



15 November 2024

[REDACTED]

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Tēnā koe [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request to the Department of Conservation, received on 17 October 2024, in which you asked for:

- 1. Official advice provided to the Minister of Ocean and Fisheries and/ or Minister of Conservation on proposed amendments to the Hauraki Gulf Bill that will allow commercial fishing in High Protection Areas.*
- 2. Industry and personal submissions (written, email, text) to either / both Ministers seeking an exemption to allow commercial fishing in HPAs in the Hauraki Gulf.*
- 3. Briefings provided to Ministers on the impacts of the proposed exemption for commercial fishing in the Hauraki Gulf legislation on marine protection goals and outcomes.*

We have considered your request under the Official Information Act 1982.

I have decided to release the relevant parts of the documents listed below, subject to information being withheld under one or more of the following sections of the Official Information Act, as applicable:

- personal contact details of officials, under section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people,
- commercially sensitive information, under section 9(2)(b)(ii) – to protect the commercial position of the person who supplied the information, or who is the subject of the information.

In making my decision, I have considered the public interest considerations in section 9(1) of the Official Information Act and determined there are no public interests that outweigh the grounds for withholding. Please note, the Department has also recently proactively released a large amount of information from 2024 relating to the Bill here - [Revitalising the Gulf: Government action on the Sea Change Plan: Our work.](#)

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) and attached documents may be published on the Department's website.

If you would like to discuss this response with us, please contact the Department of Conservation Government Services by email to GovernmentServices@doc.govt.nz.

Nāku noa, nā

Siân Roguski
Director Policy (Biodiversity, International and Funding)
Department of Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai

Table 1 - Schedule of documents

Item	Date	Document description	Decision
1	24 September 2024	24-B-0476: Briefing - Ring-net fishing in high protection areas	Released in part
2	July 2024	Ministerial correspondence with ring-net fishers	Released in part
3	July 2024	Correspondence from Seafood New Zealand – proposed amendments	Released in part