



As of 31 July 2020

Fisheries Regulatory System

The Fisheries Regulatory System provides for the regulation of New Zealand's commercial, recreational and customary fishers and ensures that our fish stocks are managed sustainably.

The regulatory system includes laws about the application and administration of the Quota Management System; the allocation of total allowable catch between Māori customary, recreational, and commercial fishers; and avoiding, remedying or mitigating any adverse effects of fishing on the aquatic environment.

Objectives

- > New Zealand's fisheries are sustainably managed
- > Commercial, recreational and customary fishers have access to marine resources

PORTFOLIO	Fisheries
STATUTES	Fisheries Act 1996 (Sections 56 to 57J – Overseas Investment Office. The rest – MPI) Kaikōura (Te Tai o Marokura) Marine Management Act 2014 Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 1992 Māori Fisheries Act 2004 Marine Reserves Act 1971 (Department of Conservation) Resource Management Act 1991 (Ministry for the Environment) Treaty of Waitangi (Fisheries Claims) Settlement Act 1992
OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WITH SUBSTANTIAL ROLES	Department of Conservation Maritime NZ Ministry for the Environment

Planned regulatory amendments to legislation – 2020/2021

MATTER NAME	POLICY IMPLEMENTATION	PLANNED CONSULTATION	STATUS
Fisheries Amendment Bill <i>Matter type: Bills</i>	Amends policy settings relating to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • which fish must be landed to port and which can be returned to the sea; • the offences and penalties regime to ensure it is fair and appropriate; and • fisheries decision-making processes to streamline them. It also makes additional technical amendments.	Public consultation on a discussion document was completed in February 2019.	Under consideration by Minister.



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Māori Fisheries Amendment Bill <i>Matter type: Bills</i>	To improve governance arrangements under the Māori Fisheries Act 2004, and the delivery of settlement assets to Māori.	Legislative processes are anticipated for 2021.	Under consideration by Minister.
Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Bill <i>Matter type: Bills</i>	To better enable the allocation and transfer of aquaculture settlement assets to iwi.	Consultation closed February 2020.	Approved by Cabinet Committee in July 2020.
South-East Marine Protection <i>Matter type: Regulations</i>	To establish a network of marine protected areas on the South East coast of the South Island.	Consultation was postponed due to COVID-19, and recommenced 3 June 2020.	Policy development will continue after consultation.
Hector's and Maui Dolphins Threat Management Plan <i>Matter type: Regulations</i>	To revise the Hector's and Maui Dolphins Threat Management Plan.	Public consultation was completed in August 2019.	Cabinet noted the Minister's proposed new fisheries measures in June 2020.
Marine Protected Areas Reform <i>Matter type: Bills</i>	To provide a flexible set of marine management tools, and enable Government to undertake more efficient, collaborative and strategic processes.	Dates for public consultation are anticipated 2020.	Under consideration by Minister.

Key service design and operational changes

Ongoing	<i>Implement electronic catch and position reporting across all commercial vessels</i> Rollout of electronic catch and position reporting requirements has been implemented across all commercial fishing vessels. Fisheries New Zealand will use this real-time, fine-scale data for compliance and management.
Ongoing	<i>Establish a pathway to improved environmental and ecosystem performance</i> New Zealand has committed to moving towards ecosystem-based management as one of its targets under the Convention on Biological Diversity. We are working with the Department of Conservation and the Ministry for the Environment to manage the environmental effects of fishing, and are developing a domestic approach to achieve ecosystem-based management across the marine environment.
Ongoing	<i>Rollout of cameras on commercial vessels.</i> The first stage of the rollout of on-board cameras has been implemented across 20 vessels using fishing methods that pose the highest risk to Māui dolphins on the West Coast of the North Island. This first stage of camera rollout was implemented as a proof of concept stage, to inform further stages across additional fishing vessels.



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