

Communique

Salmon Industry Working Group Meeting – 29 April 2024

The Salmon Industry Working Group (SIWG) met on Monday, 29 April 2024.

The Chair provided an overview of recent engagements with industry and research partners, including several site visits.

Members were informed of the new ministerial arrangements. There are now three Ministers involved in regulation of salmon – the Minister for Parks and Environment (Nick Duigan), the Minister for Business, Industry and Resources (Eric Abetz) and the Minister for Primary Industries and Water (Jane Howlett).

A representative from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) explained the process for allocating Total Permissible Dissolved Nitrogen Output (TPDNO) in Storm Bay, noting the CSIRO Biochemical Modelling report (2023) and an evidence-based feed conversion ratio on which to base its allocation approach.

A Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania representative provided an update on Macquarie Harbour, specifically the Australian Government's reconsideration of the 2012 decision to allow the expansion of marine farming in the Harbour as a controlled action if undertaken in a particular manner (NCA-PM).

An EPA representative informed the Working Group that public consultation on the draft Technical Standards for Benthic Monitoring (to accompany the Environmental Standards for Marine Finfish Farming) would open for public comment on Saturday, 3 May 2024 and would remain open for six weeks.