



Minister of Conservation
Minister for Māori Crown Relations
Minister for Māori Development
Minister for Whānau Ora
Associate Minister of Housing

24 July 2026

Expert Panel

By email: substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz

Tēnā koe

Invitation to comment on Hananui Aquaculture project under section 72 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Hananui Aquaculture Farm project under section 72 of the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024.

I note that I have been presented with a draft decision, where the Panel is still consulting on the draft conditions that will govern the activity, for substantive comment. As Minister for Māori Crown Relations, I prefer to review the complete draft decision and make any further substantive comments. However, I do note the support provided by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu (TRoNT) and Te Ao Mārama Inc. (on behalf of Ngā Rūnaka ki Murihiku) for the application.

In relation to the Panel's decisions regarding the Ruapuke Island Group Landowners (RIGL) and the Rakiura Titi Islands Administering Body (RTIAB), I encourage the Panel to consider suitable data-sharing and monitoring responses to be shared with these two groups regarding their relevant declared interests.

I support the RTIAB view that this development is in an area recognised as utilised by tīti and should proceed with an elevated standard of cultural responsibility and note that similar themes are expressed by TRoNT.

I also note that the Hananui Aquaculture Project (HAP) proposal applies an adaptive management approach that will provide for changes to practices if adverse effects do not occur as predicted.

Mauriora

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Tama Potaka'.

Hon Tama Potaka

Te Minita Whanaketanga Māori me Te Minita mō Te Arawhiti