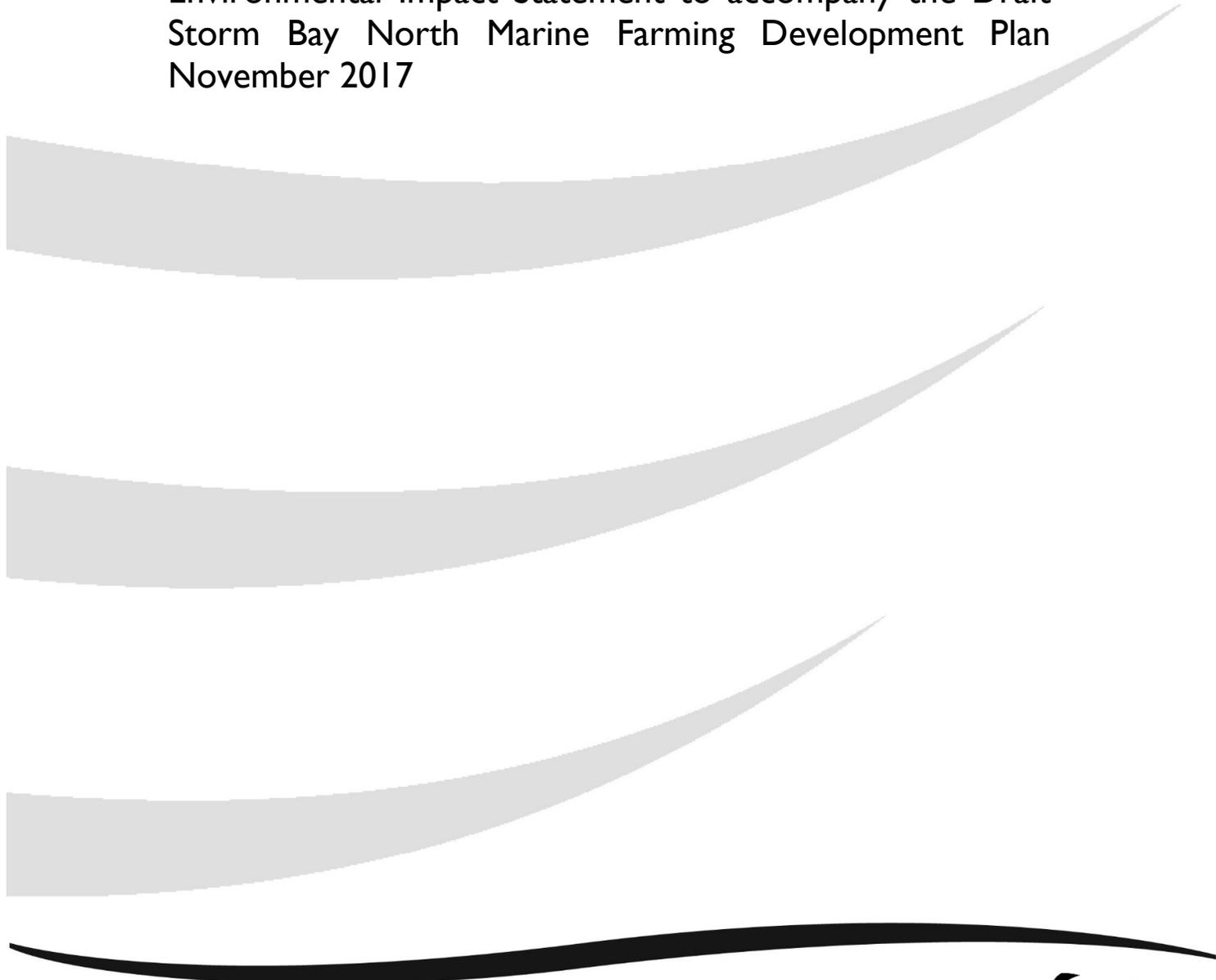


Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan
November 2017

Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft
Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan
November 2017



Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017 & Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017

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

Persons considering marine farming within the zone contained within this document are solely responsible for establishing the suitability or otherwise of the zone 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 (MFDPs) to guide the sustainable development and management of marine farming in State waters.

