

Public record pursuant to s. 39 of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*

Proposal title: Ocean Barramundi Expansion Project

Proposal location: Buccaneer Archipelago, Kimberley Region

CMS number: 18200

Date referral received: 13-05-2022

Date more information received: NA

Referrer: Marine Produce Australia Pty Ltd **Proponent:** Marine Produce Australia Pty Ltd

Potential significant effects:

There are potential impacts on: flora and vegetation from the clearing for aquaculture nursery sites; marine environmental quality, benthic communities and habitats and marine fauna from the operation of aquaculture sea cages causing a decline in the water and sediment quality resulting in impacts to benthic and marine fauna habitats; and social surroundings, particularly cultural and traditional values, from construction and operations.

Preliminary key environmental factors: benthic communities and habitat, marine environmental quality, marine fauna, flora and vegetation, social surroundings.

Public comment on referral information:

Do not assess:	0
Assess: a) Referral information	0
b) Environmental review - no public review	1
c) Public environmental review	5
<i>Total submissions:</i>	6

Decision: s. 38G(1) – Assess

Level of assessment:

Referral Information with additional information required under s. 40(2)(a) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (4 week public review)

Explanation of decision:

Several preliminary key environmental factors are complex. Detailed assessment is required to determine the extent of the proposal's direct and indirect impacts, and whether the EPA environmental factor objectives can be met. Additional information is required regarding flora and vegetation in the nursery lease areas; consultation and/or survey with relevant Traditional Owners and knowledge holders, fishers and relevant tourism operators; and revisions to the environmental monitoring and management plan.

Appeals: Decision not appealable.



Prof. Matthew Tonts

CHAIR

Delegate of the Environmental Protection Authority

Date: 10 June 2022