



30 October 2024

## Application to hold quota in excess of aggregation limits for blue mackerel and kahawai

Tēnā koe,

The purpose of this letter is to consult with you on an application submitted to Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ) by Pelco New Zealand Limited (Pelco) for an exemption from quota aggregation limits for kahawai (KAH) and blue mackerel (EMA) stocks.

For kahawai, the aggregation limit is 35%, and for blue mackerel it is 45% of the combined total allowable commercial catches (TACCs) for each stock.

The request from Pelco under s60 of the Fisheries Act 1996 (the Act) is:

- To hold 45.993% of all KAH quota
- To hold 55.304% of all EMA quota

A similar Pelco New Zealand Limited application was previously submitted and publicly consulted on in 2020 and was declined consent for all aspects of the application by the former Minister of Oceans and Fisheries, David Parker. Unlike the 2020 application, the renewed application does not include a 5% buffer for future TAC/TACC reductions.<sup>1</sup>

Section 60 of the Act provides that the Minister of Fisheries may consent to entities holding quota in excess of aggregation limits after considering the impacts that granting such an application will have on other fishers, as well as to the existing stock or species. It is at the Minister's discretion whether to impose any conditions upon granting an exemption such as limiting the number of quota shares or placing a limited time frame on the exemption.

Detailed information on the application can be found on the Fisheries New Zealand website at:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/consultations/application-by-pelco-nz-limited-to-hold-quota-over-aggregation-limits-for-blue-mackerel-and-kahawai-2024/>

### Making a submission

Consultation with interested parties is a requirement of the Act and all submissions will be considered before a decision is issued.

If you would like to make a submission on the request, please email your submission to [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz).

All submissions should be received by 5pm **Friday 29 November 2024**.

Alternatively, submissions can be sent by mail to the following postal address:

Kahawai and Blue Mackerel Limit Exemptions 2024  
Fisheries Management  
Fisheries New Zealand  
P O Box 53030  
Auckland 2022

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<sup>1</sup>Future increases in TACC for any one stock could inadvertently cause Pelco NZ holdings to be pushed above the aggregation limit due to unequal relative quota ownership between stocks, and stocks within a species. To accommodate this, an additional approximate 5% buffer was previously requested by Pelco NZ in their 2020 application.

**Submissions are public information**

Submissions may be the subject of requests for information under the *Official Information Act 1982* (**OIA**). The OIA specifies that information is to be made available to requesters unless there are sufficient grounds for withholding it, as set out in the OIA. Submitters may wish to indicate grounds for withholding specific information contained in their submission, such as the information being commercially sensitive or if they wish personal information to be withheld. Any decision to withhold information requested under the OIA is reviewable by the Ombudsman.

*Nāku iti noa nā,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Hore', written in a cursive style.

Jacob Hore  
Manager, Inshore Fisheries North  
Fisheries New Zealand