

Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan Review

Non-Fishing Threats Options:

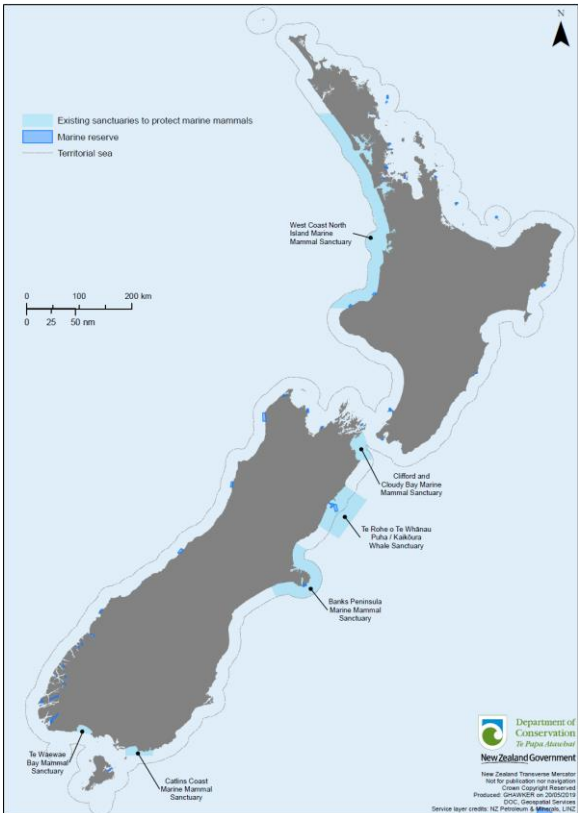
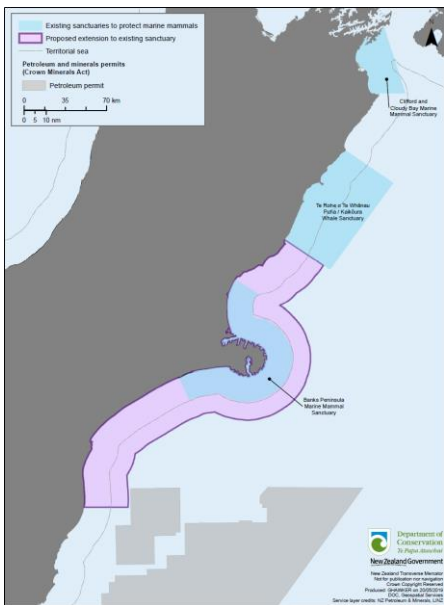
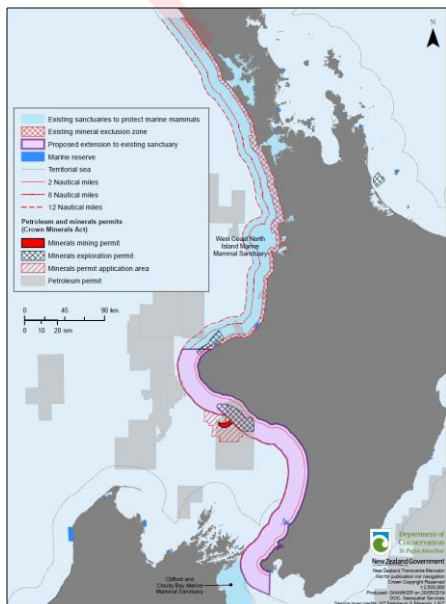
	Dolphin benefits	Regulatory impacts
Marine Mammal Sanctuary Extensions		
Proposal to extend the West Coast North Island Marine Mammal Sanctuary south to Wellington and Banks Peninsula Marine Mammal Sanctuary north to Kaikōura, south to Timaru, and offshore to 20 nm.	Reduction of barriers to population connectivity and recolonisation of previously occupied areas for Māui dolphins and to include a greater portion of Hector's dolphin distribution.	Requires the area of the sanctuary to be amended through Section 22 of the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.
Seismic surveying requirements in Sanctuaries – options exclude existing permit holders		
Option 1: Compliance with the DOC seismic surveying Code	Improved protection in marine mammal sanctuaries, consistent with the requirements in the EEZ.	Requires restrictions in sanctuaries to be amended through Section 22 of the MMPA 1978.
Option 2: Permitting system for seismic surveying in sanctuaries , with the ability to impose conditions on permits or decline applications.	Allow for greater protection of dolphins in sanctuaries through: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• permit conditions to mitigate adverse effects; the ability to decline consent if warranted.	Requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• restrictions in sanctuaries to be amended and new regulations under the MMPA 1978 establishing the permitting regime.
Option 3: Prohibition on seismic surveying in marine mammal sanctuaries with exemptions for: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• urgent hazard assessments in sanctuaries. existing Crown Minerals Act permit holders.	Some effects on Hector's and Māui dolphins would be avoided in sanctuaries. Exemptions will mean risks to dolphins would remain but could be reduced by use of Options above.	Requires restrictions in sanctuaries to be amended through Section 22 of the MMPA 1978.
Seabed mining - options exclude existing permit holders		
Option 1: The status quo	Effects avoided within portions of the Māui dolphin Sanctuary and managed elsewhere through RMA and 'EEZ Act' consent processes.	Nil.
Option 2: prohibition on mining within the existing West Coast North Island Marine Mammal Sanctuary: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• out to 8 nautical miles; or• Out to 12 nautical miles	This proposal would avoid any direct overlap between mining and a larger portion of the range of Māui dolphins, and provide a buffer.	Requires restrictions in the sanctuary to be amended through Section 22 of the MMPA 1978.
Option 3: prohibition on mining out to 2 nautical miles within the proposed southern extension of the West Coast North Island Marine Mammal Sanctuary	Reduction of barriers to population connectivity and recolonisation of previously occupied areas.	Requires restrictions in extended sanctuary to be amended through Section 22 of the MMPA 1978.
