

**Before the Hearings Panel
At Porirua City Council**

Under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991

In the matter of the Proposed Porirua District Plan

Between **Various**

Submitters

And **Porirua City Council**

Respondent

**Statement of expertise of Dr Vaughan Francis Keesing on behalf of Porirua
City Council**

Date: 8th March 2023

INTRODUCTION:

- 1 My full name is Vaughan Francis Keesing I am employed as an Ecologist with the consulting firm Boffa Miskell Limited.
- 2 This statement of expertise relates to the matters in the DEV-NG – Northern Growth Development Area chapter of the PDP.
- 3 I am authorised to provide assistance to the Hearings Panel in relation to aquatic (including wetlands) ecology on behalf of the Council.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- 4 I hold the qualifications of BSc(honours first class), PhD ecology (Massey University), Certificate in research statistics.
- 5 I have been a practising ecologist for the last 27 years, for Boffa Miskell limited.
- 6 I am a member of EIANZ, NZ Ecological society and the NZ freshwater society.

Code of conduct

- 7 I have read the Code of Conduct for Expert Witnesses set out in the Environment Court's Practice Note 2023. I will comply with it while giving oral evidence before the Hearings Panel. My qualifications as an expert are set out above.

INVOLVEMENT WITH THE PROPOSED PLAN

- 8 I have been involved with the Northern Growth Development Area since 2019.

- 9 I first undertook a brief survey of wetlands on the Mt Welcome block and reviewed earlier survey work.
- 10 In 2020 – 2021 I undertook field work across the Mt Welcome portion of the structure plan and walked over the Muir block in review of the other Boffa Miskell researchers. I co-authored the final assessments (NGA-PV Ecology Assessment final 27 July 2022) and co-ordinated the ecology layers in the structure plan. I reviewed Mr Kusabs, Ms Meleane Brown and Mr Garret Walker’s various assessments and documents relating to terrestrial and aquatic ecology on the sites.
- 11 I was also involved in workshops and discussions with the wider team, including stormwater for the Northern Growth Development Area chapter and attached to the Section 32 Evaluation Report - Part B Northern Growth Development Area.

ASSISTANCE TO THE PANEL

- 12 I am happy to assist the Hearings Panel through answering any questions they may have in relation to the technical documents supporting the Northern Growth Development Area identified above.

Date: 8.03.2-23



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