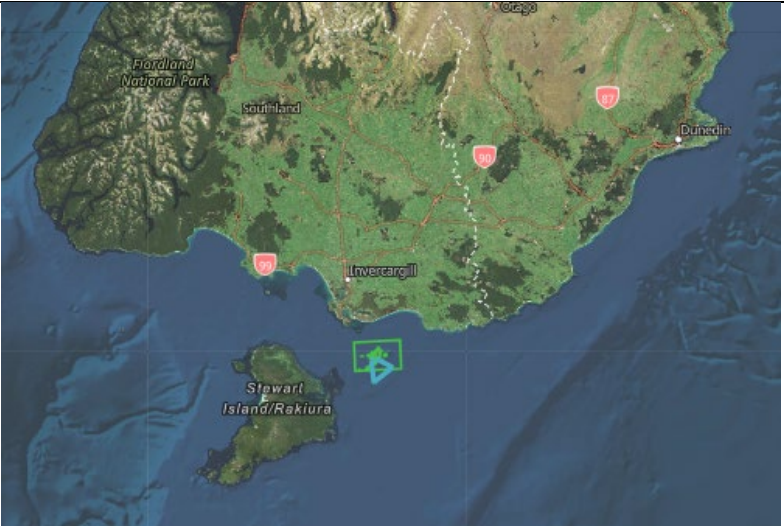
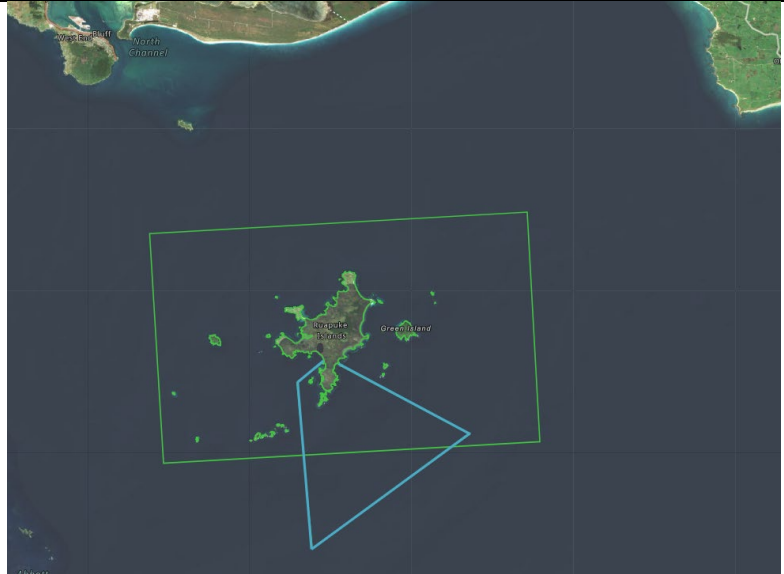


MACA Ruapuke Island Hearing Overview

1. Hearing Area

The Ruapuke Island Hearing was allocated by Churchman J in June 2023.¹

<p>The hearing will deal with MACA application areas in the Takutai Moana surrounding Ruapuke Island² in Foveaux Strait.</p>	
<p>The hearing area is defined by the application areas for the two local applicants:</p> <p>CIV-2017-485-296 Ruapuke Island Group (green lines)</p> <p>CIV-2017-485-295 Te Whānau o Tōpi (blue lines)</p>	

2. Dates and venue

The CMT hearing ran over two weeks starting 24 March 2025 at Invercargill High Court before Churchman J. The CMT decision was issued on 22 August 2025³.

These proceedings are affected by the passing of the CMT Amendment Act on October 24 2025⁴. Schedule 1AA clause 3⁵ of the amended MACA Act nullifies the CMT decision. Churchman J has requested submissions from parties regarding the reconsideration now required⁶.

¹ [Minute of Churchman J dated 6 June 2023](#) [Dunedin CMC - Ruapuke Island Hearing]

² Maps sourced from [Kōrero Takutai](#) under [Te Arawhiti CC License](#)

³ [Ruapuke Island Group \[2025\] NZHC 2400 \[22 August 2025\]](#)

⁴ [Marine and Coastal Area \(Takutai Moana\) \(Customary Marine Title\) Amendment Act 2025](#)

⁵ [Schedule 1AA](#) clause 3, Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011

⁶ [Minute of Churchman J dated 3 November 2025 - Ruapuke Island minute \(PDF, 110 KB\)](#)

3. Participants

CIV	Applicant Group	Lead Counsel
CIV-2017-485-295	Te Whānau o Tōpi	R Fife (Self-represented)
CIV-2017-485-296	Ruapuke Island Group	J Inns
CIV-2017-485-280	Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu	J Riddell
Interested Parties		
	Attorney General	G Melvin

4. Hearing Timetable

Item	Weeks before hearing	Due dates ⁷
Applicants file their evidence and amended application	17 weeks prior	25 November 2024
Interested parties, other than the Attorney-General, file their evidence	13 weeks prior	20 December 2024
Attorney-General files evidence	8 weeks prior	27 January 2025
Close of pleadings	6 weeks prior	10 February 2025
Applicants' evidence in reply filed	4 weeks prior	24 February 2025
Applicants, Interested parties and Attorney-General file opening submissions and bundles of authorities	2 weeks prior	10 March 2025
Hearing begins		24 March 2025
Hearing ends (3 weeks of hearing time)		18 April 2025

⁷ Amended by [Minute of Churchman J dated 31 July 2024](#)