A+ Environmental Checklist 2019



For the period 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019

	GENERAL	
	Person(s) completing checklist	
	Number of hectares farmed	
	Volume of pacific oysters (dozens) harvested (calendar year) - excluding spat farm / hatchery production	
1	COMPLIANCE	
1.1	Have there been any changes to any of your resource consents?	Evidence for desktop review View resource consent and review changes
		Evidence for site visit Discuss changes during site visit and view evidence of compliance with amendments
		Optional evidenceCommunication with councilAnnual compliance report
1.2	Have you registered all the farms you operate on the Government Fish Farmer Register (Fishserve)?	Evidence for desktop review Confirm with FishServe records (from 2020)
1.3	Do you provide copies of the A+ Oyster Farmer On-Water Guide on your vessels (if appropriate) for staff to refer to?	Evidence for desktop review Staff training records Evidence for site visit Confirm guides are on vessels during site visit Interview staff to confirm awareness
1.4	How many council abatement notice(s) have you received relating to your farms?	Evidence for desktop review View council abatement notice(s)
1.5	How many non-compliance notices have you received from Maritime New Zealand?	Evidence for desktop review View non-compliance notices from Maritime New

Zealand

Evidence for site visit

strategies to avoid further notices

Evidence of corrective actions and management

1.6 How many non-compliance notices have you Evidence for desktop review received from Worksafe? View non-compliance notices from WorkSafe New Zealand Evidence for site visit Evidence of corrective actions and management strategies to avoid further notices 1.7 Have you been issued with any Evidence for desktop review harbourmaster infringement notices? Check infringement notice(s) Evidence for site visit · Check infringement notices Communication with relevant authorities • Discuss contravening activing and preventative measures undertaken by farm 1.8 Are you certified to any other environmental Evidence for desktop review programmes or standards? e.g. Best View certificate and check expiry Aquaculture Practices (BAP), Aquaculture Evidence for site visit Stewardship Council (ASC), International Standards Organisation (ISO), organics, Discuss non-conformance report others? Optional evidence Full audit report Please describe the programme(s) Evidence for desktop review View certificate and check expiry

2 ECOLOGY

Biodiversity

2.1 Do you have sensitive habitats near any of your farms?

Evidence for desktop review

Review resource consent – Map indicating the location of any sensitive habitats, within 100m of farm boundary

Evidence for site visit

- Map indicating the location of sensitive habitats, within 100m of the farm boundary
- Staff awareness regarding sensitive habitats and management actions
- EIA or what is expected in NZ regarding the biodiversity assessment prior to establishing a farm
- Resource consent
- Mitigation strategies to minimise impact/s

Optional evidence

Internal environmental management systems which assist in protecting sensitive habitats but not required by law

2.2 Do you have any reports relating to the Biodiversity section?

Biosecurity

2.3	Do you wash and/or visually inspect stock (spat/seed/oysters) prior to transferring between regions and/or require that it has been washed/inspected when receiving it?	 Evidence for desktop review View records of stock hygiene practices (visual inspection and washing prior to transfer) Evidence for site visit Discuss records of stock hygiene practices (visual inspection and washing prior to transfer) Staff training in spat transfer and receival View controlled area notice if applicable Shellfish movement control permit if applicable Optional evidence Standard operation procedures
2.4	Do you carry a copy of the MPI 'New Zealand's Marine Pest Identification Guide' on your vessels?	Evidence for desktop review Confirmation of guide on vessel Evidence for site visit • Witness guide on vessel(s) • Staff ability to use guide to successfully identify pests (interview) • Training records Optional evidence In-house training tools such as PowerPoint presentation and questionnaire
2.5	Have farm staff been trained in biosecurity awareness and/or management?	Evidence for desktop review View staff training records Evidence for site visit Training materials Interview staff to confirm awareness Optional evidence In-house training tools such as PowerPoint presentation and questionnaire
2.6	Do you keep records of receipt and transfer of stock?	Evidence for desktop review View annual records of stock source and transfer. Records to include date/kg/location Evidence for site visit View annual records of stock source and transfer. Records to include date/kg/location Optional evidence Standard operating procedures
2.7	Do you maintain harvesting records for your farms?	Evidence for desktop review Inventory database – annual harvest records Evidence for site visit Inventory database Data collection forms Optional evidence Farm management software if used e.g. AquaManager.

