

to PARIHAKA WAKA AMA CLUB EXECUTIVE

6 MAY 2026 - Due by 26 May 2026

**DRAFT PROPOSAL - COMMENT ON THE BREAM BAY SAND EXTRACTION PROJECT**

We are a Waka Ama Club based in Whangarei Harbour. Our members paddle on the harbour most days of every week, all year round.

We regularly travel and participate as a club in waka events in other areas - including One Tree point and Mangawhai. Our members also train and paddle in the harbour and along the northland coast.

We are opposed to the Bream Bay Sand Extraction Project for the following reasons:

1. The effects on the ocean and the surrounding environment.

As paddlers we have a close affinity to the sea. The health of the ocean is of utmost importance to us.

When we paddle we are not only on the water, we touch it with every stroke. The sea forms a part of our waka ama and Northland identity.

2. The effects on our access to the area.

The activity could affect our passage along the coast and be a navigational hazard. Waka Ama Events could be impacted by needing permission from the company operators to be in the area. Individual paddlers could be put at risk or be excluded from the area.

3. The activity will not benefit the local people.

The sand will be taken with no financial or ecological gain to Northland and particularly Bream Bay.

In summary:

Parihaka Waka Ama club is opposed to the Bream Bay Sand Extraction Project.

We are concerned because we cannot foresee the immediate or future effects on the ocean and humans if this project goes ahead.

The wellbeing of the northland people, our children and our beautiful northland coast should not be put at risk because of short term ill-considered gain by a small minority that will not bring good to the people, the environment of Bream Bay and indeed of our whole country, Aotearoa New Zealand.