



NZ ROCK LOBSTER INDUSTRY COUNCIL LTD

Ka whakapai te kai o te moana

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Draft Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan 2024/25

Notice of review of information by the New Zealand rock lobster industry.

Proposed service; 2.4 INT2022-05 Determining the resilience of Fiordland corals to fisheries impacts

1. The NZ Rock Lobster Industry Council (NZ RLIC) previously submitted on this service in 2022 as part of the draft Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan for 2022/23, which proposed that the service be 100% cost recovered from the CRA8 and BCO5 stocks. At that time, the best available information did not suggest that commercial rock lobster potting causes an adverse effect on black corals in Fiordland, so the service did not meet the definition of a conservation service. The outcome of the consultation was that this service would be 100% Crown funded for year 1.
2. To date, the only further information has been a single progress report presented to the technical working group on 8th of June 2023. The report did not provide any further information regarding the current overlap of commercial fishing and known black coral populations in Fiordland. Only ad hoc observations of abandoned fishing gear were reported, which the provider could not definitively:
 - a) Categorise as being from the commercial industry; or
 - b) Determine when they were abandoned.
3. The Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan for 2023/24 was confirmed on 30th June 2023, which attributed the year 2 cost of this service being 100% Crown funded.
4. The draft Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan for 2024/25 now proposes that the year 3 cost of this service be 100% cost recovered from the CRA8 and BCO5 stocks.
5. A progress report on this service dated May 2024 is scheduled to be presented to the technical working group on 28th May. This report was only made available to members on 14th May, and is currently being reviewed by NZ RLIC. Following this review, a substantive submission on this service will be made as soon as possible to inform the Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan 2024/25.

James Robertson
Chief Operating Officer
NZ Rock Lobster Industry Council Ltd.