

Complaint 4

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** OOS  
**Subject:** RE: Light and noise late at night; Port Huon  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 March 2024 4:01:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Huon Aquaculture has investigated your complaint and provided further information to the EPA. The wellboat Ronja Storm was collecting freshwater for bathing operations while being berthed at the Whale Point jetty from 9pm to 10.13pm on 26 February 2024. However, it is suspected that the nuisance noise came from a support vessel, rather than the wellboat, since the timeframe you reported lines up to the support vessel arriving earlier. Freshwater is taken up periodically from the net liners at the Whale Point jetty for freshwater bathing of fish at the marine farming leases to reduce fish disease. It is Huon Aquaculture’s intent to only operate during daylight hours (7am to 7pm as a rough guide). The exception to this is for any essential works that may happen from time to time as operationally required. November to February is the busiest time of year for Huon Aquaculture with increased operation and water temperature.

Huon Aquaculture advised that the spotlight over the wharf is for crew safety and points away from residents and towards the shoreline. Is this spotlight also a nuisance for you, or just an observation you mentioned in your complaint?

Regarding light emissions from the wellboat, Huon Aquaculture further advised that “the level of lighting required of the ship is set by the International Maritime Organization as the vessel is a Class Vessel (internationally regulated), we have reduced lighting onboard as much as practicable during these kinds of operations whilst maintaining safe navigation, safety for our staff and the legal obligation of the ship.” The Community Engagement Advisor advised that they would communicate with the Ship Owner and Captains to ensure that they reduce light output where possible.

I was asked whether any photographs were available for them to review and analyse for light levels. Would you grant permission for me to forward your photo of the wellboat to Huon Aquaculture?

Kind regards,  
 Jana

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) OOS

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



**From:** Salmon Regulation  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 28, 2024 11:46 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Light and noise late at night; Port Huon

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received on 27 February 2024 with regards to light and noise emissions from a wellboat at the Whale Point Jetty on 26 February 2024. The Incident

Response Team at the EPA has forwarded your email to the Salmon Environmental Regulation Section.

I have notified Huon Aquaculture of your complaint (without providing your personal details) and requested further information. I expect a response from Huon Aquaculture in the coming days and will contact you again once I have more information to share.

Kind regards,

Jana

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:11 PM

**To:** Response, Incident <[incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Light and noise late at night; Port Huon

Dear EPA,

The following incident occurred last night and is a recent activity (ie in the last year or so) but now occurs more regularly.

- **full name, address and telephone contact details**

[REDACTED]

- **date, time and duration of the incident**

26/2/2024, some hours until around 10pm

- **the type of pollutant or a description of the incident, discharge or emission**

light (full ship lighting plus spotlight over dock) and low frequency noise (throbbing from pumps/engines)

- **location of the incident, being as specific as possible**

Port Huon/Hospital Bay - at Huon Aquaculture Jetty off Whale Point Road (Southern Jetty)

- **the source and cause of pollution if known**

pumping/loading of smolt into wellboat late at night

- **the extent or size of the area where the pollution is visible**

whole of Port Huon/Hospital Bay in line of sight to the jetty

**anything else that is relevant to the incident**

Apparently/anecdotally the loading of smolt is better late at night as the fish are quieter. The need for the amount of lighting is unknown. The vessel is stationary and normal navigation lights should all that should be necessary. The noise apparently is part of the process.

The attached photo was taken from my bedroom window at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] last night just before 10pm, viewing south west.

Happy to discuss.

Regards,



RTI - DL - RELEASE - EPA

## Complaints 5 and 6

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Killora - Noise Diaries - May23-Jan24 - EPA request  
**Date:** Wednesday, 3 April 2024 10:46:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your reply and for your explanation as to why in this instance there are unlikely to be noise diaries of this type that are kept by members of the Killora community.

Notwithstanding this, I would like to reemphasise that getting good quality noise measurement data during a time of peak noise emissions and/or complaint periods is the most robust way for the EPA for checking compliance and that therefore we have redeployed a noise logger at Killora following your complaints of 1-2 March 2024. As such, any community records of noise events while this logger is deployed can help our noise specialists interpret the type of noise you are hearing. We recommend that any community members who can keep a noise diary do so with details such as:

- Date
- Noise start time
- Noise finish time
- Your location
- Noise description
- Weather conditions
- Wind direction
- Other comments

Kind regards

Ray

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

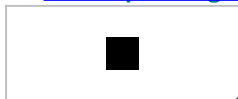
**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




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**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 2, 2024 8:26 AM

**To:** Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Killora - Noise Diaries - May23-Jan24 - EPA request

HALLO Ray. Apologies for taking so long to come back to you. I appreciate your efforts.

The trouble is we are 20+ years into this and the issues are escalating. Locals find the noise “triggering” and so the idea of noise diaries is not really possible.

Also, we realised a few years ago complaining and monitoring were pointless. The lack of complaints did not indicate better performance from Tassal but rather a realisation we should go down a fiferent route Toxi, Paradise Lost and Federal action with Govt, federal regulators and Retailers.

Regards.

On 18 Mar 2024, at 10:16, Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

The EPA Noise Section is currently analysing data from a noise logger deployed at Killora between May 2023 and January 2024.

I have been advised that viewing noise dairies from Killora from this period could be helpful in interpreting the data. The most helpful dates would be from June 2023, July 2023, December 2023, and January 2024. However, any other noteworthy times between May 2023 and January 2024 could also be useful.

Do you, or any other fellow Killora landholders, have noise dairies of this type – or records of noise events – for this time period that you/they would be willing to share with the EPA?

Kind Regards

Ray Murphy

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



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RTI - DL - RELEASE - EPA

## Complaint 7

**From:** Huon  
**To:** [Kruimink, Sam](#)  
**Cc:** [Compliance](#); [Wilson, Kate](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Noise complaint  
**Date:** Monday, 6 May 2024 3:07:57 PM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.jpg](#)  
[o6i6dx73syxjk9jbimg\\_XY5uZrnHz7IrFMf5v1.png](#)  
[o6i6dx73syxjk9jbimg\\_qcLsLwBjDSPfiM9tv1.png](#)  
[o6i6dx73syxjk9jbimg\\_j371vwBBUFkIJtC5v1.png](#)

Hello Sam,

Thank you for advising of the complaint. This complaint was also directly sent to Huon Aquaculture by [REDACTED] and we have been investigating with him directly.

### Summary of Investigation:

Following initial engagements via email, on Friday 3rd of May 2024, Huon [REDACTED] and I met with [REDACTED] at his premises located on [REDACTED] in Randalls Bay to investigate the matter further. It was overcast with some gusts of wind but otherwise fine weather.

During our visit, [REDACTED] invited us into different spaces around his property including:

- The driveway
- Inside the shed
- In the main area of the house
- A back room of the house
- His bedroom

[REDACTED] could hear/feel the noise in all 5 areas while we were present. He described it as a feeling of vibration or a low hum in his head rather than an audible noise at times. [REDACTED] and I could not hear or feel any audible noises other than the natural ambience.

We also went to the end of [REDACTED], directly overlooking Garden Island and Huon Island with our Flathead Lease in the background (within 5km). [REDACTED] could still hear/feel the noise however it was not as prominent as when inside his house. [REDACTED] and I were still unable to hear any noise outside of the natural ambience – it is worth noting that the Ronja Huon was fully operational at the Flathead Lease at the time which was also not audible from Randalls Bay.

While onsite, [REDACTED] informed us he can hear noise down to a frequency that very few people can and shared information sheets about a condition he has, known as ‘Low Frequency Noise Annoyance’, which is estimated to be experienced by only 2.5% of the world’s population. The documents provided state that the noise could come from a range of sources, such as diesel generators, all the way down to electronic equipment, the transformer that provides electricity into the house or even a fridge.

