



MP for Napier

Minister of Police

Minister of Fisheries

Minister of Revenue

Minister for Small Business

AM19-0849

Hon David Parker
Minister for the Environment
PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS



02 OCT 2019

Dear Hon David Parker

I write to confirm my support that coastal occupation charges are a matter that should be considered by the Resource Management Review Panel.

It is important to establish a fair occupancy charge for the private use of our coastal space. Charging for private use could support improvements in our coastal monitoring and management initiatives.

To date a range of matters have hindered implementation by councils of the current coastal occupation charge provisions in the Resource Management Act 1991. I agree we need to review the current system to ensure a workable framework going forward.

Better enabling coastal occupation charges is also key action of the Government's Aquaculture Strategy, which was agreed to by Cabinet and launched at the Aquaculture Conference in September 2019. As it is important there is comprehensive consideration of these charges, and their potential application to a broad range of users of coastal space, I support their consideration by the Resource Management Review Panel.

My preference is that Fisheries New Zealand officials have an opportunity to advise and support the Panel's deliberations on this matter.

Separately, Fisheries New Zealand officials are leading cross-government agency work with Māori and stakeholders on what the future management and investment framework needs to be to best enable the sustainable development and growth of open ocean aquaculture. This work is broad in scope, and is considering not only the Resource Management Act but also other legislation that is beyond the scope of the Resource Management Review Panel, including the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012, the Fisheries Act 1996, and the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004.

Officials will report back to us and the Minister of Conservation on whether the open ocean aquaculture work should be included in the comprehensive review in November 2019 (as per the Cabinet decision in June on the review of the resource management system).

Yours sincerely

Hon Stuart Nash
Minister of Fisheries