From:	Dan Broun
To:	Tasmanian Salmon Study Secretariat
Subject:	Salmon Study Submission - Dan Broun
Date:	Sunday, 5 July 2026 5:14:00 PM
Attachments:	Salmon Study Submission.docx

Dear Study Leads,

Please find my submission for the study attached.

Regards, Dan Broun

Dan Broun

Cygnet Resident

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Dan Broun

[redacted]

5 July 2026

Salmon Study Leads

Dear Study Leads,

I am writing this submission , regretfully with very little available time, this is a shame as I have extensive experience of the negative impacts from the Tasmanian salmon industry and dealing with the regulatory bodies and mechanisms.

I'm a Huon Valley resident and a dedicated conservationist. I believe in good governance and transparency and I can state unequivocally that the Tasmanian salmon industry and its regulations do not have either good or transparent governance.

To be clear from the start. The Tasmanian EPA, the Department of Natural Resources, consecutive Liberal and Labor governments and salmon industry players have been operating in a symbiotic relationship for decades. This toxic symbiosis has led to significant environmental harm, the erosion of trust in regulators and a desperation in sections of the community that have witnessed the amenity and environmental health of the Huon, Channel, Tasman Peninsula and Macquarie Harbour decline from once near-pristine levels to the brink of collapse.

It is your task to understand these relationships, how they have had such devastating impacts and pave a path to restoration before it is too late.

Action must happen now.

I have witnessed first hand how the EPA has deliberately and by systemic design avoided oversight of the pollution produced by the Industry. The EPA has wilfully avoided accounting for mortality data from farms despite that data being freely available to them. The DEADF waste code, specific to the salmon industry should allow the tracking of waste data by weight, by lease (location) and by company. The EPA has flatly refused to gather, collate and distribute this data to the public. This must be fixed.

In doing this the EPA has acted on the needs of industry for secrecy rather than transparency. This approach has also dictated how they provide information on antibiotic use. The EPA has also failed to provide accurate, real time environmental monitoring results to the public.

The EPAs environmental monitoring program also appears deeply flawed. The number of samples taken, the location those samples are taken and how they are disseminated is opaque at best.

The EPA has also flatly refused to use appropriate testing methods such

as eDNA which would accurately identify the source of elevated nutrients in the water. The EPA Director stated in a parliamentary briefing she would not look into these testing methods now or in the future.

This amounts to collusion with industry. A protection racket.

The CEO of Salmon Tasmania is the ex-Secretary of NRE. As Secretary he set the standards for biosecurity and lease conditions for the industry across the state, including the conditions that has seen the calamity in Macquarie Harbour and the decline of the Maugean skate and the worst biosecurity disaster in Tasmania in living memory where he allowed the conditions that has seen Piskirretsia salmonis become “endemic” in Tasmanian waterways.

This disease has seen millions of Atlantic salmon die, polluting dozens of beaches and forced the industry to lean so heavily on antibiotics just to keep their stock alive long enough to be processed for market.

The amenity of the areas this industry operates has been destroyed with noise and light pollution ever present. All night every night. Marine plastics are constantly purged from the farms 24/7, 365 days a year through microplastics, nanoplastics and large volumes of waste dropped from farms, boats etc. The vessels also bring anti fouling and other chemicals into our waters.

Wildlife are slaughtered in their hundreds and thousands from so-called bean bag bullets and seal crackers that maim the protected fur seal to dolphins that die in entanglements to cormorants shot by permit all to protect a fish species that absolutely does not belong in Tasmanian waters. The effects on wildlife extend to the impacts of the pollution the industry emits from effluent.

I recommend the EPA be made fully independent. It’s board should consist of a right and proper mix of individuals that include Tasmanian Aboriginal community members, members of the conservation sector who actively work to protect the environment and the scientific community. The Statement of Ministerial Expectations must be removed and the Director must be appointed by the new board.

Environment and Industry must not be contained in the one government department. NRE has an absolute and conflict of interest in trying to balance the needs of the two sectors.

The Salmon Industry must be made to remediate the marine environment they have so profoundly damaged and they should be made to compensate the residents whose livelihood, lifestyle and physical and mental health they have so profoundly damaged.

The recommendations of the most recent State of the Environment report must be implemented and ongoing work must be funded to produce this report thoroughly and on time.

Salmon farms must be removed from Macquarie Harbour and all

sensitive inshore waterways. They must be moved on-shore.

Hatcheries must be converted to RAS systems as per recommendation three of the fin fish inquiry done some years ago.

I simply don't have the capacity to write much more but I implore you to consider the impacts of the enormous nutrient load this industry is putting into the ever-warming Tasmanian bays and estuaries. There is only one conclusion any right-minded, scientifically-minded rational human can come to. The industry expansion must stop, it must then be scaled back, on-shored and our marine environment must be rested and restored in readiness for the profound challenges global heating will bring.

Thank you for taking this task on. Please be brave and stand up for the marine environment of Tasmania, failure to do so now will bear consequences that will last generations.

I would be very pleased to give testimony.

Sincerely,



Dan Broun