As part of the investigation, we also reviewed our operations in proximity to Randalls Bay over the time period provided by [REDACTED]. We note the noise complaint times and dates do not match with Huon’s farming operations; our Garden Island lease has not been stocked or operational since March 2023, and, while our operations are 24/7, individual equipment like diesel generators are not used constantly and do not match his complaint of 24 hours a day. We are currently undertaking a review of our Flathead lease to ensure the sound baffling on our generator is fully operational and installed as designed, to further ensure this is not the source of the complaint.

**Conclusion:**

We do not believe the source of the noise nuisance is coming from our operations at Garden Island (MF151) or Flathead (MF87) marine farming leases. Based on discussions with [REDACTED] and our own observations, its likely the complaint does not relate to any activity that would constitute a statutory nuisance. Noting [REDACTED]'s sensitivity to low frequency noise, the source of the noise remains unknown, and it is not possible to determine if it relates to Huon's operations.

In addition to checking sound baffling on our generator at Flathead lease and ensuring all equipment is operating as required, we will continue to liaise with [REDACTED] and, where possible, mitigate any activity found to be of impact. [REDACTED] will continue to keep a diary with specific times of any changes in the noise throughout the day to see if it aligns with any farming operations.

Additional request – Outline the status of our noise assessments for vessels around these leases: While this complaint does not seem to relate to noise generated by vessels (rather a stationary 24/7 hum or vibration), it's worth noting that in February 2023, Pitt & Sherry measured and assessed one of our "noisier" boats; a 11.9m feed boat "Ragnarok". While idling with the capstan running at a distance of 25m, it was measured at 53.1 dB with an estimated distance of 330m for noise to drop to 32dB. The distance to the Flathead lease is approximately 5km.

I hope this satisfies your queries, please let me know if you require any additional information.

Kind regards,

Huon  
[REDACTED]



Level 12, 188 Collins Street  
Hobart, TAS 7000  
[www.huonaqua.com.au](http://www.huonaqua.com.au)

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**From:** Kruimink, Sam <Sam.Kruimink@epa.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, April 29, 2024 10:17 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@huonaqua.com.au>  
**Cc:** Compliance <compliance@huonaqua.com.au>; Wilson, Kate <Kate.Wilson@epa.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Noise complaint

Morning [REDACTED]

I wish to notify Huon Aquaculture Pty Ltd (Huon Aquaculture) of a noise complaint to the EPA on 7 April 2024 by a Randalls Bay resident. The complainant reported the noise originally emanating

from the vicinity of Huon Aquaculture’s Garden Island (MF151) lease in May 2023, which then moved further south towards Huon Aquaculture’s Flathead (MF87) lease and has been present since.

The noise was described as a stationary low-pitched constant hum that can sometimes have a rumbling or vibration effect that can be heard 24 hours/day. It has been reported that the noise was not present before May/June 2023. The complainant’s record of the noise mostly relates to issues early in the morning from 0220 – 0800.

In recent communication from the complainant (Sunday 21/4/24), it was noted that the noise has changed slightly and is less audible, however it still causes humming and vibration in their house.

Could you please provide information on the operation activities that have been undertaken which would have produced the noise during the timeframes that the complainant has reported.

In addition, could you please outline the status of Huon Aquaculture’s noise assessments for the operation of vessels in and around the Garden Island (MF151) and Flathead (MF87) marine farming leases, and any mitigating actions that Huon Aquaculture will undertake to reduce noise emissions from vessels operating in and around its Garden Island (MF151) and Flathead (MF87) marine farming leases.

Below is a summary of the diary we’ve received.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>3/02/2024</b>	<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Awake at 0800 Closed all windows to keep wind noise out Can still hear engine noise coming into the house Low audibility, vibration apparent in the house</b>
<b>4/02/2024</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Awake at 0730 Raining Background low hum permeating the house Overriding all other sounds Disturbing and pervasive</b>
<b>5/02/2024</b>	<b>Monday</b>	<b>Awake at 0220 and couldn't return to sleep due to the noise Noise is causing issues due to lack of sleep</b>
<b>6/02/2024</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Restless night Faint noise in the early morning and again in the evening Not as bad as previous days</b>
<b>7/02/2024</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Poor sleep, unable to sleep until after midnight Noise was clearly audible No vibration Constant droning noise throughout the house all day 2145 can clearly hear a generator-type noise outside the house Resonating and warbling</b>

		<p><b>More audible in the house</b>  <b>Light southerly breeze</b>  <b>Clear conditions - appears worse in these conditions</b></p>
8/02/2024	Thursday	<p>Last night the noise was quite bad and generating through the house                  The noise is described as inescapable</p>
10/02/2024	Saturday	<p>Woke up before dawn                  Southerly gale had dropped out                  Driven out of bed by the noise rumbling in the background</p>
12/04/2024	Monday	<p>Woken at 0300 due to the noise                  Noise seems more prominent from about 0400</p>
17/02/2024	Saturday	<p>Noise seems softer at about 0500 but gets louder and louder                  Suspected farm tow but no vessels observed                  Noise from the fish farms are generally louder in the morning, whether they're constant or boats passing through</p>
8/03/2024	Friday	<p>Woken at 0300 due to the noise - rumbling, vibrating, low pitched noise coming through the house and bed                  High pitched noise coming from Surveyors Bay                  Persistent stationary noise is sea-based</p>

Regards, Sam

**Sam Kruijnk | Senior Environment Officer**

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

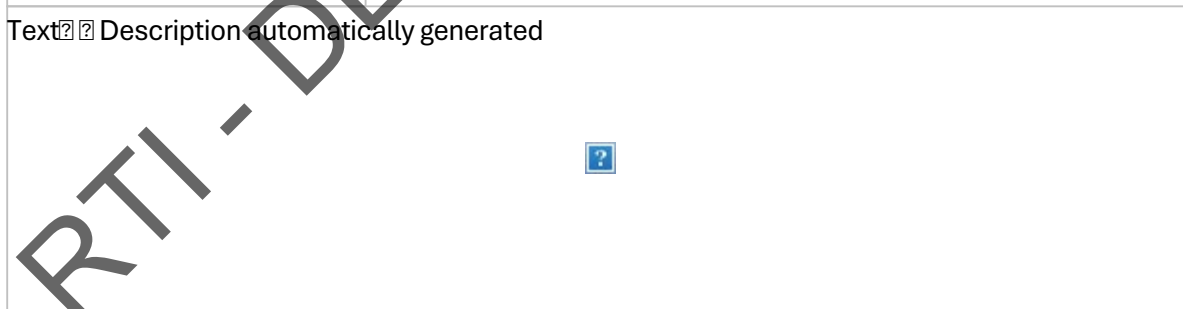
T: [REDACTED]

E: [Sam.Kruijnk@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Sam.Kruijnk@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



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Complaint 15

**From:** [REDACTED]@huonaqua.com.au>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 21 August 2024 3:40 PM  
**To:** Burgoyne, Megan  
**Subject:** RE: Noise Complaint - 22 July 2024 at approximately 1:40 am - Possible source - MF141 (Zuidpool)

Hi again Megan,

As we currently have not had any further information from the complainant, I am proposing to close off this complaint at our end until further notice.

It is worth noting the Ronja Storm will be completing the same operation (Reverse Osmosis) in the same spot mid-September, this will provide insight if it is going to be an ongoing issue for the complainant or if it was just a one off due to weather patterns at the time.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



Level 12, 188 Collins Street  
Hobart, TAS 7000  
[www.huonaqua.com.au](http://www.huonaqua.com.au)

**From:** Huon [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 12, 2024 1:35 PM  
**To:** Burgoyne, Megan <Megan.Burgoyne@epa.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Compliance <compliance@huonaqua.com.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Noise Complaint - 22 July 2024 at approximately 1:40 am - Possible source - MF141 (Zuidpool)

Hi Megan,

Just following up as I have not received any further information and I have not been contacted directly from any community members at Lunawanna.

