



# EXPANDING BARRAMUNDI PRODUCTION IN THE BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO.



Tassal will continue to work together with Mayala to ensure future growth of our operations in this beautiful environment and the Buccaneer Archipelago will be managed sustainably with economic benefits shared amongst the local community. This important project brings significant community benefits, including job creation and economic development in the Kimberley region. Responsibly managed aquaculture is a key for the industry to help meet the demand for protein with a growing population both nationally and internationally as the market for delicious, ocean grown barramundi grows.

## THE OCEAN BARRAMUNDI EXPANSION PROJECT INVOLVES DEVELOPMENT OF SEVEN NEW LEASE SITES AT STRATEGIC LOCATIONS IN THE BUCCANEER ARCHIPELAGO.

These sites were selected for their improved operational and environmental suitability for modern, sustainable barramundi aquaculture. Once environmental approvals for the Project have been achieved, it is intended the current operation will be expanded out of Cone Bay to the new sites and increased in staged development. The project has been scaled down from the original thirteen sites proposed under previous management. After careful consideration of the economic, environmental, cultural heritage and operational aspects of the original proposal put forward by MPA, we consider that reducing the scale of the project takes a more responsible approach to growth – one that is led by market demand – enabling a gradual increase so we can closely manage our environmental footprint and other important natural and cultural values of the Kimberley World Heritage Area.

## TASSAL'S APPROACH

AS A LEADING AUSTRALIAN SEAFOOD BRAND, TASSAL IS COMMITTED TO GROWING ITS BARRAMUNDI OPERATIONS WITH CARE AND RESPECT FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTS AND COMMUNITIES. OUR GOAL IS TO PROVIDE AUSTRALIAN CONSUMERS WITH HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS FISH WHILE CONTRIBUTING POSITIVELY TO KIMBERLEY COMMUNITIES AND THE REGIONAL ECONOMY.

**TRANSPARENCY & RESPONSIVENESS:** We are committed to helping the community understand Tassal's operations and the technical aspects of finfish aquaculture. Through open communication, we aim to address concerns and engage meaningfully with the community. We believe transparency and responsiveness are key to building trust and fostering positive relationships with our stakeholders, and we welcome feedback on the Ocean Barramundi Expansion Project.

**ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:** At the heart of Tassal's approach to the Ocean Barramundi Expansion Project is a deep respect for the Buccaneer Archipelago's natural and cultural heritage. Our barramundi farm in Cone Bay has Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) certification and our broader environmental stewardship achievements are demonstrated through Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), Aquaculture Stewardship Council (ASC), Best Aquaculture Practices (BAP) and Global Good Aquaculture Practice (GAP) certifications in our salmon and prawn operations. We are confident that the proposed environmental monitoring and management framework outlined in the Environmental Review Documentation submitted to the Environmental Protection Authority for assessment is sound and aligns to our firm commitment to sustainability. As we develop new barramundi sites, we will continue applying cutting-edge technology and best practises to enhance environmental performance.