Storm Bay is identified in the Government's *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 Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017 is one of three marine farming developments that are proposed for Storm Bay.

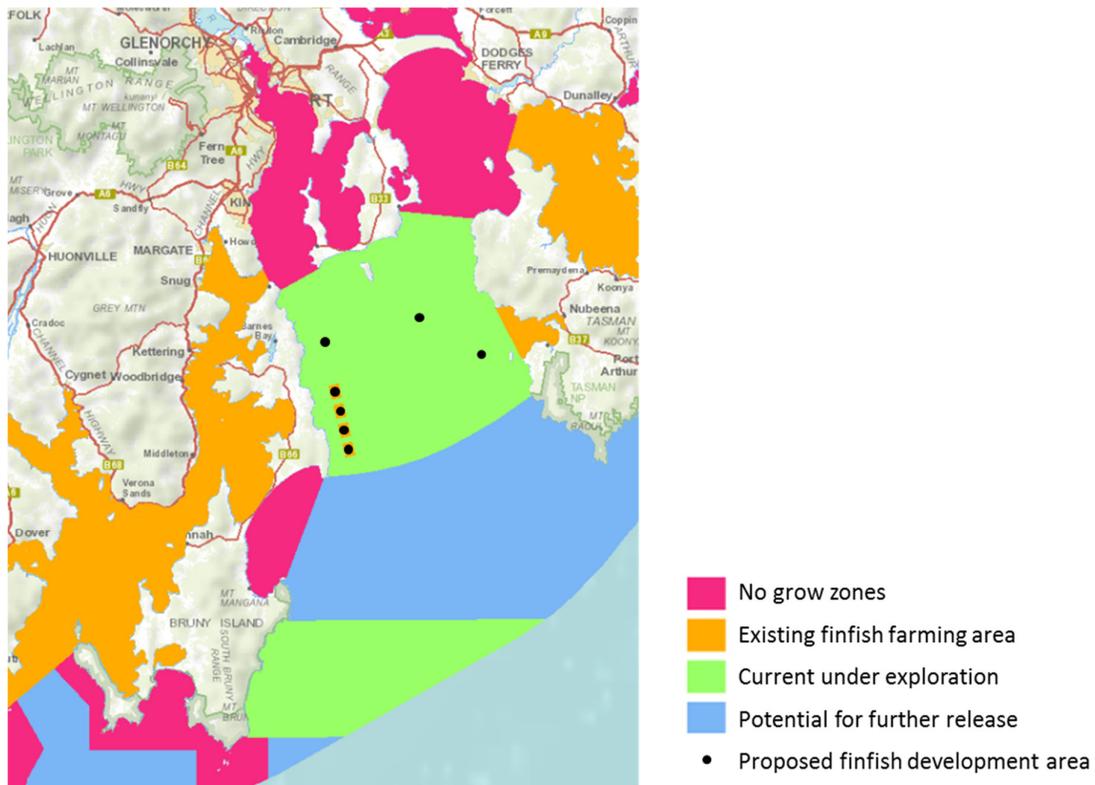


Figure 1: Proposed 'grow' and 'no grow' areas for south-eastern Tasmania, as indicated in the map in the *Sustainable Industry Growth Plan for the Salmonid Industry* (December 2017). This map indicates the proposed developments for Storm Bay in the 'current under exploration' area, which are denoted 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 are 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's 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.

