

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 5 MARINE RESERVES ACT 1971

In August 2011, the Ministers of Conservation and Fisheries and Aquaculture announced that statutory processes would commence to establish five marine reserves under the Marine Reserves Act, and three marine protected areas by regulations under the Fisheries Act, on the West Coast of the South Island.

Pursuant to section 5 of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 I hereby give notice of my intention to apply for an Order-in-Council declaring five areas of sea and foreshore in the West Coast *Te Tai o Poutini* Region (South Island), as follows:

- The proposed Kahurangi Marine Reserve (8466 ha) extends approximately 15.8 kilometres from Wekakura Point southwards to near Crayfish Point, and approximately 2.7 nautical miles (5000 metres) offshore from the line of mean high water spring tides (MHWS). The proposed site does not include the coastal marine area of the Heaphy River mouth.
- The proposed Punakaiki Marine Reserve (3558 ha) extends approximately 10.8 kilometres from Perpendicular Point southwards to the vicinity of Maher Swamp, and approximately two nautical miles (3704 metres) offshore from MHWS. The proposed site includes parts of the coastal marine areas of adjoining waterways such as Hibernia and Lawson Creeks, but does not include two inshore areas in the vicinity of Pororari River and Punakaiki River / Razorback Point.
- The proposed Ōkārito Marine Reserve (4641 ha) extends approximately 10.7 kilometres from the vicinity of Kohuamarua Bluff southwards to the northern side of Omoeroa Bluff, and approximately 2 to 2.3 nautical miles (3704 to 4200 metres) offshore from MHWS. The proposed site includes the coastal marine area of the Waiho River, but does not include the Three Mile and Five Mile Lagoons, which are both already protected within the Westland Tai Poutini National Park.
- The proposed Ship Creek Marine Reserve (16 ha) extends approximately 630 metres from Tauperikaka Point southwards to near the southern lookout on the Ship Creek Beach walk, and approximately 0.1 nautical miles (200 metres) offshore from MHWS. The proposed site includes part of the coastal marine area of Ship Creek / Tauperikaka.
- The proposed Gorge Marine Reserve (847 ha) extends approximately 5.8 kilometres from near Longridge Point southwards to Hackett River, and approximately 0.5 to 0.7 nautical miles (1000 to 1300 metres) offshore from MHWS.

It is intended that with the establishment of the proposed marine reserves the following activities would continue:

- Removal for non-commercial purposes, using only hand-held (non-mechanical) methods, of any beach stones (including pounamu), non-living shells and driftwood from the foreshores of any proposed marine reserve;
- Use of quad bikes along, and the entry of horses on to, the foreshore of any proposed marine reserve provided such use and/or entry does not disturb any shorebirds and their nesting and roosting sites;
- Gold mining operations along the foreshore of any proposed marine reserve at a scale and extent no greater than the existing operations, provided they are carried out in accordance with an authority (such as an access arrangement) or there is a reasonable excuse for carrying them out (pursuant to section 18I of the Marine Reserves Act);
- For the proposed Punakaiki Marine Reserve:
 - o use of farming machinery along, and the entry of farm animals (cattle, sheep, working dogs) on to, the foreshore south of Hibernia Creek by the registered owner of the freehold land adjoining the proposed reserve;
 - o use of machinery for the activity of opening the Hibernia Creek outlet provided such activity is in accordance with the West Coast Regional Coastal Plan.

A plan of the proposed reserves showing all tidal waters coloured blue and the boundaries and the extent of the areas sought to be declared marine reserves, together with a full copy of the application may be inspected free of charge at Department of Conservation offices in Karamea, Westport, Punakaiki, Greymouth, Hokitika, Franz Josef / Waiau, Fox Glacier and Haast, during ordinary office hours or by writing to the applicant whose address is given below. A full copy of the application can also be found at <http://www.doc.govt.nz/getting-involved/consultations/current/>

Any person or organisation wishing to object to the making of Orders-in-Council establishing the marine reserves may do so by specifying the grounds of the objection in writing and submitting it to the Director-General of Conservation within two months from the date of first publication of this notice.

The date of first publication of this notice is 22 June 2012.

This notice of intention to apply for marine reserves is given by the applicant (the Director-General of Conservation) whose address for service is:

“West Coast Marine Reserves”,
 Department of Conservation,
 West Coast *Tai Poutini* Conservancy,
 Private Bag 701,
 Hokitika 7842.
 Or email westcoastmarinereserves@doc.govt.nz .

Al Morrison
 Director-General of Conservation

New Zealand Government



**ADDITIONAL MARINE PROTECTED AREAS PROPOSED BY FISHING
REGULATIONS UNDER THE FISHERIES ACT 1996**

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is responsible for administering the Fisheries Act 1996 and regulations made under that Act. MPI is seeking public comment on three proposed marine protected areas (MPAs); two at the Punakaiki location and one at the Gorge location, West Coast, South Island. The proposed MPAs would prohibit commercial bottom impacting fishing methods, specifically bottom trawling, Danish seining and dredging, by fishing regulations under the Fisheries Act 1996. These proposed MPAs would not affect whitebaiting, recreational line fishing, eeling and shellfish gathering.

- The proposed Punakaiki MPAs include two coastal areas (totalling 326 ha) that adjoin and are completely enclosed by the proposed Punakaiki Marine Reserve. These two areas are located north and south of Dolomite Point, extend up to 0.43 nautical miles (800 metres) offshore and include the estuaries in the lower reaches of the Pororari and Punakaiki Rivers.
- The proposed Gorge MPA (9231 ha) extends from the vicinity of the Gorge River mouth southwards to Awarua Point. At its southern point it extends approximately 2.16 nautical miles (4,000 metres) offshore from MHWS and its northernmost point extends approximately 5.29 nautical miles (9,800 metres) offshore. This area adjoins and completely encloses the proposed Gorge Marine Reserve.

Detailed maps of the proposed Punakaiki and Gorge MPAs are located on:
<http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Consultations/default.htm>

Submissions in response to the proposed Punakaiki and Gorge MPAs under Fisheries Act regulations should be sent by 22 August 2012 to: Randall Bess, Ministry for Primary Industries, PO Box 2526, Wellington, or email randall.bess@mpi.govt.nz