

Lauderdale Quay Ralphs Bay

Summary of key Environmental Findings

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Walker has engaged some of Australia's top scientists and technical experts to carry out more than 44 technical studies of all aspects of the environment in Ralphs Bay and surrounding habitats including birds, fish, the impact of climate change, currents, tidal effects, wind and the project development site seabed.

The key findings of these studies were released on Tuesday February 3. They found that the proposed Lauderdale Quay project will have some environmental impacts, but that they would be minimal. These studies also found positive improvements in areas such as water quality.

Key findings:

- There will be negligible impacts of heavy metals and other contaminants as a result of sediment disturbance on the marine environment;
Extensive water modelling has shown no impact to the local aquaculture industry ;
- Improvement in the quality of stormwater being released into Ralphs Bay from Lauderdale and surrounding areas due to better pollution traps and treatment devices;
- No predicted impact on aquaculture;
- Natural flushing will prevent the potential for mosquito breeding
- No mechanical pumping of waterways will be required to maintain acceptable water quality;
- No stratification or algal blooms
- No endangered Spotted Handfish were surveyed within the development area
- Minimal impact on migratory bird species with the loss of nesting and foraging habitat to be addressed by offsets

Walker's Response

We have committed to a range of mitigation measures totalling \$1.8 million if we get approval from the RPDC to proceed with our development. These include building new high tide roosting and nesting sites for birds, improved tidal exchange for East Marsh Lagoon and the establishment of a permanent ongoing funding model for environmental improvement works to be paid for by the future residents of the development.

There will be no burden on Clarence ratepayers or Tasmanian taxpayers for ongoing monitoring or maintenance of the Lauderdale Quay waterways.

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