



5 November 2020

## Request for temporary fishing closure at Waimarama, Hawkes Bay, to the harvest of blackfoot pāua

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on a request by Ngāi Hapū o Waimarama for a two-year closure of fisheries waters at Waimarama, Hawkes Bay to the harvest of blackfoot pāua.

As part of the required consultation process, Fisheries New Zealand is publishing a notice in the Hawkes Bay Today on Thursday, **5 November 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
- recognising a customary fishing practice in that area.

Ngāi Hapū o Waimarama consider that a temporary closure will recognise and provide for the management practices of Ngāi Hapū o Waimarama in their exercise of non-commercial fishing rights and allow time for the pāua stock in the area to replenish and increase in number and size.

If you would like to make a submission on the request, please email your submission to [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz). The closing date for submissions is **5pm**, on **Wednesday, 2 December 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](http://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, any decision Fisheries New Zealand makes to withhold information can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may tell us to release it.

Yours sincerely

David Scranney

Manager Customary Fisheries and Spatial Allocations