



Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee

Minute of Decision

This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.

South-East Marine Protection Forum's Recommendations: Initial Decisions

Portfolio **Fisheries / Conservation**

On 14 March 2019, the Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee:

- 1 **noted** that:
 - 1.1 the South-East Marine Protection Forum (the Forum) was established in 2014 to provide recommendations to Ministers on establishing a network of marine protected areas in the Forum region;
 - 1.2 the Forum has delivered its recommendations to the Minister of Fisheries and the Minister of Conservation (the Ministers);
- 2 **noted** that the Ministers have considered joint Department of Conservation (DOC) and Fisheries New Zealand advice on the Forum's recommendations;
- 3 **noted** that the Ministers intend to consult on progressing Network 1 in its entirety, to maintain the integrity of the Forum process and because this option best meets biodiversity protection objectives;
- 4 **noted** that amendments may be made to the Network 1 proposal based on the outcomes of public consultation and assessments against the relevant statutory requirements;
- 5 **noted** that the Ministers have instructed DOC and Fisheries New Zealand to continue to work with Kāi Tahu to explore their aspirations for establishing and managing marine protected areas in this region;
- 6 **noted** that the Ministers have instructed DOC and Fisheries New Zealand to use existing legislation and align the statutory processes where possible;
- 7 **invited** the Ministers to report back to the Cabinet Environment, Energy and Climate Committee with a draft consultation document, prior to its public release.

Vivien Meek
Committee Secretary

Hard-copy distribution (see over)

Present:

Rt Hon Winston Peters
Hon Grant Robertson
Hon Dr Megan Woods
Hon David Parker (Chair)
Hon Stuart Nash
Hon Damien O'Connor
Hon Eugenie Sage

Officials present from:

Officials Committee for ENV

Hard-copy distribution:

Minister of Fisheries
Minister of Conservation