

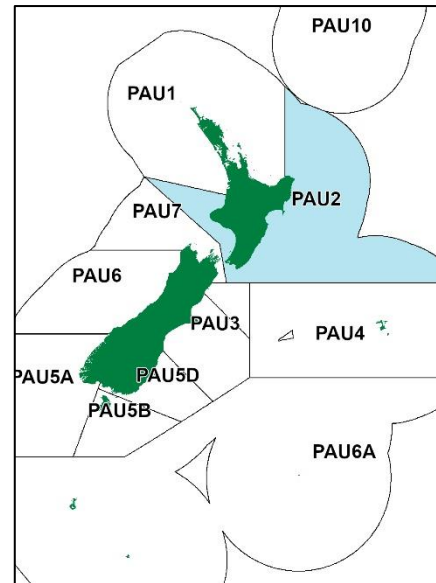
Update for pāua for FMA 2

Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ) is reviewing the sustainability measures for Pāua in Quota Management Area PAU 2 for the 1 October 2023 fishing year.

Fisheries New Zealand is proposing to set a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for PAU 2, noting that currently only a Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) is set. This will include the setting of allowances for customary and recreational fishers, as well as other sources of mortality caused by fishing.

In undertaking this review, FNZ plan to seek feedback on potential changes to recreational measures for pāua within PAU 2.

Consultation on the proposed PAU 2 review is planned for December and January.



Adjustment to management tools for pāua resulting from the Fisheries Amendment Act

Some of the recreational management controls that used to be specified in the Fisheries (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 2013 are now specified in a new Fisheries (Recreational Management Controls) Notice (the Notice), which comes into force 29 November 2022. The Notice can be found in the following link:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/legal/legislation-standards-and-reviews/fisheries-legislation/fisheries-notices/>

This will allow the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries to set or vary recreational fishing management controls for any fish, aquatic life, or seaweed that is specified in the notice (e.g. daily limits, accumulation limits and minimum legal size).

These controls apply to already defined areas within the regulations. The Notice specifies recreational fishing management controls for pāua such as a daily limit, accumulation limit and minimum length, throughout the entirety of PAU 2.

Note: this excludes the Amateur Taranaki Pāua Fishery area which has a different minimum length for pāua, separately defined in the regulations.

There is a statutory obligation to consult on any options proposing a change to the Notice, and subject to the Ministers decision, any changes to the management controls for pāua would be gazetted with a suitable lead in time. More information on the Fisheries Amendment Act can be found in the following link:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/fishing-aquaculture/commercial-fishing/fisheries-change-programme/fisheries-amendment-act/>

It is important to note that, varying the recreational management controls for pāua for a specific area of PAU 2 (i.e., amending a limit along the east coast of PAU 2 only), is not something that can be varied under the Notice.

A regulatory process is required to define the new area and create a specific regulation for that area. This continues to require lodging the proposed amendments to the regulations through Cabinet for approval.