

SEAL DETERRENT AND SEAL MORTALITY DATA

Information sought:

1) Levels of use of seal deterrents per salmon company and deterrent device

Response:

In Tasmania, fur seals are known to interact with marine farming operations. Some interactions present a risk to the health and safety of marine farm workers and to the welfare of the seals. Seal interactions may also cause loss or damage to fish stocks and interfere with or damage industry infrastructure.

Under the Seal Management Framework, seal deterrent devices may be deployed under permit to deter fur seals from presenting an unacceptable risk to marine farm staff or interfering with marine farming infrastructure or operations.

The level of seal interactions on a marine farming lease and the need to deploy seal deterrent devices is influenced by a range of factors, including lease location and local environment, design and condition of infrastructure, fish stocking circumstances, and operational activities.

Tables below detail seal deterrent use from January 2021 to June 2022 for Tassal, Huon Aquaculture and Petuna.

Monthly Seal Deterrent Use Tassal

TASSAL			
Month	Seal crackers	Bean bags	Darts
Jan-21	283	95	0
Feb-21	289	37	0
Mar-21	218	14	0
Apr-21	185	15	0
May-21	217	1	0
Jun-21	429	10	0
Jul-21	219	1	0
Aug-21	110	12	0
Sep-21	125	6	0
Oct-21	58	5	0
Nov-21	13	0	0
Dec-21	12	2	0
Jan-22	27	3	0
Feb-22	74	0	0
Mar-22	63	4	0
Apr-22	50	36	0
May-22	132	31	0
Jun-22	51	3	0

Monthly Seal Deterrent Use Huon Aquaculture

HUON AQUACULTURE			
Month	Seal crackers	Bean bags	Darts
Jan-21	373	0	0
Feb-21	353	0	0
Mar-21	459	0	0
Apr-21	671	0	0
May-21	581	0	0
Jun-21	735	0	0
Jul-21	584	0	0
Aug-21	744	0	0
Sep-21	637	0	0
Oct-21	822	0	0
Nov-21	726	0	0
Dec-21	140	0	0
Jan-22	733	0	0
Feb-22	499	0	0
Mar-22	700	0	0
Apr-22	563	0	0
May-22	872	0	0
Jun-22	452	0	0

Monthly Seal Deterrent Use Petuna

PETUNA			
Month	Seal crackers	Bean bags	Darts
Jan-21	395	0	0
Feb-21	232	0	0
Mar-21	191	0	0
Apr-21	146	0	0
May-21	240	0	0
Jun-21	51	0	0
Jul-21	118	0	0
Aug-21	74	0	0
Sep-21	36	0	0
Oct-21	112	0	0
Nov-21	3	0	0
Dec-21	35	0	0
Jan-22	107	0	0
Feb-22	8	0	0
Mar-22	2	0	0
Apr-22	69	0	0
May-22	56	0	0
Jun-22	176	0	0

Information sought:**2) Seal mortality data****Response:**

Monthly seal mortality figures attributable to aquaculture companies for the period January 2021 to June 2022 are presented below. Note, a seal death that is attributable to salmon farming is defined as 'mortality caused by an interaction with marine farming activities, operations and infrastructure including but not limited to: entanglement, vessel strike, other infrastructure interaction, deterrent use, sedation, and humane destruction'.

Month	Tassal	Huon Aquaculture	Petuna	Total
Jan-21		1		1
Feb-21		3		3
Mar-21		4		4
Apr-21				0
May-21		1		1
Jun-21		3		3
Jul-21		2		2
Aug-21	1			1
Sep-21		3		3
Oct-21	1			1
Nov-21		1		1
Dec-21				0
Jan-22	2			2
Feb-22				0
Mar-22	1			1
Apr-22		2		2
May-22				0
Jun-22				0