



Official designation of Cook Islands seabed minerals blocks for Exploration by Honourable Mark Brown, Prime Minister and Minister for Seabed Minerals

*Dome, National Auditorium
22 October 2020*

Today, the 22nd of October 2020 – I, the Minister for Seabed Minerals officially declare blocks in the Cook Islands Exclusive Economic Zone available for exploration.

I now invite applications from interested parties to apply for exploration licenses in our waters.

This licensing process will be administered by the Seabed Minerals Authority.

The closing date for applications is 11 December 2020.

My word of advice to interested applicants – put your best foot forward. This is a long term partnership, so we the Government want to ensure that whoever we allow to operate in our waters will put forward the best exploration work programmes, and will lead to best outcomes for our country and our people.