

# Application for resource consents for the expansion of Northport



  
Northport

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3. Proposed variations to Berth 1 and 2 consents
4. Proposed variations to Berth 3 and 4 consents
5. Native species recorded during 4Sight wading birds survey (2017/18, 2019/20 and 2021)
6. Comparative population composition and habitat use
7. Coastal and estuarine avifauna species values
8. Distribution patterns of the more common marine mammal species to frequent Whangarei and nearby waters
9. Archaeological sites previously recorded within 1,000 m radius of the Port facility
10. Existing Northland Regional Council consents
11. Existing Whangarei District Council consents
12. Summary of project measures relevant to culturally effects
13. Impact ratings scale

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14. Summary of potential landscape effects
  15. Relevant system for assessing effects on components of marine ecology
  16. Ranking systems used by Quality Planning and EIA in the for assessing adverse environmental effects
  17. Summary of ecological effects (excluding cumulative effects)
  18. Cumulative reclamation and dredging areas
  19. Cumulative effects summary
  20. Predicted construction noise levels
  21. Noise level change compared with general subjective perception
  22. Port traffic trigger volumes
  23. Predicted Northport container TEU
  24. Summary of effects

## Acronyms

AEE	Assessment of Environmental Effects
BAU	Business as Usual
BHD	Backhoe Dredger
BML	Boffa Miskell Limited
BNZL	Brown New Zealand Limited
C+A	Clough and Associates Limited
C+C	Coast and Catchment
CD	Chart Datum
CEA	Cultural Effects Assessment
CEMP	Construction and Environmental Management Plan
CI	Cawthron Institute
CINZL	Channel Infrastructure NZ Ltd
CMA	Coastal Marine Area
CMT	Customary Marine Title
COLL	Coastal Oil Logistics Limited
CVA	Cultural Values Assessment
CSD	Cutter Suction Dredger



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DOC	Department of Conservation
DUKC	Dynamic Under Keel Clearance System
EIANZ	Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
FIDOL	Frequency, Intensity, Duration, Offensiveness and Location assessment
HGL	Hawthorn Geddes Limited
IHS	Import Health Standard
LVL	Laminated Veneer Lumber
MACA	Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011
MDL	Marshall Day Acoustics Ltd
ME	Market Economics Limited
MHWS	Mean High Water Springs
MMH	Marsden Maritime Holdings Limited
MMMP	Marine Mammal Management Plan
MMOs	Marine Mammal Observers
MMOZ	Marine Mammal Observation Zone
MNZ	Maritime New Zealand
MO	Met Ocean
MPAQS	Marsden Point Air Quality Strategy
MPI	Ministry for Primary Industries
NAV	Noise and Vibration chapter of the Whangarei District Plan
NESCS	Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Assessing and Managing Contaminants in Soil to Protect Human Health) Regulations 2011
NESFM	Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 (NESFM)
NPSFM	National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020
NRC	Northland Regional Council
NTITB	Ngatiwai Te Iwi Trust Board
NTL	North Tugz Ltd
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (a measure of turbidity)
NZCPS	New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement
NZTCS	New Zealand Threat Classification System

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NZILA	New Zealand Institute of Landscape Architects
OAQP	Operative Air Quality Plan for Northland
OHEZ	Outer Harbour Ecological Zone
ONF	Outstanding Natural Feature
ONLA	Outstanding Natural Landscape Area
ORAQP	Operative Regional Air Quality Plan
PDP	Pattle Delamore Partners Limited
PNMP	Port Noise Management Plan
POAL	Ports of Auckland Limited
PAH	Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
POTL	Port of Tauranga Limited
PRP	Proposed Regional Plan
PTITB	Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board
RCP	Operative Regional Coastal Plan for Northland
RGA	Robert Greenaway and Associates
RMA	Resource Management Act
RMZ	Riparian Management Zone
ROSC	Regional On-Scene Commander
RWSP	Operative Regional Water and Soil Plan for Northland
RPS	Regional Policy Statement
RSI	Regionally Significant Infrastructure
RTG	Rubber Tired Gantry Crane
SBA	Significant Bird Area
SEA	Significant Ecological Area
SG	Styles Group
SH1	State Highway 1
SH15	State Highway 15
SIPO	South Island pied oystercatcher
SMMSB	Significant Marine Mammal and Seabird Area
STS	Ship to Shore cranes
T+T	Tonkin and Taylor

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TEU	Twenty-foot equivalent unit container (40' container is 2 TEU)
TSHD	Trailer Suction Hopper Dredger
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UNI	Upper North Island
UNISA	Upper North Island Strategic Alliance
UNISCS	Upper North Island Supply Chain Strategy
VOC	Variable oystercatcher
WDC	Whangarei District Council
WDP	Whangarei District Plan
WHSMS	Whangarei Harbour Safety Management System

FORM 9

APPLICATION FOR RESOURCE CONSENTS UNDER SECTION 88 OF THE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT 1991

To: **Northland Regional Council**

Private Bag 9021,

Whangarei 0110

**Whangarei District Council**

Private Bag 9023,

Whangarei 0148

**1. Northport Ltd applies for the resource consents from the Northland Regional Council and Whangarei District Council<sup>1</sup> necessary to authorise the expansion of the existing Northport berth length and associated operations area towards the east, including the following:**

Northland Regional Council

*Operative Regional Coastal Plan*

- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for reclamation.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for capital dredging.
- A coastal permit for a **controlled activity** for maintenance dredging.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for deposition associated with the proposed roosting area (sandbar) (Marine 2 zone).
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for dredging spoil disposal within the reclamation.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for alteration or extension of authorised structures (wharf) not otherwise a controlled activity under Rule 31.7.3(n), and the use of these structures for port activities.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** to discharge stormwater from open cargo storage or handling areas, including wharves to the CMA via a stormwater treatment and disposal system.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** to establish a tug berthing facility.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** to establish a fishing pontoon.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity**<sup>2</sup> to discharge decanted water from the reclamation during construction.

