



Friends of North Bruny Inc.

FONB calls for moratorium on Industrial Finfish expansion around North Bruny

FONB has for some time been concerned about industrial finfish farm expansion around North Bruny. The Committee has consulted with all major players to develop a considered position.

Our position now is to demand a moratorium on all expansion to allow all voices and aspects to be heard and, through an independent inquiry process, offer recommendations for an industry based on a sustainable, considered and agreed future.

The rationale for our position is described below.

1. *The State Government has announced a dramatic expansion in industrial finfish farming with release of their plan - Sustainable Growth Plans for the Finfish Industry in Storm Bay.*

The Plan is a game changer dramatically increasing farming:

- Leases are being sought in Storm Bay for all three operators. Huon alone hold 200h and has applied for a further 200h. Tassal and Petuna sites are unconfirmed but expected to be large.
- on the South Bruny coastline by Huon Aquaculture
- by Tassal, west of Wedge Is. just North of Nubeena
- by Petuna, south of Betsy Is. in the centre of Storm Bay and 11 km offshore

These leases are described as Oceanic but are within Storm Bay.

2. *FONB believes there are serious issues that have not been addressed in the plan. The social and environmental issues that result from this economic initiative must be discussed with the affected communities before any licences are granted.*

- The Government expansion plan **has not been discussed** with our community group or others yet represents a substantial “change of use”.
- Environmental issues around **current flow** and **increased nutrient level** and its impact on recreational crayfish and abalone fishing as well as broader ecology and marine reserves is unclear.

- **Dennes Point is becoming the epicentre** of the Finfish Industry with 45 Active Finfish zones in the Channel and 14 currently in Storm Bay before any expansion.
- The **rapid expansion of industrial marine traffic** in the D’Entrecasteaux and around Dennes Point is now a significant problem and in particular the **noise, light and marine debris** that these vessels and farms are causing.
- Tassal site MF 90, near Tinderbox, is undergoing accreditation with its use being changed to a smolt outgrowth farm. These are often augmented by **night lights and may cause a visual intrusion** in North West Bay to adjoining and near settlements.
- **Complaints by residents and yachting clubs** are increasing.

3. *FONB joins with community groups surrounding Storm Bay and the Channel in demanding a moratorium on expansion.*

- A moratorium allows all voices and aspects to be heard and, through an independent Inquiry process, offer recommendations for an industry based on a sustainable, considered and agreed future.
- Environment Tasmania and Marine Protection Tasmania are coordinating Community Groups
- The discussions should set clear actions, targets, objectives and outcomes to drive and guide the short, medium and long-term management of the industry.

FONB look to your ongoing support in seeking dialogue with affected communities and your support for a Moratorium, in association with Environment Tasmania and MPT.

The State Government has announced a dramatic expansion in industrial finfish farming with release of their plan - Sustainable Growth Plans for the Finfish Industry in Storm Bay. It shows massive expansion around Bruny

READ THE PLAN HERE:

http://dpiptwe.tas.gov.au/Documents/Draft_sustainable_industry_growth_plan_for_the_Salmon_Industry.pdf

contact us for more information: www.friendsofnorthbruny.org.au

