

Tuhawaiki Mātaitai, Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaitai and Waitarakao Mātaitai Proposed Bylaws

Mātaitai Vision:

1. The fisheries resources and marine environment of our mātaitai are protected and enhanced for present and future generations of Ngāi Tahu Whānui to enjoy and use in a sustainable manner.

Key Objectives of the Mātaitai Reserves:

2. To ensure customary fishers have access to and use of an abundant supply of healthy mahinga kai in order to sustain their customary practices (including sustaining the functions of our marae); and
3. To protect the long-term sustainability of the fisheries resources and the recreational fishing experience within our mātaitai for present and future generations to use and enjoy.

*Mō tātou, ā, mō kā uri ā muri ake nei
For us and our children after us*

Proposed bylaws:

4. To meet these objectives, the Mātaitai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe Mātaitai bylaws are necessary in order to enhance stocks for future use.
5. Surveys conducted by Te Tiaki Mahinga Kai (a research and monitoring support team for Customary Protection Area (CPA) managers centred at the University of Otago) in January/February 2018 showed that approximately 12% of pāua in the mātaitai were at or above the minimum legal size for recreational fishing. Although this is relatively good compared to other customary pāua fisheries that have been surveyed, such as the East Otago Taiāpure, the Mātaitai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki are well aware of the statistically significant reduction in legal-sized pāua in the East Otago Taiāpure (from 14.6% in 2008/2009 down to 4.0% in 2016) knowing that East Otago has similar access for pāua fishing. Other important mahinga kai shellfish species are present in low densities also.
6. As such the Mātaitai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki wish to take proactive steps to prevent any further reduction in important mahinga kai species and instead rebuild them to the levels of abundance enjoyed by our ancestors.

Shellfish catch limits and prohibitions

7. To enhance shellfish stocks in the coastal mātaimai, the Mātaimai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe a range of measures are required to be implemented.
8. The Mātaimai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe current recreational bag limits are far too high and it is totally inconsistent with the underlying customary philosophy of a mātaimai which is focussed on 'catching a feed'. Customary catch will also be constrained by setting daily catch limits through mātaimai bylaws.
9. To address concerns over the maximum daily limits for some key shellfish stocks, the Mātaimai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe the following bylaws are necessary:

Bylaw: Maximum daily limits on key shellfish stocks – Tuhawaiki Mātaimai

No person may, on any day, *take* more than:

- Three (3) pāua (both blackfoot – *Haliotis iris* and yellowfoot – *Haliotis australis*)
- Twenty (20) kina
- Fifty (50) kutai (mussels)

from within the Tuhawaiki Mātaimai.

Bylaw: Maximum daily limits on key shellfish stocks – Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaimai

No person may, on any day, *take* more than:

- Three (3) pāua (both blackfoot – *Haliotis iris* and yellowfoot – *Haliotis australis*)
- Twenty (20) kina
- Fifty (50) kutai (mussels)

from within Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaimai.

10. To protect critical shellfish stocks at the base of the marine food web (such as limpets, chitons and pupu/ cats eyes), the Mātaimai Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe the following bylaws are necessary:

Bylaw: Prohibition on the harvesting of shellfish stocks – Tuhawaiki Mātaimai

No person may, on any day, *take* shellfish (other than pāua, kina and mussels) from within the Tuhawaiki Mātaimai.

Bylaw: Prohibition on the harvesting of shellfish stocks – Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaimai

No person may, on any day, *take* shellfish (other than pāua, kina and mussels) from within Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaimai.

Finfish catch limits

11. To enhance pātiki (flatfish) stocks in the Waitarakao Mātaitai and Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaitai, in order to increase access to this fishery for customary fishers and recreational fishers who have less capacity, Tangata Tiaki/Kaitiaki believe the following bylaws are necessary:

Bylaw: Maximum daily limit on pātiki (flatfish) – Waitarakao Mātaitai

No person may, on any day, *take* more than ten (10) flatfish from within the Waitarakao Mātaitai.

Bylaw: Maximum daily limit on pātiki (flatfish) – Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaitai

No person may, on any day, *take* more than ten (10) flatfish from within Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaitai.



Map – Waitarakao Mātaitai, Te Ahi Tarakihi Mātaitai and Tuhawaiki Mātaitai