



ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Level 6, 134 Macquarie Street, Hobart TAS
GPO Box 1550, Hobart, TAS 7001 Australia

Enquiries: Wes Ford
Phone: 6165 4523
Email: Wes.Ford@environment.tas.gov.au
Web: www.epa.tas.gov.au
Our Ref: EN-EM-PE-SM-251454

6 June 2017
Mr Mark Ryan
Tassal Group Ltd
GPO Box 1645
HOBART TAS 7001

Dear Mr Ryan,

I am writing to you today to clarify the intent on the biomass determination as per my correspondence of 31 May 2017. It is not clear from the biomass instruments themselves (attachment 2 and attachment 3) that Tassal's 13 tonnes per hectare biomass allocation for without an approved waste capture system, was based on 279.97 hectares (inclusive of marine farming lease No. 214, 219 **and 266**) for the 2016 year class. This was clearly laid out in my letter of 5 May 2017, as shown below;

I intend making the following decisions to reduce the total peak biomass in the Harbour to 12,000 tonnes. The justification for these intended decisions is provided in detail in the draft statement of reasons attached to this letter.

1. *The peak biomass for the 1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018 period will be 12,000 tonnes. This will be comprised of two year classes, with the 2016 year class being the significant proportion. Peak biomass will be allocated on percentage of lease held or operated basis (respectively: Petuna 44.92%; Tassal 30.24%; Huon 24.84%) and equates to a total for both year classes of 13 tonnes per hectare.*

2. *The allocation of the 2017 year class will be based on an available lease area to grow salmonids of 805.89 hectares, with the Franklin lease area not included in the calculation of the 2017 intake. This will mean that effective share of the smolt intake will be allocated as: 51.61% to Petuna; 28.53% to Huon; and 19.85% to Tassal. Based on the assumption that a total biomass of 12,000 tonnes in December 2018 is made up of 90% 2017 year class fish and 10% 2018 year class fish, the companies will need to factor this into their stocking plans. The specific number of smolt authorised to go into the Harbour will be determined with each company when the proposed stocking plans are submitted.*

I have revoked the previous determinations of 31 May 2017 and issued the four determinations that are attached to this letter, to remove doubt as to my intent.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wes Ford', written in a cursive style.

Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

ATTACHMENT 1

DERTERMINATION

I hereby revoke my determination of 31 May 2017 for the **MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE STOCKING DENSITY OF FINFISH THAT MAY BE HELD WITHIN ANY FISH CAGE WITHIN THE AREA OF LEASE NOS. 214 AND 219, BEING AN AREA WITHIN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MACQUARIE HARBOUR MARINE FARMING DEVELOPMENT PLAN OCTOBER 2005** and make this DETERMINATION

In accordance with Management Control 3.3.1 of the *Macquarie Harbour Marine Farming Development Plan October 2005* ("the Plan"), I have determined that within the total area covered by all of the following leases:

- marine farming Lease No. 219 (lessee-Aquatas Pty Ltd),
- marine farming Lease No.214 (sub-lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd);

being an area within the area covered by the Plan, the maximum permissible stocking density of finfish held within any fish cage that may be stocked is as specified in column 2 of Table 1, in respect of the period specified in column 1 of that table.

Table 1

Period	Maximum permissible stocking density (kg per m³) held within any fish cage within the area of lease 214 and 219
1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018	15 kg kg/m ³ which is extended for up to 40% of the cages of the current harvest year class biomass of salmonid fish (inclusive of those cages already harvested) to a maximum of 17 kg/m ³ at any one time, as long as the average for the total number of nets being held on the applicable sites does not exceed 15 kg/m ³ .

The date from which Tassal Operations Pty Ltd and Aquatas Pty Ltd must comply with my determination is 1 June 2017.

Dated: 6 June 2017



Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

ATTACHMENT 2

DETERMINATION

I hereby revoke my determination of 31 May 2017 for the **MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE BIOMASS (TONNES PER HECTARE) OF FINFISH THAT MAY BE STOCKED WITHIN THE COMBINED AREA OF LEASE NOS. 214, 219 AND 266, BEING AN AREA WITHIN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MACQUARIE HARBOUR MARINE FARMING DEVELOPMENT PLAN OCTOBER 2005** and make this DETERMINATION

In accordance with Management Control 3.3.5 of the *Macquarie Harbour Marine Farming Development Plan October 2005* ("the Plan"), I have determined that within the total area covered by all of the following leases:

- marine farming Lease No.214 (sub-lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd),
- marine farming Lease No. 219 (lessee-Aquatas Pty Ltd),
- marine farming Lease No.266 (lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd);

being an area within the area covered by the Plan, the maximum permissible biomass of finfish that may be stocked is as specified in column 2 of Table 1 in respect of the period specified in column 1 of that table.

