HUON AQUACULTURE GROUP LIMITED

AQUACULTURE WESTERN AUSTRALIA | STATE FORUM

MAY 2016
HUON AT A GLANCE

- Vertically integrated producer of Atlantic salmon and Ocean trout
- Annual production of 19,500 tonnes
- Growing regions in the South East and West Coast of Tasmania
- Employing approximately 550 people across Australia
- Majority of sales are HOG salmon to the wholesale market
- Primary Producer of the year at the 2015 National Seafood Industry Awards
• Founded in 1986 by Peter and Frances Bender
• Still majority owners with hands-on roles in the business
• Only “original” pioneer still farming today
• Started as contract growers, launching the Huon brand in 2004
• Farmers not Fishers - Strong focus on animal husbandry, innovation and market led growth
OUR OPERATIONS

HATCHERIES
- 3 “Springfield” Hatcheries
- 2 Saltas Hatcheries (part owned)
- Lonnavale Recirculation Hatchery
- Derwent Hatchery
- Forest Home Hatchery (new)

MARINE FARMS
- Macquarie Harbour
- Southern Farms
  - Huon River and Channel
  - Storm Bay
  - Norfolk Bay

PROCESSING FACILITIES
- Parramatta Creek
- New South Wales

OFFICES
- Hobart Head Office
- Melbourne Sales Office
- Sydney Sales Office
PRODUCTION

HUON HARVEST VOLUMES SINCE 1997

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WEST AUSTRALIA VS TASMANIA

WEST AUSTRALIA
- 20,781 km of coastline
- SW Temperature Min 19 – Max 31°C
- Species selected
  - Pearl Oysters
  - Yellowtail Kingfish
  - Barramundi
  - Prawns
  - Abalone
  - Mussels
  - Marron
  - Silver perch
  - Bream
  - Rainbow trout
  - Yabbies
  - Redclaw Crayfish
  - Murray Cod
  - Ornamentals

TASMANIA
- 4,882 km of coastline
- SW Temperature Min 12 – Max 18°C
- Species selected
  - Atlantic salmon
  - Striped Trumpeter
  - Southern Rock Lobster
  - Mussels
  - Pacific Oyster
  - Abalone
WHY DID SALMON WORK FOR TASMANIA?

- Proven aquaculture species
  - High value – unique seafood product
  - Benefitted from around 10 years of culture elsewhere
    - Transfer of technology
    - Transfer of expertise
- Commitment from government to minimise risk to entrants, lower hurdle height and maintain control over initial industry development
  - Broodstock
  - Hatchery – juvenile production
  - On-growing demonstration/research farm
  - Ongoing research levy to fund pre-competitive research on “local” issues
  - Creation of the Fish Health Unit
- 14 Companies and individuals responded to call for Expressions of Interest
WHAT CAN WEST AUSTRALIA DO?

• Pick a winner
  • Which species offers the least risk/best chance?
• Get community buy-in
• Focus all technical resources into reducing risk for commercial pioneers
  • Biosecurity
  • Health
  • Fingerling supply
  • Demonstration farm(s)
• Streamline environmental compliance requirements
  • Adaptive management
    • E.g. Pen farming limit initial monitoring to local benthic impact (footprint)
  • Broadscale work can wait until industry scale triggers this requirement
• Security of operation
  • Provide business continuity where companies are compliant
  • Develop new zones ahead of market requirements
  • Prevent speculative acquisition of leases by “investors”
THANK YOU