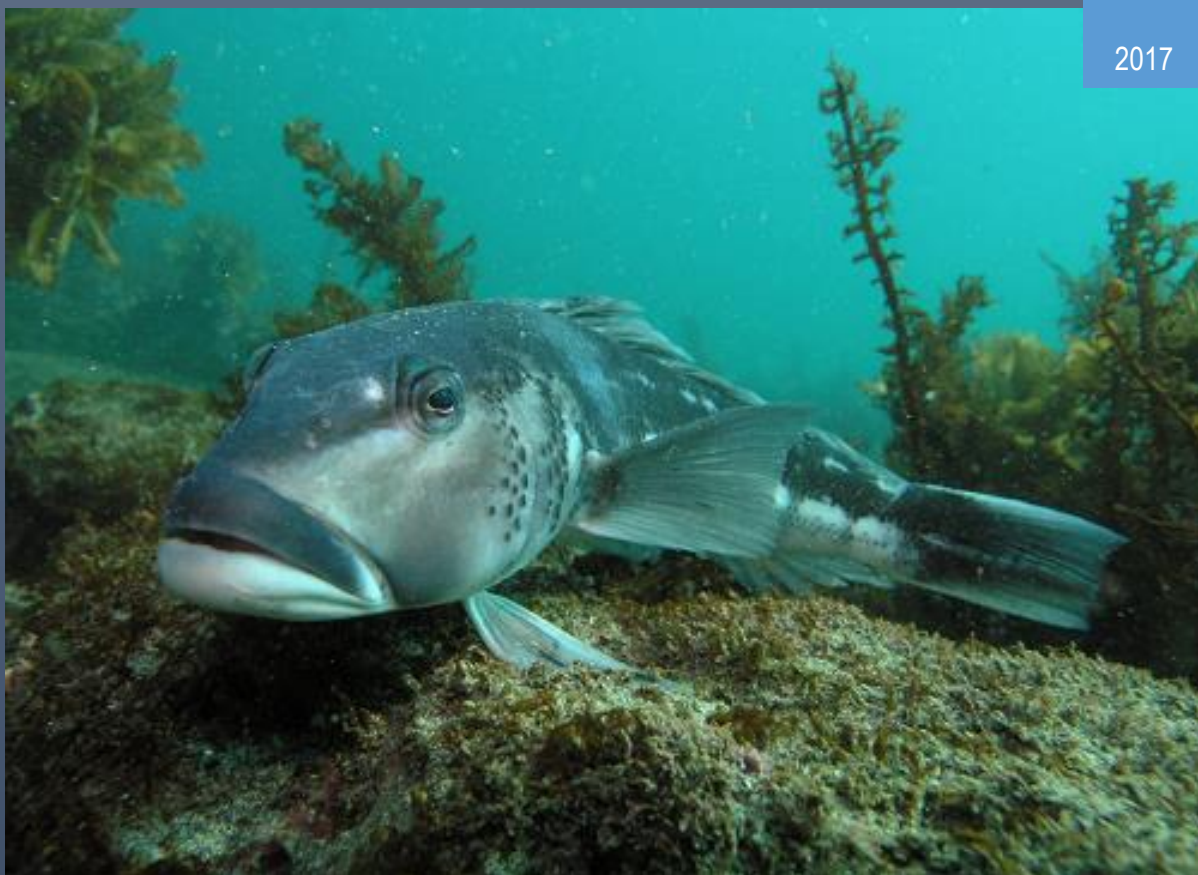


2017



National Blue Cod Strategy

WIDER ENGAGEMENT 1: SUMMARY REPORT OF RESULTS AND FEEDBACK

Ministry for Primary Industries
Manatū Ahu Matua



Shared Sustainable
Fisheries for the Future

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Overview

In September 2017, the Ministry for Primary Industries engaged widely with tangata whenua, stakeholders and the public (Wider Engagement 1: Figure 1) as part of the first phase of development for the National Blue Cod Strategy. Wider Engagement 1 included eight information sessions throughout the South Island and an online survey. The purpose of this engagement was to gather feedback about the aim and objectives of the strategy that were developed during the first expert workshop. Additionally, MPI wanted to gather people’s opinions about their local blue cod fishery and whether or not there were any issues in their area.



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Figure 1. The National Blue Cod Strategy development process

In this document we have presented the results of the online survey and also the feedback received from our facebook pages and submissions inbox. All of this information was reviewed and used to guide the experts during Expert Workshop 2 to develop proposed options to address the issues facing the blue cod fishery (refer Figure 1). MPI will perform a second round of wider engagement to ensure the proposed options are fit for purpose and to ensure we haven't missed anything that needs to be included.

This document contains three main sections.

1. Online survey 1 results
2. Online survey 1 comments
3. Other feedback

The first section outlines the findings from the survey on both a national and a quota management area (QMA) scale. Also, the results of local fisheries that had more than **20** responses are presented. Lastly, in this section we have also split the answers for questions 18-20 out into recreational fishers, commercial fishers and the general public.

The second section outlines the additional comments that were received in the survey.

The third section outlines all other commentary received via our social media pages and our submission email address during Wider Engagement 1.

Who did we reach?

Over the four week engagement period, we received 3,500 unique visits to the blue cod landing page on the MPI website, over 1000 Youtube views, and reached 58,000 people on Facebook. We contacted our subscribers to the recreational fishing mailing list numerous times, and in addition we advertised in newspapers and magazines and on local radio.

Overall this resulted in 335 people choosing to attend drop-in sessions around the South Island to share their views and 1,115 responses from around the country to the first online survey (Figure 2). Of the survey responses we had an 85% completion rate. The feedback gathered during the information sessions and from the survey has provided important insight into how people think their local blue cod fisheries are faring and what the issues are in each area.

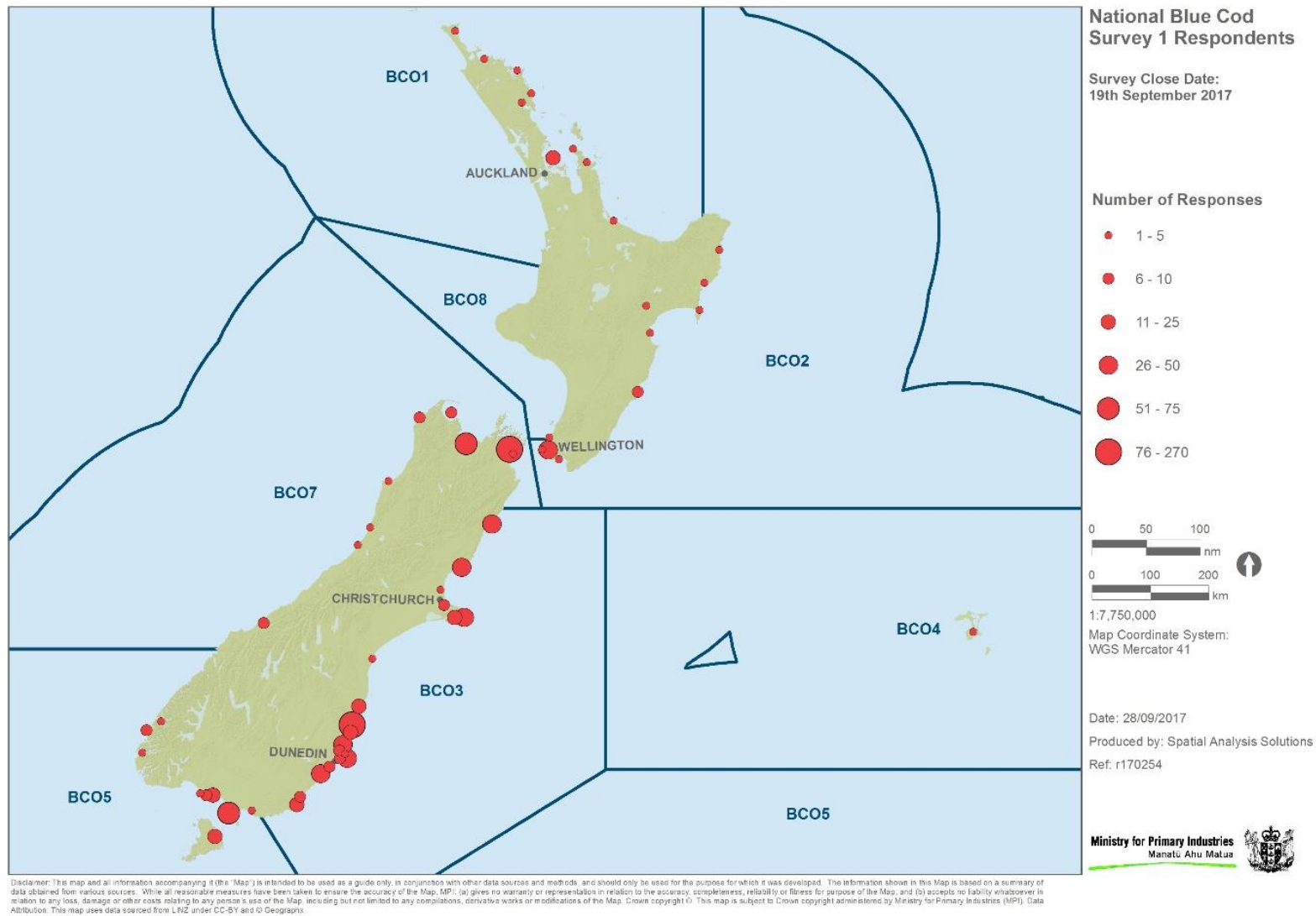
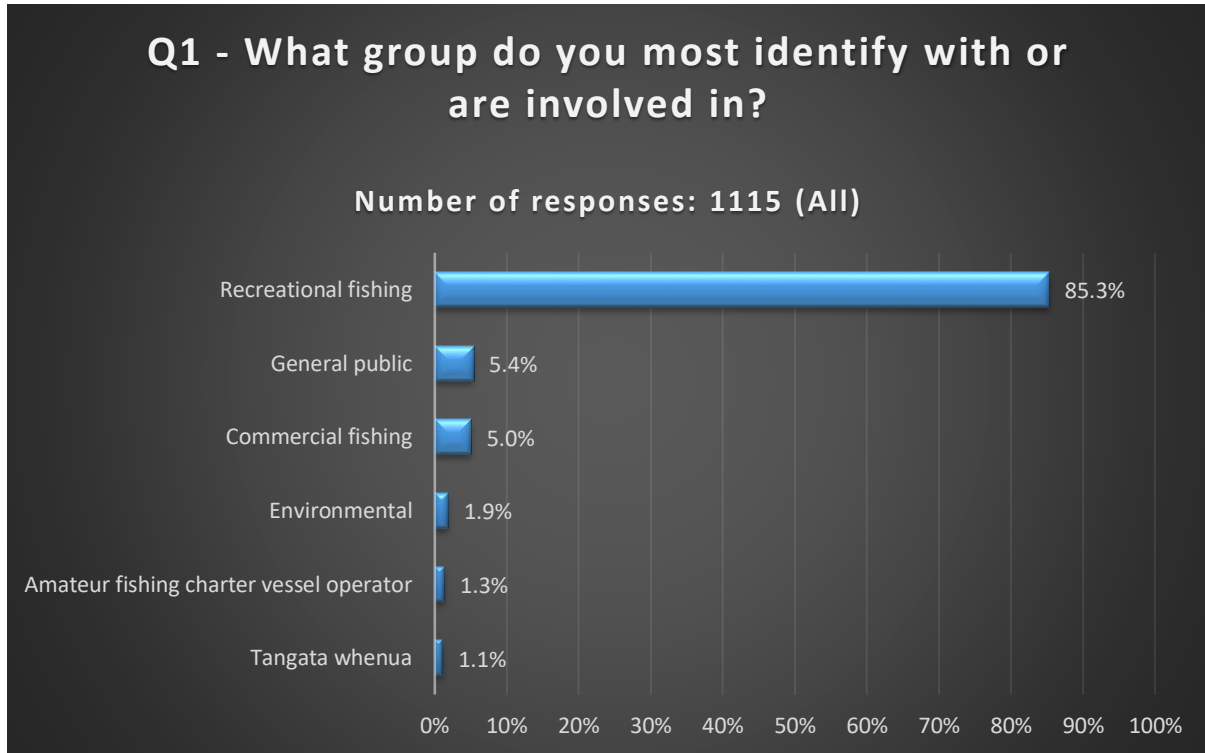


Figure 2. Distribution of responses to the first National Blue Cod Strategy online survey and quota management areas for blue cod.

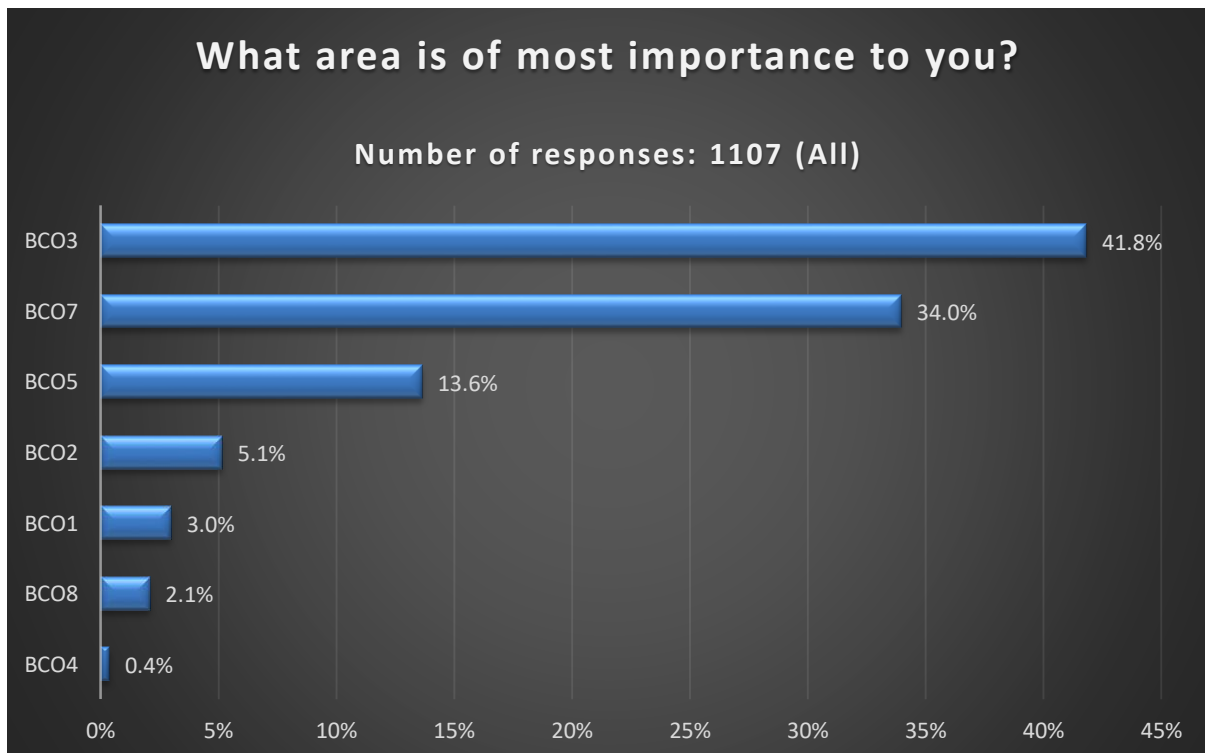
Section 1 – Online Survey 1 Results

1.1 National Results

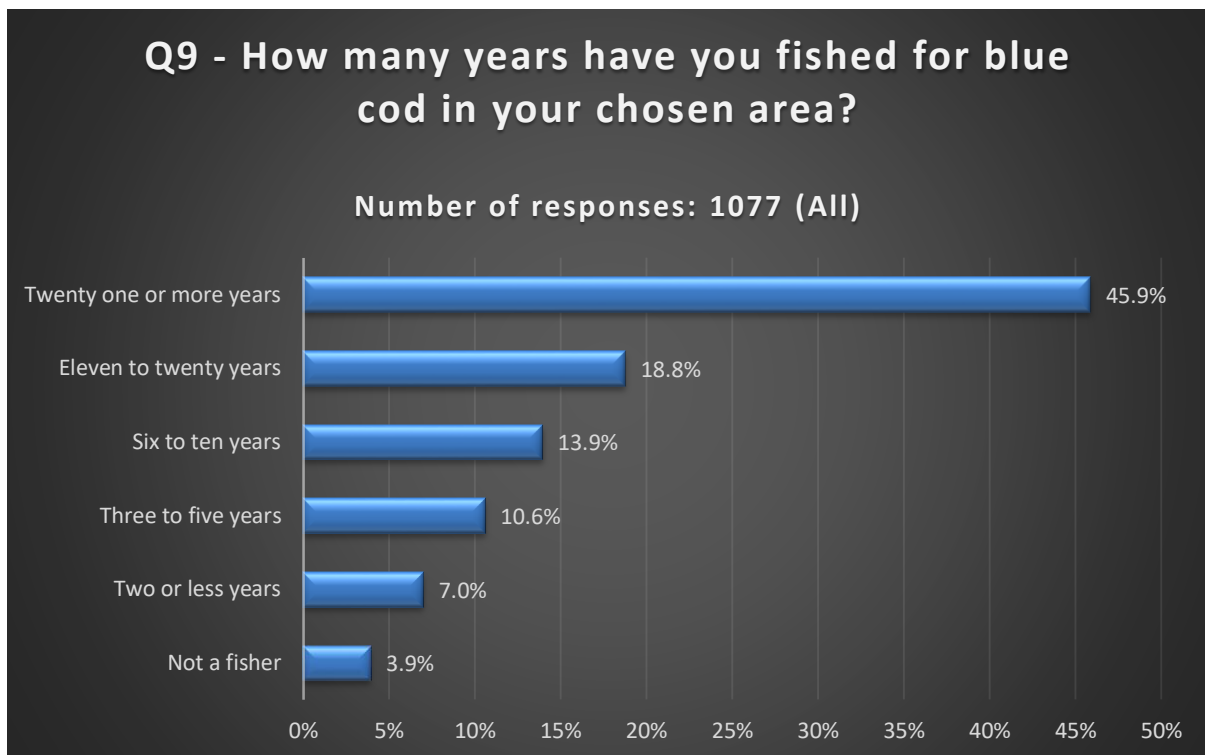
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



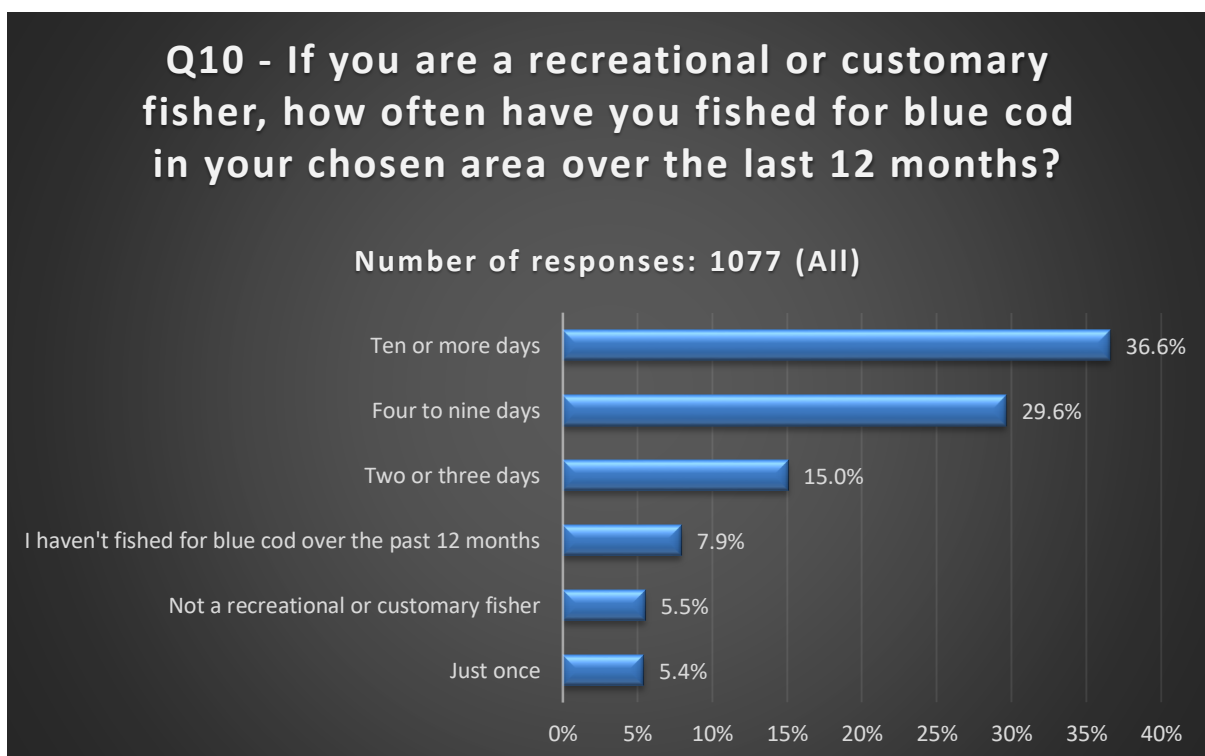
Q2 - What area is of most importance to you?



Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?

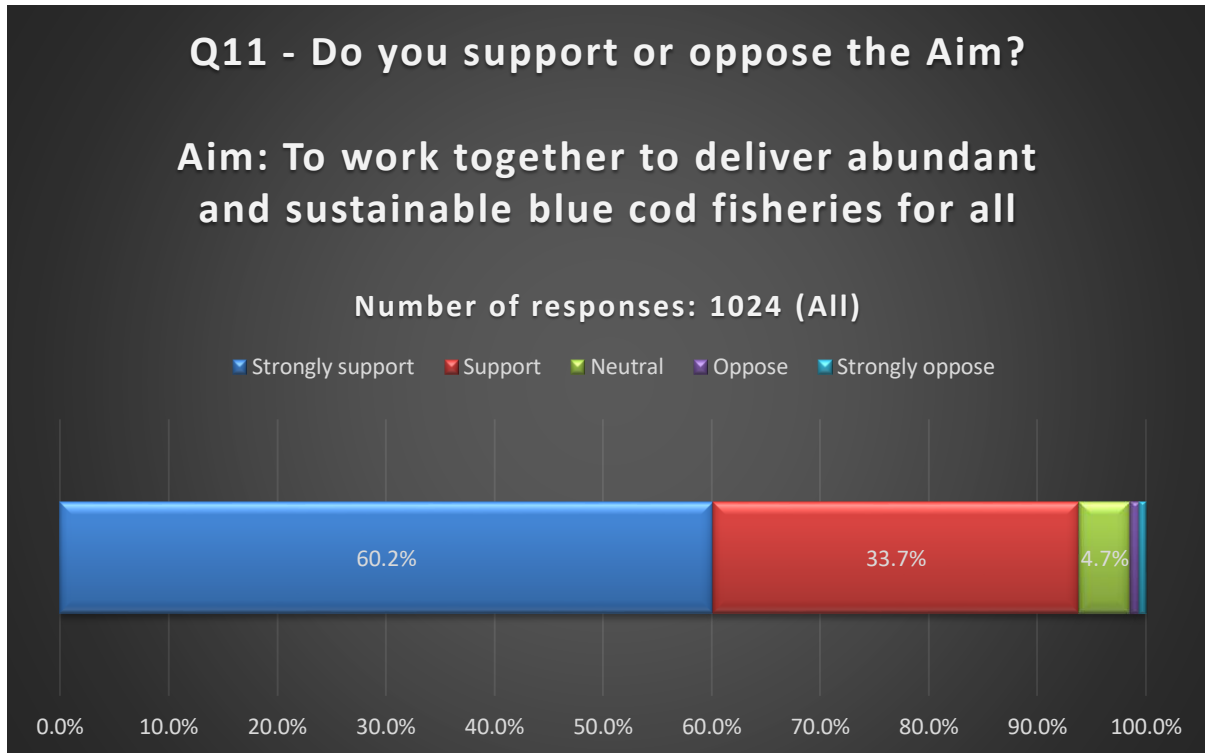


Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



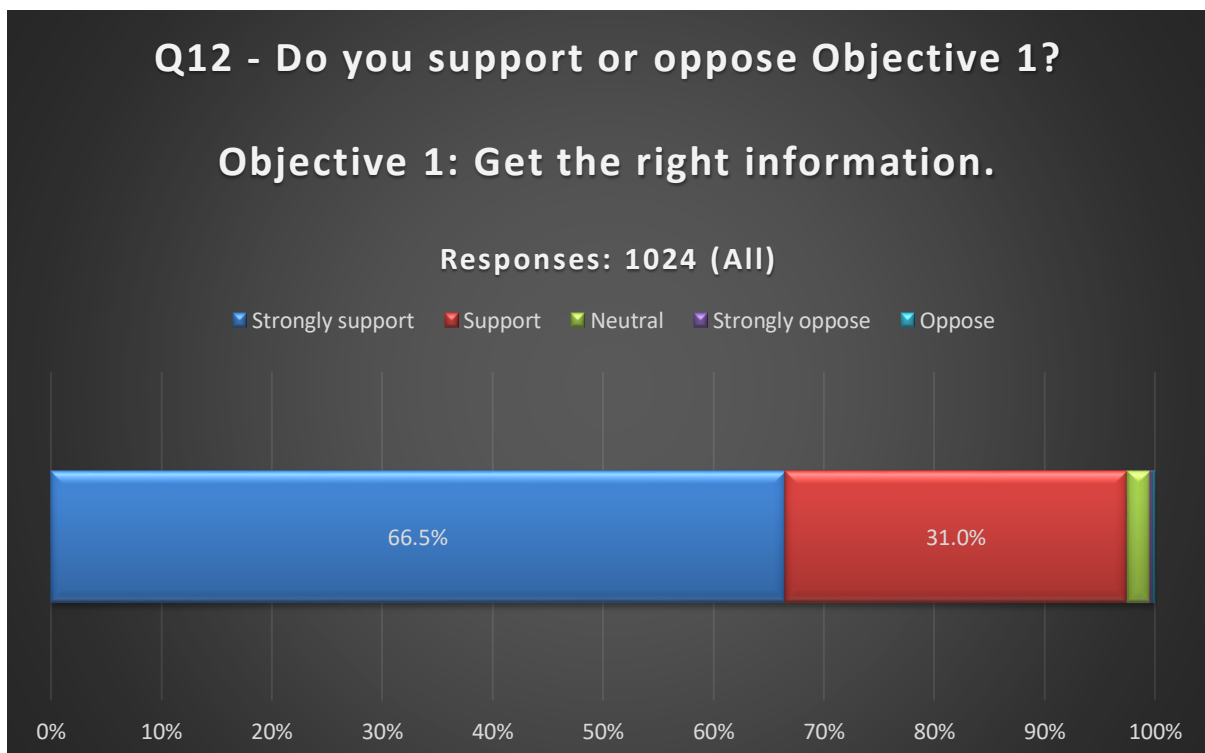
Q11 - Do you support or oppose the Aim?

Aim: To work together to deliver abundant and sustainable blue cod fisheries for all.



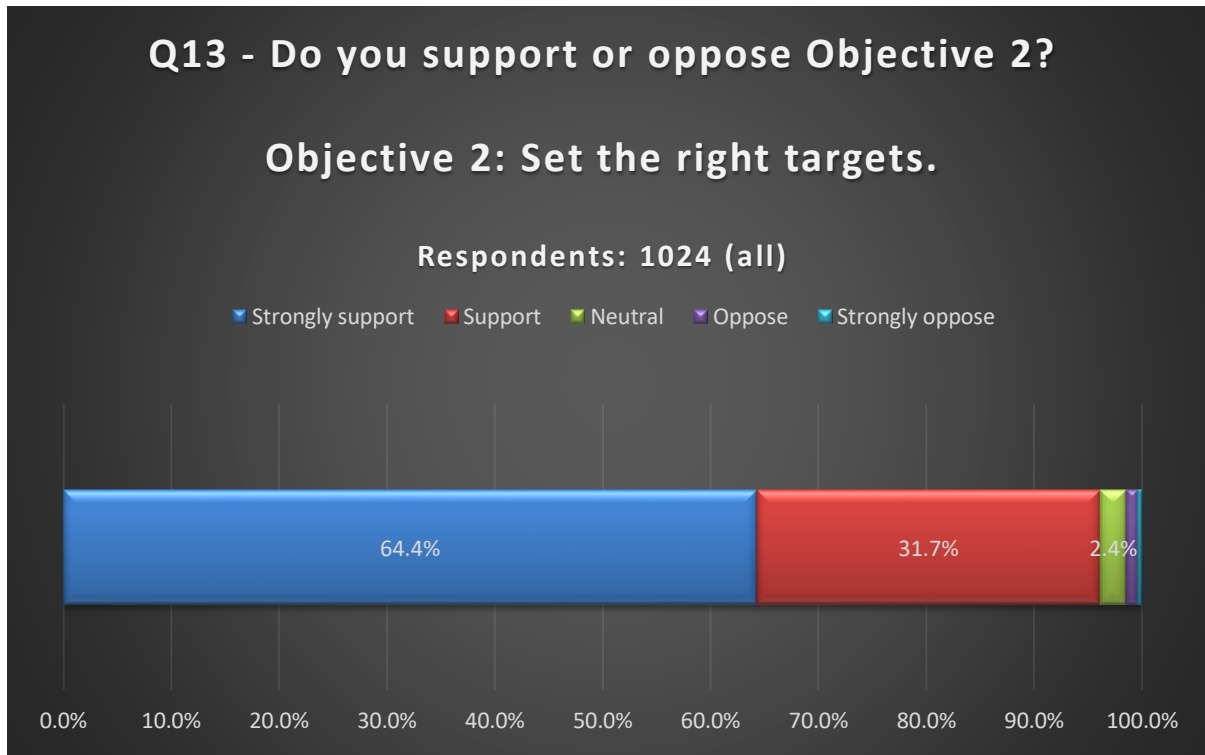
Q12 - Do you support or oppose Objective 1?

Objective 1: Get the right information. Information is the bedrock of any fisheries management system. We need the right information and science, and we need to figure out the best way to get it.



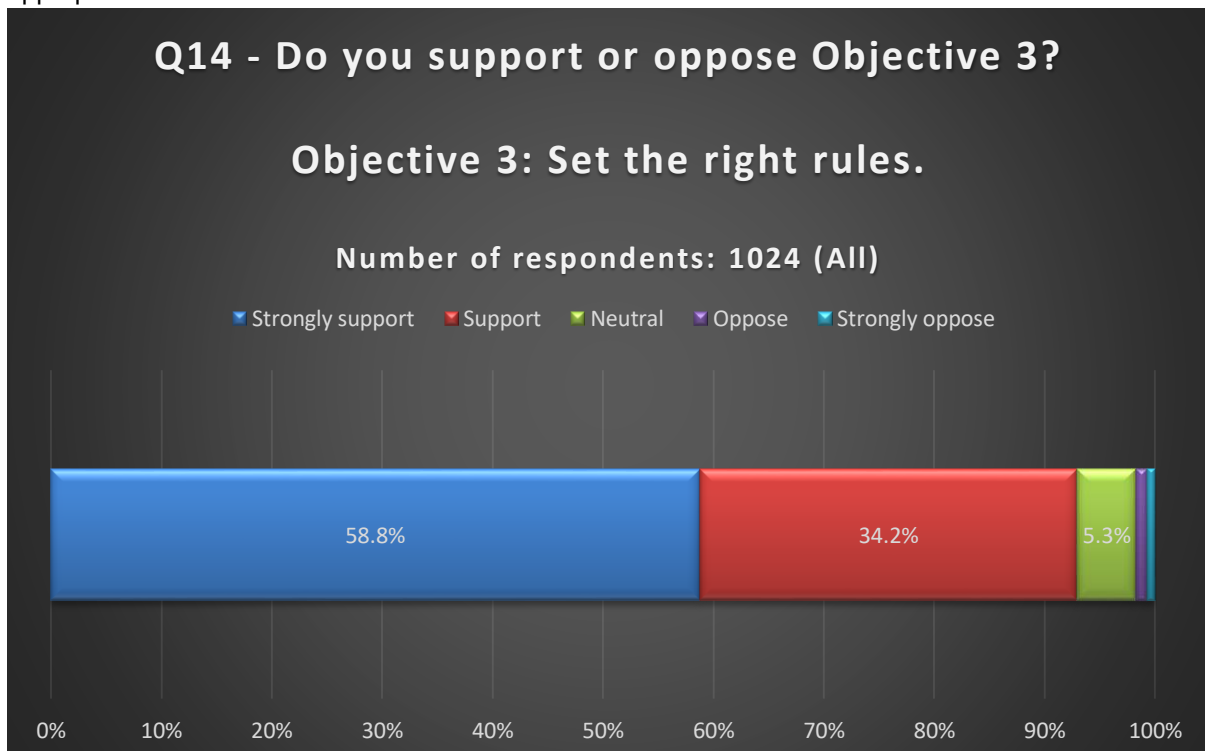
Q13 - Do you support or oppose Objective 2?

Objective 2: Set the right targets. Set targets for fish stocks to make sure we're keeping them at sustainable levels that are right for the fishery and the people using it.



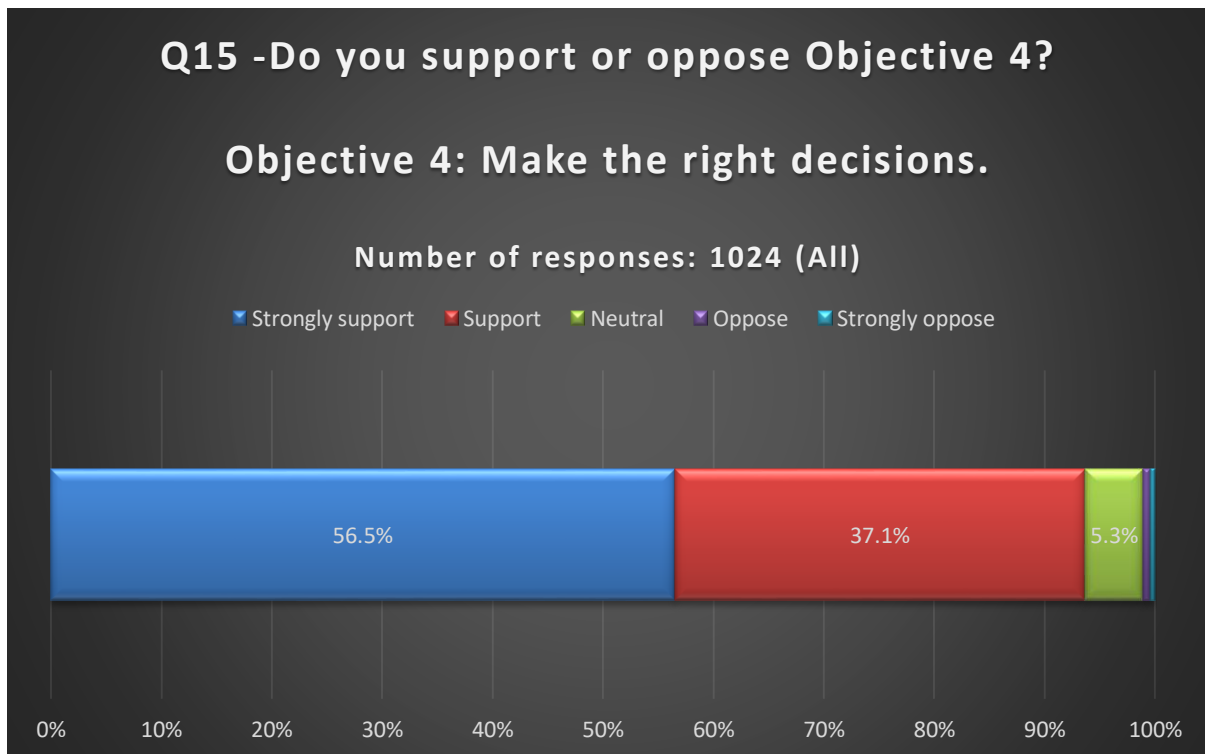
Q14 - Do you support or oppose Objective 3?

Objective 3: Set the right rules. We need to look at the current rules and make changes where appropriate.



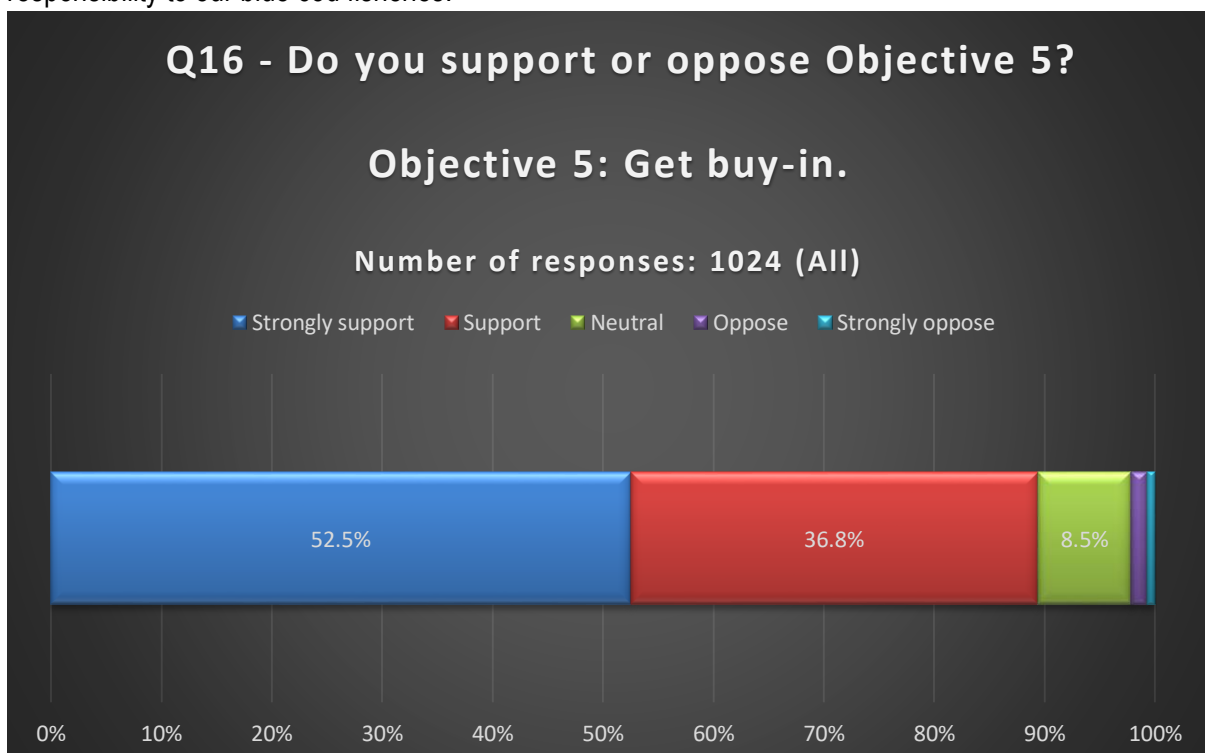
Q15 -Do you support or oppose Objective 4?

