



15 December 2020

Tēnā koe

## Review of rock lobster sustainability measures for 2021

The National Rock Lobster Management Group (NRLMG) and Fisheries New Zealand are seeking feedback from tangata whenua, stakeholders, and the public on proposed changes to catch limits for selected rock lobster stocks for 2021.

Sustainability measures and other management controls for rock lobster are reviewed annually by the NRLMG and Fisheries New Zealand to ensure the sustainable use of these stocks. Each stock is assessed using the best available scientific information.

There are proposed changes for four red rock lobster stocks (CRA 1, 3, 4 & 5) and packhorse rock lobster (PHC 1) for the April 2021 fishing year.

All four red rock lobster stocks are currently above target levels, but the best available information projects that the CRA 3, CRA 4 & CRA 5 stocks will decline over the next four years under the current catch settings, while the CRA 1 stock will increase slightly. Moderate decreases to catch settings are proposed to ensure these stocks remain at or above targets.

Packhorse rock lobster is a developing stock. The latest information suggests the stock has increased in abundance in recent years and is predicted to stay at the current level under the current catch settings. A total catch limit and allowances are proposed to be set for this stock for the first time, and a small increase to the commercial catch limit is being considered.

More information on these proposed changes can be found in the full consultation paper on the Fisheries New Zealand website at: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/review-of-sustainability-measures-2021-april-round/>. Alternatively, hard copies of the document may be requested at the email or post addresses provided below.

## Making a submission

All submissions should be received by **5pm Friday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2021**.

Submissions should be emailed to: [FMsubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMsubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

Alternatively, they can be sent by mail to the following postal address:

Sustainability Review 2021  
Fisheries Management  
Fisheries New Zealand  
PO BOX 2526  
Wellington 6140

**Fisheries New Zealand**  
**Fisheries Management**  
Pastoral House, 25 The Terrace, PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140, New Zealand  
Telephone: 0800 00 83 33, Facsimile: +64-4-894 0300  
[www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz)

## **Submissions are public information**

Note that your submission is public information. Submissions may be the subject of requests for information under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA specifies that information is to be made available to requesters unless there is sufficient grounds for withholding it, as set out in the OIA. Submitters may wish to indicate grounds for withholding specific information contained in their submission, such as the information being commercially sensitive or if they wish personal information to be withheld. Any decision to withhold information requested under the OIA is reviewable by the Ombudsman.

Nāku iti noa nā



Emma Taylor  
Director Fisheries Management  
Fisheries New Zealand