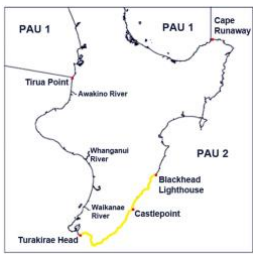



Proposal type:	Paua 2 (PAU 2) TAC Review Reduce the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC)
Affected area:	South west and east coast of North Island
Date received:	24/06/2025
Response date:	23/07/2025
Project lead:	Sydney Curtis
Stock status:	Stock status is unknown. Increasing concerns of localised depletion around Taranaki, Wairarapa and Hawke's Bay. Declining catch rates in the main commercial areas.
Introduction: 	FNZ propose to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reduce the 121 tonne TACC by 10% or 20%, to 109 t or 97 t. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is unknown if overfishing is occurring. 2. The TACC has been exceeded 6 times in the last 10 years. 3. The TACC has not changed since 1990. 4. Recreational harvest has been on a declining trend. The bag limit was cut by 50% in 2023. 5. Most commercial fishing occurs in the southeast portion of PAU 2, along the Wairarapa coastline.
Preliminary view: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposed TACC reductions are not enough given the concerns of ongoing marine heatwaves and fishers' concerns about localised depletion. 2. A precautionary approach is required to account for stock status uncertainty and the range of concerns for the fishery. 3. Prior to the bag limit cut, recreational harvest was estimated at 33 tonnes and declining. 4. If there are ongoing sustainability concerns, all sectors need to contribute to a rebuild. 5. At least 3 smaller management areas and improved methods for assessing the status of the fishery are required. 6. Fisheries NZ needs to provide support for the community and local iwi/hāpu to develop local management plans.
Main beneficiary:	43 quota owners if greater cuts to the TACC are not applied.