

THE D'ENTRECASTEAUX
& HUON COLLABORATION

STRATEGIC PLAN

2018-2023

ourwaterway.com.au



LEGEND

- Beach Monitoring Sites
- Water Monitoring Sites
- Sediment Monitoring Sites
- Marine Farming Zones

- Sewerage Treatment Plants
- Fish Processing Plants
- Marine Debris Collection Sites

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This Strategic Plan outlines the proposed approach for the D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration for 2018-2023. The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration is an innovative partnership hosted by NRM South, which facilitates investment in waterway projects to involve people in action, improve and share knowledge, and inform local communities. This document has been developed thanks to the investment of the founding partners of the D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration, who work together to support and look after the health of these valuable waterways.

The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration also acknowledges the advice and support of the members of the Technical Advisory Group and Communications Advisory Panel in the development of this strategy and delivery of our programs.

This project is supported by NRM South, through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program as well as the Derwent Estuary Program, Huon Aquaculture, Huon Valley Council, Kingborough Council, TasWater and Tassal.

MEMBERS



TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP

Aquenal
CSIRO
Derwent Estuary Program
Environment Protection Authority
Huon Aquaculture
Huon Valley Council
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies
Kingborough Council
Marine Farming Branch, DPIPWE
NRM South
Policy and Conservation Advice Branch, DPIPWE
Tassal
TasWater

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISORY PANEL

Derwent Estuary Program
Huon Valley Council
Kingborough Council
TasWater



ORGANISATION PROFILE

THE CHANNEL AND HUON

The D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Huon Estuary are Tasmania's most treasured waterways – they host more Tasmanian recreational fishers and boaters than any other in Tasmania, and with thriving commercial operators and growing residential development, it is critical that the area's natural values are managed effectively.

The D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Huon Estuary are not only loved by locals, but they are also a cornerstone for Tasmania's tourism industry and our most valuable food producers – our salmon and oyster farmers rely on a healthy waterway, whilst our apple, pear, cherry, wine and cider producers rely on a healthy catchment.

THE HOST AND MEMBERS

The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration (the Collaboration) is hosted by NRM South, which provides the basis for a strong governance structure and professional management of the partnership. The founding partners include NRM South, Kingborough and Huon Valley Councils, the Derwent Estuary Program, TasWater, Huon Aquaculture and Tassal.

OUR ROLE

We bring all interested parties together to support and look after the health of these valuable waterways. The D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration is an innovative partnership that facilitates investment in waterway projects. The Collaboration has changed the way waterway information is shared and how on-ground projects can be delivered.

We produce a biennial Report Card on waterway condition, based on best available scientific advice. We coordinate marine debris clean-ups with community and industry. We work with our partners on projects that aim to improve the condition of natural values in the coastal, marine and estuarine environment.

The partnering organisations work in a cooperative and coordinated manner to contribute to the protection and management of these waterways, and to demonstrate good stewardship and responsible use. The Steering Committee provides clear advice on the management and planning of Collaboration activities; provides a conduit for linking the Collaboration with broader activity within the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Huon Estuary; and assists in the examination, development of and investment in relevant projects.



OUR VISION

“A healthy and productive waterway shared by all.”

OUR PROGRAM FOUNDATIONS

We will work in partnership with each other, with other organisations and the local community. Our program will have two foundations:

Foundation A People Involved In Action

Foundation B Better Informed Communities

OUR PURPOSE

We bring together the community, waterway users and managers to develop and implement strategic and practical solutions that improve and protect the waterway's condition, liveability, productivity and biodiversity.

OUR FOCUS AREAS

1. Waterway Condition
2. Biodiversity
3. Livability And Productivity



RATIONALE

KEY INFLUENCES

The key influences (challenges), program foundations, focus areas and targeted actions were developed in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Several influencing factors were identified including climate change and coastal vulnerability impacts, increased population growth and development impacts, increasing nutrient inputs from wastewater and primary production (aquaculture and agriculture), tourism growth, invasive species, marine debris, terrestrial/catchment inputs, changing economies/industries (climate opportunities), disappearing iconic features and conflicts over acceptable use (marine farming, recreational fishing, agriculture, development etc).

ACTIONS

Actions have been prioritised based on feasibility, linkages to other strategic plans, impact and resourcing.

CORE actions have been identified where they will be delivered using the core operational funding provided through the financial sponsorship of the Collaboration by partners. **EXTENSION** actions have been identified where an activity has been prioritised by the partners and through advice from the Technical Advisory Group, but require further investment (e.g. through project-specific sponsorship, or grant funding).

ANNUAL WORK PLANS

A detailed work plan and budget will be developed by the Collaboration's Coordinator and presented to the Steering Committee annually. The work plan will be informed by the program foundations, focus areas and targeted actions identified in this strategy. Specific deliverables according to budget available will be presented for approval by the Steering Committee annually.

Project and financial updates will be reported by the Collaboration's Coordinator in quarterly status reports, which will be presented to the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee will also review actions for the upcoming quarter. Specific project reporting to the Technical Advisory Group and/or Communications Advisory Panel will be undertaken as required.

