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ECOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT & REPORTING SERVICES

CODE OF CONDUCT STATEMENT

TO	Rebecca Clarkson; Aquaculture Direct Limited	PROJECT	REL174582 – Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture Project
FROM	Dr Ben Robertson; Robertson Environmental Ltd	DATE	14 September 2026
CC	Emma Cornhill, Quentin Davies; Gascoigne Wicks Lawyers		
SUBJECT	Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses		

Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses

Marlborough Sounds Aquaculture Project (Fast-track Approvals Act 2024)

Under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024, the Marlborough Aquaculture consortium of operators is applying to establish six new marine farm sites in the Marlborough Sounds (the application).

As a consulting coastal and marine ecologist I have prepared the following documents for the application:

- the Coastal Ecological Impact Assessment for the six proposed sites, dated 1 September 2026;
- the Coastal Benthic Habitat Characterisation technical memorandum for the proposed Papatua marine farm, Te Anamāhanga / Port Gore, dated 30 June 2026;
- the Coastal Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Richmond Bay marine farms (2025);
- the Coastal Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed extension to marine farm 8164, Guards Bay (November 2024); and
- the Coastal Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed Aquaculture Management Areas, Okuri Bay (August 2022).

I confirm that the content of each of these documents is based on my qualifications and experience and is within my area of expertise, and that I am not aware of any material facts that might alter or detract from the findings in them. Where a document relies on the evidence or opinions of others, that reliance is acknowledged in the document. While the application is not before the Environment Court, I have read and agree to comply with the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court Practice Note 2023, and I have done so in preparing these documents.

Robertson Environmental Limited

Statement made by:



Dr Ben Robertson

Principal Consultant Ecologist & Director