



19 December 2011

Dear Stakeholder

REVIEW OF ROCK LOBSTER SUSTAINABILITY MEASURES FOR 1 APRIL 2012

The purpose of this letter is to invite you to participate in the review of spiny rock lobster sustainability measures for the 2012-13 fishing year beginning 1 April 2012.

Background

In December each year, the National Rock Lobster Management Group (NRLMG) releases a public consultation document on proposals to vary rock lobster sustainability measures for the upcoming fishing year beginning on 1 April. The NRLMG is a national-level, multi-stakeholder group comprising representatives of the customary, recreational, and commercial fishing sectors, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry¹ (the Ministry). The NRLMG acts as the Minister's primary advisor on catch limit, regulatory and other management interventions that apply specifically to rock lobster fisheries.

Proposed Sustainability Measures for 1 April 2012

The NRLMG has released two initial advice papers for public consultation:

1. proposal to use new management procedures to guide Total Allowable Catch (TAC) setting in CRA 4 (Wellington/Hawkes Bay) and CRA 5 (Canterbury/Marlborough) spiny rock lobster stocks
2. proposal to set TACs and allowances for CRA 3 (Gisborne), CRA 4 (Wellington/Hawkes Bay), CRA 5 (Canterbury/Marlborough) and CRA 7 (Otago) spiny rock lobster stocks.

You will find the NRLMG initial advice papers on the Ministry website at the following link:
[Rock+Lobster+Sustainability+Measures+2012](http://fish.govt.nz/Rock+Lobster+Sustainability+Measures+2012)

If you have difficulties accessing the documents or would like a hard copy of the papers, please contact Jess Hogan at 06 835 1065 or jess.hogan@maf.govt.nz

If you require further information on the rock lobster proposals for 1 April 2012, please contact: Alicia McKinnon at 06 831 0279 or alicia.mckinnon@maf.govt.nz; or Allen Frazer at 03 466 3629 or allen.frazer@maf.govt.nz

¹ previously the Ministry of Fisheries.

Providing Submissions on the Proposals

The Ministry welcomes written submissions on the proposals contained within the initial advice papers. Written submissions are due by **5pm Friday, 3 February 2012** and should be sent directly to:

Alicia McKinnon

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

P O Box 12034


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Napier 4144

or emailed to alicia.mckinnon@maf.govt.nz

Finally, I wish to advise you that all submissions received by the Ministry are subject to the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). Please advise 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.

Kind regards



Allen Frazer

Inshore Fisheries - Team Leader

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry