



OIA23-0514

27 September 2023

Shaun Lee  
shaun@stet.co.nz

Dear Shaun Lee,

Thank you for your email of 30 August 2023 requesting copies of the submissions on the Hauraki Gulf Fisheries Plan. Your request has been considered under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA).

You requested the following:

*All submissions on the Hauraki Gulf Fisheries Plan received by Fisheries New Zealand.*

Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ) received over 10,000 submissions on the Hauraki Gulf Fisheries Plan. This included submissions from individuals, stakeholder groups, and templated (form) submissions through organisations' websites.

Both Greenpeace Aotearoa and the Hauraki Gulf Alliance encouraged public submissions through online forms hosted on their websites. Submissions made through these online forms included a pre-set response and a space for submitters to include any additional thoughts. 1270 responses were received through the Greenpeace form, and 7798 responses were received through the Hauraki Gulf Alliance form.

FNZ also received a large number of submissions from individuals who opposed co-governance arrangements with Māori. An email circulated by the Gulf Users Group encouraged individual submissions and included some suggested wording opposing co-governance arrangements. FNZ considered 1191 submissions to have been submitted as a result of the email circulated by the Gulf Users Group.

Due to the large number of these submissions received, the bulk of these submissions have been withheld under section 18(f) of the OIA—*that the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research*. However, two example submissions from each of the three aforementioned groups have been released to you in Appendix One. All remaining individual submissions, including those from stakeholder groups, have also been released to you in Appendix One.

Some information has been withheld pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the OIA—*to protect the privacy of natural persons*. MPI is satisfied that in the circumstances of this case, the

withholding of the information is not outweighed by other considerations which render it desirable in the public interest to make the information available.

Should you have any concerns with this response, I would encourage you to raise these with the Ministry for Primary Industries at [Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:Official.InformationAct@mpi.govt.nz). Alternatively, you are advised of your right to also raise any concerns with the Office of the Ombudsman. Contact details are: Office of the Ombudsman, PO Box 10152, Wellington 6143 or at [info@ombudsman.parliament.nz](mailto:info@ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robert Gear', written in a cursive style.

Robert Gear  
**Acting Director, Fisheries Management**