Objective 4: Make the right decisions. We need a framework to drive good, consistent decision making and to make sure decisions are made on time.

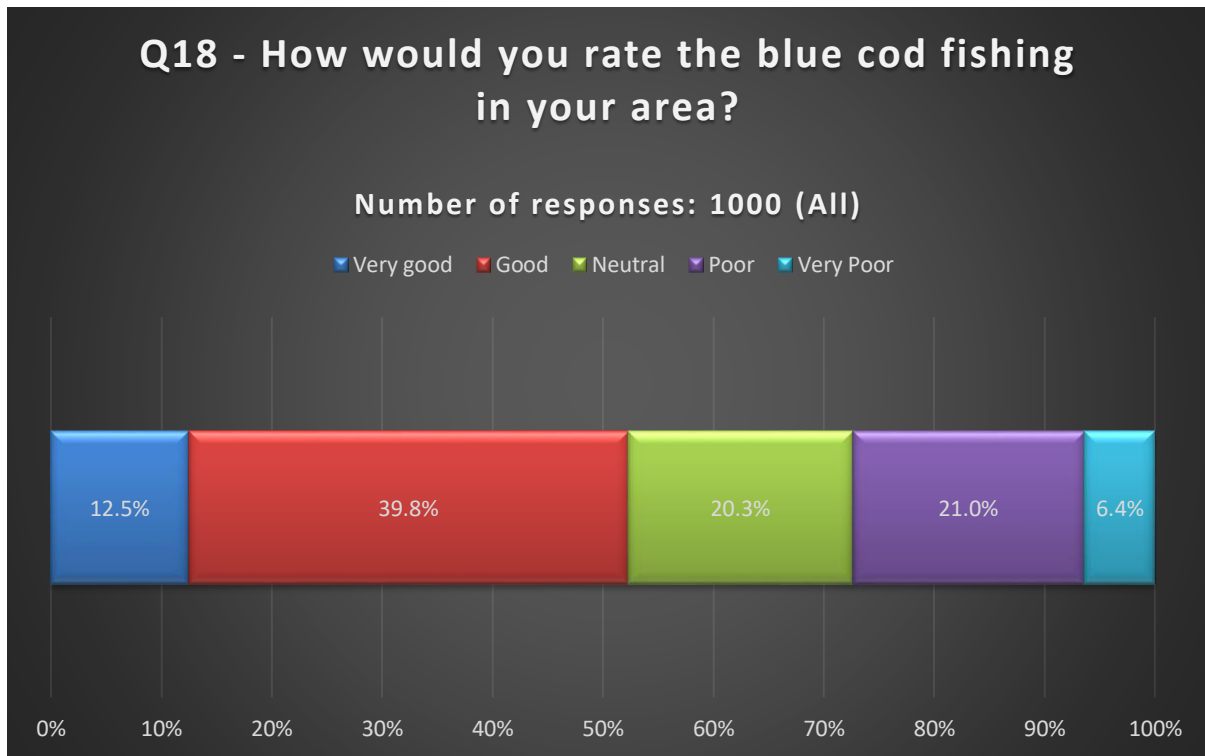


Q16 - Do you support or oppose Objective 5?

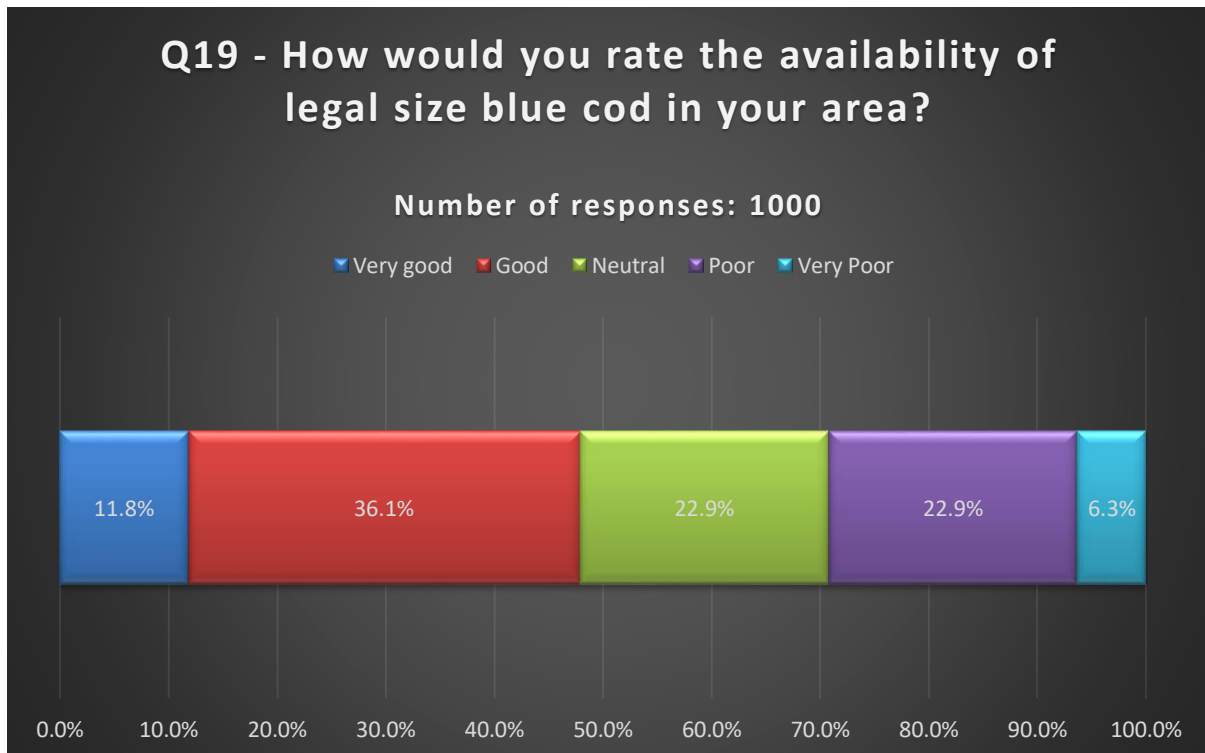
Objective 5: Get buy-in. If this is going to work, we need everyone to come along and understand their responsibility to our blue cod fisheries.



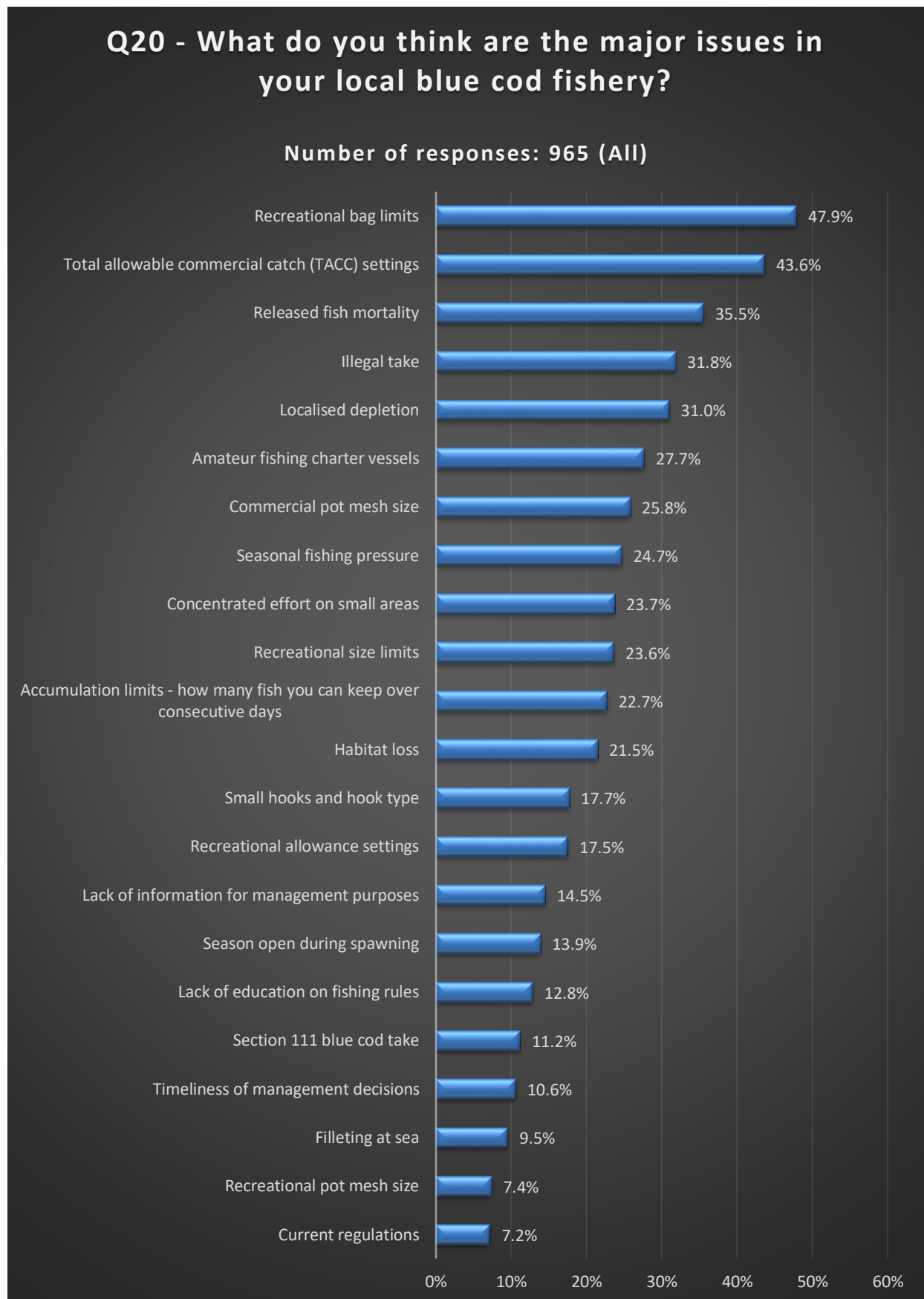
Q18 – How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?



1.2 Quota Management Area Results

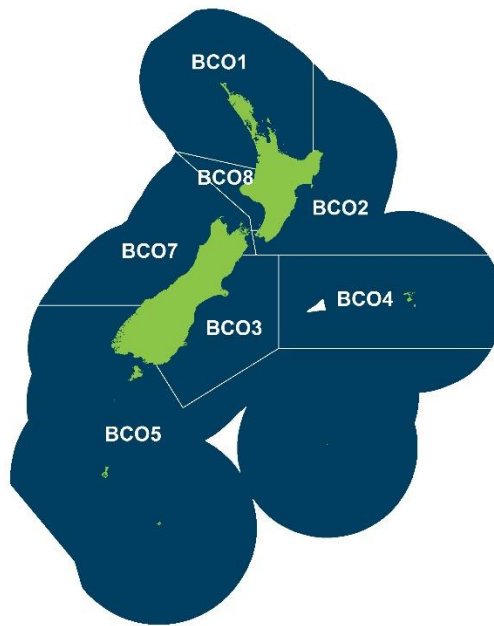
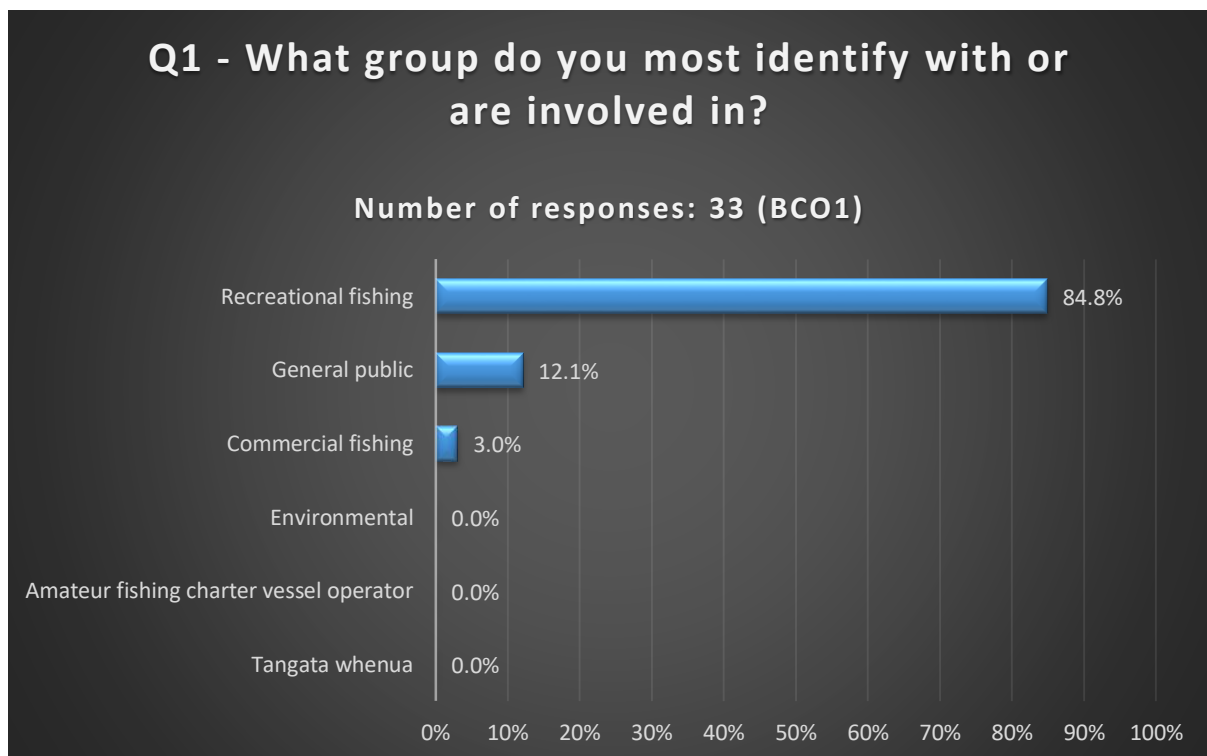


Figure 3. Quota Management Areas for blue cod (BCO).

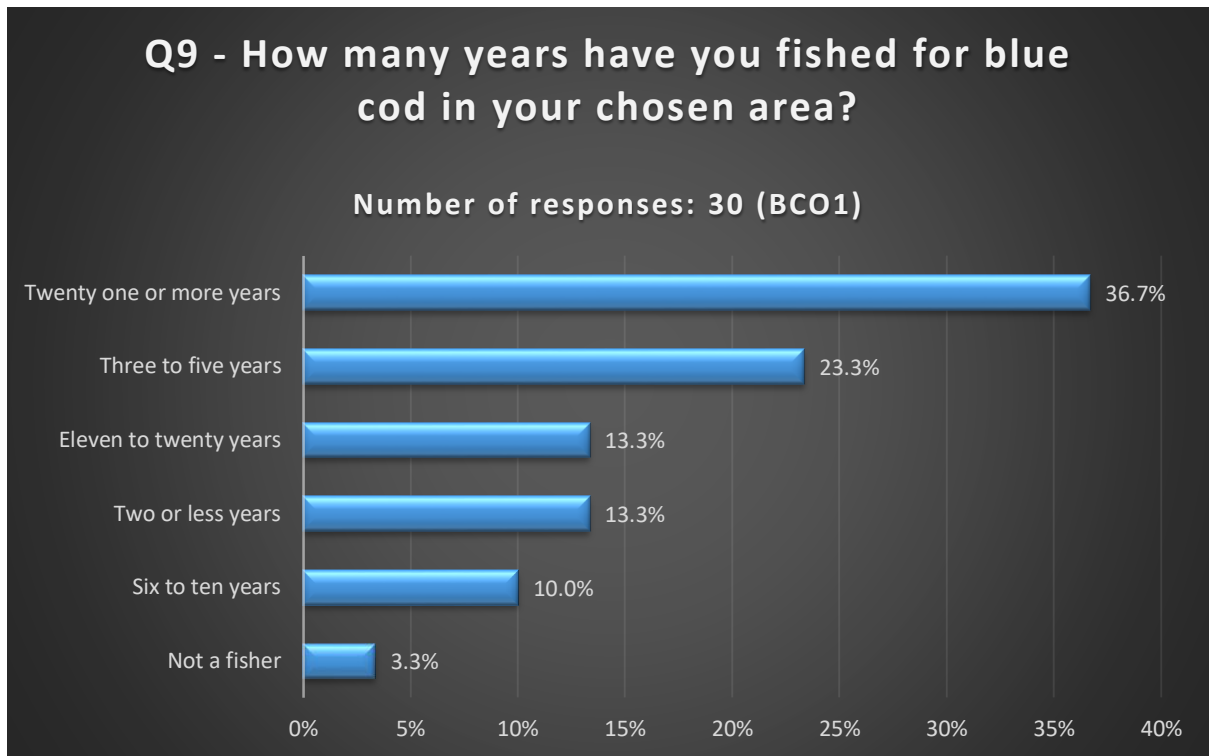
The results presented in section 1.2 relate to the blue cod quota management areas (QMAs) presented in Figure 1. Additionally, results are presented for local areas within each QMA that had 20 or more survey responses.

1.2.1 BCO1 Results

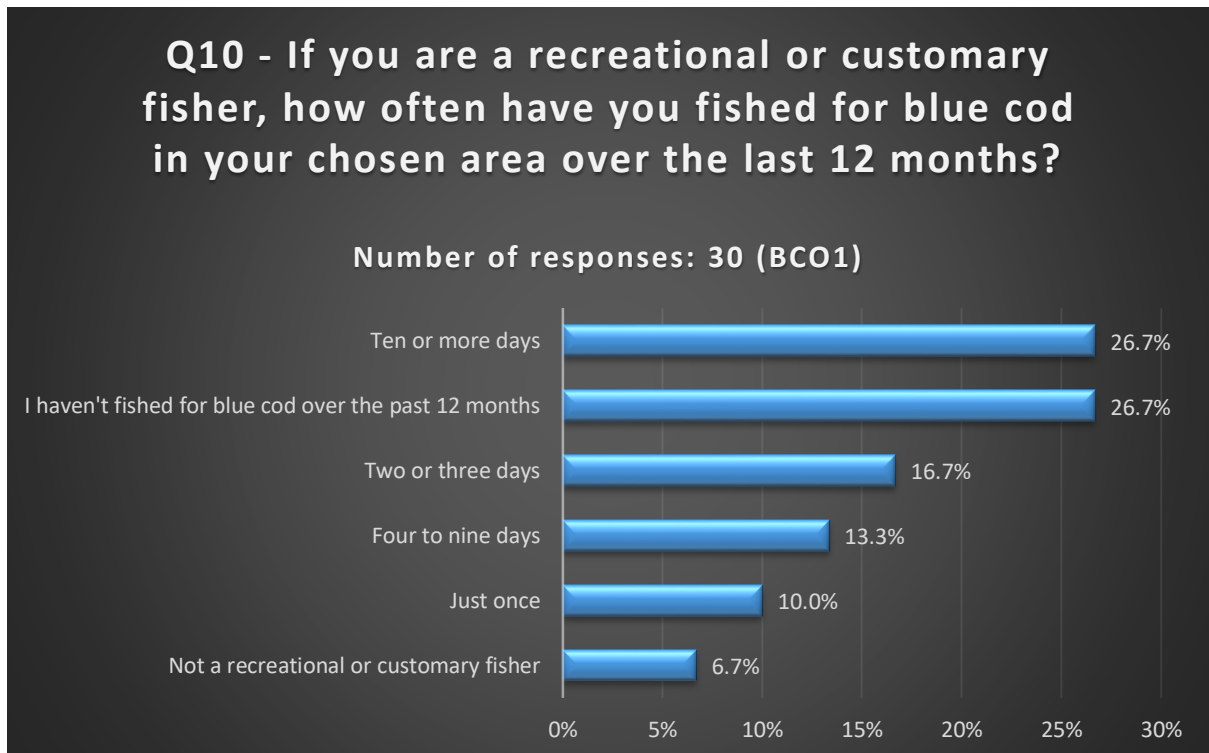
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



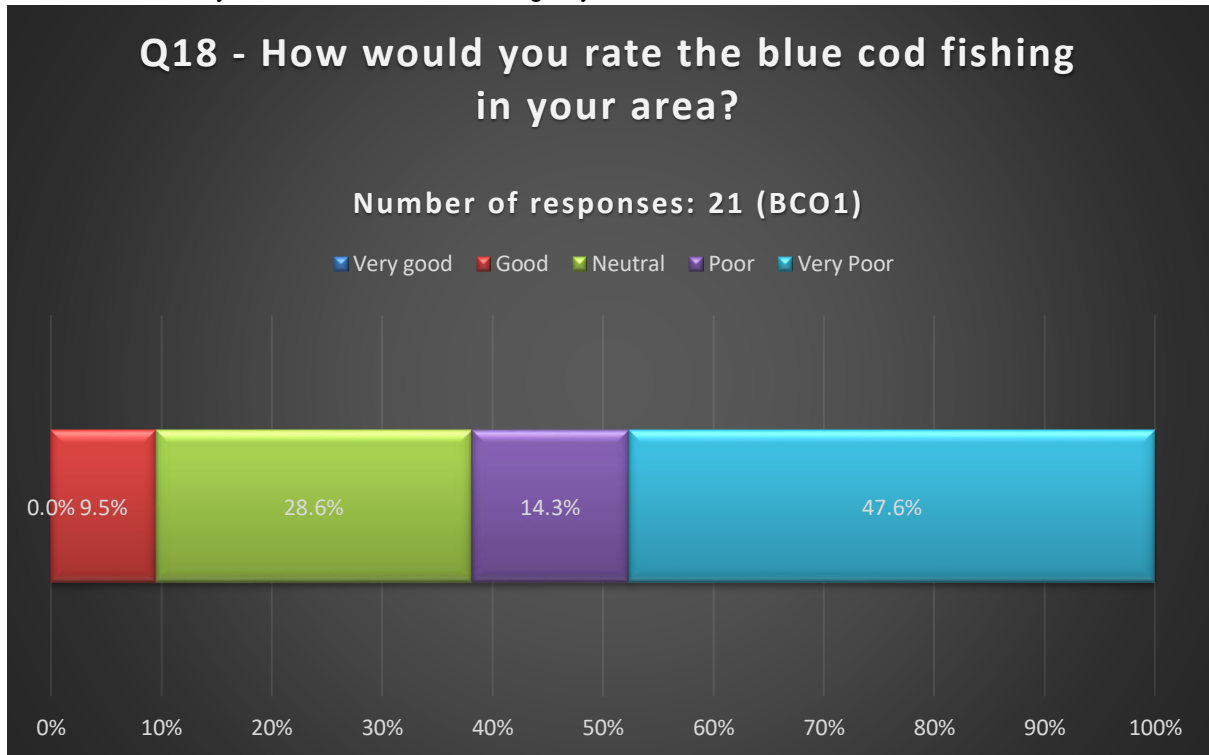
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



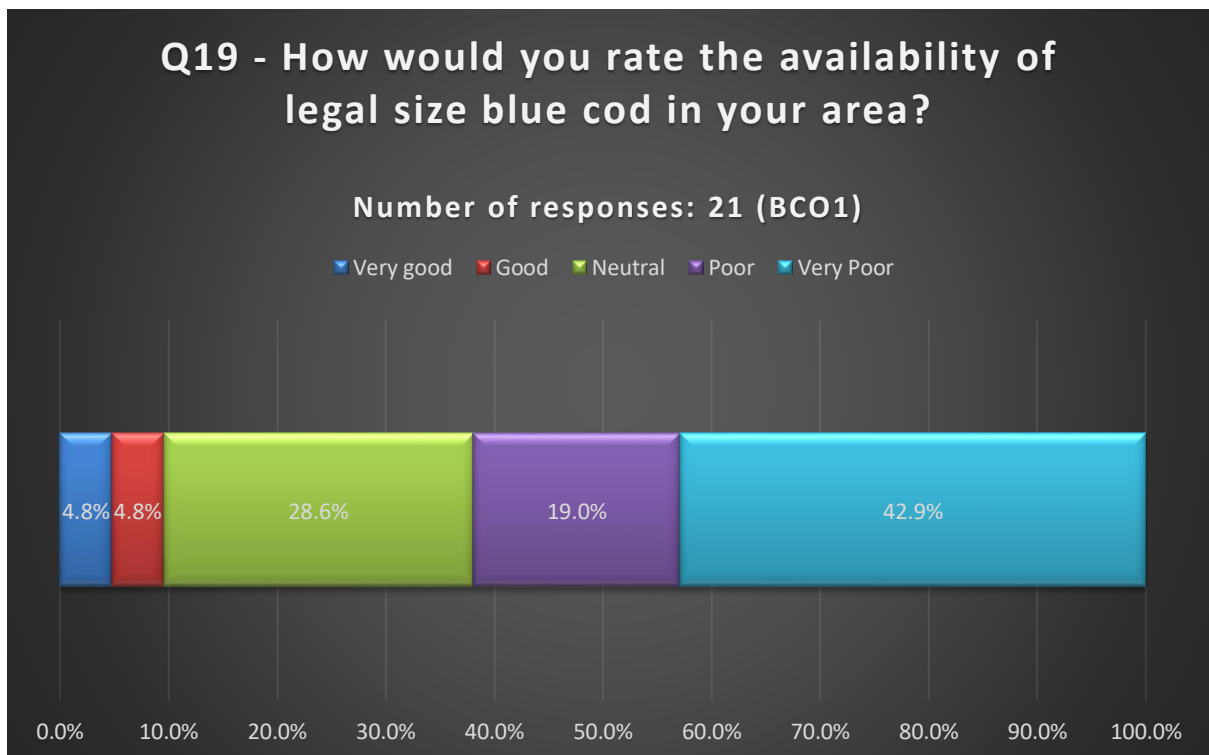
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



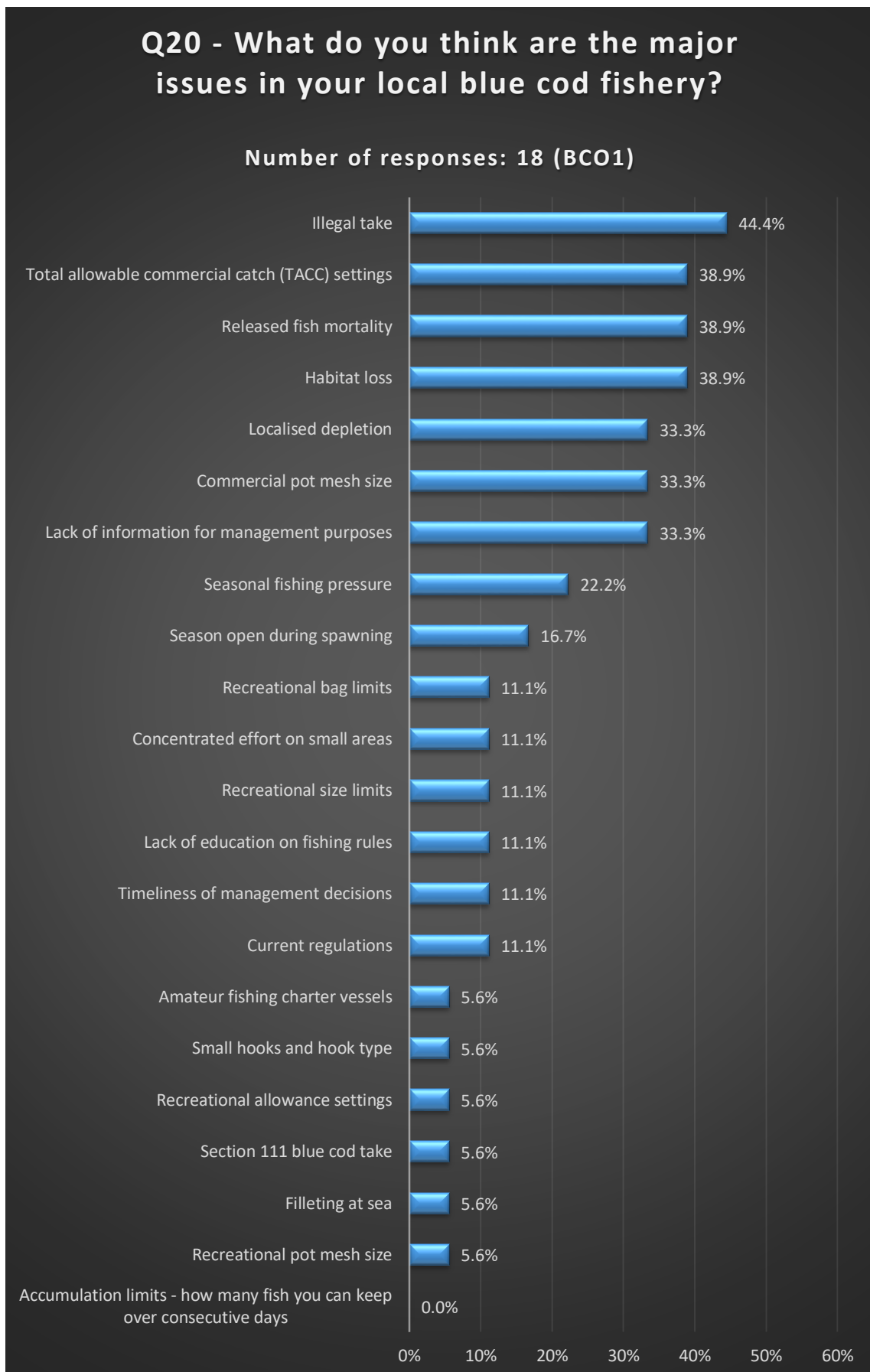
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

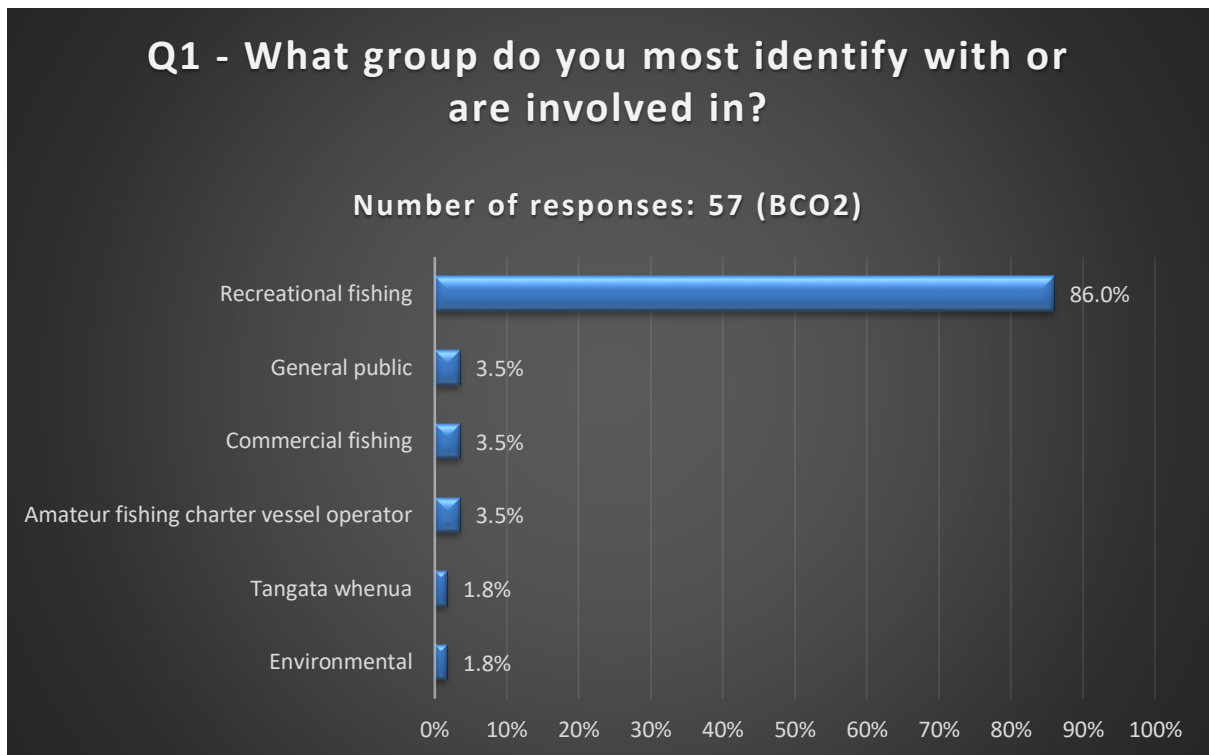


Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

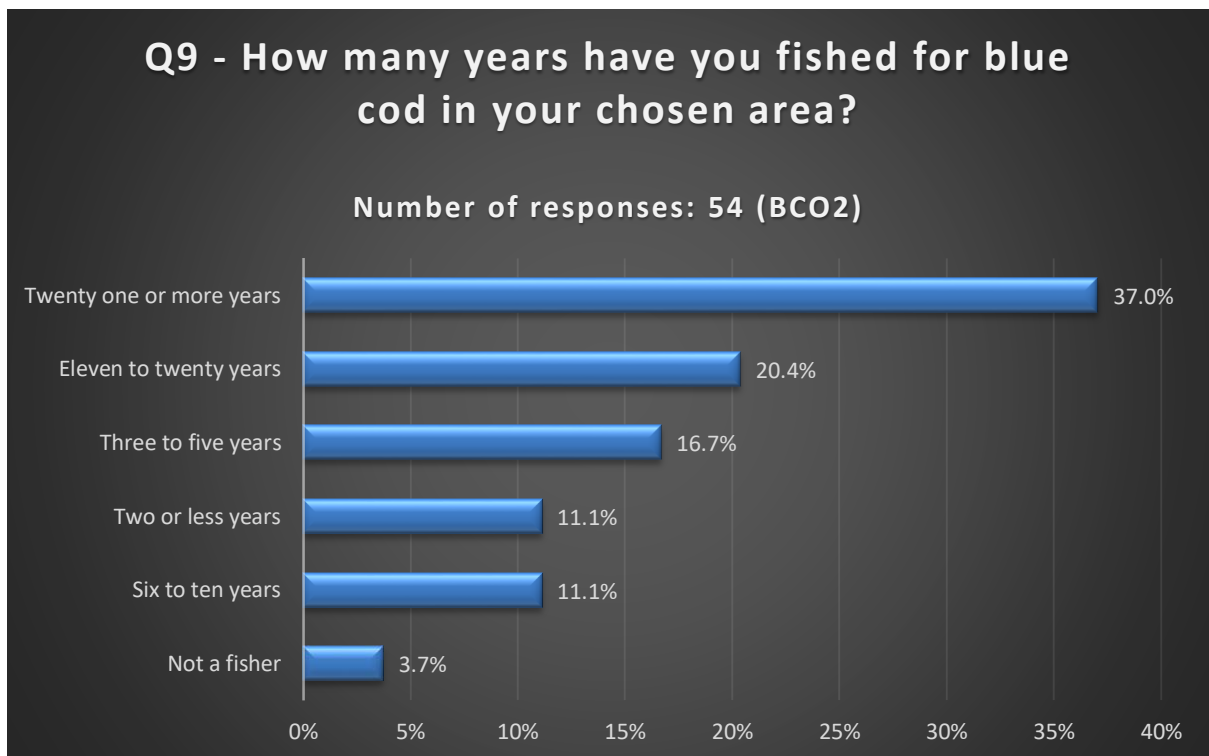


1.2.2 BCO2 Results

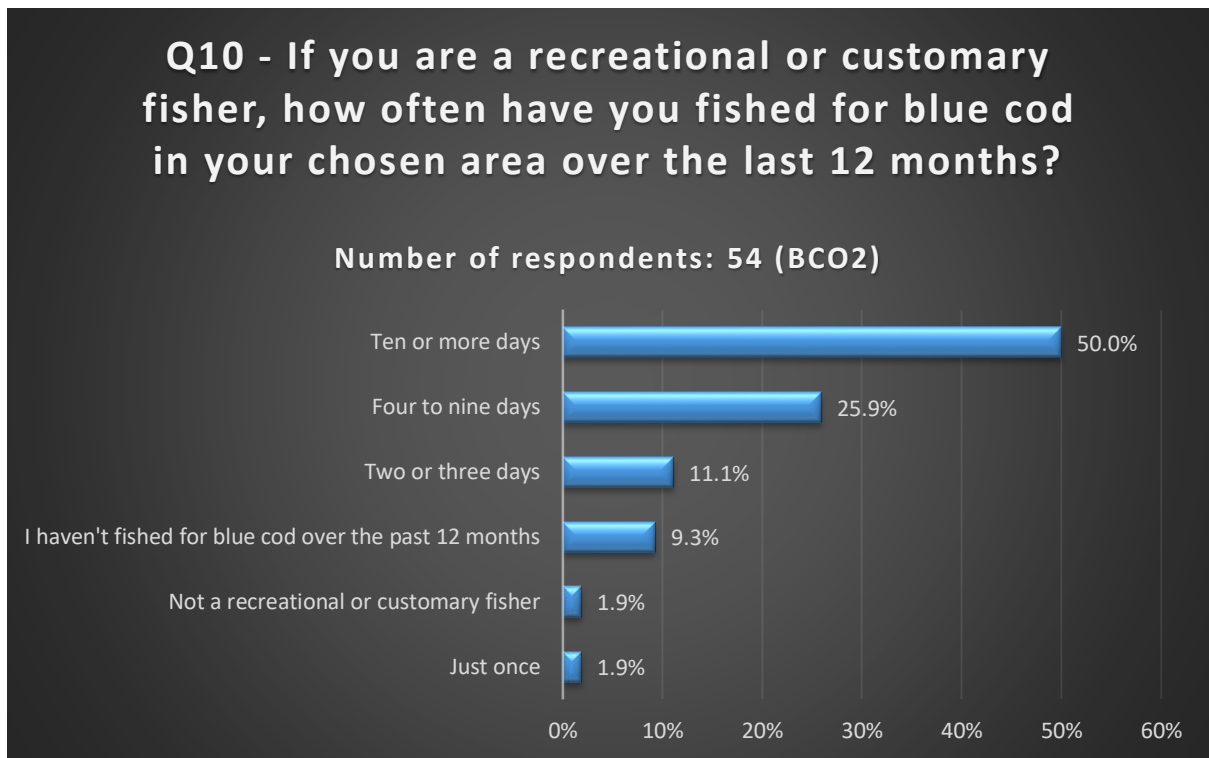
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



