

# Coromandel Scallop Restoration Plan

Joe Davis, Ngāti Hei

Sam Woolford, LegaSea



# 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

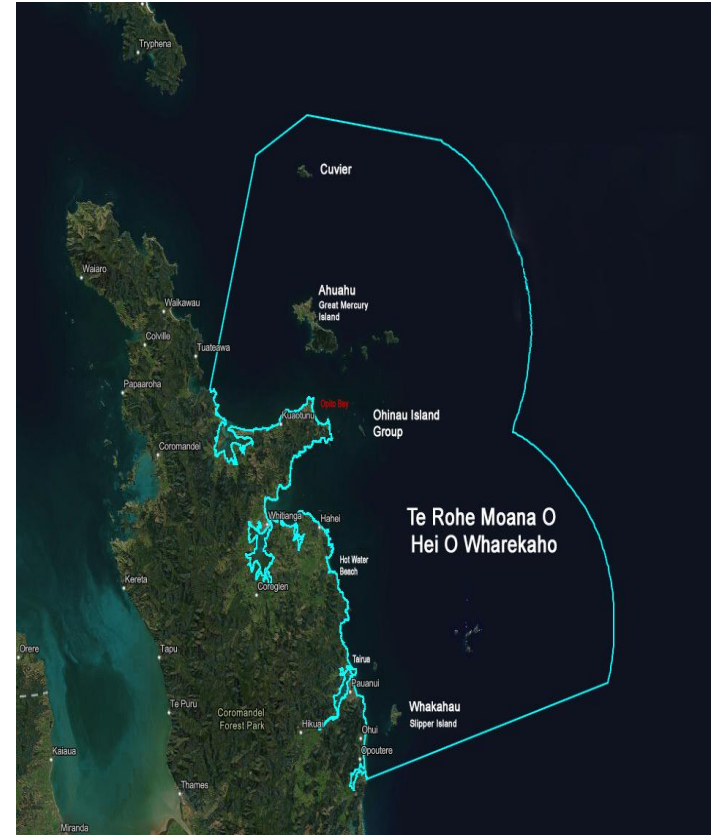
Rāhui is a powerful management intervention. It has allowed for:

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.



# Whats next?

1. The overwhelming support has seen the rāhui expanded to encompass the entire Ngati Hei rohe.
2. A 186a application has been lodged with MPI so the rāhui can become a bylaw.
3. Support for the removal of all mobile contact fishing techniques is growing. Support most welcome from:
  - a. Yachting New Zealand
  - b. Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron
  - c. Te Atatu Boating Club
  - d. Outboard Boating Club (OBC)
  - e. Kawau Boating Club
  - f. New Zealand Casting and Angling



**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.*