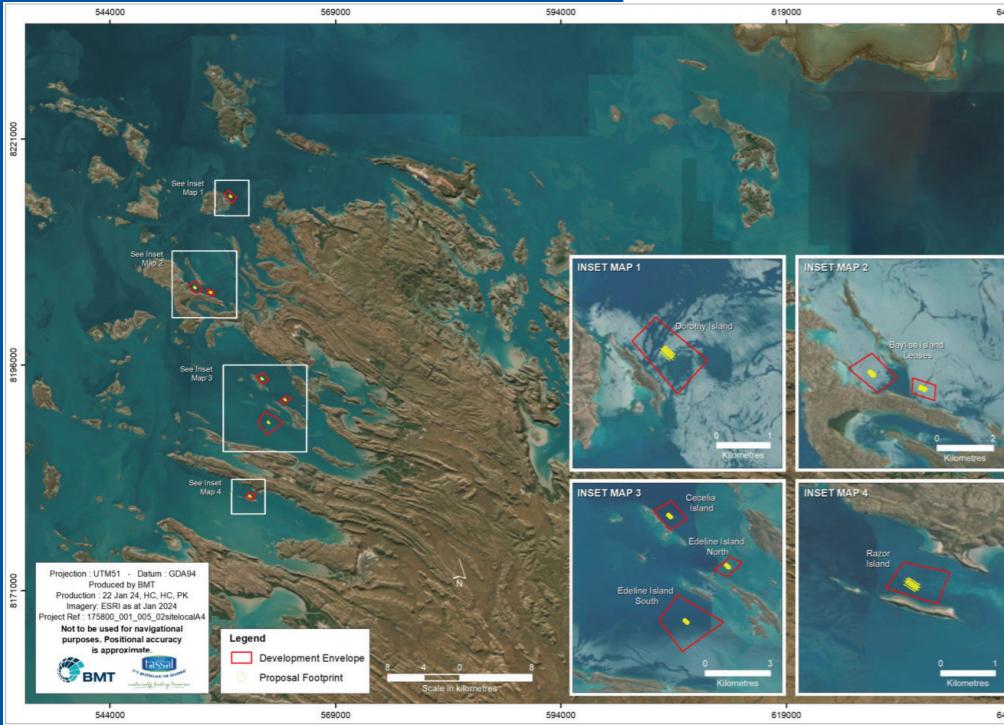
**COMMUNITY BENEFITS:** The Ocean Barramundi Expansion Project represents a \$65 million investment in the Kimberley aquaculture industry, and underscores Tassal's long-term commitment to becoming a major corporate citizen of the Kimberley community. As this project progresses, Tassal will invest in a local workforce, supporting skills development and career pathways. We will also establish and strengthen commercial partnerships in the region, while contributing to community initiatives aligned with our company values.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS & KEY STAKEHOLDERS

TASSAL HAS A LONG HISTORY OF SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISES THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS, COMMUNITY FUNDING STREAMS, AND IN-KIND SUPPORT. WE ARE COMMITTED TO UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLE AND THE COMMUNITIES IN WHICH WE OPERATE.

In the Kimberley region we have negotiated a voluntary Indigenous Land Use Agreement with the Mayala Inninalang Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC which was approved by the Mayala people in November 2024 and registered with the Native Title Tribunal in March 2025. This agreement provides native title consent for Tassal to expand production of barramundi at the project sites which are located within the Mayala Marine Park and Mayala Indigenous Protection Area (IPA) and sets out a range of ways the Mayala people will be involved in the project.

Tassal acknowledges other Traditional Owner groups who also have a strong connection to country in the areas surrounding the project sites and is continuing to work closely with the Dambimangari Aboriginal Corporation to identify opportunities for collaboration with the Dambimangari people.



## PROJECT KEY FACTS



POTENTIAL FOR  
UP TO 140 NEW JOBS IN THE  
KIMBERLEY REGION



1,213ha

ORIGINAL TOTAL NEW LEASE AREA  
APPLIED FOR BY MPA

817ha

REVISED TOTAL NEW LEASE AREA NOW  
BEING APPLIED FOR BY TASSAL



30,000 tonnes

ORIGINAL PROPOSED PRODUCTION  
VOLUME AT NEW SITES

17,500 tonnes

REVISED PROPOSED PRODUCTION  
VOLUME AT NEW SITES



ALL NEW SITES ARE LOCATED WITHIN  
THE GENERAL USE ZONE AREAS OF THE  
MAYALA MARINE PARK AND WITHIN THE  
MAYALA INDIGENOUS PROTECTION AREA.

TASSAL HAS NATIVE TITLE CONSENT  
FOR THE PROJECT FROM THE MAYALA  
PEOPLE UNDER A VOLUNTARY ILUA THAT  
WAS REGISTERED IN MARCH 2025.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of country and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their elders past, present and emerging and recognise that Australia is one of the oldest cultural traditions in the world.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ARE BARRAMUNDI NATIVE TO THE AREA?