2.8	Do you minimise transfer of equipment between regions?	 Evidence for desktop review View procedures that address biosecurity risks of equipment transfer i.e. wash/dry prior Cleaning and sanitation records for equipment (prior to transfer)
2.0		 Evidence for site visit Biosecurity Plan Standard operating procedures Cleaning and sanitation records Staff training Antifouling records
2.9	Have you identified any notifiable pests or diseases or unusual mortality on your farms?	 Evidence for desktop review Notifiable disease or pest reports Mortality records Mortality report to MPI (date / % loss) Evidence for site visit Confirm that staff understand process for notifiable disease or pest by way of interview during site verification assessment View mortality records View pathology reports Optional evidence Shellfish / Fish Health Surveillance Program. Survival Improvement Plan
2.10	Are any of your farms covered by a Biosecurity Management Plan?	Evidence for desktop review Confirm Biosecurity Management Plan covers hygiene practices and disease management Evidence for site visit View Biosecurity Management Plan Optional evidence Staff training
	Wildlife	
2.11	Have you provided awareness training to farm staff with regards to reducing the impact on wildlife including marine mammals and birds?	Evidence for desktop review Staff training records Evidence for site visit Staff training records Wildlife awareness training tools Optional evidence Wildlife Interaction Plan
2.12	Do all marine vessels associated with your farms have a DOC sticker visible to the skipper about how to approach marine mammals?	Evidence for site visit Observe DoC sticker on vessels Discuss with skipper and staff

2.13	Were any injury or mortality incidents recorded relating to your farms for wildlife such as birds or marine mammals?	Evidence for desktop review View wildlife mortality records Evidence for site visit Wildlife interaction and mortality records Wildlife incident reporting to DoC
	How many bird mortality incidents did you record?	Evidence for desktop reviewView annual incident recordsView DoC reports
		Evidence for site visit Review historical records – look for improvement
		Optional evidence Strategies to reduce bird interactions mortalities
	How many mammal mortality incidents did you record?	Evidence for desktop reviewView annual incident recordsView DoC reports
		Evidence for site visit Review historical records – look for improvement
		Optional evidence Strategies to reduce mammal interactions and mortalities
2.14	Were they reported to DOC?	
 2.15	Do your boat transits avoid travelling within 100m from breeding colonies of threatened wildlife such as King shags?	 Evidence for desktop review Staff awareness training Company policy Evidence for site visit Staff training Company policy
		Optional evidence Wildlife Interaction Plan
2.16	Are any of your farms covered by a Wildlife Management Plan?	Evidence for desktop review Wildlife Interaction Plan
	Benthic Effects	
2.17	For any of your farms, has a benthic survey been undertaken by a suitably qualified science provider?	Evidence for desktop review View benthic survey report(s)
		Evidence for site visit Benthic survey report(s)
		Optional evidence Actions taken to manage benthic issues

2.18	Do you monitor changes to the benthos under your farms visually?	Evidence for desktop review Note names of farms surveyed	
		 Evidence for site visit View ROV report or similar 	
		Confirm names on dashboard	
2.19		Evidence for desktop review	
	implemented to minimise organic matter being discharged to the benthic	 Request evidence - ask staff if they are aware of requirements 	
	environment? e.g. oyster drop off, crushed	 Maintenance/cleaning records (farm structures) 	
	oysters, over settled species.	Inspection records	
		Evidence for site visit	
		 View records of farm stocking density (oysters/m³) 	
		Staff training records	
		Standard operating proceduresInspection records	
		Biofouling Management Plan	
		Optional evidence	
		 Non-target species reduction plan 	
		Benthic Management Plan	
	Ecosystem Services		
2.20	Have you participated in any programmes or	Evidence for desktop review	
	taken any initiatives to restore ecosystems?	Record of participation	
	(e.g. pest management programmes)	Evidence for site visit	
		Ecosystem restoration program documentation – agreements	
		Optional evidence	
		Ecosystem Services Strategy and training	
2.21	Ecology Research - Please outline any new	Evidence for desktop review	
	ideas for research or innovation relating to	View documents provided	
	this ecology section that you have to share such as initiatives to protect wildlife, new	Evidence for site visit	
	biosecurity practices or alternative uses for	Discuss during assessment	
	non-target fouling species		
3	WATER QUALITY		
	Discharges		
3.1	Has training been provided to staff to reduce	Evidence for desktop review	
	vessel and farm discharges e.g. greywater?	 Staff training records 	
		 View consent conditions for compliance of greywater discharge m³ 	
3.2	Do you have an annual monitoring report	Evidence for desktop review	
	that includes analysis of water column	View monitoring report and water column surveys	
	surveys?	Evidence for site visit	

