



Office of Hon Nathan Guy

MP for Otaki

Minister for Primary Industries

Minister of Civil Defence

Associate Minister for Economic Development

B17-0399

Dear Stakeholder

BCO 5 cod pot minimum mesh size

I write to inform you of the Government's decision that has been made, following a review of the BCO 5 minimum cod pot mesh size earlier this year.

The Fisheries (Commercial Fishing) Regulations 2001 will be amended to increase the minimum mesh dimensions of commercial cod pots used in BCO 5 from 48 mm to 54 mm.

The increased mesh size is expected to decrease the amount of commercially caught undersized blue cod, reducing fishing related mortality and increasing the productivity of the BCO5 stock. Legal catch proportions are predicted to remain relatively unaffected with an increased mesh size of 54 mm.

The regulatory change will come into effect on 14 September 2017.

A copy of the discussion document and decision document relating to this decision are available on the MPI website: www.mpi.govt.nz/new-and-resources/consultations.

I would like to thank everyone who took the time to make a submission or became involved in the discussions that occurred during consultation.

Yours sincerely

Hon Nathan Guy
Minister for Primary Industries