



MEDIA RELEASE

15 August 2025

Council working with government stakeholders on salmon farming monitoring

Huon Valley Council is keeping abreast of activities with key government stakeholders to ensure appropriate oversight and reporting of salmon farming operations in our valley. This involves working alongside multiple agencies to protect both environmental and public health interests.

We are aware of inconsistent media reports and wanted to let you know our current understanding and involvement with key government agencies.

Current situation

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment have undertaken salmon pen inspections yesterday in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and have stated today that there is no evidence of a mass mortality event. It is however confirmed that *P. salmonis* is now endemic to Tasmanian waters and ongoing control measures including vaccination and antibiotics will be required to prevent future mass mortality events occurring.

Key government partners

Council is working with:

- EPA Tasmania, who ensures robust antibiotic residual monitoring programs are in place for any medication events in salmon farming
- The Director of Public Health, who provides advice on human health risk assessments
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, who oversee industry compliance and animal welfare standards

Monitoring programs

EPA Tasmania is developing comprehensive monitoring schedules that assess:

- Sediments and conditions beneath fish farming pens
- Water quality in surrounding areas
- Wild fish both within and at distances from farming operations

For all media enquiries – contact:

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These programs are informed by scientific evidence, international research, and advice from the Director of Public Health.

Transparency and public information

All monitoring results will be made publicly available through EPA Tasmania's website: Home | EPA Tasmania. This ensures community members have access to current information about environmental and health assessments in our valley.

Council's role

Huon Valley Council continues to advocate for scientific monitoring of aquaculture activities, transparent and factual reporting of environmental assessments and protection of our marine environment and community health.

Ongoing commitment

Council remains committed to collaborating with government agencies, industry, and community members to ensure salmon farming activities meet environmental and public health standards.

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