

24 November 2009

Dear Stakeholder

**Proposed temporary prohibition on all fishing methods in  
Maunganui Bay (Deep Water Cove), Bay of Islands**

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on the request by Ngati Kuta and Patukeha ki Te Rawhiti to prohibit the use of all fishing methods within Maunganui Bay (Deep Water Cove), Bay of Islands, for a period of two years. As part of the consultation process, today the Ministry of Fisheries also published a notice in *The Northern Advocate*.

This request is made under section 186A of the Fisheries Act 1996, to provide statutory support for a customary rahui placed over the Bay earlier this year. Ngati Kuta and Patukeha ki Te Rawhiti consider the prohibition will allow fisheries resources to establish on the ex-frigate Canterbury that was scuttled within the Bay.

Section 186A provides that the Minister of Fisheries may temporarily close an area, or temporarily restrict or prohibit the use of any fishing method in respect of an area, by way of a notice in the *Gazette*, if satisfied that the closure, restriction, or prohibition will recognise and provide for the use and management practices of tāngata whenua in the exercise of non-commercial fishing rights by:

- improving the availability and/or size of fish, aquatic life, or seaweed; or
- recognising a customary fishing practice.

If you would like to make a submission on the requested prohibition, please respond in writing by Thursday 24 December 2009 to the Spatial Allocations Manager, Ministry of Fisheries, PO Box 1020, Wellington, or by email to [randall.bess@fish.govt.nz](mailto:randall.bess@fish.govt.nz)

Yours sincerely



Randall Bess  
Spatial Allocations Manager