

Discharge Permit

Under Section 104B of the Resource Management Act 1991, a resource consent is granted by the Southland Regional Council to **Blue Sky Meats (NZ) Limited** of **729 Woodlands Morton Mains Road, RD 1, Morton Mains, Southland 9871** from **27 March 2026**.

Please read this Consent carefully, and ensure that any staff or contractors carrying out activities under this Consent on your behalf are aware of all the conditions of the Consent.

Details of Permit

Purpose for which permit is granted:	To discharge land drainage water and stormwater to water
Location	- site locality
	729 Woodlands Morton Mains Road, Morton Mains, Southland.
	- map reference
	NZTM2000 1265126E 4857703N
	- physiographic zone
	Oxidising
	- groundwater zone
	Waihopai
	- catchment
	Waihopai River
	- FMU
	Oreti
Legal description of land at the site:	Lot 1 DP 595
Expiry date:	27 March 2051

Schedule of Conditions

General conditions

1. This consent authorises the discharge of land drainage water taken in accordance with Consent (AUTH-20222295-02), and the discharge of stormwater from the covered anaerobic lagoon to water in the open drain at the location described above and otherwise as described in the application (APP-20222295)¹ for resource consent dated 1 July 2022 and all subsequent further information responses.

¹ Environment Southland document ID: A794309, A794310, A794311 and A808220

Monitoring and reporting

2.

- (a) The Consent Holder shall sample the land drainage water prior to the discharge point within three months of the commencement of this consent and quarterly thereafter and have it analysed for the following:
 - i. Biochemical oxygen demand
 - ii. total ammonia nitrogen
 - iii. total nitrate nitrogen
 - iv. total nitrite nitrogen
 - v. total nitrogen
 - vi. E. coli
 - vii. dissolved reactive phosphorus
 - viii. total phosphorus.
- (b) The Consent Holder shall also sample water from the open drain at a minimum 20 metres upstream of the discharge point and at the downstream edge of the mixing zone specified in Condition 5(a), and have the samples analysed for the same parameters as are listed in Condition 2(a).
- (c) Sampling in accordance with Condition 2(b) shall occur within 2 hours of samples taken in accordance with Condition 2(a).
- (d) Stormwater discharged from the Covered Anaerobic Lagoon shall be sampled quarterly following a rain event that exceeds 10 mm/day, and analysed for:
 - i. 5-day carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand;
 - ii. total Kjeldahl nitrogen;
 - iii. total phosphorus;
 - iv. E. coli;
 - v. total suspended solids;
 - vi. ammoniacal nitrogen; and
 - vii. total nitrogen.

If stormwater is not being discharged under this consent, then this sampling is not required.
- (e) Sample collection, preservation and analysis shall be carried out in accordance with the most recent edition of APHA "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater".
- (f) The analysis is to be carried out by a laboratory with IANZ registration or equivalent, or as agreed to in writing with the Environment Southland Compliance Manager.
- (g) Records of observations to determine compliance with Condition 4 at the locations identified in Condition 2(b) shall be collected concurrently with sampling required in Condition 2(a) and Condition 2(d).

3.

- (a) The Consent Holder shall report the results of monitoring required by Condition 2(a) and Condition 2(d) in writing to the Consent Authority (email: escompliance@es.govt.nz) within 30 working days of receipt of the analysis results.

- (b) If the concentration of contaminants in a sample of land drainage water collected in accordance with Condition 2(a) exceeds:
- i. a total ammonia concentration of 1 gram per cubic metre, and/or
 - ii. a 5-day biological oxygen demand concentration of 2 grams per cubic metre;

then the Consent Holder shall include in the written report required by Condition 3(a), the cause of the exceedance and if necessary, identify a preferred mitigation option for addressing the cause of the exceedance.

- (c) If the concentration of contaminants in a sample of stormwater collected in accordance with Condition 2(d) exceeds:
- i. a total nitrogen concentration of 5 gram per cubic metre, and/or
 - ii. a 5-day biological oxygen demand concentration of 2 grams per cubic metre;

then the Consent Holder shall include in the written report required by Condition 3(a), the cause of the exceedance and if necessary, identify a preferred mitigation option for addressing the cause of the exceedance.