The work of the Collaboration will be reported to the local community through regular media releases, a subscription-based electronic newsletter and NRM South's social media. In the future, the Collaboration will seek to establish and support a community representative group to enable honest, open engagement and seek targeted feedback on priorities, issues and options for the Collaboration and our partners, where required.



BUILDING RESOURCES

THE BUSINESS MODEL

Building a sustainable business model is an essential component of the Collaboration's success. A strong governance model is provided through the hosting arrangements with NRM South and with an active and engaged steering committee. The current business model provides a good return on investment (financial, in-kind and outputs), with partners currently contributing \$10,000-\$15,000 per annum to the program in accordance with a partnership agreement that is renewed every two years.

Funds received from the Collaboration partners contribute to the coordination of the program, and the major ongoing projects. Collaboration partners are provided with the opportunity to join the Steering Committee of the D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration.

Going forward, the Collaboration must diversify its funding sources, build investment and examine priority actions with potential new partners. To deliver the priority actions listed in this strategy, further resources must be sought where possible by seeking support from additional funding partners, through sponsorship of specific projects, or through grants. Seeking further investment and partners in the delivery of the strategic actions is essential to make the Collaboration as self-sustaining as possible.

WHO CAN HELP

Local businesses and tourism operators, Non-Government Organisations (NGOs), land, sea and water managers, government, industry and industry bodies, community organisations, and research and education organisations have an opportunity to contribute to the continued success of waterway management programs in the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Huon Estuary. Partners and project sponsors are able to prominently position their organisation as a key supporter for the management of the D'Entrecasteaux and Huon waterways. This opportunity enables our partners to maintain and generate new corporate relationships, and enhance awareness of brand, services and products through exposure in the D'Entrecasteaux and Huon Collaboration's program. By working collaboratively and focusing on waterway issues, the Collaboration provides an opportunity for cost-effective investment in action by leveraging investment with partnering organisations.

Additional support is provided in kind through the Collaboration's Technical Advisory Group and Communications Advisory Panel.

FOUNDATION A

PEOPLE INVOLVED IN ACTION

2023 GOALS

GA.1 To deliver practical, science-based actions through collaboration – involving partners and community members – in order to make positive change together and empower ourselves and the community.

1. WATERWAY CONDITION STRATEGIES

SA.1.1 [CORE] Facilitate and grow a coordinated marine debris program through community and industry involvement, and improve awareness of the risks posed by marine debris to marine mammals, boating and amenity.

SA.1.2 [CORE] Work with partners to consider legislation and policy relating to a multi-user waterway and actively engage to improve outcomes for waterway health and biodiversity.

SA.1.3 [EXTENSION] Seek opportunities to support partners to capture and reduce waste in priority areas, focusing on stormwater, wastewater, industries and activities that influence water quality (e.g. water quality improvement actions at priority stormwater outfalls).

SA.1.4 [EXTENSION] Promote water quality improvement actions in the catchment to reduce upstream inputs (e.g. riparian restoration, stock exclusion, ground cover management)

2. BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES

SA.2.1 [EXTENSION] Seek funding for collaborative projects such as video transects, habitat restoration works, recovery actions for threatened species, reducing interactions with marine infrastructure, and/or eco-mooring replacement trials, focusing on iconic features such as:

- a. biodiverse reefs
- b. seagrass
- c. giant kelp marine forests
- d. spotted handfish
- e. little penguins
- f. marine mammals

SA.2.2 [EXTENSION] Build a connection to the waterway and a sense of place by showcasing the health of the waterway, biodiversity and the benefits of multi-use waterways.

3. LIVABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY STRATEGIES

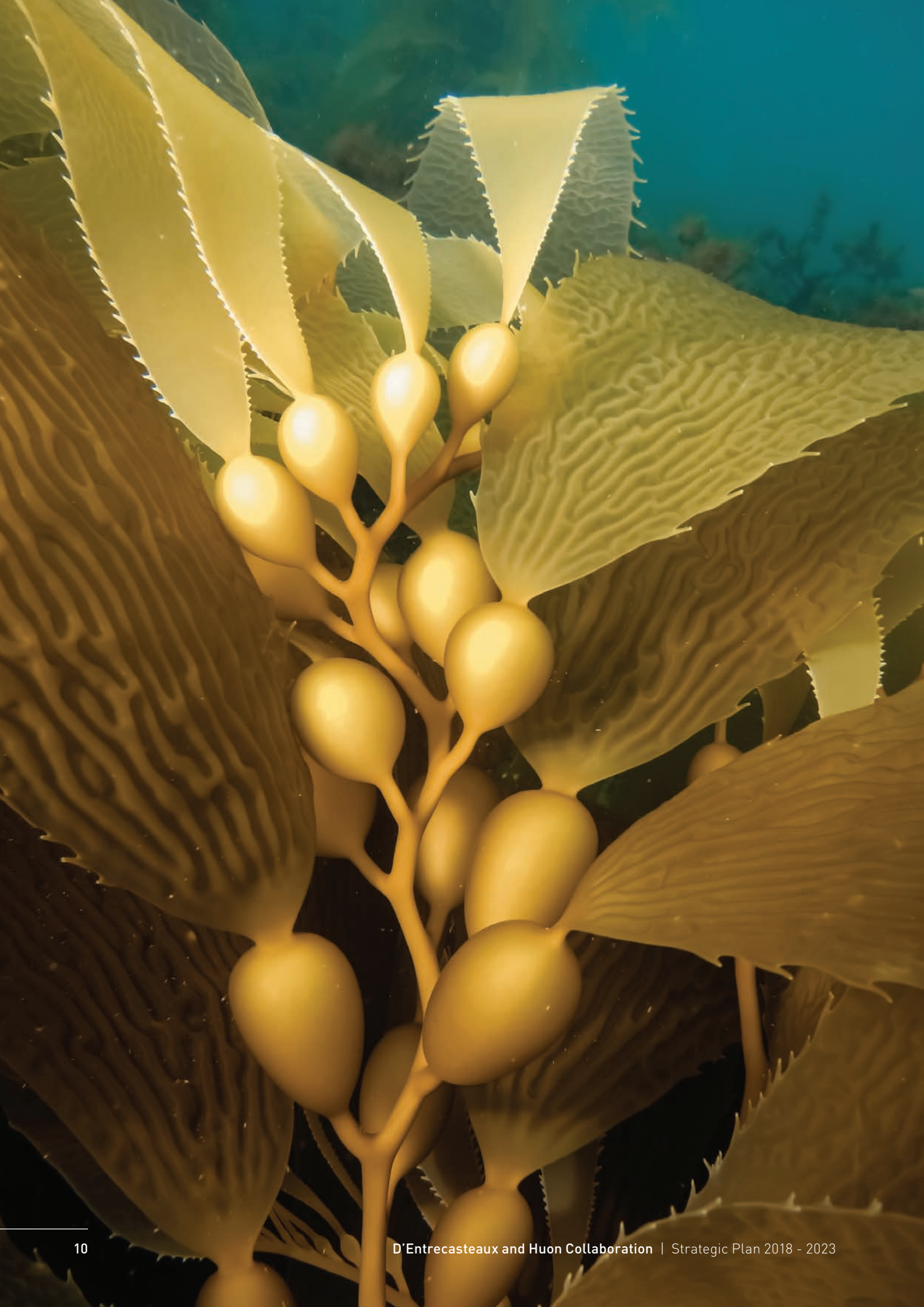
SA.3.1. [CORE] Advocate for investment in a healthy waterway by approaching waterway-dependent businesses, tourism operators, state government and peak representative bodies to seek their involvement in the Collaboration, with a view to managing waterway for multiple-use and values.

SA.3.2. [CORE] Work with partners to consider legislation and policy relating to a multi-user waterway and actively engage to improve outcomes for waterway liveability and productivity.

SA.3.3 [EXTENSION] Develop and support a local consultative group to engage communities (including local residents, Aboriginal communities, boaters, fishers and other waterway users), to share information and provide a mechanism for feedback on priorities, issues and options.

SA.3.4 [EXTENSION] Advocate for improved waste facilities for recreational users.





FOUNDATION B

BETTER INFORMED COMMUNITIES

2023 GOALS

GB.1 To improve our understanding of waterway condition by bringing experts and user groups together to share information, by collecting and compiling best-available data and information (water quality and biodiversity) and by seeking opportunities to fill data gaps where possible.

1. WATERWAY CONDITION STRATEGIES

SB.1.1 [CORE] Coordinate a Technical Advisory Group to inform program development and delivery.

SB.1.2 [NEW CORE] Regularly and transparently report partner actions that link to the Collaboration's activities and contribute to improving waterway condition.

SB.1.3 [EXTENSION] Seek funding to capture strategic water quality information (where they may link to another program or action) e.g. recreational health, waterway condition monitoring.

SB.1.4 [EXTENSION] Develop responsive water quality information (e.g. interactive signage/website, trails, beaches, lookouts etc).

2. BIODIVERSITY STRATEGIES

SB.2.1 [NEW CORE] Regularly and transparently report partner actions that link to the Collaboration's activities and towards improving biodiversity outcomes.

SB.2.2 [EXTENSION] Seek funding to capture new critical information on iconic features and threats by establishing strategic biological surveys and/or citizen science programs (where they may link to another program or action) e.g. weed/marine pest watch program, saltmarsh monitoring.

3. LIVABILITY AND PRODUCTIVITY STRATEGIES

SB.3.1 [EXTENSION] Improve knowledge of recreational and tourism use of waterways (e.g. what their levels of activity are; numbers of visitors; potential impacts; use of marine ecosystem services; concern about condition of marine ecosystem services and goods).

SB.3.2 [EXTENSION] Improve awareness of coastal inundation and erosion impacts through community-led monitoring programs.

SB.3.3 [EXTENSION] Engage communities in understanding recreational water quality.



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PHOTO ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

N. Crane (cover, page 4 & 8)
L. Wilson (page 6)
E. Flukes (page 10)