I have investigated using the information provided:

The noise source was the Ronja Storm making Reverse Osmosis (RO) water at MF141- Zuidpool for bathing Salmon, we make RO water in that spot as it's where there is deep water within sheltered conditions allowing us to comply with biosecurity protocol. This is a routine process in the area and takes around 36 hours so always runs overnight, sometimes particular weather conditions can amplify the noise, however this is the first time we have received a complaint regarding this operation.

Kind regards,



Level 12, 188 Collins Street  
Hobart, TAS 7000  
[www.huonaqua.com.au](http://www.huonaqua.com.au)

**From:** Burgoyne, Megan <[Megan.Burgoyne@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Megan.Burgoyne@epa.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 29, 2024 11:10 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@huonaqua.com.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@huonaqua.com.au)>  
**Cc:** Community <[community@huonaqua.com.au](mailto:community@huonaqua.com.au)>; Compliance <[compliance@huonaqua.com.au](mailto:compliance@huonaqua.com.au)>  
**Subject:** Noise Complaint - 22 July 2024 at approximately 1:40 am - Possible source - MF141 (Zuidpool)

Good Morning [REDACTED]

The EPA received a noise complaint last week from a resident of Lunawanna regarding a “loud noise emanating from the salmon farm across/past the end of Ventenat Point” which was preventing the complainant from sleeping. The complainant said that this was not an uncommon event, but that it was particularly loud on this occasion (at approximately 1:40am 22 July 2024), and therefore they felt that they needed to make a formal complaint to the EPA.

The complainant has not specified whether the noise was coming from a vessel or other farming activities, nor have they provided any description as to the characteristics of the noise that was causing the disturbance. I will contact them to seek further information that may help identify the potential cause and to ask if they would be open to speaking to you directly. In the interim, could you please commence an investigation into a potential cause. Thank you very much for your assistance.

I will let you know as soon as I receive further information from the complainant. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,  
Megan

**Megan Burgoyne (she, her) | Senior Environmental Officer**  
Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Regulation Division  
**Environment Protection Authority**  
GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001  
**Monday - Friday**  
T: (03) [REDACTED]  
E: [megan.burgoyne@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:megan.burgoyne@epa.tas.gov.au)  
W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



Complaint 16 and 21

**Cross, Max**

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**From:** Salmon Regulation  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 11 September 2024 9:20 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: EPA enquiry / Constant diesel noise from Sheppards lease

Hi [REDACTED],

I am pleased to inform you that the audio file from the Killora noise logger has been retrieved and the data and audio relevant to the date and time of your complaint has been analysed and interpreted by the EPA Noise Section.

Importantly, the wind speed from the BOM Dennes Point weather station was low and coming from the south at the time of your complaint. This means that any measurements recorded are valid. Findings from reviewing the audible recording and data file are summarised below.

Date: 24/08/2024  
 Time: 13:10 to 13:50  
 Site noise: Audible  
 Measured  $L_{Aeq,10mins}$  noise level: 31-37 dB  
 Compliance: Complies with daytime criteria  $L_{Aeq,10mins}$  of 45 dB  
 Duration of exceedance: NA

We note that the while the site noise was audible it was compliant with the 45 dB(A) day time noise emission limit of the environmental licence for Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards.

Thank you for registering your complaint with the EPA. We are continuing deployment of a noise logger at Killora and would welcome any further information, from you or from your fellow residents, to assist our detailed assessment of noise in the area. Over time we hope to build a better understanding of the factors that may contribute to the noise nuisance experienced by residents.

Regards Ray

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

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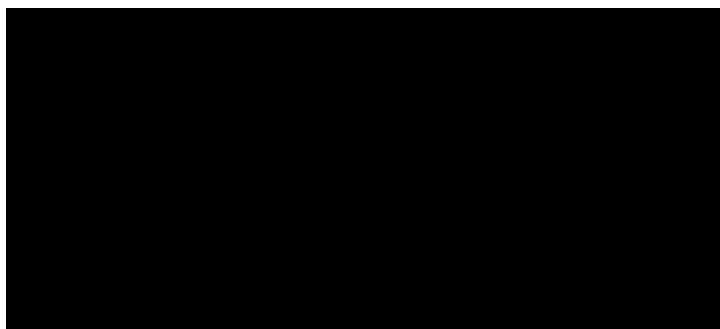
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 28, 2024 2:31 PM  
**To:** Salmon Regulation <Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: EPA enquiry / Constant diesel noise from Sheppards lease

Thanks.

It's hard Ray - it's that annoying low frequency diesel thrumming that is so annoying - particularly on dead calm, cloudy days. And it varies by location - in that day it was clearly annoying at our place but we couldn't hear it down the beach - 250 metres away.

We've been over the issue now for over a decade and it's about frequency and levels above background noise that matter. If you were there as we were you'd ask what the hell is that noise.

Thanks for your help though.



On 28 Aug 2024, at 13:22, Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for your reply.

An EPA Noise Specialist and myself are intending to retrieve the audio file from the Killora noise logger later next week (once the weather settles down). Once this information is analysed for the date and time of your complaint, I will revert back to you with the findings.

We have reviewed the short MOV file (8 sec) that you provided, however, to an unaided ear we were unable to hear any noise. Our noise specialist was only able to hear a very, faint low frequency noise in the video by using a specialist listening device. If you have any additional recordings from this time that might have better captured the noise, please send these through to me for EPA review.

Kind Regards  
Ray Murphy

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



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**From:** [REDACTED]

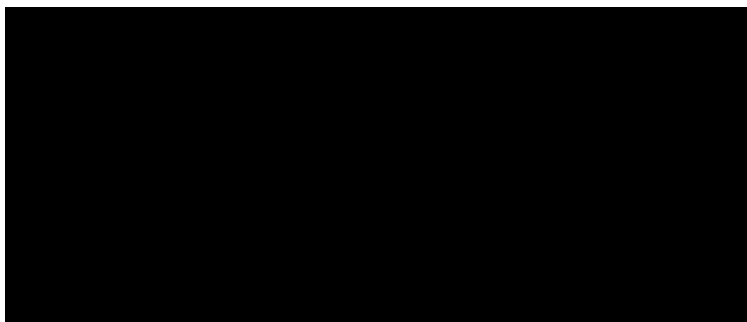
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 27, 2024 8:47 AM

**To:** Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)>

Cc: [REDACTED]@tassal.com.au

Subject: Re: EPA enquiry / Constant diesel noise from Sheppards lease

Thank you. Please add this to the extensive list of complaints. The noise has never fully abated but was awful on Saturday.



On 26 Aug 2024, at 13:10, Salmon Regulation  
<[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED]

This e-mail is to inform you that EPA Tasmania's Salmon Environmental Management Section (SEMS) has received your enquiry.

You noted the time as 1.44 pm and provided a brief MOV file for our consideration. Are you able to please provide any further details about the duration and start and finish time of the noise? Further details on timing and duration may assist the EPA Noise Section in an assessment of Killora logger data.

You will receive a more detailed reply from EPA Tasmania once any investigation or receipt of relevant information to aid a suitable response has been complied.

Kind Regards  
Ray Murphy

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management  
Division

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

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The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error

## Complaint 51

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Port Huon noise enquiry Oct 2024  
**Date:** Friday, 1 November 2024 3:38:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email received 28 October 2024.

The activity of aquaculture industry vessels is currently limited by the day time, evening time and night-time noise limits set out in Part 3, Division 8, Section 35 of the Environmental Standards.

For marine finfish farms, it is the Director's intention to vary current Environmental Licences to include the noise management conditions for marine finfish farming activities specified in Part 4, Division 6 of the Environmental Standards. Current Environmental Licences can be viewed on LISTmap under the 'EPA Regulated Premises' layer ([LISTmap - Land Information System Tasmania](#)).

