

1 October 2020

Request for a further temporary fishing closure of Umupuia Beach, Clevedon, to the harvest of cockles

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on a request by Ngāi Tai Ki Tāmaki Trust for a further two-year fishing closure of Umupuia Beach, Clevedon, east of Auckland, to the harvest of cockles.

The area is currently closed to the take of cockles.

As part of the required consultation process, Fisheries New Zealand is publishing a notice in the *NZ Herald* on Saturday, **3 October 2020**, calling for written submissions on the request from persons who have an interest in the species concerned or the effects of fishing in the area concerned.

The request is made under s186A of the Fisheries Act 1996. Section 186A provides that the Minister of Fisheries may temporarily close an area in respect of any species of fish, aquatic life or seaweed. Before doing so, the Minister must be satisfied that closing the area will recognise and provide for the use and management practices of tangata whenua in the exercise of non-commercial fishing rights by:

- improving the availability or size (or both) of a species of fish, aquatic life or seaweed; or
- o recognising a customary fishing practice in that area.

The Trust consider that another 2-year closure will recognise and provide for the management practices of Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki and the Umupuia Marae, in their exercise of non-commercial fishing rights, and allow time to develop protocols for future management and any future harvest options.

If you would like to make a submission on the request, please email your submission to FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz. The closing date for submissions is **5pm**, on **Monday**, **9** November **2020**.

A detailed map of the proposed area is attached. The map is also available on the Fisheries New Zealand website (www.mpi.govt.nz/fisheriesnz), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the above address.

Note, that any submission you make becomes public information. People can ask for copies of submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA says we have to make submissions available unless we have a good reason for withholding it. That is explained in sections 6 and 9 of the OIA.

Tell us if you think there are grounds to withhold specific information in your submission. Reasons might include that it's commercially sensitive or it's personal information. However,

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any decision Fisheries New Zealand makes to withhold information can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may tell us to release it.

Yours since ely

David Scranney

Manager Customary Fisheries and Spatial Allocations