- (d) The Consent Holder shall implement the preferred mitigation option identified in the report prepared in accordance with Condition 3(a) as soon as practicable.

Advice note: *This condition is intended to assist with the detection of leakage through the base of the wastewater treatment plant covered anaerobic lagoon and sequential batch reactor lagoon into the groundwater diversion system (indicated by ammonia and 5-day biological oxygen demand) or significant contamination of the stormwater from the cover of the anaerobic lagoon (indicated by total nitrogen and 5-day biological oxygen demand).*

4. After reasonable mixing as defined in Condition 5:
- (a) the discharge shall not result in the following effects in the open drain as identified in Condition 1:
- i. the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
 - ii. any conspicuous plumes, change in colour or reduction of visual clarity;
 - iii. any emission or objectionable odour;
- (b) the discharge shall not result in the following effects in the tributary of the Waihopai River that the drain flows into:
- i. the production of conspicuous oil or grease films, scums or foams, or floatable or suspended materials;
 - ii. any conspicuous plumes, change in colour or reduction of visual clarity;
 - iii. any emission or objectionable odour;
 - iv. the rendering of fresh water as unsuitable for consumption by farm animals;
 - v. any significant adverse effects on aquatic life;
 - vi. exceedances of the water quality standards for "Lowland Hard Bed" water bodies (See Appendix 1).
5. For the purposes of Condition 4, reasonable mixing shall have occurred:
- (a) in the drain within 20 metres of the point of discharge to the drain; and
 - (b) in the tributary within 30 metres of the confluence of the drain with the tributary.
6. Prior to the first discharge of stormwater from the covered anaerobic lagoon authorised by this consent, the Consent Holder shall notify Environment Southland of its intention to discharge the stormwater to the open drain. The notification shall include:

- (a) a description of the measures implemented to prevent pest bird congregation on the covered anaerobic lagoon;
- (b) evidence demonstrating the effectiveness of these measures over three months; and
- (c) a minimum of two stormwater samples collected in accordance with Condition 2(d) that meet the stormwater quality targets stated in Condition 3(c).

Review of consent

7. The Consent Authority may, in accordance with Sections 128 and 129 of the Resource Management Act 1991, serve notice on the Consent Holder of its intention to review the conditions of this consent during the period 1 February to 30 September each year, or within two months of any enforcement action being taken by the Consent Authority in relation to the exercise of this consent, for the purposes of:
- (a) Determining whether the conditions of this permit are adequate to deal with any adverse effect on the environment, including cumulative effects, which may arise from the exercise of the permit, and which it is appropriate to deal with at a later stage, or which become evident after the date of commencement of the permit;
 - (b) Ensuring the conditions of this consent are consistent with any National Environmental Standards Regulations, relevant plans and/or the Environment Southland Regional Policy Statement;
 - (c) Amending the monitoring programme to be undertaken;
 - (d) Adding or adjusting compliance limits;
 - (e) Ensuring the Oreti Freshwater Management Unit meets the freshwater objectives and freshwater quality limits set in an operative regional plan or National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management; and
 - (f) Requiring the Consent Holder to adopt the best practicable option to remove or reduce any adverse effect on the environment arising as a result of the exercise of this permit.

for the **Southland Regional Council**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Lacey Bragg', written over a faint circular stamp or seal.

Lacey Bragg
Consents Manager

Notes:

1. *The Consent Holder shall pay an annual administration and monitoring charge to the Consent Authority, collected in accordance with Section 36 of the Resource Management Act, 1991, payable in advance on 1 July each year.*
2. *In accordance with Section 125(1)(a) of the Resource Management Act, this consent will lapse after a period of five years after the date of commencement unless it is given effect to or an application is made to extend the lapse period before the consent lapses.*
3. *In accordance with section 126 of the Resource Management Act, 1991, this consent may be cancelled by the Consent Authority if not exercised for a continuous period of 5 years or more.*
4. *The Consent Holder is reminded that they may apply at any time under Section 127 of the Act to have any condition of this consent changed except that which specifies the expiry date of this consent.*
5. *If you require a replacement permit upon the expiry date of this permit, any new application should be lodged at least 6 months prior to the expiry date of this permit. Applying at least 6 months before the expiry date may enable you to continue to exercise this permit until a decision is made, and any appeals are resolved, on the replacement application.*

