



Enquiries: Alexis Osborne

Email: SaldanhaADZECO@dffe.gov.za

Saldanha Bay Aquaculture Development Zone Consultative Forum Meeting

Date: Monday- 04 August 2025 **Time:** 15:00-16h00 **Venue:** Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Mrs Michelle Pretorius

Record of Proceedings 28 / 2025

All documents referred to are included in the ADZ EDMS user account.

No.	Agenda Item	Responsibility																														
1.	Meeting format: <ul style="list-style-type: none">The meeting took place via Microsoft Teams.Record of proceedings are presented below.All relevant documents and presentations are shared with and can be accessed by Consultative Forum (CF) members via the Aquaculture Development Zone (ADZ) EDMS user account.	Chairperson																														
2.	Administrative matters																															
2.1.	Attendees	Chairperson																														
	<table><tr><th>Name</th><th>abb</th><th>Organisation</th></tr><tr><td>Alexis Osborne</td><td>AO</td><td>DFFE: Sustainable Aquaculture Management</td></tr><tr><td>Fatima Daya</td><td>FD</td><td>DFFE: Sustainable Aquaculture Management</td></tr><tr><td>Ferdie Endemann</td><td>FE</td><td>Western Cape Department of Agriculture</td></tr><tr><td>Kishan Sankar</td><td>KS</td><td>DFFE: Operation Phakisa Delivery Unit</td></tr><tr><td>Mauritz Viljoen</td><td>MV</td><td>Ocean Grown Aquaculture</td></tr><tr><td>Thabisile Mkhize</td><td>TM</td><td>Saldanha Bay Municipality LED</td></tr><tr><td>Rhine Barnes</td><td>RB</td><td>NSRI- West Coast</td></tr><tr><td>Vos Pienaar</td><td>VP</td><td>Imbaza Mussels</td></tr><tr><td>Kevin Ruck</td><td>KR</td><td>Blue Sapphire Pearls</td></tr></table>		Name	abb	Organisation	Alexis Osborne	AO	DFFE: Sustainable Aquaculture Management	Fatima Daya	FD	DFFE: Sustainable Aquaculture Management	Ferdie Endemann	FE	Western Cape Department of Agriculture	Kishan Sankar	KS	DFFE: Operation Phakisa Delivery Unit	Mauritz Viljoen	MV	Ocean Grown Aquaculture	Thabisile Mkhize	TM	Saldanha Bay Municipality LED	Rhine Barnes	RB	NSRI- West Coast	Vos Pienaar	VP	Imbaza Mussels	Kevin Ruck	KR	Blue Sapphire Pearls
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2.2.	Adoption of previous record of proceedings	Chairperson																														