Evidence for site visit

Discuss monitoring report

Pollution

3.3	How many pollution or spill incidents have you recorded?	 Evidence for desktop review View records of pollution incidents and corrective actions Location map of storage
		 Evidence for site visit Oil/chemical spill kits observed on site Standard operating procedures – e.g. refuelling Waste collection procedures View chemical and fuel storage on site
		 Optional evidence Incident Register Chemical manifest Materials Storage Handling and Waste Disposal plan Initiatives to reduce pollution – biodegradable compounds and new management practices
3.4	Do you have Material Safety Data sheets (MSDS) on file in the event of an emergency?	Evidence for desktop review View MSDS records Evidence for site visit View MSDS records and check expiry dates
3.5	Do you have a spill response plan? e.g. for fuel, chemicals or oil	Evidence for desktop review View Spill/Emergency Response Plan
		Evidence for site visitStaff training on spill responseEmergency response plan
		Optional evidence Waste collection procedures
3.6	Is vessel antifouling carried out according to best practice?	Evidence for desktop reviewView Standard Operating ProceduresAntifoulant register and records of use
		 Evidence for site visit View storage and manifest during site visit Biofouling Management Plan and/or record book Invoices/receipts for coating type Understanding of Guidelines for the control and management of ships' biofouling to minimize the transfer of invasive aquatic species
		Optional evidence Chemical manifest

3.7 Are farms and/or vessels undertaking work Evidence for desktop review on your farms compliant in terms of Maritime Transport Operator Plan - including hazardous substances? cartage of hazardous substances Evidence for site visit · Interview Health and Safety Representative if applicable Staff training in chemmical handling • SDS • Observe appropriate storage Optional evidence Materials Storage Handling and Waste Disposal plan 3.8 Are you certified to an appropriate level Evidence for desktop review under any Maritime New Zealand safety • Current Maritime Transport Operator Certificate management system e.g. Maritime Operator • MTO Plan Safety System (MOSS)? Evidence for site visit • Current Maritime Transport Operator Certificate MTO Plan Hydrology 3.9 Do you follow best practices to maintain Evidence for desktop review water flow through your farm(s)? • Hydrology assessment - EIA · Regular biofouling removal Evidence for site visit Standard operating procedures 3.10 Water Quality Research - Please outline Evidence for desktop review any new ideas for research or innovation View documents provided relating to this water quality section that you Evidence for site visit have to share such as initiatives to reduce pollution in the aquatic environment Discuss during assessment

4 WASTE

Waste Audit

4.1 Do you record the amount of waste (in tonnes and/or m³) taken to landfill annually?

Evidence for desktop review

View waste database. Note volume – m³

Optional evidence

- · Waste collection template
- Evidence of downward trend or stable

- 4.2 Do you have a plan detailing appropriate storage and disposal of organic (over settlement) and non-organic (e.g. ropes, lashings and floats) waste (as landed over the wharf)? e.g. shells used in vineyard.
- Evidence for desktop review
- Staff training records
- Waste Storage and Disposal Plan
- · Standard operating procedures and forms
- Site layout map detailing disposal and storage area

Evidence for site visit

- Interview staff to see if they are aware of their responsibilities
- Training tools
- Waste
- Standard operating procedures and forms
- Storage and Disposal Plan

Optional evidence

- Materials Storage Handling and Waste Disposal plan
- MfE Solid Waste Analysis Protocol

Farming Debris

4.3 Have staff been trained in best practice measures to eliminate farm debris?

Evidence for desktop review

- · Staff training records
- · Training tools
- Focus of training

Evidence for site visit

- Staff interview to confirm awareness
- Training tools
- Standard operating procedures e.g. on-water guide
- Evidence of applying A+ Oyster Farmers Best Practice Management
- Discuss efficacy of measure with staff during site visit
- Evidence based improvements

Optional evidence

- Marine Operations Waste Management Plan
- Evidence based improvements.
- **4.4** Please describe the measures you focus your training on
- **4.5** Are you an active participant in a local industry environmental programme?

