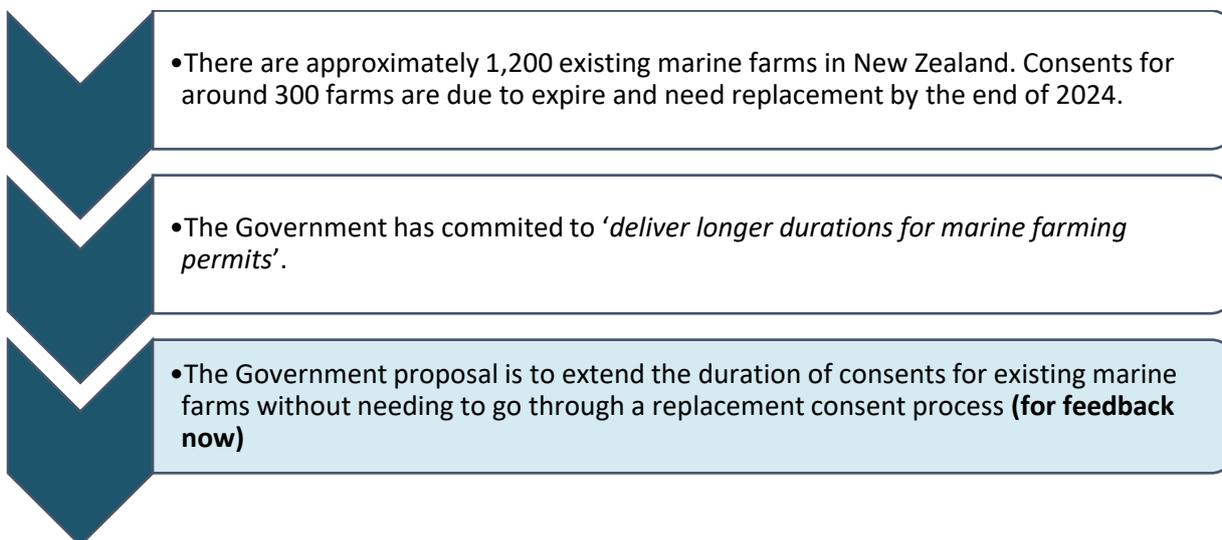


Extending the duration of existing consents for marine farming

Context:



Preliminary Proposal:

The Government is proposing to extend existing marine farm consent durations by an additional 25 years (added to existing consent terms).

The proposal:

- All existing marine farming consents will have the consent expiry date moved 25 years out from the current expiry date. No farms will be excluded.
- This extension will be automatic and will not require an application.
- Only the expiry date of each consent will change, with no changes to or reconsideration of consent conditions.

This proposal requires a legislative change to the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) which will be delivered this year through RMA amendments.

Impacts of the proposal:

- This change will provide certainty of tenure for all consent holders as they will not need to seek a replacement consent for an additional 25 years. Improved certainty of tenure will give consent holders greater confidence to invest in farm productivity and innovation.
- This approach will avoid a 'bottleneck' from extending all consents to a specific date.
- Having the proposal in place as early as possible in 2024 will provide greatest certainty to consent holders, particularly for those with consents expiring soon.

We welcome your feedback

The Government is seeking feedback from Partners and stakeholders before final decisions are taken.

The Ministry for Primary Industries is hosting a series of online meetings to gather feedback on the proposal (see letter for details). Please provide any written feedback by 4 March 2024 by email to AquaculturePolicy@mpi.govt.nz.