

8 June 2004

Dear Stakeholder

INTRODUCTION OF NEW SPECIES INTO THE QUOTA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ON 1 OCTOBER 2005

Since the Fisheries Act 1996 came into full effect on 1 October 2001 the Ministry of Fisheries has implemented a programme to introduce around 50 species into the Quota Management System (QMS). As part of this programme eight species are being considered for QMS introduction on 1 October 2005. Seven of these species are discussed in the enclosed document. A consultation document on the introduction of seaweeds into the QMS was sent to stakeholders in April.

Section 19 of the Fisheries Act 1996 requires the Minister of Fisheries to consider several matters when making a decision as to whether or not a stock should be introduced into the QMS. These matters include the costs and benefits of QMS introduction, the Quota Management Areas that will apply, the proposed fishing year, the unit of measure for the expression of the Total Allowable Catch and Annual Catch Entitlements, and provisions for such other matters that may be contemplated by the 1996 Act.

The attached document contains the matters relevant to the Minister's decisions, as outlined above, for your comment. The Ministry's preliminary recommendations on whether or not the species or stocks should be introduced into the QMS are also provided. You are requested to submit comments by **16 July 2004** at the latest.

Please send your written comments on this document to:

Kristin Philbert, Ministry of Fisheries, P O Box 1020, Wellington, (04) 470 2585, or email to philberk@fish.govt.nz.

Please note that all submissions are subject to the Official Information Act and can be released, if requested, under that Act. If you have specific reasons for wanting to have your submission withheld, please set out your reasons in the submission. MFish will consider those reasons when making any assessment for release of submissions requested under the Official Information Act.

If you have any questions regarding the attached document, or wish MFish staff to attend a meeting/hui to discuss the attached information, please contact the MFish regional office closest to you.

Yours sincerely

Michael Arbuckle
for Chief Executive
Ministry of Fisheries

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