Option 4: prohibition on mining within 2 nautical miles of the coast within the four South Island marine mammal sanctuaries <i>including the proposed extensions noted above</i>	A near-shore corridor would help retain connectivity between areas and reduce the risk of sub-population fragmentation in these core Hector's dolphin areas.	Requires restrictions in sanctuaries to be amended through Section 22 of the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.
Other Threats		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposal: a moratorium on new permits for viewing Māui dolphins under the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.• Status quo for management of oil spills, coastal development, pollution, sediment run-off, infectious diseases, and climate change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Avoids possibility that Māui dolphins would be exposed to commercial marine mammal watching effort.• Existing risk to Hector's and Māui dolphins remains but is managed under the existing regulatory regime.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Declaration under Regulation 15 of the Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992.

The economic effects of the proposals will vary depending on the specific details, including location and spatial extent. There are likely to be greater economic consequences for those proposals involving prohibitions on seabed mining off the west coast of the North Island, increasing with distance offshore, given the known interest in offshore mining for iron sand (and co-occurring vanadium) along this coast. MBIE has not been able to undertake a full assessment of the economic effects of the seabed mining proposals with marine mammal sanctuaries. MBIE has, nevertheless, advised

- there is insufficient information on the mineral resources off the west coast of the North Island to be able to quantify the lost opportunity costs for the different proposals in this region
- “there is a significant mineral resource of iron sands, as well as co-occurring vanadium, off the west coast of the North Island. The resource in the billions of dollars. This is the value of the resource ‘in situ’ not taking into account the costs of extraction, nor the uncertainty of actually achieving consents”.

Toxoplasmosis Proposed Action Plan

- Targeted research programme to identify and answer priority knowledge gaps;
- Advocating responsible cat ownership, particularly in risk catchments;
- Developing educational material aimed at behaviour change in humans with respect to cats;
- Advocating for riparian and wetland restoration in risk catchments, and
- Working with biosecurity managers on prioritising feral cat control



Department of
Conservation
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