



17 August 2022

Request for temporary fishing closure at Waimārama, Hawke's Bay, to the harvest of blackfoot pāua

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on the below request.

On 28 July 2022, Ngāi Hapū o Waimārama requested the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries impose a further temporary closure under section 186A the Fisheries Act 1996 over the fisheries waters of Waimārama, Hawke's Bay. The requested temporary closure is to prohibit the take of blackfoot pāua for a two-year period.

Ngāi Hapū o Waimarama consider that a further temporary closure will recognise their kaitiakitanga and continue to support the recovery of the pāua stock.

Section 186A provides for the Minister to temporarily close an area in respect of any species of fish, aquatic life or seaweed, or temporarily restrict or prohibit the use of any fishing method, for up to two years. However, to approve a temporary closure, the Minister must be satisfied that it will recognise and make provision for the use and management practices of tangata whenua in the exercise of their non-commercial fishing rights by:

- (a) improving the availability or size (or both) of a species of fish, aquatic life, or seaweed in the area subject to the closure, restriction, or prohibition; or
- (b) recognising a customary fishing practice in that area.

As part of the required consultation process, Fisheries New Zealand is publishing a notice in the *Hawke's Bay Today* on Saturday 20 August 2022, calling for written submissions on the request from those with an interest in blackfoot pāua or in the effects of fishing at Waimārama, Hawke's Bay.

If you would like to make a submission on the request, please email your submission to 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, 3 October 2022.**

A detailed map of the proposed area is attached. The map and a copy of the request are available on the MPI website (www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations), or by contacting Fisheries New Zealand at the above address or FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz.

Fisheries New Zealand
Fisheries Management
Charles Fergusson Building
34-38 Bowen Street, Wellington 6011
PO Box 2526
Telephone: 0800 00 83 33
www.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 that reads "Dee Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dee Wallace
Acting Team Manager Spatial Planning and Allocations