



# NZ ROCK LOBSTER INDUSTRY COUNCIL LTD

*Ka whakapai te kai o te moana*

July 2022

To all CRA Quota Share Owners and agents

## CRAMAC PLANS and STOCK SPECIFIC LEVIES 2022/23

Kia ora tatou

### **CRAMAC Funding**

The Rock Lobster Commodity Levy Order enables CRAMACs to fund projects that relate to their stock by way of a stock specific levy (SSL).

Subject to the CRAMACs receiving a satisfactory mandate for regional work plans and budgets, the NZ RLIC will formally engage them to provide the services outlined in each project plan. This engagement is on an annual basis via a letter of engagement or MOU.

The 2022/23 CRAMAC summary work plans and budgets relevant to your CRA quota share ownership as at June 2022 are outlined below. The full text of those plans can be found on the NZ RLIC website:

<https://nzrocklobster.co.nz/documents/cramac-documents/>

For each of the stocks for which you are a CRA Quota Share Owner (QSO) or authorised agent, **you are now requested to endorse the CRAMAC work plans and the stock specific levies that are relevant to them using the online ballot:**

<https://form.jotform.com/221877262834867>

If you have signing authority for more than one quota owning entity, please complete an online ballot for each separate QRN/client number. When you have completed that task, please submit your ballot. You will receive an email acknowledgement that your response has been registered.

The closing date for SSL submissions and ballot returns is also *Wednesday August 10<sup>th</sup> 2022*.

If you prefer to work with printed material, you can 'print screen' and scan or 'save image' your completed online ballot paper and submit that by email to [cra@nzrocklobster.co.nz](mailto:cra@nzrocklobster.co.nz) in PDF or image format.

Please put "SSL BALLOT" in the subject line of your email.

Your submissions and ballot results will be considered and reviewed, and CRA levies confirmed at the August 17<sup>th</sup> 2022 NZ RLIC Board meeting. All QSOs will then be notified of the mandatory levy that will apply for each CRA stock (incorporating the 'core' and the 'stock specific' components) from 01 October 2022.

We again thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement for the work of CRAMACs and the NZ RLIC central office team.

NZ Rock Lobster Industry Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Edwards

Chief Executive Officer

# CRAMAC WORK PLAN HIGHLIGHTS

## CRA 1 WORK PLAN 2022/23

Provision is made in the CRA 1 work plan to have regular representation at all forums where CRA 1 fishery business is up for discussion and debate. Budget is also set to provide support for the CRAMAC 1 committee and to enable a further round of CRA 1 industry meetings to be held in the region in the 2022/23 season.

The work plan provides for timely supervision and support for CRAMAC initiatives and facilitates timely communications to and from CRA 1 industry participants.

Previous CRAMAC 1 achievements include their joint facilitation of the first PHC stock assessment and the TACC increase confirmed from April 2021. The CRAMAC successfully established a domestic sales security tag initiative which has support from MPI Compliance, the hospitality trade and seafood retailers.

The 2022/23 CRAMAC 1 Workplan anticipates industry responses to biotoxin events as they occur and continues to consolidate the CRA 1 Vessel Logbook participation rate and data quality. Specific provision is again made for supplementary PHC tag and release work, and observer catch sampling days. The strategic objective is a regional commercial harvest strategy informed by reliable fisheries data.

CRAMAC 1 is regularly reviewing proposals for marine reserves and other marine protected areas and is compiling fishery and economic data that will be used in response to formal applications. Their workplan makes provision to confirm a robust information base to enable the compilation of credible social and economic indicators to inform evaluation of the impacts on commercial property rights of Government policies and management decisions.

## CRA 2 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The CRA 2 Rock Lobster Management Company (CRAMAC 2) work plan enables a range of support services including liaison with the BOP Regional Council and coordination of research initiatives and media promotion of the industry.

The CRAMAC 2 Board remains focused on guiding the rebuild of the fishery. A new stock assessment will be run later in 2022 and CRAMAC 2 will leverage the results to advocate the re-instatement of commercial catches as abundance increases and fishery performance indicators are met.

CRAMAC 2 continues to maintain and refine the *ERNIE* electronic reporting format which provides tag recapture data and more detailed catch and effort reporting in addition to size frequency and other data useful to stock assessments.

Spatial access is a significant issue for CRAMAC 2. The Motiti Protection Zone displaced several fishing vessels and forced a shift of effort into adjacent fishing grounds which are already identified as areas of interest to Marine and Coastal Area Act (MACA) applicants.

The Hauraki Gulf *SeaChange / Revitalising the Gulf* proposals seek to establish a network of marine protected areas in the Gulf portion of the CRA 2 fishery and CRAMAC 2 will be actively engaging in the formal consultation processes in a coordinated effort to bring credible fishery performance data into the spotlight and to promote management of fishing as a better proposition than area and method closures.

