

Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter
Bay North Bruny Island Marine Farming Development Plan
July 1998

Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft
Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay
North Bruny Island Marine Farming Development Plan July
1998

Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island Marine Farming Development Plan July 1998 & Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island Marine Farming Development Plan July 1998

The Crown in right of the State of Tasmania gives no warranty, either express or implied, that the marine farming zones identified in this document is suitable for marine farming activities.

Persons considering marine farming within the zones contained within this document are solely responsible for establishing the suitability or otherwise of the zones for that purpose.

CAUTION: The maps shown throughout this document are not to be used for navigation. For navigation purposes appropriate hydrographic charts should be used. The coastline detail shown is reproduced from a 1:25000 scale giving a horizontal accuracy within 12.5 metres of true position.

OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED STORM BAY DEVELOPMENTS

The *Marine Farming Planning Act 1995* (MFPA) provides for the establishment and amendment of Marine Farming Development Plans (MFDP)'s to guide the sustainable development and management of marine farming in State waters.

Storm Bay is identified in the Government's draft *Sustainable Industry Growth Plan for the Salmonid Industry* as a priority area for the possible expansion of salmonid marine farming (refer to Figure 1). Opportunities in this area are being explored by each of Tasmania's three major salmonid producers: Tassal Operations Pty Ltd, Huon Aquaculture Company Pty Ltd and Petuna Pty Ltd.

The planning process being undertaken with this Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island Marine Farming Development Plan July 1998 is one of three marine farming developments that are proposed for Storm Bay.

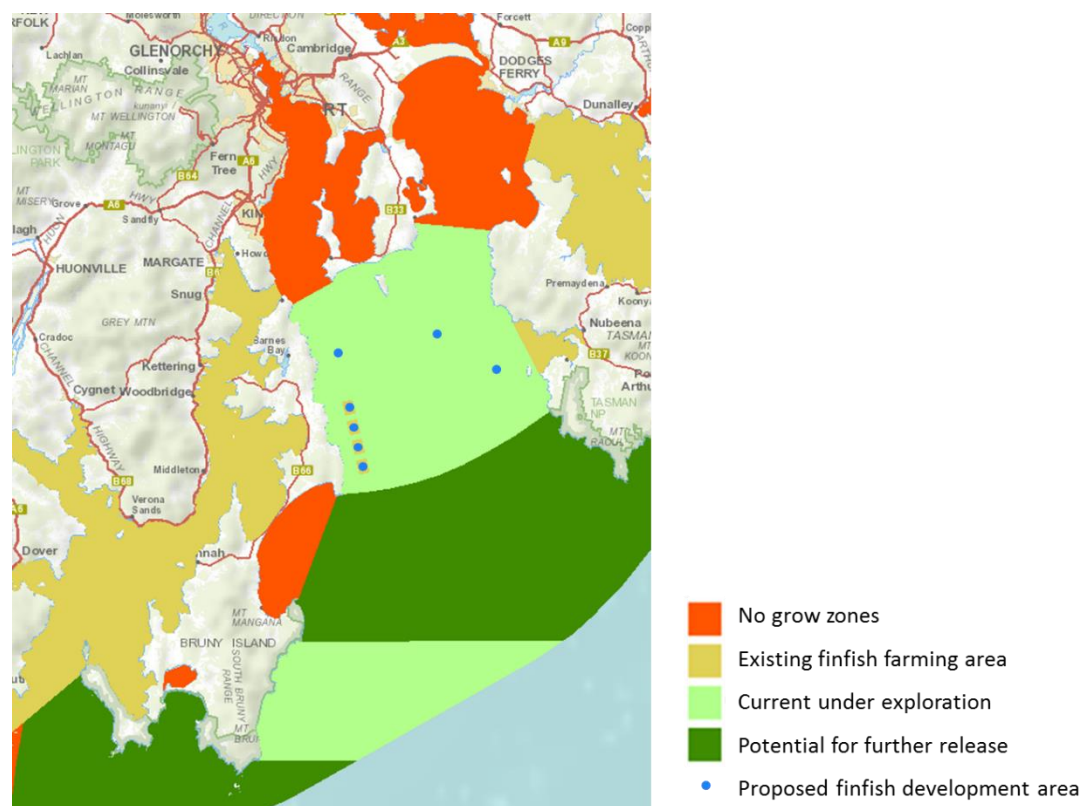


Figure 1: Proposed 'grow' and 'no grow' areas for south-eastern Tasmania, as indicated in the map in the draft *Sustainable Industry Growth Plan for the Salmonid Industry* (August 2017). This map may be amended in the final Plan but not so as to affect this indication of the proposed developments for Storm Bay in the 'current under exploration' area, which are denoted by the symbol '•'.

