# Submission : Feedback on the Salmon Industry Study

I am writing as an individual citizen and a local resident of Eggs and Bacon Bay.

This submission outlines my feedback on the scope and focus of the independent Salmon Industry Study.

The salmon farming industry cannot continue under its current nearshore operational model. I strongly advocate for restricting current marine farming and transitioning operations to land-based or deep-sea systems.

My residence at Eggs and Bacon Bay is located in close proximity to active marine salmon pens, exposing my home directly to daily industry operations. I have been actively planning to launch a local eco-tourism and astronomy tourism business. However, feedback from potential customers who have visited the site confirms that current salmon farming operations make this business unviable.

High-intensity artificial lighting from the pens shines directly into my residence at night. The nighttime high intensity light from the salmon farm base across the water at Police Point has been likened to that from the MCG. A highway of lights stretches across the river all night, many of them flashing and boat lights constantly move back and forth. Salmon pens appear to be less than a Km from my door and when boats face inshore while working on them, the lights shine onto the house. Feedback from potential astronomy tourism clients confirms this severe light pollution destroys the pristine dark skies required for stargazing, killing a viable local business idea before it can launch.

Potential eco-tourism visitors who have toured the area were horrified to see massive industrial salmon pens dominating what should be a pristine, natural shoreline. This visual pollution directly damages Tasmania’s "clean, green" brand and prevents local residents from diversifying the regional economy. Constant noise from salmon vessels, generators, and feed barges disrupts the peace of local residents and destroys the tranquil environment that eco-tourists expect when visiting coastal Tasmania.

High-intensity artificial lighting used on marine pens alters natural ecosystems. The study must investigate how this light pollution disrupts local wildlife behaviors, including the feeding, breeding, and navigational patterns of native marine and coastal species.

The study must address how the industry negatively affects other industries such as cray fishing, as well as recreational fishing. A friend told me he caught a flathead which had salmon feed pellets in its stomach. Many people I know personally refuse to fish in areas where there are salmon farms while others including myself always ensure when buying fish that it has been caught outside the area or is from interstate.

The study must address how current farming practices lead to nutrient loading, hypoxia, and direct threats to native marine biodiversity.

The study must explicitly investigate pathways to phase out nearshore and sheltered waterway pens in areas like the Huon River and D'Entrecasteaux Channel.

Future growth must be restricted to recirculating aquaculture systems (RAS) on land or well-regulated deep-sea operations to mitigate local environmental and community degradation.

The review must enforce stricter limits and mandatory public disclosure on the use of antibiotics, antifouling agents, and therapeutic chemicals.

The scope must evaluate the ecological footprint of salmon feed ingredients, specifically restricting the use of wild-caught krill and forage fish from vulnerable marine ecosystems.

Environmental monitoring must be stripped from industry self-reporting and handed to a fully independent regulatory body with severe penalties for non-compliance.

The panel should hold open town hall meetings in impacted coastal regions like the Huon Valley to allow citizens to voice concerns directly.
All evidence, submissions, and research used by the panel must be published on a central, publicly accessible website.

To protect Tasmania's marine heritage, native wildlife, and the economic future of local coastal residents, the government must restrict coastal salmon farming and mandate a shift to highly regulated land-based or deep-sea models.

I urge the panel to deliver an independent, evidence-based report that prioritizes ecological health and community well-being over industry expansion.

Yours Sincerely,

Dee Williams
Eggs and Bacon Bay
[redacted]