



The New Zealand Seafood Industry Council Ltd

Marine Protected Areas

SeaFIC & PIC submissions

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SeaFIC



Consistent seafood industry policy position



- Support need for strategic, whole of govt approach to marine biodiversity protection
- View protection in the context of sustainable development
- Focus on the outcome (protection of marine biodiversity) not the tool (marine reserves)
- Oppose policy of protecting X% of the marine environment
- Adopt a risk-based, least cost approach to planning & establishing MPAs
- Marine reserves are not fisheries management tools

SeaFIC submission:

- 4 key messages for MPA Policy Statement



- (1) Acknowledge the important role of underlying management regimes and other non-area based mechanisms for protecting marine biodiversity
- (2) Ensure that biodiversity protection decisions are driven by a clear analysis of threats to biodiversity protection objectives
- (3) Adopt a least cost approach to biodiversity protection, in respect of both appropriate protection tools and location of MPAs
- (4) Recognise the significance of pre-existing use rights in the marine environment, in particular, the role of secure property rights in providing strong incentives for sustainable management

SeaFIC submission:

- “Rewrite implementation plan”



- Proposed alternative implementation model :
 - A national co-ordination function with clear single-agency accountability
 - Greater emphasis on strategic planning functions undertaken at a national level
 - Operational implementation by responsible departments only once biodiversity protection objectives have been identified and the best location(s) and protection tool(s) for a particular habitat type identified

PIC submission



- The absolute need to protect property rights
 - Govt should be prepared to compensate fishers to get a good system, rather than compromising MPA design
- The need for risk based policy: the real risks are:
 - Fish thieves (MPAs become poacher reserves)
 - Effects of runoff from land on near shore ecosystems
- The potential and needless cost to New Zealand
 - eg, loss of 10% of Wairarapa's rocky reef systems to MPAs would require a 41% cut in PAU2 quota to maintain sustainability

What other submitters said



(Enfocus, March 2005)

- Tangata whenua: oppose “lock up” marine reserves & concern at undermining of Treaty settlement obligations
- Seafood, aquaculture, energy, oil & gas industries: focus on sustainable development, acknowledge role of existing management regimes
- Tangata whenua, industry & rec fishing: greater clarity around what is being protected & why, clear assessment of threats
- NGOs: core network of marine reserves with no extractive use, expand policy to protect broader range of sites
- Broad cross section of submitters (40%): reject implementation plan & call for single participative & coordinated approach

Concluding comments



- Expect to see a substantive rewrite of the MPA Policy Statement and a revised approach to implementation
- Submissions show effectiveness of a coordinated approach between CSOs and SeaFIC and Te Ohu
- Considerable alignment with recreational fishing groups
- Political parties are beginning to reflect elements of seafood industry policy in their policies on conservation & marine protection
- But out in the real world it is “business as usual” with marine reserve applications etc
- Information is the strongest ammunition



thank you