

Mr G T (Stan) Crothers  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Ministry of Fisheries  
PO Box 1020  
Wellington

Fax: (04) 470 2601

**5 December 2006**

Tena Koe Stan

**(1) Provision for input and participation of tangata whenua in fisheries management –relationship between Ministry of Fisheries (MFish) and mid-north iwi; (2) Hokianga Accord Hui – funding of hui**

1 I refer to your letters of:

1.1 28 September 2006, in response to mine of 31 August 2006, and 18 September 2006;

1.2 6 October 2006, and my email in response dated 11 October 2006.

**Whangarei meeting of 30 June 2006**

2 I agree to differ with you on our respective understandings of the position taken by each of the participants at this hui. My notes record that Laly Haddon and I were the only iwi leaders present at that hui, the rest being representatives who made that point, and we certainly wanted to engage with Ministry on generic fisheries issues through the Hokianga Accord.

3 As we both appreciate, the hapu of Te Roroa and Te Uri O Hau have very different protocols in place for working with MFish by virtue of their specific Te Tiriti O Waitangi claims settlement. This must be distinguished from MFish's obligation to Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua under the 1992 fisheries settlement.

**Input and participation to fisheries management processes**

4 Your letter of 28 September 2006 ignores the view of both Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua stated in my letter of 31 August 2006 and repeated in my letter of 18 September 2006 that both Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua see:

- a. a role for a collective approach with MFish through the Hokianga Accord Iwi Regional Forum on broader issues, but not on others such as sustainability measures relating to a particular fish stock in which individual iwi have a particular non-commercial interest;
- b. some merit in your objectives based management approach involving groups of fish stock over relatively larger areas (at least QMAs), development of iwi plans, and smaller working teams. We need to explore the details of this with you further.

- 5 For your reference, I also expressed my concerns in my letter of 18 September 2006:
- 5.1 with MFish's iwi plans/fishery plans approach which will further delay and prevent the provision by the Minister of input and participation of tangata whenua into fisheries management; and
- 5.2 at the time, resources and cost to both MFish and iwi/hapu in developing fisheries plans which is likely to be at the expense of ignoring the immediate task of building fish stocks for Maori and non-Maori alike;
- and concluded by:
- 5.3 expressing my frustration at the time it has taken MFish to decide how and where (form) MFish (for the Minister) is going to provide for Ngapuhi's input and participation into fisheries management rather than actually doing so; and
- 5.4 requesting that the Whangarei meeting you referred to must be held urgently to advance the commencement of the provision by the Minister of input and participation by iwi of mid Te Tai Tokerau into fisheries management.

#### **Hokianga Accord**

- 6 Given that the iwi regional forum comprising Ngapuhi, Ngati Wai and Ngati Whatua, clearly complies with the MFish model for an iwi regional forum, and therefore qualifies for funding I would be grateful if you would spell out for me any criteria the Hokianga Accord does not meet.
- 7 Please do not again refer to Te Roroa and Te Uri O Hau with whom you have separate relationships.

#### **Funding for the Hokianga Accord**

- 8 It concerns me that MFish provides funding for recreational regional fora whilst denying funding for hui held by the Hokianga Accord, mid north iwi regional forum.
- 9 In fact, I was invited to and attended the Northern regional recreational forum held at Waitangi on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2006 in respect of which all funding including meals and travel expenses was generously provided by MFish to participants.
- 10 I still await MFish's cheque for \$1,500.00 plus GST for MFish's share of the Naumai hui fee held on 20 and 21 July 2006 not yet paid by MFish. Please let me know when I can expect that money. I was not aware that MFish was not going to pay their share of the hui until after the Hui. Jonathon Peacy actually showed a letter written to me to other people at the hui but failed to show me. I received that letter the next day. This is not good enough Stan.
- 11 Also, please arrange to pay to the Whananaki Maori Committee, a koha relating to MFish representatives attendance at Whakapaumahara Marae hui on 16 November 2006. For your people to walk on to the Marae and don't even acknowledge the Marae is beyond comprehension. Carl Ross needs speaking to as this is a basic customary flaw that MFish has to take the blame for.

### **Ministry action required to provide for input and participation**

- 12 I repeat what I stated in my letter to you of 18 September 2006, namely:
- 12.1 from Ngapuhi's viewpoint, MFish has had more than sufficient time talking about how and where MFish (for the Minister) is going to provide for Ngapuhi's input and participation into fisheries management. MFish must take immediate actions consistent with the Minister's statutory obligation to provide for such input and participation.
- 12.2 My people look to me to assist them to provide kai for their tables. I look to the Minister to carry out his statutory obligation to provide for Ngapuhi's input and participation and so provide fish for my people to catch as kai.

### **Memorandum of understanding**

- 13 I note recent press announcements that MFish has completed and entered into a memorandum of understanding with *Mai i nga Kuri a Whareki Tikirau (BOP) Regional Fishers forum*. Please provide us with a copy of that document and outline the steps that you followed to achieve the completion of that document with *Mai i nga Kuri a Whareki Tikirau (BOP) Regional Fishers forum*.
- 14 There being no valid reason why MFish cannot recognise the Hokianga Accord as the iwi regional forum of mid-Te Tai Tokerau iwi I am confident that you will recommend such approval very shortly leaving the way open to completing a memorandum of understanding at the earliest opportunity.
- 15 In the meantime, the minister's provision of input and participation of tangata whenua on fisheries management processes in mid-Te Tai Tokerau must not be avoided, delayed or frustrated by Mfish any longer.
- 16 I look forward to hearing from you.

Mauri ora

Raniera (Sonny) Tau  
**CHAIRMAN - TE RUNANGA A IWI O NGAPUHI**

cc:

Mr J Glaister  
Chief Executive  
**Ministry of Fisheries**

Hon. J. Anderton  
Minister of Fisheries  
Parliament  
**Wellington**

Parekura Horomia  
MP Associate Minister of Fisheries  
Parliament  
**Wellington**

Hone Harawira  
MP for Te Tai Tokerau  
Parliament  
**Wellington**

Phil Heatley  
MP National Party Spokesperson on Fisheries  
Parliament  
**Wellington**

Metiria Turei  
Greens Party Fisheries Spokesperson  
Parliament  
**Wellington**

Ms Naida Glavish  
Chairperson  
**Te Runanga O Ngati Whatua**

Mr Laly Haddon  
Chairman  
**Ngati Wai Trust Board**

Mr William Wright  
Fisheries Spokesperson  
**Te Uri O Hau**

Mr Stephen Naera  
Fisheries Spokesperson  
**Te Roroa**