

**15 May 2025**  
**341-25**

## **Administrative Assessment Report – Application A1329**

### **Exclusion of Blacklip Rock Oysters from the maximum level for cadmium in molluscs**

#### **1. Application details**

<p><b>Date received:</b> 1 April 2025  <b>Date due for completion of administrative assessment:</b> 24 April 2025  <b>Date completed:</b> 17 April 2025</p>		
<p><b>Applicant:</b> Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Northern Territory Government of Australia</p>		<p><b>Potentially affected standard / schedule:</b> Standard 1.4.1 Schedule 19</p>
<p><b>Brief description of application:</b> The application seeks an amendment to the Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code (the Code) to exempt Blacklip Rock Oysters (<i>Saccostrea spathulata</i>) from the cadmium (Cd) maximum level (ML) of 2 mg/kg for molluscs.</p>		
<p><b>Procedure:</b> General [Level 4]</p>	<p><b>Maximum total variable hours:</b> 520 hours</p> <p><b>Reasons why:</b> In line with the Application Handbook, an application assessed at this level would likely involve establishing or increasing a maximum permitted concentration for an environmental contaminant or heavy metal.</p>	<p><b>Estimated start date for assessment:</b> 24 April 2026</p>

#### **2. Decision**

<p><b>Application accepted</b> <b>Decision Date:</b> 17 April 2025</p>
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**3. Consultation & assessment timeframe**

<b>Proposed length of public consultation periods:</b> 6 weeks	
<b>Proposed timeframe for assessment</b>	
'Early Bird Notification' due: 27 May 2025	
Commence assessment (clock start)	Late April 2026
Public comment	Late July–Mid August 2026
Board to consider approval	Early December 2026
Notification to Food Ministers' Meeting (FMM)	Late January 2027
Anticipated gazettal if no review requested	Early March 2027