



Ministry of
Fisheries
Te Tautiaki i nga tini a Tangaroa

Aquaculture Reform CoBoP

8 October 2010



New Zealanders maximising benefits from the use of fisheries within environmental limits

[New Zealand Government](#)



Overview

- Aquaculture industry context
 - Global
 - National
 - Local
- Central government involvement
- The new regulatory regime
- What this might mean for you?



Global Aquaculture Industry

- Internationally growing faster than other animal food-producing sectors (FAO)
- Global demand for fish protein cannot be met from wild fisheries
- Opportunity for NZ
 - Economic growth
 - Fits with NZ values



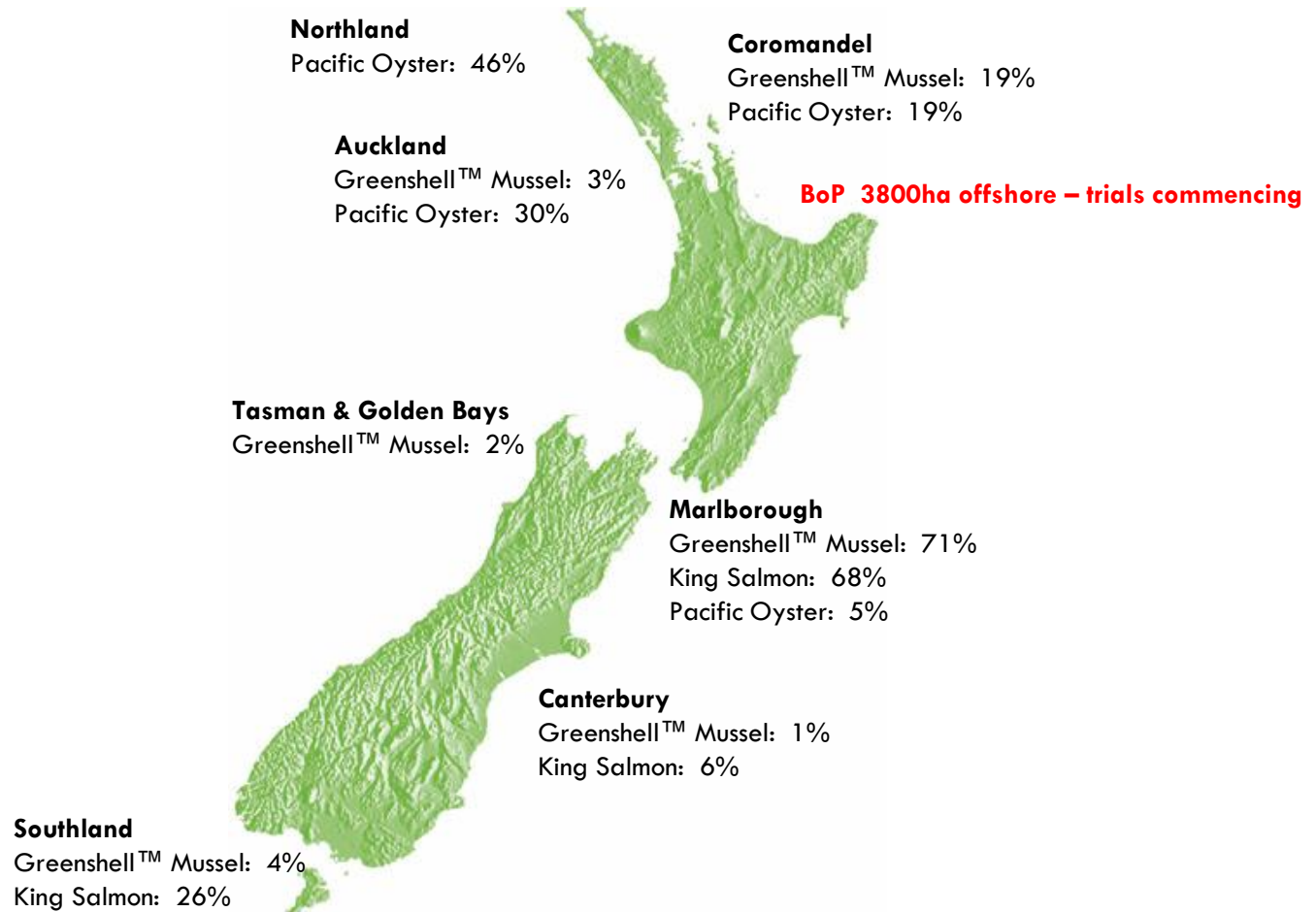
NZ Aquaculture Industry – Facts & Figures



