



Office of Hon Nathan Guy

MP for Otaki

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Racing

Dear Stakeholder

Closures to harvesting pāua at Huriawa Peninsula and Mapoutahi Peninsula, East Otago Taiāpure

I write to inform you of my decision to close two areas within the East Otago Taiapure to paua harvesting. The closures follow surveys undertaken by the University of Otago at the request of the East Otago Taiapure Committee. These show that the abundance of legal sized paua within the Taiapure has declined.

In making my decision I have carefully considered the available information, views of submitters, and the relevant legislative provisions and my obligations under the Fisheries Act 1996. My decision reflects the need to balance use of paua within the East Otago Taiapure and the need to ensure sustainability for future generations.

Huriawa Peninsula has been closed to paua harvest since 2010, however, the surveys show that recovery has been slow and a further extension of time is required. Therefore, I have decided to retain a closure of this area.

At the request of the East Otago Taiapure Committee, I have agreed to move the boundary of the existing closure outwards to capture several adjacent reefs and remove confusion around the boundaries.

The surveys show that Mapoutahi Peninsula is the most depleted paua area within the Taiapure. Closing the peninsula will protect remaining paua and provide an opportunity for enhancement to occur.

Both closures are for discrete headlands and are easily identifiable. The closures will come in to force on 29 September, 2016.

More information on my decisions, including a copy of the Decision Document, can be found on The Ministry for Primary Industries' web site (www.mpi.govt.nz/news-and-resources/consultations/?closed).

Yours sincerely

Hon Nathan Guy
Minister for Primary Industries