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2 July 2018

### **Submission:** The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council:

- Supports the proposal for a further temporary closure at Wakatu Quay, Kaikoura.
- Opposes the proposal for a temporary closure at Te Rae o Tawhiti (Mudstone Bay), Kaikoura.

### **NZ Sport Fishing Council - LegaSea**

1. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) appreciates the opportunity to submit on the proposed temporary closures at Wakatu Quay and Te Rae o Tawhiti.
2. The NZ Sport Fishing Council is a recognised national sports organisation with over 34,000 affiliated members from 56 clubs nationwide. The Council has initiated LegaSea to generate widespread awareness and support for the need to restore abundance in our inshore marine environment. Also, to broaden NZSFC involvement in marine management advocacy, research, education and alignment on behalf of our members and LegaSea supporters. [www.legasea.co.nz](http://www.legasea.co.nz). Collectively we are '*the submitters*'.
3. The submitters are committed to ensuring that sustainability measures and environmental management controls are designed and implemented to achieve the Purpose and Principles of the Fisheries Act 1996, including “maintaining the potential of fisheries resources to meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations...” [s8(2)(a) Fisheries Act 1996]
4. The submitter’s representatives are available to discuss this submission in more detail if required. We look forward to positive outcomes from this application and would like to be kept informed of future developments. Our contact is Helen Pastor, [secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz).

### **Submission**

5. The submitters:
  - a. support the approval of the request for a further temporary closure Wakatu Quay,
  - b. oppose the proposal for a temporary closure Te Rae o Tawhiti.
6. The submitters have discussed these proposals with the Ashley Sport Fishing Club and the Kaikoura Boating club and support their views. We appreciate their willingness to work with the community to achieve abundant fisheries for all.

7. The proposed temporary closure at Te Rae o Tawhiti (Mudhouse Bay) is opposed primarily due to insufficient evidence that action under s186B(2)(a) of the Fisheries Act is required.
8. s186B(2)(a) states:
  - (2) *The chief executive may impose such a closure, restriction, or prohibition only if the chief executive considers that-*
    - (a) *it is likely to assist in replenishing the stock of the species of fish, aquatic life, or seaweed in the area concerned*
9. The [application letter](#) only refers to work which indicates low levels of paua, the submitters note that there is currently a closure under s11 of the Fisheries Act for shellfish and seaweed covering the proposed area. This closure includes the take of paua, thus rendering a s186B closure unnecessary.
10. Further evidence would be required in order to demonstrate to the chief executive that the proposed closure was effective and deliver on the objective of the Act.
11. The ability to collect kaimoana from Te Rae o Tawhiti is important to the local communities and to prevent them from doing so would force many to travel into less sheltered waters.
12. Many of the fishers in the area fish from the shore or from small vessels, for this reason, many would not safely be able take their family into rougher waters.
13. The submitters are unaware of any significant commercial fishing occurring in the proposed closure area.
14. Without sufficient evidence as to the benefits of the closure, the submitters conclude the chief executive must deny the proposal to avoid unjustified restrictions on members of the local community.