



5 August 2011

Dear Stakeholder

REVIEW OF ROCK LOBSTER COMMERCIAL CONCESSION AREA REGULATIONS

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to participate in the review of spiny rock lobster commercial concession area regulations by providing a submission on the proposals outlined below.

Background

“Concession areas” are areas where commercial fishers can harvest rock lobster at a smaller size than the 54/60 mm tail width minimum legal size. There are three rock lobster concession areas in New Zealand: CRA 3 (Gisborne), CRA 7 (Otago) and CRA 8 (Southern). Each concession area was introduced for different reasons, at different times and each contains varying regulations.

Proposed Management Options

The Ministry of Fisheries (the Ministry) is seeking comments on the following management options. The options propose to retain or remove each set of concession regulations based on an analysis of costs and benefits.

Stock	Summary of Options	
CRA 3	Option 1A Retain the CRA 3 Concession Area regulations	Option 1B Remove the CRA 3 Concession Area regulations
CRA 7	Option 2A Retain the CRA 7 Concession Area regulations	Option 2B Remove the CRA 7 Concession Area regulations
CRA 8	Option 3A Retain the CRA 8 Concession Area regulations	Option 3B Remove the CRA 8 Concession Area regulations

You will find a copy of the Ministry’s initial advice paper on the MFish website at: www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Consultations/default.htm

If you have difficulties accessing the paper or would like a hard copy please contact Trudie Macfarlane by email: trudie.macfarlane@fish.govt.nz or phone: 04 819 4739.

If you require further information on the concession area proposals please contact: Steve Halley at 04 819 4622 or steve.halley@fish.govt.nz; or Alicia McKinnon at 06 831 0279 or alicia.mckinnon@fish.govt.nz

Providing Submissions on the Proposals

The Ministry welcomes written submissions on the proposals discussed above. Written submissions are due by **Friday, 9 September 2011** and should be sent directly to:

Trudie Macfarlane
Ministry of Fisheries
P O Box 1020
Wellington
or emailed to trudie.macfarlane@fish.govt.nz

Finally, I wish to advise you that all submissions received by the Ministry are subject to the Official Information Act 1982 (the OIA). Please advise the Ministry if you have any objection to the release of any information contained in a submission, and, in particular, which part(s) you consider should be withheld, together with the reason(s) for withholding the information. The Ministry will take into account all such objections when responding to requests for copies of, and information on, submissions under the OIA.

Yours sincerely



Steve Halley
Team Leader – Inshore Fisheries
Ministry of Fisheries