



## Office of Hon Nathan Guy

**MP for Otaki**

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister for Racing

Associate Minister for Economic Development

Sub17-0003

Dear Stakeholder

### **Fisheries (Southern Bluefin Tuna Catch Documentation Scheme) Regulations 2017**

I write to inform you of the decision I have made following the public consultation on the southern bluefin tuna catch documentation scheme (CDS) which was undertaken in July 2016.

New Zealand has a number of obligations under the Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT). One of those obligations relates to the full implementation of the CDS which is the primary monitoring, control, and surveillance tool used by the CCSBT.

New regulations have now been created under section 297 of the Fisheries Act 1996 in order to better meet our obligations under the CDS. The regulations set out fisher and licensed fish receiver responsibilities, as well as specific offences and penalties.

The changes will improve domestic management of southern bluefin tuna and reflect New Zealand's wider commitment to the stock. The regulations will take effect on 27 April 2017. A copy of the discussion document relating to this decision is available on the MPI website ([www.mpi.govt.nz](http://www.mpi.govt.nz)). I would like to thank everyone involved in the discussions that occurred during the consultation period.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Nathan Guy'.

Hon Nathan Guy  
**Minister for Primary Industries**