Each company is progressing planning processes under the MFPA to increase the capacity of finfish marine farms in Storm Bay. The companies have aspirations for a total production from Storm Bay of 80,000 tonnes per annum. In recognition that robust scientific information is not currently available to predict the environmental effects of this level of production, the potential environmental effects of a combined level of production of approximately 40,000 tonnes per annum is being considered in the environmental impact statements that support these planning processes. This is

similar to the level of production achieved from the Huon River and Port Esperance, and D'Entrecasteaux Channel marine farming development plan areas combined. It represents an increase of approximately 24,000 tonnes in potential annual production from Storm Bay.

The Government's intention is that the proposed developments would be managed under an adaptive management framework, underpinned by:

- A staged development approach, with an initial limit on feed input¹ that would provide for approximately 30,000 tonnes of production
- A comprehensive environmental monitoring program
- The development of a biogeochemical model, to help to understand the information provided by the environmental monitoring and the effects of any changes to farming operations in the region.

The Environment Protection Authority has indicated that, should the proposed developments proceed, feed inputs will initially be limited to provide for approximately 30,000 tonnes of production annually. This staged approach towards 40,000 tonnes of annual production would provide the opportunity for assessment of environmental responses.

An increase in production within the proposed areas beyond 40,000 tonnes would be subject to a separate assessment process. This would be informed by the proposed environmental monitoring program, which will collect data on environmental performance indicators to provide an understanding of interactions between salmonid farming and the receiving environment. This information will provide a robust framework to detect localised, intermediate and ecosystem level changes, enabling appropriate regulatory responses. Figure 2 shows the proposed framework for holistic management of proposed Storm Bay developments.

In addition, the monitoring program will provide for the development and validation of a biogeochemical model for Storm Bay. The model will estimate natural assimilation of salmonid derived nutrients at varying spatial and temporal scales relative to specific biomass output. This will inform adaptive management by forecasting the potential environmental impacts of salmonid farming in Storm Bay. The model will be developed in collaboration with CSIRO and the University of Tasmania Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS). Development of the model is expected to commence in conjunction with monitoring.

¹ Feed input is regulated by limiting waste emissions, in the form of dissolved nitrogen, entering the marine environment from finfish marine farming operations.

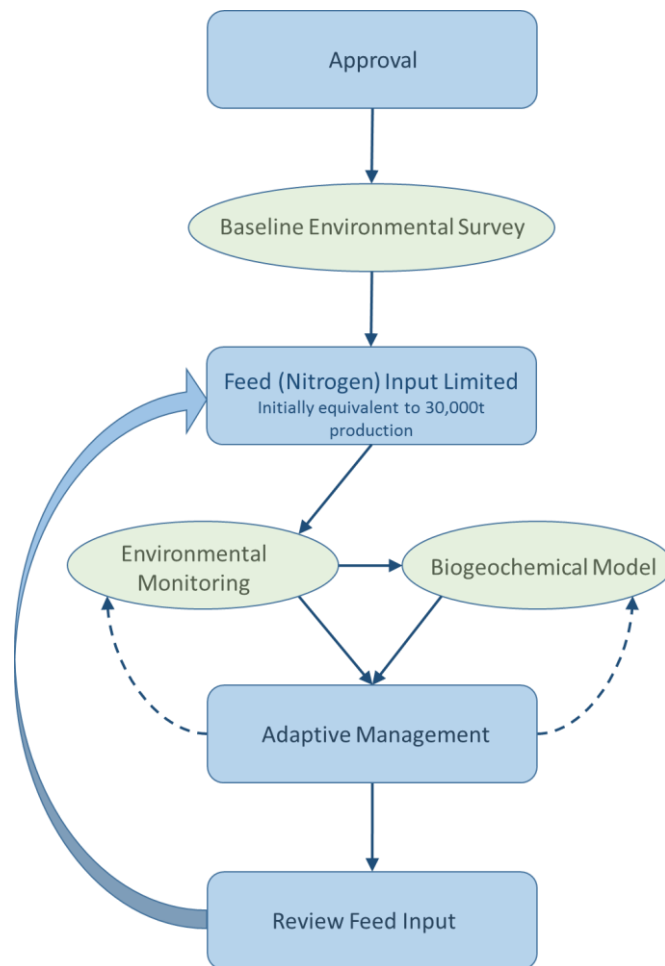


Figure 2: Framework for management of proposed Storm Bay developments

INTRODUCTION TO THE DRAFT AMENDMENT

The Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998 identifies four marine farming zones within the plan area.

