



11 August 2022

## Request for a temporary fishing closure at Taranaki

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on a request by Taranaki iwi for a two-year fishing closure on the Taranaki coast, to the take of all shellfish, seaweeds (excluding beach cast seaweed), anemones and conger eels.

The requested area is between the Herekawe and Rawa Streams, and offshore to two nautical miles.

As part of the required consultation process, Fisheries New Zealand is publishing a notice in *Taranaki Daily News* and *Stratford Press* on Wednesday 10 August 2022, and *North Taranaki Midweek*, *Taranaki Star* and *Opunake and Coastal News* on Thursday 11 August 2022, calling for written submissions on the request from those with an interest in the species concerned or who have an interest in 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.

Taranaki iwi consider that the temporary closure will provide time for pāua and other taonga species that are being overfished, the opportunity to regenerate. The temporary closure will also give legal effect to the customary rāhui in place, strengthening the potential for kai taonga to regenerate to levels of sustainability which would ensure their continued survival for the benefit of future generations.

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).

While we prefer email, you can post your submission to:

Spatial Planning and Allocations  
Fisheries Management  
Fisheries New Zealand  
PO Box 2526  
Wellington 6140

The closing date for submissions is **5pm, on Monday, 12 September 2022**.

A detailed map of the proposed area is attached. The map and a copy of the request are available on the Ministry for Primary Industries website ([www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations)), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the above address or [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz).

Note that all, part, or a summary of your submission may be published on the MPI website. Most often this happens when we issue a document that reviews the submissions received.

People can also ask for copies of submissions under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA). The OIA says we must make the content of submissions available unless we have good reason for withholding it. Those reasons are detailed in sections 6 and 9 of the OIA.

If you think there are grounds to withhold specific information from publication, make this clear in your submission or contact us. Reasons may include that it discloses commercially sensitive or personal information. However, any decision MPI makes to withhold details can be reviewed by the Ombudsman, who may direct us to release it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dee Wallace', written in a cursive style.

Dee Wallace  
Team Manager Spatial Planning & Allocations (Acting)