bay, Tory Channel	N/A
8411	U220657	Oyster Bay, Tory Channel	N/A
8412	U220655	Oyster Bay, Tory Channel	N/A
8413	U250028	Oyster Bay, Tory Channel	N/A
8414	U250029	Oyster Bay, Tory Channel	N/A
8427	U220428	Tongue Bay, Port Underwood	N/A
8429	U220443	Gorse Bay, Port Underwood	N/A
8432	U120642	Whangakoko Bay, Port Underwood	N/A
8433	U120642	Whangakoko Bay, Port Underwood	N/A

8641	Fast-track Consent Application	Onapua Bay, Tory Channel	Conditions 18 to 21
8648	Onapua Bay, Tory Channel	Onapua Bay, Tory Channel	Conditions 18 to 21
8649	Onapua Bay, Tory Channel	Onapua Bay, Tory Channel	Conditions 18 to 21

2. Background

Marine farmers recognise they have a role in the management of biosecurity risks. Biosecurity management is an essential part of the day-to-day operations on a marine farm. Apex will always strive in all respects to minimise the biosecurity risk arising from introductions and/or spread of unwanted pests and notifiable organisms (including pests and pathogens) arising from the Apex marine farming operations.

However, it is also recognised that the control of biosecurity risks is a shared responsibility of all marine stakeholders including the marine farmer, other commercial operators, recreational boat owners, other marine farmers, local authorities (councils), Iwi and Government (Ministry for Primary Industries - Biosecurity New Zealand (MPI)).

**It is the policy of Apex that all operational farm staff must comply
with this Biosecurity Management Plan.**

2.1 Biosecurity Contacts

Below are some of the key contacts relating to aquaculture biosecurity management.

Contact	Name	Details
MPI / Biosecurity New Zealand Pest and Disease Hotline	Marine Incursion Investigator	0800 80 99 66
Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Manager	Liam Falconer	03 520 7400
AQNZ Technical Director (Biosecurity)	Caroline Gilbertson	██████████
MPI Online Tool for Reporting Suspected Pests		https://report.mpi.govt.nz/pest/
Marine Pest ID website		marinepests.nz/marine-pest-id
Farm Manager	Nick Hearn	██████████

2.2 Roles

In terms of this Biosecurity Management Plan, the following have key roles:

- **Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI):** The Biosecurity Act 1993 is implemented by Fisheries New Zealand. This Act requires that any suspected unwanted organisms, and all significant diseases and abnormal/high mortality rates to be reported to the MPI Hotline 0800 80 99 66.
- **Regional Councils:** Councils are responsible for the implementation of the Biosecurity Act 1993 (through biosecurity plans) and the Resource Management Act 1991 (through resource consents and plans).
- **Aquaculture New Zealand (AQNZ):** AQNZ has a national role that acknowledges the importance of reducing risks and keeping industry players informed. In this context, the A+ Sustainable Management Framework and Industry Biosecurity Standards are key methods for delivery.

Additional Resources to Manage Biosecurity Risk:

AQNZ has prepared additional information on biosecurity management and marine farmers have access to this information and to advice on improving procedures over time:

<http://www.aplusaquaculture.nz/biosecurity>

2.3 National Operational Zones

Operational Zones (Figure 1) were formed by the New Zealand aquaculture industry to ensure a national approach to marine biosecurity risk under the A+ Biosecurity Standards. Operational Zones where marine farming currently occurs include: Top of the North, Top of the South, Canterbury, and Lower South.

Operational Zones are generally aligned with biosecurity partnership areas identified by regional councils. The Top of the North Biosecurity Partnership covers Northland, Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regional Councils and aligns with the Top of the North Operational Zone. The Top of the South Operational Zone roughly aligns with the Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership, which includes Tasman District Council, Nelson City Council and Marlborough District Council.

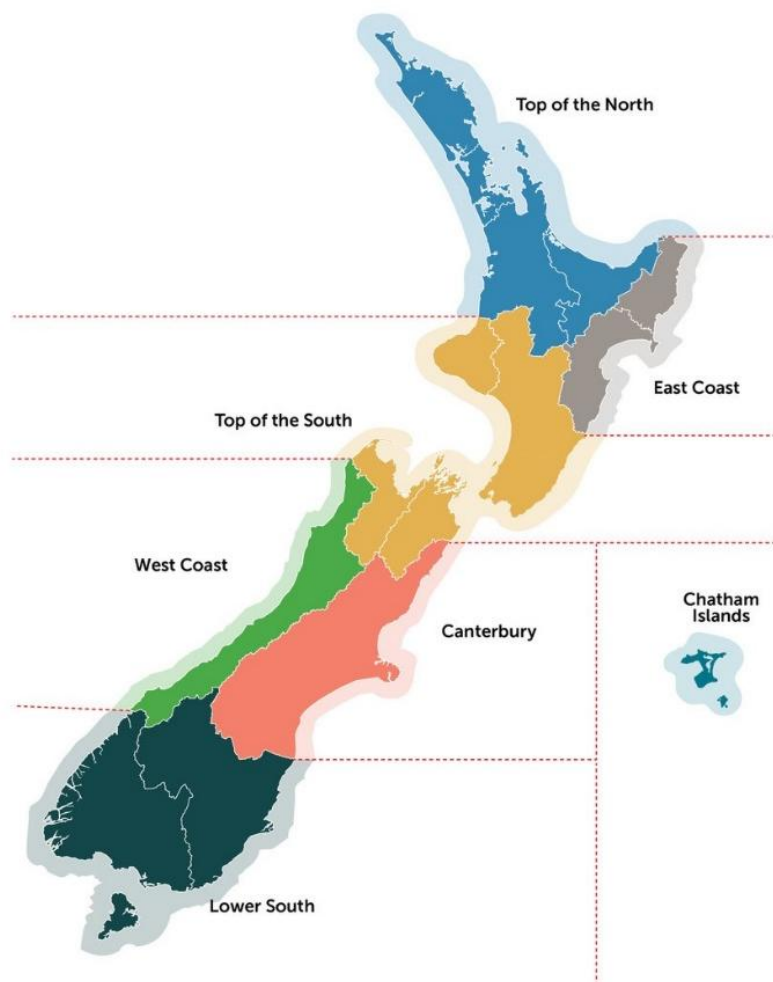


Figure 1 New Zealand Aquaculture Industry Operational Zones

2.4 Biosecurity Management Areas

Within each Operational Zone, **Biosecurity Management Areas** are identified to distinguish those areas that warrant or require additional biosecurity measures.

Management Areas are identified based on the following criteria:

- (1) Industry agreement (e.g., under a Management Area Agreement);
- (2) Regional and national statutory biosecurity requirements (e.g., Controlled Area Notices, Regional Pest Management Plans, which may include policies and rules related to the management and control of marine biosecurity risks);
- (3) Differing 'biosecurity status' (e.g., presence/absence of specific unwanted organisms);
- (4) Higher risk of introduction and spread of unwanted organisms (e.g., presence of an international port or point of entry marina, international large vessel anchoring site, or known higher risk area (e.g., Great Barrier Island).

