Tēnā koe

This update follows our letter in September thanking you for your submission on the proposed network of marine protected areas along the south-east South Island.

DOC and Fisheries New Zealand received 4,056 submissions on the proposed network of marine reserves and marine protected areas.

This includes submissions made during the original submission period from 17 February to 9 April before it was closed due to the Covid-19 lockdown, and submissions made when consultation recommenced on 3 June to 3 August 2020.

Submissions have been summarised by public research and engagement company, PublicVoice. Agencies are now working on detailed analysis of all submissions and are drafting advice to their respective Ministers.

Copies of all submissions will be proactively released to the public on the DOC website on 14 December 2020 to maintain transparency in the public consultation process.

Redactions have been made to withhold information in line with the Privacy Act 2020 and with reference to the Official Information Act 1982.

The Minister of Conservation and Minister for Oceans and Fisheries' decisions will be informed by agency advice and other information including the submissions received. Ministers have distinct decision-making roles under the Marine Reserves and Fisheries Acts.

The Minister of Conservation will make decisions about the six marine reserve proposals under the Marine Reserves Act and will seek concurrence from the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries and the Minister of Transport.

The Minister for Oceans and Fisheries will make decisions about the five marine protected areas and one kelp protection area under the Fisheries Act.

We will inform you of the outcomes of these decisions.

If you have any further questions please email us at semp@doc.govt.nz

Nāku noa, nā

Lauren
Project Coordinator
Southeast Marine Protection