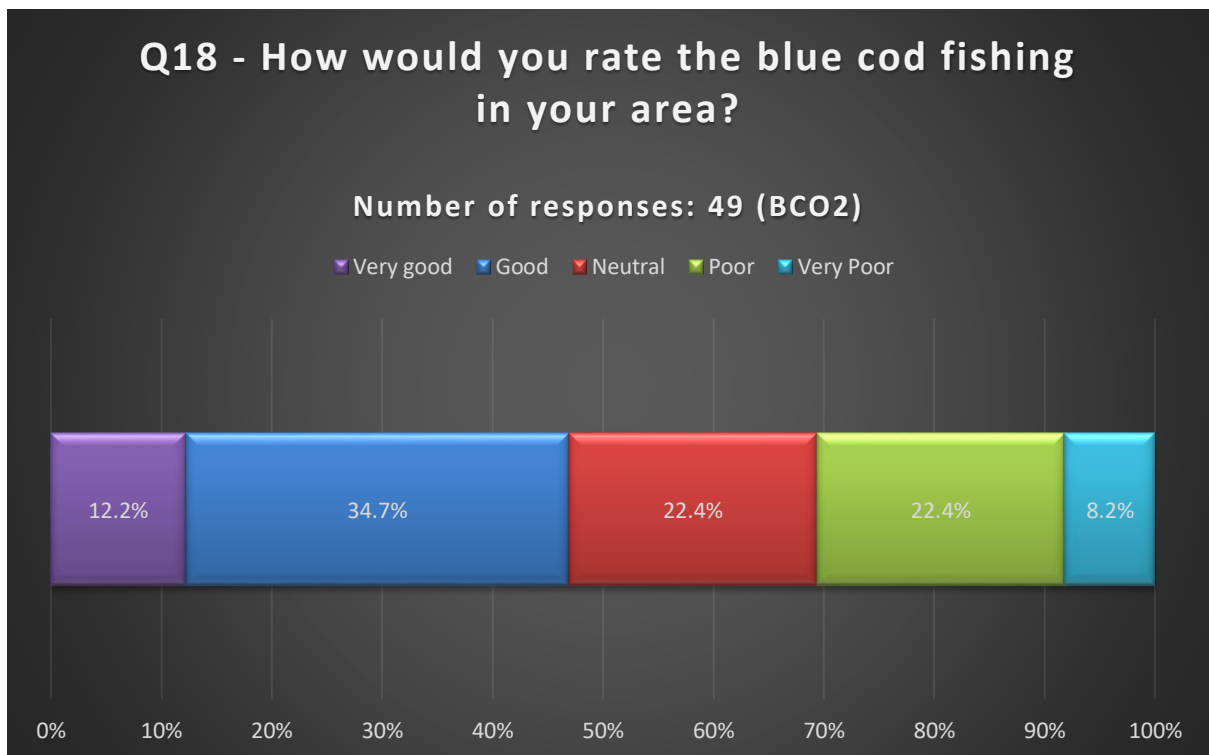
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



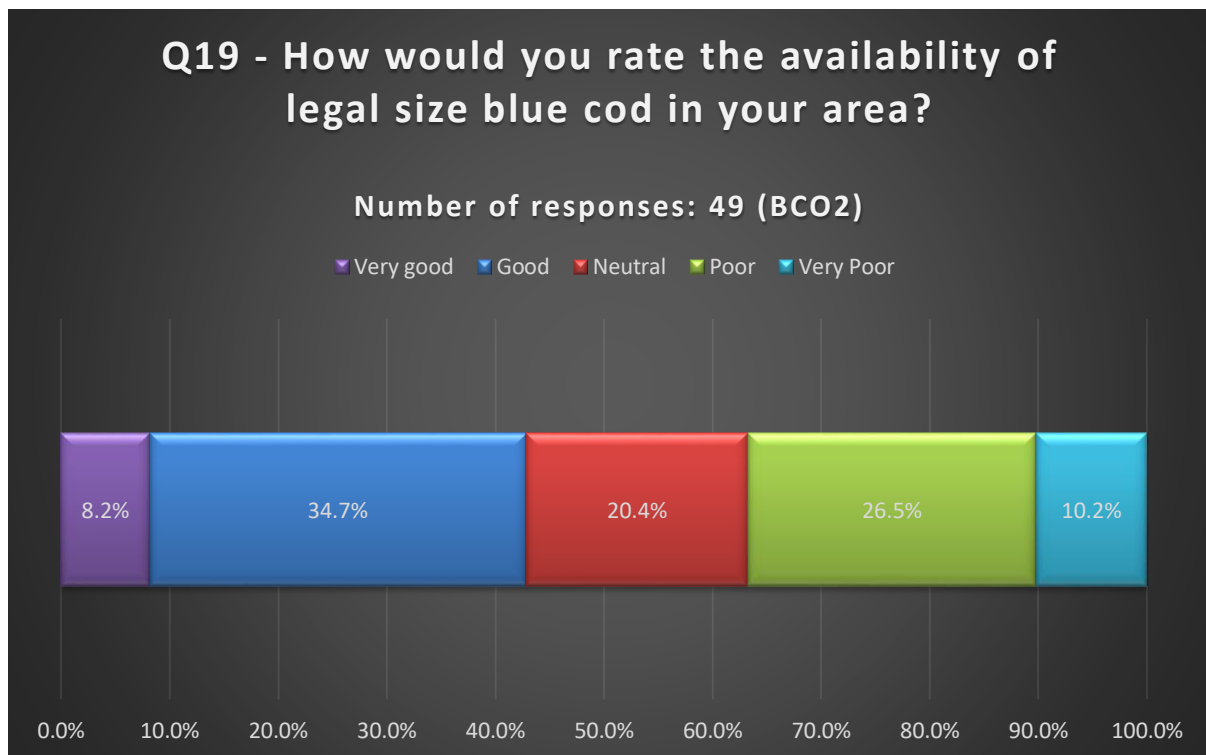
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



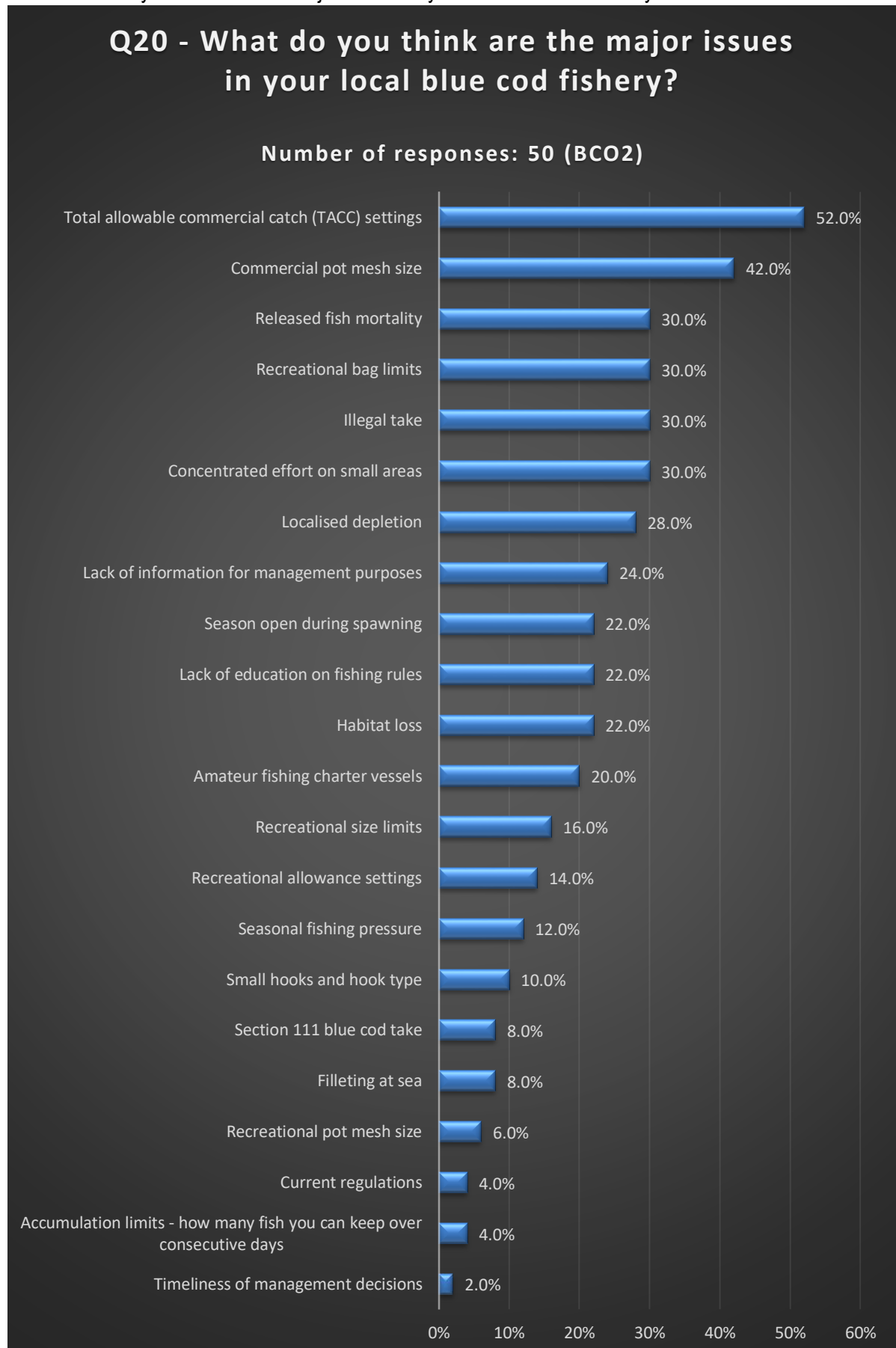
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

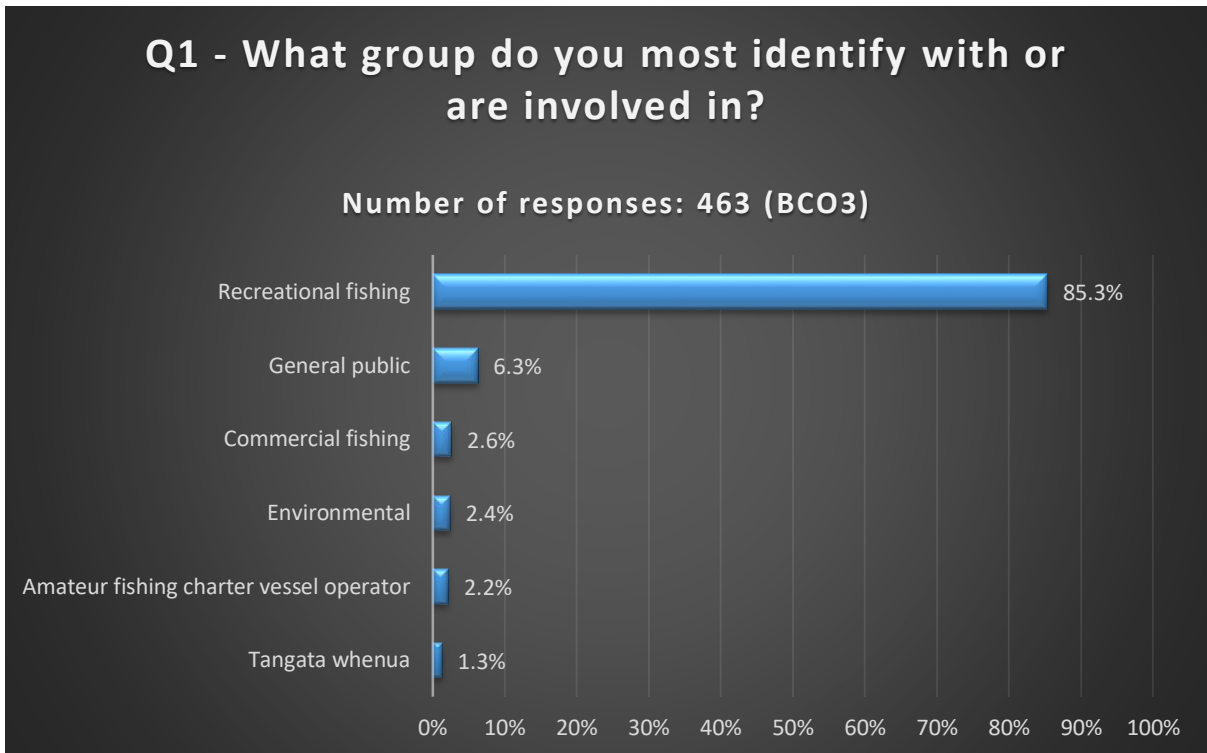


Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

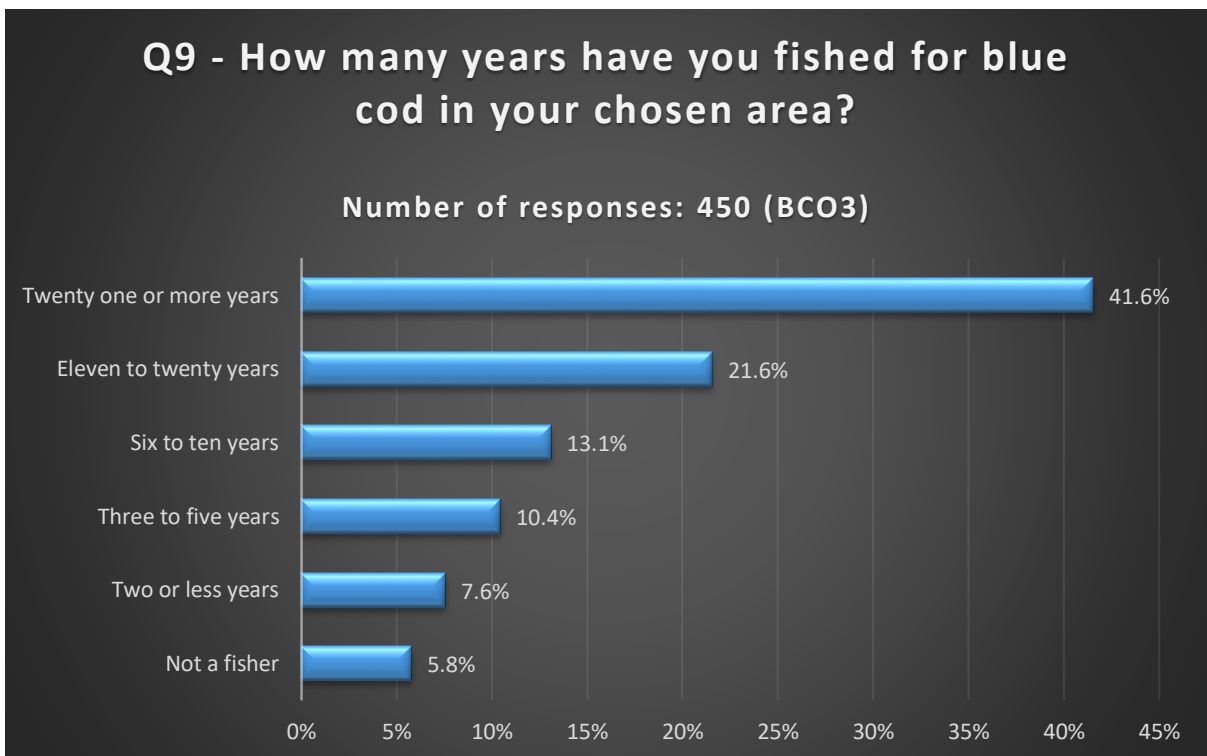


1.2.3 BCO3 Results

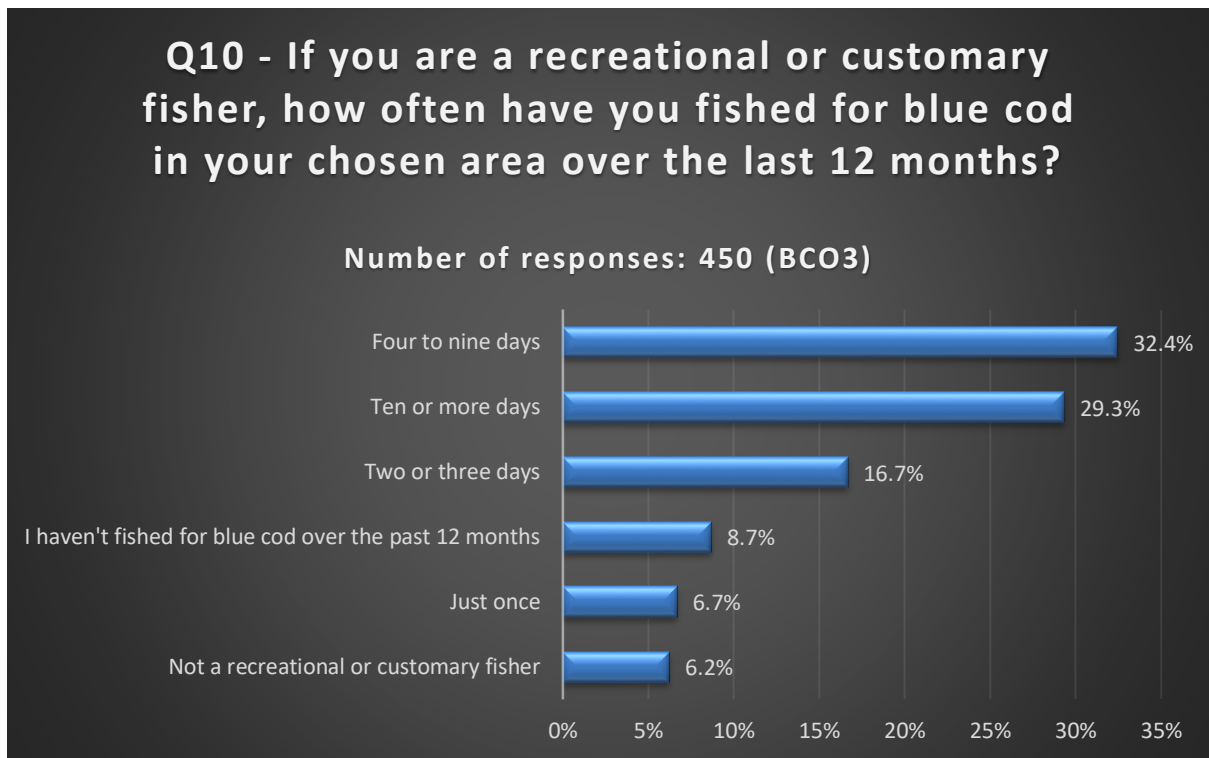
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



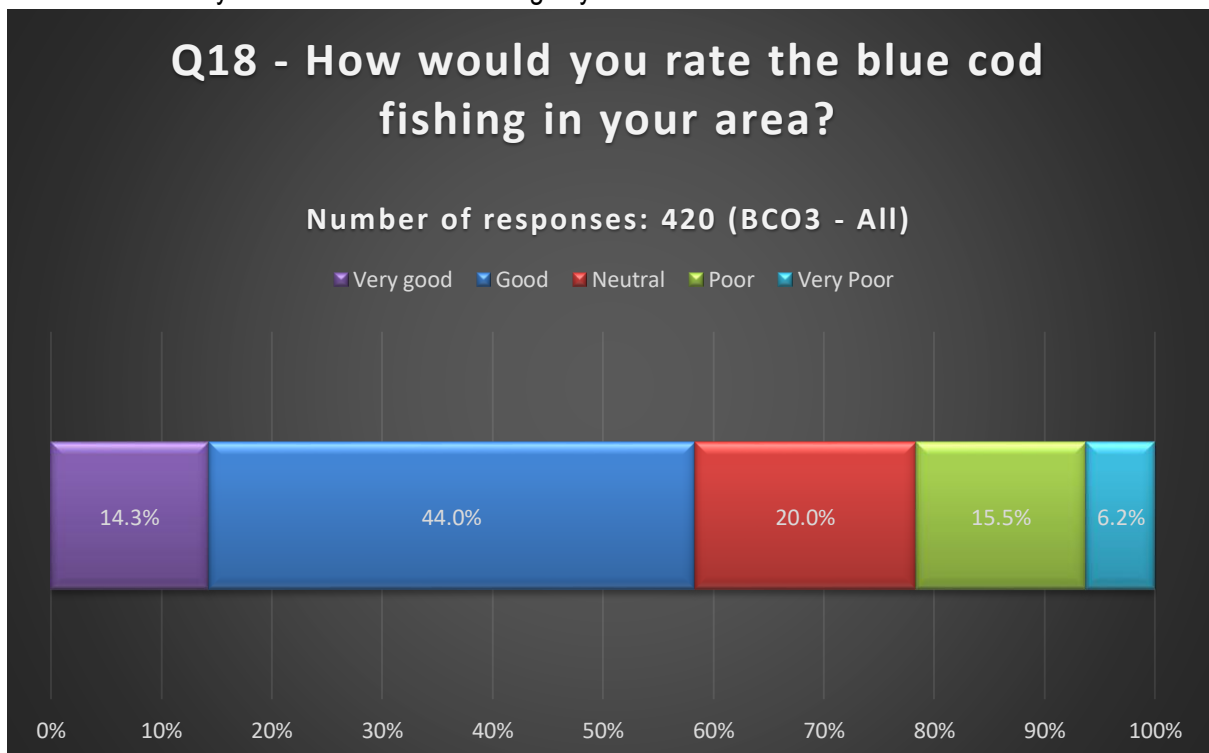
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



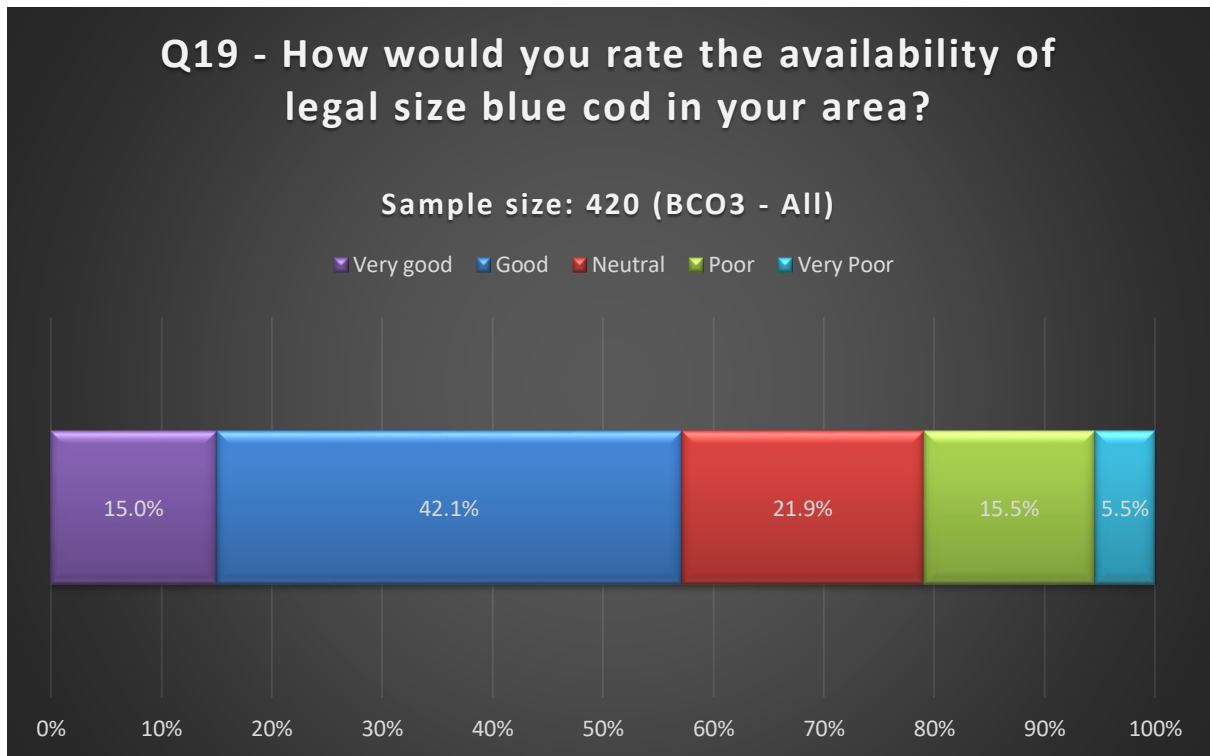
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



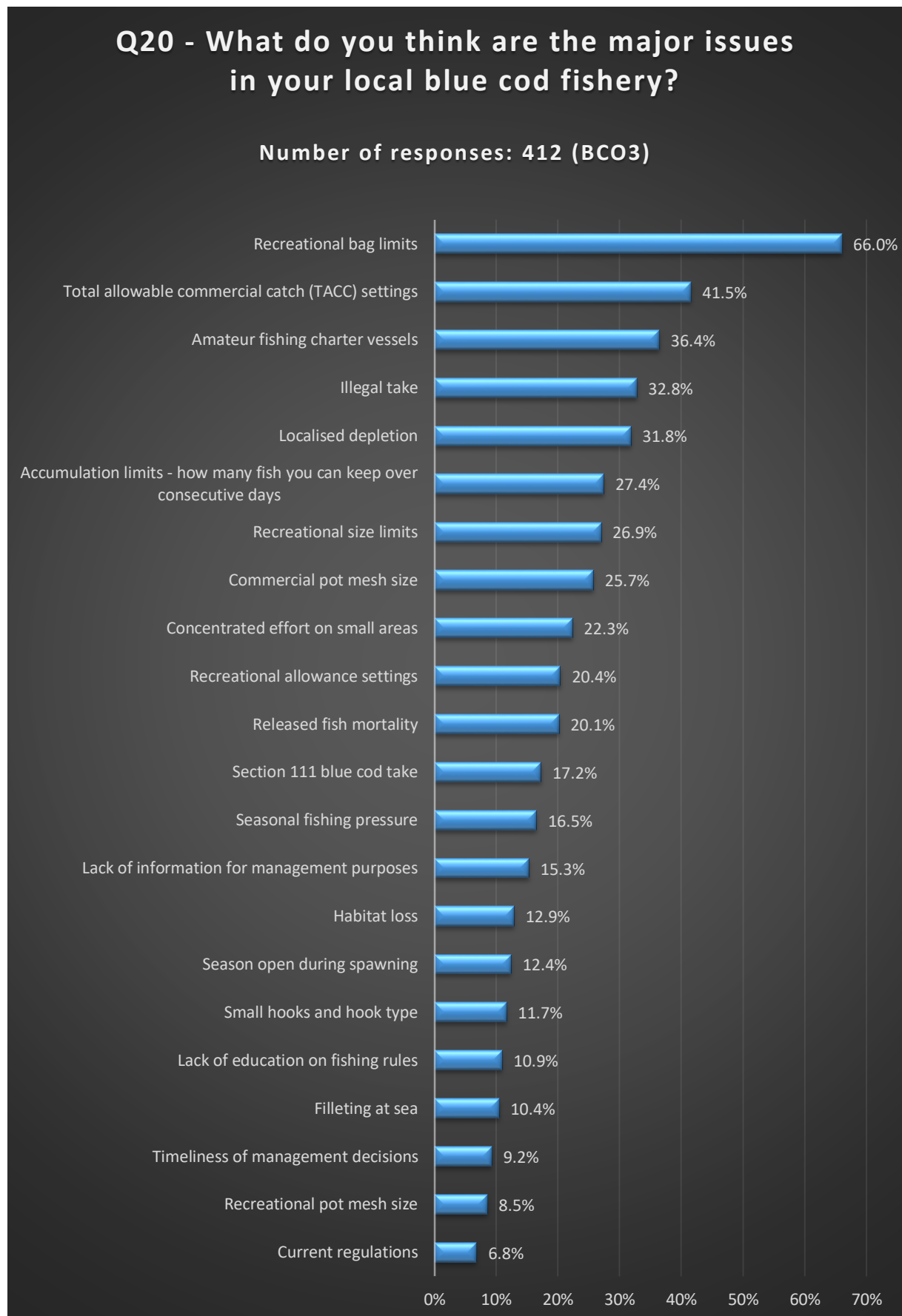
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

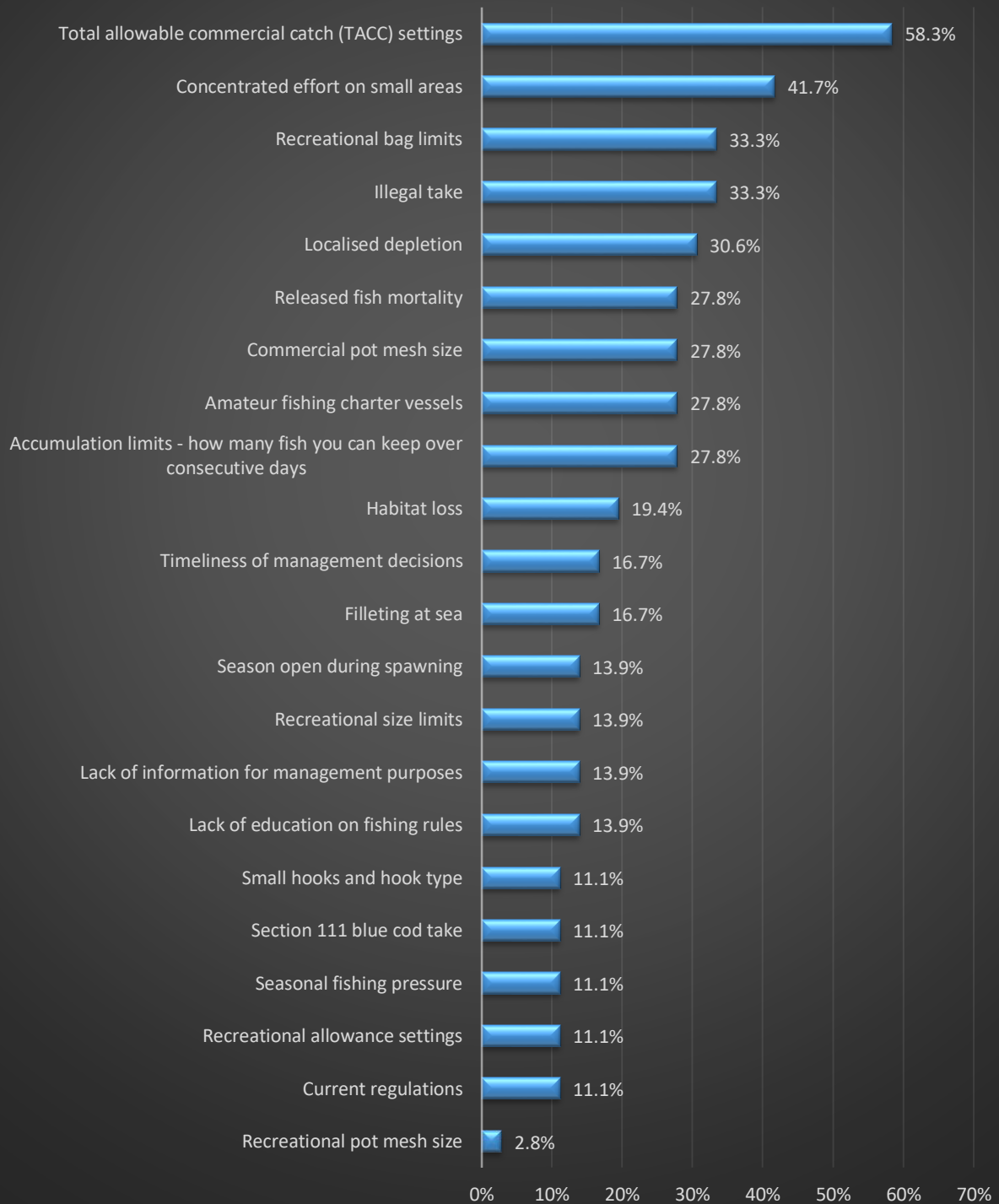


Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?



