



Ngai Tai Umupuia Te Waka Totara Trust

Ko Tara te Irirangi te Tipuna
Ko Kohukohunui te Maunga
Ko Tikapa te Moana
Ko Wairoa te Awa
Ko Ngai Tai te Iwi
Ko Umupuia te Marae
Ko Tainui te Waka

Tara te Irirangi the Ancestor
Kohukohunui the Mountain
Tikapa the Sea
Wairoa the River
Ngai Tai the People
Umupuia the Marae
Tainui the Canoe

24th August 2018

To ; The Minister for MPI and Fisheries N.Z

Tenei te mihi ki a koe te Minita e koutou ra ngaa kaimahi ki a MPI me Fisheries N.Z. hoki.

Ngai Tai Umupuia Te Waka Totara Trust and its Trustees request an extension to the Rahui and 186A closure at Umupuia Beach in relation to the taking of Tuangi /Cockles.

We require the Rahui for a further two years for the following reasons ;

1. We represent the Mana Whenua Marae at Umupuia, the Marae is situated on the beachfront and is the ancestral Marae of Ngai Tai ki Tamaki who as an Iwi are on the cusp of receiving our negotiated Treaty Settlement with all the rights of Crown partnership ensuing. Umupuia is and has been a native Reservation set aside for the benefit of Ngai Tai and this whenua has been continuously occupied by Ngai Tai, uninterrupted occupation since time immemorial. Umupuia is consequently part of a M.A.C.A application before the courts.
2. We have maintained a Rahui /186A closure for some years now. MPI surveys over these years demonstrate that the Tuangi have increased in number and size to the point where Ngai Tai ki Tamaki can begin to contemplate a controlled customary harvest regime through their Tangata Kaitiaki based from Umupuia. The Rahui area and its proximity to a local marine reserve at Matuku have generated an observable increase in fish and shellfish stocks and with associated seabird activity to the area there is consequent benefit to all user groups.
3. Unrestricted public harvest can not be contemplated as notwithstanding the personal limit of 50 Tuangi our experience was that the shellfish population collapsed when this was allowed. Prior to the Rahui Umupuia was the most heavily harvested beach in Aotearoa. The large developments and rapidly increasing population and proximity to large immigrant groupings who often do not know our rules contribute to the risk to the shellfish stock and potential repeat collapse. Ngai Tai are determined this should not happen again.
4. As was iterated in a letter dated 12 September 2012 to the then Minister ,Ngai Tai ki Tamaki request, again ,to meet with your appropriate officials to develop agreed protocols for future management and any future harvest options. These protocols are part of our expectations as a Treaty Partner with the Crown. An extension to the Rahui /186A closure is needed to allow time for these meetings to occur and the protocols developed and enacted.
5. Respectfully Minister Ngai Tai Te Waka Totara Trust on behalf of our Marae and our Iwi Ngai Tai ki Tamaki make formal demand that the Rahui/ 186A closure are extended for a two year period so that we can properly protect our Taonga.

Kia ora Minister ngaa mihi

Laurie Beamish (Trustee) mob. 027 6533008