

## Appendix Eight – Hokianga Accord Joint T90 Letter of Endorsement



**“More fish in the water/Kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai”**

RA Burch  
Napier 4110

### Endorsement of T90 Trawl Net Innovations

Dear Richard

Nga mihi ki Rangi, nga mihi ki Papa, nga mihi hoki ki a ratou kua mene atu ra ki te Po.

After your presentations to three Hokianga Accord hui, the mid north regional iwi fisheries forum confirms its support and appreciation of your team’s effort to develop the T90 trawl net aboard the *Nancy Glen II*.

The innovations under development, to reduce the mortality (death) of young fish while minimising the environmental impacts of trawl fishing, fit comfortably with our common goal of “more fish in the water/kia maha atu nga ika ki roto i te wai”.

Participants in the Hokianga Accord include the commercial and non-commercial interests of Ngapuhi, Ngati Whatua, other northern iwi and hapu, environmental and fishing interest groups. Greenpeace, the Environment and Conservation Organisations of Aotearoa New Zealand, Forest & Bird, option4 and NZ Sport Fishing representatives are regular contributors the forum.

Together we advocate for more abundant fisheries and a healthier marine environment so that all New Zealanders can provide for their social, economic and cultural well-being.

In August 2007 the Accord expressed its initial support for your team’s effort to improve the sustainability of commercial fishing and restore abundance of coastal fisheries. Further encouragement was given following your updates at hui in November 2007 and June 2009.

Maori have an interest in all three categories of fishing: commercial, customary and amateur (recreational).

Ngapuhi is the single biggest stakeholder in Aotearoa Fisheries Ltd, and overall Maori own more than 40 percent of all commercial quota.

Permitted fishing under customary regulations represents a small fraction of total fishing by Maori.

Notwithstanding this small representation of catch, our cultural interest spans all three fishing categories.

Raniera T (Sonny) Tau, our co-chairman and leader of Ngapuhi, has reiterated on numerous occasions, “99.9 percent of the time Ngapuhi fish to feed our babies we are categorised as ‘recreational’ fishers”.

Increases in biodiversity and productivity in our marine environment will have multiple benefits for all New Zealanders and particular value for environmental, fishing and Maori interests.

The Hokianga Accord supports the T90 trawl innovations aboard the *Nancy Glen II* and recommends financial assistance be provided for ongoing trials.

Na reira, e te Rangatira, anei ta matou tautoko. Kia maha atu nga tini a Tangaroa ki te puna Rangiriri.

Mauri ora  
George Riley  
On behalf of the Hokianga Accord

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option4