In the Port Huon region, the EPA is responsible for the regulation of the Whale Point hatchery and aquaculture industry vessels travelling to or from a lease or permit area. Council is responsible for the environmental management of wharves and fish pen maintenance sites used as part of aquaculture activities. Hence, Huon Valley Council may be contacted regarding nuisance noise originating from Port Huon wharf.

The EPA is currently considering investigations into noise emissions of vessels travelling to and from marine farming leases to Port Huon, supported by information provided in other nuisance noise complaints. Any additional logs of times and dates that can be provided to the EPA can further inform and support investigations.

Complaints regarding finfish farming operations can be directed to the Pollution Incidents and Complaints Hotline 1800 005 171 or emailed to [incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au).

Kind regards,

Salmon Regulation

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 October 2024 10:18 PM  
**To:** Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Port Huon noise enquiry Oct 2024

Thank you for this information. I have a couple of follow-up questions.

By way of background, the Port Huon township is zoned General Residential and residents are being woken in the middle of the night by the noise from the well boats. Some of them are keeping logs with time and date for future reference but for now, they are in contact with Huon Aquaculture representatives. In the meantime we would like to understand what

our rights are so that we can take further action if required.

Noise is generated from activities at the Port Huon wharf, from Huon Aquaculture's boats at the Port Huon wharf and from their boats at the Whale Point Jetty (Hospital Bay, near the Whale Point facility). (I'm not sure which is the main source of the problem but I think it's the latter.) Are all of these activities covered by Part 4 Division 6 of the Environmental Standards? And if not, which standards govern those activities?.

Also, Huon Aquaculture representatives often say that they have permission to operate 24/7 but I can't find this in the standards. Is it in their permit and if so, may we see it? We would like to know if there are conditions attached to this apparent right. E.g. frequently conducting activities that generate light and noise at 2am seems unreasonable.

Kind regards,

██████████

On Wed, Oct 23, 2024 at 11:12 AM Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your enquiry received 22 October 2024.

The EPA is responsible for regulating the environmental management of aquaculture activities on the water and at hatcheries.

The Environmental Standards for Tasmanian Marine Finfish Farming 2023, which were prepared by the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania, are one of a set of aquaculture standards designed to enhance regulation and management of the marine finfish farming industry in Tasmania, building on existing finfish regulatory requirements. The EPA is responsible for implementing the Environmental Standards. You can find more information and a copy of the Environmental Standards [here](#).

The Environmental Standards have an increased focus on dominant and intrusive noise characteristics, such as tonality and low frequency, which may contribute to nuisance. The noise provisions of Part 3 Division 8 allow the Director to require licence holders to investigate and, where appropriate, undertake measures to limit the effect of noise from vessel movements to and from a marine finfish farming lease or permit area.

Records of time, date, description of noise, photos or videos and observations of weather conditions and vessels can all assist when reviewing complaints of nuisance noise. The provision of a vessels name will provide the highest level of accuracy. Where this cannot be undertaken visually there are numerous freeware vessel traffic systems available to assisting in identification of vessels in transit. A photo of the vessel of concern with a location, date and time stamp included may also assist in identification of vessel of concern.

Regards,

Salmon Regulation

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) ██████████

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)

# Complaint 65 and 78

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** FW: Tassal Wellboat - Update  
**Date:** Thursday, 28 November 2024 12:25:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)  
[image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[image010.png](#)  
[image011.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your patience while we further investigated your complaint.

The EPA visited the Killora noise logger yesterday. However, unfortunately, an error has occurred with the logger with there being no data on the SD card and therefore we have no noise measurements from the time of the complaint. I apologise that in this instance we are not able to provide you with any noise information to compare with your observations.

The Killora noise logger is up and running again now.

As previously communicated, we encourage the submission of audio/video recordings with any further complaints and for residents to keep a noise diary where practicable.

Kind Regards

Ray

**From:** Salmon Regulation  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 26 November 2024 10:06 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Tassal Wellboat - Update

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for forwarding on the recent correspondence between [REDACTED] and Tassal regarding noise in the vicinity of Marine Farm 154 The Sheppards on Saturday 23 November 2024.

This e-mail is to inform you that the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has received your enquiry.

You will receive a more detailed reply once any investigation or receipt of relevant information to aid a suitable response has been compiled.

You may be contacted by an EPA officer if further information is required.

Kind Regards

Ray Murphy

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 24 November 2024 11:28 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@tassal.com.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@tassal.com.au)>; Incident Response <[incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED] Community <[Community@tassal.com.au](mailto:Community@tassal.com.au)>; [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Subject:** Re: Tassal Wellboat - Update

Dear Tassal and EPA.

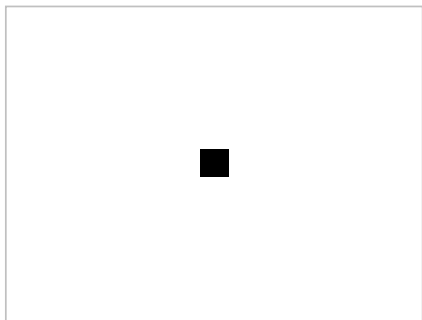
Thank you for Tassal's response. I have cced the EPA here to log this noise complaint and add it to the long list of 100s of similar complaints stretching back decades.

Sadly Tassal's lack of action has seen us divert our efforts elsewhere to see industrial feedlots removed from our inshore waters.

As it has for 20+ years Tassal is doing whatever it likes with total disregard for the community. The noise is unacceptable, let alone the untold ongoing environmental damage Tassal has done to the Channel.

This is why Tassal's social licence has collapsed and it is now seen as a major player in a pariah industry.

[REDACTED]



On 23 Nov 2024, at 3:45 pm, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] <[\[REDACTED\]@tassal.com.au](mailto:[REDACTED]@tassal.com.au)> wrote:

Hi Justin,

I've just spoken with Marine Operations, and they've informed me that today's farm activity in the channel area includes moving a pen of fish from Tinderbox to Soldiers Point. The wellboat will return to Tinderbox this afternoon to collect another pen. At the Shepard site itself, the only operations currently underway are barge feeding and a net cleaner.

Could you please send me a recording of the drone noise? I'll investigate further on Monday.

Best fishes,

Tassal  
[REDACTED]



[www.tassalgroup.com.au](http://www.tassalgroup.com.au) | [www.tassal.com.au](http://www.tassal.com.au)



*Please consider the environment before printing this email*

---

**From:** [Redacted]

**Sent:** Saturday, November 23, 2024 10:38 AM

**To:** [Redacted] [@tassal.com.au](mailto:[Redacted]@tassal.com.au); [Redacted]

**Cc:** Community <[Community@tassal.com.au](mailto:Community@tassal.com.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Tassal Wellboat - Update

Hello [Redacted]

What is the activity at the Shepard site on the channel today.

We have come to Bruny for a restful weekend and all we hear is loud drone sounds coming from the farm.

This is very distressing.

Regards [Redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

On 13 Nov 2024, at 9:20 AM, [Redacted]

[Redacted] [@tassal.com.au](mailto:[Redacted]@tassal.com.au) wrote:

DL - RELEASE - EPA

Hi [REDACTED]

With over 35 years in aquaculture, we employ 1,800 people across Australia, including over 900 in Tasmanian municipalities. Our presence supports sustainable aquaculture and brings significant economic benefits, creating jobs and supporting local economies.