- First commercial marine farm – oyster farm in Northland established in 1960s
- 2009 NZ production \$380 million (20% of all fisheries production)
- Fastest growing seafood sector
- Employs around 3,000 people



Primary Location of Marine Farms





2009 Export Volumes and Values

	Tonnes	\$NZ (million)	\$ / tonne
Salmon	5,088	61	11,989
Oyster	2,099	16.2	7,718
Mussel	33,816	202.5	5,988
TOTAL	41,003	279.7	



Aquaculture Industry In Context

- 2009 aquaculture exports \$280 million
 - 79 active export markets
 - Domestic sales additional \$100m approx
- Dairy exports \$8.1 billion
- Total seafood exports \$1.4 billion
- Wine exports \$990 million

- **BoP goal: \$250m exports by 2025**



Industry goal and strategy

- Industry body Aquaculture New Zealand
- Goal of \$1 billion in annual sales by 2025
- Industry strategy released 2006
- Farming of new, higher value species
- Value-added products



Bay of Plenty Aquaculture Strategy

- Strategy launched November 2009 – NZ's first
- Broad stakeholder input
- Vision: BOP is a world class aquaculture region
- 3,800ha consented space offshore Opotiki (Whakatohea Iwi, Sealord, New Zealand Sea Farms)
- 4,000ha Otamarakau consent underway
- Potential employment 3,145 FTEs (farming and processing)
- Regional Aquaculture Organisation - being established
- Region-wide profile of aquaculture needs - being developed



Central Government's Role

- Setting policy direction
 - Economic Growth Agenda
 - Fisheries 2030
- Supporting research and development:
 - allocation of public science funding
- Assisting development of overseas markets
 - trade programmes
- Regulatory reforms



Aquaculture Development - Key Players

- Industry
- Iwi
- Regional Councils
- Central government
- Scientists / researchers
- Communities
- Environmental & recreational interest groups



Reform of Aquaculture Management

- **Outcome sought:** Industry growth within environmental limits





Why is reform necessary?

- Good potential for growth in sustainable aquaculture
- Problems with the current aquaculture regime
- Need to reform the aquaculture regulatory regime
- Also need investment in R&D, development of higher value products and markets



Key Challenges

- Incentivising development while meeting environmental bottom lines
- Dealing with speculation
- Competing interests in coastal marine area
- Transitioning into a new regime – supporting councils
- Maori Commercial Aquaculture Settlement
- Other reforms – Foreshore & Seabed



Environmental sustainability

- Environmental effects are, and will continue to be, managed by consenting authorities through the RMA consents process, by consenting authorities
- Aquaculture depends on a healthy aquatic environment
- Industry emphasis on quality



Cabinet decisions on the new regime

- March/April 2010 established objectives and policy framework for new regime
 - More active role for central government
 - Regulation-making power
 - Remove the requirement for aquaculture to be in AMAs
 - Streamline planning and consenting
 - Streamline the Undue Adverse Effects on Fishing test

Further Cabinet decisions

- July 2010 – built on earlier decisions
 - Transitioning existing farms and outstanding applications to the new law
 - Achieving the reform objectives through regional coastal plans
 - Aquaculture Legislation Amendment Bill (No 2)



Transition to the new regime

- Existing farms will no longer be deemed Aquaculture Management Areas – but this will not affect consent security
- Interim AMAs (Tasman, Waikato) to be completed under current law
- Most ‘frozen’ applications able to proceed on Day One
- Targeted changes to the most restrictive coastal plans
- Continued engagement with councils to improve future coastal planning for aquaculture.



The new Aquaculture Unit

- Cabinet has agreed to establish a branded Aquaculture Unit within the Ministry of Fisheries
- The Unit will be Government's principle adviser on marine and land based aquaculture
- The Unit is now being set up and will be launched latter this year.

