

**Te Ohu Kaimoana response to Minute 32 of the Expert Panel: Further Request for Information to Iwi and Hapū Participants (12 December 2025) regarding Taranaki VTM Project [FTAA-2504-1048] (filed 18 December 2025)**

**Te Ohu Kaimoana Response to Question 7(a):**

*Having regard to Attachment A and the MPI map provided under Minute 10, please confirm whether, from your perspective, the location and extent of the Te Tai<sup>1</sup> Hauāuru rohe moana shown in Attachment A as overlying statistical area 040 above the application area are accurate*

Yes, Te Ohu Kaimoana agrees that the location and extent of the Te Tai Hauāuru Rohe Moana shown in Attachment A is correct. We also agree that the overlying statistical area 040 above the application area is accurate.

However, we wish to reiterate again to the Expert Panel that different customary fishing regulations are utilised by iwi and hapū across the South Taranaki Bight (**STB**). The Te Tai Hauāuru Rohe Moana was established under the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998 (the **Kaimoana Regulations**), which means that customary harvest may occur within the boundaries of the rohe moana by those iwi listed in the relevant Gazette notice.

At the same time, iwi and hapū in the STB also actively use the Fisheries (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 2013 (the **Amateur Regulations**), particularly those iwi located in the Taranaki region. These regulations currently govern the operation of two active pātaka across the STB (although there are four pātaka currently approved in this area). This means that any customary harvest authorised under the Amateur Regulations can and does occur anywhere within statistical area 040. The two active pātaka operating under the Amateur Regulations currently supports the customary fishing interests of seven iwi across Te Tai Hauāuru in partnership with a Taranaki commercial fishing operator. These pātaka are utilised regularly by iwi, hapū and whānau.

Therefore, while this RFI specifically concerns the Te Tai Hauāuru Rohe Moana, it is not possible to recognise a single rohe moana under the Kaimoana Regulations without also recognising that the primary operation of pātaka in the STB occurs across statistical area 040 under the Amateur Regulations.

We ask that the Expert Panel ensure that any assessment of customary fishing in the STB considers both regulatory frameworks to fully reflect iwi and hapū rights and interests in customary non-commercial fisheries.

**Te Ohu Kaimoana Response to Question 7(b)**

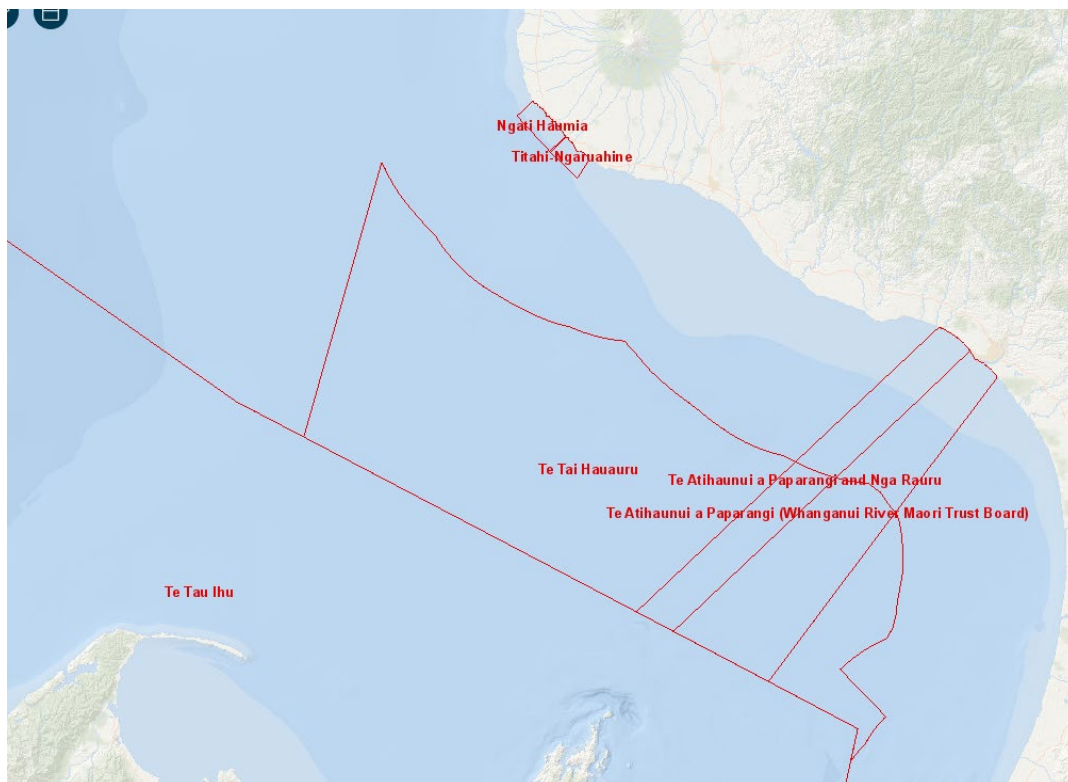
*Having regard to Attachment A and the MPI map provided under Minute 10, if you consider that depiction to be inaccurate or incomplete in any material way, briefly describe the difference (for example, whether the rohe moana boundary is further offshore or inshore, further north or south, or includes or excludes particular areas). You may, if you wish, annotate Attachment A or provide your own map.*

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<sup>1</sup> Noting that Minute 32 and Attachment A of the Expert Panel incorrectly spelt it as “Tau”.

To support our response to question 7(a), we have included the map below, sourced from the Ministry for Primary Industries' NABIS tool. This map shows the boundaries of all existing rohe moana established under the Kaimoana Regulations in the STB. Please note, however, that it does not reflect the current customary non-commercial fishing activities occurring across statistical area 040 authorised under the Amateur Regulations.

As noted in our original response to the application, there is no legislative requirement for Authorised Representatives (kaitiaki) operating under the Amateur Regulations to report their customary harvest to the Crown.<sup>2</sup> Consequently, the data held by the Ministry for Primary Industries, in relation to customary non-commercial and recreational fishing in the STB, is not a full and accurate reflection of actual fishing that occurs in the region.



### **Te Ohu Kaimoana Response to Questions 8 (a), (b) and (c)**

Te Ohu Kaimoana does not hold any pātaka data or information to respond to the questions outlined in questions 8(a), (b), and (c). We note that the data and information being requested by the Expert Panel, sits with the pātaka coordinators, who issue customary authorisations and manage their respective pātaka on behalf of iwi and hapū.

As noted in our response to the application, all customary non-commercial fisheries data and information is safeguarded by iwi and hapū, who retain sovereignty over its management and use.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Te Ohu Kaimoana “Te Ohu Kaimoana: Response to the Taranaki VTM Project – Fast Track Approvals Application” (September 2025) at [38].

<sup>3</sup> Te Ohu Kaimoana “Te Ohu Kaimoana: Response to the Taranaki VTM Project – Fast Track Approvals Application” (September 2025) at [36] and [38].