

8 March 2019



Hon. Stuart Nash
Minister of Fisheries
Freepost PO Box 18 888
Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160

E te rangatira Minister Nash, tēnā koe,

RE: UPDATED POSITION ON CRA4

Te Ohu Kaimoana provided Fisheries New Zealand with a response to its review of sustainability measures for various rock lobster stocks on 12 February 2019. In the time since providing that response, we have become aware of concerns held by Ngāti Kahungunu regarding the suitability of an increase in the TAC/TACC for the CRA4 fishery.

Upon becoming aware of Ngāti Kahungunu's concerns, Te Ohu Kaimoana approached various Iwi stakeholders within the CRA4 fishery to determine their appetite to support shelving any increase to the TACC until the performance of the 2019/2020 fishery is able to be evaluated. Iwi have differing views about the necessity of shelving any increase and we therefore do not consider there is sufficient support to shelve across Iwi interests.

Te Ohu Kaimoana is aware your office has been provided with advice from the Rock Lobster Industry Council (**RLIC**) that addresses the concerns over the ability of the fishery to support an increase. We have discussed the situation with RLIC representatives and we understand their concern that, given the decision rule has been triggered, many of their shareholders anticipate an increased TAC/TACC.

In providing you with this update, we are mindful of our statutory responsibilities (under the Maori Fisheries Act 2004) as well as our non-statutory responsibilities dictated by Mandated Iwi Organisations (under the Māori Fisheries Strategy).

We are also mindful of the direction provided by our guiding principle *Te hā o Tangaroa kia ora ai tāua*, which speaks to the interconnectedness of humanity with the environment. The interdependent relationship between humanity and Tangaroa that is reflected in *Te hā o Tangaroa kia ora ai tāua* considers this relationship through four lens:

1. Whakapapa *Genealogy*
2. Hauhake *Cultivate*
3. Tiaki *Stewardship*
4. Kai *Food*

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Updated Position

Te Ohu Kaimoana, on behalf of Māori quota share owners in CRA4, advises that we now support Option One – to maintain the status quo in the CRA4 fishery. Given the concerns some Iwi hold about this fishery, all Māori quota share owners have advised that they support taking a cautious approach to the management of the CRA4 fishery.

Iwi interests account for 35 per cent of all interests in the CRA4 fishery, with interests across both settlement and normal quota. While we understand it is desirable to have a unified response across all stakeholders, this has not been possible on this occasion. We consider it important that you are aware of the collective Māori view and we trust that our updated position – submitted on behalf of Māori quota share owners in the fishery – will assist you in making a final decision on the management procedures to be applied in the CRA4 fishery.

We note that, if the fishery has another good year of production, the management procedures should be reassessed ahead of the 2020/21 fishing year.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Ngā manaakitanga,



Dion Tuuta
Te Mātārae – Chief Executive
TE OHU KAIMOANA