3. Relevant Operational Zones and Management Areas

Apex will primarily be operating within the Nelson/Tasman, Marlborough and Waikawa Marina Management Areas in the Top of the South Operational Zone. Spat/seed may be transferred from the Top of the North Operational Zone.

Operation will be within the Upper South Contained Zone for the purposes of the Bonamia CAN.

Two flat oyster farming management areas – the Oyster Bay Management Area (Oyster Bay) and the Onapua Bay Management Area (Onapua Bay) will be established prior to any flat oyster farming operations being carried out at those sites.

This BMP will be updated prior to any changes in operation or if any changes occur to the status of the relevant operational zones and management areas.

3.1 The Top of the North

The Top of the North Operational Zone (TNOZ) boundaries include all space within and northward of the Waikato and Bay of Plenty Regions (Figure 2). The main GSM growing areas within the TNOZ are Coromandel, Auckland, and Bay of Plenty.

Within the TNOZ, the following applicable special **Management Areas** (Refer Figure 2) have been identified and have additional biosecurity requirements applied to them:

Waikato Region:

- **Aotea Harbour:** This area is a critical spat collecting area and does not currently have some of the pest species present in other parts of the Waikato region.

Northland Region¹

- Northland Regional Council has identified Management Areas (called marine designated areas) in their Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) and each of these areas has different marine pest profiles.
- **Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē (Ninety Mile Beach)** is a nationally significant spat collecting area.
- **Whangape Harbour:** This area is a critical spat collecting area in Northland and does not currently have some of the pest species present in other parts of the Northland region.

3.2 The Top of the South

The Top of the South Operational Zone (TSOZ) boundaries are from the NW boundary of Southland to Northern of Taranaki regional boundary over to the NE Manawatu – Wanganui regional boundary and down to the SE Marlborough boundary at Clarence). The main GSM growing areas within the TSOZ are Golden and Tasman Bays and the Marlborough Sounds (including Port Underwood).

TSOZ Management Areas:

Within the TSOZ, the following applicable **Management Areas** (Figure 3) have been identified and have additional biosecurity requirements applied to them:

Nelson / Tasman Region:

- **Wainui:** This area is a critical spat collecting area and does not currently have some of the pest species present in other parts of the Operational Zone.

¹<https://www.nrc.govt.nz/environment/weed-and-pest-control/marine-biosecurity/marine-pest-and-pathway-rules-for-northland/>

- **Tarakohe Harbour:** This harbour has pest species under ongoing management that are not present in other parts of TSOZ (e.g., Sabella).
- **Port Nelson and Nelson Marina:** This harbour and marina has pest species under ongoing management that are not present in other parts of TSOZ.

Marlborough:

- **Pelorus Sound - Admiralty Bay:** is considered a higher-risk area for exotic marine pests as it has a large vessel anchoring site (this area is a candidate for additional surveillance)
- **Queen Charlotte Sound - Waikawa Marina:** This marina has pest species under ongoing management that are not present in other parts of TSOZ (e.g. Sabella).
- **Bonamia CAN in place** – a movement permit must be attained from MPI- BNZ for all shellfish not going to processing for human consumption out of the 'Upper South Contained Zone'. For more details see: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/59776-Controlled-Area-Notice-Bonamia-ostreae-B2023-2-2023>

The **Upper South Contained Zone** has the following control measures under the Bonamia CAN:

Movement of shellfish, including waste:

- (1) Flat oysters, Pacific oysters, Green-lipped mussels, or Geoducks must not be moved out of the Upper South Contained Zone for the purpose of commercial processing unless a permit is obtained prior to the movement.
- (2) Shellfish collected inside the Upper South Contained Zone must not be returned to the marine environment outside the Upper South Contained Zone.
- (3) Waste from shellfish collected inside the Upper South Contained Zone must not be discharged into the marine environment outside of the Upper South Contained Zone.

Movement of equipment:

- (4) Equipment (including marine farm equipment) must not be moved out of the Upper South Contained Zone unless it is visibly free of fouling.

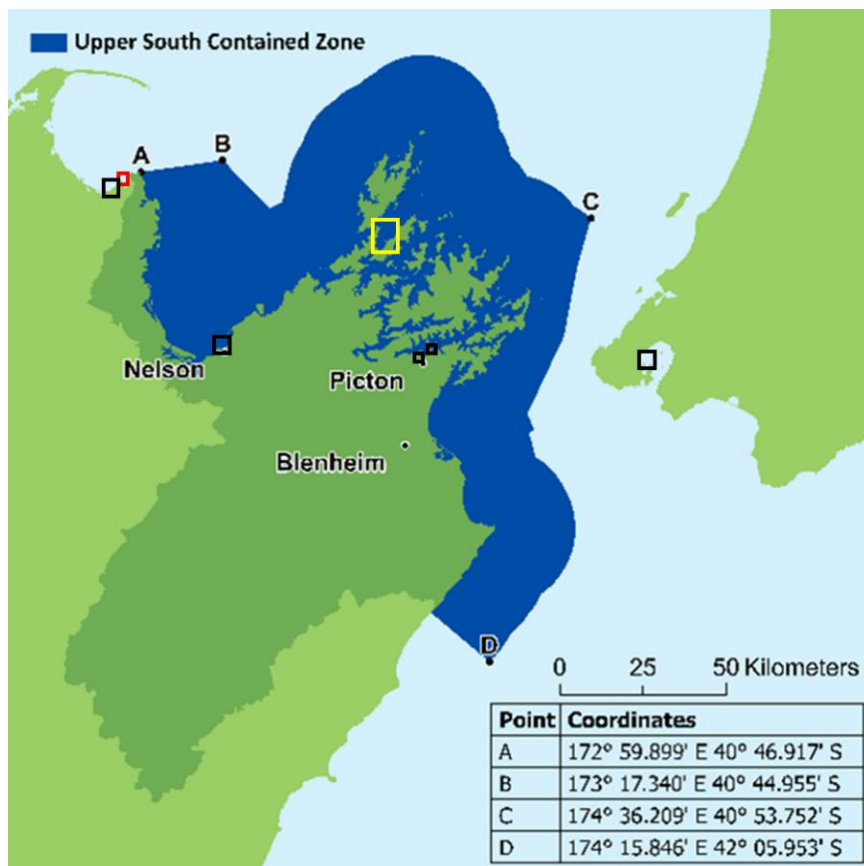


Figure 2 TSOZ Management Areas: Orange - Bonamia CAN 'Contained Zone', Black – high risk harbours and marinas, Red – Wainui Bay Industry Management Area, Yellow – large vessel anchoring – additional surveillance

4. A+ Sustainable Management Framework

Aquaculture farmers are encouraged to participate in the Aquaculture New Zealand's A+ Environment Programme. A+ is an improvement programme that provides New Zealand aquaculture farmers with the practical tools to demonstrate transparency around their environmental performance with annual checklists that are completed by the producer.

The objectives of A+ align with those of world leading accredited certification programmes - such as Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC) and Best Aquaculture Practice (BAP). This association further substantiates the importance we place on our role as responsible guardians of our place and people.