Evidence for desktop review

Documentation of involvement in Industry Environmental Programme if applicable

Evidence for site visit

Discuss programmes

4.6 How many (formal or informal) Evidence for desktop review environmental clean-up events have you View number of events participated in? Evidence for site visit • Marine debris beach clean-up forms - type of waste/volume e.g. recreational, domestic and industry • Discuss marine debris clean-up at site visit Volume and type recorded Do you keep a record of the volume and type Evidence for desktop review of debris collected? View records 4.7 How many complaints have you received Evidence for desktop review either directly from the community or via a • View complaints register local marine farming association about farm • Mitigation - complaints register corrective action/s debris? and preventative measure/s Evidence for site visit Complaints policy Stakeholder engagement · Interview stakeholder Optional evidence Community consultation forum/process **Recycling & Reduction** 4.8 Do you record the amount of recyclable Evidence for desktop review material e.g. pegs, racks, baskets etc? • View inventory of pegs, racks, baskets etc · Records of pegs, racks, baskets etc recycled Evidence for site visit View forms used to records information or company database Standard operating procedures • Maintenance records Optional evidence Marine Operations Waste Management Plan 4.9 Please describe how any of your waste Evidence for desktop review minimisation efforts have led to a reduction · View historical records of waste management of waste Operational initiatives leading to waste reduction (e.g. reduction in biofouling and therefore organic/inorganic waste reduction) **Zero Waste** 4.10 Are you working towards a Zero Waste Evidence for desktop review Policy? View Zero Waste Policy or Plan Evidence for site visit Staff training Supporting documents to evidence plan or policy is adhered to Optional evidence Familiar with SBC Zero Waste Guide

4.11 Waste Research - Please outline any new ideas for research or innovation relating to this waste section that you have to share such as initiatives to reduce/reuse/recycle waste or work with the community on marine debris issues

Evidence for desktop review

- View supporting documents
- · Research applications/grants

Evidence for site visit

Discuss during site visit - evidence of success

5 RESOURCES

Farm Structures

5.1 Do you keep records of your maintenance and inspection activities?

Evidence for desktop review

- View farm maintenance records
- Inspection checklist frequency

Evidence for site visit

- View hard copies of forms regarding maintenance and daily/weekly inspections
- Staff training competency with standard operating procedures
- · Training tools

Optional evidence

Engineers report upon establishment of farm

5.2 How many complaints have you received relating to maintenance or integrity of farm structures?

Evidence for desktop review

Complaints records

Evidence for site visit

- · Complaints records
- Incident register

Optional evidence

Post-storm checklist

Please describe the complaint(s) and any initiatives you undertook as a result

Evidence for desktop review

Complaints/incident register including corrective action

Evidence for site visit

Complaints/incident register including corrective action

5.3 Do you have a management/contingency plan in the event of damage to, or loss of, your farm structures? Evidence for desktop review

View plan - Staff training records

Evidence for site visit

- Staff training in managing loss of farm infrastructure
- Staff awareness of reporting process
- Discuss plan and documents to support the plan is there evidence the plan is working

Energy

5.4 Do you record the amount of fuel used across your farming operation annually?

Evidence for desktop review

- View energy expenditure records
- Petrol and Diesel used per MT of production.

Evidence for site visit

Discuss records during site visit

Optional evidence

- Scope 1 and 2 GHG report
- Advanced would be an LCA (which includes Scope 3 indirect emissions)
- **5.5** Do your work planning processes take into account energy efficiency?

