From:	Elizabeth Haworth
To:	Tasmanian Salmon Study Secretariat
Subject:	Comments on the design and consultees for the Salmon Study
Date:	Sunday, 5 July 2026 8:34:08 PM
Attachments:	Tas Salmon Study Plan.docx

Please find attached my comments on the design and consultees for the Tasmanian Salmon Study.

With best wishes

Dr Elizabeth Haworth FFPHM

The Tasmanian Salmon Study plan is well set out, seems quite comprehensive and does mention fish and human health. However, the human and animal effects of the farmed salmon industry do not receive adequate attention. Public health, also known as population health, should be framed within the 'one health' concept to include the impact of diseased/infected fish and their excrement on the environment and on the population exposed to it.

It is essential to consider the management of outbreaks of infection, the appropriate use of antibiotics compared with other control measures, especially proper infection control for both animals, in this case fish, and humans. Measures such as destocking salmon pens, treating and removing waste and applying a withdrawal period for human consumption need review. The role of antibiotics in development of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) must be fully investigated by looking for AMR genes, comparison with other countries and establishing properly representative surveillance.

Therefore, it is important to consult a range of experts on human and fish health. The study outline does not include the Australian Centre for Disease Control, infection control experts and public/population health. Nor does it mention nutritionists who must review and analyse the effects of the feed given to farmed salmon, which is not the usual food for wild salmon, for example chicken. Other human health effects of the expanding aquaculture industry, including apparent pollution of the Tasmanian water ways, noise and light associated with the industry, must also be considered. The Public Health Association of Australia and academic departments of public health would help in such an analysis.