

Media Release
Embargoed until October 27, 3pm

Enough talk its time for action!
Sustaining our Sea – the Kaikōura marine management strategy

After seven years of research, discussion and consultation, Te Korowai o Te Tai o Marokura has finalised its community led marine strategy, which will protect the Kaikōura coastal area.

On Saturday 27 October, Te Korowai will hand the strategy to government as part of the implementation phase.

Chair of Te Korowai, Larncce Wichman says, “over the next few years we expect to see changes that help to protect and sustain the Kaikōura coastal area for future generations.”

Sustaining our Sea has been designed over seven years, working with local knowledge, the best science available and valuable input from communities. The draft strategy was released last year and from September to December was open to public submissions.

Wichman says, “we received over 160 thoughtful and insightful submissions from the community and wish to acknowledge their effort in helping to shape the strategy.”

“We spent three months carefully considering every point, which created good robust discussions within the group and provided good reasons for our final decisions.”

Sustaining our Sea recommends changes; to the recreational fishing rules for Kaikōura, the commercial fishing boundaries, recognises five customary fishing reserves, aims to create a world heritage marine reserve – Hikurangi Marine Reserve, a marine mammal sanctuary, and use other environmental protection tools to sustain the Kaikōura coastal area.

Te Korowai reached consensus on the strategy by using the philosophy of gifts and gains, where each group made compromises to sustain the Kaikōura coastal area.

“All the groups involved made compromises to design a strategy that would create better fisheries and protect taonga, while sustaining both the coastal area and customary practices,” says Wichman.

People can download or read the strategy online or can receive a hard copy from by contacting the Te Korowai secretary, phone 03 319 6586 or 027 516 1715. Please note that there will be a limited number of hard copies available.

Te Korowai is made up of a group of Kaikōura based organisations including representatives from Te Rūnanga o Kaikōura (Ngāti Kuri), local fishers (recreational and commercial), tourism operators, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand and others with an interest in the Kaikōura marine environment. Te Korowai has also had the support of local and regional government, relevant government departments, ministries, Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu and the community of Kaikoura.

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All media questions to Kahu Te Whaiti 021 443 895 or kahu.tewhaiti@ngaitahu.iwi.nz