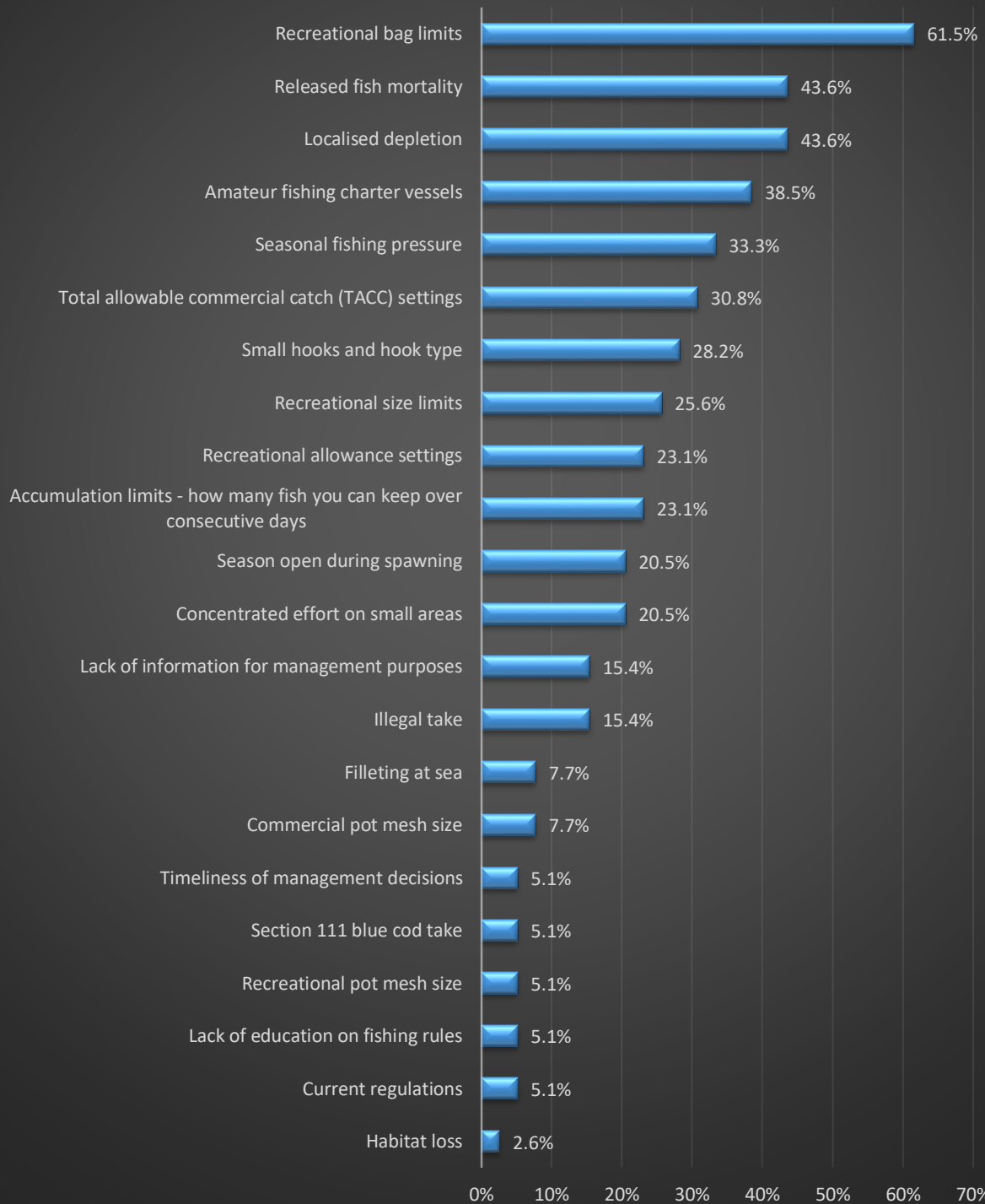
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 36 (BCO3 - Kaikoura)



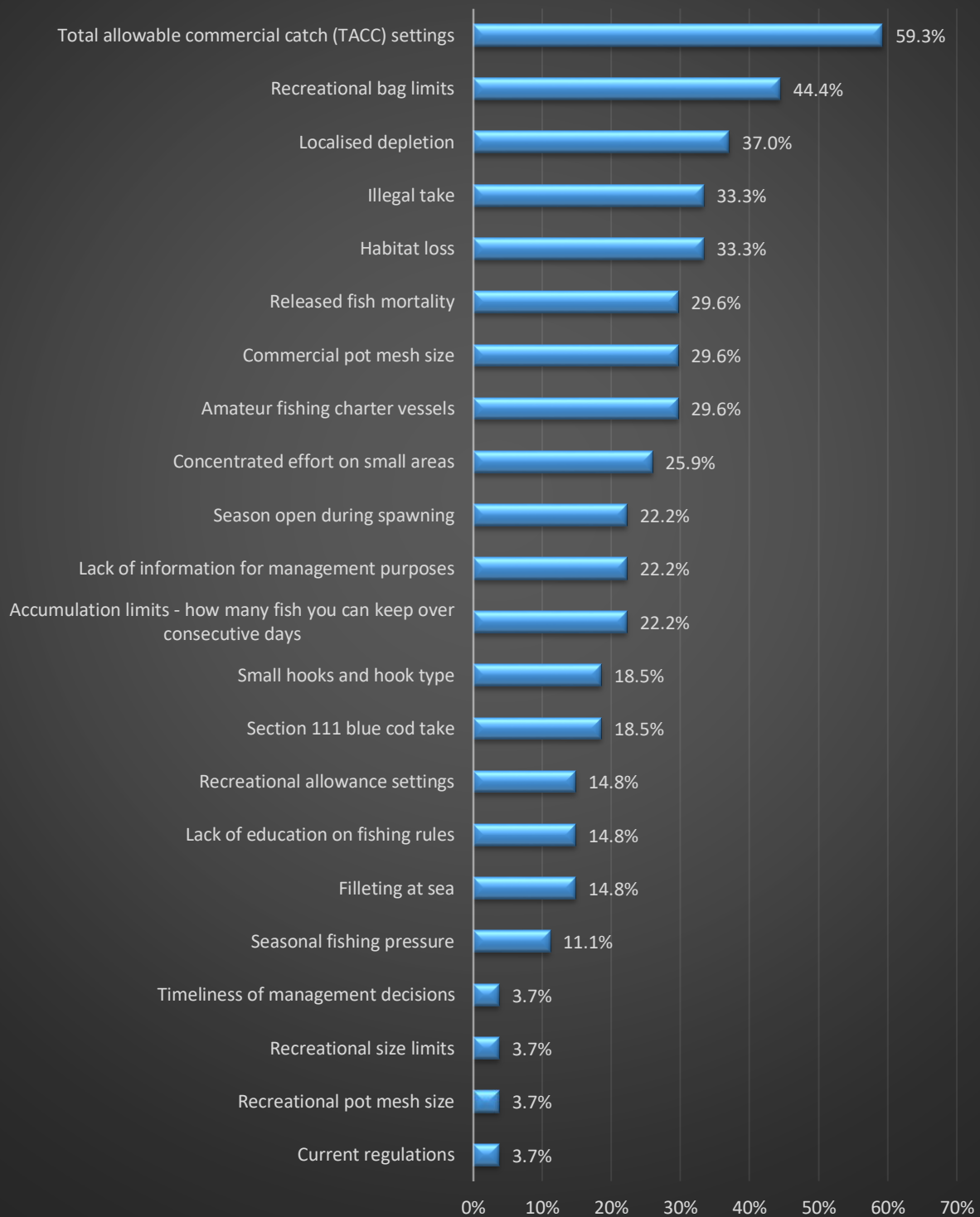
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 39 (BCO3 - Motunau)



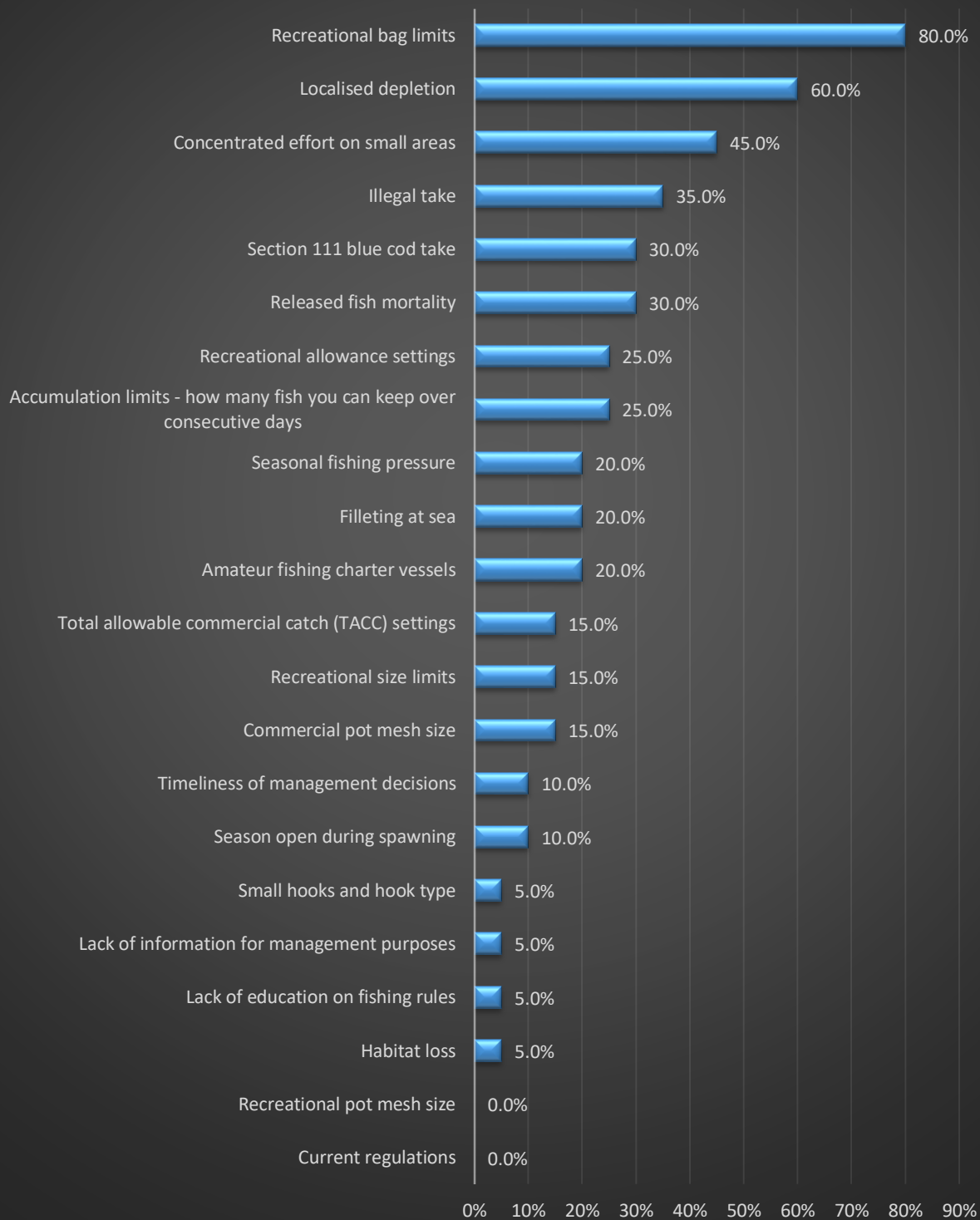
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 27 (BCO3 - Outer Banks Peninsula)



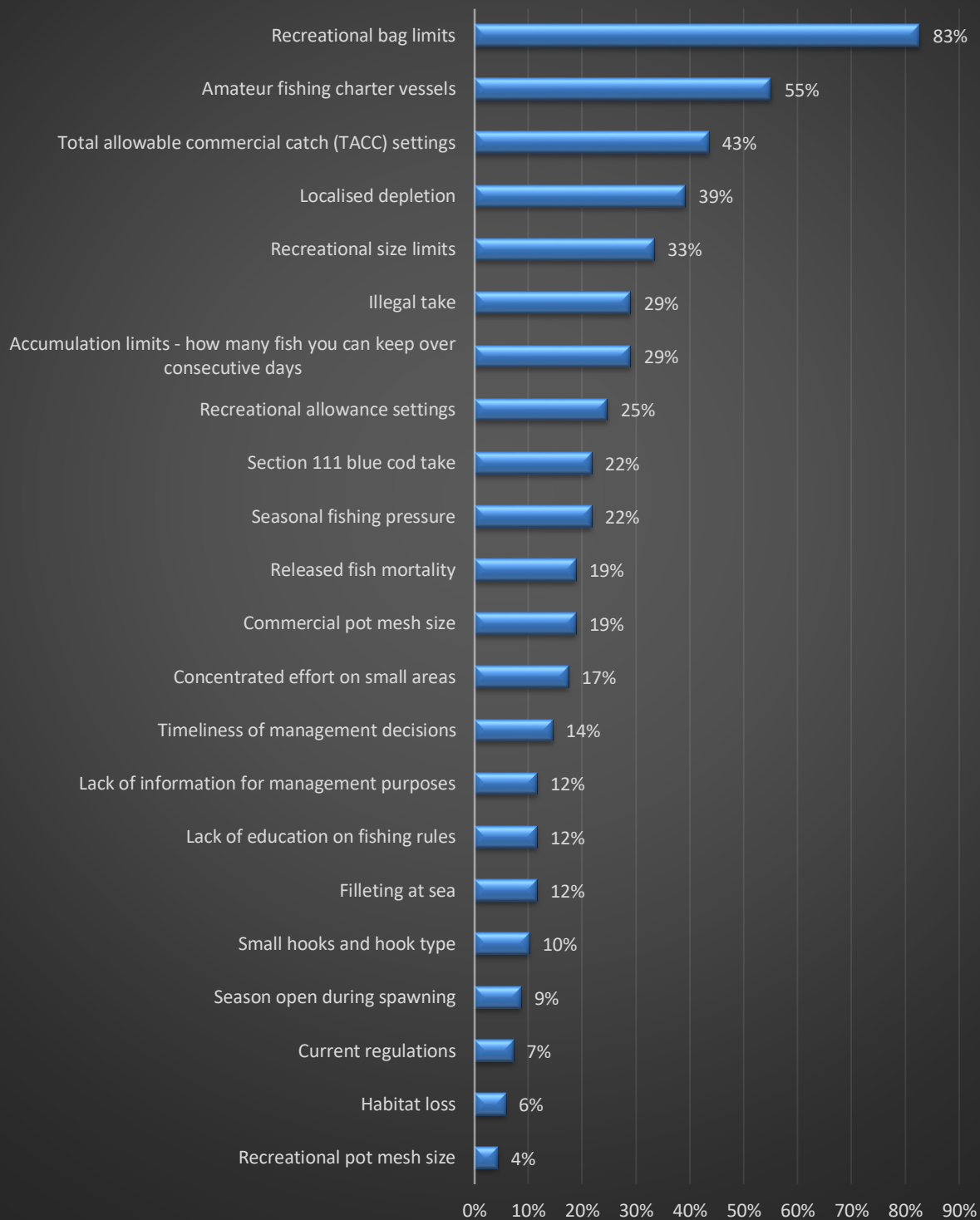
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 20 (BCO3 - Oamaru)



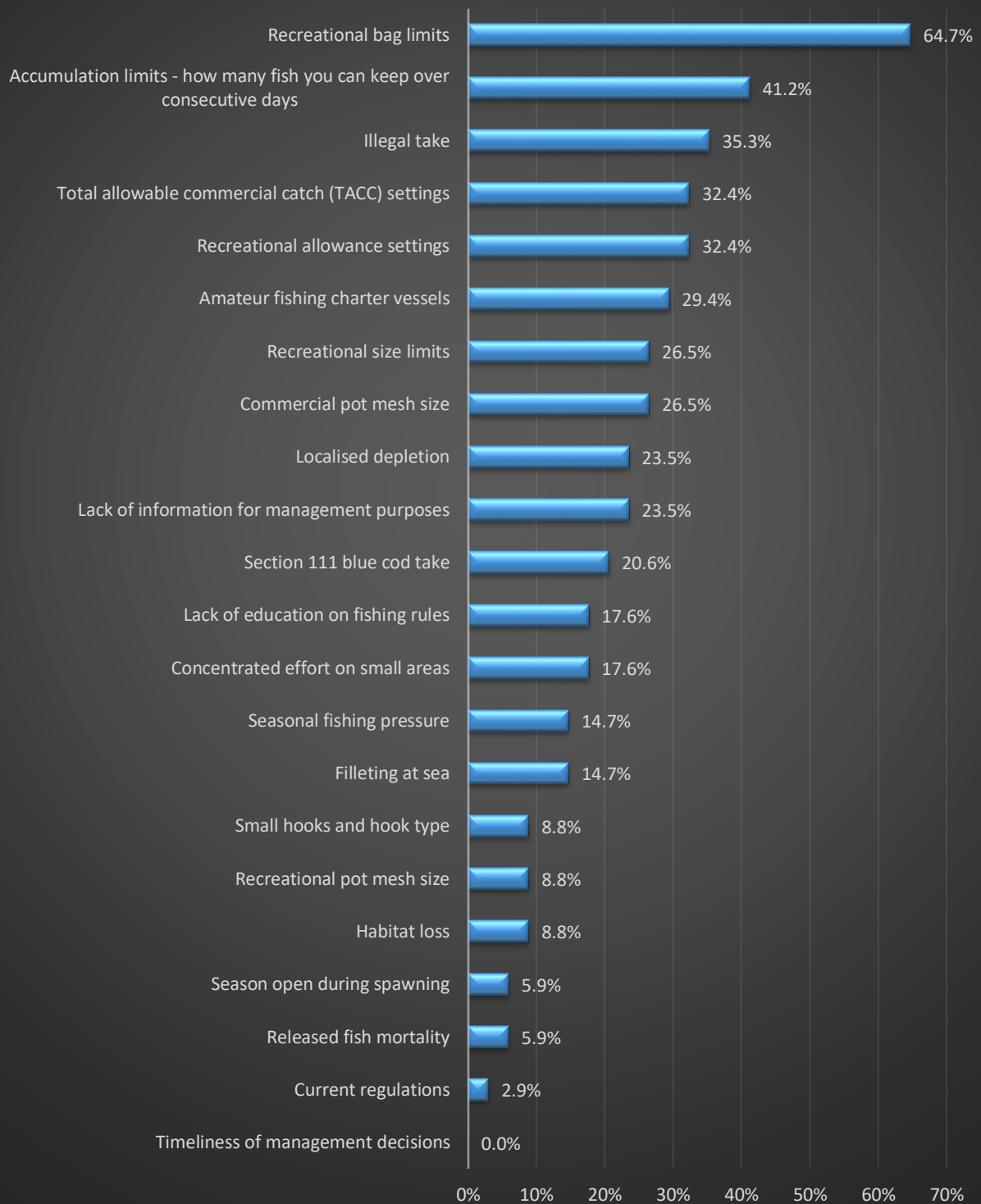
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 69 (BCO3 - Moeraki)



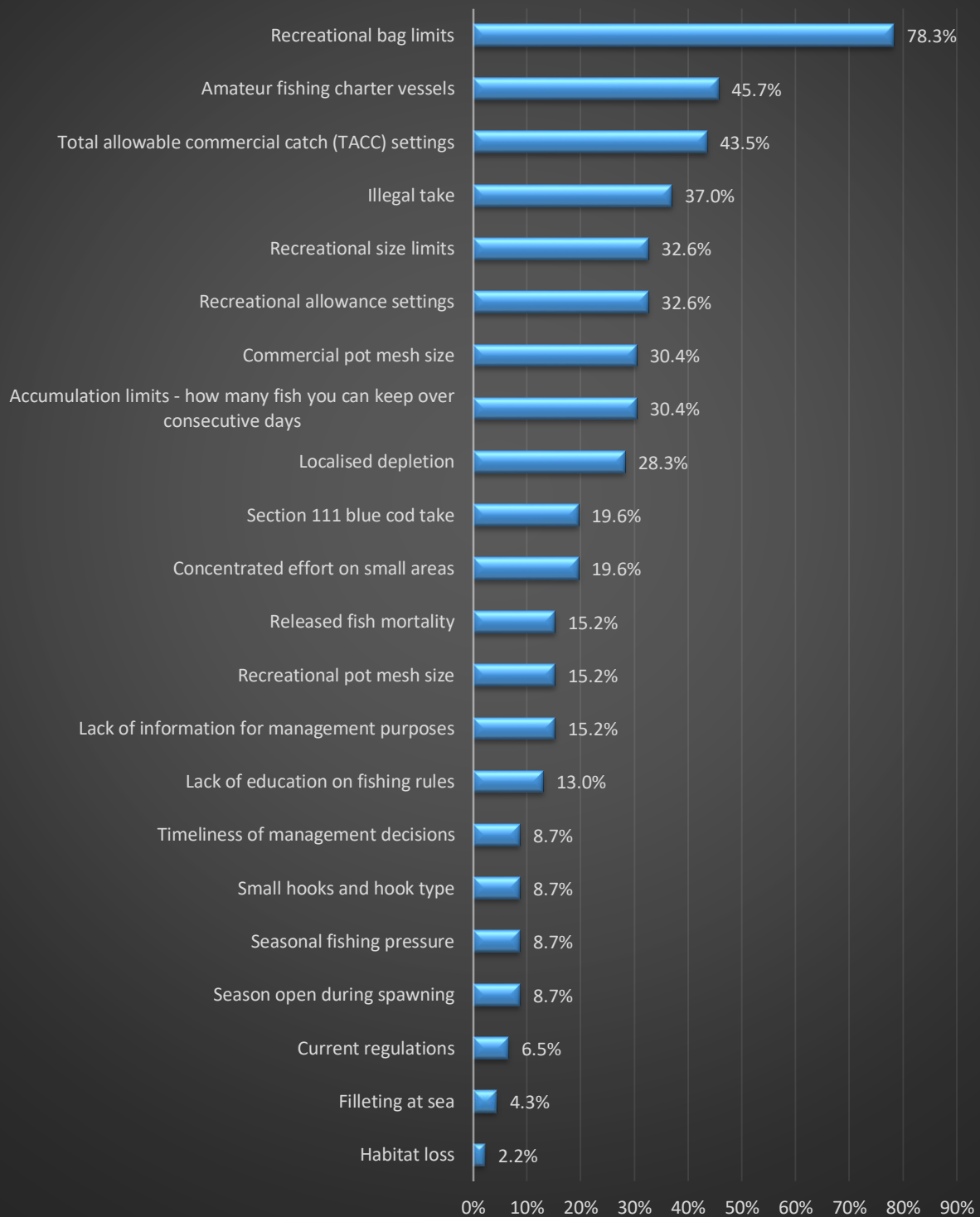
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 34 (BCO3 - Karitane)



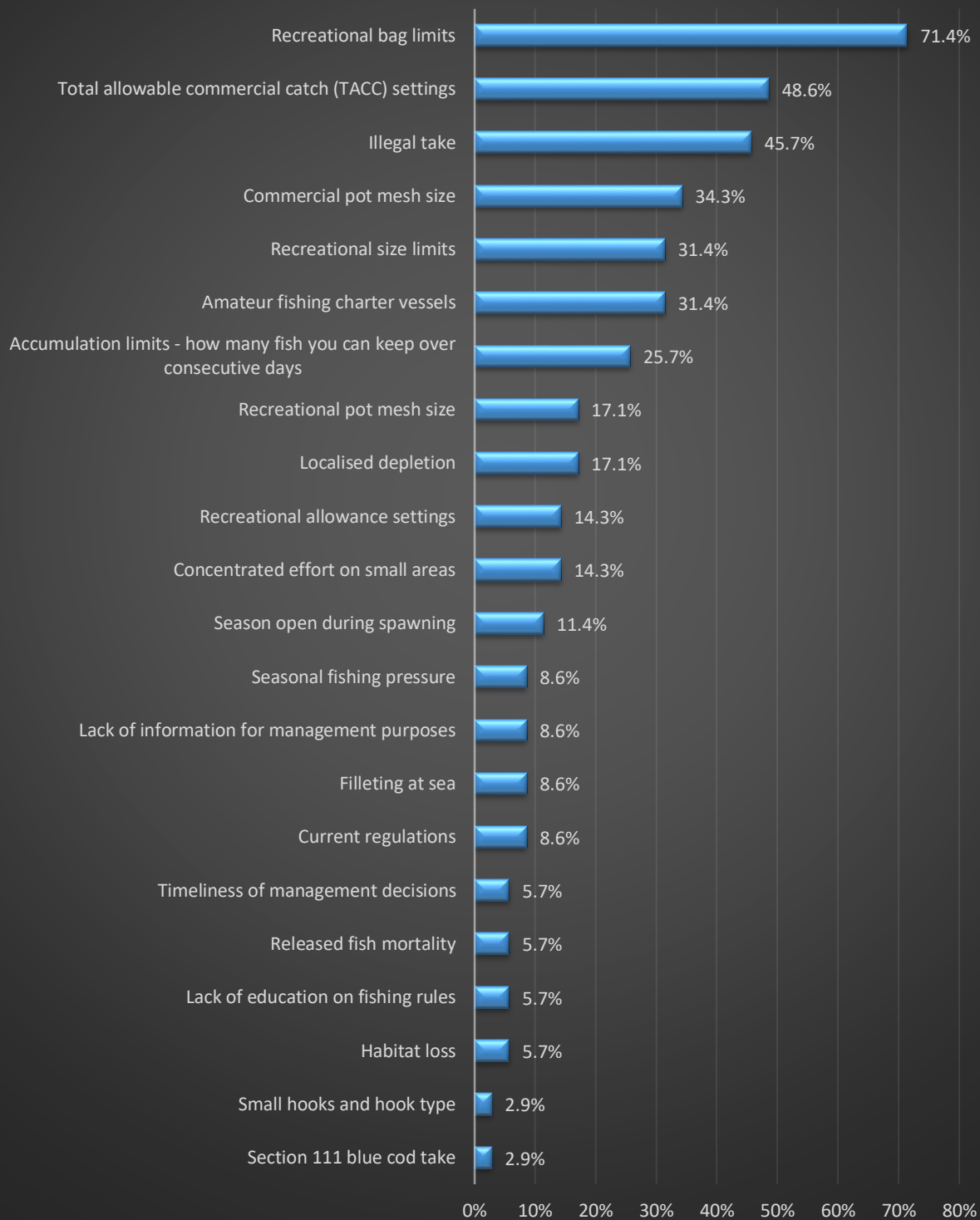
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 46 (BCO3 - Outer Otago Peninsula)



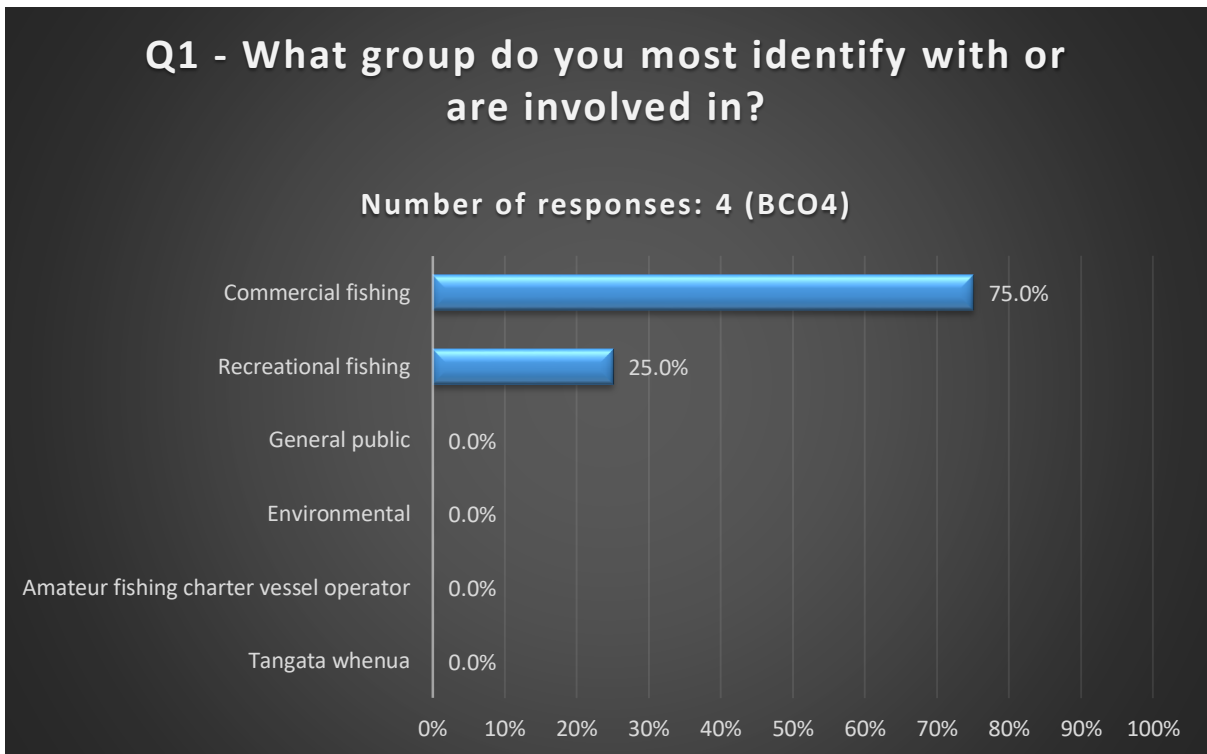
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 35 (BCO3 - Taiari Mouth)

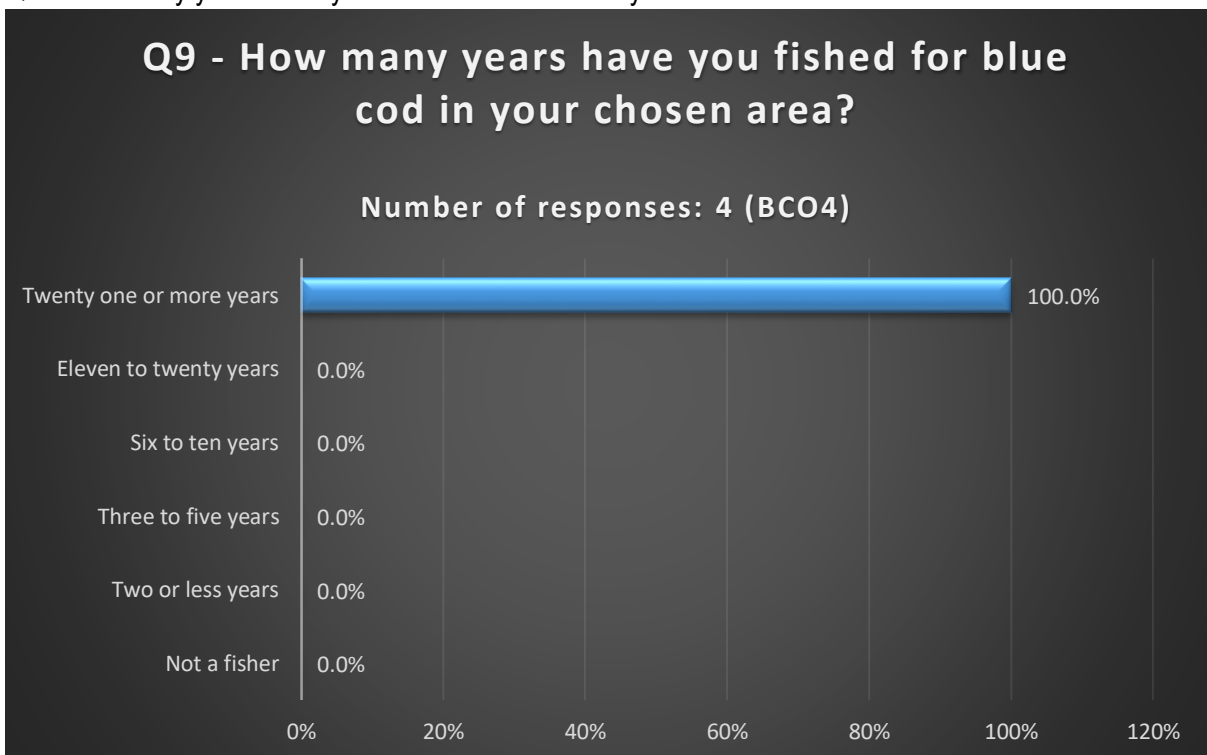


1.2.4 BCO4 Results

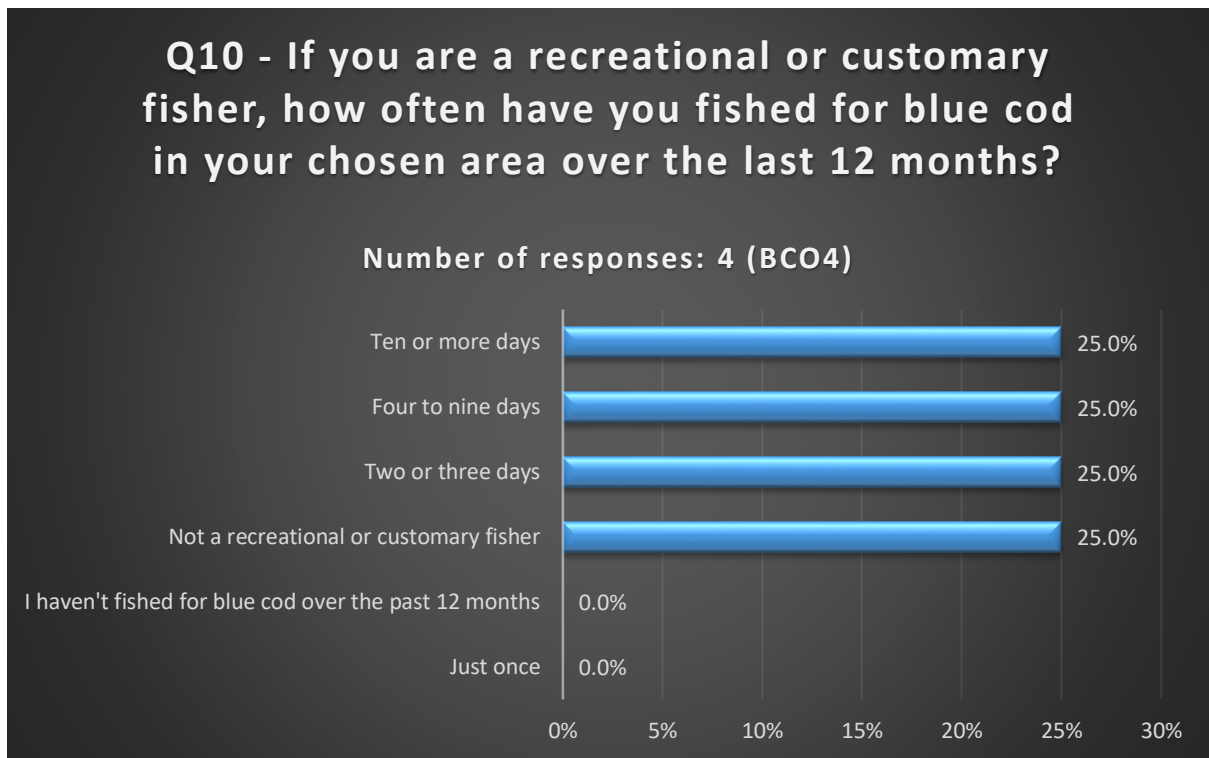
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



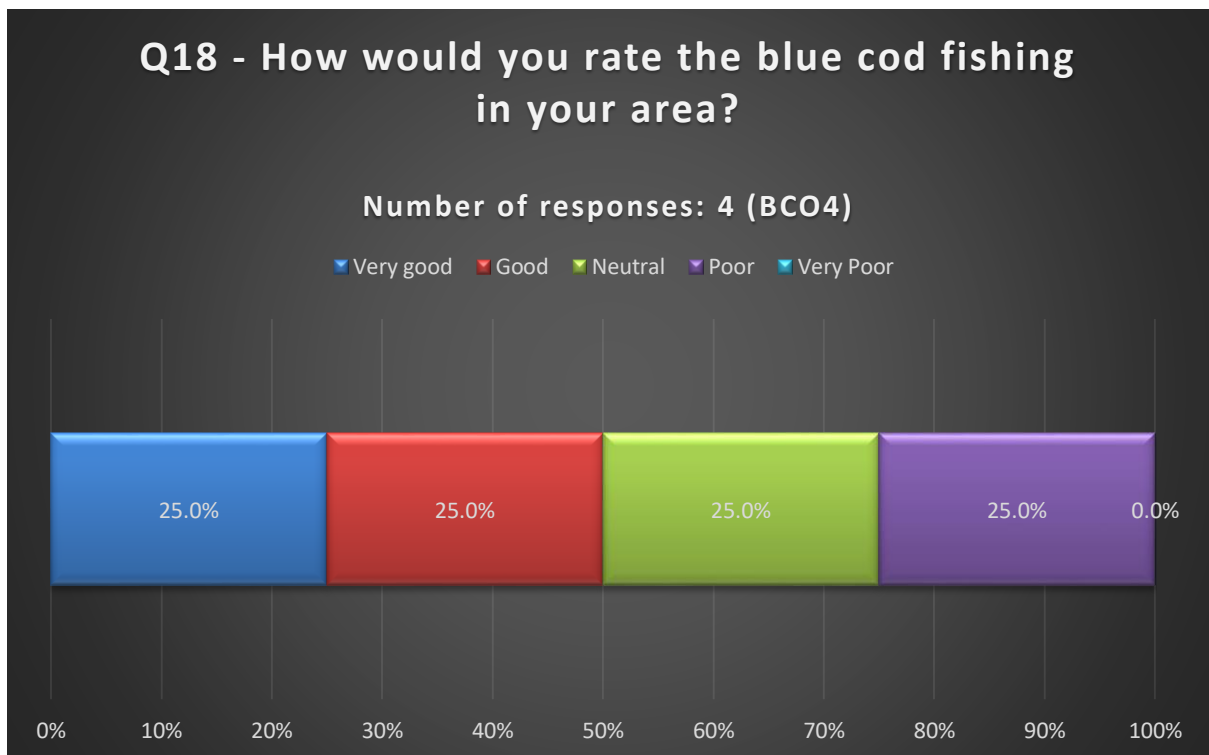
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



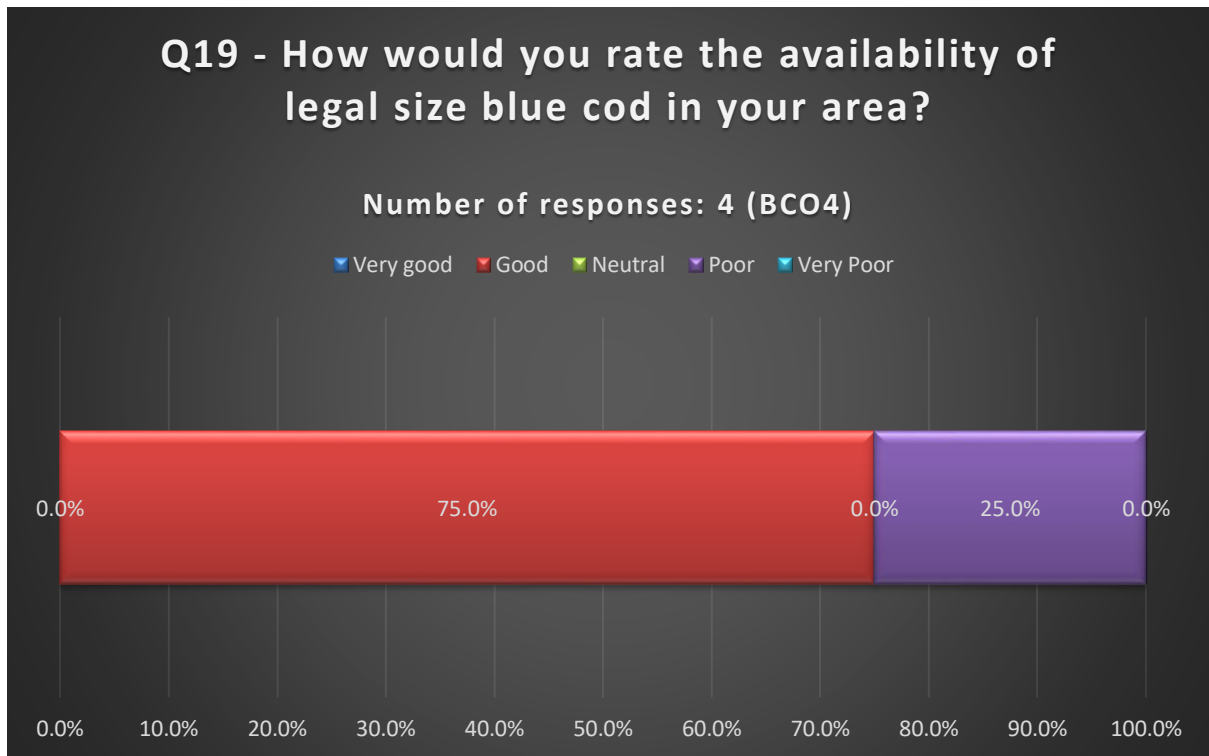
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



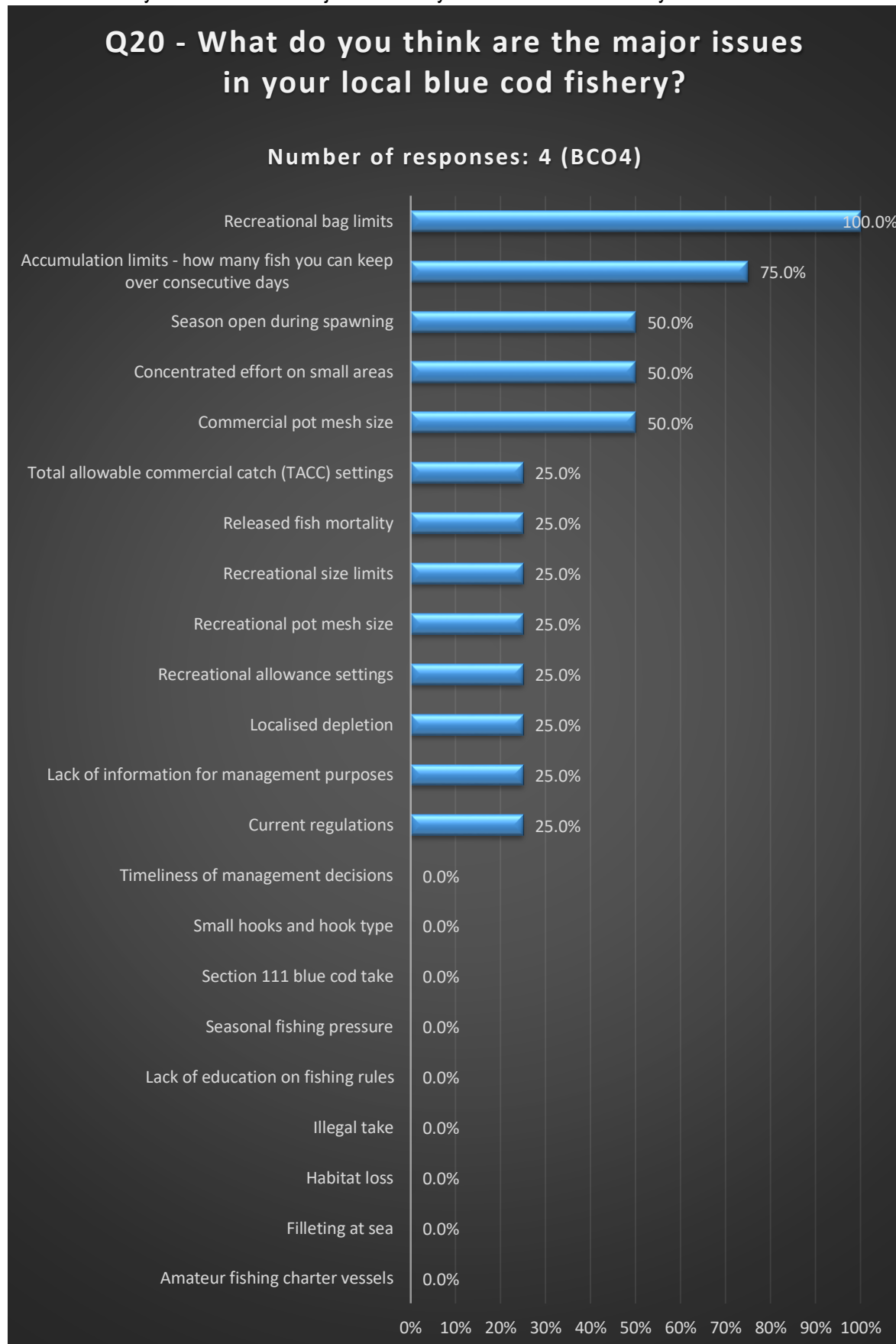
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