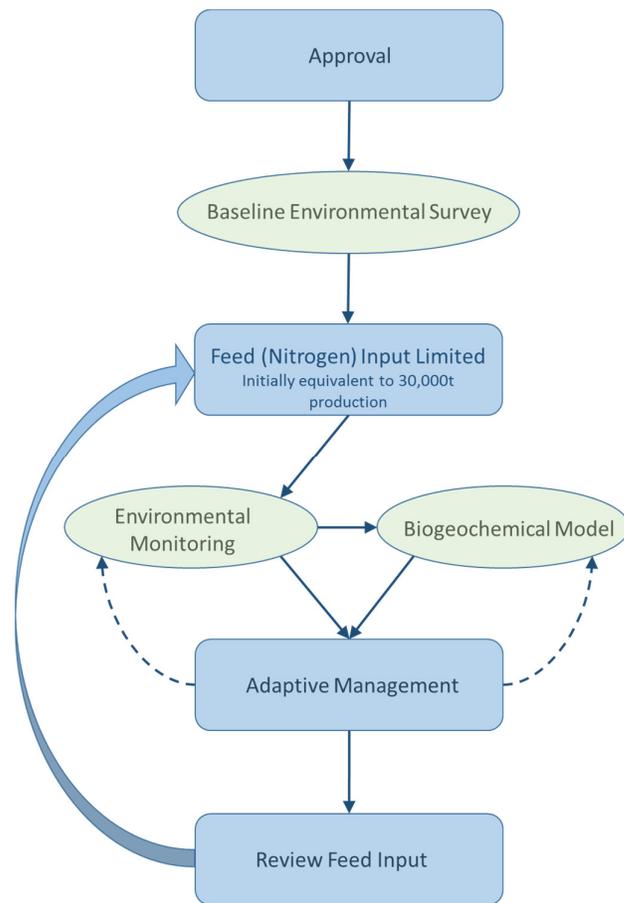


Figure 2: Framework for management of proposed Storm Bay developments

INTRODUCTION TO THE DRAFT PLAN

Petuna Pty Ltd (Petuna), in accordance with section 16 of the MFPA, has received approval to prepare a draft Marine Farming Development Plan for an area of Storm Bay. The Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017 proposes:

- A plan area and marine farming zone located approximately 5 km south of Betsey Island.
- A plan area and marine farming zone of approximately 430 ha.
- A maximum leasable area of 273 ha.
- Permitted categories of fish for culture in the zone include finfish, seaweed and shellfish.
- Draft management controls.

Two documents are contained within this cover:

- a Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017; and

- an Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017.

The Environmental Impact Statement to accompany the draft plan has been prepared by the proponent, Petuna Pty Ltd.

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The Minister for Primary Industries, on the advice of the Panel, has approved [the public exhibition of the Draft Storm Bay North Marine Farming Development Plan November 2017, under section 26 of the MFPA](#). In accordance with section 26 of the MFPA, the draft plan will be publicly exhibited for two months from 9 December 2017 until 9 February 2018. During this time interested parties may make written representation in relation to the draft plan.

Representations may be made to the Planning Authority, in accordance with section 27 of the MFPA, 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/sbn. Representations made by either method must be lodged by 11:59pm on 9 February 2018.

Representations that are not lodged as described above and/or are not received by 11:59pm on 9 February 2018 will not be considered as a formal representation to the draft plan.

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 27(2)(c) of the MFPA.

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". Personal information other than the name(s) of representors (such as addresses and phone numbers) will be redacted. 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. To make an appointment contact the Marine Farming Branch on (03) 6165 3110.

Personal Information Protection: Personal information collected from you will be used by DPIPWE for the purpose of acknowledging your public representation and may be used by the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel (the Panel) to give notice to you of a hearing (if applicable).

Your submission may be reviewed pursuant to the *Marine Farming Planning Act 1995* (MFPA) by:

- the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel (the Panel);
- the Planning Authority; and
- the Environment Protection Authority.

Your submission may be published, unless it is marked “confidential”.

Personal information will be managed in accordance with the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004*.

Explanatory Note: The draft plan has been released for public comment in accordance with the *Marine Farming Planning Act 1995*, following advice from the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel. Representations received will inform the Panel’s consideration of the draft plan prior to finalising its recommendation to the Minister.

For further information, or to make an appointment, please contact Marine Farming Branch of DPIPWE on 03 61653110.