

North Island – west coast

New prohibitions and other restrictions on set netting, drift netting and trawling come into force from **1 October 2008** to protect threatened Hector's and Maui's dolphins.

They affect recreational and commercial fishers on much of the **South Island's coast**, and much of the **upper North Island's west coast**. (They replace earlier measures to protect these dolphins)

There are also **existing set net prohibitions and other fishing restrictions** outside the affected areas.

Fishing rules vary from place to place. **Check the rules for the place where you fish – before you go fishing.** Go to **fish.govt.nz** or call **the nearest Ministry of Fisheries office.**

North Island west coast—from Maunganui Bluff north of Kaipara Harbour to Pariokariwa Point north of New Plymouth:

Set netting—commercial and recreational—is prohibited:

- offshore to seven nautical miles
- in these harbour entrances:
 - Kaipara Harbour entrance—west of a line that joins Poutu Point Light and South Head Light
 - Manukau Harbour entrance—west of a line from Lawry Point to channel marker No. 4, and west of a line from this marker to a peninsula one kilometre south of Grahams Beach
 - Waikato River entrance—west of a line that joins designated points in the entrance
 - Raglan Harbour entrance—west of a line that runs north-west from Putoetoe Point

Trawling is prohibited:

- offshore to two nautical miles, and to four nautical miles between Manukau Harbour and Port Waikato

Drift netting—commercial and recreational—is prohibited:

- in any part of the Waikato River

Harbours and rivers

Unless specified, the new prohibitions do not apply to these. Subject to any other fisheries restrictions, you can use set nets in these areas inside a straight line joining the natural entrance points of the waterway. These points are defined in some cases because they are not always clear.

Net definitions

A **set net** includes a gill net or other sort of net that acts by enmeshing, entrapping or entangling fish, but does not include a fyke net or hinaki.

A **drift net** means a net that:

- acts by enmeshing, entrapping, or entangling any fish or marine life; and
- acts by drifting in the water, or on the surface of the water; and
- is not attached to a vessel or any point of land or the sea bed.