

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

FAO: KEIFCA Chairman and Committee Members

I have recently completed the Cockle Permit Fishery Questionnaire on behalf of [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

We have an under 10m fishing vessel which is rigged for trawling and oyster dredging, as such we decided to register an interest in the possibility of obtaining a small scale (Category 2) licence to fish cockles to supplement the other forms of fishing we do.

When responding in the questionnaire I decided that the NEW JAMAICA option was the only option that could work for us, the reason being that Area 15 (Margate Sands) is the only area I see as being commercially viable to a boat of our size and cockle catching capability.

It has recently been brought to my attention that this option effectively bans the boats currently in the TECFO from fishing in this area and also Areas 11 and 13. When completing the questionnaire under the guidance of KEIFCA officers, this was not my understanding. I agreed to NEW JAMAICA believing both small scale and large scale fishers would be able to fish these areas, albeit at different times.

Although I have registered an interest in the NEW JAMAICA option, Area 15 is the only area I would be interested in fishing for cockles in. To include Areas 11 and 13 as well is taking too much ground from the boats working under the current TECFO.

If this is indeed the case, and the current cockle fleet were not allowed to fish Areas 11, 13 and 15 at all, I would be forced to withdraw my interest in the NEW JAMAICA option. We are a fishing community, and I have no interest in diminishing another fisherman's ability to earn a living.

I would be most appreciative if a copy of this letter could be shown to the Chairman and Committee members at the upcoming meeting on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

