

Rāhui Section 186A Temporary Closure Application

1. Name of Closure	Te Rāhui o Moremore
2. Who is asking for or supporting the closure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ngāti Pārau Hapū Trust (mana whenua hapū trust) • Mana Ahuriri Trust (mana whenua hapū trust) • Maungaharuru Tangitū Trust (mana whenua hapū trust) <p>(the above three trusts collectively represent the mana whenua hapū of Ahuriri) (Mana Whenua Hapū)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mana Whenua Steering Komiti (collective of marae, hapū, PSGEs and Iwi working in partnership with Napier Port on the wharf development) • Rangi Spooner as gazetted kaitiaki for Ngāi Te Ruruku o Te Rangi (customary fishers) • LegaSea Hawke’s Bay • Napier Port • Fisheries Liaison Group (a group of commercial and recreational fishers, divers and Napier Port representatives) • Department of Conservation Hawke’s Bay • Hawke’s Bay Regional Council • Napier City Council
3. Contact person for mana whenua and contact details	Te Kaha Hawaikirangi <div style="background-color: black; width: 100px; height: 15px; margin: 5px 0;"></div> <div style="background-color: black; width: 80px; height: 15px; margin: 5px 0;"></div>
4. What is the location of the requested closure	We request a rāhui (Section 186A Temporary Closure under the Fisheries Act 1996) to be placed around a new reef situated approximately 6 km northeast from the Napier Port for a period of two years. Chart and GPS locations of the reef are detailed in Appendix 1.
5. What are the species being requested	No take of all species.
6. Why do hapū want a temporary closure	<p>Mana whenua hapū, the Mana Whenua Steering Komiti and fishing representatives (through the Fisheries Liaison Group) continue to work in partnership with Napier Port in the development of a new wharf called Te Whiti. As a part of the wharf development, LegaSea Hawke’s Bay proposed the creation of a new reef. Through an RMA process a separate consent was granted to place boulders from an existing rock revetment wall in the Napier Port to its current location. This initiative was supported by Napier Port, mana whenua steering komiti and Fishing Liaison Group.</p> <p>The new reef (not yet named) is located 6 km northeast of Napier Port, or 2 km east of Pānia Reef, Napier (Pānia is significant to mana whenua. Link to her story here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eTK3BF_jeRE&ab_channel=MarineCulturalHealthProgramme)</p> <p>The new reef is approximately 330m x 330m or 110,000m² in size, and consists of large limestone boulders, from a revetment wall dismantled as part of the construction of the new wharf at Napier Port. This is the first of its kind in Aotearoa, New Zealand. The reef is located at a depth of approximately 20m, with areas of rock forming structure up to 3m from the seafloor. Placement of the rocks started two years ago with the last load of rocks placed at end of 2021.</p> <p>The new reef has provided positive habitat for mahinga kai (food gathering) and taonga (culturally important) species. In the short time since its creation, biofilm, juvenile kōura and kuku (green-lipped mussels), as well as fish species such as blue cod, john dory, kingfish and snapper have already been spotted on the new reef during dive trips. However, the biogenic habitat on the reef takes time to develop. The ambition of the Mana Whenua Hapū and supporting entities is to establish and nurture a thriving reef habitat.</p> <p>Link to footage and pictures of new reef:</p>

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	<p>https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/pmq7nfp0iv8plcxkskco2/h?dl=0&rlkey=dik39dx1c968zoaza25z1q6an</p> <p>Both recreational and commercial fishing within close limits to Napier can reach high numbers over the summer period. Recreational crayfish pots, long lines, set nets and fishing from vessels with hook, line and sinkers could impact on the development of the new reef if not managed correctly. Commercial fisheries vessels also operate out of Napier, but it is unlikely at this time that they will fish on the new reef (i.e. commercial rock lobster potting has not occurred in the Bay for a long-time).</p> <p>Mana Whenua Hapū actively practise kaitiakitanga (stewardship) over the moana of Ahuriri with a focus on the protection, and enhancement of Tangaroa and its mauri (life-giving capacity). Mana whenua Hapū whakapapa to Tangaroa through Pānia and Moremore (see link to the story of Pānia and Moremore above). This connection further heightens the importance of ensuring tikanga (custom) and kawa (protocol) are followed.</p> <p>With the reef still in its infancy and developing as a habitat, mana whenua of Ahuriri would like to place a rāhui to enable the reef to further establish and thrive. A rāhui (Section 186A Temporary Closure) is the option supported by mana whenua as one way to implement tikanga:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manaakitanga – Supporting the growth of biogenic organisms, taonga and mahinga kai species on the reef. • Kaitiakitanga – Protecting the reef as it establishes and giving time for it to thrive. <p>Supporting partners, the Mana Whenua Steering Komiti, LegaSea Hawke’s Bay, Napier Port and other entities are in full support of the placement of a rāhui (Section 186A Temporary Closure).</p> <p>Future management options will be considered and progressed while the rāhui is in place. Conversations will continue in seeking support to progress a mātaimai application on behalf of the Mana Whenua Hapū by the trusts referred to above with the view that it will take effect immediately following the rāhui.</p>
<p>7. Future Monitoring</p>	<p>Funding pending via the Fisheries New Zealand Customary Fisheries Research Fund, we have planned a project named Te Kōhanga which aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor biogenic growth and habitat development of the new reef. • Increase mahinga kai and taonga species on the new reef by boosting the establishment of biogenic habitat. <p>The project includes two key components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surveys: Pre and post-ecological surveys to establish a baseline state of the new reef and state following habitat enhancement. Two transects will be undertaken to provide an ecological state on and around the reef before and following enhancement works (likely one year later). • Habitat enhancement: This includes creating and installing between 9–12 tī kōuka (cabbage tree) spat ropes suspended over the new reef. The tī kōuka spat ropes will be weaved locally from cabbage tree flax. The spat ropes are designed to support the rapid growth of two key pioneer species which are targeted at boosting the new reef’s biogenic habitat establishment. The two species – kuku (green-lipped mussels) and kelp (<i>Ecklonia radiata</i>) – are fast establishers. Both the spat and spores naturally occur in the water column over the new reef. Once the pioneer species are well established this will foster the growth of a more diverse range of biogenic species over the new reef enabling a faster rate of habitat development.

8. Time period for closure	Two-year period from date of introduction, 2022 – 2024
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