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Media Release

EDS High Court appeal against King Salmon to be heard this coming week

The Environmental Defence Society's appeal against the approval of 2 marine farms in the Marlborough Sounds will be heard in the High Court in Blenheim this coming week.

EDS had earlier presented submissions and called evidence before the Board of Inquiry that was set up after the Minister of Conservation "called in" the project pursuant to new provisions under the Resource Management Act.

The Board of Inquiry approved 4 sites and refused 5.

"Our appeal concerns the approval of the Waitata and Port Gore sites," said EDS Chairman Gary Taylor.

"We have previously expressed our concerns as being about the impact of this industrial activity on the outstanding landscape and natural values of the outer Sounds. We are also concerned to see that proper process has been followed.

"High Court appeals from called-in projects are limited to points of law. There is no right of rehearing as with an ordinary resource consent or plan change decision where an appeal can be made to the Environment Court, Mr Taylor concluded.

An appeal from the local group Save our Sounds will also be heard by the same Court.

The hearing is expected to last 3-4 days and will start on Monday 27 May.

EDS is represented by Robert Enright, Brigid MacDonald and Nicola de Wit.