



An aerial view of Saldanha Bay where a sea-based aquatic development zone is proposed.  
PHOTO: SRK CONSULTING

# DAFF proposes ADZ for Saldanha Bay

**Saldanha Bay, the country's biggest and deepest natural port, has potential for more aquaculture projects.**

Hence the proposal by the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) to have a sea-based Aquaculture Development Zone (ADZ) established.

Aquaculture is a key priority in the government's Operation Phakisa drive to create jobs and economic growth through marine projects.

Currently Saldanha Bay supports a number of aquaculture operations, such as mussel and oyster farms. DAFF has determined that the carrying capacity of the Bay can support additional production. The department proposes to obtain environmental authorisation for an ADZ in Saldanha Bay, incorporating:

- Sea-based aquaculture, including the

potential farming of bivalve (mussels and oysters), abalone, finfish and seaweed; and

- Land-based support activities, such as processing and holding facilities, hatcheries and laboratories.

SRK Consulting has been appointed to develop a framework for the Saldanha Bay ADZ and do a study to, among others, identify areas for potential aquaculture expansion across Saldanha Bay, including Inner Bay, Outer Bay and North Bay and determine infrastructure requirements.

Stakeholders are invited to register on the project database and/or submit comment. The background information document is available on [www.srk.co.za](http://www.srk.co.za) (via 'Library' and 'public documents' links) or upon request from Jessica du Toit at [jedutoit@srk.co.za](mailto:jedutoit@srk.co.za) or 021 659 3060.