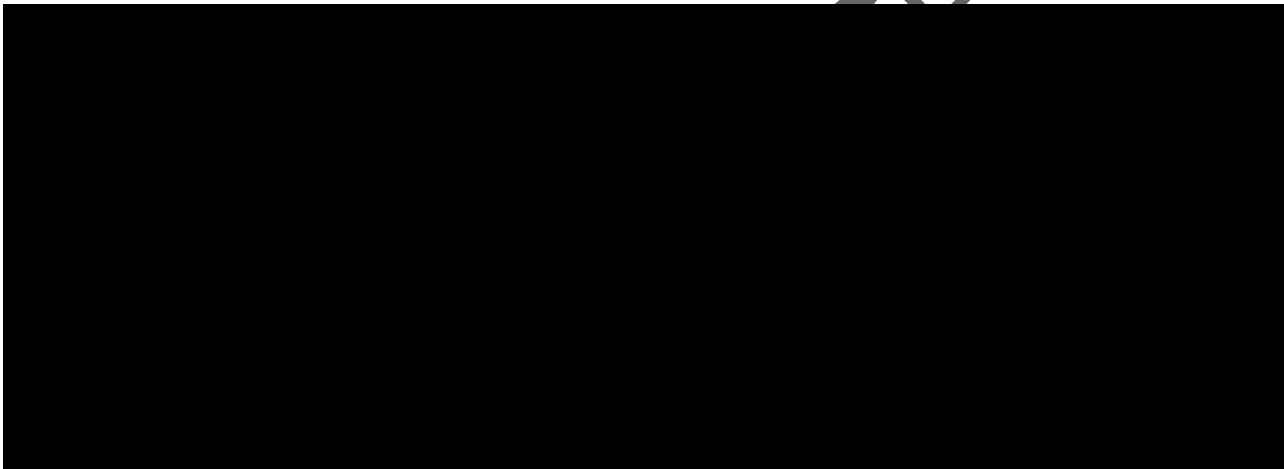
In 2023, we invested \$433 million in Tasmanian suppliers and provided over \$180K in sponsorships and donations to local clubs and organisations.

We are excited to announce that from mid-November, a second wellboat, AquaTas, will be operating in Tasmanian waters. This is expected to reduce overall operational boat traffic within the waterways and streamline our bathing operations. We are also implementing strategies to ensure these operations are conducted quietly and unobtrusively, especially during evening or night bathing activities. Important upgrades and alterations have been made to address any previous issues with the wellboat.

To learn more about Tassal's operations in your community, including our new wellboat, visit [thechannel.tassal.com.au/aquatas](http://thechannel.tassal.com.au/aquatas).

If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Best fishes,



[www.tassalgroup.com.au](http://www.tassalgroup.com.au) | [www.tassal.com.au](http://www.tassal.com.au)



[<image005.png>](#) [<image006.png>](#)

*Please consider the environment before printing this email*

TASSAL GROUP LIMITED  
Incorporating Tassal Operations Pty Ltd, Aquatas Pty Ltd and De Costi Seafoods Pty Ltd (collectively "**Tassal**")

## Complaint 121

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Noise Complaint 8 February 2025  
**Date:** Monday, 17 February 2025 3:50:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

This email is to inform you that the Environment Protection Authority has received your noise complaint from 8 February 2025, and it has been documented accordingly.

I can inform you the EPA received another noise complaint regarding the same timeframes as your complaint and Huon Aquaculture was contacted. Following investigation, Huon Aquaculture identified a low frequency noise source on the Ronja Huon, and mitigation works are planned.

I can also inform you on 4 December 2024, following several complaints in the area, the Director issued a notice to Huon Aquaculture Company requiring them to undertake a nuisance noise investigation and impact assessment for vessels transiting the Huon River that undertake activities on behalf of the company.

Kind regards,

Salmon Regulation

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



RTI - DL - RELEASE - EPA

## Complaint 129

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Noise from Brabazon Point lease - 20 February 2025  
**Date:** Friday, 11 April 2025 1:15:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

It has come to our attention that you have enquired about the status of your noise complaint on 20 February 2025.

Tassal provided the EPA with information on their operations that day and their noise modelling results, and we provided a summary to by email on 28 February 2025. Please see the email below.

Regarding the results from the EPA noise monitoring at Brabazon Point last year, the report concluded the following:

- From site observations and listening to recorded audio files, lease activity is clearly audible at your property and at times contains low frequency characteristics. Please note that noise logging only relates activities on the lease, and noise from passing vessels was not considered.
- Based on the site observations, it is unlikely that the lease was operating at full capacity and that the worst-case scenario was captured. The site was not operational during the evening and night-time periods.
- Noise emissions from the lease from February to March 2024, and late June to August 2024 were compliant with the noise limits set out in the 2023 *Environmental Standards for Finfish Farming*.

I hope this provides some clarification.

Kind regards,

Salmon Team

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




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**From:** Salmon Regulation  
**Sent:** Friday, 28 February 2025 3:55 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Noise from Brabazon Point lease - 20 February 2025

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your call to the EPA Hotline on 20 February 2025 regarding modulating, low frequency noise from the Brabazon Point lease. Following your complaint, Tassal was contacted by the EPA to investigate the issue.

Tassal confirmed that their operations on 20 February 2025 included the use of two outboard vessels and one heavy works vessel. Collar cleaning occurred between 8 am and 3:30 pm. The weather conditions at the time were overcast with a southwest wind at 22 km/h. Tassal's noise emission modelling results for these operations and weather conditions showed that total dBA was below the daytime limit of 45 dBA at noise sensitive premises around the Brabazon Point

lease as per the Environmental Licence. Tassal also noted external activities, such as tree trimming and chipping on the road adjacent to the Brabazon Point lease that may have contributed to the noise levels, these activities were not related to Tassal's operations. Tassal confirmed that collar cleaning has finished by now.

The EPA Noise Section has finalised the results from the noise monitoring that occurred at Brabazon Point last year, and we will contact you shortly to advise you of the outcome.

Kind regards,

Salmon Team

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



RTI - DL - RELEASE - EPA

## Complaint 156

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Noise Complaint - Brooke M  
**Date:** Friday, 21 March 2025 3:32:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

This email is to inform you that the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has received your vessel noise complaint. Your complaint has been documented accordingly.

Based on feedback from Huon Aquaculture, the vessel Brooke M was towing an empty collar, with no nets installed up the Huon river. Engine revolutions were low as there was limited drag on the collar.

Information on P. salmonis can be found on the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania's website ([Salmon mortalities | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania](#)).

Further enquiries regarding the distribution of P. salmonis are best directed to Biosecurity Tasmania ([Contact Us | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania](#)).

Regards

Salmon Regulation

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) 6165 4599

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




---

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, 17 March 2025 7:23 AM

**To:** Incident Response ; Salmon Regulation ; [hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:hvc@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)

**Subject:** Noise Complaint - Brooke M

Good morning,

I have been granted the honour this morning of waking up to the dulcet tones of Brooke M, creeping up the river at a heady pace of 1.1 knots.

Is it towing morts? Something else? I assume the pen must be terribly heavy for towing to have taken 7 hours to move it between Police Point and Bullock Point.

Are we in the business of simply redistributing P. Salmonis through the region? I suppose now that it's officially 'endemic', it's no problem.

Please correct any misunderstanding I may have on this matter. Please also log the noise complaint.

Regards,



## Complaint 158

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Noise complaint  
**Date:** Friday, 4 April 2025 12:36:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi [REDACTED],

I can now provide you with the following information from both Tassal and Huon Aquaculture.

- Tassal was not operating our well boats in that area. Additionally, our Tinderbox lease currently does not have fish, so there is no equipment operating there.
- There is a chance that the low hum they could hear was the Huon Supply vessel. The Huon supply vessel was anchored in North West Bay on 28<sup>th</sup> of March, this only happens on rare occasions when there are certain weather windows in the early morning that they will need to work through.

Given this information, we do not consider that this requires further EPA investigation at this time. The EPA recommend that one of the best ways for members of the public to report ongoing noise issues is to keep a noise diary, as we can then build up a picture of what noise you may be experiencing and then potentially investigate in more detail if required. It is my understanding that the EPA has previously recommended you keep a noise diary regarding previous complaints you made in 2023.

If you consider that there is an ongoing noise issue, I suggest that you start keeping a noise diary over the next 1-2 months and then contact the EPA again (at [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)) if you consider that there have been any issues during that time that may require our further investigation.