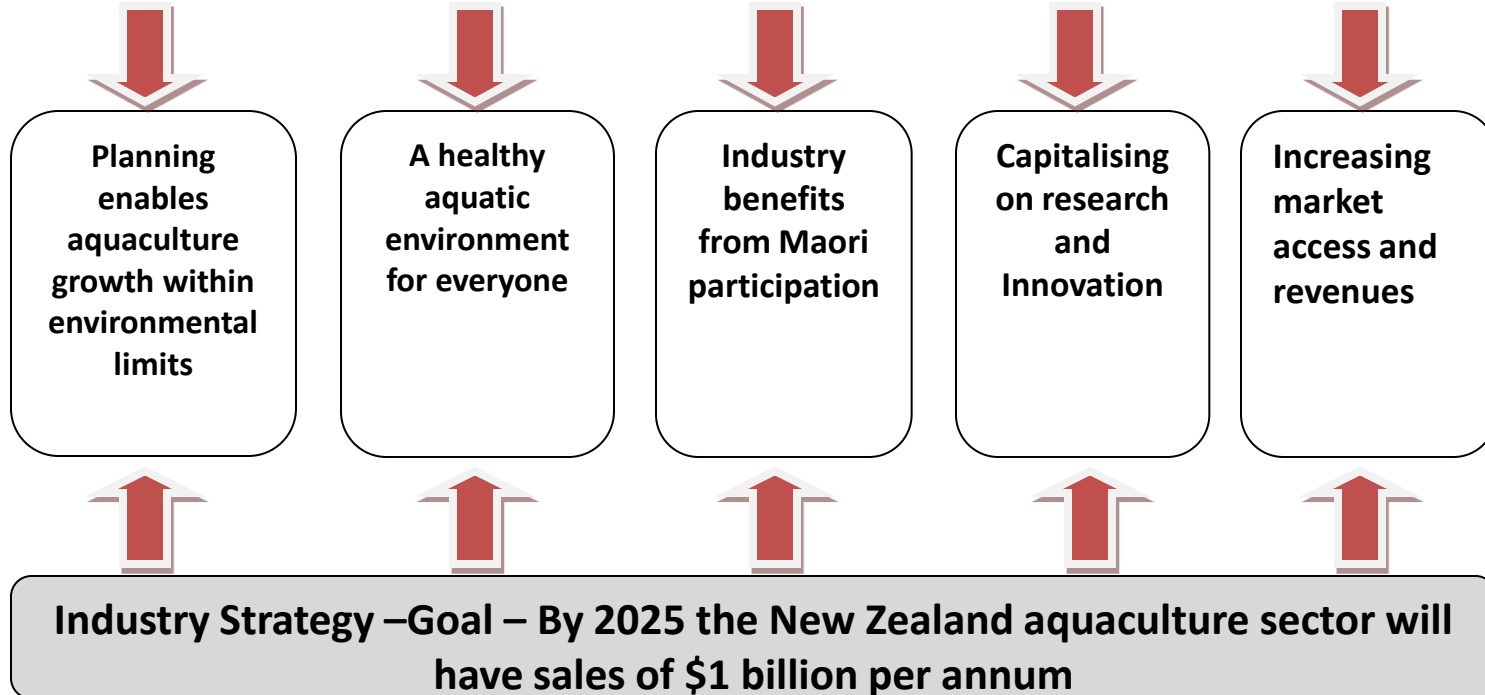


What will the Aquaculture Unit do?

- Advise government on aquaculture matters – land and marine
- Lead implementation of the new law
- Develop a national Aquaculture Strategy and Action Plan
- Monitor and report on progress
- Administer funding to improve regional coastal plans and related activities
- Review land based aquaculture

National Aquaculture Strategy & Action Plan

Fisheries 2030 – Goal – New Zealanders maximising benefits from the use of fisheries resources within environmental limits



Strengthened partnership and coordination



Coordination and partnership

The Unit will need to work with a wide range of groups to facilitate aquaculture growth opportunities:

- Coordination across central government
- Working with regions (iwi, industry, councils)
- Working with national groups AQNZ, ENGO's, TOKM, SEAFIC
- The Aquaculture Forum



Next steps for aquaculture reform

- Introduction of Bill – later this year
- Select Committee process
- Enactment in 2011
- Cabinet paper on delivering the Settlement
- Aquaculture Unit
- Implementation plan
- Strategy and Action Plan
- Continued engagement with regions like BoP



Discussion