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<sup>1</sup> Together with any other incidental consents required to enable the proposal.

<sup>2</sup> Section 87B Resource Management Act 1991 (innominate).

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*]Operative Regional Water and Soil Plan*

- A land use consent for a **discretionary activity** for earthworks in the Riparian Management Zone.

*Proposed Regional Plan*

- A **coastal permit** for a **discretionary activity** for reclamation.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for capital dredging.
- A coastal permit for a **controlled activity** for maintenance dredging.
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for deposition associated with the proposed roosting area (sandbar).
- A coastal permit for a **discretionary activity** for stormwater discharge from open cargo storage or handling areas including wharves to the CMA via a stormwater treatment and disposal system.
- A coastal permit for a **controlled activity** for alteration to existing authorised wall structures and the use of the structures for port activities.
- A coastal permit for a **restricted discretionary activity** to establish a g tug berthing facility.
- A coastal permit for a **restricted discretionary activity** to establish a fishing pontoon.

Whangarei District Council

- A land use consent for a **discretionary activity** for port operations on the expanded port.<sup>3</sup>
- A land use consent for a **discretionary activity** for port noise on the existing and expanded port.
- A land use consent for an (innominate) **discretionary activity** for cranes up to 85m in height (when working)<sup>4</sup> on the yet to be constructed Berth 4 to align with the crane height rules in the Port Zone (applicable to Berths 1-3) and on the proposed expansion area.
- A land use consent for a **discretionary activity** for the construction of a building within 27m of MHWS in the Open Space Zone, being the relocated public toilet at the eastern end of the expanded port.
- A land use consent for a **discretionary activity** for earthworks exceeding 500m<sup>3</sup>, earthworks within sand dunes, and indigenous (dune) vegetation clearance, within the 'Coastal Area' (port development and public access/reserve).

Consequential variations to some of the conditions of the two existing WDC land use consents for port operations on the existing and consented port<sup>5</sup> are sought under Section 127 of the RMA 1991. These variations will take effect upon completion of the reclamation construction process or prior to port operations commencing on the expanded port.

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<sup>3</sup> Section 87B Resource Management Act 1991 (innominate).

<sup>4</sup> No height limit is proposed for dormant cranes in line with the crane height rules for the Port Zone.

<sup>5</sup> TP96/316 (Berths 1 and 2), RC37846 (Berths 3 and 4).

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Resource Management (National Environmental Standards for Freshwater) Regulations 2020 (NESFM)

- Regulation 45 – Earthworks, and the diversion and discharge of water within a wetland associated with ‘specified infrastructure’ – **discretionary activity**.<sup>6</sup>

**2. The activity to which the application relates is as follows:**

The proposal is to expand the existing Northport operations area.

Key components of the proposal are:

- Reclamation of part of the Coastal Marine Area (CMA) to the immediate east of Northport, including associated deposition and discharge of decant water.
- Capital and associated maintenance dredging.
- Wharf structures on the northern (seaward) edge of the proposed reclamation.
- Sheet piling and rock revetment structures on the eastern edge of the reclamation.
- Treatment of operational stormwater via the existing pond-based stormwater system and/or proprietary systems, and subsequent discharge to the CMA.
- Port related activities on the proposed reclamation and wharves, and on parts of the proposed development above MHWS.
- Construction of additional beach roosting habitat to the west of Northport.
- Construction of a public access from the existing car park at the end of Ralph Trimmer Drive (to be replaced) through to a proposed reserve and related amenities at the eastern edge of the proposed reclamation.
- Construction of a tug berthing facility and fishing pontoon at the eastern edge of the proposed reclamation.

The assessment of environmental effects is supported by extensive technical and scientific investigations.

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<sup>6</sup> This consent is only required if the area within the expansion footprint qualifies as a wetland under the NESFM. Criteria for determining the presence and extent of coastal wetlands in New Zealand has not been developed. While seagrass is considered to be a coastal wetland species, its ephemeral nature makes classifying any particular area in the coastal marine areas as a wetland based on its presence or absence, very problematic. Northport’s ecologist has advised that it is more appropriate to class the habitat within the proposed reclamation as intertidal sandflat containing a small area of seagrass, in which case consent under the NESFM is not required.

**3. The location of the proposed activities is:**

- Ralph Trimmer Drive, Marsden Point.

**4. The owner of the site is as follows:**

- The crown (seabed and existing reclamation) (Northport as lessee)
- Northport (land adjoining existing reclamation)
- WDC (esplanade reserve).

**5. There are no other activities to which this application relates.**

**6. No other resource consents are needed for the proposed activities.**

**7. An assessment of effects on the environment prepared in accordance with the Fourth Schedule of the RMA 1991 is attached.**

**8. As assessment of the proposed activity against the matters in Part 2 of the RMA 1991 in included with the application.**

**9. An assessment of the proposed activity against the various objectives, policies and rules of the relevant statutory planning documents is attached.**

**10. The application includes information that shows the area proposed to be reclaimed, including its location, the position of all new boundaries.**



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Brett Hood

*Planner/Director*

6 October 2022

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Date

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