

Support for proposed temporary fishery closure East Coromandel.

Stet Limited, 08 May 2024

Ngāti Hei has requested a temporary fishery closure in East Coromandel to prohibit the harvest of tipa (scallops) excluding beachcast tipa. This is different to the Waiheke application that covers more species and does not allow the taking of beachcast tipa.



Photo Juvenile tipa. Shaun Lee.

Full support

We fully support this application as per our recommendation to support the temporary Fisheries Closures at Waiheke Island, Umupuia Beach, Te Mātā, and Waipatukahu dated 24 April 2024.

Regarding the differences between the provisions sought, we have no concerns about the different rules regarding beachcast tipa as the geographical difference and small incidence of beachcast tipa is not likely to result in confusion or penalties.

Lack of public data

We think its unprofessional for Fisheries New Zealand to not provide submitters with survey data on the local tipa population to accompany this section 186a request. Our understanding is that a survey was completed in 2022 across all the tipa beds in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. A report was due July 2023. We have sent in Official Information Requests for this report and were told it would be public by early 2024. We are waiting on a response to our latest request for this report.

Thank you for considering our recommendations.

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