

## HOW DO I REQUEST A HEARING IN COURT?

If you believe there is enough doubt an offence has been committed you can request a defended hearing. You will need to appear in court to put forward your case. You can be represented by a lawyer.

Or if you admit liability and want the court to consider whether you should pay the full amount of the infringement fee (e.g. you may be facing financial hardship) you can request a non-defended hearing.

For either a defended or non-defended hearing, provide your submission by:

- Email [fines@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:fines@mpi.govt.nz)

### OR

- writing to:  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
Infringement Processing Centre  
PO Box 38-090  
Petone 5045  
New Zealand

## WHAT HAPPENS IF I DO NOTHING?

Your infringement notice will be transferred to the fines collection unit of the Ministry of Justice. They will send you a Notice of Fine and you must contact or pay the fine to the Ministry of Justice. A court cost will be added to the fine when it gets filed in Court.

If you do not dispute the infringement notice within 28 days, you will not automatically be entitled to a hearing.

- Online at [www.fines.govt.nz](http://www.fines.govt.nz)
- Email [fines.enquiry@justice.govt.nz](mailto:fines.enquiry@justice.govt.nz)

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Go to [www.mpi.govt.nz/payingfines](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/payingfines)

- Email [fines@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:fines@mpi.govt.nz)

### OR

- Phone +64 4 819 4681 between 8.30am and 4.30pm Monday to Friday

### OR

- Ministry for Primary Industries Infringement Processing Centre  
PO Box 38-090  
Petone 5045



# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR INFRINGEMENT/FINE

## WHY HAVE I RECEIVED AN INFRINGEMENT NOTICE?

You have received this notice because you have committed an offence against the:

- Fisheries Act or related regulations
- Animal Welfare Act, or
- other legislation administered by the Ministry for Primary Industries (excluding the Biosecurity Act).

This is a strict liability offence, which means you may have committed an offence even though you had no intention of doing so.

For example, you might have mistakenly gathered too many shellfish not knowing that there is a daily limit per gatherer, or that limits vary between regions. You didn't intend to break the law, but you did by collecting too many shellfish.

The infringement fee is set by Parliament and attracts no conviction.

## WHAT DO I DO NOW?

- Pay it.
- Request the notice be waived.
- Request a defended or non-defended hearing in court.

## HOW DO I PAY MY INFRINGEMENT?

**Pay within 28 days after service of the reminder notice:**

- **By internet banking** to 03 0049 0001709 22. Use the infringement notice number in the reference field and your name (as per the notice) in the particulars field.
- **By cheque** to: Ministry for Primary Industries, and mailed to: Infringement Processing Centre, PO Box 38-090, Petone 5045.
- Detach and include the remittance advice at the bottom of the infringement notice.
- **At any Westpac branch** using the remittance advice at the bottom of the infringement notice.



## HOW DO I REQUEST THE NOTICE BE WAIVED?

MPI will consider waiving your fine under certain circumstances. Requests for a fines waiver must be made in writing within 28 days after service of the reminder notice.

Outline the special circumstances in your request and include any supporting evidence (such as medications or a doctor's note).

We will consider your request and let you know the outcome. The payment due can be deferred pending the outcome.

**Make your submission:**

- Email [fines@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:fines@mpi.govt.nz)

**OR**

- writing to:  
Ministry for Primary Industries  
Infringement Processing Centre  
PO Box 38-090  
Petone 5045  
New Zealand

Include your name as shown on the notice, and the infringement notice number.

If your fine is not waived, you have 28 days to either pay or request a defended or non-defended court hearing.