

Project Sea Dragon

Stage 1 Legune Grow-out Facility

Water use

Seafarms' Project Sea Dragon at Legune Station, Northern Territory, has been designed to minimise any impacts on water quality from its operations.



Prawn grow-out ponds at Seafarms' current operations in Queensland

The Project will be staged, with Stage 1 to establish three prawn farms, which include 1120 hectares of grow-out ponds.

Seawater, freshwater from the existing Forsyth Creek dam and internally recycled water are all used to maintain salinity suitable to prawn growth in the ponds.

Project design

Some of the water used to grow prawns will be released into Alligator Creek. A wide, shallow water discharge retention channel will be built to allow any suspended solids or nutrients in the water from the ponds to settle before it enters Alligator Creek.

Pond water will only be released on an outgoing tide when the water flows away from the upper reaches of the creek.

Water quality monitoring

Seafarms monitored water quality in areas around Legune Station for 14 months to record existing water quality conditions, including the presence of nutrients that naturally occur in the environment – nitrogen and phosphorous.

Computer modelling was used to predict how the water used to grow prawns would disperse once released into the environment.

A comprehensive investigation showed that elevated nutrients will only be detected a short distance (less than 200 metres) on either side of the outfall at Alligator Creek and will be diluted by the large tidal range. Outside of this small area the impact on water quality will be undetectable.

The assessment shows that Alligator Creek is a very active area due to large tidal flows and is not a significant habitat area for marine animals or plants.

Seafarms will conduct water quality monitoring during the operations phase of Project Sea Dragon. For more information on Project Sea Dragon go to www.seafarms.com.au/project-sea-dragon.



Alligator Creek, Legune Station