Evidence for desktop review

View company energy efficiency strategy

Evidence for site visit

Discuss energy efficiency strategy

Optional evidence

Life cycle assessment

5.6 Resources Research - Please outline any new ideas for research or innovation relating to this resources section that you have to share such initiatives to maintain structures or reduce energy use. Evidence for desktop review

- View supporting documents
- Research applications/grants

Evidence for site visit

- · Staff awareness and training in energy efficiency
- Ecosystem restoration management/action plan

Optional evidence

Waste Reduction Action Plan

6 FOOD SAFETY AND ANIMAL HEALTH

Food Safety

6.1 Have all harvesting and farming staff received training in food safety and harvesting requirements? Evidence for desktop review

- · View staff training records
- Animal Products Risk Management Programmes
- Hygiene policy

Evidence for site visit

- Training tools
- Animal Products RMP if present
- Standard operating procedures
- · Staff interview to confirm awareness of food safety

Optional evidence

- Part 11 Harvesting BMS and Part 17 Health of Personnel BMSRCS on site
- Quality Management Plan
- 6.2 Do you have a Harvest Food Safety Plan, or evidence that staff have been trained in such?

6.3	Are you a current member/operator of a delivery centre programme operating under the Bivalve Molluscan Shellfish Regulated	Evidence for desktop review View operator registration under the BMSRCS - AP43/45/47
	Control Scheme (BMSRCS)?	Evidence for site visit Risk Management Plan
		Optional evidence Shellfish Sanitation Programme Risk Management Plans
6.4	Have all reporting and record keeping requirements been met for the BMSRCS?	Evidence for desktop review Review SQAPDC to ensure growing area classification, testing, surveys, inspections, reporting requirements are met under the BMSRCS Evidence for site visit View BMSRCS reporting and record keeping
		confirming it meets the requirements
	Upload evidence of BMSRCS reporting and record keeping here	Evidence for desktop review View records
		Evidence for site visit Confirm records during site visit
	Traceability	
6.5	Are you able to trace harvested product back to farms in the event there is an issue?	
	Are you able to trace harvested product back	Evidence for desktop review View SOPs to confirm compliance with SMF Evidence for site visit • View harvest during site visit • Confirm SOPs comply with SMF
6.5	Are you able to trace harvested product back to farms in the event there is an issue? Animal Health & Welfare Are best practice management procedures for harvest followed as per the SMF	View SOPs to confirm compliance with SMF Evidence for site visit • View harvest during site visit
6.6	Are you able to trace harvested product back to farms in the event there is an issue? Animal Health & Welfare Are best practice management procedures for harvest followed as per the SMF operations procedures? Have all farm staff received training in shellfish behaviour, best husbandry guidelines and protocols contributing to	View SOPs to confirm compliance with SMF Evidence for site visit • View harvest during site visit

7 IWI PARTICIPATION

7.1 Do you know the name of the lwi who have Evidence for desktop review katiakitanga over the area in which your Request list and confirm with Iwi register farms are located? Evidence for site visit Discuss during site assessment and confirm list 7.2 Do you proactively engage/collaborate with Evidence for desktop review your local iwi? Community engagement and consultation evidence - meeting minutes, emails, documented site visits, media releases Evidence for site visit • Community consultation evidence - meeting minutes, emails, documented site visits, media releases Meeting minutes Optional evidence Communications Plan Evidence for desktop review Please outline any positive outcomes from Iwi engagement/collaboration you have to View collaborative decisions/initiatives that have share. been made with local lwi 7.3 Please outline any new ideas for Iwi/industry Evidence for desktop review engagement or collaboration that you have View what has been submitted on dashboard to share. Evidence for site visit Discuss during assessment

8 COMMUNITY

Navigation

8.1 Do you have inspection records for navigation aids?

Evidence for desktop review

View inspection records for navigational aids

Evidence for site visit

- Check Marine Farm Lighting Plan is approved and comprehensive as per resource consent
- · View navigational incidents log
- Project upgrades if applicable