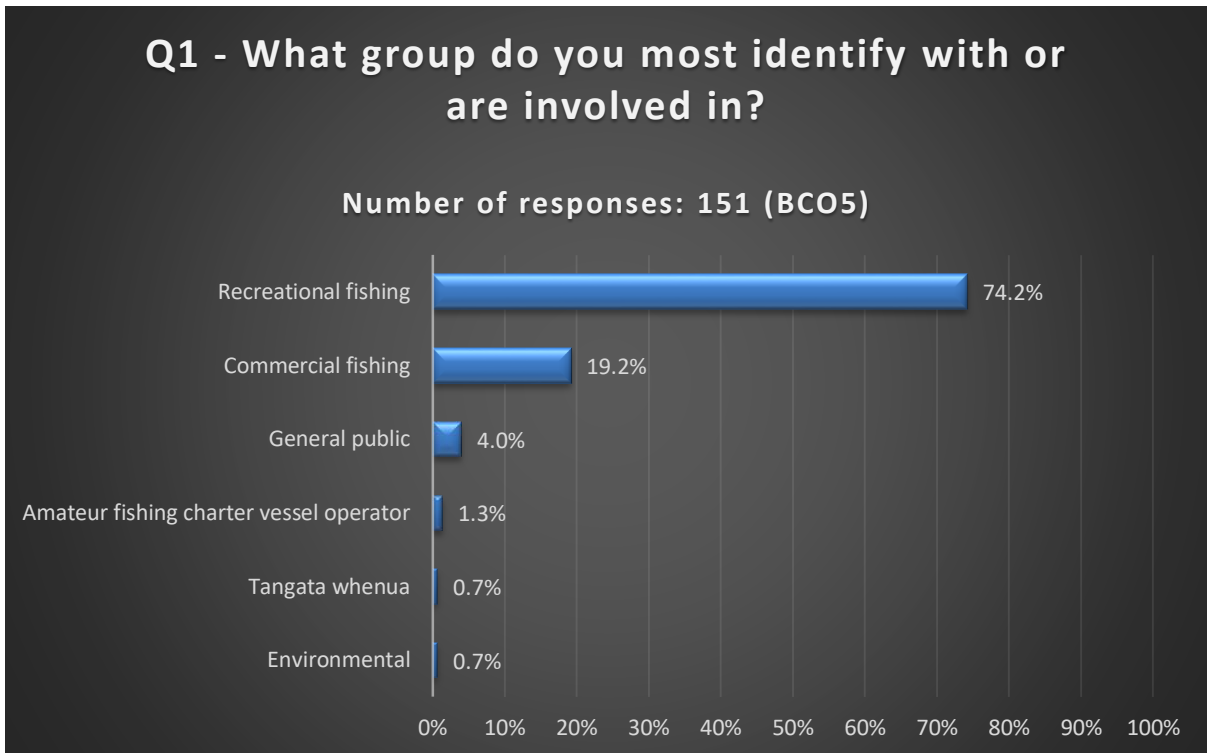


Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

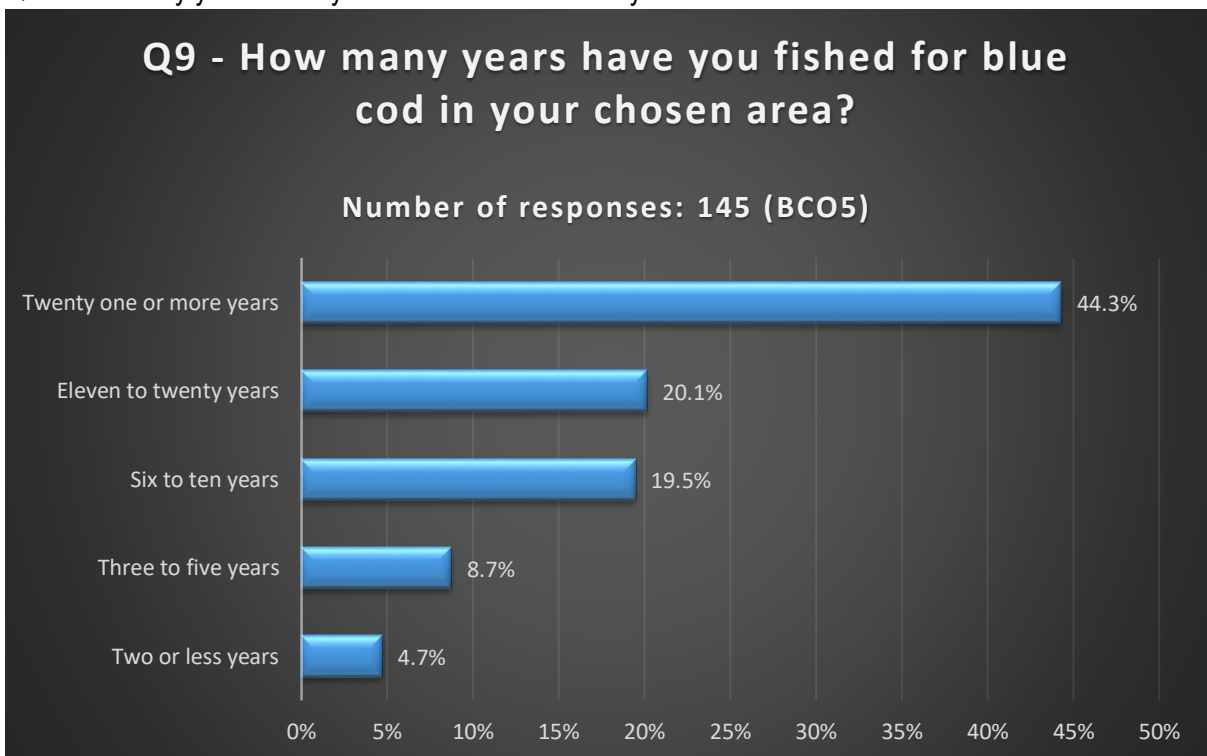


1.2.5 BCO5 Results

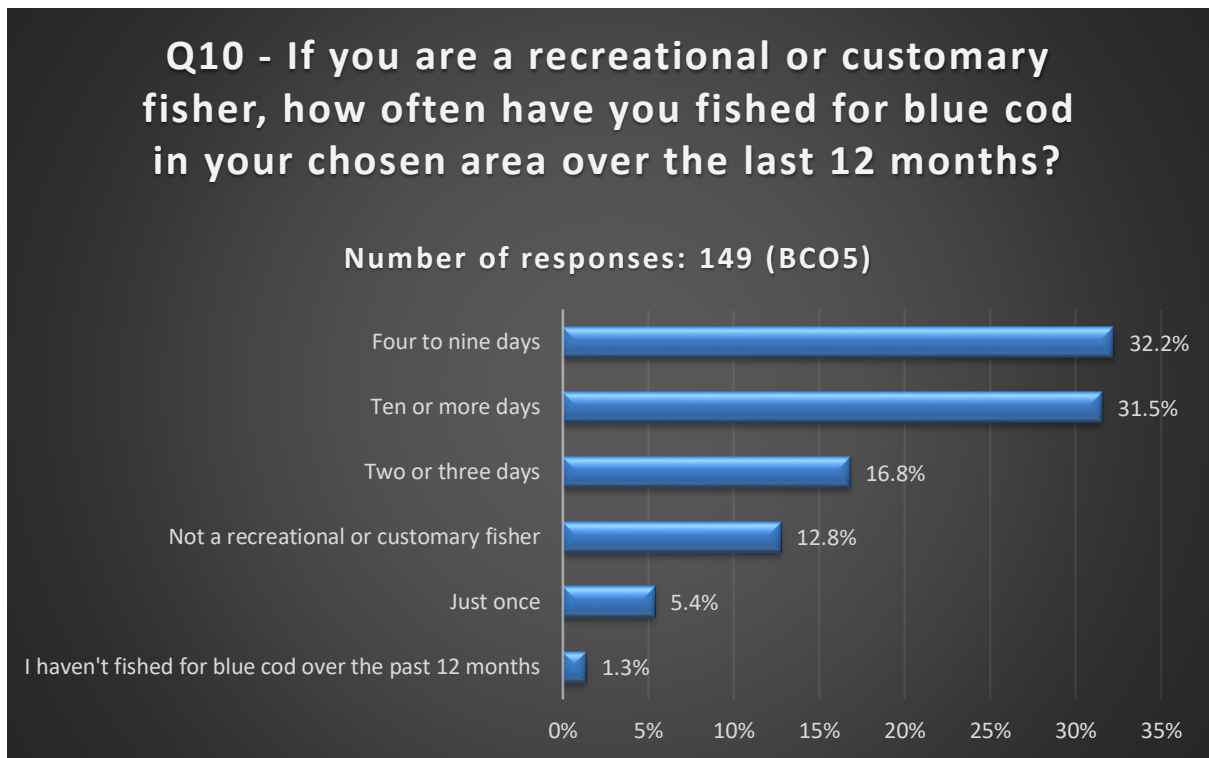
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



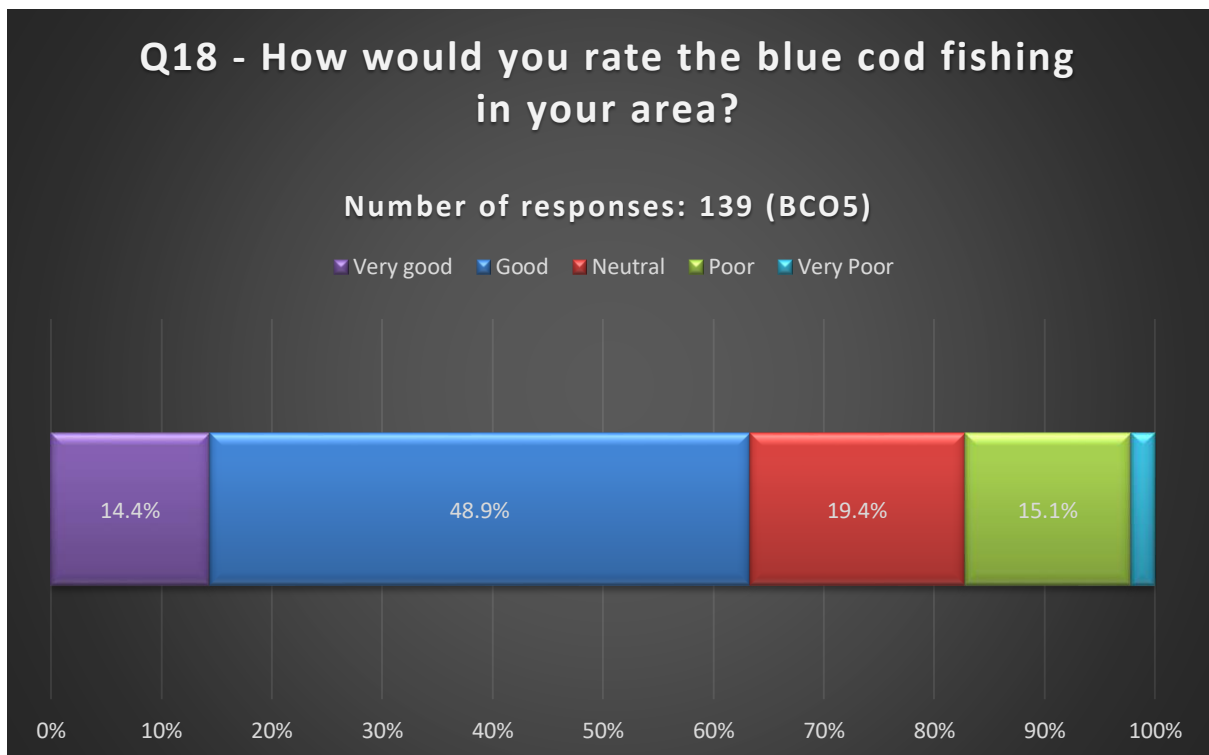
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



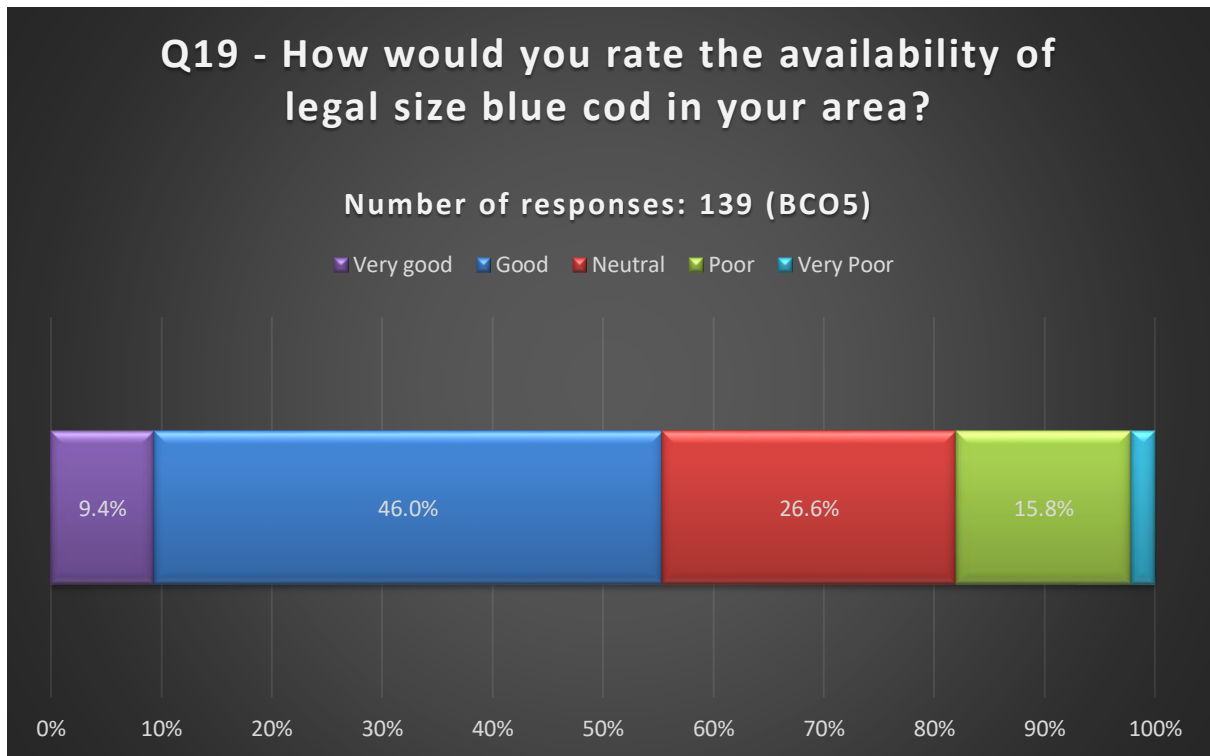
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



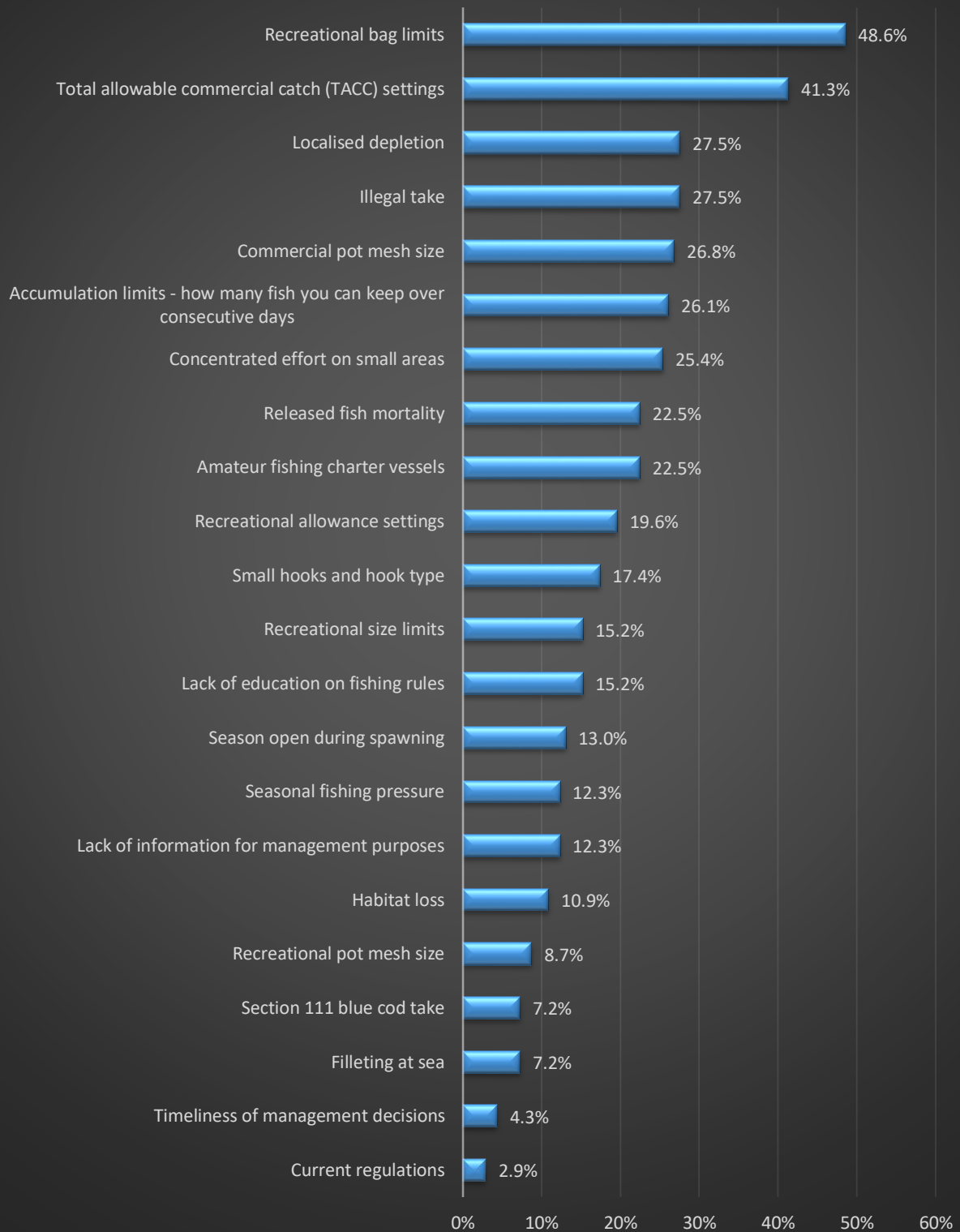
Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

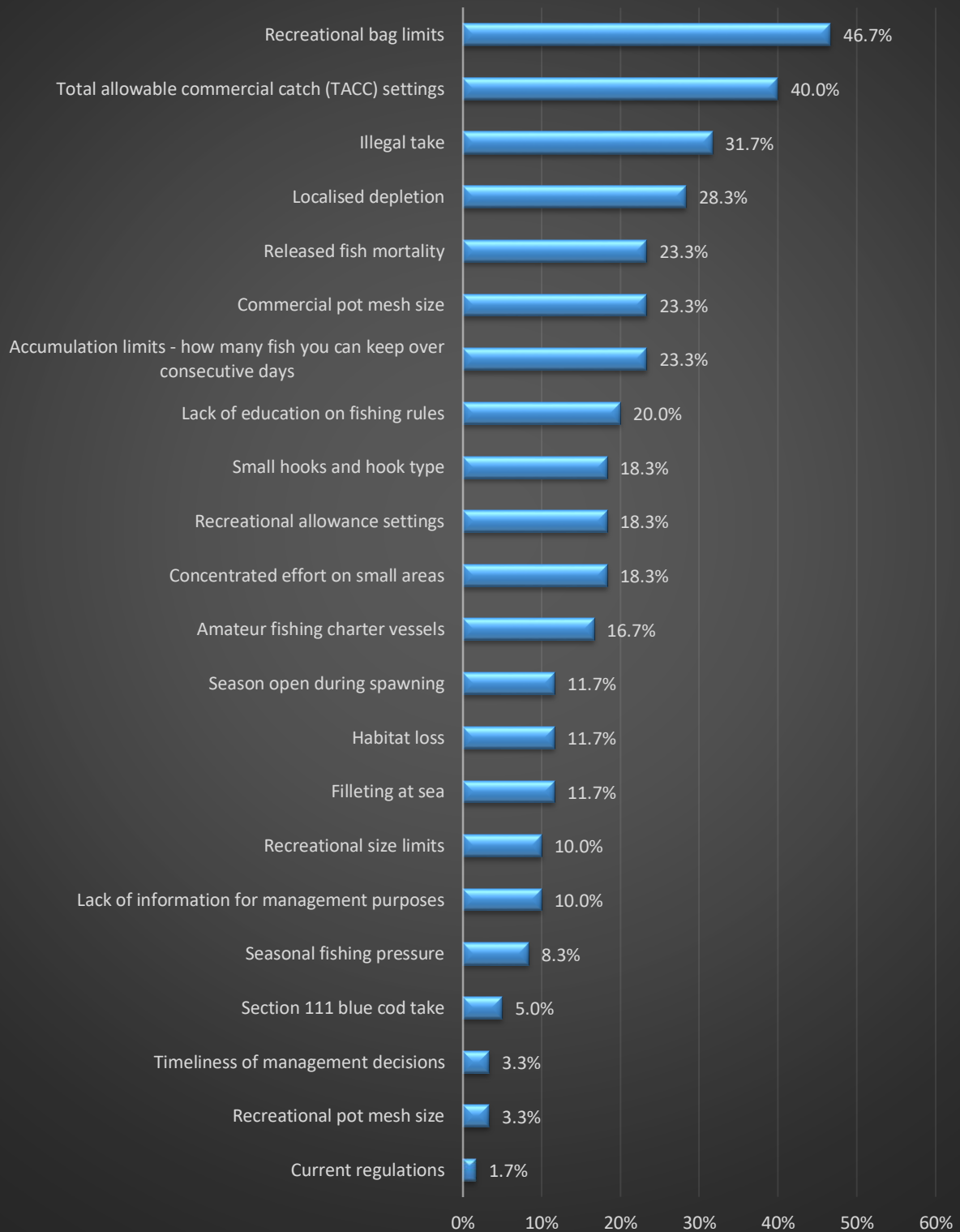
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 138 (BCO5 - All)



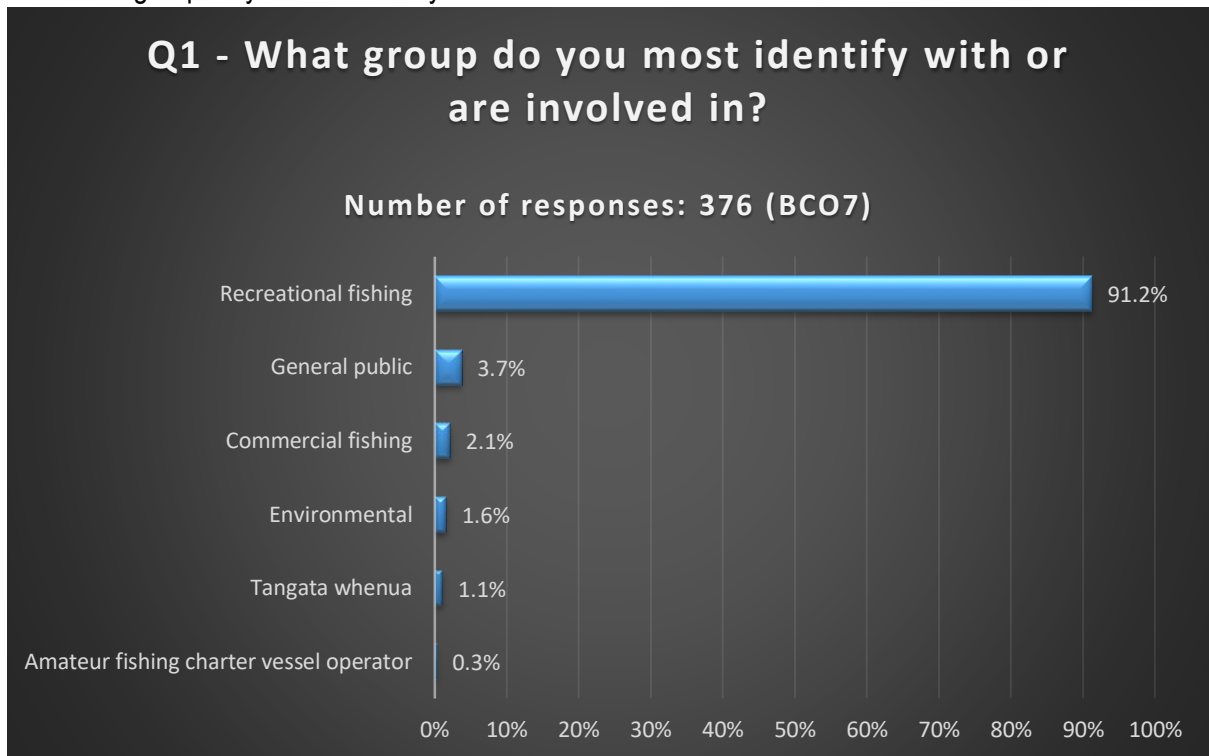
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 60 (BCO5 - Bluff)

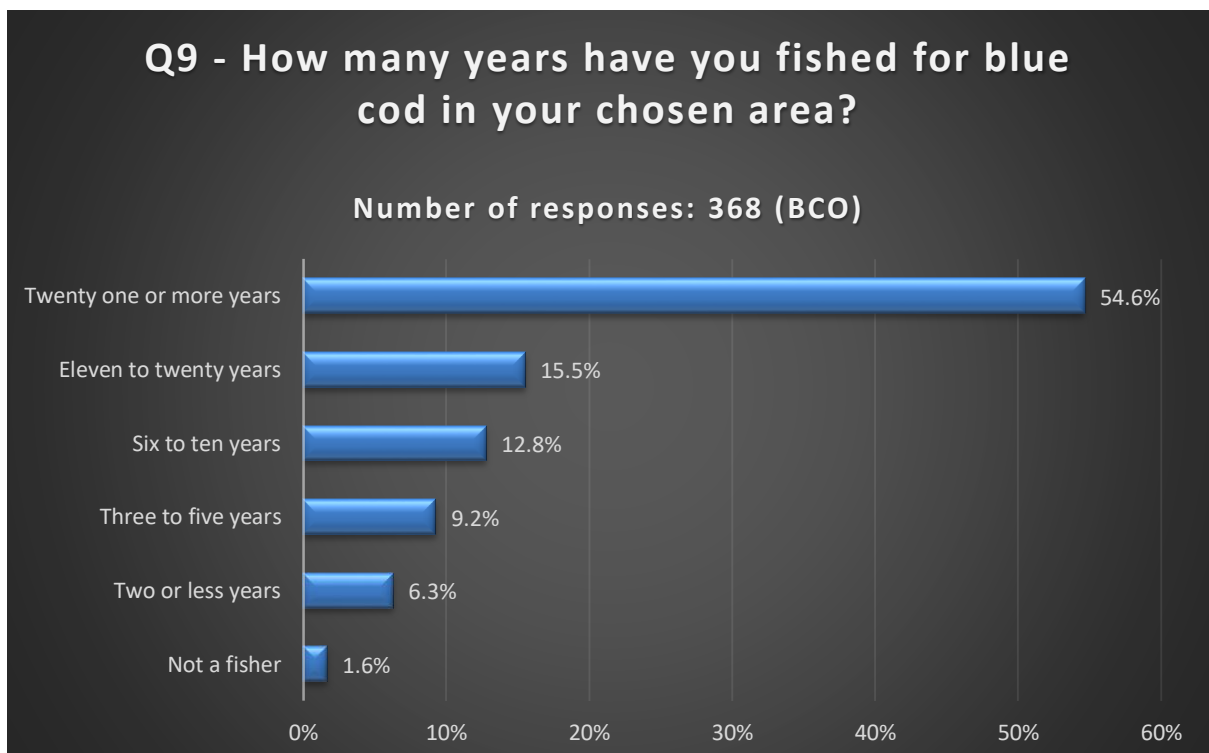


1.2.6 BCO7 Results

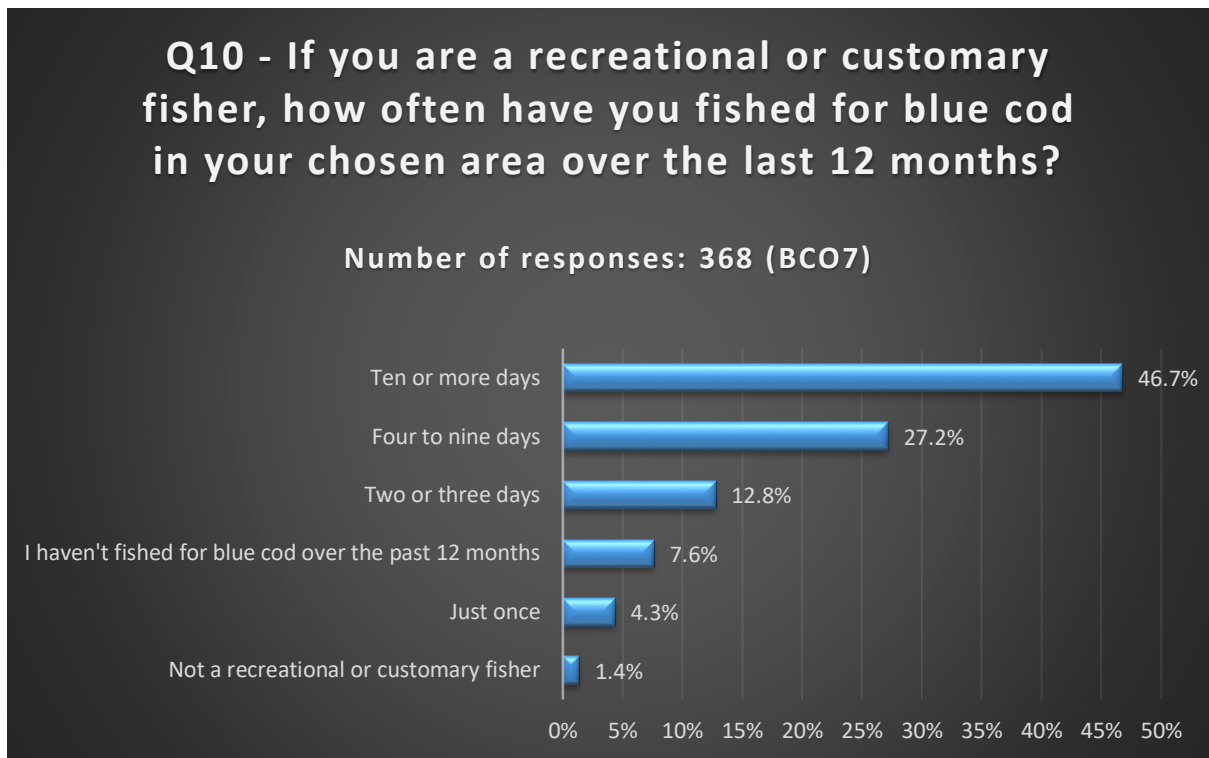
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



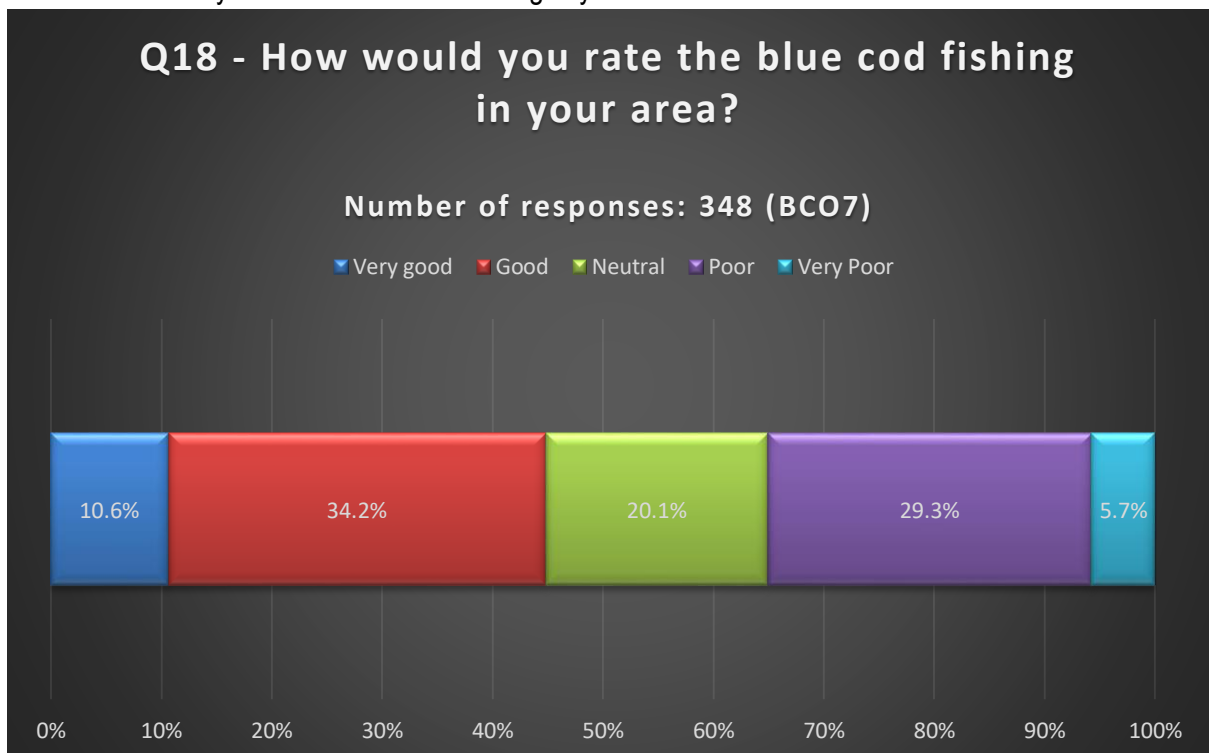
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



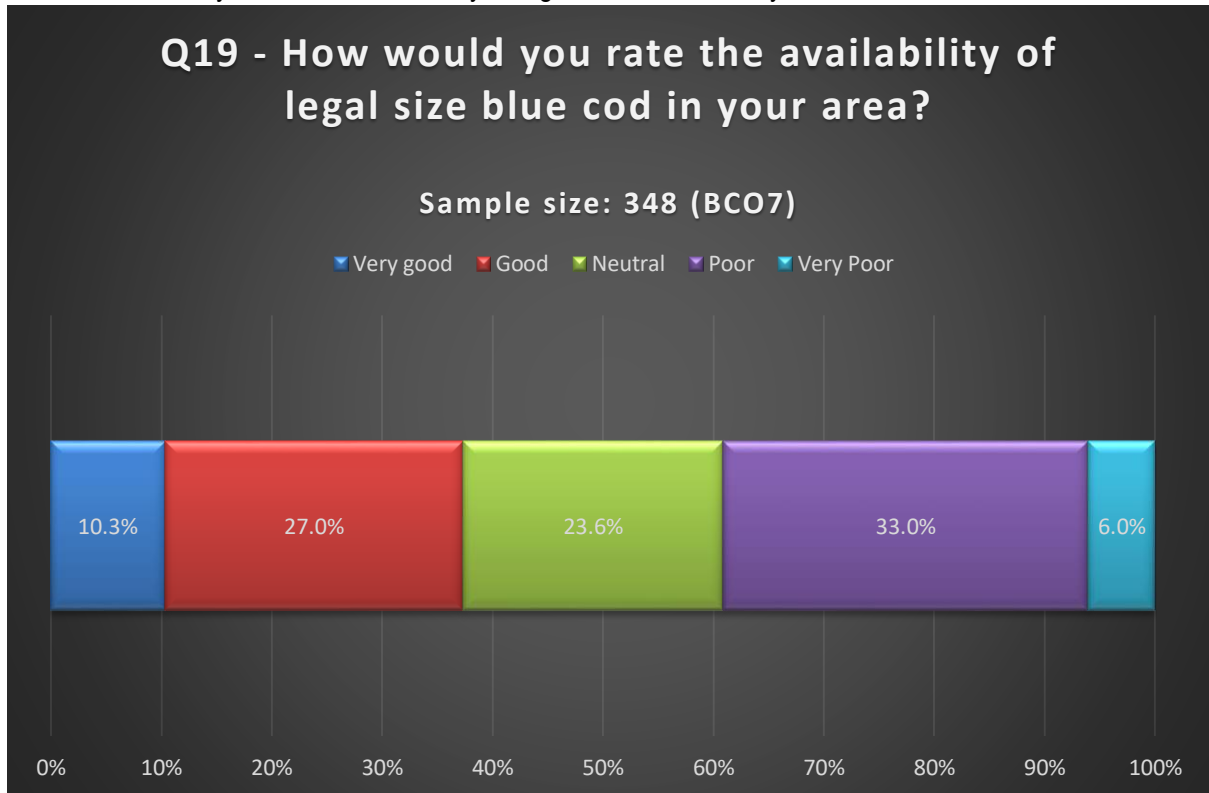
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



