

TASSIE SALMON FACTS

We welcome robust discussion - the salmon industry in Tasmania is always striving to do better for the environment and our communities. Feedback is an important part of that - but debate should use science-based evidence.

FACT

Salmon farming at Storm Bay was approved years ago

Salmon farm leases in Storm Bay have been assessed and approved by the State and Federal Governments. A robust, lengthy, public process was followed, which included the development of environmental impact statements and consultation with community and stakeholders. There have been Salmon farms in Storm Bay since 2014. There are no plans for any expansion of lease areas in Storm Bay.

FACT

Salmon is already on land

All Tasmanian salmon companies already grow their salmon, for part of their lifecycle, on land in freshwater hatcheries located all over the State. We believe that a balance of growing our salmon on land and at sea allows us to continue to farm sustainably and employ more people in regional communities across the state. The reality of completely growing salmon entirely on land (in commercial volumes) is not yet proven, - indeed it is currently only 1% of total global salmon production and still has many unresolved issues.

FACT

Salmon farming is constantly evolving based on science

Our industry is continuously improving, driven by science and innovation. This constant process delivers strong and appropriate decision making, allowing us to adapt and improve using results from modelling, data collection and analysis and monitoring. This is currently happening in Storm Bay, informing the science and extensive research being undertaken by IMAS, CSIRO and the EPA.

FACT

Salmon industry footprint is not as large as you think

The current area of all salmon leases in Tasmania is 4,002 hectares (around 40 square km). However, the actual footprint of our pens is only one square km - 1/5th of the size of Hobart Airport - spread over our available lease area allowing for best practice fish welfare and environmental sustainability.

Growth of our industry does not equate to doubling the number of pens or the area of water we use. It means doing more with what we have through efficiencies in production, farming innovation, diversifying the species we farm and pursuing farming spaces in other states as well as more efficient feed. Tasmanian waterways are not, and never can be, overrun by salmon pens.

FACT

Salmon is healthy for you

Tasmanian farmed salmon is a safe, nutritious, healthy, and sustainable food.

Nutrition Australia says that "Salmon is a rich source of (naturally occurring) omega-3 fatty acids which help protect against high cholesterol, high blood pressure and inflammation."

FACT

Salmon is safe for you to eat

In Australia, feed companies are legally required to disclose ingredient details. Salmon feed is a balanced diet containing essential proteins and oils, vitamins, minerals and antioxidants to ensure fish health. Utilising food grade by-products from other farming improves the sustainability of both land-based agriculture and sea-based aquaculture.

FACT

Oh and by the way, salmon poo...

Salmon poo is simply not on your beaches, never will be, nor is there metre high piles of poo under the water. We adhere to the strict environmental regulations that are in place in, under and around every salmon pen. It is in our best interests to meet our strict regulations and keep our marine farms clean and sustainable.



TASMANIAN SALMON GROWERS ASSOCIATION