



Media Release
Monday 24 December 2018

Tassal Group Limited
ABN 15 106 067 270
Tassal Operations Pty. Ltd.
ABN 38 106 324 127
De Costi Seafoods Pty Ltd
ABN 81 606 307 804
email: tassal@tassal.com.au
website: www.tassal.com.au

TASSAL welcomes support to grow seaweeds for improved environmental outcomes

Tassal has welcomed today's announcement by the Federal Government it will provide support to Tassal's Eco-Aquaculture aspirations by extending this to an expanded research and development collaboration with partners, including Spring Bay Seafoods, IMAS and Deakin University.

In mid-2017 Tassal commenced its Giant Kelp research trials with support from the FRDC, farmed alongside the company's cages at Okehampton Bay as part of a major environmental program. In September 2018 Tassal conducted its first successful harvest of the kelp.

Tassal has significantly invested in the program to date, and today's commitment from the Australian Government's Minister for Industry, Science and Technology of a further \$2.3 million CRC-P funding, brings the total investment to \$5.5 million, enabling the project to be further developed.

Tassal Head of Environment, Sean Riley, said the program would include the development of a sustainable Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture (IMTA) model, supporting commercial seaweed production.

"This will include research to define the seaweed culture proposition, growing techniques and products, as well as develop a regionally relevant IMTA partnership model which brings together salmon, shellfish and seaweed producers to ensure economic, environmental and social benefits."

Tassal is the lead partner in the innovative program and has been researching and advocating for innovative ways to develop new seafood and marine products and markets which have a dual benefit of also being able to provide environmental benefits.

"As we know, IMTA utilises by-products, including salmon nutrients, from one aquaculture species to another as inputs such as feed or fertiliser," Mr Riley said.

Tassal is also involved in efforts to regenerate kelp forests on the Tasman Peninsula. Plants are being donated to community based groups for replanting.

Giant Kelp is also considered a major drawcard for divers with marine organisms and various fish species taking refuge in the forests.

Tassal is committed to investing in a range of environmental improvement programs and recently announced it had moved towards 100 per cent recycling of its major plastic waste across its operations, with Tasmanian company, Enviroinex, now transforming soft and hard plastics into second-life products.

For information contact Tassal Head of Engagement, Barb McGregor, 0429 002 769.