



Our reference: A5647439

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Dear Mr Palethorpe

Thank you for your correspondence of 13 September in relation to the Senate Environment and Communications References Committee - Climate-related marine invasive species

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions in South Australia has considered the Terms of Reference to the Inquiry and provide the following relevant information:

(b) management options, challenges and opportunities to better mitigate or adapt to these threats, and governance measures that are inclusive of First Nations communities;

The Department of Primary Industries and Regions (PIRSA) undertake Ecologically Sustainable Development risk assessments for each new aquaculture application and include a risk assessment of marine pest introduction as part of this process. Specific licence conditions can be applied to licence holders to minimise biosecurity risks posed by spreading of exotic and noxious species through aquaculture activities. An example of this can be seen for the emerging macroalgae aquaculture sector where management controls are in place to limit movement of stock across the state (Marine aquaculture - PIRSA).

Section 78 of the Fisheries Management Act 2007 has specific restrictions relating to the possession and release of exotic and noxious species, without authorisation. Some or all of these functions may be transferred to the proposed new South Australian Biosecurity Act, which is currently in development. The new Act may also provide additional instruments to reduce aquatic biosecurity risks within the state.

There is growing interest in traditional aquaculture species such as Sea Urchins which are culturally important to First Nations communities. To manage the risk of barren formation resulting from marine pest invasion, (for example, *Centrostephanus* spp.), certain Sea Urchin species will only be considered for grow-out in closed land-based systems in South Australia unless alternative mitigation measures can be developed (e.g. sterile Sea Urchins). Similar considerations will be made for other aquaculture species which may be culturally important to First Nations communities where required.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission.

Yours sincerely



Prof Mehdi Doroudi PSM
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

12/10/2022