



MEDIA RELEASE

10 November 2025

Council pushes for transparency on antibiotic use in waterways

Huon Valley Council shares the community's concern about the potential impacts of florfenicol antibiotics for commercial salmon farming in our waterways.

While Council has no jurisdiction over the decision to approve the use of florfenicol, our role is to advocate on behalf of our community. To this end, Council has reached out to the EPA, the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE), and aquaculture industry representatives to seek further clarity, express community concerns, and encourage transparent and responsive communication.

To achieve a consistent approach to public awareness across all jurisdictions, Council has also contacted other local councils whose coastlines and boat ramps are close to salmon leases. Mayor Sally Doyle said "We take the community's concerns seriously and are committed to advocating for residents' right to have access to clear and timely information.

"While the salmon industry is transparently reporting on when and where they are using florfenicol, there needs to be a single source of clear, factual and up to date information from the regulator. We've requested that signage be installed at local boat ramps and popular foreshore fishing spots. These signs should include a QR code linking to an improved website that provides real-time updates on any impacted fishing areas. Our community deserves easy access to accurate information so they can make informed choices."

Council will continue to work collaboratively with state agencies, industry and the community to ensure public health advice is communicated effectively, and that recreational fishers are supported during this period of uncertainty.

For more information:

Public health advice: <https://www.health.tas.gov.au/news-sajari/news/advice-public-health-about-recreational-fishing-dentrecasteaux-channel-and-adjacent-waters>

For all media enquiries – contact:

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Industry information on the use of Florfenicol: <https://salmontasmania.au/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/FACT-SHEET-FLORFENICOL-USE-IN-TASMANIAN-SALMON-FARMING-V1.pdf>

For any enquiries, please contact EPA Tasmania: <https://epa.tas.gov.au/>

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