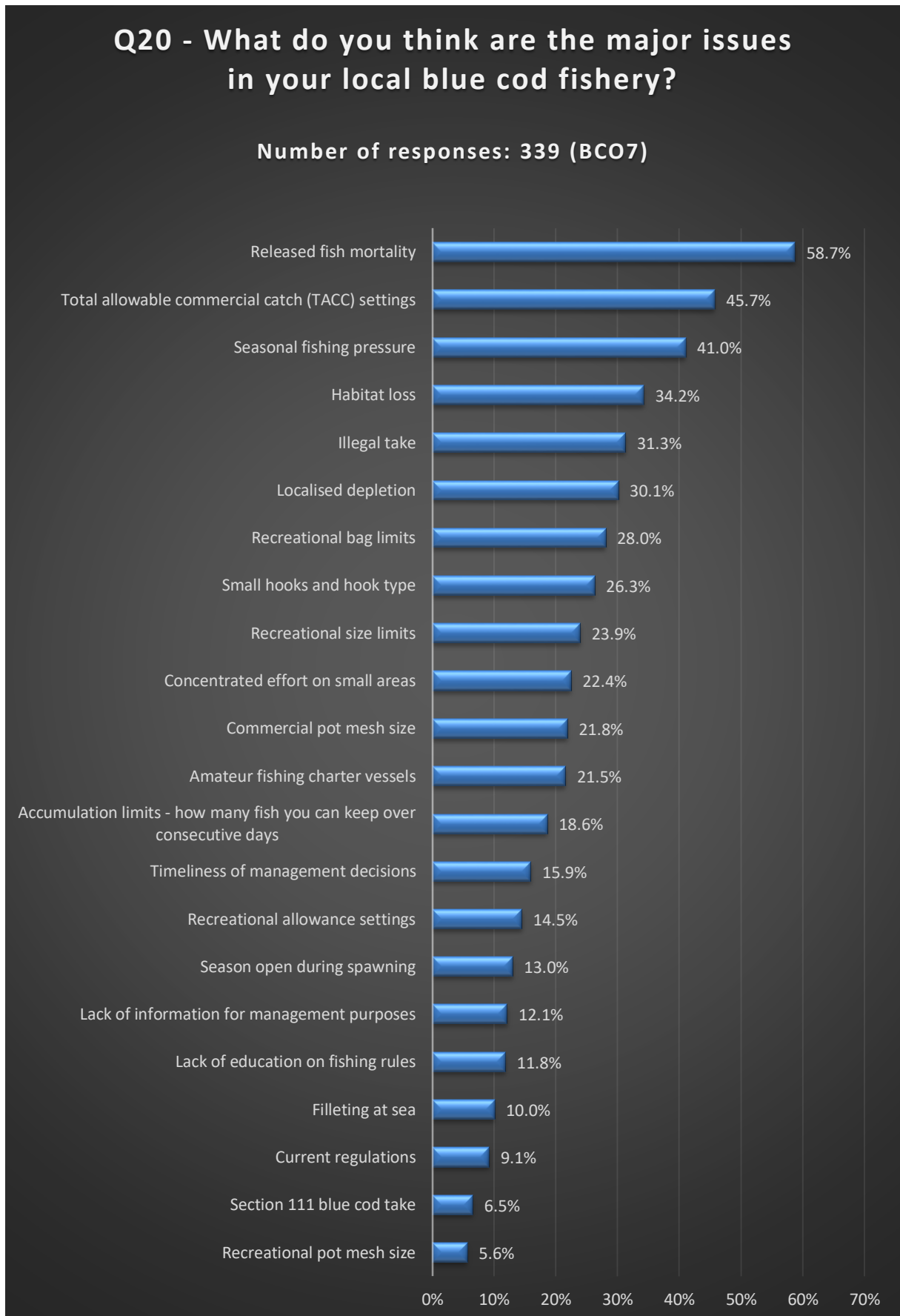
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

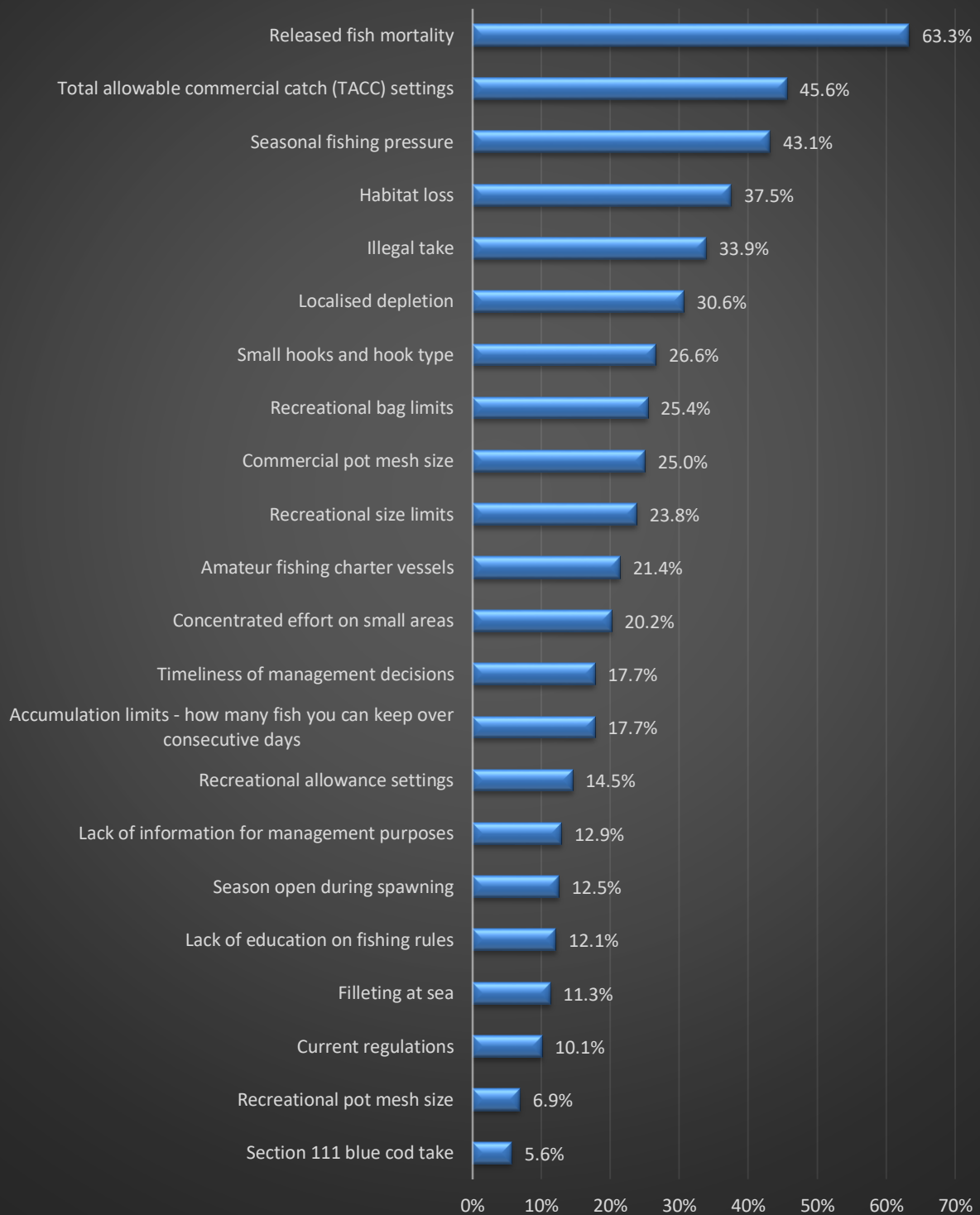


Q20 – What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?



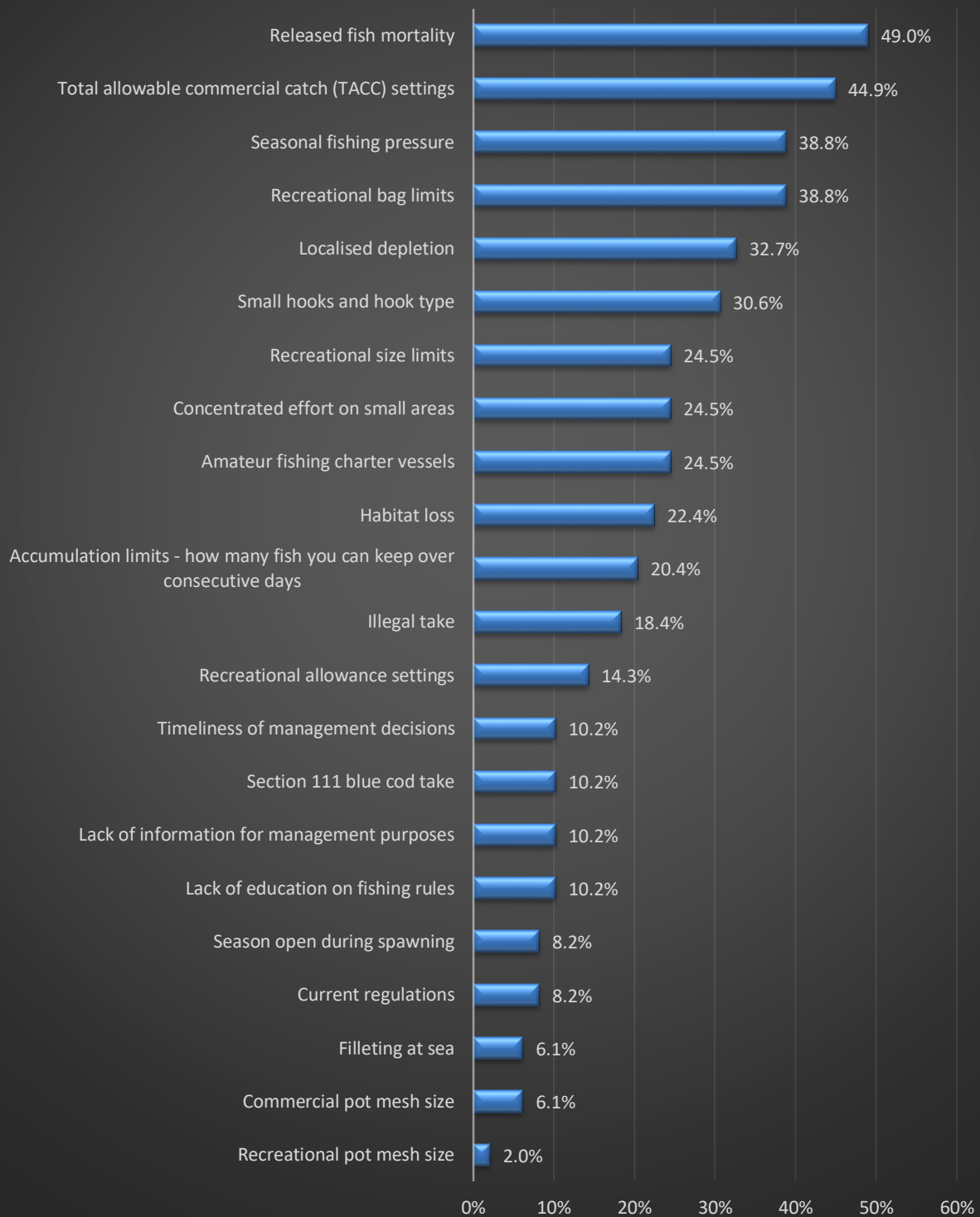
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 248 (BCO7 - Marlborough Sounds)



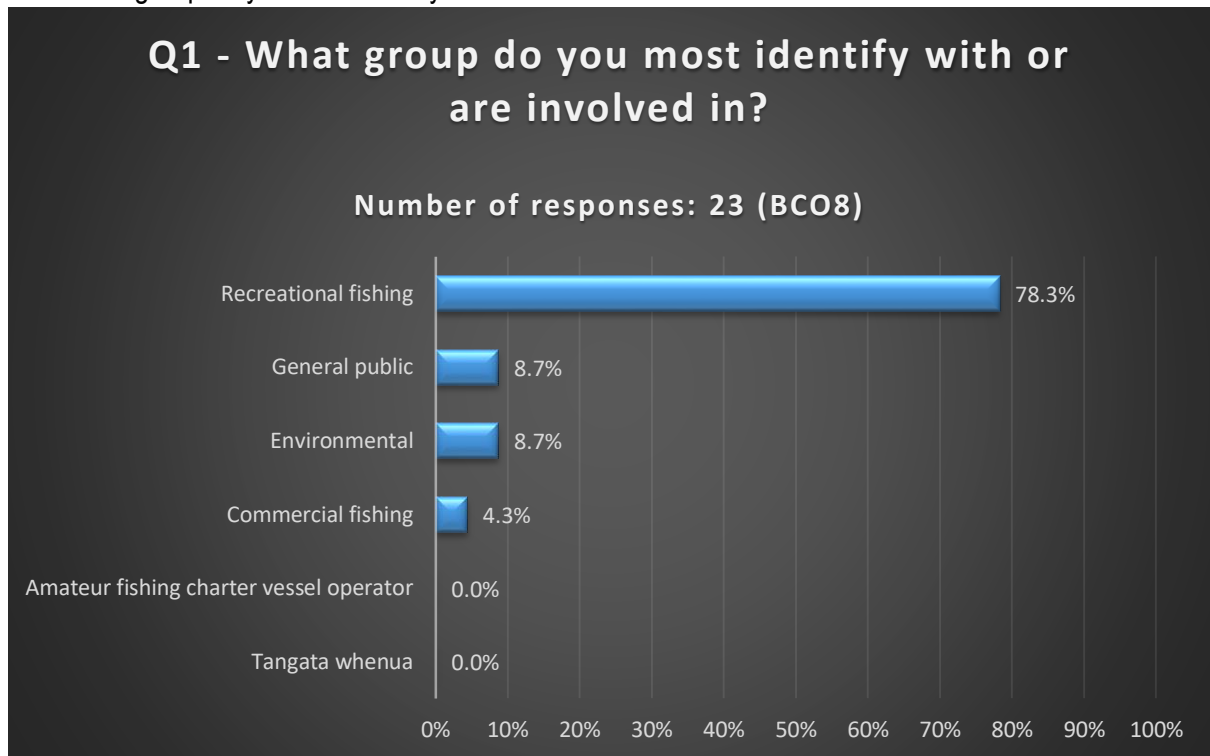
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 49 (BCO7 - Tasman Bay)

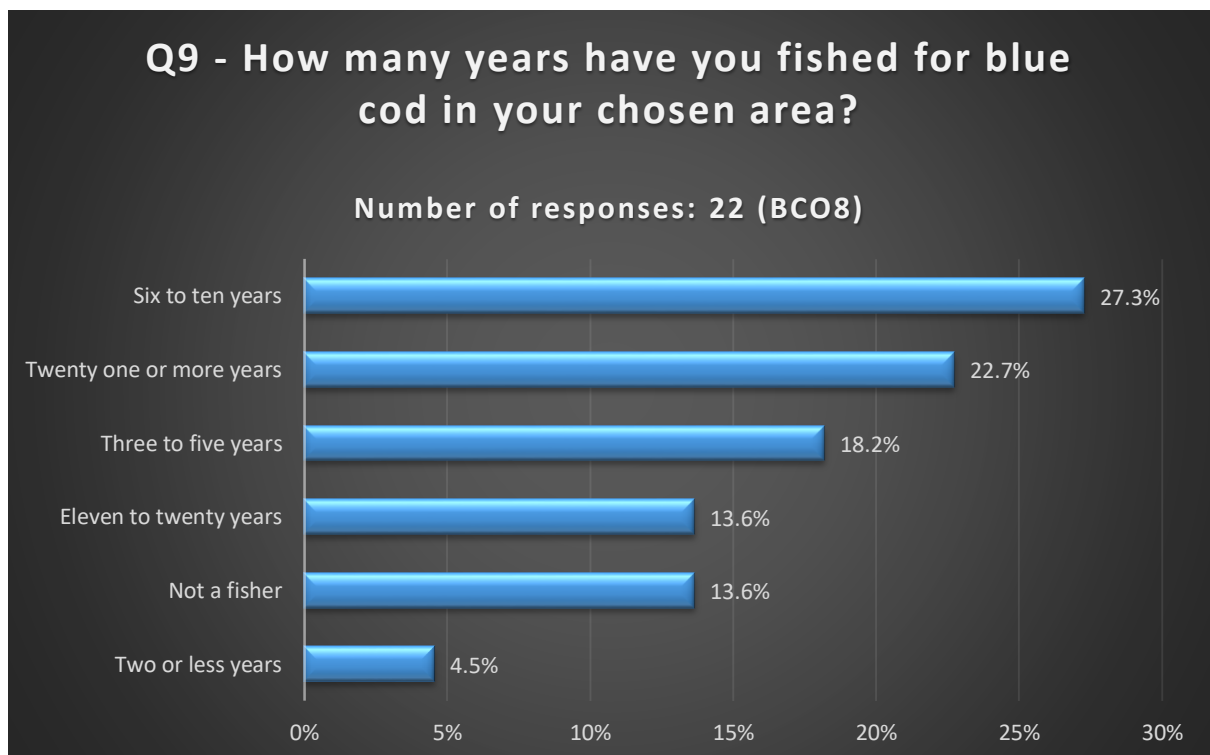


1.2.7 BCO8 Results

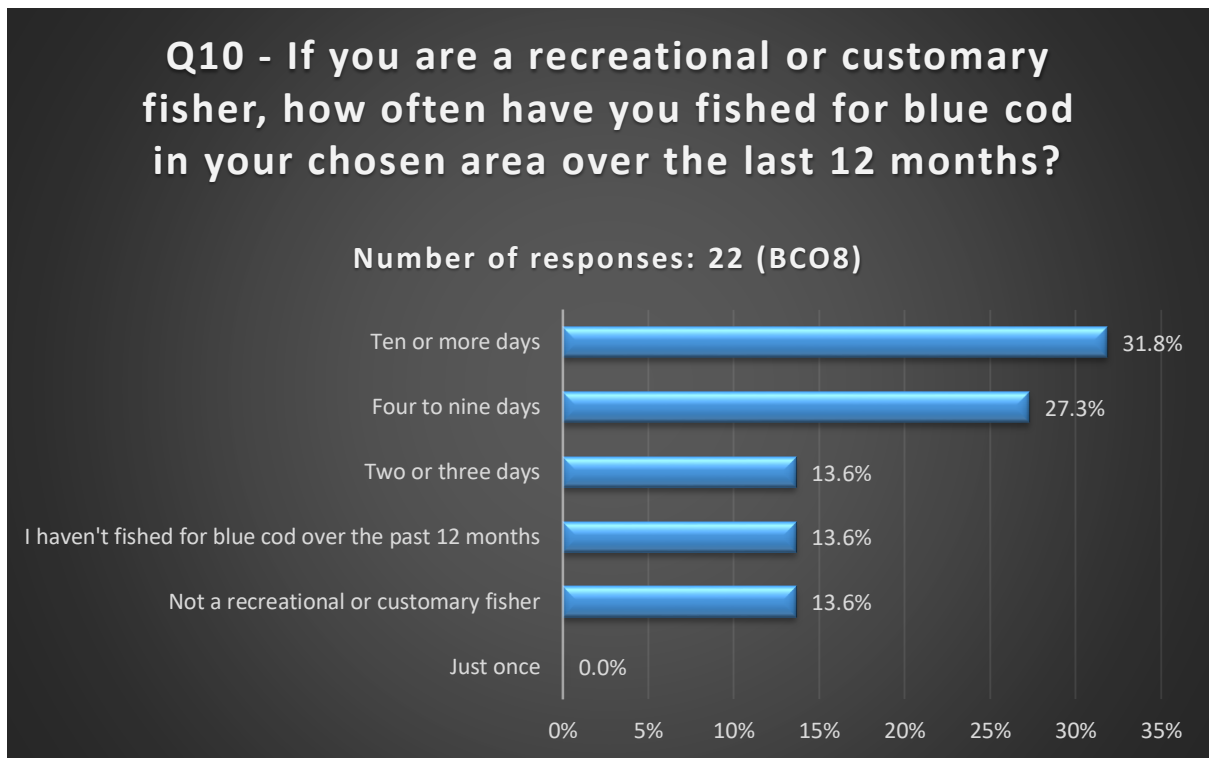
Q1 - What group do you most identify with or are involved in?



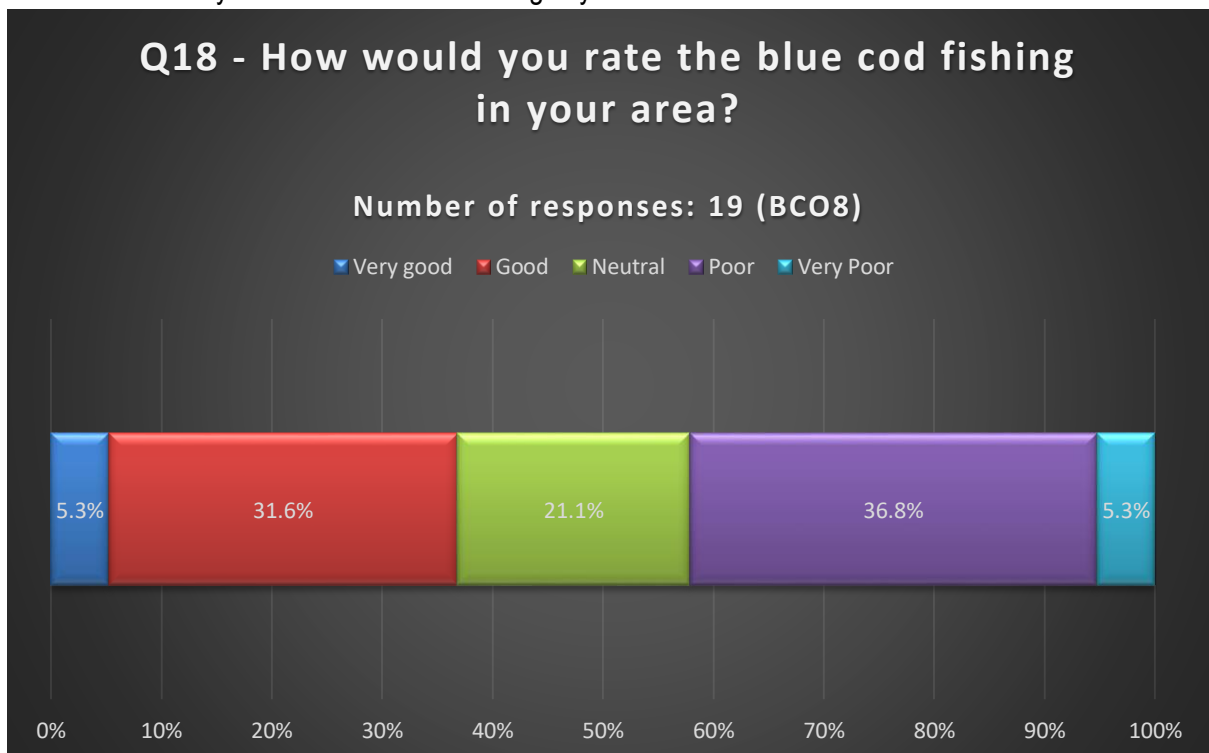
Q9 - How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?



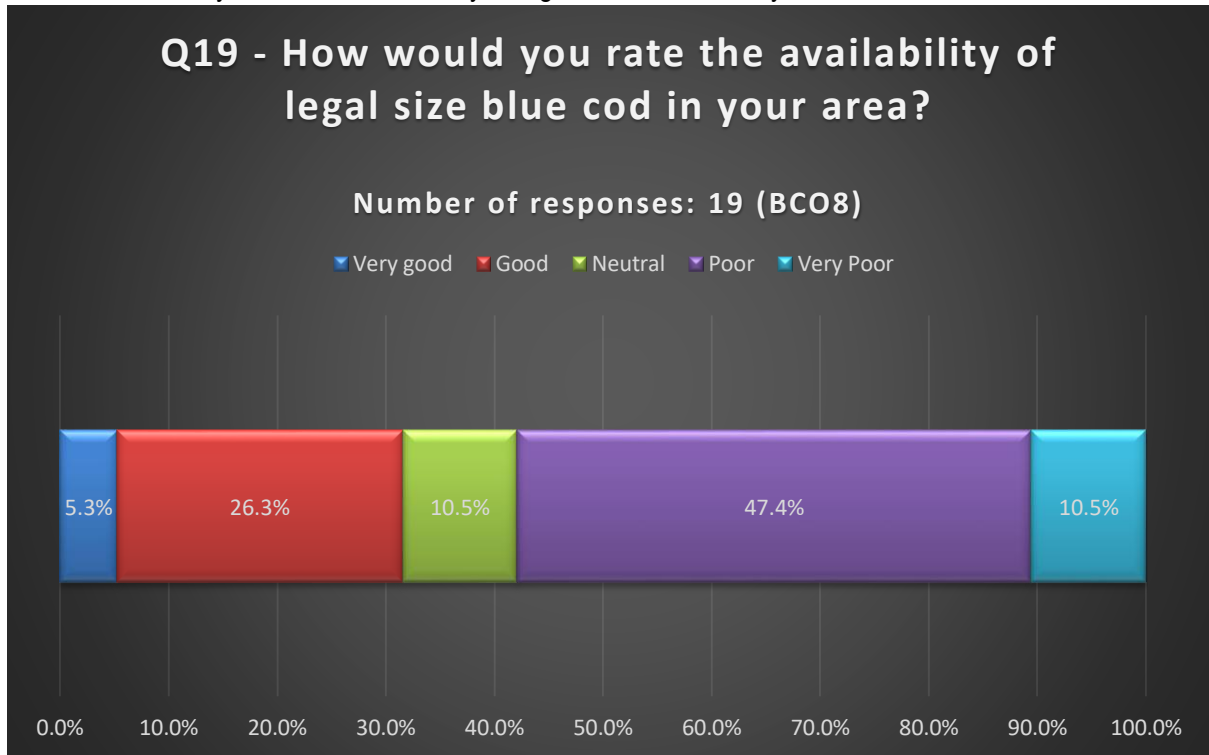
Q10 - If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?



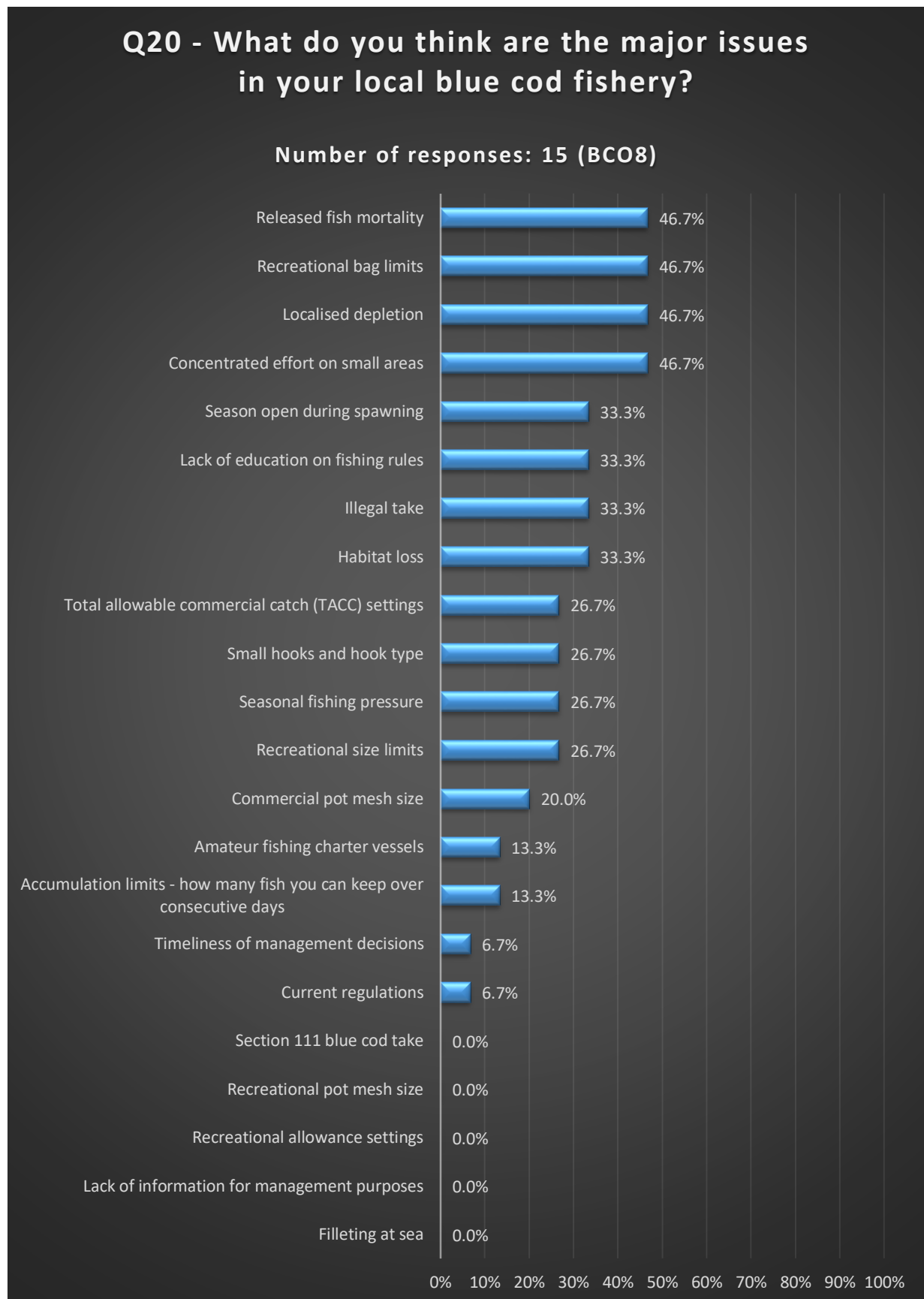
Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 – What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

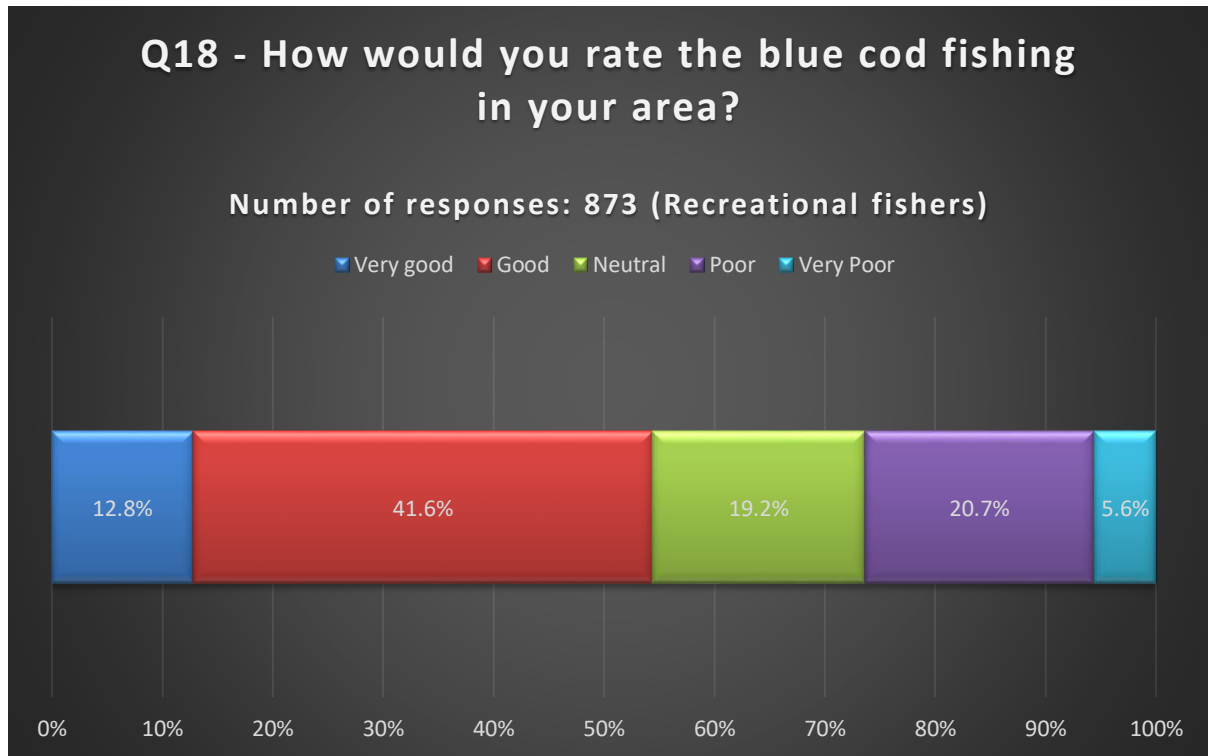


1.3 User Group Results

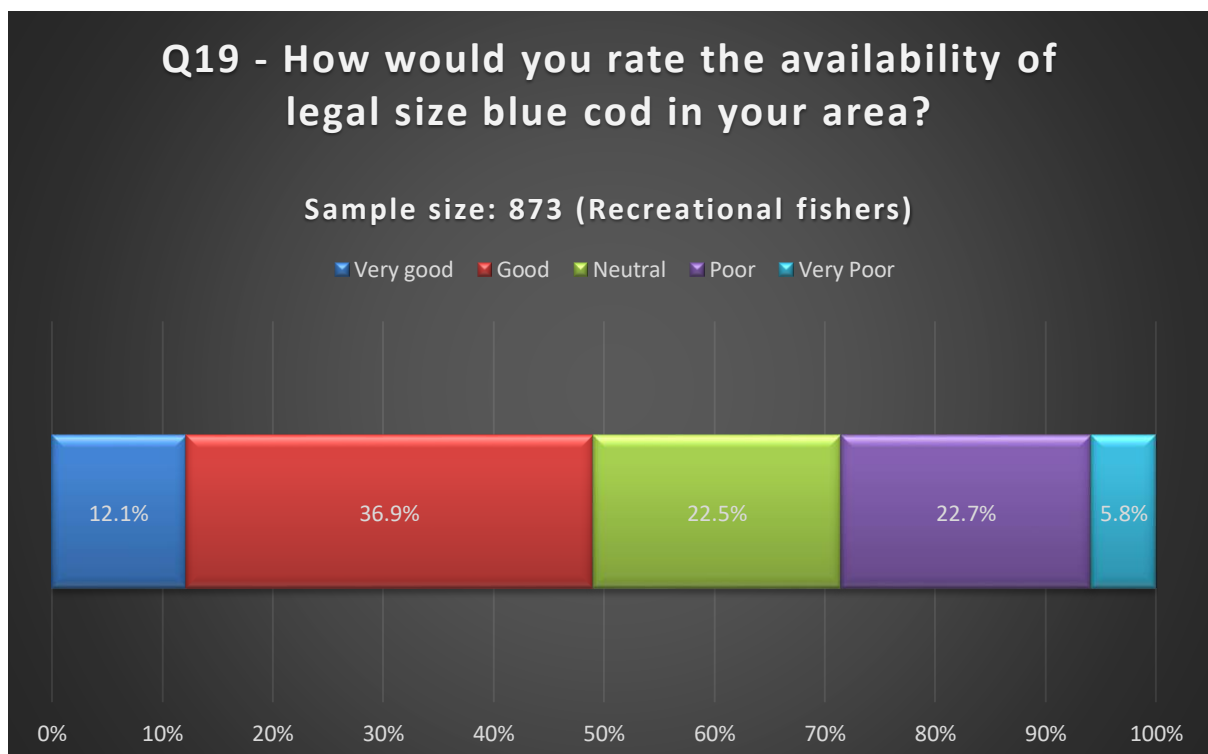
The results presented in sections 1.9 to 2.1 relate to the groups that had 20 or more responses in total to the online survey. These include the recreational, commercial, and general public groups.

