

GAA/FIN 203

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29 November 2019

Mr Stuart Wright
Inquiry Secretary
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Submission to Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration A -Sub-Committee - Fin Fish Farming in Tasmania Inquiry

Dear Mr Wright

I have grown up in a beachside community where going to the beach whether it be walking along the beautiful clean shore or swimming in the clean water is a big part of our life's . I am also a surfer so I spend a lot of my time surfing around Tasmania and really appreciate how pristine Tasmania's coast line is. I am worried adding more fish farms in coastal regions especially within storm bay and larger ones at that, producing far more salmon than the salmon farm industry currently is will only lead to negative impacts on Tasmanian coast lines and surfing locations such as water quality deteriorating and many more debris washing up on our beaches . Which will reduce the quality or potentially stop us surfing our local surf spots or ruin the beauty of our clean untouched beaches.

I endorse the following recommendations by the Tasmanian Conservation Trust 1. Complete independent water quality and environmental studies, before any environmental licences are issued (not an "adaptive management" approach)., 2. Environmental licences must set a hard cap on biomass and dissolved nitrogen and other pollutants emitted into our waterways from pens, hatcheries and other infrastructure., 3. Require all licences and licence amendments (marine and land based) to be referred to the EPA board so that the community can have a say., 4. Commission an independent review of the Marine Farming Planning Review Panel, focusing on its membership, governance and ties to industry., 5. Improve transparency and enforcement by prosecuting fish escapes, fish kills, marine debris and seal and cetacean interactions., 6. Mandate public reporting for disease outbreaks and other bio-security incidents., 7. Amend the Marine Farming Planning Act to require valuation and protection of social, recreational and visual amenity; and consideration of noise impacts on surrounding residents.

Regarding public hearings, I would like more information from the secretary about opportunities to present to the committee.

Thank you for reviewing my submission
Yours Sincerely
Howard Groves