



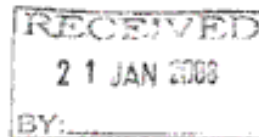
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E nga mana, e nga reo, anei nga kai whakahaere o nga Runanga o Te Tai Tokerau tēna koutou katoa.

### **Iwi:MFish Engagement in the Mid-North**

I am writing as a follow-up from our hui on 19 December in Whangarei.

First, I want to thank you for meeting with us in Whangarei. I thought the hui was constructive, and helped us better understand some of the key issues for the three mid-North Iwi concerning engagement with MFish. Based on our discussions at the meeting, I am confident we can develop an effective model for Iwi:MFish engagement in the mid-North.

As agreed at the hui, the MFish team has developed a draft engagement model as a basis for further discussions. In putting together this draft we have tried to take into

account the key issues and views discussed at the meeting and those raised in subsequent emails. I want to emphasise that these are initial thoughts only, intended to stimulate further discussion.

The draft model is set out in the attached diagram and its key features are described below. We have not tried to ascribe names to the different parts of the draft model but have used names that describe the purpose and role of each part. Appropriate names could be determined later if the model were to be adopted.

## **Proposed Engagement Model**

### ***1. Governance Group***

We did not specifically discuss the establishment of a governance group at the December hui. However, we think it could be a useful mechanism to give effect to your clearly expressed view that the primary authority in the relationship with MFish should rest with Iwi authorities.

We suggest the Governance Group could comprise:

- Iwi: Two representatives from each of Ngapuhi: Ngati Wai; and Ngati Whatua (Note that we would like to discuss with you how the Ministry should best meet its settlement obligations to Te Roroa and Te Uri O Hau, including possible representation on the Governance Group and/or Technical Working Group)
- MFish: A member of the MFish Strategic Leadership Team and other appropriate senior MFish staff

We suggest the key roles for the Governance Group could include:

- Developing a Memorandum of Understanding between mid-North Iwi and MFish
- Approving a strategic plan to guide Iwi:MFish engagement in the mid-North, including balancing commercial and customary objectives for mid-North Iwi
- Providing direction and guidance to the Technical Working Group
- Determining the make-up of the Technical Working Group
- Advising MFish on the appropriate allocation of the MFish funding that is available to the mid-North Forum
- Providing high level direction on deployment of MFish staff resources (primarily Pou Hononga and Pou Takawaenga) and other resources available to mid-North Iwi
- Hosting Hokianga Accord hui

We suggest the Governance Group could meet twice each year

## *2. Technical Working Group*

At our December hui we agreed it would be valuable to establish a working group to undertake much of the detailed work of input and participation into fisheries management, guided by the Governance Group.

We suggest the Technical Working Group could comprise:

- Iwi: Representatives of Ngāpuhi; Ngāti Wai; and Ngāti Whatua (at the December hui it was suggested one or two representatives from each iwi). Note also the comment above concerning Te Roroa and Te Uri O Hau.
- MFish: Regular participation from: Inshore fisheries management team members; Pou Hononga; Pou Takawaenga; Participation as required by Compliance; Policy; Science
- The Technical Working Group could co-opt or contract relevant experts as required and as resources allow.

We suggest key roles for the Technical Working Group could include:

- Developing a draft strategic plan to guide Iwi:MFish engagement in the mid-North, for consideration by the Governance Group
- Overseeing implementation of the strategic plan
- Providing detailed guidance to the work programmes of MFish staff resources (and other available resources) available to mid-North Iwi.
- Coordinating development of Iwi Rohe Moana Management Plans
- Reporting to the Governance Group
- Presenting information to the Hokianga Accord, as requested by the Governance Group
- Providing input to relevant Fisheries Plan Advisory Groups
- Developing submissions and providing other input on relevant fisheries management (and other resource management?) issues

We suggest the Technical Working Group could meet monthly.

## *3. Hokianga Accord*

We suggest that, under the proposed arrangement, the Hokianga Accord could be formally hosted by the Governance Group. The primary purpose of the Hokianga Accord could be to provide a forum for Iwi members to:

- Be informed about the work of the Technical Working Group
- Be informed about decisions of the Governance Group
- Discuss fisheries issues
- Convey views on fisheries issues and priorities to the Governance Group
- Engage with other stakeholder groups

We suggest the Hokianga Accord could meet once or twice each year.

#### *4. Other Features of the Proposed Engagement Model*

The linkages between the different parts of the proposed model are worth brief noting.

- The link between individual Iwi and MFish reflects the clearly stated view that iwi may wish to address some issues directly with MFish.
- The Technical Working Group and Hokianga Accord are separately linked to the Governance Group, picking up the point made at the meeting that the Technical Working Group should not be considered a sub-committee of the Hokianga Accord
- The link between the Technical Working Group and Fisheries Plan Advisory Groups reflects the point discussed at the meeting that fisheries plans will become increasingly important in the management of New Zealand fisheries and that mid-North Iwi should be appropriately represented in Fisheries Plans Advisory Groups.

I am keen to progress the establishment of an appropriate model for mid-North Iwi engagement with MFish. I think it would be useful for me and/or Jonathan Peacey to meet with you as soon as practicable to discuss the draft model proposed in this letter.

I will be overseas from 11 – 15 February but am available to meet before or after this time. Jonathan Peacey will be available in the week of 11 February and subsequent weeks.

If you are agreeable to this suggested process, please let me know possible dates for a meeting.

No reira ma te Atua koutou (me o koutou whānau hoki) e manāki, e tiaki i nga wa katoa.

Naku noa  
na



Stan Crothers  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Ministry of Fisheries

DRAFT

### Ministry Mid-North Engagement Tāngata Whenua and Stakeholders