The A+ Sustainable Management Framework (SMF) formalises a cycle of annual reporting and review for continuous improvement and provides a great platform for the community and industry to engage on their sustainability aspirations.

The purpose of the SMF is to promote the sustainable management of aquaculture in New Zealand by providing guidance for best environmental and social practice for the industry. More information can be found on the [A+ website](#).

Biosecurity in A+

Biosecurity is a key section of the A+ Sustainable Management Framework. AQNZ, through an industry working group process, has developed the A+ Greenshell Mussel Biosecurity Standards and this

Biosecurity Management Plan is designed to comply with these industry standards. The standards can be found on the [A+ website](#).

5. Knowing the Risk

5.1 Shellfish Diseases

The following shellfish diseases are notifiable under the Biosecurity Act¹.

Names	Image	Additional Information
<i>Perkinsus olseni</i> (shellfish parasite)		Notifiable disease. Confirmed in paua, mussels, scallops and other shellfish
<i>Bonamia ostreae</i> (oyster parasite)		Nelson, Marlborough Controlled Area Notice in place – stock movement permits required. Equipment can be moved out of the CAN area if it is visibly free of fouling. Subject to additional controls under this BMP.

5.2 Biosecurity Risk Species

The following biosecurity risk species have been identified as High Risk Organisms in the Top of the South Incident Response Manual².

¹ <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/6403-Biosecurity-Notifiable-Organisms-Order-2016>

² <https://www.marinebiosecurity.co.nz/images/manuals/TOS-Incident-Response-Manual-October-2025.pdf>

5.3 Further Information on Notifiable Organisms

Under the Biosecurity Act 1993 there is a general duty to inform MPI of notifiable organisms as well as organisms “not normally seen in New Zealand”. Also, if an Unwanted Organism is suspected there are duties not to permit the spread of that organism (without permissions).

Further information is available using these links:

- The [National Biosecurity \(Notifiable Organisms\) Order 2016](#)
- Additional MPI information regarding [unwanted pests and notifiable organisms](#)
- Booklet published by MPI: [New Zealand Marine Pest ID Guide](#)
- Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership [Incident Response Manual](#)

5.4 Pathways

Biosecurity risk management practices are designed to control possible pathways for the introduction and spread of pathogens and pests.

Pathways are defined as “*routes of introduction and spread of unwanted organisms, including pathogens and pests, into and out of farm sites*”. Managing pathways minimises the likelihood of introducing or spreading unwanted organisms.

- Early detection is key in pest and pathogen management – the best time to control any marine pest or pathogen is on arrival.
- Marine farms can provide habitats for the settlement, growth and spread of marine pests and pathogens. As well as having a direct impact on the specific farming operation, marine pests and pathogens can be introduced and spread to other farms and the wider aquatic environment.
- Once a pest or pathogen is established, control becomes more difficult and expensive. Therefore, knowing the higher risk pathways (e.g. moving equipment between Management areas or Operational Zones) for the introduction and spread of pests and pathogens is extremely relevant.
- Higher Risk Pathways are identified in **Appendix 1**.



Figure 3 Pathway management principles

6. Managing Biosecurity Risk – Best Practice Outline

This section sets out the specific controls that will be used to manage biosecurity risks associated with the Apex marine farm operations. Additional controls relating to farming of flat oysters are set out in Section 7.

If staff observe a new pest or unusual signs of disease or unexpected mortality >20% at any farm, the disease or mortality event must be investigated to determine causation.

Farm staff must contact the Top of the South Biosecurity Coordinator or AQNZ, who will:

- Contact the MPI Hotline 0800 80 99 66 and
- If necessary, coordinate sampling and
- Notify all relevant farming groups, biosecurity groups, and local farmers

For new pests see Appendix 4.

The Contingency Plan in Appendix 5 must be activated.

6.1 People and PPE

People and their PPE (e.g., gumboots, overalls) can transfer pests and diseases onto the farm. The biosecurity risks associated with people and their PPE will be controlled by:

Farm Staff	• Staff entering a farm will not wear protective clothing (PPE) worn in another Operational Zone without either laundering them or, in the case of PPE, it will be washed down, and disinfectant solution will be applied.
Visitors and Contractors	• Visitors and contractors will receive a briefing regarding the biosecurity requirements under this plan prior to entering facilities and farm sites. • A record of visitors and contractors will be kept, including: ○ Name and contact details ○ Confirmation that they have been made aware of and comply with the requirements of this BMP ○ A record of whether they have visited a high-risk aquaculture facility in the last 72 hours (e.g., hatchery, processing facility, wild habitat where the farmed species exist). • All visitor and contractor PPE used or worn outside the Operational Zone or that is considered high risk, will be washed down (ideally with fresh water), and disinfectant solution will be applied.

6.2 Inspections

It is important to remain vigilant for new/ unwanted marine species:

- Farm structures shall be inspected at least monthly (when practicable and safe to do so) when spat and/or growing ropes are in the water for marine pests. Records of the inspections shall be kept.
- Farm personnel will be familiar with, remain vigilant for, and report unusual organisms and those that exhibit unusual patterns of population growth. Every vessel will have a copy of the [Biosecurity New Zealand Marine Pest ID Guide](#) on board at all times and all farm staff will be trained in identifying unwanted pests.

6.3 Stock	
It is important to remain vigilant for visual signs of disease (e.g., unusual lesions) and elevated mortality in farmed stock as early detection is the best hope for successful management.	
Stock Health (i.e., spat, seed, adults)	Stock health management requirements: • Staff will visually inspect a sample of stock and assess general health status (e.g., gaping and presence of visible lesions) every 3 months (quarterly) and prior to transfer to a growing site and/or prior to harvest. • No stock that are visibly unhealthy will be reseeded onto lines. • Visibly unhealthy stock will not be moved from the farm until the cause of disease has been identified. • Refer Appendices 2 & 3 for actions / records to be kept.
Stock Transfers	Stock transfers are a known pathway for the transfer of pests and diseases. The biosecurity risks associated with stock transfers will be controlled by: <u>General Rules for Stock Transfer</u> • Traceability records are to be kept in accordance with Appendix 2 • Spat, seed or adult stock that are visibly unhealthy <i>will not</i> be transferred to or from any farm or facility. • If there is a biotoxin harvest closure notice applied to an area, stock <i>will not</i> be moved outside this area, unless written agreement has otherwise been approved by the Biosecurity Co-ordinator. • Stress on spat, seed or stock will be minimised by keeping them cool and moist during transport. • No spat, seed or stock will be transferred from any other Management Area or Operational Zone that is known to contain a notifiable disease or pest, and which is not already present in the destination Management Area or Operational Zone, unless a movement permit has been provided by MPI (e.g., Bonamia Controlled Area Notice – movement permit). • Any stock to be transferred between Operational Zones will be stripped from the rope, de-clumped, cleaned of obvious fouling, and visually checked for signs of disease/notifiable organisms at origin before bagging (prior to transporting). • No seawater will be sprayed onto bags of stock when they are moving through ports / harbours/ or marinas known to contain notifiable organisms (e.g., Sabella). <u>Stock Movement between Management Areas</u> If moving stock between Management Areas or Operational Zones, the farmer will check the biosecurity status and meet the stock movement requirements of those Zones/ Management Areas prior to any transfer of stock. TNOZ Management Areas • Any transfer of stock to or from Management Areas in the TNOZ will be undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements of the relevant regional councils, and in accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 (e.g. Hauraki Controlled Area Notice 2020, Exotic Caulerpa Controlled Area Notice 2022, Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan) TSOZ Management Areas • Any transfer of stock to or from Management Areas in the TSOZ will be undertaken in accordance with the statutory requirements of the relevant regional councils, and in

