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Media Release  
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## **Sanford Reacts to Threat Management Plan Announcement – Sees Positives in Transition Inclusion**

Sanford Limited, New Zealand's oldest and largest seafood company, says it is pleased to see a transition plan for affected fishers has been included as part of the new protections for dolphins announced by Government today.

Sanford has been working to protect Maui dolphin off the west coast of the North Island for many years and in 2016 it introduced its Maui Dolphin Protection Plan in partnership with fishing company Moana and with WWF New Zealand. This plan was revisited and revitalised in 2019 when all three organisations developed Option 5, their alternative to the proposals in the Threat Management Plan, the final version of which has just been announced.

Sanford CEO Volker Kuntzsch says when they saw the draft of the TMP, all three organisations felt there had to be "a fifth way".

"Our concern about the TMP as it stood, was that the proposal in 2019 did not take account of the communities where fishing is a vital part of the local economy and culture. We, like Moana and WWF, felt there had to be a way to balance their needs with effective ways to keep Maui and other marine mammals safe."

"We are delighted to see that a transition plan for those who may lose their livelihoods because of these new measures, is part of the Government's plan. It is absolutely the right thing to do. The changes for set net fishing are extensive and fishers will need assistance as a result. We are still working through the full operational impact of the announcement both for our direct operations and for those who supply fish to Sanford."

Sanford notes there are other aspects of Option 5 that seem to have been included in the just announced TMP, such as cameras on fishing vessels in the South Island.

Chief Operating Officer Clement Chia says Sanford is very supportive of transparency.

"We are pleased to have cameras on our vessels operating off the West Coast of the North Island and we welcome news that there will be an expansion to on-board camera programmes into the South."

Sanford is also welcoming the news that the Government will be supporting more investigation into toxoplasmosis.

Mr Chia says "many people are unaware of the deadly impact of this disease. More research is needed and the measures announced today by Ministers Sage and Nash are welcome."

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

For more information or to arrange interviews or request imagery or video, please contact:

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### **Sanford Ltd**

Sanford is New Zealand's oldest and largest seafood company - we have been listed on the New Zealand stock market since 1924. We are focused on sustainability and on maximising the value of the resources we gather from our oceans, enabling long term value creation from oceans teeming with life. Sanford sites can be found in eleven locations around New Zealand and we are a team of 1600 staff and sharefishers across the country. We are committed to innovation: we have a team of scientists whose mission is to find new ways to make the most of the life-enhancing properties of seafood, from anti-inflammatory supplements to skin-nurturing collagen.