

14 April 2022

Fisheries management – Spatial planning and allocations  
Fisheries New Zealand  
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Tēnā koutou,

**Canterbury Regional Council submission on the application by Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke to extend the Lyttelton Harbour / Whakaraupō Mātaitai Reserve.**

The Canterbury Regional Council (Environment Canterbury) welcomes the opportunity to submit on the application by Ngāti Wheke to extend the Lyttelton Harbour / Whakaraupō Mātaitai Reserve.

The application is an important first step towards formal recognition of the cultural and spiritual connection of Ngāti Wheke with Whakaraupō. We look forward to watching this application progress through the submission and decision process.

Yours sincerely



**Jenny Hughey**

Chair, Environment Canterbury

## **Canterbury Regional Council submission to the Fisheries New Zealand**

1. The Canterbury Regional Council ('Environment Canterbury', 'the Council') supports the application of Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke for an extension of the Lyttelton Harbour/Whakaraupō Mātaitai Reserve, as outlined in the public notice issued by Fisheries New Zealand – Tini a Tangaroa.
2. Environment Canterbury has an active relationship with the 10 Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga within its region. This relationship is referred to as Tuia and is integral to our responsibilities and functions and how we operate in our region. Te Hapū o Ngāti Wheke, the applicants of the Mātaitai extension, are one of our Papatipu Rūnanga partners.
3. Of particular relevance to this submission is our work partnering with Ngāti Wheke in the development and implementation of the Whakaora - Healthy Harbour plan. Environment Canterbury is one of five partners in this important mahi. The catchment management plan has a vision of restoring the ecological and cultural health of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour as a mahinga kai, for generations to come. The plan targets six ecological areas for change, including the Whakaraupō Harbour.
4. The extension of the mātaitai is complementary to the Whaka-Ora – Healthy Harbours vision. As so eloquently described in the application, Whakaraupō is of great significance to Ngāti Wheke as a customary food gathering area.
5. Environment Canterbury thereby supports Ngāti Wheke as mana whenua and kaitiaki of Whakaraupō/Lyttelton Harbour in their application to extend the current Mātaitai area.