

## Engagement summary – Environmental Non-Governmental Organisations

Date: 1 March 2024

Time: 1 to 1:45PM

### Attendees

Gary Taylor (EDS), Carolyn Aquilar (WWF), Wendy McGuinness (McGuinness Institute), Patrick (Paddy) Shonakan (McGuinness Institute), Rob Schuckard (Friends of Nelson Haven and Tasman Bay), Trevor Offen (Kenepuru and Central Sounds Residents Association (KCSRA)), Andrew Caddie (KCSRA), Clare Pinder (Guardians of the Sounds), Allan Brent (ELI)

As part of the policy process for extending marine farm consent durations, we undertook engagement with the environmental NGOs (eNGOs) on a proposal to extend existing marine farm consents by 25 years. We would like to thank all of you for the time taken to engage with us and we have reflected the insights you have provided to the Minister for Oceans and Fisheries.

As part of the engagement, we agreed to share the slides with you and provide a summary of hui. The questions that we asked were:

- Do you support this proposal to extend consents? Why? Why not?
- What impact will this proposal have?
- Is there anything you would change in the proposal? What?

### Key messages

ENGOS were opposed to the proposal to automatically extend marine consents for a further 25 years. They also voiced concerns over the inadequate timeframe for consultation and insufficient written material. Reasons for the opposition are:

- Impact that this proposal will have on sustainability and the environment.
- The proposal may lock in sub-standard and/or timebound consent conditions for an additional 25 years (particularly as some consents may not have had their conditions reviewed since before the RMA was in place), exclude the ability to monitor environmental effects, ensure appropriate biosecurity conditions, or adapt to a changing climate. It would also mean that farms would remain in inappropriate areas for a longer period of time.
- Concern that overriding legislative change would undo the work in Marlborough's Variation 1 that has gone into identifying effects which are addressed through the AMAs.
- Older farms that have no baseline monitoring would continue to have no monitoring as a result of this consent extension.
- As NES-MA appears to be working, there is no need for change.

Other comments noted by participants are:

- Is there a proposal to include charging for marine farms to fund Council's activities to monitor?