

Coromandel Scallop Restoration Plan

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What's happening?

1. Local communities have noticed a significant decline in scallop populations.
2. For the last 36 months the local community have raised their concerns with MPI.
In particular:
 - a. the declining scallop populations, and
 - b. destructive nature of scallop dredging

These efforts have been largely ignored.

3. This has led to the community joining forces to take action.



Opito Bay Rāhui

17 December 2020. Ngāti Hei launched a voluntary rāhui on all scallop harvesting in Opito Bay.

This is supported by:

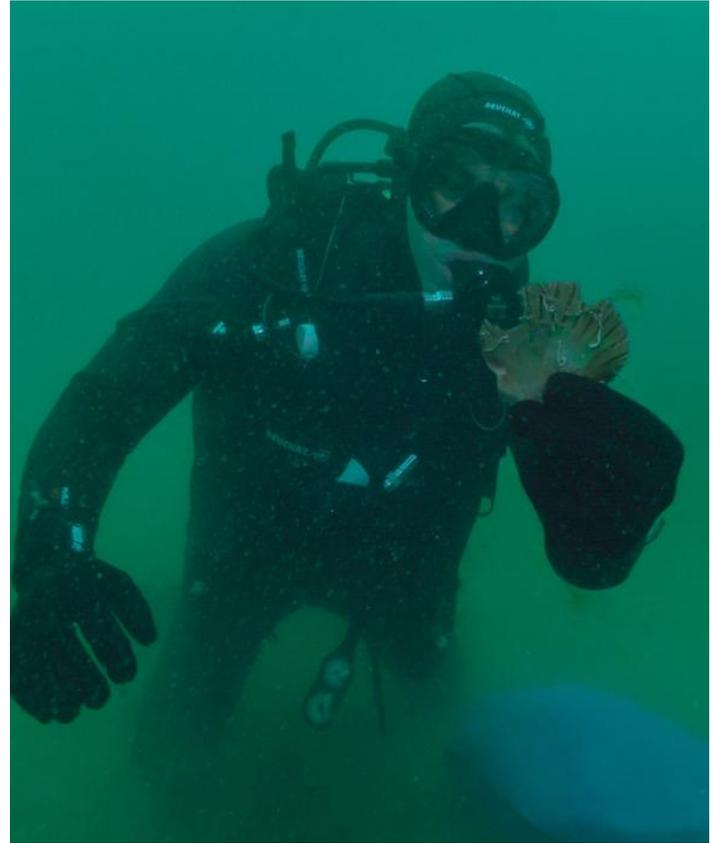
1. New Zealand Sport Fishing Council
2. Opito Bay Ratepayers Association
3. Kūaotunu Ratepayers Association
4. Mercury Bay Sport Fishing Club
5. Tairua-Pauanui Sport Fishing Club
6. Whangamata Ocean Sports Club
7. New Zealand Underwater Association
8. Spearfishing NZ
9. LegaSea



Long Term Management

Rāhui is a powerful management intervention. It has allowed for:

1. **Establish a baseline.** Dive Zone Whitianga has had volunteer divers carry out the survey with the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and Dave Guccione collating the data.
2. **Get the rebuild underway.** The rāhui will remain until scallop populations recover to a minimum of 50% biomass (B50).
3. **Initiate the removal of destructive harvest techniques.** Only hand gathering will be permitted in the future.



**He herenga waka he whitiwhiti whakaaro
he whitiwhiti korero e u ko te marama**

*Whenever canoes are tied up together, thoughts are exchanged,
dialogue is exchanged and enlightenment comes forth.*