



Outlook

Invitation to comment on Fast-track referral application for the Waikato West Coast Mussel Spat Nursery Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 – FTAA-2511-1140

From Infrastructure Portfolio <Infrastructure.Portfolio@parliament.govt.nz>**Date** Tue 13/01/2026 10:18 AM**To** Nicola Willis (MIN) <N.Willis@ministers.govt.nz>; Shane Jones (MIN) <S.Jones@ministers.govt.nz>; Penny Simmonds (MIN) <P.Simmonds@ministers.govt.nz>; Tama Potaka (MIN) <T.Potaka@ministers.govt.nz>**Cc** FTArefferrals <FTArefferrals@mfe.govt.nz>

1 attachment (56 KB)

Comments Form for Invited Ministers.docx;

To:

Minister for Economic Growth
Minister for Regional Development
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Oceans and Fisheries
Minister of Conservation

Dear Ministers,

Hon Chris Bishop, the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister), has asked for me to write to you on his behalf.

The Minister has received an application from North Western Mussels Limited for referral of Waikato West Coast Mussel Spat Nursery Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track process (application reference FTAA-2511-1140).

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

Invitation to comment on referral application

I write in accordance with section 17 of the Act to invite you to provide written comments on the referral application. I have provided summary details of the project below.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received by **return email** within **20 working days** of receipt of this email, being 11 February 2026. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Any comments submitted will contribute to the Minister's decision on whether to accept the referral application and to refer the project.

If you do not wish to provide comments, please let us know as soon as possible so we can proceed with processing the application without delay.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the Applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

Process

The application documents are accessible through the Fast-track portal. Please note that application documents may contain commercially sensitivity information and should not be shared widely. If you haven't used the portal before, you can request access by emailing ftarefferrals@mfe.govt.nz. Once you are registered and have accepted the terms and conditions, you will receive a link to view the documents. Existing users will be able to see application documents via the request when logging into the portal. Should you need for your agency to provide any supplementary information, a nominated person can be provided access to the portal, access can be requested by emailing ftarefferrals@mfe.govt.nz.

To submit your comments on the application, you can either provide a letter or complete the attached template for written comments and return it by replying to this email, infrastructure.portfolio@parliament.govt.nz.

Before the due date, if you have any queries about this email or need assistance with using the portal, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz. Further information is available at <https://www.fasttrack.govt.nz/>.

Important Information

Please note that all comments received from Ministers invited to comment will be subject to the Official Information Act 1982. Comments received will be proactively released at the time the Minister for Infrastructure makes a referral decision, unless the Minister providing comments advises the Minister for Infrastructure's office they are to be withheld, at the time they are submitted.

If a Conflict of Interest is identified by the Minister providing comments at any stage of providing comments, please inform my office and the Cabinet Office immediately. The Cabinet Office will provide advice and, if appropriate, initiate a request to the Prime Minister to agree to a transfer of the project/portfolio invite to another Minister (a request to transfer a COI from one Minister to another can take 1-7 days).

Project summary

Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery Project
Applicant	North Western Mussels Limited
Location	Raglan, Waikato
Project description	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast, for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>).

Yours sincerely

Hon Chris Bishop
Minister for Infrastructure



Office of Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing | Minister for Infrastructure | Minister Responsible for RMA Reform | Minister of Transport | Associate Minister of Finance | Associate Minister for Sport & Recreation | Leader of the House | MP for Hutt South

Office: 04 817 6802 | EW 6.3

Email: c.bishop@ministers.govt.nz Website: [<http://www.beehive.govt.nz/>][www.Beehive.govt.nz](http://www.beehive.govt.nz)

Private Bag 18041, Parliament Buildings, Wellington 6160, New Zealand

Email disclaimer:

This email communication is confidential between the sender and the recipient. The intended recipient may not distribute it without the permission of the sender. If this email is received in error, it remains confidential and you may not copy, retain or distribute it in any manner. Please notify the sender immediately and erase all copies of the message and all attachments. Thank you.

FTAA-2511-1140

Davis Apiti
Aotea Harbour and Adjacent Waters Mataitai Reserve
Fisheries Notice 2008 (No. F433)

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Davis

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#).

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Ben Bunting.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Frame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Teena Hale Pennington
Chief Executive
Aquaculture New Zealand

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Teena

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act. I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in confidence and should not be forwarded or discussed with anyone outside of your organisation.

Any written comments you provide, must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Comments received will help inform the Minister and the criteria in [Section 22](#) of the Act will guide the Minister's decision-making on whether to refer the project to the fast-track approvals process.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

fasttrack.govt.nz | contact@fasttrack.govt.nz | 0800 FASTRK

Fast-track referrals are administered on behalf of the Minister for Infrastructure by the Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362 | Wellington 6143, New Zealand | NZBN: 9429041908853

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Frame', is positioned above the printed name.

Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
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Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Dan Bolger
Deputy Director-General
Fisheries New Zealand

Email: s 9(2)(a)

Dear Dan

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S Frame', is placed over a light blue rectangular background.

Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Cc:

s 9(2)(a)

[Redacted]

FastTrackApplications@mpi.govt.nz

Appendix A: Project summary details

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Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Glenn Tootill

MAC-01-04-001 / CIV-2017-419-080 Kawhia Tangata, Aotea Whenua, Whaingaroa Moana

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Glenn

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#).

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

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FTAA-2511-1140

James Palmer
Chief Executive Officer
Ministry for the Environment

s 9(2)(a)

Dear James

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(c) of the Act (which requires the Minister to seek comments on a referral application from the relevant administering agencies). I invite The Ministry for the Environment to provide written comments on the referral application as the administering agency for the applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

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Yours sincerely

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Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Cc: adminagencyftaa@mfe.govt.nz

Appendix A: Project summary details

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Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
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FTAA-2511-1140

Donna Flavell

MAC-01-04-014 / CIV-2017-419-084 Ngaa marae o te takutai moana o Waikato-Tainui
Te Whakakitenga o Waikato Incorporated

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Donna

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

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If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#).