### CRA 3 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The Tairāwhiti Rock Lobster Industry Association (CRAMAC3) continues to consolidate their vessel logbook programme which delivers important data to stock assessments and management considerations. The CRAMAC is also mindful of the voluntary commercial initiatives linked to the continuation of the MLS differential and is careful to remind vessel operators of the benefits and potential costs if those arrangements are not maintained.

The CRAMAC 3 committee takes responsibility for coordination and reporting of the Voluntary Logbook programme as well as coordination of the tail fan necrosis research and CRA 3 biotoxin monitoring and responses.

CRAMAC 3 will continue the independent catch sampling survey work in statistical area 910 and the tag recapture programme they have been running for a good number of years. They will also be continuing the research initiative into the epidemiology of tail fan necrosis.

CRAMAC 3 is anticipating a number of MACA applications and will maintain a process of dialogue and education for non-commercial stakeholders and ensure appropriate consideration of the effects on commercial harvest from the CRA 3 fishery.

### CRA 4 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The CRAMAC 4 workplan remains focused on oversight and monitoring of the CRA 4 fishery and maintaining the reputation of the CRA 4 industry across the wider community.

The work plan enables coordination and reporting on the voluntary logbook programme and its continuing development and CRA 4 biotoxin monitoring. The CRAMAC ensures timely and credible responses to biotoxin events whilst minimising as much as possible any disruption to rock lobster fishing.

The CRA 4 Voluntary Logbook programme has been expanded across all CRA 4 Statistical Areas, but additional participation is still actively encouraged. In 2022/23 CRAMAC 4 will continue the reward system for participants and incentivise tag recapture reporting.

The 'wet tag' trial for the purpose of collecting temperature at depth data from commercial pot lifts will be continued and efforts will be made to extend participation. That data will inform observations of moult and movement patterns across the fishery.

### CRA 5 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The CRA 5 Industry Association (CRAMAC 5) remains focused on industry-generated data collection across several different aspects of their fishery. Their work plan supports maintenance of a high level of Logbook participation.

Logbook participants are also reporting 'wet tag' temperature at depth data. Supplementary catch sampling and tag and release projects will be continued in the business cycle commencing October 2022.

A new project to develop reliable pre-recruit indices is proposed for 2022/23. If successful, when incorporated to stock assessments, the data gained should provide a reliable predictive index for future stock abundance.

An ongoing elective research programme related to puerulus settlement supplements the MPI-contracted research done by NIWA and helps to inform the CRA 5 industry as to the potential trends in future stock abundance.

CRAMAC 5 retains important and productive relationships with non-commercial stakeholder groups and is actively involved in the *Te Korowai* (Kaikoura Guardians).

### CRA 6 WORK PLAN 2022/23

Maintaining the Fishermen's Office at Waitangi is a primary objective of every CRAMAC 6 work plan. Under the combined supervision of the CRAMAC 6 Executive Committee, the NZ RLIC and FishServe, the Fishermen's Office provides a range of registry services to all Chatham Island industry personnel. The office remains a hub of reliable information and support for the local rock lobster industry and for the paua and finfish sector organisations as required.

CRAMAC 6 also coordinates a range of maritime safety and local infrastructure discussions and maintains a watching brief on local government issues that have potential to impact on Chatham Islands fishing businesses.

In the recommended 2022/23 work plan, CRAMAC 6 will expand the sequences of CRA 6 tag and release work commenced in 2018 and significantly expand their observer catch sampling programme.

Catch sampling data will supplement and benchmark CRA 6 Logbook data for representativeness and accuracy. A participation incentive for CRA 6 Logbook participants will be trialled to the end of the current fishing year.

The CRA 6 stock monitoring initiatives are being taken to ensure that future CRA 6 stock assessments are well informed by up-to-date size frequency, fecundity, growth, and other biological data.

During 2022/23 CRAMAC 6 will continue the facilitation of Chatham Islands fishing industry wellbeing initiatives.

### CRA 7 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The Otago Rock Lobster Industry Association (CRAMAC 7) coordinates vessel access for technicians to undertake catch sampling and tag and release work within season.

CRAMAC 7 recently appointed *Chanel Gardner* as an executive officer following the retirement of her energetic predecessor, *Kate Hesson*.

CRAMAC 7 has already invested in a significant amount of high level policy work and economic analysis, and it is very likely that more will be required to properly safeguard commercial access and utilisation opportunities. The DOC Southeast Marine Protected Areas proposal is presenting industry with a risk of commercial exclusion from some significantly important Otago rock lobster fishing grounds.

Provision is again made in the recommended business plan to underpin the CRA 7 industry challenge to proposed commercial exclusions and collaborations. To offset expenses, cost sharing with other similarly affected parties will be pursued.