Yes. In Western Australia, barramundi are found north from Exmouth Gulf but are most abundant in the Kimberley. Barramundi can live in freshwater or saltwater and their habitats include streams, rivers, lakes, billabongs, estuaries and coastal waters.

## WHERE DOES TASSAL REAR JUVENILE BARRAMUNDI TO STOCK THE FARM?

We have recently redeveloped nursery infrastructure previously utilised by Broome TAFE at the Broome Tropical Aquaculture Park (BTAP) and will stock the farm with juvenile barramundi transferred from this facility which will become fully operational in the first half of 2025. The BTAP nursery receives barramundi fingerlings from Mainstream Aquaculture's barramundi hatchery in Victoria which is Best Aquaculture Practices accredited and has the Sustainable Australian Barramundi Tick.

## WHY WERE THESE SITES SELECTED FOR THE PROJECT?

Environmental conditions such as shelter, water depth, substrate type, and hydrodynamics – the project sites have unique characteristics that make them suitable for finfish aquaculture development, and they are considered more suitable than the current site in Cone Bay for both operational and environmental reasons. For example, deeper water means greater dilution and flushing and less tidal drag on sea pen infrastructure, and proximity amongst islands provides shelter from wind and swell. All sites are located to avoid reefs, pearl shell beds and other sensitive substrates.

## WILL ALL SITES BE DEVELOPED IMMEDIATELY?

No. We intend to develop the sites gradually in response to anticipated growth in market demand for barramundi. The project is not expected to be fully developed until at least 2035.

## HOW DOES BARRAMUNDI PRODUCTION IN THE KIMBERLEY COMPARE WITH SALMON PRODUCTION IN TASMANIA AND WILL WE SEE SIMILAR MORTALITY EVENTS AS HAS BEEN EXPERIENCED IN TASMANIA THIS SUMMER?

In 2023, Tassal produced over 36,000 tonnes of salmon in Tasmania. Current production of barramundi in the Kimberley is around 1,500 tonnes. Disease is a challenge that affects all types of farming, including fish farming. There is extensive information on our website explaining the issues this summer and what Tassal has been doing to address the challenge. The RLO (Rickettsia-like organisms) that caused the mortality are naturally occurring bacteria in the local environment and they don't affect humans, other animals or wild fish - and they don't affect barramundi. Mitigation of disease risk is a key part of Tassal's operational planning, and we are focused on continuous improvement and using the best technology to lift rates of survival.

## HOW WILL CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT BARRAMUNDI PRODUCTION IN THE KIMBERLEY?

Barramundi is a highly adaptable and hardy species that can tolerate sea water temperatures up to 35°C. Current seawater temperatures in their native region average 27°C to 31°C, meaning barramundi are considered a potentially climate-resilient species. The Cone Bay barramundi farm has been operating since 2004, and the moorings and infrastructure is designed to withstand local conditions including cyclone events. Tassal is a global leader in technology and innovation, and since the acquisition we have replaced old infrastructure with new, and will continue to adapt and improve our procedures in response to environmental conditions.

## HOW WILL THE PROJECT AFFECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND WHAT WILL TASSAL BE DOING TO MANAGE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS?

The project has been referred and is currently being assessed in Western Australia by the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) under Part IV (Section 38) of the Environmental Protection Act 1986 (WA) (EP Act). The Executive Summary of the Section 38 Referral Supporting Report provides key information regarding the potential impacts and risks, proposed mitigation and environmental outcomes associated with the project. The Environmental Monitoring and Management Plan provides more detailed information about the environmental monitoring requirements that will apply to the project once it is developed and operational.

The project has also been referred and is currently being assessed by the Commonwealth Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act). The required Public Environmental Review document that has been prepared for this assessment has not yet been released for public review by DCCEEW.



EPA Proposal Here



For our latest  
**Sustainability Report**

For more information or to provide feedback  
please email us at [community@tassal.com.au](mailto:community@tassal.com.au)  
[tassalgroup.com.au](http://tassalgroup.com.au)