	accordance with the Biosecurity Act 1993 (e.g. a movement permit must be applied for if moving stock out of the ‘Contained Zone’ under the Bonamia – Controlled Area Notice) • Only GLM 9 spat (visually in good condition) will be transferred into the Wainui Bay Management Area • No seawater will be sprayed onto bags of stock when they are moving through port, harbour or marina Management Areas.
--	--

6.4 Equipment	
Used marine equipment is a known pathway for the transfer of pests and diseases.	
Sample Kit	• The Farm Manager will have access to a sample kit to collect any new species detected or potentially diseased stock, for testing. (Refer Appendix 6)
Marine Equipment All Areas	To control the risks associated with: Ropes: • Farmed shellfish and attached fouling will be removed from ropes at time of harvest, as much as practicable and discharged within the marine farm boundary • Ropes will be cleaned of all obvious fouling ‘conditioned’ and inspected for pests when they are removed from the water. • All waste from ‘conditioning’ to be collected and disposed of to landfill. • All ropes will be stored and dried for a minimum of 28 days before re-using in any other Management Area. Floats: • All floats (including niche areas) will be regularly cleaned of obvious fouling at sea to prevent biofouling accumulating on floats. Floats brought onto land will be further cleaned (if needed). • All waste from cleaning at the yard is to be collected and disposed of to landfill. Backbone lines: • Backbone lines will be checked every 6 months for any notifiable organisms. Other equipment (e.g., dive gear): • All other equipment (including dive gear) will be washed and decontaminated after use and/or prior to being moved to a new site.
Marine Equipment Other Management Areas/ Operational Zones	• No ropes or floats from outside the Operational Zone are to be re-used unless they have firstly been decontaminated, in accordance with the A+ Biosecurity Standards. • If moving equipment between Management Areas or Operational Zones the farmer will check the biosecurity status and meet the requirements for those Zones/ Management Areas prior to any transfer of equipment (e.g. Bonamia Controlled Area Notice movement controls in place for equipment; Bay of Plenty Regional Pest Management Plan does not allow the transfer of used marine farm equipment into the region).
Marine Equipment	North Island west coast spat sites (e.g., Aotea Harbour, Ahipara Eastern Coromandel, and Wainui industry specified Management Areas • Used ropes, floats and bags in these industry Management Areas must be: a) Used solely in each of these Management Areas; OR

Industry Management Areas	b) Thoroughly cleaned and stored in bulk bags on land for at least 12 weeks before being transferred into these Management Areas; OR c) Decontaminated in accordance with the A+ Biosecurity Standards.
---------------------------	---

6.5 Vessels and Vehicles	
Vessels	Vessel hulls and decks can carry marine pests and diseases. Vessels associated with the day-to-day operations of the farm area should be properly maintained to prevent the growth of biofouling or the accumulation of sediment or debris. The risks associated with vessel movements will be controlled by: • Biofouling on the hulls of farm vessels will be kept at no more than a slime layer and barnacles. • In-water cleaning will only occur where the vessel only works in one Management Area. • In-water cleaning will not occur if a vessel has travelled between Management Areas or Operational Zones. • Niche areas will be checked every 12 months including: keel bottom, hull fittings, and thruster cavities. • Bilge water and / or water in the strum box and associated pipework will be pumped out once the vessel has left the farm area and is in open water, if travelling between Management Areas or Operational Zones. • Trailered marine farming vessels and equipment will be washed with freshwater and all water drained from bilges on land • Contractor vessels will be required to show evidence that they comply with the above controls.
Harvesting / Grading Equipment etc on the Vessel	Harvesting / grading equipment can transfer pests and diseases. The risks associated with the transfer of harvesting / grading equipment will be controlled by: • Sediment and biofouling debris will be cleaned from vessel decks and any equipment on the vessel before entering any other Management Area. • Contractors will be required to comply with the above controls.
Vehicles	Vehicles that carry stock and equipment can transfer pests and diseases. The risks associated with the transfer of vehicles will be controlled by: • Any vehicle/ trailer that has been used in other Management Areas or Operational Zones and which has potentially been in contact with aquatic pests, will be cleaned with freshwater and detergent between each transport event, and ideally before accessing wharf areas for reloading.

6.6 Waste / Disposal	
Waste Management (e.g., wastewater, solid waste, and biological waste / dead	Waste can transfer pests and diseases. The risks associated with the transfer of waste will be controlled by: • Small quantities (< 5 kg) of biological material that could pose a biosecurity risk will be disposed of in landfill. • If more than 5 kg of dead or moribund stock will be disposed of, the stock will be contained in secure mort-bins with sealed covers or sealed bulk bags with plastic liners for transport to processing or disposal facilities.

/ moribund stock)	• Biological material (including dead or culled stock) will not be directed to bait or burley manufacture unless Apex knows that the requirement to inactivate any pathogens and pests can be achieved (e.g., sterilisation by heat treatment, chlorination, etc). • For large scale mortality events refer also to the Contingency Plan: Appendix 5
-------------------	--

7. Managing Biosecurity Risk – Additional Controls for Flat Oyster Farming

This section sets out the additional controls that will be used to manage the risk of *Bonamia ostreae* associated with any flat oyster farming operation undertaken by Apex. If flat oyster farming is carried out it will be undertaken at one or more of sites 8411, 8412, 8413, and 8414 at Oyster Bay and 8641, 8648 and 8449 at Onapua Bay. Flat oyster farming may be carried out in conjunction with Greenshell mussel or seaweed farming at these sites.

These controls are in addition to, and do not replace, the general controls set out in Section 6.

The additional controls in this section are directed at the main pathways by which *Bonamia ostreae* may be amplified or spread from a flat oyster farming operation, including stock movements, age class mixing, high stocking density, handling stress, movement of contaminated equipment, and disposal of shellfish waste and dead stock.

The additional controls in this section must be carried out in conjunction with, not as a replacement for, any Biosecurity Act controls including those under the Bonamia Controlled Area Notice (CAN) and/or any permit issued under the Biosecurity Act.

If *Bonamia ostrea* is suspected or detected in any oyster farmed at any Apex site in Oyster Bay or Onapua Bay farm staff must:

- **Contact the MPI Hotline 0800 80 99 66 and**
- **If necessary, coordinate sampling and**
- **Notify all relevant farming groups, biosecurity groups, and local farmers**

The Contingency Plan in Appendix 5 must be activated.

