Tasman Region

About Tassal

Tassal has been operating in Tasmania for more than 30 years. Underpinned by its people’s passion and commitment, it is now Australia’s largest producer of Atlantic Salmon and regarded as a global leader and industry pioneer. It was the first company in 2014 to achieve the gold star rating of sustainable salmon farming: ASC certification across all its sites. While we always strive for 100% compliance across our operations, and on average achieve a Tasmanian industry-leading 95%-plus, we have a focus on continuous improvement and a vision to create a better tomorrow.

We are proud of the aquaculture industry’s position in anchoring regional communities, providing considerable opportunities and benefits in fragile economic areas. Tassal’s operations alone stimulate approximately 6,000 jobs, directly and indirectly, and contribute more than $500 million to the State’s economy. Tassal is based in Tasmania’s south, south-east, east and west coast communities through a variety of operations, processing and value-add activities.

Community engagement is pivotal and Tassal seeks to ensure it has value-adding partnerships, programs and consultation opportunities across all communities where it operates.
Nubeena:

- This year we are operating both the Badger (193) and Creeses (190) farm sites at Nubeena
- 44 staff are currently based at the farm and the site is staffed 24/7
- Tassal has operated at this location since 1993, prior to that it was run by Safcol, initially starting in the mid 1980’s. It is one of our longest standing operations and a good demonstration of the sustainability of our operations when comparing sites with similar environmental conditions
- There’s high resolution cameras in every cage to optimise feeding operations
- New state-of-the-art cameras will monitor temperature and oxygen levels. The feed system itself will have the ability to operate at the site ensuring we can deliver feed in any sea condition
- We are rolling out our newly designed circumference sea pens with the most sophisticated seal exclusion system available to minimize interactions between seals, our staff and salmon
- 65% of Tassal employees live locally

Port Arthur:

- Port Arthur is a current Tassal farming lease which was last farmed in 2006
- New baseline studies have been completed and Marine Farming (DPIPWE) has been consulted about the re-stocking of the site. There are no additional requirements as this is an existing salmon farming lease
- It is an excellent growing site, but small and more suited to being a small site
- Tassal plans to start reusing the Port Arthur site in 2017. Moorings will go in during July, with fish expected to be input in August
- Port Arthur will use our existing 120m pens and fish will be fed with the latest technology, the same as the Nubeena site
- Initially there will be 7 x 120m pens, growing to 14 over time
- Port Arthur will employ 20+ people directly with 24/7 supervision
- Port Arthur has an existing land base that we will be upgraded in preparation for farming activities
- Road traffic will be minimized due to feed supplies being delivered mainly by sea, not land

Tassal Shoreline Clean-ups

Tassal is committed to keeping the local shoreline clean and undertakes quarterly clean up programs, collecting and disposing of all rubbish found. All rubbish is then categorised and recorded. Tassal has also initiated a comprehensive recycling program for disused ropes and plastics across our farm sites using Envorinex in George Town, Tasmania, to transform rubbish into high value products.

Bird nesting seasons are considered before we undertake any shoreline clean ups.
West of Wedge:

- The proposal is currently being assessed by the Marine Farming Review Panel, before being issued for public consultation
- Tassal has submitted an environmental impact report for the proposal, in line with regulatory processes, as required with any new marine farming development
- West of Wedge is classified as a high energy site. The salmon farm is designed to hold up to 3 million fish per year, pending review of the allowable biomass
- The West of Wedge fleet will comprise a combination of new and existing vessels, taking advantage of synergies in the region (ie Port Arthur & Nubeena)
- Tassal believes these types of high energy sites will play an important role for future growth of the industry
- The proposed site will be the greatest distance from land of any salmon companies currently operating sites in Southern Tasmania
- We are in the process of designing the appropriate equipment for these sea conditions. Cages, nets, barges, and moorings will be designed specifically for this site
- More than 70 full time equivalent staff will be employed to run this site
- Smaller sites, such as the Port Arthur site, will work closely with West of Wedge. The young fish will thrive in the calmer waters of Port Arthur and once grown to a larger size, will be robust enough to relocate to West of Wedge until harvested. In this way we are ensuring best practice fish welfare, biosecurity and sustainability
- This site will be fully integrated for bathing including barge, liners, pumps and counters. Most bathing will occur in Port Arthur.