Optional evidence

Maritime New Zealand Aids to Navigation Guidelines awareness

8.2 How many navigational incidents are you aware of relating to your farms?

Evidence for desktop review

Incident register

	Communication	 Evidence for site visit Stakeholder engagement Meeting minutes Discuss the effectiveness of the initiatives Optional evidence Communications Plan
8.3	How many meetings/engagement initiatives have you attended on relevant community issues?	Evidence for desktop review Community engagement records
	Please describe examples of your community engagement e.g. local meetings, local festivals, and regional plan submissions.	Evidence for desktop review View documentation in support of community engagement
		 Evidence for site visit Meeting minutes Actioned items Community complaints register Community complaints policy
		Optional evidence Communications Plan. Community consultation forums
.4	How many staff do you employ across all farming operations?	Evidence for desktop review Number of staff employed Evidence for site visit View employee records Break down of age/sex
.5	Do you have a policy to actively employ locals?	Evidence for desktop review View Employment Policy Evidence for site visit Check employment policy is active
3.6	Do you actively seek to procure services in your local regions?	Evidence for desktop review Evidence of local procurement of goods and services
8.7	Please give examples of any community events or organisations you support financially or with in-kind support	Evidence for desktop review View evidence of community engagement with regard to sponsorship, donations or in-kind support
		Evidence for site visit Sponsorship and donations database

Evidence for desktop review

 View documented initiatives to support navigational safety

• Incident register

Please describe the incident(s) and any

initiatives you undertook as a result

8.8	Please describe how you communicate to the community (e.g. notices in the paper, social media, emails etc)	Evidence for desktop review View social media formats Evidence for site visit Request links
	Visual Effects	
8.9	Does your maintenance programme seek to ensure that farms are kept as tidy and well maintained as possible?	 Evidence for desktop review Request maintenance programme and check with resource consent Documents to support maintenance programme e.g. Standard operating procedures Staff training Evidence for site visit Bins with lids Skip bins View maintenance yard Annual compliance records Maintenance standard operating procedures Training materials/tools Staff interview to confirm awareness Optional evidence Preventative maintenance programme
8.10	Does your maintenance programme seek to ensure that vessels and barges are kept as tidy and well maintained as possible?	Evidence for desktop review Check maintenance programme includes vessel and barge housekeeping Evidence for site visit Barge and vessel maintenance procedures and schedule Daily checklist
3.11	How many complaints have you received relating to farm or vessel/barge visual impacts?	Evidence for desktop review View number of complaints Evidence for site visit Council communications Community complaints register
	Please describe the visual complaint(s) and any initiatives you undertook as a result	Evidence for desktop review View complaints report/register which includes corrective action/s and preventative measure Evidence for site visit Discuss complaints and initiatives taken to resolve
	Noise and Odour	
8.12	Do you have practices and training in place to manage odour ?	 Evidence for desktop review Staff training records Training tools Standard operating procedures. Evidence for site visit Standard operating procedures Staff interview to confirm awareness

3.13	Do you have practices and training in place to manage noise ?	Evidence for desktop review Evidence of staff training in noise management Evidence for site visit Noise Management Plan Standard operating procedures Staff interview to confirm awareness
8.14	How many complaints have you received relating to odour or noise?	Evidence for desktop review Community complaints register
	Please describe the noise and odour complaint(s) and any initiatives you undertook as a result	Evidence for site visit Discuss noise and odour reducing initiatives and their effectiveness with farm staff
	Employee Welfare	
8.15	Is your operation compliant with New Zealand Health and Safety at Work legislation?	 Evidence for desktop review HR Policy Manual H&S Management Plan/Policy Dive logs and diver qualifications
		 Evidence for site visit Hazard identification Risk register Incident reporting process Incident investigation procedure ACC documentation
		 Optional evidence Dive Management Plan if applicable Induction software e.g. Rapid Induct Health and Safety at Work Training Farm Health and Safety Representative?
8.16	How many notifiable events have been recorded across your operation?	Evidence for desktop review View H&S incident records
		Evidence for site visit Most recent Lost Time Injury? or WHS incident
		Optional evidence HR3 or similar software
8.17	What was your LTIFR (Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate)?	

8.18 Is your operation compliant with New Zealand employment law including hours of work & minimum wage?

Evidence for desktop review

- Check HR policies
- Staff contracts
- Payslips
- Provide ACC accreditation and level

Evidence for site visit

- Staff contracts
- Payslips
- Check HR policies
- Confirm wages/salary meets minimal wage requirements
- **8.19** Please describe any initiatives you have in place to improve employee welfare.

Evidence for desktop review

Evidence of employee programs

8.20 Community Research - Please outline any new ideas for research or innovation relating to this community section that you have to share such as initiatives to improve navigational safety, community support programmes, improvement of amenity values or employee support programmes.

Evidence for desktop review

View supporting documentation

Evidence for site visit

Discuss during site assessment

Scorecard









Total