The principles under which Apex will carry out flat oyster farming to manage the risk of the *Bonamia ostrea* are as follows:

- Infection with Bonamia does not necessarily equate with mortality
- Separation of flat oyster year classes between Oyster Bay and Onapua Bay
- Farming flat oysters in suspended culture to avoid contact with any bottom dwelling wild oysters
- Maintaining a low stocking density of flat oysters
- Minimising handling and stress of flat oysters
- Maximum flat oyster production cycle of 28 months to avoid the higher risk period once flat oysters have matured¹

¹ In seasons where low growth has occurred this production cycle may be varied by agreement with MPI on the results of an agreed sampling programme

- Regular removing of fouling and replacing all oyster farming gear at the end of every 28 month cycle
- Fallowing or resting of sites or structures where practicable
- Use of structured surveillance and rapid removal or standstill responses if flat oyster disease concern arises.

7.1 Stock	
<i>Bonamia ostreae</i> risk in flat oyster farming is driven particularly by host density, age structure, handling stress, and movement of stock between sites or cohorts. The additional risks associated with flat oyster stock will be controlled by:	
Year Class Separation	• Year 1 and Year 2 flat oyster stock will be held separately at all times, with Year 1 oysters only held in the Oyster Bay Zone and Year 2 oysters only held in the Onapua Bay Zone and vice versa except that some broodstock will need to be retained for the minimum time possible to enable spat catching.
Traceability	• Each flat oyster cohort will be assigned a unique cohort identity at introduction, spat catch, or first deployment. • Flat oyster records will be kept for source, date, age / year class, culture method, farm area (Oyster Bay or Onapua Bay), current site (farm and farm line(s)), and all subsequent movements, in accordance with Appendix 3. • No flat oyster stock will be moved where cohort identity or movement history cannot be clearly verified.
Low Density Farming	• Flat oysters will be grown at deliberately low densities. • Apex will set maximum stocking levels for each culture method used for flat oysters, including trays, ropes, baskets, or other approved structures. • Stock will be thinned, re-spaced, redistributed, or harvested early where crowding, poor water exchange, excess fouling retention, or declining condition is observed. • No husbandry practice will be adopted that materially increases flat oyster biomass concentration where that would be inconsistent with a low-density <i>Bonamia</i> management approach.
Production Cycle	• Flat oyster stock will not be retained beyond a total growing cycle of 28 months. • Where a cohort has been harvested, removed, or destocked from a farmed site, Apex will clean warps to remove any fouling and/or oysters, and clean backbones, subsurface droppers, and bridles to ensure year class separation. • Floats will be rotated during the production cycle so that fouling and any settled oysters are desiccated.
Handling Stress	• Flat oysters will not be subjected to unnecessary grading, repeated transfer, prolonged air exposure, or avoidable crowding. • During husbandry and harvest, oysters will be protected from unnecessary heat and sun exposure and deck time will be kept as short as practicable. • Weak, moribund, or abnormal oysters will not be mixed back into apparently healthy stock.
Stock Health Reviews	• In addition to the Section 6 stock health requirements, a formal monthly health review will be completed for each active flat oyster cohort.

	- The monthly review will record cohort ID, age / year class, area, site, estimated quantity, observed mortality, signs of weakness or abnormal condition, recent handling, density status, and whether any <i>Bonamia</i> response trigger has been reached. - A specific pre-movement review will be completed before transfer between sites, before major grading or thinning, and before harvesting significant quantities of stock.
Stock Movement Controls	- No flat oyster stock will be moved unless the movement is lawful under the <i>Bonamia</i> CAN and any permit requirement. - No flat oyster stock will be moved from any cohort or site subject to unexplained mortality, suspected disease, pending diagnostic results, or standstill direction. - No flat oyster stock will be moved where the transfer would compromise year class separation or create loss of traceability.
Surveillance / Testing	- In addition to the general surveillance expectations in Section 6, Apex will maintain a flat-oyster-specific surveillance programme for <i>Bonamia ostreae</i>. - Representative farmed cohorts will be sampled and tested six monthly, or more frequently if required by MPI, permit conditions, or an unusual mortality event under this section. - Where agreed with MPI or otherwise required, surveillance of nearby wild flat oysters, or other agreed indicator shellfish, will also be supported if any can be found. - Where any disease is suspected MPI will be notified immediately.
7.2 Equipment	
Equipment used in flat oyster farming is a potential anthropogenic pathway for the spread of <i>Bonamia ostreae</i> . The additional risks associated with flat oyster equipment will be controlled by:	
Dedicated Oyster Equipment	- Where practicable, Apex will maintain dedicated flat oyster only equipment for each active site or cohort, including trays, baskets, ropes, clips, bins, hand tools, and other contact equipment. - Where dedicated equipment is not practicable, equipment will not be reused between flat oyster cohorts or sites until it has been washed and decontaminated. - Where practicable, flat oyster bins and temporary holding containers will be clearly identified to the relevant site or cohort. - At the completion of every 28 month cycle, Apex will clean all warps, thoroughly clean all backbones, subsurface droppers and bridles, and rotate floats to allow desiccation of any fouling and wild oysters present.
Transfer of Equipment	No flat oyster equipment will be transferred out of the Upper South Contained Zone except in compliance with the <i>Bonamia</i> CAN and after meeting all applicable cleaning and fouling requirements.
7.3 Vessels and Vehicles	
Vessels, harvesting / grading systems, and vehicles used in flat oyster farming can transfer infective material, shell residue, morts, mud, and contaminated water between sites. The additional risks will be controlled by:	
Vessels	Bins, decks, grading surfaces, lifting points, tables, and other areas that have contacted flat oyster stock, shell, morts, mud, or fouling will be cleaned down prior to moving between Management Areas (Oyster Bay, Onapua Bay and Waikawa Marina) and/or to other areas in the TSON Operational Zone .

	No vessels that have undertaken flat oyster activities will be transferred out of the Upper South Contained Zone except in compliance with the <i>Bonamia</i> CAN and after meeting all applicable cleaning and fouling requirements.
Vehicles	- Vehicles and trailers used to transport flat oyster stock, shell, morts, or used equipment will use secure and leak-proof containment - Vehicles and trailers used for these purposes will be cleaned after unloading and before use for other shellfish or aquaculture operations.
7.4 Disease and Mortality	
Mortality events, morts, culled oysters, shell, and associated biological waste from flat oyster farming present a heightened <i>Bonamia</i> pathway risk. The additional risks associated with waste will be controlled by:	
Disease or Mortality	- All dead, dying, weak, culled, or damaged flat oysters, and all associated shell or biological material, will be treated as high-risk material. - Such material will be collected promptly, securely contained, and removed for approved disposal. - Flat oyster morts, shell waste, or associated biological material will not be returned to the marine environment, used for bait or burley, or handled in any way that could allow uncontrolled re-entry to the water.
Unusual Mortality Events	- Any unusual mortality event (5% or more within 7 days, 10% or more within 30 days and/or a clear upward mortality trend) will be assessed for diagnostic sampling before disposal proceeds, unless MPI directs otherwise. - If unusual mortality is observed, the affected cohort or site will be placed under movement standstill pending further assessment. - If unusual mortality is observed the affected cohort will be isolated as far as practicable and dedicated gear, bins, and where practicable staff and PPE will be used until the issue is resolved. - Any sampling, disposal, destruction, or decontamination requirements directed by MPI will be followed
7.5 Record Keeping	
Additional Records	Apex will maintain a dedicated flat oyster farming record system which tracks records of cohort identity, year class, area, site allocation and fallowing, health reviews, pre-movement reviews, surveillance and laboratory results, mortalities, and stock disposal.

