



14 December 2012

Tēnā koe

### Review of Rock Lobster Sustainability Measures for 1 April 2013

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), on behalf of the National Rock Lobster Management Group (NRLMG), seeks feedback from tangata whenua, fishery stakeholders and other interested parties on proposals to review regulatory controls for selected rock lobster stocks.

The NRLMG is the primary advisor to the Minister for Primary Industries on catch limit, regulatory and other management actions that apply specifically to rock lobster fisheries. The NRLMG is a multi-stakeholder group comprising representatives of customary, recreational and commercial fishing sectors, and MPI.

The multi-stakeholder approach of the NRLMG allows representatives from all fishing sectors and MPI to work together to foster the sustainable use of rock lobster fisheries, and develop innovative management strategies for rock lobster within the Quota Management System.

The following proposals are now released for public consultation:

### Use new management procedures to guide Total Allowable Catch (TAC) setting in CRA 7 (Otago) and CRA 8 (Southern) rock lobster fisheries

A management procedure is a tool used to guide the setting of catch limits. In 2012 new stock assessments and management procedures were developed and evaluated for CRA 7 and CRA 8. This work was part of a scheduled review that occurs about every five years in key rock lobster fisheries.

The options considered for CRA 7 and CRA 8 are outlined in the following table:

Stock	Option	Description
	<b>CRA7_A</b>	Agree to use the <u>new</u> 'Rule 38' CRA 7 Management Procedure to guide TAC setting in CRA 7
<b>CRA 7</b>	<b>CRA7_B</b>	Agree to use the <u>new</u> 'Rule 39' CRA 7 Management Procedure to guide TAC setting in CRA 7
	<b>CRA7_C</b>	Continue to use the <u>current</u> (2011) CRA 7 Management Procedure to guide TAC setting in CRA 7
	<b>CRA8_A</b>	Agree to use the <u>new</u> 'Rule 1' CRA 8 Management Procedure to guide TAC setting in CRA 8
<b>CRA 8</b>	<b>CRA8_B</b>	Continue to use the <u>current</u> (2008) CRA8 Management Procedure to guide TAC setting in CRA 8

Simulation testing of the proposed new management procedures indicates that their application should:

- Improve CRA 7 abundance and result in improved utilisation benefits for all sectors;
- Maintain CRA 8 abundance and continue to provide high utilisation benefits for all sectors.

### Set Total Allowable Catches and allowances for CRA 3 (Gisborne), CRA 4 (Hawkes Bay/Wellington), CRA 7 (Otago) and CRA 8 (Southern) rock lobster fisheries

Management procedures are currently in place for CRA 3, CRA 4, CRA 5, CRA 7 and CRA 8 rock lobster fisheries. New CRA 7 and CRA 8 management procedures were evaluated in 2012 to replace the current procedures.

Each year, management procedures are operated to deliver a TAC result that is consistent with the Minister's statutory obligations. Operation of the CRA 3, CRA 4 and CRA 7 management procedures result in proposed TAC changes. Operation of the CRA 5 and CRA 8 management procedures result in no change. However, options are proposed for CRA 8 because there is a proposed change to the management procedure approach.

The options considered are outlined in the following table:

Stock	Option	TAC	TACC	Customary Allowance	Recreational Allowance	Other mortality
CRA 3	<b>CRA3_01:</b> Be guided by the CRA 3 Management Procedure and increase the TAC and TACC	354.5 tonnes	225.5 tonnes	20 tonnes	20 tonnes	89 tonnes
	<b>CRA3_02:</b> Retain the current CRA 3 TAC, TACC and allowances	322.3 tonnes	193.3 tonnes	20 tonnes	20 tonnes	89 tonnes
CRA 4	<b>CRA4_01:</b> Be guided by the CRA 4 Management Procedure and increase the TAC and TACC	694.7 tonnes	499.7 tonnes	35 tonnes	85 tonnes	75 tonnes
	<b>CRA4_02:</b> Retain the current CRA 4 TAC, TACC and allowances	661.9 tonnes	466.9 tonnes	35 tonnes	85 tonnes	75 tonnes
CRA 7	<b>CRA7_01:</b> Be guided by the <u>new</u> 'Rule 38' CRA 7 Management Procedure and decrease the TAC and TACC	40 tonnes	20 tonnes	10 tonnes	5 tonnes	5 tonnes
	<b>CRA7_02:</b> Be guided by the <u>new</u> 'Rule 39' CRA 7 Management Procedure and decrease the TAC and TACC	64 tonnes	44 tonnes	10 tonnes	5 tonnes	5 tonnes
	<b>CRA7_03:</b> Be guided by the <u>current</u> (2011) CRA 7 Management Procedure and decrease the TAC and TACC	68.3 tonnes	48.3 tonnes	10 tonnes	5 tonnes	5 tonnes
	<b>CRA7_04:</b> Retain the current CRA 7 TAC, TACC and allowances	83.9 tonnes	63.9 tonnes	10 tonnes	5 tonnes	5 tonnes
CRA 8	<b>CRA8_01:</b> Be guided by the <u>new</u> 'Rule 1' CRA 8 Management Procedure and retain the current TAC, TACC and allowances	1053 tonnes	962 tonnes	30 tonnes	33 tonnes	28 tonnes
	<b>CRA8_02:</b> Be guided by the <u>current</u> (2008) CRA 8 Management Procedure and retain the current TAC, TACC and allowances	1053 tonnes	962 tonnes	30 tonnes	33 tonnes	28 tonnes

***Making a Submission***

Copies of the NRLMG's consultation documents are available on the MPI website at:

<http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Consultations/default.htm>

**Please ensure that MPI receives your submission on the proposals no later than 5pm on Friday 1 February 2013.**

Written submissions should be sent to:

Email: [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

Post: Rock Lobster Submissions  
Fisheries Management – Inshore Fisheries  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
P O Box 2526  
Wellington 6140

If you have difficulties accessing the documents or would like a hard copy of the papers, please phone 04 819 4372 or email [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

For further information on the rock lobster proposals, please contact Alicia McKinnon at 06 831 0279 or [alicia.mckinnon@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:alicia.mckinnon@mpi.govt.nz)

Nāku noa, nā



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