

Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Protected Area Permit Application Form



Department of
Conservation
Te Papa Atawhai
New Zealand Government

What is a Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Protected Area?

The [Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Act 2025](https://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2025/0054/latest/LMS882703.html)¹ (the Act) established high protection areas and seafloor protection areas within the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana. The Act prohibits certain activities from taking place in those protected areas without a permit.

Is this the right application form for me?

Use this application form for applications to:

- carry out a prohibited activity within a protected area; or
- amend your existing permit to carry out a prohibited activity within a protected area.

For applications to carry out activities within a marine reserve in the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana apply using this form on our [Marine reserve research: Apply for permits](https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/marine-reserve-research/)² webpage.

How do I complete this application form?

- Complete all sections of this **application form**.
- DOC encourages electronic applications (e.g. fill out the fields of this application form in Microsoft Word), rather than handwritten applications. Electronic applications are easier to read and less likely to be returned to you for clarification.
- If you require extra space, attach or include extra documents and label them according to the relevant section. Record all attachments in the table at the back of the application form section **I – Attachments**.

How do I submit my application?

Email the following to permissions@doc.govt.nz:

- **Completed application form**, and
- Any other relevant attachments.

If I need help, where do I get more information?

- Check the DOC [Activities in the Hauraki Gulf/Tīkapa Moana](https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/marine-reserve-research/)³ webpage.
- Arrange a pre-application meeting (either face to face or over the phone) by contacting the Auckland Permissions Team at aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz. DOC offers up to one hour of free pre-application advice.

What happens next?

Once your application form is received, your application will be assessed by DOC. If your application is complete, DOC will begin processing.

¹ <https://legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2025/0054/latest/LMS882703.html>

² <https://www.doc.govt.nz/get-involved/apply-for-permits/marine-reserve-research/>

³ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/hauraki-gulf-permit-applications>

If your application is incomplete, it will be returned to you for more information.

Why does DOC ask for this information?

The questions in this application form are designed to cover the requirements set out in the Act. Your answers allow us to:

- Contact you about your application,
- Assess the anticipated effects of your activity, and
- Assess your proposed methods to avoid, remedy, or mitigate any adverse effects of your activity.

Note:

- Personal information will be managed by DOC confidentially. For further information check [DOC's privacy and security statements](#).⁴
- Information collected by DOC will be supplied to a debt collection agency in the event of non-payment of payable fees.

What fees will I pay?

You may be required to pay a **processing fee** for this application regardless of whether your application is granted or not. You may request an estimate of the processing fees for your application. If you request an estimate, DOC may require you to pay the reasonable costs of the estimate prior to it being prepared. DOC will not process your application until the estimate has been provided to you.

DOC will invoice your processing fee after your application has been considered. If your application is large or complex, DOC may undertake billing at intervals periodically during processing until a decision is made. If you withdraw your application DOC will invoice you for the costs incurred up to the point of your withdrawal.

If DOC determines that your permit requires ongoing monitoring and/or management, DOC will recover these costs from you on a time and attendance basis using its standard staff charge-out rates.

Additionally, if your activity is commercial, you may be required to pay **royalty fees**. These will be outlined by DOC before your permit is issued.

⁴ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/footer-links/privacy-and-security/>

A. Applicant details

Legal status of applicant (tick)	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual (Go to ①)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Registered company (Go to ②)	<input type="checkbox"/> Trust (Go to ②)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Incorporated society (Go to ②)	<input type="checkbox"/> Other e.g. Educational Institutes (Go to ②)	

①	Applicant name (individual)		
	Phone		Mobile phone
	Email		
	Physical address		Postcode
	Postal address (if different from above)		Postcode

②	Applicant name (full name of registered company, trust, incorporated society or other)		
	Trading name (if different from applicant name)		
	NZBN if applicable (to apply go to: https://www.nzbn.govt.nz)	Company, trust or incorporated society registration number	
	Registered office of company or incorporated society (if applicable)		
	Company phone	Company website (if applicable)	
	Contact person and role		
	Phone	Mobile phone	
	Email		
	Postal address		Postcode
	Street address (if different from Postal address)		Postcode

B. Pre-application meeting

We recommend contacting the Auckland Permissions team (aucklandpermissions@doc.govt.nz) to arrange a pre-application meeting prior to submitting your application.

Have you had a pre-application meeting or spoken to someone in DOC?

No (go to **Section C**)

☐

Yes

☐

If **yes**, record the:

Date of DOC pre-application meeting:

Name of DOC staff member:

Name of person who had the pre-application meeting with DOC:

C. Amendment to existing permit conditions

Are you applying to amend the conditions of an existing permit?

No (go to **Section D**)

☐

Yes (fill out below)

☐

Permit Number:

Describe the permit conditions you are applying to amend, and why:

D. Consultation undertaken

DOC has a statutory obligation to consider the anticipated effects of your proposed activity on the rights and interests of iwi who exercise kaitiakitanga over the protected area. DOC must also give effect to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. This often requires DOC to engage with iwi and our other Treaty partners to seek their views on your application.

We encourage you to consult with iwi and other Treaty partners about your proposed activity as this may help us process your application more quickly. We recommend you discuss this with a DOC staff member before starting your application.

Have you consulted with iwi, other Treaty partners, and/or other groups about your application?

No (go to **Section E**)

☐

Yes (fill out below)

☐

List the name(s) of each group you consulted with:

If you have answered **Yes**, attach further information providing details about the individual(s) you consulted with from each group listed above, the dates and form of consultation (e.g. email, meeting), and the outcomes of that consultation in **Section I – Attachments** of this form.