8. Reporting Procedures for New Disease / Species Suspected

Apex will follow the How to Guide for reporting suspected pests and diseases on marine farms established by Biosecurity New Zealand and Aquaculture New Zealand¹ and included in **Appendix 7**.

In particular:

¹ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xHsPAdKzUL1V6yck2Ym-saxuUT2WytLg/view>

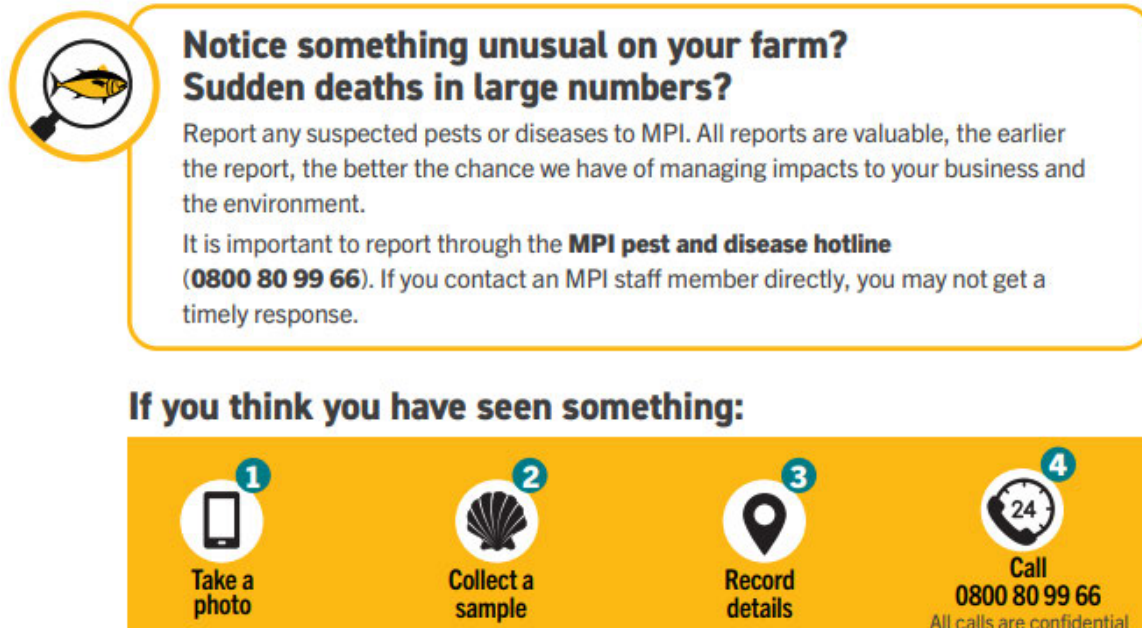


Figure 5 How to guide for reporting

9. Training

Staff training¹ is required for managers, general staff, and contractors involved in the operation of the farm.

9.1 Farm Manager or Biosecurity Representative:

The Farm Manager and/or other staff member that is responsible for making biosecurity decisions will receive biosecurity training that will include:

- A review of the A+ Industry Biosecurity Standards and this BMP.
- A review of the biosecurity status of other industry Operational Zones.
- The importance of maintaining visitor and stock records for traceability purposes during a biosecurity event.
- The process for applying for MPI Movement Permits as required by any Controlled Area Notices
- Identification of normal healthy stock – appearance and behaviour.
- Identification of unhealthy stock – signs of abnormal health and abnormal behaviours.
- The appearance of unwanted marine pests, how to use the sample kit to sample unknown pest/diseased organisms, who to contact and where to send samples.
- The importance of regular inspection and surveillance for marine pests and shellfish diseases to the industry, environment and for market access.
- Environmental parameters to measure and record (DO, water temperature, phytoplankton), and why they are important if a stock health issue is suspected.

¹ NB: this training can be provided by AQNZ, or Apex may source this training from another provider.

- How biosecurity is regulated in New Zealand (Biosecurity Act 1993) and their role in the Government-Industry Agreement on Biosecurity (that the marine farming industry is a signatory to).

9.2 General Staff:

- All farm staff will be given training within a month of starting and annually refresh knowledge of:
 - Basic biosecurity requirements of the A+ Biosecurity Standards and expectations for Biosecurity Management as detailed in this plan.
 - Basic biosecurity training regarding the appearance of, effects of, and reporting mechanisms for unusual pests and signs of diseases.
- All farm will:
 - Have access to an on-vessel copy of: New Zealand Marine Pest ID Guide and any additional Management Area and/or Operational Zone information (e.g., Bonamia - Controlled Area Notice).
 - Have on-board practical training for signs of 'unhealthy stock' (e.g., lesions / gaping).
 - Know what to do if they observe specific unwanted pests or specific signs of disease.
 - Have knowledge of the contingency plan (i.e., steps to be taken in an extreme event or potential biosecurity event).

Evidence of staff biosecurity training will be recorded by the Farm Manager in their register and will be available on request. [A+ Programme Training Register](#) templates can be used.

9.3 Contractors:

- All contractors involved in the on-farm aspects of the activity will be briefed on and must agree to comply with:
 - The biosecurity requirements of the A+ Biosecurity Standards and Apex's expectations for Biosecurity Management as detailed in this plan.

Further Background Information:

[A+ Biosecurity Standards](#)

[Aquaculture Biosecurity Handbook \(MPI/AQNZ 2016\)](#)

10. Recording, Reporting, and Review

The expectations around biosecurity data recording and reporting, and the reviewing of the BMP, are listed below. All staff will be made **aware of the recording and reporting requirements associated with their roles.**

- The Farm Manager will review this Biosecurity Plan annually to ensure the most up-to-date management practices identified by AQNZ, government, or the regional environmental group are in place.

- **Appendix 2** sets out the recording required for standard operational procedures.
- **Appendix 3** sets out the additional recording required for flat oyster farming.
- The information in **Appendix 4** must be recorded when:
 - A potential new species is suspected, or
 - When an unwanted organism (as per the MPI Pest ID handbook) is suspected in a new area, or
 - When a potential disease event is observed.
- **If a new unwanted organism is found or a notifiable biosecurity event occurs**, Apex will notify MPI and submit a report to MPI, **within one week**, covering all matters in **Appendices 2, 3 and 4**. MPI are the lead agency.

