
SUBJECT: NRE RTI 033 OF 2025-26 – REPORTED SALMON ESCAPES

Reported salmon escapes since 2020, broken down by date of incident, company, lease and inclusive of description reports on how the escapes happened.

Data reported by Salmon Companies on fish escapes has been extracted from the relevant NRE database system.

Table 1 – Salmon Escape Summary – Statewide

Date Notified	Company Reporting	Lease No.	Lease Locality	Reason for Escape	NRE Comment
2-Dec-20	Huon Aquaculture	281	Yellow Bluff	Tear in inner net	
2-Sep-22	Huon Aquaculture	141	Zuidpool	Significant tear in the inner net of the pen	
3-May-23	Huon Aquaculture	141	Zuidpool	Significant tear in the inner net of the pen	Follow up communication advised no escape occurred.
12-Aug-24	Huon Aquaculture	261	Storm Bay	Not specified	Follow up communication advised no escape occurred.

Plan area management controls (Standardised Management Controls – Section 3.13) refer to statutory reporting requirements of lessees on fish escape incidents.

3.13 Fish escapes

- 3.13.1 Lessees must not intentionally release into state waters fish of the species authorised in the relevant marine farming licence, unless authorised to do so by that licence.
- 3.13.2 Lessees must report to the Secretary any significant incident of fish escapes within 24 hours of becoming aware of the escape. A significant escape is defined as any loss of licenced species to the marine environment in excess of 500 individuals in a single event.
- 3.13.3 Lessees must recover escaped finfish when and in a manner directed by the Secretary.

In accordance with Section 3.13 of the Standardised Management Controls, lessees must report any fish escape in excess of 500 individuals in a single event. While an initial notification of a potential escape event will be reported, further investigations by the lessee can find that no reportable event occurred. This was the case for the May 2023 event at Marine Farming Lease No. 141 and the August 2024 event at Marine Farming Lease No. 261.