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Company Announcement

Australian Securities Exchange Limited

## **NEW MILESTONE ACHIEVED IN SOUTHERN BLUEFIN TUNA AQUACULTURE BREEDING PROGRAM: CLEAN SEAS**

Clean Seas Tuna Limited (ASX: CSS) is pleased to report another milestone in its world-leading research program to produce aquaculture-bred Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT).

In the latest significant achievement, some of the SBT juveniles have now lived for more than 150 days since they were transferred in March this year to sea cages from the Company's Arno Bay facility on South Australia's Eyre Peninsula, post hatch in January.

"This latest milestone in our breeding and grow-out program has reinforced the Company's confidence in our research and development team as we move steadily towards commercialisation," Clean Seas Tuna Managing Director, Mr Clifford Ashby, said today.

"This year's success with world 'firsts' in transfers of SBT juveniles to sea cages, diet developments and growth monitoring through to the current winter water temperatures of some 14C, have all combined to produce a most encouraging result for our research and development project," he said.

Mr Ashby said that with the lowest at-sea water temperatures soon to reach 11C to 12C, the few remaining juveniles from this year's spawning program were not expected to survive such conditions. It was always anticipated that survival was unlikely as winter temperatures arrived, hence the continued survival is remarkable and builds on the significant knowledge gained for future trials and ultimate commercialisation.

"The information gleaned from our latest achievements – combined with the Japanese experience from Northern Bluefin Tuna trials - indicates that greater survival will be achievable if we have bigger juveniles going into winter months," he said.

"Clean Seas has already begun addressing this latest research and development goal and is on track in advancing its spawning program at the maximum advised rate of one month per season.

"Accordingly, initial SBT spawning for the forthcoming season is scheduled to be brought forward to December this year, with our spawning preparation cycle already well underway.

“It is anticipated that the earlier spawning will see Clean Seas build further on its achievements by resulting in quicker growth of SBT juveniles, a significant reduction in mortalities and the potential for the juveniles to survive and prosper through the challenging winter cycle.

“Overall, we remain confident that commercialisation of the SBT lifecycle at Arno Bay in South Australia is a realistic objective and the Company is highly encouraged by its first at-sea, grow-out trials this season.”

Clifford Ashby  
(Managing Director)

**Media contacts:-**

**Clifford Ashby**  
**Managing Director**  
**(08) 8621 2900**

**Sean Whittington**  
**Field Public Relations**  
**(08) 8234 9555, (0412) 591 520**

