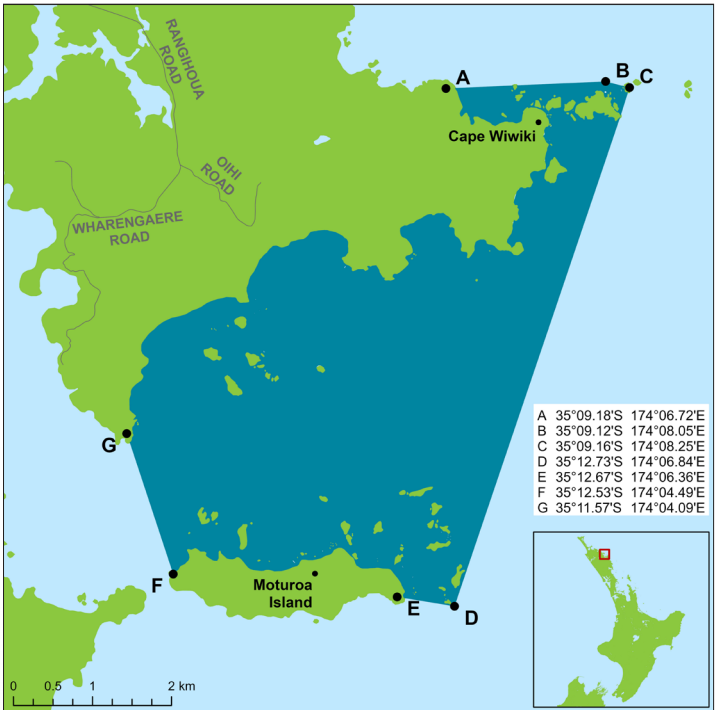




New Bylaw Prohibiting Take of Mussels in Te Puna Mātaitai – Effective 23 March 2020



Following public consultation held in late 2019, Kaitiaki of the Te Puna Mātaitai reserve, with approval from the Minister of Fisheries, have implemented a prohibition on the taking of green-lipped, blue and black mussels from within the mātaitai reserve area, in the northern Bay of Islands.

In the last few years, local iwi and community members have noted a decline in mussel populations. While the cause of the decline is not fully understood, the reduction in harvest pressure will help give mussel stocks a better chance of recovery.

The bylaw took effect on 23rd March 2020.