



DCA reference number:

PAE-133509488

DPHI/Major Projects reference:

SSD-41680467

Date of issue:

4 August 2026

**DCA Technical Advisory advice – State Significant Development -
Seaweed Aquaculture Lease, Disaster Bay - Eden 1 – Advice on
Response to Submissions**



1. Project details

Project name	Seaweed Aquaculture Lease, Disaster Bay - Eden 1
DPHI/Major Projects reference:	SSD-41680467
Proponent	Auskelp Pty Ltd
Current stage of assessment	Response to submissions
Description of development:	Construction and operation of a 200 hectare marine seaweed aquaculture marine farm, known as 'Eden 1', within Disaster Bay, near Wonboyn.
Primary address	4.12km East-South-East of Wonboyn and 23km South-South-West from Eden, NSW
Land description (Lot/DP)	Not applicable. Subject land is associated with aquaculture lease AL21/004
Local government area (LGA)	Bega Valley Shire



2. Assessment section

DCA Biodiversity	
Advice Summary	DCA – Biodiversity Advisory is satisfied that the EIS is consistent with the BDAR waiver provisions and has no further comment regarding the assessment of terrestrial biodiversity values and the application of the Biodiversity Assessment Method.
Detailed advice	As above
Documents reviewed	• Submissions Response Report (AusKelp, Version 6.0, 12 July 2026) • RC4 B7 Environmental Management Plan (AusKelp, Version 2.3, 18 June 2026) • CPHR Letter – Advice on EIS (DOC26/239329-3, 1 May 2026)
Additional information	None
Recommended conditions	

Standard conditions, as determined relevant by DPHI Assessments team.



DCA Heritage	
Advice Summary	The information supplied has addressed the issues raised by Heritage NSW in their advice on the EIS regarding both Aboriginal cultural Heritage and environmental heritage. Draft Conditions of consent are provided. While final review of the Cultural Heritage Response plan cannot occur until after project determination (as it must be reviewed for compliance with any relevant conditions of consent), during a preliminary review the following issues were identified that should be rectified to expedite the post determination review.
Detailed advice	Issues to be addressed in the Cultural Heritage Response Plan 1) Section 1.8, as the project is not located within commonwealth waters First Nations underwater cultural heritage falls under the jurisdiction of the <i>National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974</i> not the <i>Heritage Act 1977</i>. 2) Section 2.1 Step 2, the Heritage Technical Advisory within the Development Coordination Authority, should be contacted in the event of an unexpected heritage find on dca.enquiries@dphi.nsw.gov.au 3) Section 2.1 Step 3, an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Consultant/Archaeologist or a Maritime Archaeologist should be engaged depending on the nature of the unexpected heritage find.
Documents reviewed	• Appendices A-E of Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment, South Coast Aquaculture Farms- Eden 1 Seaweed Aquaculture Lease, prepared by Biosis, dated 30 July 2024. • Eden-1 Kelp Aquaculture farm, Maritime Archaeology Assessment, prepared by Cosmos Archaeology, dated July 2026. • Eden-1 Cultural Heritage Response Plan 2026; Disaster Bay, NSW prepared by AusKelp dated 1 July 2026.
Additional information	None



Recommended conditions

Recommended draft conditions – Heritage

Unexpected Heritage Finds

- 1) An Unexpected Heritage Finds and Human Remains Procedure must be prepared:
 - a) by a suitably qualified and experienced heritage specialist in consultation with DCA;
 - b) to manage unexpected heritage finds (including maritime discoveries) in accordance with guidelines and standards prepared by the Heritage Council of NSW or Heritage NSW;
 - c) no later than one (1) month before the commencement of Work and submitted to the Planning Secretary for approval (in consultation with DCA). Work must not be undertaken until the procedure is approved; and
 - d) in the event an unexpected relic is identified, require the preparation of a detailed archaeological assessment. The archaeological assessment must be provided to the Planning Secretary for approval, in consultation with DCA.

The Unexpected Heritage Finds and Human Remains Procedure must be implemented for the duration of Work.