A new initiative for CRAMAC 7 in 2022/23 will be the establishment of a Voluntary Logbook programme to supplement observer catch sampling and provide fishermen with a more timely and efficient method of reporting tag recaptures.

### CRA 8 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The CRA8 Rock Lobster Industry Association Incorporated (CRAMAC 8) was formed to further the interests of the CRA8 area fishery, and the commercial industry. The 2022/23 budget supports the continuation of an electronic Vessel Logbook recording and reporting system to support fisheries required research by the provision of data from a representative portion of the CRA 8 fleet.

CRAMAC 8 will continue facilitate a rock lobster tag recapture programme in support of fisheries required research and to augment the supply of stock assessment data on lobster growth rates and movements.

CRAMAC 8 will continue the operation of a Fiordland/West Coast biotoxin screening programme as part of the implementation of the national biotoxin risk management programme.

The CRAMAC 8 work plan will also extend to supporting industry from the effects of Covid-19 restrictions and facilitating industry use of the mandatory ER/GPR digital reporting system.

CRAMAC 8 contracts a full-time Chief Executive, *Malcolm Lawson*, who represents the CRA 8 industry on the NZ RLIC and in other forums. Mr Lawson is also the current chairman of the NZ Rock Lobster Industry Council Ltd (NZ RLIC).

CRAMAC 8 will maintain investments to contribute to the maintenance and upgrade of appropriate standards and specifications for inclusion in fisheries plans and/or agreed commercial harvest strategies. This will include the collation of harvest agreements; codes of practice; industry agreed standards; compliance initiatives; research programmes; and consultation with other stakeholders.

### CRA 9 WORK PLAN 2022/23

The CRA 9 Industry Association (CRAMAC 9) provides effective coordination and support for an industry split between two islands and maintains an effective representation and advocacy function.

The chairwoman, *Sonja Tuerlings*, was appointed in 2021 and also sits as a director on the NZ RLIC Board.

The focus of the 2022/23 work plan is maintenance of the CRA 9 Vessel Logbook programme. It remains an expectation of the Ministry and the National Rock Lobster Management Group that the CRA 9 industry will maintain 100% fleet coverage over the duration of the fishing year. Improving the consistency of reporting is an ongoing priority for the CRAMAC.

The CRAMAC 9 marine biotoxin response plan was not invoked during 2021/22, but the 2022/23 workplan has provision for necessary biotoxin testing as required.

Voluntary codes of practice in relation to recreational fishing opportunity have been long-established in Taranaki and CRAMAC 9 continues to promote and broker the reality of shared fisheries and shared responsibilities in its dealings with non-commercial sector groups.

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Copies of the more detailed individual CRAMAC work plans and budgets are available on the NZ RLIC website - <https://nzrocklobster.co.nz/documents/cramac-documents/>.

Please feel free to contact the NZ RLIC office directly with your request for printed copies of those documents.

Please email - [cra@nzrocklobster.co.nz](mailto:cra@nzrocklobster.co.nz)

## COMPARISON OF CRA LEVIES - CURRENT AND PROPOSED.

NZ RLIC COMMODITY LEVY 2021/22

National TACC was 2733.786 tonnes			
Stock	Core Levy	Stock Specific	Total Levy per tonne
<b>CRA 1</b>	\$359.53	\$377.37	736.90
<b>CRA 2</b>	\$359.53	\$282.03	\$641.56
<b>CRA 3</b>	\$359.53	\$337.17	\$696.70
<b>CRA 4</b>	\$359.53	\$264.29	\$623.82
<b>CRA 5</b>	\$359.53	\$265.35	\$624.88
<b>CRA 6</b>	\$359.53	\$138.00	\$497.53
<b>CRA 7</b>	\$359.53	\$1,073.45	\$1,432.98
<b>CRA 8</b>	\$359.53	\$171.02	\$530.55
<b>CRA 9</b>	\$359.53	\$293.91	\$653.44

NZ RLIC COMMODITY LEVY 2022/23

National TACC is 2,793.300 tonnes			
Stock	Core Levy	Stock Levy	Total Levy per tonne
<b>CRA 1</b>	\$458.15	\$538.10	\$996.25
<b>CRA 2</b>	\$458.15	\$257.91	\$716.06
<b>CRA 3</b>	\$458.15	\$439.16	\$897.31
<b>CRA 4</b>	\$458.15	\$341.31	\$799.46
<b>CRA 5</b>	\$458.15	\$268.21	\$726.36
<b>CRA 6</b>	\$458.15	\$155.56	\$613.71
<b>CRA 7</b>	\$458.15	\$1022.42	\$1480.57
<b>CRA 8</b>	\$458.15	\$168.19	\$626.34
<b>CRA 9</b>	\$458.15	\$450.66	\$908.81

Levies are expressed in \$/tonne per annum and are invoiced in twelve instalments

Commencing 01 October 2022.