1.3.1 Recreational Group Results

Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



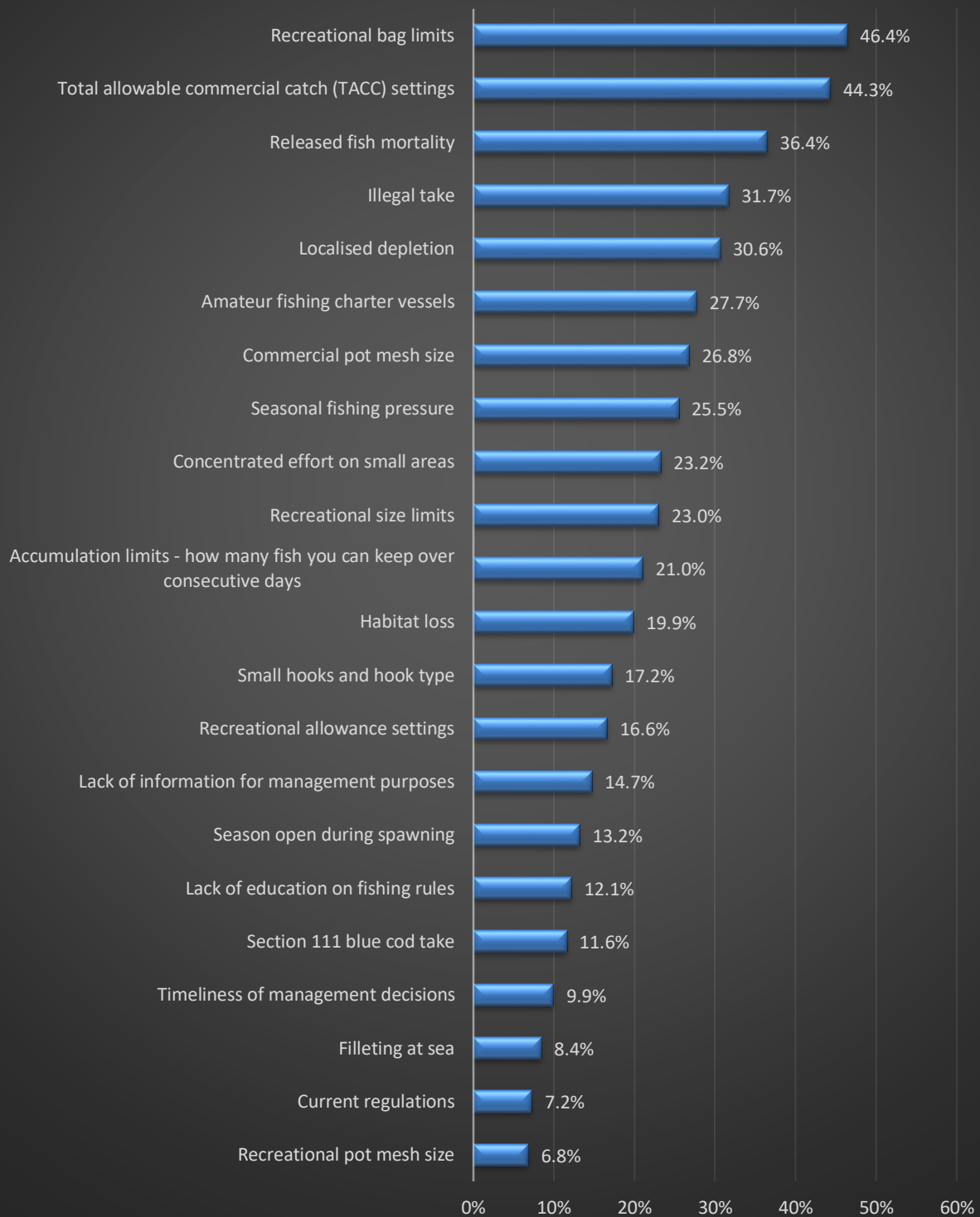
Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

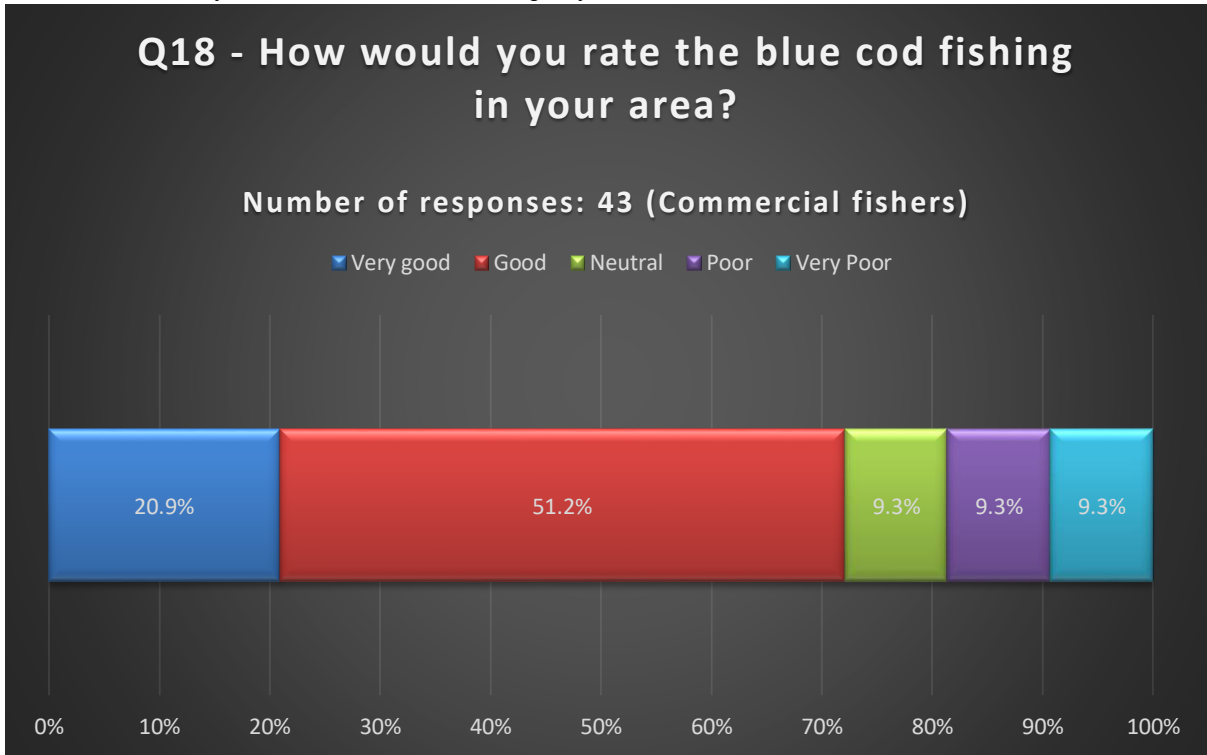
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 857 (Recreational fishers)

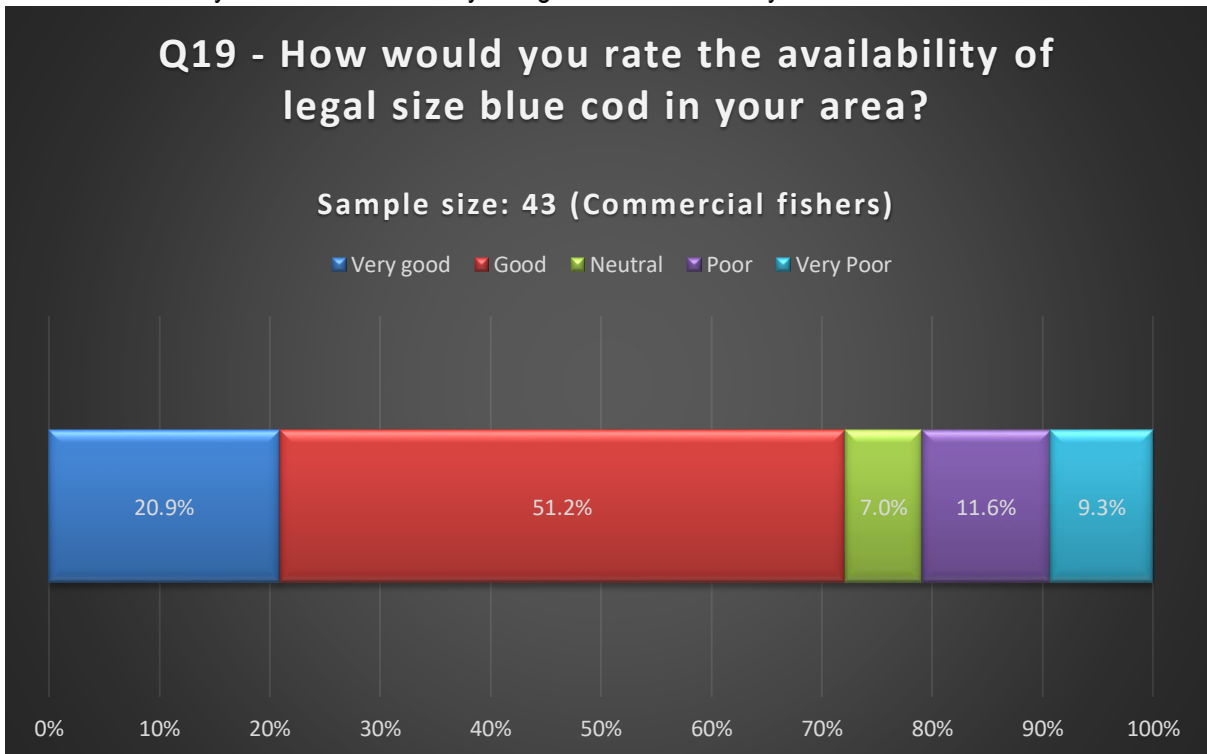


1.3.2 Commercial Group Results

Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



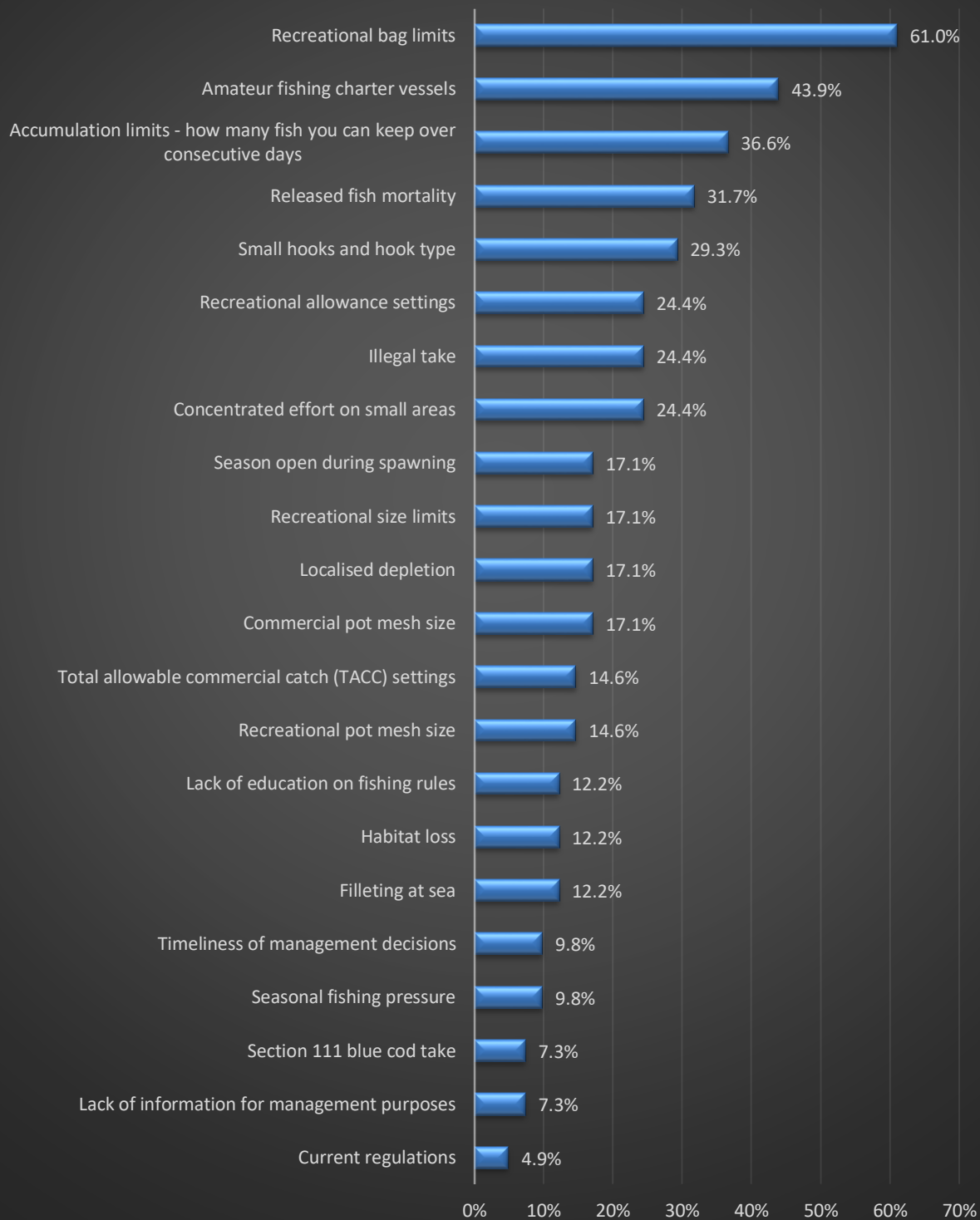
Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

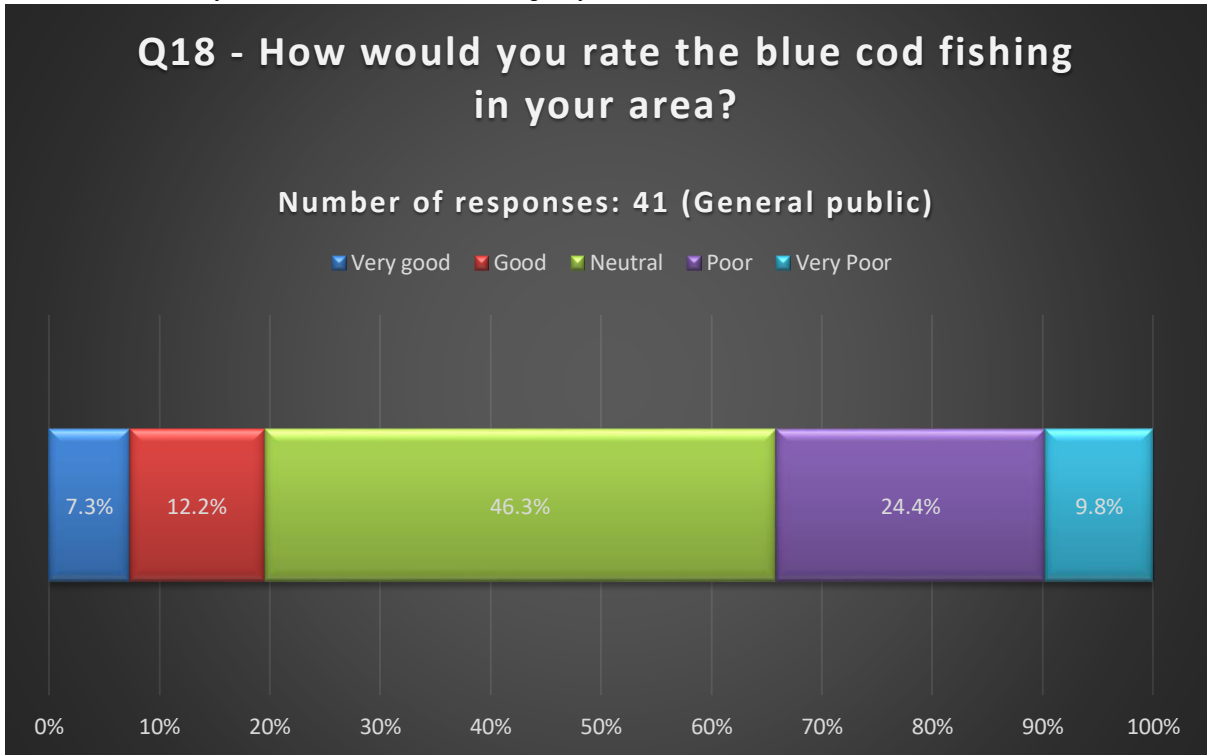
Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 41 (Commercial fishers)

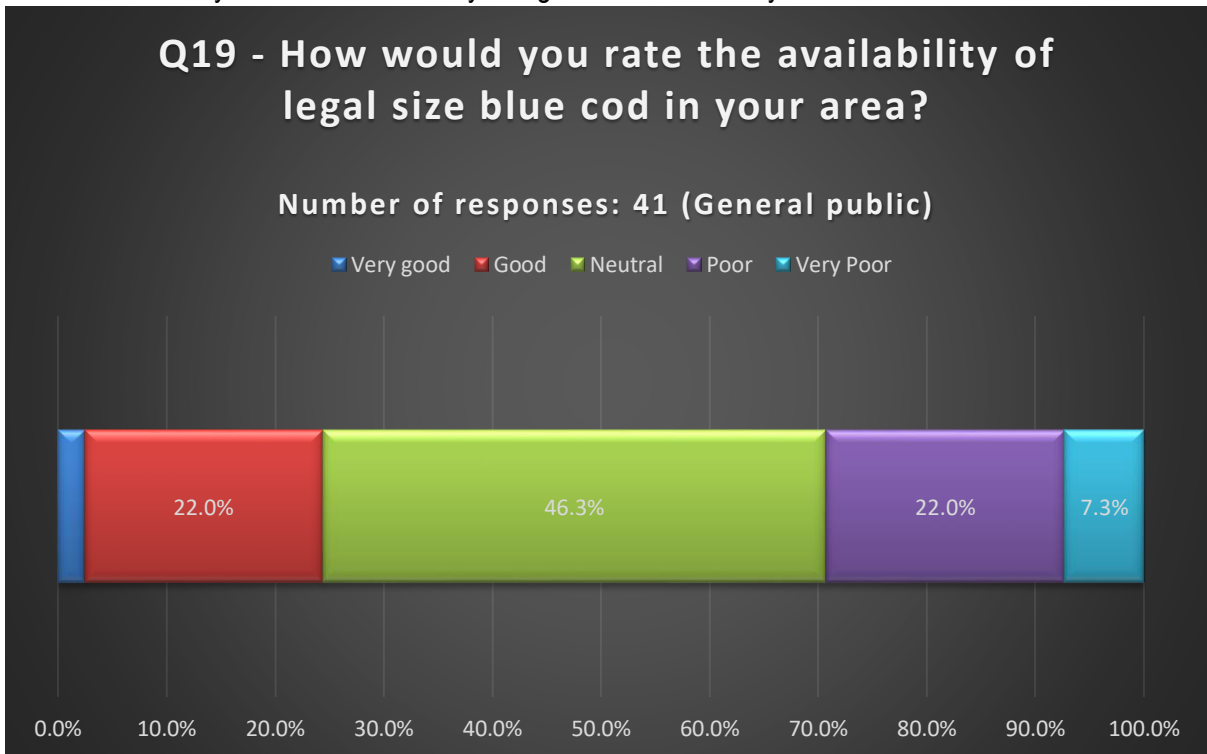


1.3.3 General Public Group Results

Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?



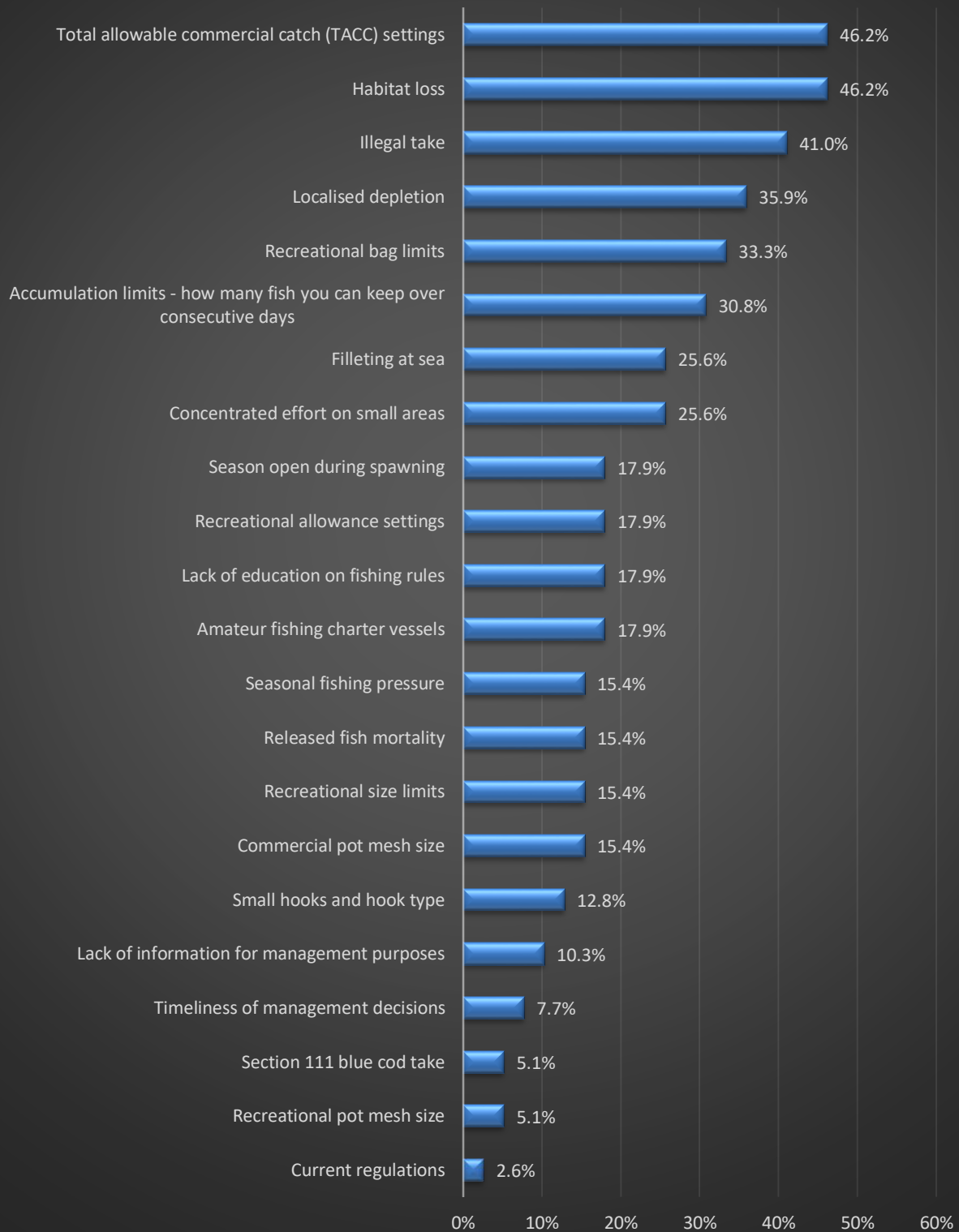
Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?



Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery?

Number of responses: 39 (General public)



1.4 Overall results

Q18 - How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?

Q18 – How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?	Number of respondents	Good or Very Good	Neutral	Poor or Very Poor
National – All	1000	52%	20%	27%
National – Recreational fishers	873	54%	19%	26%
National – Commercial Fishers	43	72%	9%	19%
National – General public	41	20%	46%	34%
BC01 – All	21	10%	28%	62%
BC02 – All	49	47%	22%	31%
BC03 – All	420	58%	20%	22%
BC04 – All	4	50%	25%	25%
BC05 – All	139	63%	19%	17%
BC07 – All	348	45%	20%	35%
BC08 – All	19	37%	21%	42%
BC03 – Kaikōura	35	26%	23%	51%
BC03 – Motunau	40	70%	20%	10%
BC03 – Outer Banks Peninsula	27	48%	15%	37%
BC03 – Oamaru	20	30%	40%	30%
BC03 – Moeraki	71	56%	15%	28%
BC03 – Karitane	35	63%	26%	11%
BC03 – Eastern Otago Peninsula	47	70%	23%	6%
BC03 – Taieri Mouth	35	94%	3%	3%
BC05 – Bluff	60	62%	20%	18%
BC07 – Tasman Bay	51	37%	29%	33%
BC07 – Marlborough Sounds	250	45%	19%	36%

Q19 - How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

Q19 – How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?	Number of respondents	Good or Very Good	Neutral	Poor or Very Poor
National – All	1000	48%	23%	29%
National – Recreational fishers	873	49%	22%	29%
National – Commercial Fishers	43	72%	7%	21%
National – General public	41	24%	46%	29%
BC01 – All	21	10%	28%	62%
BC02 – All	49	43%	20%	37%
BC03 – All	420	57%	22%	21%
BC04 – All	4	75%	–	25%
BC05 – All	139	55%	27%	18%
BC07 – All	348	37%	24%	39%
BC08 – All	19	32%	10%	58%
BC03 – Kaikōura	35	34%	26%	40%
BC03 – Motunau	40	55%	33%	13%
BC03 – Outer Banks Peninsula	27	48%	22%	30%
BC03 – Oamaru	20	25%	40%	35%
BC03 – Moeraki	71	58%	11%	31%
BC03 – Karitane	35	63%	23%	14%
BC03 – Eastern Otago Peninsula	47	66%	26%	9%
BC03 – Taieri Mouth	35	91%	3%	6%
BC05 – Bluff	60	50%	28%	22%
BC07 – Tasman Bay	51	27%	24%	49%
BC07 – Marlborough Sounds	250	36%	24%	40%

Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery? (National and QMA scale results)

Issue	National – All	National – Recreational fishers	National – Commercial Fishers	National – General public	BC01 – All	BC02 – All	BC03 – All	BC04 – All	BC05 – All	BC07 – All	BC08 – All
Number of respondents	965	856	41	39	18	50	412	4	138	339	15
Recreational bag limits	48%	46%	61%	33%	11%	30%	66%	100%	49%	28%	47%
Total allowable commercial catch (TACC) settings	44%	44%	15%	46%	39%	52%	42%	25%	41%	46%	27%
Released fish mortality	36%	36%	32%	15%	39%	30%	20%	25%	22%	59%	47%
Illegal take	32%	32%	24%	41%	44%	30%	33%	-	28%	31%	33%
Localised depletion	31%	31%	17%	36%	33%	28%	32%	25%	28%	30%	47%
Amateur fishing charter vessels	28%	28%	44%	18%	6%	20%	36%	-	22%	22%	13%
Commercial pot mesh size	26%	27%	17%	15%	33%	42%	26%	50%	27%	22%	20%
Seasonal fishing pressure	25%	25%	10%	15%	22%	12%	17%	-	12%	41%	27%
Concentrated effort on small areas	24%	23%	24%	26%	11%	30%	22%	50%	25%	22%	47%
Recreational size limits	24%	23%	17%	15%	11%	16%	27%	25%	15%	24%	27%
Accumulation limits	23%	21%	37%	31%	-	4%	27%	75%	26%	19%	13%
Habitat loss	21%	20%	12%	46%	39%	22%	13%	-	11%	34%	33%
Small hooks and hook type	18%	17%	29%	13%	6%	10%	12%	25%	17%	26%	27%
Recreational allowance settings	18%	17%	24%	18%	6%	14%	20%	-	20%	14%	-
Lack of information for management purposes	15%	15%	7%	10%	33%	24%	15%	25%	12%	12%	-
Season open during spawning	14%	13%	17%	18%	17%	22%	12%	50%	13%	13%	33%
Lack of education on fishing rules	13%	12%	12%	18%	11%	22%	11%	-	15%	12%	33%
Section 111 blue cod take	11%	12%	7%	5%	6%	8%	17%	-	7%	6%	-
Timeliness of management decisions	11%	10%	10%	8%	11%	2%	9%	-	4%	16%	7%
Filleting at sea	10%	8%	12%	26%	6%	8%	10%	-	7%	10%	-
Recreational pot mesh size	7%	7%	15%	5%	6%	6%	8%	25%	9%	6%	-
Current regulations	7%	7%	5%	3%	11%	4%	7%	25%	3%	9%	7%

Key: Red = an issue that was identified by a high percentage of respondents. Green = an issue that was identified by a low percentage of respondents.

Q20 - What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery? (Local area results – Nb. Only areas with 20 or more respondents are shown)

Issue	BC03 – Kaikōura	BC03 – Moeraki	BC03 – Motunau	BC03 – Outer Banks Peninsula	BC03 – Oamaru	BC03 – Karitane	BC03 – Eastern Otago Peninsula	BC03 – Taieri Mouth	BC05 – Bluff	BC07 – Marlborough Sounds	BC07 – Tasman Bay
Number of respondents	36	69	39	27	20	34	46	35	60	248	49
Recreational bag limits	33%	83%	62%	44%	80%	65%	78%	71%	47%	25%	39%
Total allowable commercial catch (TACC) settings	58%	43%	31%	59%	15%	32%	43%	49%	40%	46%	45%
Released fish mortality	28%	19%	44%	30%	30%	6%	15%	6%	23%	63%	49%
Illegal take	33%	29%	15%	33%	35%	35%	37%	46%	32%	34%	18%
Localised depletion	31%	39%	44%	37%	60%	24%	28%	17%	28%	31%	33%
Amateur fishing charter vessels	28%	55%	38%	30%	20%	29%	46%	31%	17%	21%	24%
Commercial pot mesh size	28%	19%	8%	30%	15%	26%	30%	34%	23%	25%	6%
Seasonal fishing pressure	11%	22%	33%	11%	20%	15%	9%	9%	8%	43%	39%
Concentrated effort on small areas	42%	17%	21%	26%	45%	18%	20%	14%	18%	20%	24%
Recreational size limits	14%	33%	26%	4%	15%	26%	33%	31%	10%	24%	24%
Accumulation limits	28%	29%	23%	22%	25%	41%	30%	26%	23%	18%	20%
Habitat loss	19%	6%	3%	33%	5%	9%	2%	6%	12%	38%	22%
Small hooks and hook type	11%	10%	28%	19%	5%	9%	9%	3%	18%	27%	31%
Recreational allowance settings	11%	25%	23%	15%	25%	32%	33%	14%	18%	15%	14%
Lack of information for management purposes	14%	12%	15%	22%	5%	24%	15%	9%	10%	13%	10%
Season open during spawning	14%	9%	21%	22%	10%	6%	9%	11%	12%	13%	8%
Lack of education on fishing rules	14%	12%	5%	15%	5%	18%	13%	6%	20%	12%	10%
Section 111 blue cod take	11%	22%	5%	19%	30%	21%	20%	3%	5%	6%	10%
Timeliness of management decisions	17%	14%	5%	4%	10%	0%	9%	6%	3%	18%	10%
Filleting at sea	17%	12%	8%	15%	20%	15%	4%	9%	12%	11%	6%
Recreational pot mesh size	3%	4%	5%	4%	0%	9%	15%	17%	3%	7%	2%
Current regulations	11%	7%	5%	4%	0%	3%	7%	9%	2%	10%	8%

Key: Red = an issue that was identified by a high percentage of respondents. Green = an issue that was identified by a low percentage of respondents.

Section 2: Online Survey 1 Comments

This section presents all of the comments received from the online survey, broken down into QMA level.

2.1 “Do you have anything to add to the Aim and Objectives developed by the expert panel? Please feel free to provide alternative aims and objectives”.

2.1.1 BCO1

To keep all fishing at sustainable levels, I don't won't end up paying \$60 per Kgm for blue cod at new world supermarket kerikeri as per recent price
Involving those who have little knowledge of what is truly happening is a farce, they are usually politically minded and driven.
Close off Bream Head to Bream Tail to all commercial fishing,hard to compete with long liners using 5000 hooks!
I believe we have to go back to natural 'farming' systems where you harvest the plentiful young stock and protect/preserve the mature breeding stck just like every farmer in NZ does! That is sustainable. Lilling our breeding stock and wasting the imature stock is wasteful and unsustainable. There are ways to do this; we just need to get out of our archaic way of thinking that bigger is better. Wheree is your biomass? - it is the young stock.
Rules for recreational Fishery onle is not right I would like a two mile zone for only recreational fishery The commercial have bigger boats and can eazily fish further offshore.
It is hard to disagree with these aims as they are stated: 'right' is always right. They need to be more specific to be meaningful.
Been fishing for years hardly ever seen blue cod i normally only fish far north. Now days get limit quite often just as bycatch when targeting snapper . Never target them thou
improve enforcement of the rules for both recreational and commercial sectors
Regardless of 'everyone getting along', the right decision clearly needs to be in favor or turning this fishery around, not the commercial dollar interests in the short term.
The Northern blue cod fishery has been under pressure for some time and while the TAC set is low it is time to think about making blue cod a bi-catch species only for commercial.
be more specific, what does "right" mean?

2.1.2 BCO2

More reserves stop the commercial boy raping drop the limit on everyone
Get the whole QMS reviewed by way of a Royal Commission of inquiry and start again on those findings
I feel that the blue cod fishery should be there primarily for the recreational fisherman not for commercial, when commercial cod fisherman drop cod pots along the coast taking tonnes of fish from the region it takes along time to come back
there is a lack of understanding of how to target fish for blue cod or release small cod. we should not educate them let them join a fishing club and learn how catch other fish so that the blue cod stock is allowed to build up. educate recreational fishers that giving pied shags a small blue is in effect killing the million young that that one cod could produce in one year.
Commercial fishing has damaged Wairarapa fish stocks
*

It has to be tangible and real, not like the pseudo banning of shark finning.
Protect the species by making the use of Cod Pots illegal just as taking paua wearing breathing apparatus is.
You do not have enough options on this survey, I am both commercial and recreational, stop fishing when the fish are in Row, stop fishing taking male crays when the females are in berry, even if its only for part of they breeding season and make the Paua size bigger so they have more time to bread, its not rocket science
Realistic bag limits. Currently 20 fin fish per day for a recreational Fisher is far too high.
Catch limit per fisher should be reduced to 10 per day.
provide clear penalties if any of the rules are breached and enforce them. both commercial and recreational
Set strict limits on blue cod catch and impose moratoria where necessary.
Take into consideration other species and ecosystems
Be careful about who you call an expert.
Take into account local data from catch reports collected by recreationl fishing groups -which you have not been doing
The survey is staged to suit another agenda. Why do you consider a blue cod fisher has no interest in the marine environment

2.1.3 BCO3

I think the current levels of Blue Cod take are to high in some areas
Mpi should not act until they are a 100% sure there actions are correct. So far their efforts in the sounds and kaikoura have been made on bad information
this strategy needs to be implemented urgently
Consult with everyone during the process
I have strong reservations about the so-called expert panel. My general opinion of MPI is not high. I think a strategy would be better industry led, the industry has a strong financial incentive to come up with a workable outcome.
https://theconversation.com/new-zealands-fisheries-quota-management-system-on-an-undeserved-pedestal-82210
Work out why the fish population had got bad many years ago and over the past 5 years I and others have noticed that the fishing has been getting better and better and the fish getting bigger in the Motunau area. Maybe it is because the commercials have not been in the area. .
Getting the right information and using it correctly is the key increase the minimum size and decrease the allowable daily take with a boat limit also ie 34cm a limit of 15 per person and a boat limit of 60 cod with a visible presence of fisheries officers.Rules with no policing are worthless and an education process on releasing cod ie: wet towel or gloves.
more fishery patrols in bc03 so being apprehended for breach is high.A lesser limit per person on charters.
i think limit of blue cod should be 20
Desperately need to reduce recreational daily quota
please consider a moratorium until population has reached full biomass.
Buy in is not required - enforcement is more important. Buy in means we might do what people want (ie what is best for them) other than what is best for the fish.
amateur fishers should not be able to use cod pots
the min size should increase to 340 mm bag limit sound be no more than 20 blue cod total 30 fish limit for day

I've wasted a lot of time in the past with government fisheries proposals. Let's hope this time the ministry hasn't wasted peoples time again.
reduce number take
Be Fair
Within the A & O - and respecting the need for good/accurate/quality data for decision making - I would at this moment support a national recreational catch limit of no more than 10 per person per day, and would be comfortable with a limit even less than 10 Blue Cod per day.
Primarily buy in has to be from all sectors affecting the fishery .land based to the deep sea.Buy in decisions have to be unanimous
Your allowable take that is larger in some area's, should be reduced also.
Bank amateurs from using cod pots .also set catch rates per person and per boat
Commercial boats need regulating better as they are more constantly out there
You need to ensure you ask opinions from all sectors of fishing, locals are the best.
Ensure the commercial fisheries quotas are not too high.
Bag limits are far too high and legal size too small
Please investigate the "movable no fish zone" concept
Totally opposed to any form of Licence or payment of fees for sea fishing
marine reserves,create more?
I believe the daily limit should be halved and the fishery shut for 1 month every year in august when cod are spawning also the mesh size on cod pots
Introducing a reasonable and fair quota system for everyone including charter boats
also need regular periodic transparent feedback and review so we all can see how effective the changes are and a system of adjustment if the desired results are not being achieved
Suggest a maximum of 6 person where the current quantity is 30.
To be sustainable requires an increase in base numbers in many areas so the limits must be designed to increase the population rather than merely maintaining them.
For generations we have sustainably fished bluecod off the mole at A rampage and we have noticed no decline in the numbers.
Listening to people out there that know!!!
I do think the real take from a true recreational fisher needs to be assessed. Charter boats need to be classed as commercial fishers as these guys are cosistantly hammering spots. Moeraki is a prime example as is taieri mouth. The Commercial sector harps on about their fishery declining from historic catches yet place a large portion on in the increasing number of recreational fishers. I'ds agree further north that there is a huge increase on reccie numbers but the true fact is down south due to the inlimant weather we are lucky to get good days when there is no howling southerly and southerly swell. We need to address the poaching too.
In survey, need to allow for fishing in other fishing areas. The need to consider the impacts of poor commercial objectives in the blue cod fishery otherwise the other objective are compromised.
Identify the recreational catch tonnage. Identify the impact of the quota management system i.e. Were the TACC's correct.
You must know how many BCO are removed from the fishery
Local management to local issues is paramount!! Local panel consisting of rec, commercial and customary supported by MPI
I think most areas need to increase size limits and reduce bag limits. Limtis of 30 in some areas is way more than anyone needs for a feed and it seems that these limits have been left too open for too long
Take in the weather/sea conditions off the Dunedin Coast re: limited fishing days for Recreational Fishers. Also the unique ecosystem off this coast due to the number of canyons.

add paua to your survey as well, both blue cod and paua take limits are to high.
Great to develop aims and objectives, but need to be careful that dragging out development of the procedures does not get in the way of putting them in place. We need to bring down the limit of 30 very soon so the fishery is sustainable.
reduce current bag limits
we need to put in place a 6 per day limit on blue good
Local lwi only need same limits as everyone else.
My concern is that the commercial sector will have a stronger vote than recreational interests
To not change recreational fishing rights/regulations unless commercial and charter boat operators also have effective controls placed on them.
I've been fishing and diving Banks Peninsula, Motunua and the Marlborough Sounds since 1993. I've seen the fishery decline to a very dire state. In the last 10 years we have learnt so much about Blue cod but to see it back to where it was 20 years ago is going to take a lot of work and education. With the modern pleasure boat and the technology available to the recreational fisher the fish are easier to target. I would like to see more reserves, as in no take at all area's. Which have worked in other area's. I also think too many fish a lost from being returned to the sea after being hooked, being a diver we see this. So maybe the first legal fish caught to be kept or a BAN on barbed hooks may help.
shouldn't have buy in .Should have the govt backing making it law,/protected and giving the public the first use of the resource, not as now commercial interests get first priority
Reduce daily catch number. Limit charter boat catch numbers.
To be fair and reasonable, to ensure that the resources are not over exploited so that the fishery is sustainable and does not become depleted so much that no one benefits. It is a community resource and as such has to be sustainable otherwise all will miss out on what is a very valuable resource for all NZ ers.
We need better than sustainable it needs to go to recovery ,and we need fisheries officers on our boat ramp in the weekends ,i have fished here since 1986 and the Decline in the stocks is very noticeable due to the recreational pressure as the Canterbury fishery is near ruined they are coming to our port with no respect for our Blue Cod Fishery
To get commercial, charter, lwi and rec fishers to work together
We need to look at the current daily bag limits and reduce
Have a strategy that does not unfairly disadvantage one group over another
The aims and objectives are commendable but unfortunately unobtainable . Fisheries management throughout the world has the been predominately reactive rather than proactive due to a lack of information and misinformation and lack of buy in from groups that face a potential short term financial loss. I have been an active recreational (20 plus times a year) fisher for over thirty years. Whilst the cod fishing is still good in tbe areas I fish it is in a slow decline. Catch rates and catch size are down throughout the areas I fish. 30 bluecod per person per day in ridiculous. I catch 10 or less if by myself and have a boat limit of a tub (usually under 20) if others are with me. That is heaps for a good feed and to give some to my immediate family. I find that the fish are an excuse to go and have an amazing experience out on the ocean enjoying nature up close and personal. I know a lotof people who see the limit as a "quota" or a target. Some of these people I suspect sell their catch.... I think the financial argument is rubbish (outlay on boat, fuel etc). It is a recreation and should not be measured in return on investment. Please don't listen to all the rednecks who say it is still fantastic fishing and you are taking away their "rights". I am a passionate recreational fisher who goes out more often than anyone I know of (I don't have real job). I have owned a boat or shares in a boat since I was 17 (48 now). The fishing is certainly on the slow decline, there are plenty of places I don't bother trying now because they are not worth it. 10 or 15 max per person is heaps I think this is a realistic limit. If people don't think that is a good enough return on investment they could put their

money in the bank and use the interest to buy fish instead. I would be more than happy to provide further information if it was thought useful. hamishandbrim@gmail.com My alternative is "when information or buy is lacking a conservative approach is taken when setting limits"
Each group (commercial, recreational etc) need to be prepared to make some sacrifice/concession
Individual aims and objectives for the different areas
reduce recreational limits and increase commercial distance to shore
Recreational need bag limits reduced to 10 fish per person and charter boats should have to leave quota from fishing industry to balance catch
Increase the length to 330mm and reduce the catch quota from 30 down to 15 at least
fishing recreational boat contribute to local economy via boats, gear etc being purchased locally. Boat fuel tax on fuel needs to be directed at research, coast guard and fishery targeted issues. This would mean there would be enough money to get good data and then good decision making. I have fished all my life and do not want commercial boats whom are not local or contribute locally to force me to reduce my catch to make it uneconomic for me to run my boat out.
Reduce bag limit to 15 cod
should reduce daily bag limit and police it more often. There are recreational fisherman who are catching heaps all the time and on selling it in Dunedin.
ensure recreational fishing and customary fishing has priority over commercial fishing.
The BCO3 is to large an area to get accurate information, the area sizes need to be cut down as fishing pressure is different in each area. Eg I have fished Moeraki, Kaikoura and Karlitane with very different resultss
Change the limit to 10 or 15 blue cod each 30 is absolutely ridiculous 4 people on the boat is 120 blue cod or 240 fillets in the current daily limit no one needs that much fish at one time
Lower the limit of blue cod 30 fin fish to many boats from Christchurch coming south 4 men fishing flat out for a weekend limit to 20 finfish would be better
Recreational catch limits and customary take need to take priority in making the correct decision in points above.
aim to make changes to the fishing regulations well before fish stocks get that depleted that the fishery has to be shut of, like what has occurred in the malborough sounds with the bluecod and scallop fishery. Also aim to change the attitude of recreational fishing from trying to fill the freezer with fish too catching enough fish for a feed. Also aim to separate significantly the common grounds where recreational fishing is occurring and where commercial fishing is allowed to take place.
Drop the bag limit. limit the amount of fish ACV operators take or create some limits for them to adhere to. Consider ACVs have to pay to catch fish within a limit of some description. Commercial pay to catch / take fish. What do rec do to aid in managing the fishery? drop bag limits to 10 34cm MLS.
support enforcement of the rules
the ministry needs to remember their promise to rec fishers when they agreed to changed rec take back in 1980s.
As long as they genuine dicisions made for fishers not fanatical conservationists
As long as they genuine divisions made for fishers not fanatical conservationists
Cut the numbers in my area but do not close it
Please take notice of people that actually fish for blue cod and not the tree huggers who now nothing about fishing and just want to jump on the band wagon and would be happy to see no fish caught. Eg forest and bird members that have submitted submissions on the proposed reserves without knowing the facts.
Use only circle hooks, No 6 or larger, preferably with crimped barbs to allow safe return of under sized or unwanted fish.

