

Keely Paler

From: Fast-Track Info <info@fasttrack.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, 10 November 2025 9:30 am
To: Keely Paler
Subject: Fw: Request for Information - Fish
Attachments: scan_2025-11-07-16-07-30.pdf

From: Sam Tamarapa [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 8 November 2025 11:52 pm
To: Fast-Track Info <info@fasttrack.govt.nz>; Substantive <substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz>
Cc: Kasey Bellamy [REDACTED]; Anaru Marshall [REDACTED]
Subject: Request for Information - Fish

Tēnā koe,

RFI request details:

1 – Fish species using the area.

- Snapper, Blue Cod, Tarakihi, Red Gurnard, Trevally, Hapuku/Bass, Kahawai, Blue Warehou, Jack Mackerel, Blue Nose, John Dory, Barracouta, Flounder, Tuna – Albacore and Skipjack, Rig Shark. - Deepwater species are Hoki, Hake, Orange Roughy and Gemfish.

2 – Parts of the area used by each species.

- All the above fish species are present across the area, some prefer closer in shore, some prefer closer to reef structures, and the deepwater species are obviously further out and sometimes on the edge the shelf. We are also aware that some fish species through spawning behaviour and or feeding needs are transiting through the area.

3 – Spatial and temporal patterns of fish use of the area.

- As highlighted in the response from Ngāti Maru and the mātauranga we hold, that informs us when the tuna heke / adult tuna migration occurs and when the glass eels – elvers return from the ocean and move upstream in our rivers and streams. We know when the different whitebait/inanga species migrate upstream from the ocean to spawn., We know when the adult lamprey return from the ocean and migrate upstream – “he manawa piharau”- to spawn in the head waters of our streams

4 – Changes in fish use of the area over the past 10 years.

- We are very aware of the changes of land use and how that has impacted on our taonga freshwater fish species. All three taonga species are listed on the Department of Conservation endangered list and in addition, the Lamprey/Piharau numbers are declining due to habitat loss, poor water quality and dams. The sand mining activity proposed for the South Taranaki Bight, we see as having a significant adverse effect on these species and are opposed to the application being allowed to proceed.

- The biggest change has been the establishment of the Pataka/whata for Taranaki that has enabled us to maintain and express our customary fishing rights. As explained in our submission, it was developed with the support from Ngarauru and Ngāti Ruanui iwi and the input of technical advice and resources from the policy staff of Te Ohu Kaimoana. Late in 2009 and following a combined meeting with senior management officials of the Ministry of Fisheries the approval was gained for the Pataka -whata to be implemented as a pilot for one year, with the aim to ensure the systems/processes operated as designed. Throughout the 2010 year, the Pataka/whata operated as designed and became fully operational in 2011. The cultural intent/purpose of the Pataka/whata was to provide support for whānau and marae during tangi, in addition we included the ability for the iwi to access fish from the pataka/whata for their AGM's and other sanctioned hui events. This was enabled to ensure the fish was not sitting for too long in storage. Throughout the initial start up of the pataka/whata other Taranaki and whanaunga iwi joined the pataka/whata and we are currently providing fish to eight iwi in total
- The systems development included the ability to prepare and authorise customary permits online, which was totally new customary permit method at the time, and was significant in being able to put fish on the table at marae in time to support whānau during tangi. The online system has also enabled us to record and show fish in and fish out, what is in store and the details of those involved from the commercial fishers who catch our fish while they are out there catching their commercial fish to, when a second permit is authorised by the iwi kaitiaki to take the fish from the pataka/whata and to where ever the hui/tangi is being held and the person responsible to getting the fish to the venue/marae.
- The following is the total amount of fish authorised to be caught, **73320kgs** and actual fish landed, **38101.88kgs** from **Stat Area 40 and 41** (see attachment) in FMA8 from 2010 – 2025 (up to 31 October).
- The following are the number of Tangi **1212** and **382** hui from 2010 - 2025 (up to 31 October)
- The inventory of the pataka/whata at 8/11/2025 is **400kgs** in storage.

Sam Tamarapa
Te Kahui Maru Trust
Chairman

and

Pataka/whata Kaitiaki.

Sam Tamarapa
Pou Takawaenga – Relationship Facilitator

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