

Appendix Nine – Te Hiku O Te Ika T90 Letter of Endorsement

Te Hiku O Te Ika Customary Fisheries



RA Burch

Napier 4110

Endorsement of T90 Trawl Net Innovations

Tena koe Richard

Te hiku o Te Ika Customary Fisheries Forum and Working Party have attended Hokianga Accord Hui where you had presented the T90 Trawl nets. The Far North Regional Customary Fisheries Forum and Working Party endorses and supports your team's effort to develop the T90 trawl net aboard the *Nancy Glen II*.

The innovations under development, to reduce the mortality (death) of young fish while minimising the environmental impacts of trawl fishing, fit comfortably with our common goal of sustaining our fisheries for present and future generations.

Participants in our Forum include all Te Hiku Iwi and their respective whanau and hapu where I have on numerous occasions presented your concept of the T90.

Together we advocate for more abundant fisheries and a healthier marine environment so that all New Zealanders can provide for their social, economic and cultural well-being.

I believe that you and your team's innovation will assist to increase biodiversity and productivity in our marine environment that will have multiple benefits for all New Zealanders and particular value for the environment, fishing and Maori interests.

The Te Hiku o Te Ika Regional Customary Fisheries Forum supports the T90 trawl innovations aboard the *Nancy Glen II* and recommends financial assistance is provided for ongoing trials.

Kindest regards

Abraham Witana,
Chairman,
Te Hiku o Te Ika
Regional Customary Fisheries Forum

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