



Media Release
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Tassal details submission to EPA

Using extensive scientific research and demographic data, Tassal is proposing a transition to the new biomass limit at Macquarie Harbour, in a way that will not compromise the environment, fish welfare or the community.

Tassal entered our 2016 year class fish into the Harbour when our biomass limit was 33.58 tonnes per hectare - which would have meant that we were in compliance with the limit at the time of input and forecast ongoing compliance with the limit.

Tassal is proposing to pull forward its current stock of fish harvesting to December 2017, when the fish can be humanely harvested, in line with RSPCA protocols and taken to market. This will result in an exceedance of the proposed future biomass limit for a temporary period of eight months, with the understanding that environmental compliance must be strictly maintained for this period. This proposed biomass will be at our Middle and Gordon leases which have historically had good overall compliance and are closer to the oceanic influence.

Whilst the latest survey results indicate Tassal leases 214 and 219 at Macquarie Harbour are standing at 100% full compliance, Tassal will further minimise the environmental impacts of salmon farming in the Harbour, through the proposed deployment of proven waste capture and recovery technologies.

One needs to bear in mind the general magnitude of natural influences on the draw down of oxygen in the Harbour. Tassal's additional 4000 mt for an additional 8 months is predicted to have a relatively small contribution to the oxygen draw down of the Harbour, about a 1% increase in oxygen demand.

The proposed technology involves a precise and controlled technique to remove fish waste that has settled on top of the seabed, as well as removing waste directly from the fish pens.

At this stage Tassal has identified two techniques to trial to ascertain which one, or a combination of both, will deliver the best environmental management outcomes. The focus of the trials will be on the safe removal of fish waste from the seabed within the marine leases. All waste will be managed to the highest standards and disposed of on land.

Tassal has been in regular communication with the EPA regarding the proposed trial and has an environmental monitoring framework to monitor process, report results, identify disposal options and manage risks.

Enabling Tassal to conduct humane and safe harvesting of its 2016 year class, underpinned by improved waste management systems to maintain compliance, is good news for the community at Strahan, which has a strong reliance on aquaculture operations. Tassal's

Macquarie Harbour salmon farms alone support 39 direct and 577 indirect jobs, providing a direct economic contribution of \$183 million per annum.

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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