Apex will also inform:

- The local Council Marine Biosecurity contact (see 2.1 Biosecurity Contacts and Appendix 4) and
 - AQNZ (info@aquaculture.org.nz)
- The BMP shall be reviewed and updated, if appropriate, by an independent suitably qualified and experienced person(s):
 - Every 3 years; or
 - Within 2 months of a new unwanted organism being suspected on the farms.

APPENDIX 1: Potential Pest Pathway Assessment

NB: Procedures for managing these potential pathways are set out in sections 5 – 8 above.

Higher Risk Pathways for your Farm(s) (i.e., what are the potential ways pests/ disease will enter your farm through your operations)		
Risk Pathway (Examples)	Think About	Answers specific to your farm operations and potential control measures
Vessels travelling between Management Areas	Do you commonly use your vessels between Management Areas?	Yes, Apex operates a vessel from its berth in the Waikawa Marina which is an identified Management Area as it has pest species under ongoing management that are not present in other parts of TSOZ (e.g. Sabella). The vessel cleaning controls set out in Section 6.5 and 7.3 are considered sufficient to manage risk.
Vessels traveling between Operational Zones	Do you commonly move your vessels between Operational Zones?	No, Apex does not operate its vessels outside of the Top of the South Operational Zone.
Stock transfers (particularly between other Management Areas or Operational Zones)	Where do you commonly transfer stock to and from? What is the pest and disease status of those sites?	Apex sources mussel spat from Te Oneroa a Tohe (90 Mile Beach) in the Top of the North Operational Zone. This is an identified Management Area as it is a nationally important spat resource. The stock management controls set out in Section 6.3 are considered sufficient to manage risk. Apex uses their farm 8406 at Kawhia Bay to hold primary mussel seed. Stock is transferred from here to other farming sites within the Top of the South Operational Zone for growout. Apex sources flat oyster stock by catching wild spat in Oyster Bay which is a defined epidemiological unit. In the autumn 2023 surveillance report ¹ (Survey 21) last surveillance report sampling tested negative.
Equipment transfers	Do you commonly move farm equipment between Management Areas or between Operational Zones?	No, farm equipment is stored at 201 Maine Road, Tuamarina which is within the Top of the South Operational Zone and not within a specified Management Area. The farm equipment controls set out in Sections 6.4 and 7.2 are considered sufficient to manage risk.
People	Identify commonly used contractors. Do they move between Management areas or Operational Zones?	Apex undertakes the majority of farm operations. Apex contracts Sanford to undertake floating and farm inspections at sites 8114, 8328 and 8382 and harvesting at site 8114 in the Pelorus Sound.

¹ <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/60013-Report-on-the-Bonamia-ostreae-Autumn-2023-Surveillance>

Any other pathways for pests/diseases?		There are no other known pathways other than the general movement of the public and other commercial operators within the Top of the South Operational Zone.
--	--	--

APPENDIX 2: Standard Operational Procedures Recording

	REQUIRED RECORDS
STOCK HEALTH	
All Stock (Quarterly and at harvest)	Date: Farm Site: Growth stage: Health of Stock assessed:
Unhealthy Stock	Fill in Appendix 3 Check if Appendix 4 needs to be activated.
STOCK TRANSFER	
Source / Destination of Stock	Source: Place and company MPI Movement Permit Number (where required): Destination: Place and company Date Stock health checked (prior to transfer): Cleaning / decontamination procedures undertaken prior to any transfer?: (NB: not applicable to spat ropes) Date placed in water at destination farm site:
Stock Amount and Transfer Method	Method of transfer (e.g., in bags, or on growing ropes): Quantity of stock sent / received:

	Size / life stage of stock:
Staff	Person responsible at source: Contact info: Person responsible at destination: Contact info:
Notifiable Organism suspected	Fill in Appendix 3 Check if Appendix 4 needs to be activated.
EQUIPMENT	
Decontamination (i.e., disinfection procedures over and above usual practices)	Date: Reason: Decontamination process:
Used Equipment being taken into or out of a Management Area	Date: Reason for transfer: Origin / destination of transfer: Decontamination process:
Used Equipment Transferred into or out of an Operational Zone	Date: Reason for transfer: Origin / destination of transfer: Decontamination process:

VESSELS	
Travelling Between Management Areas or Operational Zones	Date(s): Route taken: Destination: Cleaning undertaken prior/ during/ after trip:
Hull Cleaned (in water/ on land)	Date Completed: Next due date:
Anti-fouling Applied	Date Completed: Next planned due date (unless biofouling is greater than a slime layer and barnacles):
STAFF TRAINING	
Induction / Refresher Course	Date Done: Subjects Covered: Next due:
Frequency of Staff Training	How often and how do you do refresher training? e.g., monthly at staff meetings? Daily on vessel??
Farm Manager / Biosecurity Manager Review of this Biosecurity Management Plan	Date Done: Next due:

APPENDIX 3: Flat Oyster Farming Operational Procedures and Recording

1.0 Introduction

This appendix is to be read with Sections 6 and 7, Appendix 4, and Appendix 5. If there is any inconsistency, the more specific requirement in Section 7 or any direction from MPI applies.

The key matters to be recorded for flat oyster farming operations are:

- Cohort identity and year class;
- The site (farm and farm line(s) where each cohort is held;
- Whether stock is healthy and suitable to move;
- Any unusual mortality, disease concern, or testing result;
- Movement of stock between sites or to harvest;
- Movement and cleaning of higher-risk equipment or vessels where those are moved between flat oyster sites or between flat oyster farms and other Apex farms;
- Disposal of dead stock or other high-risk shellfish waste.

2.0 Standard operations and required records

2.1 Stock health

A stock health record must be completed:

- Monthly for each active flat oyster cohort;
- Before any inter-site movement;
- Before harvest; and
- Whenever unusual mortality, poor condition, or disease concern is observed.

Any recent major husbandry activity that may be relevant to stock condition or mortality, such as intensive grading, thinning, or transfer, should be noted in the comments or action field.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Area	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay
Site	Farm and farm line(s)
Cohort ID	
Year class	Year 1 / Year 2
Approximate stock quantity or biomass	
Stock condition	Good / fair / poor
Unusual signs observed	Gaping / weakness / lesions / other / none
Mortality since last check	Nil / low / elevated / estimated % if known
Trigger level reached?	Yes / No
Fit to move / harvest?	Yes / No
Checked by	
Action required / comments	Nil / sample / isolate / notify / other

2.2 Stock movement

A stock movement record must be completed for any movement of flat oyster stock between sites, to harvest, or to disposal.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Cohort ID	
Year class	Year 1 / Year 2
Quantity moved	
Source area and site	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay and farm and farm line(s)
Destination area and site / processor / disposal destination	
Purpose of movement	Transfer / harvest / disposal / other
Stock health checked before movement?	Yes / No
Any abnormal mortality or disease concern?	Yes / No
MPI permit required?	Yes / No
Permit number if required	
Authorised by	

2.3 Cohort location and separation

A simple register must be kept showing where each cohort is held and confirming that Year 1 and Year 2 stock remain separate.