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Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

CC:

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

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FTAA-2511-1140

Jo Kukutai
MAC-01-03-005 Ngāti Māhanga

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Jo

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

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Nāku noa, nā

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Stephanie Frame

Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

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FTAA-2511-1140

Ngāti Tahinga

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

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Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

CC:

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

H. Thomson

MAC-01-04-010 Ngāti Whakamarurangi/Tainui ie Ngāti Koata, Ngāti Motemote, Ngāti Tahinga

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#).

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

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Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Frame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Angeline Greensill
MAC-01-04-011 / CIV-2017-419-083 Tainui hapu o Tanui Waka

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Angeline

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

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Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

CC:

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Kylie Grigg
Te Ohu Kaimaoana

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Kylie

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

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Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

CC:

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Verna Maria Tuteao

MAC-01-04-012 / CIV-2017-404-575 Te Ruunanga o Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaauru

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Verna

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

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For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Nāku noa, nā

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Frame', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Jaedyn Falswasser
Te Whakakitenga o Waikato Incorporated

s 9(2)(a)

Tēnā koe Jaedyn

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(d) of the Act (which requires consultation with relevant Māori groups identified under section 18(2)). I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in-confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

If you wish to provide written comments, these must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

If you provide written comments as a **Māori consultation group**, you may be entitled to a financial contribution of \$2,000 (excluding GST) under Schedule 2 of the Fast-Track Approvals (Cost Recovery) Regulations 2025. For information about contribution fees and invoices refer to the Fast-track webpage on [Cost recovery for agencies](#).

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

Before the due date, please upload any comments to the application portal feedback page using the template for written comments (attached) or similar format/document.

Alternatively, if you wish to email your feedback or have any queries about this letter, please email to referral@fasttrack.govt.nz and include the name of the lead contact – Ben Bunting.

For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Nāku noa, nā



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

CC:

s 9(2)(a)

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Chris McLay
Chief Executive Officer
Waikato Regional Council

s 9(2)(a)

Dear Chris

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery Project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery Project (the project) under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

The purpose of the Act is to facilitate the delivery of infrastructure and development projects with significant regional or national benefits. [Section 22](#) of the Act sets out the criteria that inform the Minister's decision-making process on referral applications.

I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(1)(a) of the Act, I invite Waikato Regional Council to provide written comments on the referral application.

Under section 17(3) of the Act and without limiting any general comments under subsection (1)(a), Waikato Regional Council **must** provide comments advising on the following matters:

1. Any applications that have been lodged with the Council that would be a competing application or applications if a substantive application for the project were lodged. If no such applications exist, please provide written confirmation.
2. In relation to projects seeking approval of a resource consent under section 42(4)(a) of the Act, whether there any existing resource consents issued where sections 124C(1)(c) or 165Z1 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) could apply, if the project were to be applied for as a resource consent under the RMA. If no such consents exist, please provide written confirmation.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in confidence. It should not be forwarded to, and comments should not be sought from, anyone outside of your organisation.

Written comments must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and a copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame. Comments received will inform the Minister's considerations in making decisions on whether to accept the referral application. If a decision is made to refer the project, any comments received may assist in determining the information that must be submitted with the substantive application.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

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For assistance with the application portal or to update your account details, please email contact@fasttrack.govt.nz or phone 0800 FASTRK (0800 327 875).

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Frame
Acting General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Cc:

s 9(2)(a)
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Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.

FTAA-2511-1140

Penny Nelson
Director-General of Conservation
Department of Conservation

s 9(2)(a)

Dear Penny

Invitation to provide written comments on an application for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024

An application has been received by the Minister for Infrastructure (the Minister) from North Western Mussels Limited (the applicant) for referral of the Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery project under the Fast-track Approvals Act 2024 (the Act) to the fast-track approvals process. Project summary details are in Appendix A.

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I write under delegation from the Minister and in accordance with section 17(5) of the Act. I invite you to provide written comments on the referral application.

The information you are receiving is being provided to you consistent with the statutory requirements for consultation under section 17 of the Act. The information is being provided in confidence and should not be forwarded or discussed with anyone outside of your organisation.

Any written comments you provide, must be received within **20 working days** of receipt of this letter and copy of the application. The Minister is not required to consider information received outside of this time frame.

Comments received will help inform the Minister and the criteria in [Section 22](#) of the Act will guide the Minister's decision-making on whether to refer the project to the fast-track approvals process.

If the Minister decides to accept the application and to refer the project, the applicant will need to complete any preliminary steps required under the Act and then lodge their substantive application for the approvals needed for the project. An expert panel will be appointed to decide the substantive application.

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Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ilana Miller', with a stylized, flowing script.

Ilana Miller
General Manager, Delivery and Operations

Cc:

Jenni Fitzgerald

s 9(2)(a)

Doc Fast-track email

fast-track@doc.govt.nz

Appendix A: Project summary details

Appendix A – Project summary details

Application number	FTAA-2511-1140
Project name	Waikato West Coast Mussel Nursery
Applicant name	North Western Mussels Limited
Project summary details	The project is to establish and operate, using conventional longline methods, a new approximately 700-hectare mussel spat nursery farm at four sites in the coastal marine area of the Waikato west coast for the purpose of spat catching and seed holding and transfer of Greenshell mussel (<i>Perna canaliculus</i>). The four sites are approximately 3km offshore from the coastline, near Whāingaroa/Raglan, on the west coast of the Waikato Region. The applicant seeks resource consent approvals under the Resource Management Act 1991.