

Comments on applications for referral under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020

This form is for local authorities to provide comments to the Minister for the Environment on an application to refer a project to an expert consenting panel under the COVID-19 Recovery (Fast-track Consenting) Act 2020.

Local authority providing comment	Far North District Council
Contact person (if follow-up is required)	Rochelle Deane
	Manager – Environment Services
	District Services Group

Comment form

Please use the table below to comment on the application.

Project name	Rangitane Maritime Development
General comment – potential benefits	Ease current shortage of boat launching facilities in Kerikeri vicinity, provide a recreational facility for locals and visitors, provide improved access to the coast and Kerikeri Inlet, improve current limited and unsafe water access, employment and economic benefits from construction activity.
General comment – significant issues	Main issues from a FNDC perspective would relate to traffic (including construction traffic), visual impacts and effects on the nearby residential properties.
Is Fast-track appropriate?	Project could go through the normal consenting process, but this would involve significant time delays potentially resulting in loss of funding.
Environmental compliance history	Far North Holdings do not have a record of non-compliance with environmental matters within FNDC's jurisdiction.
Reports and assessments normally required	The summary reports provided with the application cover the aspects that Council would expect with an application of this nature (noting that in this instance the application appears to be solely a Northland Regional Council one). However, we would expect the reports to be comprehensive rather than summaries.
Iwi and iwi authorities	Te Rūnanga A-Iwi-O Ngāpuhi Ngāti Rehia who have a Hapū Environmental Management Plan (lodged with NRC and FNDC) Te Uri o Taniwha

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Local authority providing comment	Northland Regional Council
Contact person (if follow-up is required)	Paul Maxwell
	Coastal and Works Consent Manager
	Click or tap here to enter text.

Comment form

Please use the table below to comment on the application.

Project name	Rangitane Reclamation and Boat Ramp Maritime Development
General comment – potential benefits	Benefit to the growing Kerikeri boating community by providing improved boat launching and retrieval facilities with capacity for trailer and vehicle parking. Improved access to the coastal marine area (CMA) to the general public as well. Such facilities experience high demand year round. There are limited public facilities available within the Bay of Islands generally.
General comment – significant issues	Proposal involves reclamation of common marine and coastal area – Policy 10 of New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement and policy D.5.20 of the Proposed Regional Plan for Northland have strong avoidance policies in respect of reclamation, unless all elements of the of the policies can be satisfied.
Is Fast-track appropriate?	No comment on appropriateness.
Environmental compliance history	Both Far North Holdings Limited and Far North District Council have multiple consents for coastal structures and activities in the CMA. There is long compliance history for both applicants regarding coastal consents which has been generally good.
Reports and assessments normally required	Application contains overview statements on ecology, coastal processes, landscape and natural character, noise and traffic management. Comprehensive reports would normally be required by council for a project of this scale and nature. A comprehensive planning assessment report would also normally be required, and as the proposal involves reclamation the planning assessments would normally contain supporting documentation demonstrating regional significance of the proposal and the necessity for the reclamation. Assessments of proposal against relevant statutory documents in respect of climate change and sea-level rise would also normally be required - usually within the comprehensive planning assessment).
Iwi and iwi authorities	Te Runanga O Ngati Rehia, Ngāti Torehina Te Runanga A Iwi O Ngapuhi.
Relationship agreements under the RMA	Transfer of functions and powers between the Northland Regional Council and Far North District Council. Northland Regional Council process land-use consents for portions of jetties and boat ramps landward of the mean high water springs mark. The Northland Regional Council has a Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreement with Ngati Rehia.

Insert responses to other specific requests in the Minister's letter (if applicable)	The Regional Harbourmaster for Northland does not have any navigational safety concerns with this application. He has indicated that the proposal is in a suitable area with good access to open water, and that the far north is also in need of launching facilities
Other considerations	The council is aware of some opposition to the proposal from within the local community who have concerns about increased traffic, and noise arising from potential for increased boat launching activities in early morning and at night. Concerns expressed about use of nearby public open space for additional (overflow) vehicle and boat trailer parking.

Note: All comments, including your name and contact details, will be made available to the public and the applicant either in response to an Official Information Act request or as part of the Ministry's proactive release of information. Please advise if you object to the release of any information contained in your comments, including your name and contact details. You have the right to request access to or to correct any personal information you supply to the Ministry.

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