



Tai Timu Tai Pari

# Sea change

Hauraki Gulf Marine Spatial Plan

## Allocation of marine space Graeme Silver, WRC November 2014



Hauraki Gulf  
Marine Park  
Ko te Pataka kai  
o Tikapa Moana  
Te Moananui a Toi



Hauraki Gulf Forum  
Tikapa Moana  
Te Moananui a Toi

Ministry for Primary Industries  
Manatū Ahu Matua



Department of  
Conservation  
Te Papa Atawhai

Waikato  
REGIONAL COUNCIL  
Te Kaitiaki o Rotorua o Waikato

Auckland  
Council  
Te Kaitiaki o Tāmaki Makaurau





# overview

- **current allocation**
- **the problems that result**
- **other options for allocation**
- **allocation of the fish farming space**
- **legislative tools**



# current allocation

- **public space**
  - no 'property owner' decision over how to use the space
- **right to occupy public space is issued as a resource consent by regional council**
  - 'occupy' in the sense of an ongoing occupation that excludes some or all other people to a lesser or greater extent
- **most plans written in early 90s**
  - directive planning and zoning was actively discouraged
- **first-in, first served = priority in time**
  - works ok when supply is high, demand is low and there are no competing uses



# problems...

- **encourages a rush for space & speculation**
  - if demand is high, supply is low
  - eg. sites within a mooring zone, good marine farming space
- **cannot consider better use of the space**
  - unless policies already in the regional coastal plan
  - eg. zones
  - can consider impacts on existing users (eg. fishers)
- **cannot consider who is best to use the space**
  - councils avoid picking winners
  - but communities care about who is using their space





# options

- **tendering** – cash
- **weighted attribute tendering** – other criteria
- **balloting** – completely random
- **historical use allocation** – for established activities
- **waiting lists** – still a priority in time
- **fitness of applicant** – assess against some criteria
- **equal shares** – divide among all applicants
- **no single perfect system**



# fish farming zone

- **weighted attribute tendering:**
  - the proposal achieves the purpose of the zone (15%)
  - promotion of sustainable management (10%)
  - contribution to socio-economic wellbeing of the region and the country (40%)
  - environmental management practices (15%)
  - cash (20%)
- **environmental effects of the proposal are considered in the consenting process**



# new tools

- **RMA amendments in 2004 and 2011**
  - largely untested
- **plans can include rules to manage competition and allocate space**
- **Minister of Conservation may allocate space**
  - on request of regional council in the face of high demand
- **Minister of Aquaculture may place a halt on aquaculture applications for up to 12 months**
  - to allow time for a plan change



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In partnership with mana whenua  
and the following agencies:



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Tikapa Moana  
Te Moananui a Toi

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