

Glossary of Māori Words Relating to the Sea

A

aho	fishing line
aihe	dolphin
ākau	shore / especially rocky

H

hao ika	to fish with a net
hāpuku / whāpuku	groping
hī ika	to fish with a line
hīnaki	eel-pot
Hine-Moana	personified form of the Ocean (Ocean Maid)

I

ika	fish
īnanga	whitebait

K

kai moana / mātaitai	sea food
kākatai	blue reef heron
kākihi / ngākihi / kekeno	limpet
kāniwha	barbed hook
karatī	young snapper
karengo / parengo	sea weed dried as food

karoro	seagull
kawau	cormorant / shag
kekeno	seal / sea-lion
kete	shellfish bag
kina	sea urchin / Sea egg
kokiri	leatherjacket
kōpūpūtai	sponges
kotore moana	sea anemone
kororā	penguin (blue)
kōtuku	white heron
kōura	crayfish
kōurara / tarawera	shrimp
kūaka	godwit
kuku / kūtai	mussel
kupara	John Dory
kupenga / rangatahi	fishing net

M

manaia	seahorse
manga	barracouta
mangō	spotted gummy shark, <i>Mustelus lenticulatus</i>
mangō-tuatini	white shark, <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>
Mātaitai Reserve	type of marine reserve placed over traditional fishing grounds by tangata whenua

matau	fish-hook
moana	sea
moana nui	ocean
moki	medium to large carnivorous fish
mōunu	bait for fishing

N

ngaru	wave (sea)
ngōiro	conger-eel
ngū	squid

O

one / tuaone / tatahi	beach
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P

pakake	kelp
pākaurua	stingray
pātangatanga / pātanga / pekapeka	sea star / starfish
paketi	spotty
pakirikiri	blue cod
pāpaka	crab
pāraoa	whale (sperm)
parore	mangrove fish
pātiki	flounder
pāua	univalve mollusc / abalone
petipeti / tepetepe	jellyfish
pipi	cockle (general)

piri	high tide
pouraka / tāruke	crayfish trap
pūpū	winkle
R	
Rāhui	total ban on harvesting seafood, due to loss of life at sea or to guard against overexploitation.
rawaru	blue cod
rimu / rimurimu	seaweed
ruku	diving or to dive
T	
tahatai	seashore
tahuna	sandbank
tai	tide / sea
takakaha	butterfish
takitai	coastline
tamure	snapper
Tangaroa	God of the Sea
taniwha	a guardian / monster / protector that lives in the ocean / seashore / cave.
tapu	sacred forbidden
Te Marae Nui O Hine-Moana	The vast plaza of Hine-Moana
timu	low tide
tio	oyster / rock or mud

tipa / tupa	scallop
tītī	mutton bird
tohorā	whale (southern right)
toheroa	a bivalve mollusc
tope / kapeta	school shark, <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>
tuatua	a bivalve mollusc
tuere	hagfish
tuna	eel
W	
waharoa	horse mussel
waka	canoe
warehanga / haku	kingfish
werewere	barnacle
whai	stingray
whanawhana	flipper
wheke	octopus