

Fishing & Aquaculture in the Great Southern

“ The Great Southern region has some of the cleanest and most pristine waters in the world, so it is unsurprising that fishing and aquaculture are two of the region’s most recognisable industries. ”

Producing world class oysters, mussels, abalone and wild-catch fish and crustaceans, the region’s reputation for clean and sustainable produce gives a providence story that creates significant premiums when sold overseas.

Shellfish is a key expansion market, with the Albany Aquaculture Development Zone primed for growth thanks to already established environmental approvals.

The Albany Shellfish Hatchery is also available to grow spat and trial new species to support industry growth.

As global food markets rapidly expand, demand for fish and shellfish continues to climb. With established supply chains able to swiftly provide fresh seafood into Asian markets, fishing and aquaculture in the Great Southern are primed for investment.



Contribution to Great Southern regional economy



VALUE ADDED

**\$23.3
MILLION**



TOTAL OUTPUT

**\$53.8
MILLION**



REGIONAL SALARIES
AND WAGES

**\$6.7
MILLION**



EXPORTED FROM THE
GREAT SOUTHERN

**\$37.3
MILLION**



OYSTERS, ABALONE,
MUSSELS, PILCHARDS,
OTHER WILD CATCH FISH

**KEY
PRODUCTS**

Investment opportunities

The below investment opportunities leverage the Great Southern's existing capabilities and global growth industries.



Albany Aquaculture Development Zone

The Albany Aquaculture Development Zone is an investment-ready area dedicated to shellfish aquaculture. Developed by the Government of Western Australia, the 800 hectare zone was selected specifically for its suitability to aquaculture development. With strategic environmental approvals already in place, and the nearby Albany Shellfish Hatchery's capacity to grow spat, the zone is the premier choice for shellfish aquaculture investment in Australia.



Seaweed Aquaculture

Seaweed aquaculture is attracting increased investment globally as it produces sustainable, high-value, nutrient dense foods, marine bioproducts and contributes to climate change mitigation and adaptation. The South Coast can grow a significant new industry using its existing assets including biodiversity, climate, geography and complementary industries. While individual companies and investors are already progressing on seaweed opportunities in other locations, the South Coast is well-positioned to attract expertise and investment.

Key locations

Albany Aquaculture Development Zone



KEY

Albany Zone Stage 1

Albany Zone Stage 2

Aquaculture Site - Licenced



Comparative advantages

Key factors that make the Great Southern a great place to invest in fisheries and aquaculture.



The Great Southern's clean and pristine waters adds a significant premium to exported fish and shellfish products



The Albany Aquaculture Development Zone, an investment-ready area with environmental approvals already in place



Strong biosecurity and sustainability credentials



Extensive government support, including through streamlined regulations and R&D



Opportunities for diversifying into growing new shellfish species for export markets

Regional capacity

Major agencies and stakeholders working to support our aquaculture and fishing industries.

INDUSTRY SUPPORT GROUPS

Western Australian Fisheries Industry Council

Aquaculture Council of
Western Australia

Aquaculture Stewardship Council

SUPPORTING GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Great Southern Development Commission

Department of Primary Industries
and Regional Development

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
(Commonwealth)

Department of Jobs, Tourism, Science
and Innovation



Developing the region's primary production industries

Increasing our capacity and capabilities in the following areas will be critical for ongoing development of the Great Southern's fisheries and aquaculture industries.

01

R&D to support growing new species:

Capitalise on the Albany Shellfish Hatchery capability for growing spat to develop new shellfish species for production, potentially including Akoya, Blacklip Pearl Oysters, Doughboy Scallops, Tropical Blacklip Oysters, and Sydney Rock Oysters. R&D is also required to identify sites and species for seaweed aquaculture development

02

Branding:

Develop a strong brand leveraging Great Southern's clean and green credentials to increase exports

03

Linking to new markets:

Continue to link the region to growing Asian markets such as India, China, Indonesia, Korea and Malaysia

04

Supply chain development:

Facilitate supply chain development to support export pathways

05

Value adding and championing:

Investing in and promoting sustainable migratory species i.e. Australian Salmon, Herring and Pilchards





Strategic alignment

Fishing and aquaculture are guided by the following Commonwealth, State and Regional strategic plans and frameworks:

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| COMMONWEALTH | NATIONAL AQUACULTURE STRATEGY 2017-2027 (DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY) | | | |
| STATE | DIVERSIFY WA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK | GOVERNMENT REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY 2016-2025 | WA AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2020) | WA ASIAN ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY |
| REGIONAL | GREAT SOUTHERN REGIONAL INVESTMENT BLUEPRINT (2015) | GREAT SOUTHERN RECOVERY PLAN (2020) | GREAT SOUTHERN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION STRATEGIC PLAN (2022-24) | |
| LOCAL | LOCAL GOVERNMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING STRATEGIES | | | |

Challenges and risks



Climate change

Climate change has the potential to create significant risk to fishing and aquaculture industries throughout the world, particularly through aquatic heatwaves. DPIRD is working with industry to develop species that are better able to cope with warmed waters.



Supply chains

Disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic are affecting multiple industries. DPIRD has considerable experience in collaborating with primary producers to realign supply chains in order for fresh produce to reach market prime condition, even during times of intense disruption.



Want more information?

| | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Strategic project development and networks | Great Southern Development Commission | | |
| Industry support and capacity building | West Australian Fisheries Industry Council | | |
| | Aquaculture Council of Western Australia | | |
| Industry support and capacity building | Aquaculture Stewardship Council | | |
| | Your Local Government Authority: | | |
| Industry support and capacity building | Albany | Gnowangerup | Kojonup |
| | Broome-hill Tambellup | Jerramungup | Plantagenet |
| | Cranbrook | Katanning | Woodanilling |
| | Denmark | Kent | |
| Grants and funding | Great Southern Development Commission | | |