

3 Decision items

3.1 Decision to delay commencement of the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill

- Your agreement is sought to delay commencement of the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill (the Bill) so it comes into force at the same time as ring net fishing regulations, instead of the day after Royal Assent.

Context

- Cabinet agreed to a provision for limited ring net fishing in two high protection areas under the Bill.
- There could be a delay between the Bill coming into force and enactment of the regulations enabling ring net fishers to fish. This is due to the requirement that the Bill be enacted prior to Cabinet approval being sought to submit ring net fishing regulations to the Executive Council. The spacing of the Parliament sitting calendar in June and July exacerbates the delay.

We recommend you table an Amendment Paper to delay commencement of the Bill

- An Amendment Paper can provide for the Bill to come into force on a particular date, rather than the day after Royal Assent. The exact date will depend on the timing of the Third Reading of the Bill and the ring net fishing regulations coming into force.
- The Parliamentary Counsel Office have advised they will be able to provide an Amendment Paper up until the day of the Committee of the Whole House debate.

Risk assessment

- Under the recommended approach, the proposed amendment will be tabled at the Committee of the Whole House debate, i.e. will not go through Cabinet approvals. It will be released and circulated in advance, and you may wish to discuss the proposed amendment with your colleagues to provide the rationale and seek support for the amendment.
- There will likely be some public and political opposition to delayed enactment of the Bill to further provide for ring net fishing. Officials will provide your office with updated Q and As.
- If you choose not to delay commencement, there will be a short period (up to an estimated three weeks) where ring net fishers cannot fish in two high protection areas.

Next steps

- If you agree to the recommendation, officials will confirm the commencement date with you when there is more clarity on timing.
- Once the commencement date is confirmed, the Parliamentary Counsel Office will prepare the Amendment Paper for you to table at Committee of the Whole House.

Recommendations

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to table an Amendment Paper at Committee of the Whole House to amend the commencement date of the Bill to align with enactment of ring net fishing regulations	Yes / No
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Note that officials will confirm the commencement date with you when timings are clearer	
/ /	
<div>Hon Tama Potaka Minister of Conservation</div>	<div>Date</div>

Contact: Angela Bell, Acting Director Policy: 9(2)(a)