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	The previous record of proceedings was reviewed and adopted. Accepted by Kishan Sankar and seconded by Alexis Osborne of the DFFE.	
2.3.	Acceptance of current agenda. The agenda was accepted by Kishan Sankar and seconded by Alexis Osborne of the DFFE.	Chairperson
3.	Standing items	
3.1.	ADZ Compliance update The key points included: An Environmental Control Officer (ECO) has not yet been appointed. The DFFE project team is providing oversight in the interim. The tender/bid process for the ECO appointment is in the final stages. Out of a possible 24 FMRs – 20 were submitted in May 2025 and 19 in June 2025 No incidents submitted for the May- June period	Alexis Osborne
3.2.	Beach Monitoring and clean-up by the Aquaculture industry DFFE reported that May 2025 was the only month this year during which no beach clean-up activities were conducted by operators in the Big Bay area. This was attributed to adverse weather conditions experienced during that period. (Please refer to graph in the presentation for more details).	Alexis Osborne
3.3.	Incidents reporting- None	Alexis Osborne
3.4.	ECO Contract update and ADZ specialist monitoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECO contract with Anchor Research and Monitoring (ARM) ended at the end of May 2025, the new appointment is in final stages. Specialist monitoring was conducted (Q6: Apr-Jun 2025) - reports will be made available on EDMS. Instrument servicing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All oxygen and nitrate sensors were retrieved and serviced successfully during the May 2025 service interval. Endangered, Threatened, and Protected (ETP) species was collected. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Juvenile humpback whale recorded near Big Bay. Two Heaviside's dolphins spotted near the Marcus Island – no aquaculture in this area currently. Benthic chemical survey <ul style="list-style-type: none"> April 2025- 35 sites sampled across all precincts. High redox and sulphide readings (sediment odour and discolouration) found under Small Bay Mussel Raft. Likely due to lashing raft together- needs to be monitored. Planning for ARM to give detailed presentation in next CF. <p>The Benthic Chemical Report is to be shared prior to next meeting.</p>	Alexis Osborne
3.5.	ADZ production data AO presented the ADZ production in tons both for graded and ungraded production which is still below the 15 000tpa for the EA.	Alexis Osborne
3.6.	Recommendations for operators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Frequent cleaning of biofouling from lines and infrastructure should occur to reduce the risk of lines chaffing and breaking. Beach monitoring and removal of aquaculture debris should occur twice a month (minimally) to ensure that beaches are free of aquaculture debris. Monitoring and gathering data on (ETP) species should be considered a priority as it is a requirement for Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) accreditation which will aid in accessing European markets. Operators must notify the ECO two weeks prior to any changes are made to infrastructure. A two-week notice period prior to any changes is stipulated as per condition 37 of the approved EA. Operators must ensure that infrastructure is labelled with their farm's unique label 	Alexis Osborne

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	<p>and that each raft or long line has the required sequential number.</p> <p>Discussion points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KR raised a point of concern around the requirement for the operators to mark each line infrastructure with sequential numbering of the line. KS requested the DFFE Project team to verify the EA and EMPR to ensure the farmers are compliant, considering the concern raised by KR. KR indicated that currently the farms do mark the end buoys with the unique farm identifiers however it is a challenge to mark each line and marker buoy. It was agreed that depending on the wording in the EMPr it may be sufficient for operators to mark the end floats and then have some unique identifier for each of the smaller buoys between the end-floats. This will be considered and communicated by the new ECO going forward. 	
4.	New matters arising	Chairperson
4.1.	<p>Aquaculture leasing Framework stakeholder engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MP raised the TNPA Leasing Framework meeting planned for 11 August 2025 for industry. • MP raised the TNPA Leasing Framework meeting planned for 19 August 2025, for multi-stakeholder government workshop, including Development Financial Institutions. • Lease fees concern was raised for discussion and responded to by FE, the difference between the TNPA leasing Framework and the current lease fee challenges raised by the industry. VP raised concerns regarding the lease fees escalation and the lack of thereof in addressing this challenge in terms of the leasing framework. MP explained that there are two parallel processes in place the leasing framework and the lease review process where the Rodes Property Valuer consultant who was appointed by TNPA to review the current lease fees has produced a report on the findings. This matter will be dealt with in the upcoming meeting of 11 August 2025 	
5.	Way forward- Action items	Chairperson
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additional comments were made. The next Consultative Forum meeting is tentatively scheduled for 3 November 2025, subject to confirmation. • DFFE Project team to check the EA and EMPR to ensure the farmers are compliant • DFFE team to verify the wording in the EMPr as it may be sufficient for operators to mark the end floats and then have some unique identifier for each of the smaller buoys between the end-floats-this needs to be communicated to the new ECO once appointed. 	
6.	Closure-Meeting was concluded at 15h46	Chairperson
	<p>Dates of upcoming meetings for 2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 03 November 2025 <p>Note: The next meeting invite has been sent</p>	Chairperson

Supporting documents to be uploaded in the EDMS:

- **Presentation: ADZ Compliance update**
- **Record of the previous meeting held on 05 May 2025**