

02 March 2009

Tēnā koe

## **REVIEW OF REGULATORY MEASURES AND OTHER MANAGEMENT CONTROLS FOR 1 OCTOBER 2009**

1. The Ministry of Fisheries (MFish) is currently consulting on a proposal that could result in changes to regulation. If approved this would take effect on 1 October 2009. The Initial Position Paper (IPP) provides you with MFish's initial position on the issue being reviewed. The IPP includes the rationale to support each proposal and for some issues a preliminary recommendation.
2. The purpose of this letter is to provide you with a short summary of the IPP, so that you can choose which issues you would like to examine further, and potentially provide comment on.
3. A copy of the full IPP can be found in the "Consultations" section of the MFish website, [www.fish.govt.nz](http://www.fish.govt.nz), or alternatively you can request a hard copy from Tracey Steel, [tracey.steel@fish.govt.nz](mailto:tracey.steel@fish.govt.nz), or ph: (04) 819 4585.

### ***PAU 4 Management by Meatweight***

4. MFish is consulting on a request to alter management of the PAU 4 (Chatham Island) paua fishery from greenweight to meatweight.
5. The request comes from PAUMAC 4 Industry Association Incorporated (PAUMAC4) and aims to improve the productivity and sustainability of the fishery by removing incentives to over-fish those parts of PAU 4 with high meatweight recovery. Other areas in PAU 4 are under-fished due to extreme shell fouling by encrusting organisms and consequent low meatweight recovery. The proposal may also help reduce illegal fishery practices to manipulate greenweight, such as shell chipping and delayed landing of paua.
6. To manage the fishery using meatweight would require changes to reporting regulations and the PAU 4 s18 notice. If the request is approved, a meatweight TAC, TACC and non-commercial allowances will also need to be set for PAU 4.

7. Discussions with the paua industry and the MFish Shellfish Working Group suggest that the paua greenweight to meatweight conversion factor of 2.5 (equivalent to 40% meatweight recovery) already specified in legislation may be an appropriate basis for translating to a meatweight TACC. However, proposals on the TAC, TACC and non-commercial allowances for PAU 4 will be put forward as part of the MFish sustainability round later this year, if the PAUMAC4 request is approved.
8. Other options for managing the PAU 4 fishery are discussed in the paper, including the use of conversion factors, and managing on the basis of paua numbers.

MFish welcomes written submissions on this proposal contained in the IPP. **Written submissions are due by Monday, 13 April 2009** and should be posted to Tracey Steel, Ministry of Fisheries, PO Box 1020, Wellington. Alternatively, electronic submissions can be emailed to [tracey.steel@fish.govt.nz](mailto:tracey.steel@fish.govt.nz).

Finally, we note that all submissions that are received for the purposes of the regulatory measures process are publicly available under the Official Information Act 1982. Should any person or organisation wish for any information contained in their submission to be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982, the grounds for withholding the information must be provided in the submission.

Naku noa na

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