

## Hon David Basham MP

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development

## Peter Treloar MP

Member for Flinders

Sunday 20 September 2020

### **\$2.6m investment to boost Eyre Peninsula seafood sector**

The Eyre Peninsula will benefit from nearly \$70 million of investment in regional South Australia which will be unlocked, creating more than 1,000 jobs, thanks to \$12 million from the Marshall Liberal Government's Regional Growth Fund.

This round of the Regional Growth Fund will deliver \$2.65 million worth of investment in Port Lincoln including the upgrade of the processing room at Mori Seafoods with new equipment to receive, process, retail pack and export Ocean Jacket fillets and the establishment of a 'spat bank' at Yumbah Hatchery to help future-proof the whole oyster industry.

The two projects are expected to create more than 200 jobs across the region.

Minister for Primary Industries and Regional Development David Basham said this stimulus funding will help South Australia's economy bounce back from the coronavirus pandemic.

"2020 has been a tough year for South Australians and our regions have been hit particularly hard firstly with drought, then bushfires and now the coronavirus pandemic," said Minister Basham.

**"This \$12 million from the Regional Growth Fund will unlock nearly \$70 million of investment in South Australia's economy – creating more than 1,000 jobs across the state."**

"Our regions are a key driver for the South Australian economy and this will provide a much-needed shot in the arm to help business bounce back as quickly as possible.

"We had more than 200 applications for the Strategic Business Round and the successful projects are shovel-ready and will have lasting, widespread benefits for South Australia's regions.

"In good news for other applicants there is still more funding available from the Regional Growth Fund and some of the remaining projects from this round are still being considered."

Member for Flinders Peter Treloar said the two projects at Port Lincoln worth more than \$2.6 million would be welcome news for the local community.

"The Marshall Liberal Government understands the importance of regional South Australia to the prosperity of our state," said Mr Treloar.

"This \$1 million funding from the Regional Growth Fund will unlock more than \$2.6 million in investment on the Eyre Peninsula.

"The projects include an upgrade of the processing room at Mori Seafoods to support the expansion the local Ocean Jacket industry and the establishment of a 'spat bank' at Yumbah Hatchery to help future-proof the oyster industry – creating more than 200 jobs in the process.

“This is another great example of our government working collaboratively with industry to deliver positive outcomes for those in regional South Australia.”

The Marshall Liberal Government has committed \$150 million over 10 years through the Regional Growth Fund to support regional South Australia as part of the Recharging Our Regions policy.

Applicants to the Regional Growth Fund were eligible to seek grants from \$50,000 up to \$2 million, with projects given preference if they can demonstrate a greater private-to-government funding ratio and demonstrable strong economic outcomes.

The applications were assessed by an independently chaired panel, and advice was recommended based on how well they aligned to the criteria of this Fund. There is still \$7.7 million in funding available in the Regional Growth Fund with further applicants from the stimulus round being considered from the Strategic Business Round.

For more information, visit [www.pir.sa.gov.au/regionalgrowthfund](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/regionalgrowthfund)

| Applicant                                    | Project Description   | Funding Sought | Total Project Investment | Location     |
|--|---|----------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| Yumbah Hatchery Pty Ltd                      | Establish a 'spat bank' to future proof oyster spat supply & selective breeding programs  | \$400,000      | \$1,170,000              | Port Lincoln |
| Eyre Peninsula Ocean Jackets Fishing Cluster | Upgrade the existing processing room at Mori Seafoods with new equipment to receive, process, retail pack and export Ocean Jacket fillets | \$740,000      | \$1,480,000              | Port Lincoln |