The Planning Authority – which is the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment – (DPIPWE) has received a request under section 33 of the MFPA to amend the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998.

The amendment request proposes to:

- Establish a new marine farming zone approximately 1.5 km east of Yellow Bluff (North Bruny Island). The proposed marine farming zone would be approximately 313 ha containing one marine farming lease with a maximum leasable area (MLA) of 230 ha.
- Modify the four existing Trumpeter Bay zones (1 to 4) through increasing the MLA of each zone from 50 to 75 ha. Within each proposed 75 ha lease, surface located marine farming equipment will be restricted to 50 ha. Any equipment outside this 50 ha would be at least 5 metres below the surface at the lease boundary, as is required by management controls.

- Rotate the four existing Trumpeter Bay marine farming zones to optimise well-boat operations.

Under section 33 of the MFPA the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel (Panel) has approved the making of a draft amendment to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998 and, with the Minister's approval, has directed the Planning Authority to prepare the draft amendment.

Two documents are contained within this cover:

- a Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998; and
- an Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft Amendment No.3 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998

The Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the draft amendment has been prepared by Huon Aquaculture Company Pty Ltd.

Persons reading this draft amendment should do so in conjunction with the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998. Where there are inconsistencies with the existing plan it is intended that the sections, words, coordinates or management controls will be inserted into the existing plan or override the existing plan.

Should the Minister approve the draft amendment, in accordance with section 42(1)(a) of the MFPA, the amendment will prevail over the existing Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998 to the extent of any inconsistency, in accordance with section 42(6)(a) of the MFPA.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The Minister for Primary Industries, on the advice of the Panel has approved the [public exhibition of the Draft Amendment No.5 to the Storm Bay off Trumpeter Bay North Bruny Island MFDP July 1998 under section 38 of the MFPA](#). It has been determined under section 38 of the Act that the draft amendment will be publically exhibited for two months from 18 November 2017 until 17 January 2018. During this time interested parties may make representation in relation to the draft amendment.

Representations may be made to the Planning Authority, c/- Marine Farming Branch, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, GPO Box 44, Hobart, 7001. Alternatively, representations may be lodged by completing the online form and using the 'submit' function at www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/amendment3. Representations made by either method must be lodged by 11:59pm on 17 January 2018.

Representations that are not lodged as described above and/or are not received by 11:59pm on 17 January 2018 will not be considered as a formal representation to the draft amendment.

A representation is to be accompanied by a written request for a hearing if the

representor wishes a hearing by the Panel in relation to that representation. The request is to state the address for receipt of any notice in relation to the hearing.

At the end of the public consultation period the Planning Authority is required to forward a copy of each written representation received and a report on representations received to the Panel. Under section 9(3) of the MFPA the Panel must conduct a hearing if a request is made pursuant to the provisions of section 39 (2)(c).

Respondents are advised that the contents of representations may be published and will be available for viewing by members of the public on request unless they are marked “confidential”. The Department is subject to the *Right to Information Act 2009* and may be required to disclose information under the Act if it is in the public interest to do so.

Copies of representations that are not confidential can be inspected by prior appointment, during normal office hours at the Department’s Marine Farming Branch office on the fourth floor, 1 Franklin Wharf, Hobart.

Personal Information Protection: DPIPWE may collect limited personal information relating to a representation, to enable a representation to be acknowledged, published for the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel (the Panel) or to give notice of a hearing in relation to a representation, if applicable.

Information provided in a representation will be received by the Planning Authority, Environment Protection Authority and the Panel for the purposes of the *Marine Farming Planning Act 1995* (MFPA). Information that is not marked confidential may be published and may also be shared with the proponent and/or their representatives so that the representation may be evaluated and so that any issues raised may be responded to by the proponent, Planning Authority, Environment Protection Authority and/or Panel. Information that is not published will be used only for purposes under the MFPA.

Personal information will be managed in accordance with the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004* and may be accessed by the individual to whom it relates on request to DPIPWE.