E. Activity and Location

Please describe the purpose of your proposed activity. If the purpose is aligned with the outcomes in the [Revitalise the Gulf Strategy](https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/our-work/sea-change/revitalising-the-gulf.pdf)⁵ and/or is listed as a “Restoration” activity on the [Activities in the Hauraki Gulf/Tikapa Moana](https://www.doc.govt.nz/auraki-gulf-permit-applications)⁶ webpage, please identify that in your response.

Purpose of the proposed activity:

The activities you can apply for are different based on the locations you intend to operate in. **Appendix A – Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana Protected Areas** outlines specific locations and the specific activities you can apply for in these locations. Refer to **Appendix A** of this form to identify the activity you are applying for, and the location(s) of your proposed activity.

Location (List the name of each individual High Protection Area and/or Seafloor Protection Area for your proposed activities)	Activity (State the specific activities you will undertake in each individual High Protection Area and/or Seafloor Protection Area)
Example: Kawau Bay High Protection Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing Landing an aircraft
Example: Cradock Channel Seafloor Protection Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sand extraction

⁵ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/our-work/sea-change/revitalising-the-gulf.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.doc.govt.nz/auraki-gulf-permit-applications>

F. Description of Activity

Please describe your proposed activity in detail, including the method(s) you will be using to carry out the activity.

If your proposed activity also requires resource consent, please describe how you or the consent authority have complied with the relevant requirements of sections 55, 62A and 66 of the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011.

G. Anticipated effects

DOC is required to consider the consistency of the proposed activity with the purpose of the protected area and the anticipated effects of the proposed activity on:

- the protected area and its biodiversity objectives, and
- the rights and interests of iwi that exercise kaitiakitanga in the protected area.

This section is one of the most important factors that will determine DOC's decision on your application. Please answer in detail.

Describe the anticipated effects of your activity, including any positive effects. This includes effects on the protected area and its biodiversity objectives, and effects on the rights and interests of iwi that exercise kaitiakitanga in the protected area.

If you have identified adverse effects, describe any measures you propose to undertake to avoid, remedy, or mitigate, those effects.

H. Term

Detail the length of the permit term you are applying for (i.e. number of years or months) and why.

I. Attachments

Is there any further information you wish to supply in support of your application? (e.g. maps, activity methodology, research proposal, records of consultation). Attach if necessary, label each document clearly and complete the table below.

Section of the application form the attachment relates to	Document name	Description of attachment
Example: Section G – Anticipated effects	Example: Environmental Impact Assessment	Example: Report assessing potential environmental impacts of the activity.

Appendix A – Hauraki Gulf / Tikapa Moana Protected Areas

Table 1 - High Protection Areas, and activities you can apply for in High Protection areas

High Protection Areas

- Aldermen Islands / Te Ruamahua (north) High Protection Area
- Aldermen Islands / Te Ruamahua (south) High Protection Area
- Cape Colville High Protection Area
- Kawau Bay High Protection Area
- Mokohīnaui Islands High Protection Area
- Motukawao Islands High Protection Area
- Pakatoa and Tarahiki / Shag Island High Protection Area
- Rangitoto and Motutapu High Protection Area
- Slipper Island / Whakau High Protection Area
- Te Hauturu-o-Toi / Little Barrier Island High Protection Area
- The Noises High Protection Area
- Tiritiri Matangi High Protection Area

Activities you can apply for in High Protection Areas

- Fishing
- Aquaculture activities
- Removing sand, shingle, non-living shell, or other non-living natural material
- Dumping, depositing or discharging waste or other matter (directly or indirectly, in or into) a high protection area that is likely to have a more than minor adverse effect on aquatic life
- Introducing any living organism
- Constructing, altering, extending, removing or demolishing a structure (including a ship)
- Causing vibrations (other than vibrations caused by the propulsion of a ship) (in or into) a high protection area in a manner that is likely to have a more than minor adverse effect on aquatic life
- Disturbing aquatic life, habitats or the water column (including by excavating, drilling, tunnelling or dredging) in a manner that is likely to have a more than minor adverse effect on aquatic life
- Destroying or damaging the seabed and subsoil in a manner that is likely to have an adverse effect on the seabed and subsoil
- Landing an aircraft
- Causing an explosion
- Mining activity

Table 2 - Seafloor Protection Areas, and activities you can apply for in Seafloor Protection Areas**Seafloor Protection Areas**

- Cape Colville Seafloor Protection Area
- Cradock Channel Seafloor Protection Area
- Kawau Bay Seafloor Protection Area
- Mokohīnaui Islands Seafloor Protection Area
- Tiritiri Matangi Seafloor Protection Area

Activities you can apply for in Seafloor Protection Areas

- Aquaculture activities
- Dumping, depositing or discharging waste or other matter (directly or indirectly, in or into) a seafloor protection area that is likely to have a more than minor adverse effect on aquatic life
- Dredging
- Trawling that makes contact with the seabed
- Danish seining
- Sand extraction
- Mining activity

Table 3 – Additional activities you can apply for in the Mokohīnaui Islands Seafloor Protection Area

There are additional activities that require a permit in the Mokohīnaui Islands Seafloor Protection Area. These activities do not apply to the other Seafloor Protection Areas listed in Table 2.

Additional activities you can apply for in the Mokohīnaui Islands Seafloor Protection Area

- Set netting
- Potting that occurs within Area A on Survey Office Plan 604785
- Bottom longlining that occurs within Area A on Survey Office Plan 604785