

**APPLICATION FOR THE VARIATION OF AN AQUACULTURE
LICENCE**

by

Batavia Coral Farm Pty Ltd

Abrolhos Islands WA

February 2019

**DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DPIRD)
APPLICATIONS FOR THE VARIATION OF AN AQUACULTURE LICENCE**

**Batavia Coral Farm Pty Ltd
Abrolhos Islands WA**

File Ref	L55/14-02
Date of Application	20 June 2018
General Location	Pelsaert Group, Abrolhos Islands, WA
Area of Proposed Site	0.673 hectares
Species	coral <i>Euphyllia</i> spp.
Culture Method	grow-out
Other Sites (within 5 n mile)	WTN Nominees Pty Ltd & Pelsaert (WA) Pty Ltd West Australian Octopus Pty Ltd Andrew & Tracey Basile Wildblue Holdings Pty Ltd Pelsaert (WA) Pty Ltd Sea Urchin Pty Ltd Peter and Karen Armstrong Bruce Cunningham Abrolhos Island Oysters Pty Ltd
Further Information	Contact Clara Alvarez at DPIRD Aquaculture Branch on (08) 6551 4346 or clara.alvarez@dpird.wa.gov.au .

**Information provided by the applicant relevant to an application for
variation of an aquaculture licence**

Batavia Coral Farm Pty Ltd

February 2019

Introduction

This document outlines the information for consideration by agencies, stakeholders and community and industry groups regarding a proposal submitted by Batavia Coral Farm Pty Ltd (Batavia) for the variation of its Aquaculture Licence No. 1643 (the Licence).

Background

Batavia has made an application to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development to vary its Licence, which authorises the culture of the following coral species and genera at a site within the Pelsaert Island Group of the Abrolhos Islands.

Acanthastrea spp.	Fungia repanda	Platygyra spp.
Acropora spp.	Galaxea fascicularis	Plesiastrea versipora
Alveopora spp.	Goniastrea spp.	Pocillopora spp.
Astreopora spp.	Goniopora spp.	Porites spp.
Australomussa rowleyensis	Heteropsammia cochlea	Psammocora spp.
Barabaltoia amicornum	Hydnophora spp.	Sarcophyton spp.
Blastomussa spp.	Leptastrea spp.	Scapophyllia cylindrical
Cespitularia spp.	Leptoseris spp.	Sinularia spp.
Corallimorpharia	Lobophyllia spp.	Stichodactyla haddoni
Coscinarea spp.	Lobophytum spp.	Stylocoeniella guetheri
Cycloseris patelliformis	Merulina ampliata	Symphyllia wilsoni
Cyphastrea spp.	Montastrea spp.	Tubastrea spp.
Diaseris spp.	Montipora spp.	Turbinaria spp.
Echinophyllia spp.	Oxypora spp.	Xenia spp.
Entacmaea quadricolor	Pachyseris speciosa	Zoanthids
Favia spp.	Palaustrea ramosa	
Favites spp.	Pavona spp.	

Proposal

Batavia is seeking to expand its operation by increasing the authorised site from 1,302 to 6,730 square metres (0.673 hectares). The increased area is required to accommodate the growth and increasing production of the operation. Attachment 1 provides a site plan of the proposed site extension.

In addition, Batavia proposes to add the coral genus *Euphyllia* to the Licence.

Source of Stock and Methods

For the coral growout, Batavia proposes to use the same farming methods as those for the species authorised under the Licence. Aquaculture gear will include plastic racks attached to longlines. The trays will be suspended in the water column through ropes which are attached to anchoring points on the seabed (Figure 1). Coral fragments of the coral broodstock will be placed in trays for growout.

Batavia proposes to source coral broodstock through commercial fishers, other aquaculture licence holders or retail outlets, or from the wild through a Ministerial Exemption, subject to approval.

Broodstock will be sourced locally within the Abrolhos Island Fish Habitat Protection Area and will be logged and tagged so their source is traceable and transparent.

Diagram

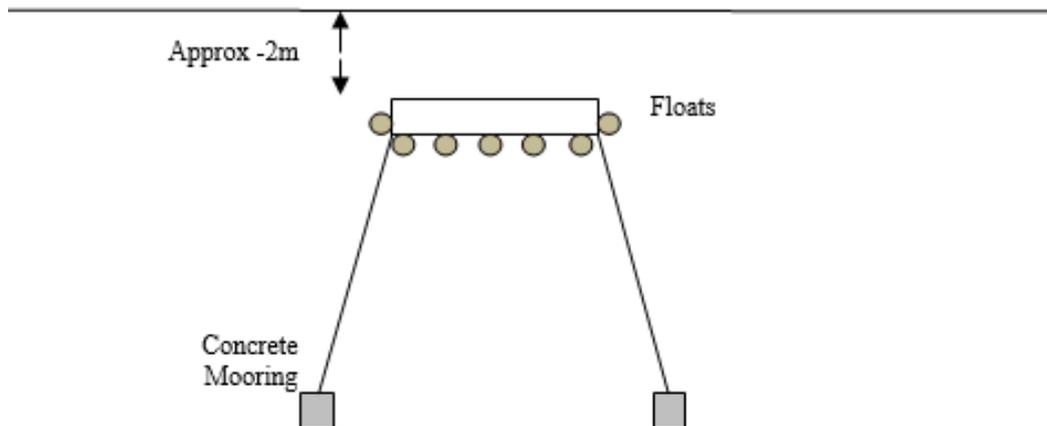


Figure 1:
Proposed culture method

Management and Environmental Monitoring

The biosecurity risk of this project is considered low due to the proposed species originating from local waters, and not requiring additional or supplementary feeding.

Batavia has submitted an updated Management and Environmental Monitoring Plan (MEMP), which includes biosecurity controls and incident and emergency responses in the event that a disease outbreak occurs. The risk of disease through coral is therefore considered low.

If coral broodstock is collected through a Ministerial Exemption, the Exemption will be subject to conditions that deal with biosecurity and environmental risks.

Environmental monitoring at the site will be conducted through biannual sediment testing.

The depth of the site ranges between 12 and 16 m depth. The site is located over sand and coral rubble comprising shell grit and sand.

The licensed site is currently marked with navigational markers. The proposed site will be marked in accordance with the guidance of the Department of Transport.
