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5 July 2018

**Submission:** The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council supports the proposed Maitaitai reserve at Cape Runaway.

### Recommendations

1. The Minister approves the application from Te Whanau a Kauaetangohia hapu for a Maitaitai reserve at Cape Runaway in the Bay of Plenty.
  - a. Maitaitai reserves are areas closed to commercial fishing that may have bylaws affecting recreational and customary fishing.

### NZ Sport Fishing Council - LegaSea

2. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) appreciates the opportunity to submit on the proposed Maitaitai reserve at Cape Runaway in the eastern Bay of Plenty. Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ) advice of consultation was received on 23 May, with submissions due by 5 July 2018.
3. The NZ Sport Fishing Council is a recognised national sports organisation with over 34,000 affiliated members from 56 clubs nationwide. The Council has initiated LegaSea to generate widespread awareness and support for the need to restore abundance in our inshore marine environment. Also, to broaden NZSFC involvement in marine management advocacy, research, education and alignment on behalf of our members and LegaSea supporters. [www.legasea.co.nz](http://www.legasea.co.nz). Collectively we are ‘the submitters’.
4. The submitters are committed to ensuring that sustainability measures and environmental management controls are designed and implemented to achieve the Purpose and Principles of the Fisheries Act 1996, including “maintaining the potential of fisheries resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations...” [s8(2)(a) Fisheries Act 1996]
5. The submitter’s representatives are available to discuss this submission in more detail if required. We look forward to positive outcomes from this application and would like to be kept informed of future developments. Our contact is Helen Pastor, [secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz).

## Submission

6. The submitters support the Minister in approving the application for Te Whanau a Kauaetangohia Mataitai Reserve, Cape Runaway, eastern Bay of Plenty.
7. The submitters also support our two local clubs, Waihou Bay Sports Fishing Club and Te Kaha Sport Fishing Club, in their fulsome support for this application. As noted by Te Kaha SFC, we must work together to ensure the sustainability of the fishery in the eastern Bay of Plenty area.
8. Since 2005 the submitters have worked with the [mid-north iwi fisheries forum](#), the Hokianga Accord. The [Hokianga Accord](#) includes Ngapuhi, Ngati Whatua, commercial, customary and recreational fishing interests, together we work to achieve the common goal of 'More fish in the water, *Kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai*'.
9. The submitters have a long-term interest in local area management and have previously supported hapu with their applications for customary area management tools particularly in Northland and Auckland.
10. In this instance we share the hapu's concern about the significant drop in koura (rock lobster) stock and paua of legal size. The submitters have been actively advocating for the [restoration of crayfish](#) numbers and sizes in CRA 2 for the past decade. Our [most recent crayfish submission](#) applying to this area was made in February this year.
11. The submitters tautoko (support) Te Whanau a Kauaetangohia Hapu in their application and remind the Minister and officials that the Minister has a statutory duty when managing fisheries to provide for the input and participation of tangata whenua. In particular, section 12 of the Fisheries Act 1996 states:

Section 12: Consultation.

- (1) Before doing anything under any of sections 11...15, the Minister shall –
  - a. consult with such persons or organisations as the Minister considers are representative of those classes of persons having an interest in the stock or the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned, including Maori, environmental, commercial, and recreational interests; and
  - b. provide for the input and participation of tangata whenua having –
    - i. a non-commercial interest in the stock concerned; or
    - ii. an interest in the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment in the area concerned –

and ***have particular regard to kaitiakitanga.***

12. Kaitiakitanga is, in part, guardianship of the resource and the people. The submitters advocate that the current state of the fisheries available to Te Whanau a Kauaetangohia hapu and local community do not meet this statutory standard. We encourage the Minister to approve this Mataitai application so the hapu and local community can get on with managing their area of interest.