

21 February 2025

By Email: S.Jones@ministers.govt.nz

Hon Shane Jones
Minister for Oceans and Fisheries
The Beehive
Pipitea
Wellington 6011

Dear Minister for Oceans and Fisheries,

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF SUBMISSION DEADLINE

We are writing to you to request a one month extension to the current deadline for the public to submit on the proposed changes to the Fisheries Act, released on 12 February 2025. The new deadline we are requesting is 30 April 2025.

We understand you appointed the Seafood Industry Forum in February 2024, and that Fisheries New Zealand officials have been working on the proposal document for the past six months. It is unreasonable to expect the public, who have limited in-depth knowledge of the Fisheries Act, to read, understand and submit on the 71-page proposal document within the current six week deadline.

Public consultation is about giving the public the opportunity to have their voice heard and make an informed submission on important shared fisheries that could be affected. To do so requires a reasonable time frame.

We urge you to grant a one month extension to the submission deadline, making the new deadline 30 April 2025. We look forward to your positive response and are available to discuss this in further detail, if required. Our contact is Helen Pastor secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz.

Sincerely,

Wayne Bicknell and Mark Connor
Co-chairs
Fisheries Management Standing Committee
New Zealand Sport Fishing Council
Secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz