From: [redacted] on behalf of NWTASforcleanoceans
To: Tasmanian Salmon Study Secretariat
Subject: Submission to Tasmanian Salmon Industry Study
Date: Monday, 6 July 2026 12:01:19 AM
Attachments: TAMP land-sea logo + tagline.png
NWTAS For Clean Oceans Salmon Study Plan Submission July 4 2026.docx

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Dear Study Leads
Please find attached submission to the Tasmanian Salmon Industry Study from NWTAS For Clean Oceans Inc
Sincerely,
Cass Wright
President
NWTAS For Clean Oceans Inc

NWTAS4CO is a member of TAMP

Email: nwtas4clean@gmail.com Facebook: NWTAS FOR CLEAN OCEANS

To: Dr Wendy Craik AM and Dr Russell Reichelt AO, Joint Study Leads

Date: July 2026

INDEPENDENT STUDY OF THE TASMANIAN SALMON INDUSTRY DRAFT STUDY PLAN V 2.0 May 2026 AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Submission from NWTAS For CLEAN OCEANS INC. (NWTAS4CO)

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Salmon Industry Study and proposed Stakeholder Engagement Plan

NWTAS For Clean Oceans Inc is a community based environmental conservation organisation located in North West Tasmania. We represent communities from the Marrawah in the far northwest of Tasmania to Panatana/Port Sorell on the mid north coast. The group was established in Stanley in 2021 when local residents learned that Tasmanian salmon companies were exploring areas of Bass Strait for industry expansion. Our constitution states our principal objective is 'to protect ecological systems including the waterways and marine and riverine ecosystems of northwest Tasmania and its wild and scenic resources, from impacts of, or associated with, the aquaculture industry.'

We have two current major projects, one; to prevent the current Blue Economy CRC's 'Bass Strait Aquaculture Research Trial' from expansion into a full blown industry throughout the strait. Secondly; a federal court case disputing the Federal Environment Minister Murray Watt's decision not to review the continuation of salmon farming in Paralungatik/Macquarie Harbour, despite the significant impact it is having on the endangered Maugean Skate and the health of the harbour, 30% of which is within the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage area.

NWTAS4CO is an affiliate member of The TASMANIAN Alliance for Marine Protection Inc (TAMP). As a member of the this alliance we are part of a larger Tasmanian movement opposed to the continuation of the open net pen, in-ocean finfish farming in Tasmanian waterways. This position is predicated on the lived experience of many Tasmanians of this industry in their local bays, rivers and waterways, on the independent science and on our extensive research of finfish farming operations around the world.

Previous submissions by NWTAS4CO include:

- The Tasmanian Salmon Industry Plan 2023
- Bass Strait Blue Economy Zone Aquaculture Research Trial in Commonwealth Waters 2024
- The Marine Farming Expansion, Macquarie Harbour, Tasmania and the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 – not a controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner referral decision (EPBC 2012/6406) 2024
- Rescind the Validation to State Coastal Policy Bill 2024.

And in 2023, we presented a Petition to the Tasmanian Government requesting it:

1. Immediately produce, and publicly release an independent, professional cost benefit analysis of the salmon industry for the year 2021/22, and
2. Prior to further expansion of the salmon industry, produce and publicly release as independent, professional business case to justify the (planned) expansion.

Stakeholder Engagement Plan Feedback:

We note the following intentions:
'The study is a comprehensive, independent assessment...'
NWTAS4CO welcomes the commitment to independence, despite our recognition it is government funded and came into being as the result of an election promise made by the current Liberal Premier. Industry influence also prompts our concern for true independence. This study MUST also ensure due consideration is given to the plethora of witness accounts of damaged marine environments as experienced by Tasmanian individuals and communities.
It must also bring action on findings. This study is preceded by the 'Tasmanian Legislative Council Parliamentary Inquiry into Finfish Aquaculture' (2022) whose 194 findings and 68 recommendations remain largely ignored (see link below). The State Liberal Government's own 'Tasmanian Salmon Industry Plan' (released May 2023), has also not been fully enacted.
https://tasmaniantimes.com/2022/05/parliamentary-fin-fish-inquiry-report-released/

'... identify and listen to stakeholders...'
We note the expansive stakeholder register and thank you for it. We believe the most relevant and worthy stakeholders are the people of Tasmania living in communities where marine environments have been adversely affected by this industry, some for decades. Historically these Tasmanians have not been listened to. Another cohort with extensive knowledge and experience historically dismissed, is the many environmental conservation organisations, mostly comprised of volunteers who give hours towards protecting the Tasmania's natural environment for all. It is our hope this study will give time to both Tasmanian individuals and groups such as ours. We look forward to witnessing this as the study proceeds.

NWTAS4CO, as an active stakeholder group representing the communities of northwest Tasmanian communities, looks forward to further engagement with this study. We request that public consultation sessions are held in the northwest, giving the chance for all to contribute, particularly in relation to expansion into Bass Strait. With regards to **public consultation sessions** we also request that:

1. Community evidence/input is **accurately recorded and included** in final report/s,
2. **Sufficient notice** is given for public sessions plus adequate time to complete submissions, and
3. Public consultation sessions are held at **convenient and varying times** and **advertised widely** to enable many to attend. We do not consider 'It was on our website', sufficient advertising of such sessions.

Stakeholder Group: Independent Scientists
NWTAS4CO recognise and endorse the wealth of experience and expertise of the many Tasmanian independent scientists including, but not limited to members of the **TASMANIAN INDEPENDENT SCIENCE COUNCIL (TISC**). We request that they are consulted.

NWTAS For CLEAN OCEANS Feedback on Draft Study Plan

NWTAS for Clean Oceans believes the scope of this study is too broad for the given timeline. We feel this may lessen time to fully investigate the most urgent concerns of Tasmanians which we request are given priority. These include:

- increasing damage to waterways impacting their natural functions,
- planned industry expansions in existing areas and new areas, for NW Tasmania into Bass Strait,
- antibiotic use,
- increasing mass mortalities including methods of disposal,
- animal welfare to the fish and native wildlife,
- pollution of inland waterways from flow through hatcheries,
- lack of regulatory strength and enforcement,
- the probable extinction of the world heritage recognised, endangered Maugean Skate, and damage to the Tasmanian wilderness World Heritage Area in Paralungatik/Macquarie Harbour,
- lack of transparency and accountability,
- industry political capture

NWTAS4CO requests that in all aspects of this study, the first consideration is Tasmania's natural environment. We believe in-ocean, open net pen, industrial finfish farming have no place in the healthy vital future we must seek for Tasmania and Tasmanians.

We trust our comments and concerns are considered. Our aim is to contribute to the best outcome for Tasmania and Tasmanians. We look forward to further involvement as the opportunity arises.

Submitted by NWTAS For CLEAN OCEANS Inc

Cass Wright - President
NWTAS For Clean Oceans Inc

TAMP
Tasmanian Alliance for Marine Protection Inc

NWTAS For CLEAN OCEANS Inc is an affiliate of TAMP