

**Submission from** [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 8:01 AM

Subject: Re: Submission for Moana NZ acquisition of Sanfords North Island wet fish ace.

We have been directly involved in Fishing for 30 years. Our company is one largest independent ace and fishing operations left in the North Island. We believe the concentration of inshore Wet fish ace in the North Island to one company would be detrimental to fair competition and create a monopoly of the New Zealand inshore fishing business.

Wet fish ace is critical to creating a thriving fishing business, which is good for the local economy, customers, and quota owners. Since the inception of the quota management system the access to independent ace has declined dramatically. Corporate and medium sized fishing companies have either purchased the quota shares or monopolised the holdings of the quota owners. This has been achieved by offering more money or giving them the all or nothing scenario. Pre QMS these companies had to have fair agreements with the fishermen or bidding down the wharf for the catch, thus creating the market. Every kiwi had access to this fish at a reasonable price.

This reasonably priced fish has been taken away by corporate monopoly, bad governance and incompetence. Fishing businesses need access to ace to harvest fish economically, sustainably, and fairly to the NZ public and create valuable export earnings.

I believe a Moana/ Sandford deal would be a threat to the fishing industry and it's customer's as whole due to a lack of fair competition and innovation.