

# Environmental Management

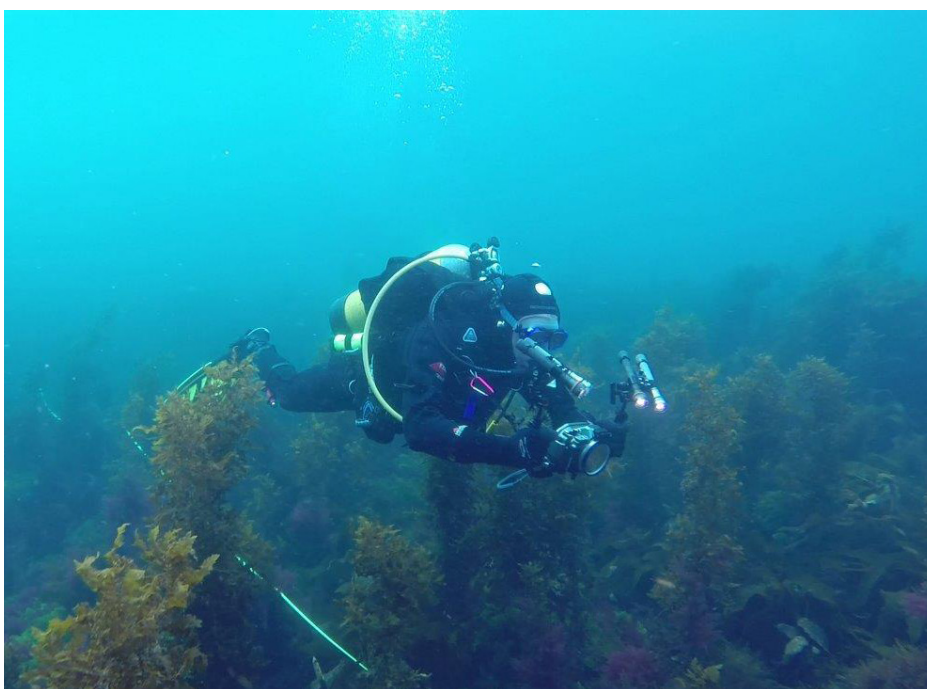
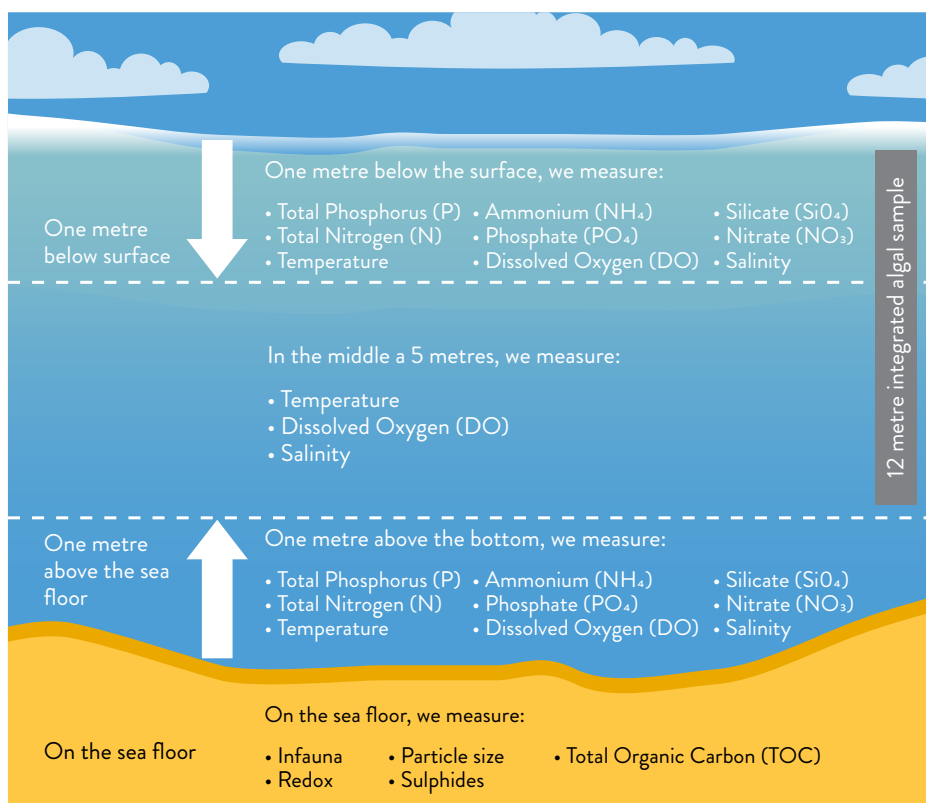
## Broadscale Environmental Monitoring Program (BEMP)

Tassal participates in Broadscale Environmental Monitoring Programs (BEMP) throughout multiple locations in south-east and western Tasmania. This monitoring allows us to better understand the marine and estuarine health of our coastal waterways and potential impacts from finfish farming practices.

The monitoring programs have a water quality component (surface and bottom water) and a sediment component (sediment biology and chemistry). In addition, reef and seagrass monitoring is also undertaken in areas where these habitats form part of the local marine ecosystem. Sampling is conducted by environmental consultants on a regular basis – at least monthly and sometimes fortnightly. The BEMPs were initiated in 2009, and the D'Entrecasteaux Channel and Huon Estuary monitoring has been ongoing for over 12 consecutive years and is considered a world-class environmental monitoring program.

### Where do we take samples from?

Water samples are taken from the surface, bottom and five metres deep in the water column. Sediment samples are taken from the seafloor annually and analysed for key environmental indicators, including redox potential, sulphide concentration and benthic infaunal biodiversity.



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There are over 40 different sampling stations throughout the state, including the D'Entrecasteaux Channel, Huon Estuary, Mercury Passage, Okehampton Bay, Port Arthur, Tasman Peninsula and Macquarie Harbour. There is also an environmental control site in Recherche Bay that is sampled 15 times each year.

Water samples provide a vast amount of information about the health of the ecosystem. Testing includes water temperature, depth, salinity, pH levels and dissolved oxygen levels. Sediment sampling also provides important information on seabed condition, particularly in relation to long term ecosystem stability.

Other tests require further analysis and samples are sent to Analytical Services Tasmania to test for chlorophyll, microalgae (or phytoplankton) and nutrient concentrations. A range of different (and highly specialised) sampling apparatus are specially designed for collecting a range of different sample types, and at different depths in the water column.