Please note that I will be on leave from today and returning to work on Monday 5 May 2025. However, if you contact us using this email address, one of my colleagues in the Salmon Regulation team will be able to respond to your enquiry.

Kind regards

Ray

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 2 April 2025 4:53 PM  
**To:** Salmon Regulation  
**Subject:** Re: Noise complaint

Thanks Ray.

Cheers

█

On Wed, 2 Apr 2025, 4:22 pm Salmon Regulation, <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for this extra information and returning my phone call.

We will follow up with both Huon Aquaculture (Storm Bay) and Tassal (upper Channel) to see if there were any activities at that time that may have generated a noise of this description.

I will aim to get back to you in a timely manner.

Regards

Ray

**Ray Murphy (he, him, his) |Senior Environmental Officer**

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: [REDACTED]

E: [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



*Please note that I work a nine day fortnight and I am out of the office every second Friday.*

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, 2 April 2025 2:13 PM

**To:** Salmon Regulation <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Noise complaint

Hi Ray, thanks for getting back to me.

- Do you have a diary of noise observed at other times at your residence (I believe that this is [REDACTED], based on previous correspondence with the EPA).

I am not one of those people that looks to stir the pot so I do not keep a diary of noise.

Needless to say the noise from the fish farms is pretty constant but more noticeable at night as the other background drops away. My house was built in the days when there was no noise out this way so it's not really suited to all this salmon farming activities. Something i will need to fix at some point. Should i be keeping a diary?

- The start and finish time of the noise on the 28 March 2025

I did not take specific note of when of when it started and finished. Needless to say i noticed it as it got dark and the background noise dropped away. It kept going into the early hours of the morning but while still dark. It woke me up several times because of the noise. It was not very nice of them to do that even if they have extra work to do at the moment.

- Describe the type of noise (e.g. low humming, loud banging, etc)

It was not a loud bang and it was much more than the usual low hum. It is probably best described as a low hum but much louder than usual.

- Suspected direction of noise (e.g. Storm Bay, Channel, etc)

I could not be totally sure which direction. It was definitely coming from either storm Bay or the channel but I could not exactly tell which one.

- Any other observations

I almost sent you another complaint last night. A guy further around tinderbox was using an excavator to prepare the foundations for an extension to his house and went about 15-20 mins

past 8pm. It was bloody annoying. I do not want to say who at this stage but I was walking past earlier that afternoon so I knew exactly where that was coming from. Hopefully it will not happen again.

Cheers [REDACTED]

On Wed, 2 Apr 2025, 1:34 pm Salmon Regulation, <[Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Dear [REDACTED],

Thank you for your enquiry to the EPA. I have just tried to call you and have left a message on your mobile requesting that you please call me back so that we may be able to gather further details from you.

The sort of further information we suggest you provide is:

- Do you have a diary of noise observed at other times at your residence (I believe that this is [REDACTED], based on previous correspondence with the EPA)
- The start and finish time of the noise on the 28 March 2025
- Describe the type of noise (e.g. low humming, loud banging, etc)
- Suspected direction of noise (e.g. Storm Bay, Channel, etc)
- Any other observations

Kind Regards

Ray Murphy ([REDACTED])

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) 6165 4599

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Monday, 31 March 2025 5:54 PM

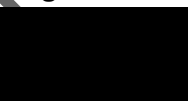
**To:** Incident Response <[incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:incidentresponse@epa.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Noise complaint

I wish to lodge a noise complaint relating to fish farming. The noise on Friday night 28 March was significantly louder than other nights and it made it very difficult to sleep.

I do not know which farm it was coming from. I live in Tinderbox.

Regards



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Complaint 164

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Noise Complaint - net towing  
**Date:** Wednesday, 7 May 2025 1:13:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for your complaint received 2 May 2025.

I can inform you that, following investigation of this complaint, Huon Aquaculture have identified the vessel that was the source of your noise complaint on 2 May 2025.

Huon Aquaculture’s regular towing vessel was out of action due to unplanned maintenance. A smaller vessel, ‘Sambo’, was used for the operation. Sambo is fitted with outboard motors rather than inboards, and was working against an outgoing tide, resulting in higher revs which may have amplified the issue.

Kind regards,

Salmon regulation

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**  
 GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)




---

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 2 May 2025 8:51 AM  
**To:** Response, Incident (Environment) ; Salmon Regulation  
**Subject:** Noise Complaint - net towing

This is a noise complaint about noise from a vessel currently towing a net-pen towards Port Huon/Whale Point.

I am unable to see the name of the vessel, and it is not marked on the vessel monitoring apps. Please investigate this for me with both Huon Aquaculture and Tassal.

The vessel produces a loud, low-frequency whine while towing the net pen—a persistent harmonic tone that overwhelms engine noise and is clearly audible from all indoor areas of my home.

Regards,

Wattle Grove Resident  
 [REDACTED]

Complaint 167

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Assessment of Noise Complaint – Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards – 2 and 27 June 2025  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 August 2025 3:24:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

**ASSESSMENT OF NOISE COMPLAINT - ENVIRONMENTAL LICENCE NO. 9869/5 – MARINE FARMING LEASE NO. 94 THE SHEPPARDS – 2 and 27 JUNE 2025**

Thank you for submitting a noise complaint to the EPA on 2 and 27 June 2025 regarding noise from Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards, operated by Aquatas Pty Ltd (Tassal). Based on noise complaints from members of the public and an assessment of data from the EPA monitoring location (Killora), EPA is satisfied that, on 2 June 2025, Tassal was non-compliant with condition N2(1) imposed on Environmental Licence No. 9869/5 (which prohibits exceedance of noise emissions from the marine finfish farming activity at any Noise Sensitive Premises) being exceedance of 45 db(A) day time limit.

On this occasion, EPA has issued Tassal with a **Warning Notice** in accordance with the EPA Compliance and Enforcement Policy 2022 (available on the EPA website) rather than pursuing charges. Tassal is advised that this notice will be taken into consideration in determining the appropriate regulatory response in relation to any future non-compliance.

While analysed data for the monitoring period on 27 June 2025 also exceeded the applicable day time noise limit, a non-compliance was not recorded in this instance as measured noise levels were influenced by clearly audible wave noise, although significant tonal and low frequency noise was present at this time. Tassal has been directed to provide EPA with further details regarding activities on 27 June to help better understand the characteristics of the noise that was measured.

To assist with noise monitoring and compliance of MF94, I wish to invite you to host a long-term noise logger and a weather station at your property boundary. EPA staff would need to attend the logger after every 10-days to download data for analysis.

If you have any queries regarding this assessment or logger hosting request, please contact Ray Murphy on [REDACTED] or via email [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au).

Kind Regards

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



Complaint 168

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Assessment of Noise Complaint – Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards – 2 June 2025  
**Date:** Thursday, 7 August 2025 3:26:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

---

Dear [REDACTED]

**ASSESSMENT OF NOISE COMPLAINT - ENVIRONMENTAL LICENCE NO. 9869/5 – MARINE FARMING LEASE NO. 94 THE SHEPPARDS – 2 JUNE 2025**

Thank you for submitting a noise complaint to the EPA on 2 June 2025 regarding noise from Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards, operated by Aquatas Pty Ltd (Tassal).

Based on noise complaints from members of the public and an assessment of data from the EPA monitoring location (Killora), EPA is satisfied that, on 2 June 2025, Tassal was non-compliant with condition N2(1) imposed on Environmental Licence No. 9869/5 (which prohibits exceedance of noise emissions from the marine finfish farming activity at any Noise Sensitive Premises) being exceedance of 45 db(A) day time limit.

On this occasion, EPA has issued Tassal with a **Warning Notice** in accordance with the EPA Compliance and Enforcement Policy 2022 (available on the EPA website) rather than pursuing charges. Tassal is advised that this notice will be taken into consideration in determining the appropriate regulatory response in relation to any future non-compliance.

