

## Appendix B

**Excerpt from email correspondence from Katrin Berkenbusch PhD (Dragonfly Data Science) relaying preliminary results/raw data from February 2024 Survey of Marsden Bank for the Ministry of Fisheries.**

*I attach a map of the sampling extent, please let me know if you'd like the shapefile or coordinates. We only sampled a small area (0.4 ha or about 64 m by 64 m) in the north-eastern corner as there were no pipi in adjacent areas in November 2023.*

*The current sampling extent was about half the size of the area we sampled previously.*

*When we surveyed in February, there had been substantial recruitment, similar to other Northland sites.*

*Based on the sampling, the current pipi population estimates for Marsden Bank were 0.45 million (CV: 15.66%) pipi, or 120 pipi per square metre. There were no large pipi (>50 mm shell length) and the population was dominated by recruits (<20 mm shell length). They made up 87.57% of the current population, and the remainder were medium-sized pipi. Mean and modal shell lengths were 15.49 and 13 mm.*

*Given the small sizes of pipi, it will be interesting to see what proportion of the pipi population will persist at Marsden Bank.*

