Fish Welfare Policy Statement

At Matorka we arededicated to the welfare, health and well-being of our aquatic livestock. We recognize that the health of our fish is paramount to the success and sustainability of our operations. Our commitment to animal welfare is rooted in the following principles:

Welfare Standards: We aim to achieve the highest possible welfare standards for the fish under our care during the entire production cycle (from egg to harvest).

Nutrition and Health: We ensure that our fish receive optimal nutrition with access to high-quality feed. Regular health assessments and veterinary care are integral to maintaining their well-being. We ensure that husbandry decisions are underpinned by up-to-date animal welfare and veterinary science.

Environmental Conditions: We strive to create and maintain optimal environmental conditions for our fish (physical and behavioural needs).

Disease Prevention and Treatment: We implement rigorous disease prevention and management protocols and follow best practice husbandry to safeguard against illness. When treatments are required for the sake of optimal fish welfare and health, we use it under the strict control of a veterinarian and we follow all legislative requirements, including adherence to specified withdrawal periods.

Responsible Handling: We practice responsible fish handling techniques to minimize stress during routine care, transport, and harvesting.

Compliance: We adhere to all relevant laws and regulations and continuously seek ways to improve our practices.

Transparency: We are committed to transparency in our operations and welcome dialogue with stakeholders, including customers, employees, and regulatory authorities, to ensure the highest standards of animal care.

Continuous Improvement: We regularly review and improve our animal welfare practices through ongoing research, training, and innovation.

We believe that by upholding these principles we not only ensure the welfare of our fish but also contribute to the long-term sustainability and success of our business. Our commitment to animal welfare and ethics is at the heart of what we do.

Animal ethics is a branch of philosophy and applied ethics that examines the moral considerations surrounding the treatment of animals by humans. It encompasses a wide range of issues related to how animals are cared for, treated and protected in various contexts, including agriculture and production, research, entertainment, and conservation. Key topics within animal ethics include questions about the moral status of animals, their welfare and the ethical principles and guidelines that should govern human interactions with animals. The field advocates for the humane* treatment of animals, recognizing their well-being, and seeks to address ethical dilemmas arising from human-animal relationships in society.

We believe that ethical treatment of fish is not just a moral imperative but also a fundamental aspect of responsible and sustainable aquaculture.

We provide our fish with the best possible living conditions, with clean water and appropriate nutrition, as per our welfare commitments. We prioritize minimizing stress and discomfort for our fish and continuously monitor their health and well-being. Our approach to fish ethics extends to responsible harvesting practices, where we employ humane and responsible methods during the

harvest process. By upholding these ethical standards, we aim to not only produce high-quality fish but also to contribute to a more compassionate and sustainable aquaculture industry.

* The term "humane" is an adjective that describes behaviour, actions, or treatment that is characterized by compassion and consideration for the well-being and suffering of animals. Being humane means showing empathy and avoiding unnecessary cruelty or harm. In the context of animal welfare, humane treatment often refers to practices that minimize suffering and promote the well-being of animals.