



Media Release
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Independent review decision welcomed

Tassal welcomes the findings of the independent Marine Farming Planning Review Panel that assessed salmon farming at Okehampton Bay. Mr. Ryan said the company would comply with all conditions in the independent panel's report regarding its plans to develop a fish farm at Okehampton Bay in Triabunna.

Tassal also re-confirmed its commitment to the east coast community that it had no plans to develop a finfish farm in Mercury Passage.

"Tassal understands and appreciates the importance of the amenity, recreational and social value of the area," Tassal CEO and MD Mark Ryan said.

"The science has demonstrated that the Okehampton marine lease is appropriate for salmon farming," he said.

"While it has been widely reported that the first baseline environmental assessment for the lease was conducted in 2000, Tassal has carried out its own monthly monitoring program since 2014.

"This is on top of monitoring and baseline studies undertaken by our partner in the project, Spring Bay Seafoods.

"Temperature profiles collected at the site over many years have also provided us with a good understanding of the environment in which we plan to operate."

"Tassal is excited and very much looking forward to implementing some new areas of innovation that they have been progressing. Tassal have implemented an innovative approach to farming salmon, mussels and seaweed alongside each other under our co-culture model bringing extra value to the marine site and offset environmental inputs. Tassal will also be trialing sea urchin ranching as a way to further benefit the environment whilst dealing with a local pest," he said.

"Subject to the successful conclusion of this process, we continue to be committed to having Atlantic salmon in the water by the spring of 2018.

Mr Ryan said the legislative framework and processes for regulating marine farming in Tasmania provided security and certainty for industry, input and consultation with

community and stakeholder groups, and the environmental protection required to maintain the integrity of the state's marine ecosystems.

"Tassal remains committed to ongoing dialogue with stakeholders, and will continue to proactively engage with stakeholders known to us," he said.

Released by:

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About Tassal

Tassal Group Limited (ASX: TGR) is a vertically integrated salmon grower and salmon and seafood processor, seller and marketer. The Company produces and sells premium salmon and seafood products for both the Australian domestic and export markets. Tassal grows delicious, fresh and healthy Atlantic salmon in Tasmania's fresh waters and through its De Costi Seafood business sources and processes a wide range of seafood. Tassal is committed to taking a leadership role in sustainability in aquaculture and seafood sourcing. The company employs more than 1,200 people. Visit www.tassal.com.au for more information.

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