Table 1

Period	Maximum permissible biomass (tonnes per hectare) that may be stocked within the combined area of Lease, 214 and 219 and 266
1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018	13.0 (without approved waste capture system)

Note that there is no current approval to stock lease 266, however the total combined lease area of 279.97 hectares has been used to calculate this biomass determination for the 2016 year class.

It is a requirement of this determination that when the biomass reaches 11 tonnes per hectare the company must submit biomass calculations and forward projections to the Director on a weekly basis.

The date from which Tassal Operations Pty Ltd and Aquatas Pty Ltd must comply with my determination is 1 June 2017.

Dated: 6 June 2017



Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

ATTACHMENT 3

DETERMINATION

I hereby revoke my determination of 31 May 2017 for the **MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE BIOMASS (TONNES PER HECTARE) OF FINFISH THAT MAY BE STOCKED WITHIN THE COMBINED AREA OF LEASE NOS. 214, 219 AND 266, BEING AN AREA WITHIN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MACQUARIE HARBOUR MARINE FARMING DEVELOPMENT PLAN OCTOBER 2005** and make this DETERMINATION

In accordance with Management Control 3.3.5 of the *Macquarie Harbour Marine Farming Development Plan October 2005* ("the Plan"), I have determined that within the total area covered by all of the following leases:

- marine farming Lease No.214 (sub-lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd),
- marine farming Lease No. 219 (lessee-Aquatas Pty Ltd),
- marine farming Lease No.266 (lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd);

being an area within the area covered by the Plan, the maximum permissible biomass of finfish that may be stocked is as specified in column 2 of Table 1 in respect of the period specified in column 1 of that table. Note that this determination is inclusive of the 13 tonnes per hectare provided in Attachment 2.

Table 1

Period	Maximum permissible biomass (tonnes per hectare) that may be stocked within the combined area of Lease 214, 219 and 266
1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018	28.0 (with implementation of a waste capture system approved by the Director, EPA and subject to any conditions or requirements imposed thereon)

Note that there is no current approval to stock lease 266, however the total combined lease area of 279.97 hectares has been used to calculate this biomass determination for the 2016 year class.

It is a requirement of this determination that when the biomass reaches 11 tonnes per hectare the company must submit biomass calculations and forward projections to the Director on a weekly basis.

The date from which Tassal Operations Pty Ltd and Aquatas Pty Ltd must comply with my determination is 1 June 2017.

Dated: 6 June 2017



Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

ATTACHMENT 4

NOTIFICATION

I hereby revoke my notification of 31 May 2017 for the **SMOLT ENTRY NOTIFICATION OF FINFISH THAT MAY BE STOCKED WITHIN THE COMBINED AREA OF LEASE NOS. 214 AND 219, BEING AN AREA WITHIN THE AREA COVERED BY THE MACQUARIE HARBOUR MARINE FARMING DEVELOPMENT PLAN OCTOBER 2005** and make this **NOTIFICATION**

In accordance with Management Control 3.0.1 of the *Macquarie Harbour Marine Farming Development Plan October 2005* ("the Plan"), I provide that in relation to the area covered by all of the following leases:

- marine farming Lease No.214 (sub-lessee-Tassal Operations Pty Ltd);
- marine farming Lease No. 219 (lessee-Aquatas Pty Ltd),

being an area within the area covered by the Plan, the maximum permissible number of 2017 year class smolt finfish that may be stocked is as specified in column 2 of Table 1 in respect of the period specified in column 1 of that table.

Table 1

Period	Maximum permissible number of 2017 year class smolt that may be stocked within the combined area of Lease 214 and 219
1 June 2017 to 31 May 2018	500,000

The date from which Tassal Operations Pty Ltd and Aquatas Pty Ltd must comply with my determination is 1 June 2017.

Dated: 6 June 2017



Wes Ford
DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY