MPI advice on Fast-track Listed Project Application

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Application name	Whangaroa Native Rock Oyster Project
Application number	FTA060
Applicant	Geraldine Baker
Whether aquaculture decision will be required under Schedule 12 of the FTA Bill	This is an application for a marine farm within the Territorial Sea so will require an aquaculture decision under Schedule 12 of the FTA Bill.
Other authorisations that may be required from MPI	n/a
Aquaculture settlement considerations	The application is not located within an aquaculture settlement area established under section 12 of the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 or within an area reserved for aquaculture within an individual iwi settlement. Should this application be consented over an area that has not previously been subject to a resource consent for aquaculture, it could generate a settlement obligation in the Northland region (under the Māori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act) that is representative of 20% of the newly consented space.
Fisheries settlement considerations	Iwi in this area have concluded treaty settlements with the Crown. The settlement agreement requires the Minister to consult the relevant Post Settlement Governance Entities if there is a change to policy or regulation that affects fisheries interest within the area of interest. Parts of the Whangaroa Harbour are Māori Fishing Reserves under regulation 66 of the Fisheries (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 2013. The reserves are not iwi based fishing areas. Any Māori may take oysters from the reserve, subject to bag limits in those regulations. Care is required to ensure the farm sites avoid the reserves.
Impacts of a project on Māori development and PSGE priorities	The applicant (Kahukuraariki Trust) has a cultural relationship with this part of the CMA which is located next to the Kowhairoa Peninsula, and intends to develop the native rock oyster to provide for inter-tribal initiatives in Te Taitokerau.

Disclaimer: This advice has been developed to support MfE advice to the independent Fast-track Projects Advisory Group and is not intended to provide comment on the merits or viability of the application.