To assist with noise monitoring and compliance of MF94, I wish to invite you to host a long-term noise logger and a weather station at your property boundary. EPA staff would need to attend the logger after every 10-days to download data for analysis.

If you have any queries regarding this assessment or logger hosting request, please contact Ray Murphy on 0400 968 151 or via email [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au).

Kind Regards

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section](#) | [Salmon Environmental Management Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

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W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



RTI - DL - RELEASED - EPA

## Environment Protection Authority

GPO Box 1550 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia

Enquiries: Ray Murphy  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)  
Our Ref: D25-116953



6 August 2025

Mr Mark Ryan  
Managing Director and CEO  
Aquatats Pty Ltd  
ACN: 002 509 453  
GPO Box 1645  
HOBART TAS 7001

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Mark Ryan

### **WARNING NOTICE CONTRAVENTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL LICENCE NO. 9869/5 AT MARINE FARMING LEASE NO. 94 THE SHEPPARDS**

I am writing to draw your attention to a significant non-compliance against Noise Limits condition N2(1) of Environmental Licence No. 9869/5 at Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Sheppards on 2 June 2025, based on an assessment of EPA noise logger data conducted in response to noise complaints from members of the public.

I am advised there is *prima facie* evidence to support charges against Aquatats Pty Ltd for the following offence:

- Noise emissions (expressed as the equivalent continuous A- weighted sound pressure level) from the marine finfish farming activity measured at Noise Sensitive Premises (NSP) owned by a person other than the licence holder, exceeding the 45 dB(A) day time limit contrary to section 42C(4) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA)

Based on the analysed data for the monitoring period on 2 June 2025, noise emissions at the monitoring location (representative of the complainant property) for the time period listed below exceeded the applicable day time noise limit as follows:

- 11:00 am –  $L_{Aeq,10min}$  49 dB(A)
- 11:20 am –  $L_{Aeq,10min}$  48 dB(A)
- 11:30 am –  $L_{Aeq,10min}$  52 dB(A)
- 11:40 am –  $L_{Aeq,10min}$  49 dB(A)

EPA findings from the above listed noise monitoring periods are not consistent with Aquatats Pty Ltd's 6 June 2025 response to complainants that "The modelling confirmed that noise levels were **well within the limits** set by our Environmental Licence, with predicted levels at nearby noise receptors, including Killora, remaining comfortably below the required 45dBA."

In addition, in response to another noise complaint on 27 June 2025 by one of the same members of the public, analysed data for the monitoring period also exceeded the applicable day time noise limit. However, a non-compliance is not recorded in this instance as measured noise levels were influenced by clearly audible wave noise, although significant tonal and low frequency noise was present at this time.

The contravention of section 42C(4) EMPCA is a serious matter. Upon conviction, the associated penalty is a fine of up to 1,000 penalty units, currently \$205,000 in the case of a body corporate. Alternatively, it is an offence for which an Environmental Infringement Notice may be issued, resulting in a fine of 100 penalty units, currently \$20,500.

On this occasion, I am issuing this warning notice to Aquatas Pty Ltd in accordance with the EPA's Compliance Policy (published on the EPA website), rather than pursuing charges, on the basis that Aquatas Pty Ltd submits the required information and provides a mitigation plan and other information described below.

You are advised that this notice will be taken into consideration in determining the appropriate regulatory response in relation to any future similar incident.

In making this decision to issue a warning, I have considered historic noise investigations and reports regarding MF94, ongoing operational management actions undertaken by Tassal, and the long history of complaints from Killora residents.

I require Tassal to provide the following information within 14 days of the receipt of this letter:

1. Mitigation/management measures to be implemented at MF94 to avoid future exceedance of noise emission limits.
2. Whether Tassal's noise modelling was validated against any monitoring results.
3. Provide all adopted modelling assumptions including the following:
  - a. Details of the modelled noise scenario/s;
  - b. List and locations of all modelled noise sources;
  - c. 1/3 octave data for all modelled noise sources;
  - d. Assumed ground absorptions;
  - e. Predicted results at noise sensitive premises (NSP); and
  - f. Source contributions at NSP for net cleaning and vessel *Maverick's* collar cleaning operations.
4. Whether activities at MF94 at the time of the 27 June 2025 complaint were different from those during the 2 June 2025 complaint and details of these activities.

If you have any queries regarding this assessment, please contact Ray Murphy on [REDACTED] or via email at [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Darryl Cook  
**DIRECTOR FINFISH COMPLIANCE**  
**Delegate for the Director, Environment Protection Authority**

cc: [tassalcompliance@tassal.com.au](mailto:tassalcompliance@tassal.com.au)  
[tassalmarinecompliance@tassal.com.au](mailto:tassalmarinecompliance@tassal.com.au)

Enquiries: Ray Murphy  
Phone: [REDACTED]  
Email: [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)  
Our Ref: D25-173009

16 October 2025

Mark Ryan  
Managing Director and CEO  
Aquatass Pty Ltd  
ACN: 002 509 453  
GPO Box 1645  
HOBART TAS 7001

Email: [Mark.Ryan@tassal.com.au](mailto:Mark.Ryan@tassal.com.au)

Dear Mark Ryan

**TASSAL RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE INFORMATION - ENVIRONMENTAL LICENCE NO. 9869/5 AT MARINE FARMING LEASE NO. 94 THE SHEPPARDS**

Thank you for your 9 September 2025 response to my 6 August 2025 letter [Our Ref: D25-116953] requiring the provision of information in relation to non-compliance against condition N2(1) of Environmental Licence No. 9869/5 (EL) in contravention of section 42C(4) of the *Environmental Management and Pollution Control Act 1994* (EMPCA).

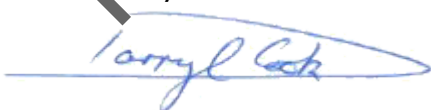
I am satisfied that all information required has been provided.

It is noted that the initial Tassal noise modelling had not been validated and had underpredicted the actual noise emissions by approximately 14 dB(A). I acknowledge that the model is now updated using sound power levels for the *Viper* barge collar cleaner and validated against the EPA measured noise levels on 2 June 2025.

Thank you for committing to undertake further mitigative actions going forward, including minimising other noise-generating operations during collar cleaning and investigating improved methods for collar cleaning. These actions will be necessary to ensure compliance.

If you have any queries regarding this assessment, please contact Ray Murphy on [REDACTED] or via email at [Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ray.Murphy@epa.tas.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Darryl Cook  
**DIRECTOR FINFISH COMPLIANCE**  
Delegate for the Director, Environment Protection Authority

cc: [tassalcompliance@tassal.com.au](mailto:tassalcompliance@tassal.com.au)  
[tassalmarinecompliance@tassal.com.au](mailto:tassalmarinecompliance@tassal.com.au)

## Complaint 173

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [Berry, Kate](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Tassal Shepards lease Bruny island - your complaints 14 August 2025 and 29 November 2025  
**Date:** Tuesday, 9 December 2025 4:10:00 PM

---

Dear [REDACTED]

I wish to apologise for the significant delay in responding to your noise complaint of 14 August 2025.

Unfortunately, the EPA Noise Section has experienced high demand and staffing constraints over the last few months resulting in delays in analysis of noise logger data.

For the 14 August 2025, noise was analysed as being below the day time limit of 45dB(A) and no exceedance was recorded.

The following analysis summary is provided:

Date: 14/08/2025

Time: 10:00am (9:30am to 10:30am data checked)

Complaint description: "Constant drone/throbbing sound coming from the lease"

Audibility: Audible underlying mechanical noise, sometimes tonal and rhythmic. Aligns with the description from the complainant.

Compliance: Expected to comply with the specified noise limits.

Duration of exceedance: NA

Marine Traffic check: No vessels found.

Your subsequent noise complaint for 29 November 2025 (EPA notification #11560) is acknowledged.