Cohort ID	Year class	Area (Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay)	Site (farm, farm line(s))	Date placed	Date removed	Notes

2.4 Unusual mortality or disease event

A separate event record must be completed where there is unusual mortality, a disease concern, a suspect or positive test result, or a movement standstill.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Area	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay
Site	Farm and farm line(s)
Cohort ID	
Event type	Elevated mortality / disease concern / suspect result / positive result / other
Estimated mortality	
What was observed	
Immediate action taken	Isolate / stop movement / sample / notify / dispose / other
MPI / AQNZ / Farm Manager notified?	Yes / No
Reference number if applicable	
Outcome / follow-up required	

2.5 Surveillance and testing

A testing record must be kept for the six-monthly surveillance programme and any additional sampling undertaken following a trigger event.

Record item	Details to record
Date sampled	
Area	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay
Site	Farm and farm line(s)
Cohort ID or sample reference	
Reason for sampling	Routine / trigger event / confirmatory
Number sampled	
Laboratory / agency	
Result	Negative / suspect / inconclusive / positive
Action required	

2.6 Higher-risk equipment movement and cleaning

A record is only required where equipment used for flat oysters is moved:

- between Oyster Bay and Onapua Bay;
- between a flat oyster operation and another aquaculture operation; or
- out of the Upper South Contained Zone where lawful.

Routine use of equipment within the same flat oyster site does not need a separate movement form unless there is a disease event.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Equipment type	Trays / baskets / ropes / bins / grading gear / dive gear / other
From	
To	
Reason for movement	
Visibly clean and free of fouling?	Yes / No
Cleaned / decontaminated before movement?	Yes / No
Completed by	

2.7 Vessel and vehicle movement and cleaning

A record is only required where a vessel, grading system, trailer, or vehicle used in flat oyster work is subsequently used at another site, another management area, or for another aquaculture activity.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Vessel / vehicle / trailer ID	
Sites used for flat oyster work	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay and farm and farm line(s)
Next site / next use	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay and farm and farm line(s)
Deck / bins / contact surfaces cleaned?	Yes / No

Visible shell, mud, fouling and residue removed?	Yes / No
Bilge / washdown managed appropriately?	Yes / No / N/A
Completed by	

2.8 Morts and shellfish waste disposal

A disposal record must be completed for dead stock, culls, shell residue, or other high-risk shellfish waste removed from a flat oyster site.

Record item	Details to record
Date	
Area	Oyster Bay / Onapua Bay
Site	Farm and farm line(s)
Cohort ID if applicable	
Waste type	Morts / culls / shell residue / other
Approximate quantity	
Disposal destination	Landfill / approved facility / other approved destination
Contained for transport?	Yes / No
Completed by	

3.0 Minimum recordkeeping rules

The following minimum rules apply:

- One stock health record per cohort per month
- One movement record for each stock movement
- One event record for each unusual mortality or disease concern
- One testing record for each surveillance or diagnostic sampling event
- One equipment or vessel cleaning record only when the item is moved beyond routine within-site use; and
- One disposal record for each load or disposal event involving morts or high-risk waste.

APPENDIX 4: Report Form for New Marine Pests and / or Diseases

MPI and Marlborough District Council need to be informed immediately if a new pest or disease is suspected in a Management Area or Operational Zone where it has not previously been observed. The following must be recorded in as much detail as possible about any incidents and actions taken.

NB: if unexplained mortality >20% / line, this must be investigated further – contact your Biosecurity Co-ordinator

Marine Pest / Disease Incident Report	
Date When Disease / Pest was Noticed	
Action Happening at the Time	
Skipper of Vessel & Farm Location	Skipper: Farm:
What was Observed	
Affected Line / Farm / Vessel / Stock	
Notification	
Action Taken	

APPENDIX 5: Biosecurity Event Contingency Plan

If a potential biosecurity event is identified (e.g., new notifiable pathogen/ pest incursion), the following actions must be taken:

Biosecurity Event is Identified	• CEASE HARVEST AND MOVEMENTS of EQUIPMENT, AND STOCK, AND <u>FOLLOW ACTIONS BELOW</u> • Vessel to return to port, no movement of vessel into a different Management Area
Reporting / Communications	• Contact the Farm Manager Nick Hearn Ph: [REDACTED] • Farm Manager must contact the Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Manager 03 520 7400 and the MPI Pest and Disease Hotline: 0800 80 99 66 or https://report.mpi.govt.nz/pest/ • Farm Manager should also contact AQNZ. • Stay Informed – take all practical steps to keep up to date on the unfolding event.
Disposal of Diseased / Moribund Stock	• If directed by MPI to dispose of spat, seed, or stock: contain all high-risk shellfish and associated material using non-permeable plastic liners in transport containers. • Safely dispose of any high-risk material at landfill. Use designated transport company and landfill.
Decontamination	• <i>When this contingency plan is in action</i>, MPI may require that all equipment transferred from the site is to be decontaminated. • Follow the decontamination directions from MPI.
Investigation	• MPI will take the lead in any further investigations required. • Follow all directions issued.
Key Contacts	• Farm Manager: Nick Hearn [REDACTED] • Marlborough District Council Biosecurity Manager: Liam Falconer 03 520 7400 • AQNZ Technical Director: Caroline Gilbertson [REDACTED] • MPI Pest and Disease Hotline: 0800 80 99 66
Contact for Emergency Disposal of Stock	• Truck Company/ Bio-waste services: Name: Apex Marine Farm Limited Nissan Tip Truck Registration OY209
Contacts: Top of the South Marine Biosecurity Partnership	• 03 520 7400

APPENDIX 6: Sampling Kit and Process

Your Biosecurity Sampling Kit

- 1 x A plastic container or similar containing:
- 10 x each of small, medium, and large Ziplock bags
- 3 x sharpie waterproof marker pens
- 3 x pencils
- 30 x [waterproof paper labels](#)
- 1 x scale bar / ruler
- 1 x [MPI pest ID guide](#)

Sampling Protocol

1. Get out your Biosecurity Sampling Kit
2. Take a sample and note the location (e.g., drop a pin in Google maps - note LAT, LONG)
3. Take a photo with something for scale (e.g., a ruler or coin)
4. Write a label on waterproof paper (date, location, name of collector) and put it in a Ziplock bag with the sample
5. Also Label the outside of the Ziplock bag (with date, location, name of collector)
6. Refrigerate sample as soon as possible
7. Notify your company Biosecurity person / or the Biosecurity coordinator for your Operational Zone (see you Biosecurity Management Plan for details)
8. Get them to notify the relevant Biosecurity person at your Regional Council and follow their instructions regarding refrigeration / freezing and shipping of sample.
9. Get them to contact the MPI Pest Hotline (0800 80 99 66).

NB: Under the Biosecurity Act 1993, every person has a general duty to inform of the presence of any notifiable organism. Every person also has a duty to report what they think could be a notifiable organism. Legal penalties apply should you release, cause to be released, or otherwise spread a pest or unwanted organism.

APPENDIX 7: Reporting Suspected Aquatic Disease How to Guide