

Salmonid Marine Farming Position

Salmon marine farming has significantly developed in Tasmanian waters over the last 30 years and has become a key economic driver for the Tasmanian economy with particular social and community benefits at a regional coastal level. TARFish has, for nearly a decade, been directly involved in providing input into marine farming plan reviews, permits, lease amendments, certification assessments, research projects and providing feedback to marine farmers on the potential impacts of their activities as they relate to the recreational fishing sector. Coupled with the industry growth recreational fishers have seen the corresponding loss of access to many popular areas around the state due to salmonid marine farms.

As the industry has commenced a significant expansion phase into new waters outside their current marine farm zones the scope, breadth and potential impacts have created a heightened awareness within the recreational fishing community around the future of the industry and where it sees its operations.

It is not the role of TARFish to support or not support salmonid marine farming, but it is our role to look after the interests of recreational fishers in all matters and that is why we have and will continue to proactively support the interests of recreational fishers through continued advice to industry and the Government in relation to the marine farming industry.

The key recreational fishing issues associated with salmonid marine farming relate to:

- 1) Loss of access to marine waters which leads to a loss of public amenity
- 2) The impact of salmonid marine farming on the marine environment
- 3) On water safety of salmonid marine farming infrastructure
- 4) The need for an open, transparent and fair aquaculture planning process that considers the needs of recreational fishers

TARFish will:

- Enter into strategic alliances with other groups (commercial fishing, tourism, oil and gas, conservation etc.) where common objectives have been established.
- Enter into partnerships with stakeholders to forge greater effectiveness in management, monitoring, reporting, education and extension of common interest objectives.
- Participate in stakeholder advisory group, working groups or relevant committees to provide opportunities to engage with government and its agencies on the continuing salmonid marine farming management processes and direction of research for increasing the knowledge base.

TARFish will not:

- get involved at a political level with salmonid marine farming as the association is apolitical.
- raise, or get involved with activities that seek to address, issues that are outside the scope of impacting recreational fishing.