Appendix 1

Standards for Lowland Hard Bed Waterbodies

The temperature of the water:

- shall not exceed 23°C
- shall not exceed 11°C in trout spawning areas during May to September inclusive
- the daily maximum ambient water temperature shall not be increased by more than 3°C when the natural or existing water temperature is 16°C or less, as a result of any discharge. If the natural or existing water temperature is above 16°C, the natural or existing water temperature shall not be exceeded by more than 1°C as a result of any discharge.

The pH of the water shall be within the range 6.5 to 9, and there shall be no pH change in water due to a discharge that results in a loss of biological diversity or a change in community composition.

The fine sediment (<2mm diameter) bed cover, when measured as a percentage at the downstream edge of the reasonable mixing zone, must not increase by more than 10 percentage points from that measured immediately upstream of the discharge.

The concentration of dissolved oxygen in water shall exceed 80% of saturation concentration.

There shall be no bacterial or fungal slime growths visible to the naked eye as obvious plumose growths or mats. Note that this standard also applies to within the zone of reasonable mixing for a discharge.

When the flow is at or below the median flow, the visual clarity of the water shall not be less than 1.6 metres, except where the water is naturally low in clarity as a result of high concentrations of tannins, in which case the natural colour and clarity shall not be altered.²

There shall be no more than a 20% change in clarity or colour at the edge of the reasonable mixing zone, relative to the clarity or colour upstream of the discharge point.

The concentration of total ammonia shall not exceed the values specified in Table 1 "Ammonia standards for Lowland and Hill surface water bodies".

The concentration of faecal coliforms shall not exceed 1,000 coliforms per 100 millilitres, except for popular bathing sites, defined in Appendix G "Popular Bathing Sites" and within 1 km immediately upstream of these sites, where the concentration of *Escherichia coli* shall not exceed 130 *E. coli* per 100 millilitres.

For the period 1 November through to 30 April, filamentous algae of greater than 2 cm long shall not cover more than 30% of the visible stream bed. Growths of diatoms and cyanobacteria greater than 0.3 cm thick shall not cover more than 60% of the visible stream bed.³

Biomass shall not exceed 35 grams per square metre for either filamentous algae or diatoms and cyanobacteria.⁴

² Visual clarity is assessed using the black disc method or other comparable method employed by Environment Southland.

³ Applies to the part of the bed that can be seen from the bank during summer low flows or walked on.

⁴ Expressed in terms of reach biomass per unit of exposed strata (i.e., tops and sides of stones) averaged across the full width of the stream or river.

Chlorophyll *a* shall not exceed 120 milligrams per square metre for filamentous algae and 200 milligrams per square metre for diatoms and cyanobacteria.⁵

The Macroinvertebrate Community Index shall exceed a score of 90 and the Quantitative Macroinvertebrate Community Index shall exceed a score of 4.5.

Fish shall not be rendered unsuitable for human consumption by the presence of contaminants.

Table 1 “Ammonia standards for Lowland and Hill surface water bodies”

Total Ammoniacal Nitrogen in mg/m ³ at different pH	
pH	NH ₄ ⁺ -N + NH ₃ -N mg/m ³
6.0	2,570
6.1	2,555
6.2	2,540
6.3	2,520
6.4	2,490
6.5	2,460
6.6	2,430
6.7	2,380
6.8	2,330
6.9	2,260
7.0	2,180
7.1	2,090
7.2	1,990
7.3	1,880
7.4	1,750
7.5	1,610
7.6	1,470
7.7	1,320
7.8	1,180
7.9	1,030
8.0	900
8.1	780
8.2	660
8.3	560
8.4	480
8.5	400
8.6	340
8.7	290
8.8	240
8.9	210
9.0	180

⁵ Expressed in terms of reach biomass per unit of exposed strata (i.e., tops and sides of stones) averaged across the full width of the stream or river.