I can confirm that we have data from the Killora noise logger for this day/time. The team intend to service the Killora logger within the next week to collect the audio files. It is our intention to analyse the data and provide you with a more detailed reply ASAP within our current capacity.

Thank you for your patience.

Kind Regards  
Ray Murphy

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division  
Environment Protection Authority  
GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001  
T: (03) [REDACTED]  
E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)  
W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)

-----Original Message-----

From: Salmon Regulation  
Sent: Thursday, 14 August 2025 10:06 AM  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: RE: Tassal Shepards lease Bruny island -

Dear [REDACTED]

This e-mail is to inform you that the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has received your enquiry.

You will receive a more detailed reply once any investigation or receipt of relevant information to aid a suitable response has been compiled.

You may be contacted by an EPA officer if further information is required.

Regards  
Ray Murphy

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Management Division Environment  
Protection Authority GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au

W: www.epa.tas.gov.au

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, 14 August 2025 10:03 AM  
To: Salmon Regulation <Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au>  
Subject: Tassal Shepards lease Bruny island -

My name is [REDACTED]

I live opposite the Tassal Salmon farm at Shepards lease. Marine Farming Lease No. 94 The Shepards

It is 10 am 14/08/25 and there is constant drone/ throbbing sound coming from the lease.

Please inspect this sound pollution.

Nothing has improved since you sent the warning to them after the 2 nd of June.

Regards [REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

RTI - DL - RELEASE - EPA

## Complaint 186

**From:** [Salmon Regulation](#)  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Vessel noise complaint - 25 October 2025  
**Date:** Monday, 10 November 2025 10:28:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)

---

Hi [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email, received by the EPA Incident Response Team on 27 October 2025, in which you made a complaint about noise pollution from Huon Aquaculture Company operations. Your complaint has been documented accordingly.

Huon Aquaculture Company has undertaken an investigation into the operational activities that were being undertaken to produce noise at the time that you reported. Huon Aquaculture's work vessel the "Joan M" was towing a pen collar for routine maintenance from Storm Bay to Whale Point.

During operation planning the estimated time of arrival at Port Huon was between midday and 6 pm on 25 October 2025. However, due to the WNW winds and stronger than expected tidal flow, the transit time along the Huon River increased by an additional 12 hours, resulting in the Joan M passing Brabazon Point at approximately 11:30 pm. It then took up to 90 minutes to travel the final 1.6 nautical miles and unload.

Following this investigation, Huon Aquaculture Company have committed to investigating any operational and planning improvements for future towing events.

Due to several complaints regarding vessel noise emissions in the Port Huon/Huon River area, the Director required Huon Aquaculture Company to undertake a nuisance investigation and impact assessment for several vessels that transit the Huon River and undertake activities on behalf of the company, in accordance with section 35(1) of the *Environmental Standards for Tasmanian Marine Finfish Farming 2023* (Environmental Standards) ([Environmental Standards for Marine Finfish Farming | Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania](#)). Huon Aquaculture Company have submitted a draft report which is currently being reviewed by the EPA. As part of this nuisance investigation and impact assessment, Huon Aquaculture Company must recommend appropriate mitigation measures to manage any noise problems identified, and in accordance with section 35(8) of the Environmental Standards, implement the mitigation measures that are approved by the Director.

Kind regards,

Salmon Environmental Regulation Section

[Salmon Environmental Regulation Section | Salmon Environmental Regulation Division](#)

**Environment Protection Authority**

GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001

T: (03) [REDACTED]

E: [Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Salmon.Reg@epa.tas.gov.au)

W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)



## Complaint 187

**From:** Huon  
**To:** [Bannister, Jana](#)  
**Cc:** [Huon Compliance](#); [Berry, Kate](#); [Cross, Max](#); Huon  
**Subject:** RE: Complaint Notification - Port Huon - 3 November 2025  
**Date:** Friday, 7 November 2025 11:30:59 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[huonjbs\\_4f2bc531-d7eb-48db-b361-585b0fafefaf.png](#)

---

Hi Jana,

Apologies for the delay, this investigation has been quite difficult locating a potential source that may have resulted in the complaint. Usually, an odour complaint can immediately be found as it is most obvious to those working in proximity on site.

I can confirm that Huon were storing nets on site at the time of the odour complaint, however, the nets were stored under heavy duty tarpaulins as per our routine storage procedures to minimise and restrict odours.

There was nothing out of the ordinary that was occurring at the time of the complaint. Only routine operations including pressure cleaning.

Staff members on site have advised that there were no significant or obtrusive odours coming from the net slab area or from pressure washing operations on the Sunday.

Huon did not receive any odour complaints from our closest neighbours in the Port Huon vicinity or surrounding area who historically would contact us directly in the event of noticeable odour.

Huon received historical odour complaints, especially from 2019-2023, and since then, Huon have put Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place to mitigate odour at the Whale Point net slab.

Mitigation measures include:

- Dirty nets on slab are immediately covered under heavy duty tarpaulins
- Nets are not left for prolonged periods to compost prior to cleaning
- Lifted nets are washed immediately and not left airborne for any significant period
- Wind conditions must be favourable if lifting nets via crane

Since implementing the above SOPs, Huon have received positive feedback from our closest neighbours and previous complainants, Huon no longer receive regular complaints due to odour at Whale Point.

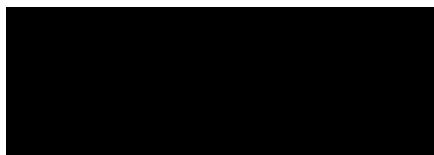
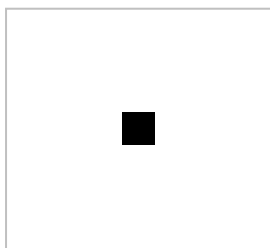
Huon notes that it was a hot day with odours possibly being more pronounced but nothing that would cause a significant nuisance to surrounding stakeholders.

It is also worth noting that the last odour complaint we received from community at Whale Point was in November 2024, by chance our [REDACTED] was on site at Whale Point on the same day as the complaint come through and had already noticed a pungent smell. he followed it down past the dam and found the source was coming from the estuarine intertidal sediment and was terrible, our Whale Point staff provide similar feedback that the worst smell often comes from the river during low tides, especially on warm days.

I have reminded staff to be extra vigilant of any odour possibilities as we are moving into warmer weather and busier periods.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,



Level 12, 188 Collins Street, Hobart,  
TAS 7000  
[huonaqua.com.au](http://huonaqua.com.au)

JBS Ethics Line:  
AU 1-800-763-983  
NZ 0800-002-341  
[jbsethicsline.jbssa.com](http://jbsethicsline.jbssa.com)

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---

**From:** Bannister, Jana <[Jana.Bannister@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jana.Bannister@epa.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 3 November 2025 2:40 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@huonaqua.com.au>  
**Cc:** Huon Compliance <[compliance@huonaqua.com.au](mailto:compliance@huonaqua.com.au)>; Berry, Kate <[Kate.Berry@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kate.Berry@epa.tas.gov.au)>; Cross, Max <[Max.Cross@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:Max.Cross@epa.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Complaint Notification - Port Huon - 3 November 2025

Hi [REDACTED],

I would like to notify Huon of an odour complaint received by the EPA today at 14:10 by a Port Huon resident. The complainant reported a strong odour in the Port Huon area, which the complainant believes comes from Huon's Net Slab Facility as they can see and hear pressure washing occurring.

Could you please confirm what activities are occurring at the Net Slab Facility that may have produced the odour?

Thank you,  
Jana

**Jana Bannister | Senior Environmental Officer**  
Salmon Environmental Regulation Section  
**Environment Protection Authority**  
GPO BOX 1550, HOBART, TAS, 7001  
T: (03) [REDACTED]  
E: [jana.bannister@epa.tas.gov.au](mailto:jana.bannister@epa.tas.gov.au)  
W: [www.epa.tas.gov.au](http://www.epa.tas.gov.au)