

LETTER OF INTENT

Date

To The Representatives of Ngaa Marae o Tahinga

From North Western Mussels Limited

Tēnā koutou katoa,

Letter of Intent Regarding North Western Mussels Limited Commitments to Ngāti Tahinga

This Letter of Intent comprises a record of the commitments that North Western Mussels Limited (NWML) has made to Ngaa Marae o Tahinga (Ngāti Tahinga) in relation to NWML's application for consent to operate a mussel spat nursery operation off the Whāingaroa/Raglan coast (the **Project**).

NWML recognise the Oati signed in July 2026 with Ngāti Tahinga and acknowledges that Oati as the foundation for an enduring relationship founded on manaakitanga, whakapono, rangimaarie, whakaiti, aroha, mahi tahi and kotahitanga. NWML also acknowledges Ngāti Tahinga's cultural, environmental and customary responsibilities within its rohe, including its enduring kaitiakitanga for te taiao and Tangaroa.

The Project is intended to support a sustainable, long term supply of Greenshell mussel spat for the mussel industry in Tikapa Moana in eastern Waikato. NWML recognises that its development should also create practical pathways for Ngāti Tahinga to realise its own aquaculture aspirations, build capability and participate in the benefits of the Project.

Accordingly, subject to the qualifications below, NWML commits the following.

1. **Gift of Consented Aquaculture Space**

If the Project is consented, NWML will gift to an entity nominated by the marae of Ngāti Tahinga an entitlement to **20% of the aquaculture space consented under the application**.

The parties will work together in good faith to document and implement the transfer, including identifying the nominated recipient entity and agreeing the legal, operational, regulatory, timing and other arrangements necessary to give effect to the transfer.

For clarity, this commitment is a voluntary commercial commitment by NWML. It is separate from and additional to any obligation of the Crown under the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004, including any Crown obligation relating to the provision of settlement assets or the equivalent value of 20% of new aquaculture space.



2. Gift of Developed Infrastructure

NWML will gift to the entity nominated by the marae of Ngāti Tahinga infrastructure comprising **five developed mussel spat catching/nursery longlines**.

NWML will install the five lines as part of Stage One of the Project and transfer them on terms to be agreed between NWML and the nominated entity. Those terms will address, as appropriate, operational handover, access, maintenance, health and safety, insurance, and compliance responsibilities.

3. Education and Training

NWML will provide opportunities for representatives nominated by Ngāti Tahinga to receive education, practical training and exposure to the methods and techniques used in the Project's mussel spat nursery activities.

The purpose of this commitment is to support Ngāti Tahinga to develop capability and practical experience in spat catching, holding, nursery operations and associated farm practices before making further commercial decisions concerning its aquaculture opportunities. Training will be provided through reasonable access to NWML personnel, operational activities and relevant practical learning opportunities, subject to operational, health and safety, biosecurity, regulatory and commercial confidentiality requirements.

NWML and Ngāti Tahinga will work together in good faith to identify suitable participants, the timing and format of training, and the nature of the learning opportunities available as the Project is developed and operated.

4. Employment opportunities

NWML will use reasonable endeavours to provide employment opportunities associated with the Project for people of Ngāti Tahinga.

This commitment includes notifying Ngāti Tahinga of relevant employment opportunities as they arise and giving due consideration to suitably qualified and available Ngāti Tahinga applicants. NWML will also seek to align training opportunities under clause 3 with prospective employment pathways where practical.

Nothing in this commitment requires NWML to employ a person who does not meet the applicable role requirements, health and safety requirements, operational requirements or regulatory requirements. However, NWML's intention is to facilitate Ngāti Tahinga people to participate in the Project workforce where possible.

These commitments are intended to give practical effect to the shared benefit, capability, infrastructure, education and employment aspirations recognised in the Oati. They will be progressed consistently with the Oati and in a manner that recognises the relationship between NWML and Ngāa Marae o Tahinga.



NWML and Ngāti Tahinga intend to negotiate and enter into such further documentation as may be appropriate to implement the commitments recorded in this Letter of Intent. That documentation may include a terms of engagement, infrastructure transfer agreement, licence agreement, training plan, employment pathway plan, joint venture arrangement or other legal framework contemplated by the Oati.

Nāku noa, nā



Geoff Burgess

For and on behalf of North Western Mussels Limited

Date: 07/09/26



Jake Bartrom

For and on behalf of North Western Mussels Limited

Date: 07/09/26