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13 October 2022

Submission: Proposed further temporary fishing closure of Umupuia Beach, Clevedon

Submitters

1. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council is a recognised national sports organisation with over 38,500 affiliated members from 53 clubs nationwide. The Council has initiated LegaSea to generate widespread awareness and support for the need to restore abundance in our inshore marine environment. Also, to broaden NZSFC involvement in marine management advocacy, research, education, and alignment on behalf of our members and LegaSea supporters. www.legasea.co.nz.
2. The New Zealand Angling and Casting Association (NZACA) is the representative body for its 28 member clubs throughout the country. The Association promotes recreational fishing and the camaraderie of enjoying the activity with fellow fishers. The NZACA is committed to protecting fish stocks and representing its members' right to fish.
3. The submitters have supported previous rāhui at Umupuia beach to the harvest of tuangi back in 2018 and 2016. Our 2018 submission can be found [here](#).
4. Collectively we are 'the submitters'. The joint submitters are committed to ensuring that sustainability measures and environmental management controls are designed and implemented to achieve the Purpose and Principles of the Fisheries Act 1996, including "maintaining the potential of fisheries resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations..." [s8(2)(a) Fisheries Act 1996].
5. Our representatives are available to discuss this submission in more detail if required. We look forward to positive outcomes from this process. We would like to be kept informed of future developments. Our contact is Helen Pastor secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz.

Discussion

6. The submitters support the application by Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki Trust for an extension of a two-year rāhui of Umupuia Beach, Clevedon, to the harvest of cockles (tuangi), under section 186A of the Fisheries Act 1996. Advice was received on 14 September with submissions due by 31 October 2022.
7. The submitters acknowledge Ngāi Tai Umupuia Te Waka Totara Trust for their consistent and generous commitment to delivering on their kaitiakitanga (guardianship) obligations on behalf of these taonga kai moana (treasured) resources.
8. We have seen consecutive closures every 2 years since 2008, and we ask Fisheries New Zealand, what other measures are you taking to ensure a stable rebuild of the fishery?
9. The most recent available [population survey of tuangi](#) indicates the population is recovering, although there are fluctuating population estimates year to year. It is evident that continuous closures should not be the only course of action and further management needs to be taken to ensure healthy tuangi populations to reopen the fishery.
10. We recommend Fisheries New Zealand facilitate ongoing discussions with the applicants and local community to establish alternative co-management tools ensuring healthy levels of tuangi before 2024.