

PROJECT SOUTH SANFORD'S OPEN OCEAN FARM OUR PROPOSAL

Sanford has lodged an application with Environment Southland to farm King salmon at an open ocean site, 28km from Bluff and 10km from the nearest island, at the south east end of Foveaux Strait. We want to grow more salmon, and strengthen our Southland base. We care about what you think, and we won't be going ahead until we have consulted with you and the rest of the community. Here are the simple facts about our proposal.

March 2020

IN SUMMARY

- A new open-ocean salmon farm
- Expansion of employment opportunities in Southland
- Carefully developed for environmental safety
- Designed to best international practice

COUNCIL DECISION

- O Staged development, comprehensive monitoring and attention to data
- O Significant focus on health and safety for our on-water crew

WHERE WE ARE IN THE RESOURCE CONSENT PROCESS

LODGE APPLICATION	Environment Southland	\bigcirc
CONSULTATION	Anyone can be involved	
COUNCIL SUBMISSIONS	Anyone can be involved	
PUBLIC HEARING	Anyone can be involved	

WANT TO CHAT?

Aotearoa New Zealand is well-placed for sustainable and world-leading open ocean farming and we support others that are considering a future in this environment.

Please call us if you would like to discuss our proposal in more detail. We're also happy to meet you or your group.

IWI, HAPU AND WHANAU

We know this is an important area to Ngai Tahu and Island landowning families. We are putting our application on hold, to ensure we have the time to consult fully and widely. We know others are thinking about farming in the open ocean, and we wish them every success.

CONTACT

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SIMPLE FACTS



THE FARM

We have applied for five farming areas, each will have up to 10 fish pens. The surface area covered in pens will be no more than 2 hectares within a 26ha farming footprint, plus ropes and screw anchors secured to the seafloor that extend up to 320m.



PROCESSING

Southland is our Centre of Excellence for Salmon. We'll be investing in and growing our experienced Bluff team to manage salmon from our Big Glory Bay farm and this new farm. We'll use our existing plant until our proposed purpose-built salmon plant is ready.



THE SALMON

The fish will live in submersible circle pens that sink below the wave energy in severe weather. Each of the farming areas will have a single year class of fish, this achieves world best practice for fish health and welfare, and biosecurity.



PEOPLE

Sanford expects significantly more jobs across the business including at the hatchery, on-water and in processing. If you want a future in aquaculture, high tech processing, food quality or logistics, think about joining our team.



STAGED DEVELOPMENT

We'll develop the farming areas in closely monitored stages, to ensure the environment is not at risk. We think the first farming area will take five years to develop. This is an ambitious and expensive process. We will take no risks and get it right.



FEEDING

We use a high-quality Australian feed product with sustainably-sourced ingredients. Cameras help prevent overfeeding and help us ensure the fish are healthy and lively.

ABOUT THE FARM

- Foveaux Strait has cold clean water, ideally suited for growing beautiful salmon of exceptional quality.
- Sanford King salmon is eagerly sought after, 87% of our product is sold fresh within New Zealand.
- We have designed this farm to best international practice.
- Independent science modelling confirms that we meet high benchmarks on sustainable management.
- New Zealand is the only country to be awarded the Monterrey Bay 'Green Tick' for sustainable salmon production.
- Like our existing farms on Stewart Island Rakiura, the new farm site is surrounded by wildlife. We strive to respect and protect their place in and over the ocean.



HOW WILL OUR PROPOSAL AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT?

SCIENCE

We have modelled the swell, current, tide and wind. Independent scientists have calculated the effect of growing about 5200 GWT of fish in each of the farming areas, including where the fish waste (fish faeces) would fall. There should be no surprises, nevertheless we intend to develop the farm in stages, monitor and compare the science with the farm data collected at the site.

WATER AND SEABED QUALITY

The five farming areas are located in strong current flows over a seabed of coarse sand. We investigated the sediment in detail, taking samples, acoustic side scans and drop cam videos. We found nothing that would be adversely impacted, making this location ideal for the development of a farm.

VISUAL LANDSCAPE

The farm is located in the open ocean and will not be visible from land. The area was chosen because it had no landscape zoning or recognised areas of significant conservation value.

SEABIRDS AND WHALES

Foveaux Strait is an important corridor for whales and dolphins, and has many seabirds. Working collaboratively with experts and tangata whenua, we will write a Marine Mammal Management Plan that will enable us to safely co-exist and ensure we do no harm.