Drop the blue cod quota from 30 to 20
Consideration that fisheries are important for the rest of the marine food web, not just humans
In our southern waters it is the weather that limits the fishing. You can only get out a dozen times a year so putting further restrictions on this is ludicrous. if limits are imposed they should also be imposed on the commercial guys by lowering their quota.
Minimise environmental and non target impact
Aim to create more reserves to protect fish breeding stocks
Protect blue cod habitats; understand the bigger picture e.g. what they eat and what eats them, sustainable yields are not just about the number of fish people take
Does not include anything of tougher penaltys for rule breakers, both commercial or recreational
reduce daily bag limits so everyone boating etc get a feed without getting a feed for a week in one day.
The catch limit around the Canterbury coast needs to be reduced substantially to say 10 per person, 30 is too many!
we need to act quickly and not get wrapped up in too much red tape. Sometimes things take so long that opportunities are missed / situations deteriorate
Just like to know how will it be policed? fishing 44years and only had my catch checked once always all good thou
Lower quotas on recreational and commercial vessels and
Half the recretional limit immediately for all area's
My personal opinion is that the rules are in urgent need of change to protect our blue cod. 1# the daily limit of 30 blue cod per person is robbery of the fish stocks. 2# size limit is to small by 2cm and 3# recreational cod pots need to be banned!. If MPI is serious about change to protect the blue cod these 3 point need to be looked into!
cut down commercial fishers quoters
Educate people on handling of undersized blue cod on board their boat and on their return to the water and the % of Blue Cod that wont actually survive the return back into the Ocean without careful handling.
Commercial fishers must take a quota cut to sustain the fishery
how about a breeding hatchery for the cod
yes, more protected marine sanctuaries areas off the coast to help recover our depleted stocks. Its a no brainer which will help fishing industry but also help to bring back to life our depleted Canterbury coast line.
sustainability is vital, but do this through limiting catch numbers rather than locking up fishing areas. Blue cod fishing is an important part of kiwi culture that we need to keep this alive today as well as in the future.
stop overseas fishermen taking too much from our area
Cut the numbers per persons, if there 5 on a boat and they are are allow 5 person that works to 25 per boat. I see some crafts out twice in weekends greed needs to be policed.
Consider existing fishing rights
Have not seen a decline in Bluecod Numbers .The Otago coast is self managing due to the Weather conditions .There are many days that you cannot fish..
increase size limit of commercial fishing
Anybody with any sense,would support the looking after 'our assests'-'the fishery',but how you go about it is my concern,& looking forward to your next set of questions,to see if I think you are on the right track.
Balance of Fish availability / Size & Catch numbers / seasonal needs
The limit for recreational fishing is far too high at present!

can you proved commercial quota for each area
Yes I would like to see & support the current daily maxium take of 30 reduced to 15. Fish should only be taken recreationally to be consumed fresh not frozen
Like most things like this you are 10 years to late! limits and quota should have been reduced years ago, its the old ambulance at the bottom of the cliff scenario
Daily Limits need to be specific to area
Ensure that sustainability is included in the objectives
make a daily limit maximum of 10 not 30 or 20. 10 fish per person will give you 20 fillets.
More reserves...that are bigger and clearer. Large areas that are only just for Recreational and just for Commercial fishing
There will need to be strong action to oppose selfish short-sighted recreational fisher views.
identify areas that are not for fishing/ areas for some fishing and areas for more fishing Red orange green as done in EU . all fish landed on commercial fishers must be counted in their total quota as the dead fish must be counted.
Recreational fishers must learn the significance of their take and the value to them is no less or more than that of the commercial fishers education and eventually acceptance is the end goal and one that levels the playing field
Reduce the number of blue cod taken per person
Regular reviews of fish stock. Fishing areas are too large to have a fair rules, as Areas that are easy to access will have a high fish take compared to Areas that have limited access due to poor prevalent weather and sea conditions.
Reduce Cod numbers to limit seal population growth
I fish off Shag POint irregularly as the weather has to be very very good for it to be safe through the rocks etc. The 30 cod limit is very good! I d=so think the 30cm minimum size is too small, as a 30cm blue cod ahs very little meat on it. I suggest the minimum size be raised to 33 cm along the Otago coast.
that collecting data doesn't prolong/become an excuse to not protect species. Need to protect first, then collect data
Drop limit catch at motonau to 6 cod per person per day
The blue cod fishery at Moeraki is in serious decline and I think it is almost to late to fix.
In the last decade, I've watched stocks plummet locally, as commercial fishing takes younger and smaller fish and they're fishing harder now, plus there's a huge increase in recreational small boats. The limit should be set at 5 blue cod per person. No one needs more than five legal cod to feed a family. 30 is ridiculous and massively impacting the stock levels.
I fish more regions than one.. your survey only covers one area for me.
If you cut the recreational fisherman then the commercial quota should be cut the same !
Are the current rules appropriate?
Take into account sea and weather conditions in the Kaka Pt/Catlin area limits the number of days recreational fishers can access the resource so catch limits in these areas should be greater that of areas north of Dunedin.
more Rangers and catch checks required
I object to the limit of 30 a day
the number of blue cod off the north otago coast should come down to less than 10 because the 80t ton that the charter boats take is averaging 9 - 10 bluecod per person , to decrease the charter boat take 10 or more will have no effect on the 80t , commercial takr needs to be cut by 2 thirds because they are taking from the same fishery , size limit needs to go up to 35cm and s 2 month closure during spawn , also hook size needs to be a minimum of 12/0 . . and no fishing inside 30m as this

had been desimated by amiture fishing and they are killing alot of throw back undersize fish due to them using small hooks
Action is needed urgently before fish stocks decline to a level where they may not recover
Drop the limit to 15 blue cod per person
Please please set a lower limit to the numbers taken. No body can eat 30!!! People see it as a target and think they are good if they have reached their limit. I've had conversations with people and when I asked them "how did they do?" They very proudly told me "they had got their limit!"
Stop commercial boats sweeping in at night and plundering the local fishery.
Moeraki blue cod daily limit per person max 5 blue cod per person fishing
We as the current guardians of this fish resource have to ensure that it will be still there, for our future generations.
Reduce take 15 per persona s increase size to 35 cm
Speak of ecological equilibrium not sustainability.
control of fishing season around spanning times to enable best replenishment
Reduce the current limit from 30 to 10 - 15
make sure you are getting accurate figures from rec boats on catches per trip - these are often fabricated
cut the recreational quoter and the chartered down to fifteen bluecod per person per day
We have been diving and fishing this area for 17 years and the two main reefs fish reef and danger reef have had a real hidding!!!! Drop the quoter to 20 or even 15 the charter boys are taking the piss and to be honest people only need enough for a feed !!! Not to store up or share with a heap of mates . Dont start me on the crays!!!! We could be here for days !!!! They need help down here too . Make Fish Reef a reserve now!!!!
where there is stress on the fishery, do not favour commercial interests over that of recreational
There needs to be a total boat quota system rather than a 30 per person system. Me and a single spearfisher will never do as much damage to stocks as an 8m alloy hardtop loaded with 6 fisherman staying out to get their limit. 20 fish Per recreational vessel is heaps
Why has it taken so long and why just blue cod
They are generic and meaningless. Make them sart targets. Reduce quota to realistic levels. Who needs 30 fish a day?
Compulsory limit of 6 not a voluntary limit
I am a conservation minded, non-fishing biologist. I support measuring the the population by scientists in a robust study that takes place every month and provides long term data (20 yrs). Based on this, either close all or part of the fishery to all if needed to allow recovery. There is a bit of a myth in my opinion about a birthright for recreation fishers, when boat (and bach) ownership isn;t cheap. The are a loud group, but would see the fishery destroyed to allow their right to fish, Tough decisions could be made to develop a sustainable fishery, but the rules would need to be flexible to respond to good breeding seasons and bad. Fishers also need to stick to the rules (which many dont). The rules need to make sense to be followed and easily enforced. I;m more in favour of complete bans, or north/south/inshore or outer sounds bans, which are clear to all. The problem with catch and size limits is that they are easily ignored. An outright ban is more difficult.
Lower the blue cod limit but still allow 20 fin fish per person. There are other fish to target.
I would like to see 12/0 hook size implemented in our area BCO3, as I feel small hooks kill small fish.
Lower the rec catch in area 3 to 20 bco per person , there's you're marine reserve
Maybe more effort in teaching people how to handle throwbacks ie with a wet rag not your hand
Make the whole of BCO3 all 33cms.
Log books for boat fishermen filled in before leaving the jetty after a day fishing

Commercial fishing methods strengthened. Larger mesh on pots so small fish are not harmed
30 fin fish per day per person is too many. We always take 'a feed' for ourselves and family. dropping the limit by 1/3 would be a good start.
close blue cod fishery completely in areas where cod is almost gone until the stocks have recovered.
Implement a fishing licence for recreational fishing. Managed by rec fishers.
If commercial quota is going to be taken and re issued to recreational fishers the commercial operators should be given compensation
I am happy to support anything that will maintain a fishery for the future. I would like NZ waters to be available for NZ commercial boats only
Set practical limits for recreation fisherman
To get the correct information and make the correct decisions based on this information the experts need to be unbiased experts, not associated with MPI at all. Decades of over fishing by the commercial sector with MPI backing and MPI 'experts' has led us to our current state of decimated fisheries.
Adequate weight needs to be given to recreational fisherman. Transparency over commercial fishing for Blue Cod.
Barbless hooks will make a huge difference to survival rates for blue cod been using barbless for a long time now and for all saltwater fishing.

2.1.4 BCO4

Prioritise blue cod for recreational fishers and reduce bag limits to allow recovery.
Remember we are a community of small fishers who rely on this industry to run as a community so if you put unrealistic rules and guidelines in place such as cameras on all vessels with requirements that the cameras must be working at any time the vessel is fishing this will create a huge problem for us as we don't have the technical support people on Island and the satellite you are planning to use is the same system we use to run our sat phones and we know this clitches out 70% of the time we are trying to use it.
Need to stop landing 6 to 800gm Blue Cod low price in fillet little demand for G+G in this size need to change the mesh size in Blue Cod pots to 60mm.

2.1.5 BCO5

limit 15 per day, September, October months closed for commercial as well as rec. quota take cut
Get buy in as an objective is all very well but engagement is far more important and from the whole breadth of stakeholders and without political or corporate bias.
I suggest a ban on fishing when blue cod produce young. (if there is a season that is). Or a quarterly total ban in all areas e.g winter.
Being a foveaux strait fisherman impose a ban on certain commercial areas as I have seen areas cleaned out within one week eg (no size takeable fish) then months to recover and maybe leave a inshore breeding ground no take policy eg 1000 meters buffer zone
Statistically sound data to aid in decision making. Politically neutral decision making.
Not really but do believe our daily take is too much at present.
Mandatory for recreational fishers and charter operators to recorded catch.
More recreational areas need to be setup to stop commercial fishermen from wiping out areas near to the coastal landing areas
Commercial zones that out of reach of the private boats
Recreational catch 15 blue cod

ensure no one interested group has more influence than any other or is given a higher priority. All stakeholders treated as equal
Recreation fisherman go out approx once a month and take 20 fish. Charters take out maybe twice a day with at least 6 people taking 20 fish each, total it to 200 fish a day. Don't punish recreation fishermen by reduced quotas when we only get out monthly.
Control the customary catch better
all so fish in BCO3
do not have any meeting behind closed doors
I think you are the branch between recreational fishers and commercial fishers
Have some areas for none commercial fishing onley
It is mostly the commercial operations that needs restricting.
Recreational fishers have a daily take allowance that is FAR too big
Stop commercial fishing within a 10km boundary , BC05 close to shore has been destroyed
has there been any studies to the life cyclie of cod in diferent areas, e.g. wat time of year to they bread more if any, what time of years is faster growth, what environmental factors are affecting the fisheries
Unsure if this is the right place. This fish is a taonga, but it is just so expensive to buy. Is blue cod exported? If so, can we do some work to find out what it would mean if exports were capped at a lower level? Ie, rather than just use TACs, add another element about where the fish can be consumed.
Reduce recreational and commercial take close areas to commercial take
I am worried about the " expert information" from other government studies , this could be bent to suit objectives of commercial fishermen, I have noticed a massive increase of commercial fishing propaganda on tv, what are they up to?
It's bloody easy, is there something I'm missing? Maybe there are other factors affecting the population of bluecod around nz? But for a start, lower the bloody limits, who would need 20 bloody blue cod?!? If there are 5 people on 1 boat (usually are 5 or more) that's 100 cod for the one boat?!? Why do you think the numbers are decreasing???
With blue cod 5 we already have made substantial recommendations regarding the state of our fishery. I hope you will work with us also. Otherwise lots of doubling up of info. Who asked for this committee?
Commercial and non commercial areas to be established. Make Bluff area and coastline a reserve which would then create a feeder to the non commercial area
All inland waters of Stewart Island should have the recreation catch the same as the Mataitai in Paterson Inlet
who do you call expert hope you've got fishermen on the panel
Reduce the daily person take of fin fish catch collectively, here in the southland we can catch 20 blue cod and 10 other fin fish. Way to much fish to take home for a FEED, especially if I have 3-5 pers on my boat, this is a lot of kai moana removed from our seas. Secondly introduce more marine reserves, and changes these on 10 yearly basis. I believe would introduce more sea life to certain areas, and are great spots for diving as well
more maf staff & fines of a higher cost no slap on the wrist by the courts
Benchmark the population and don't make the mistakes that have been made in the Marlborough Sounds fishery. Keep it simple and effective. Maybe set a maximum size or work on the basis that the first six fish you catch are it irrespective of size.
Stop all fishing in all areas to allow fish stocks to recover.
Commercial quota in Bco5 needs to be cut to 900 ton and recreational needs to be cut to 6 cod per person per day.

lower bag limit 10 per person or 30 per boat
invading privacy by installing cameras and requiring gps fishing points is not the way to get buy in or to collect information
Getting the right information is crucial, yes but then sharing, & delivering the current and future situation is critical to get the buy in to then allow the other objectives to be successful.
Prioritise the recreational and customary over commercial.
Communicating to all should be a priority - it was luck I knew about this
This survey is quite vague. It is hard to agree to generic terms. We are opposed to cameras and tracking this is not good science, we are in support of pot limits and mesh size changes and pot size restrictions. Actual changes for the benefit of the fish stocks. Fishers need proper consultation before anything is implemented on their vessels.
BC05 is an enormous area, reserves or subdivisions could be an option to provide better data and replenishing rates
The amount of blue cod we are permitted to catch per person per day is set way to high.It should be set at 8 a day
It seems this process completely ignores the huge amount of work the BCO5 Group has done over the last few years. It seems to overlook our aims and initiative and Industry lead changes. For example shelving. 20% reduction in Qouta. Mesh size regulation changes. Plus considerable Industry lead research.
The sustainable level is infact sustainable and allowable catch is not over estimated. Cautios approach.
In our area rec fishers can hardly ever get out. Commercial fishers out most days. They should not be also allowed a rec catch limit each.
no commercial fishing around bluff hill dog island etc
Put the limit on cod to only 10 per a person because that is plenty for a feed and family and friends
Need to drop recreational bag limits until we get a clearer picture of whats happening in the fishery; maybe down to 15 or 10
I feel that recreational areas should be defined as often we are competing with commercial vessels which are capable of going further and in rougher conditions yet they go for close easy access areas used by recreational fishers.

2.1.6 BCO7

As an ornamental fish breeder of some 60+ years, I would suggest that none of your "so called" experts have the slightest idea of what is trying to be achieved.
educate fishers in the species blue cod, its life cycle, spawning, annual size growth, survival in catch and release, population recovery information etc
Listen and actually do something that will fix the problems
improve the environment where the blue clod live,this will improve the stocks of all the other fish(not just blue cod) as well
Barbless hooks
In regard to objective 1: you must have the correct science: you must determine where the breeding grounds are and that bluecod possibly migrates at different stages of their life
To make simple easy to comply! with and inforce, equitable rules that is the same for all interested partys.
Need a single body such as Legasea, NZ Initiative, with funding from road tax rebate on boat fuel, or a small \$20.00 annual license fee
There is nothing wrong with the aims and objectives it is rather how the division between commercial and recreational interests are to be resolved in a fair manner

Must keep monitoring stocks to be in touch with the fishery
It should be closed in there spawning season no matter what
Need accurate habitat information before can make the right decisions. In the Marlborough Sounds for the last 15yrs, rules have been based on inaccurate and misleading information
This is an example of a fishery mis-managed by MPI (and MFish previously). The indicators of a decrease in population and imminent collapse were there, but nothing happened until too late. We need rapid, active management that deals with the tough decisions quickly and assertively. The recreational population of NZ deserve better than a lazy, slow-acting ministry that has too few funds and too many corporate lobbyists at their door!
Exclude all commercial cod fishing within the Marlborough Sounds.
Need sensible rules that doesn't stop launch owners from catching and eating cod whilst living on the water
Recreational only fishing areas are essential in gaining trust, sensible equitable rules are important between regions
stop commercial cod potters raping the fish stocks
Hand management over to alternative organization MPI are proven ineffective they do not deserve any more chances
Look at the timing of the closed period. I feel it should be shut during the Xmas break as more people from outside Marlborough come into the district and put far more pressure on the blue cod/fish numbers. Why should it be closed for locals out side of this period just to be reopened for the thousands of holidaymakers to destroy the numbers that was generated during the closed periods. If people from out side of the Blenheim/Marlborough what to come to Marlborough to catch fish they can do it outside of the Xmas period .
less bloody talk and more action
Look at the sounds holistically and see what impacts of fishing, dredging, forestry are all doing to habitat and impacts from these on cod
It must work within the whole ecosystem- not just one species focused
Understand that not all areas are the same and differing approaches will be required for the different areas throughout nz
Need to address the commercial guys as well and also forrestry in the Marlborough sounds
We need to provide artificial reefs for blue cod for spawning. Stop further development of the Marlborough sounds by the marine industry especially salmon farms. MPI needs to work with other divisions within the ministry such as forestry to reduce run off in the Marlborough sounds which is destroying the habitat.
Where
stop commercial dredging for scallops in the sounds, that damage the sea bed that effects cod and other fish.
It is important that decisions pertain to local fishing areas rather across the whole zone. Tasman Bay should not have the same regulations as Marl;borough Sounds for instance.
information is needed on when blue cod spawn in Marlborough sounds. the current closure I do not see as work because the blue cod have not spawned by Dec 20th so I see the closure as set at wrong time it should be nov-jan20th closed.
More recognition from people out there doing it
One aim should be to preserve and protect the environment of blue cod
you need to make it easier to find this information for your website is a nightmare to navigate so I then respond to this question
I strongly object to the variations in landing / quota rules, ie cod taken from the Cook Strait having restrictions different if landing in the South Island versus the North Island.

I think a 350mm minimum size should be set Nation wide. Also a maximum size limit set so the big breeding fish are returned this would need to extend to commercial fisherman. Also ban long shank hooks, circle hooks should be used as they rarely gut hook. A maximum bag limit of 10 blue Cod per person per day except in areas already under protective management. A maximum boat limit eg 30 fish regardless of how many people on board some fishers load their boats with kids and non fishers to increase their limit. Possible closures over spawning periods. More education around handling fish that need to be returned. It wouldn't bother me if I had to attend a annual training day to receive a certificate to be able to fish.
The aim and objectives are currently very generic and therefore there is very little to argue for or against
Every New Zealander should be treated equally regardless of so-called commercial or customary rights.
Aims excellent - implementation the problem
Set fishable area, Set a catch season, set a size limit, set a catch number limit per fisherman,
Reduce the allowable take of cod to a sustainable level and to increase stocks.
Reduce the complexity of current rules to maximise recreational compliance. Sounds blue cod regs are currently ridiculous and have occurred through political mis management
Review whether the existing commercial quota system best meets the needs of effective management.
One of the biggest issues for the cod fisheries is the run off from forestry blocks that have been logged. There is no longer anything holding the soil/clay and after rain this ends up in the SOunds gradually covering the cod's natural habitat. There is nothing but mud right out to Holmewood Bay. You wonder why the cod fisheries is in crises. Aside from the cod struggling to survive there is very little marine life or marine growth at all which is shameful. One does not have to be a rocket scientist to see what of the main issues is that is contributing to the decline in blue cod. Until you address this and make the Forestry Companies responsible for controlling the run off or stopping forestry altogether in the Marlborough Sounds, having closed seasons alone is not going to save the Blue Cod. I would opt for closing Forestry altogether - will the MDC have the balls to do this. I doubt it as it brings income and jobs into Marlborough. You could limit the areas in the Marlborough Sounds where forestry could continue and where the impact of run off would be less - maybe somewhere more tidal. I will say it again - until you address the run off from logging, you are going to struggle to save the Blue COd species in the Marlborough SOunds because their habitats have been destroyed.
listen to the guys that catch and sell live bluecod they know the fishery and behaviour and sensitivity of the fish
Make the rules apply to the area fish is caught in not the area it is landed
Stop commercial fishing in the sounds. There are plenty of other areas for them to fish. Leave the recreational areas alone. Current practices display greed and lack of concern by the commercial guys.
Have the same fish limits nation wide ie 2 cod per fisher person
Put a complete stop to blue cod fishing in the south island for 3 years and see if populations re-establish over that time period. Commercial limits should be cut in half over that period
I believe a network of marine reserves is needed to consistently replenish fish stocks
yes it annoys me that people from mana come and rape the sounds and their quota is much higher than ours it is not on
increase policing of recreational blue cod fishers in the outer marlborough sounds
I think for Challenger East the cod limit should be more like 10/day. 20 is too much compared to Challenger West/Marlborough

Easy to support the aim and objectives but are very broad and "feel good" and don't tell me a lot at all.
Close the cod fisheries for a longer duration I.e 6months on or close bigger areas to create larger marine reserves
make the limit 35 also commercial guys blame needs to be shifted from commercial to both industries both commercial and recreational are both to blame but we all need yo work together as my boss and friends livelyhood depends on them being able to cod fish In the outer sounds price of purchasing a new boat gear used to catch the fish mortgage repayments etc
in the objectives there was mention about the environment and its inhabitants - here before human existance, what/who monitors the health for the environment itself (devoid of human contact)
Some where along the way the team seem to have totally forgotten that the marlborough Sounds area has been over and over the blue cod issue and to come out with this seems to be very weird and a bit of an insult to all the work that has previously gone on. That said, my personal opinion is that the poor old BCO just cant survive the amount of slaughter it gets all year round and the fancy gear and boats that are out there now. That combined with the aquaculture, deforestation and numbers of fishers (rec and commercial) has just been a recipe for disaster. All of the outfits have to be tackled. My 2 cents worth.
The current blue cod season in the Marlborough Sounds closes September 1 & reopens December 20. I feel the closed season should extend through to mid January. This would prevent the pressure the fishery comes under from the Christmas holiday period.
Fair share of fishery/areas.Transparent process. Real achievable goals. Develop variable allocation/allowance system.
Current situation ok with me I see no immediate problem.
we need easy understandable rules that last for a few years. I get confused when rules change frequently.
We need to aim for a restorative fisheries target, not simply maintenance of the same dire situation we have now
Hi. From my experience at fishing for blue cod i have used barbless circle hooks. The fish are a lot easier to remove from the hook if you need to release them. them.
More marine reserves are required to improve overall fishing outcomes.
I feel the current blue cod rules in sounds are ridiculous, 2 blue cod should be raised to 3 or 4... we also dive and there is huge amount of blue cod in the sounds, we struggle catching other fish sometimes because of them
Recreational fishing by kiwis, a custom, needs protection above all else
Heavily restrict the taking of fish all over New Zealand . Think seriously about throwing out the whole quota system . Start again . Almost ban all commercial fishing until stock fully recover
I feel that it is a good thing to close the fishery in the challenger area to help the cod to recover but to open it again on the 20th of December just when thousands of people go on holiday defeats the purpose it's wholesale slaughter out there what chance do the blue cod have
to be fair any limit imposed needs to apply to all fishers. I take around 15 -20 cod per year. I know of one person getting a permit to take 200 cod in one week end. How is the fishery supposed to sustain that?
Stop the pollution of the Sounds from Marine farming - namely the introduction of nitrogen from salmon feed and the degradation of the water column and sea floor from pellet feed and fish excrement.
Commercial blue cod potting should be limited, when the recreational ban is on
There has been far to mauch talk for far too long. Too many meetings and groups set up and reports written and advice given, but in the end nothing or very little has been done and the fishery continues to get hit harder and harder every year and the overall stock and average size is decreasing. Sort

your [redacted] out and get national standards in place that mean people crossing into different areas are fishing to the same rules and cant get out of loopholes.
There needs to be greater separation between commercial and recreational fishing. Leave set areas that are easiest to access to the recreational fishers.
Aim to make any catch decisions fair to all groups. i.e any cut backs or closed seasons or size limits equal.
Similar daily catch allowance over all areas for recreational fishers, not just areas deemed under pressure. The Marlborough Sounds regulations are in the right direction for sustainability and need to be broadened, even at a modified level. Between 2 and 4 catch per day is plenty for anyone.
restrict commercial fishing in Sounds
Stop commercial fishing inside marlborouh sounds
Consistency
For credibility purposes the so called 'expert panel' should be named and their qualifications for the role stated.
Many areas have a demished amount of suitable hibatat. it is becoming a major factor in reducing fish stocks
To ensure people buy in and actively support initiatives and rules, make them fair and equitable and remove unfair existing rules the like set net regulations in the challenger Area, commercial allowed year round, recreational restricted to a few months of the year. Making existing conservation measures and regulations fair across all sectors will enhance MPI,s public image, the public will then support and willingly adopt any further measures to ensure the long term sustainability of our fisheries.
The older rule with two fish between a certain size resulted in catching less fish that were the wrong size....
drop size limit to 300mm to help stop waste
Stop all commercial in Sounds
Comercial fishing is to big for our sustainable stoaks and should be band for a short period to increase stocks
The current limits imposed on recreational fishing are far to restricted
I think we should hold off reopening the season till after the xmas break as I have experienced the pressure on the fisherys around this time of year an a lot of people come an clean it out over xmas
Have no faith in your ability look at your last 5 year performance changeing sizes disgusting.
In areas of marine reserves where there is prolific Blue Cod numbers. A selected season to take large cod out. To stop canabalisim of younger cod.
Isi involvement is paramount
getting the right information must include understanding the impact of forestry in teh dounds and impact/destruction of seabed structure.
Lower the limit
You needs cod breeding program also loss of habitat due to marine farming
It is such a given that the objective "to make the right decision" is redundant in ths questionnaire and its inclusion somewhat shakes my confidence in the design of the questionnaire. Who would want to make other than the "right" decision - whatever that is?
It is important that people understand how blue cod breed and not to over fish areas so this enables the area to be sustainable. I have noticed a huge difference in the Marlborough sounds over the last 5 years the fish stock has returned and appears to be stable I believe the people of the area understand this.
The aims and objectives are "motherhood and apple pie " statements to which no one can really object as they are very general

Information is sometimes used to meet Government objectives rather than interpreting in a truthful way
Commercial and customary fishing activity within the sounds should also be restricted to match the recreational season.
Any rules must be clear concise and enforceable
To increase the quality of habitats to improve fish stocks
Improve Habitat
we need to add that this is all about the next generation. Blue cod are a fish that all ages can catch (to their detriment) but it often provides that moment when kids get hooked on fishing and begin their journey into the outdoors.
Given the stock management success the rules created by the Blue Cod Management Group had on Blue Cod in the Marlborough Sounds over the last 3 to 4 years, are these rules a basis for the current proposals?
Ban fishers from outside the region
Set equal annual tonnage allocations for the three user groups namely customary recreational commercial, have those catches annually tradeable as some groups may not currently need their allocation. Equal allocations provide for equal participation.
Need to look at educating recreational fishers on how to unhook cod and release gently so they have a better chance at survival. With size limits in place, 80% of what you catch has to go back. How many survive? Research is needed here. Also look at managing the number of Shags in the Marlborough Sounds. Much of what you release, not matter how hard we try, goes down the hatch of these birds.
This is not an alternative aim, rather to bring it all together. The final regulations must be fair and equitable to recreational fishers, customary right fishers and the commercial sector. I believe this can be achieved, but only if all three parties are prepared to work together and be prepared to compromise for the ultimate result. It is also important to ensure that at all times common sense prevails.
Also focus on enforcement
Please don't bring back the slot rule
Recreational and cultural fishing should be addressed before any allocation of commercial quota.
Get feedback from recreational fishers on their catch to add to the background knowledge
It seems strange that when you are seeking to conserve stocks the blue cod open season starts during the busiest tourist season of the year - ie December. Whilst it is understandable that MPI wish to cater to the masses, keeping the fishery closed over the six week Christmas period could produce huge benefits.
One rule for everyone customary rights or not
I believe that all interest groups should be treated equally eg. if recreational have to observe a closed season then so should other groups and if recreational are not allowed to fish in a particular area then neither should other groups
The "for all" at the end of aim, may not be appropriate as the population grows and more recreational fishers start taking part, it isn't appropriate that commercial fishers continue to fish in certain areas, or with current allowances. Not if we want to keep the kiwi pastime of going out with a reasonable chance to catch a feed. No proportional allocation! I also don't think it's appropriate to ask whether there needs to be a framework, unless you're explaining details. How could there not be a framework anyway as long as there are rules. The question is banal and meaningless.
Research needs to be done re the bag high limits in some areas.
We need to look at what has happened to the cod environment, sedimentation etc
Possibly drop the min size of blue cod to 30cm so you drop drop so many good fish back

would like to see the aim broadened to include the whole ecosystem - single species focus has no scientific credibility and shows a complete lack of understanding of the complexities involved
please talk to real fishermen who like a good feed of fish but will not rape the fishery through greed. 5 fish per fisher per day is more than enough.
The current limit of is OK but it needs to be dropped back to 30cm. To get your two fish you end up killing at least twelve. I don't see that as being efficient use of a resource. The system at the moment is no better than the slot rule we had.
The support for take is qualified by the fact that the take may be zero for all or any groups of fishers. Although I usually get my quota there is a general dearth of Blue Cod within the Sounds and many fishers struggle. Don't seem to be recovering at all !!
Often times gathering the evidence is used as an excuse for not doing anything. The fishery is collapsing in the Marlborough Sounds, and yet both recreational and limited commercial catch is still allowed. Shut the Fishery down before it's a moot point. All fisher's know that one only has to go back 20 years to remember what a robust fishery looks like.
Quantify the impact of aquaculture on the fisheries in the marlborough sounds. Until there is acknowledgment of the issues around the industrialization of the waters and land use and steps taken to rectify the current situation any tinkering with catch limits etc are a waste of time and money.
The same regulations to apply to all including Maori.
When using the information from the research to come up with targets to manage the fishery it is important that you are absolutely transparent and share all the quote information with the public. If the rules are unfair between the public and the commercial fishery and it is not made public knowledge people eventually find out and break the rules. Their fall back is the classic passive aggressive response the commercial guys are the problem not me. So the rec fishers need to know how much they take out of the sounds also. Not only the quotas but what they mean for building the fishery for the future generations with timeline objectives for the number of fish held in the sounds and number that can be take over time.
Past management mistakes and the delay in implementing them must be considered. I also believe consistency across management areas should also be an objective
The last 5 times fishing all I can catch is blue cod even in 100m of water on a bank and with 5 people on board we have our limit in 20mins of fishing and I run a ruler of nothing under 36cm cod so in my eye the limit is fine the way it is
Concerned about the predatory shags devouring released under sized blue cod
don't be hasty in the final decision....take all the time it takes to come to the right one.....and if the law changes (if any) will be the right ones we will never have to change them again...
Total take needs to be decreased in many areas... to many greedy recreational fisherman...
I will like to see any rules created focused around not only sustainable levels of blue for but forever replenishing levels of blue cod. Sustainable fishing doesn't always mean abundant fishing.
More and larger reserves that offer an abundant food source to keep fish in that area
Question has to be asked is this both recreational and commercial you are talking about in your Aims and Objections because my answer will be very different if you are just talking recreational
Get feed back from locals not people who don't live in the area
Buy in is obviously ideal but sometimes you have to make tough calls and push them through despite opposition.
Customary fishing needs a serious overhaul as I've seen it abused too often over the years!

2.1.7 BCO8

This must be the dumbest survey I have seen.and not worth time to complete and a waste of time to make. Can you please explain what it was meant to achieve! It tell no one anything! All involved in this need sacking so we can get constructive input not time wasting questions as documented.
If rec.fishers have to stop catching blue cod,so too should all commercial fishers.
Ban cod pots
Size limits should should be set for maximum as well as minimum to ensure breeding stock
We must look at enharnsment by levie per kg to have hatchery and release juveniles.40% of my business is with live blue cod and it worries me NZ is relying solely on biomass catch effort management.
To understand how MPA's can support the blue cod fishery
You need to support an increase in marine reserves throughout New Zealand, if you have any chance of fulfilling your aim.
I think we should start considering a season, lower bag limits and increased marine reserve (to facilitate spillovers)

2.2 “How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?”

2.2.1 BCO1

New to fishing in bay of islands havnt seen this species yet
its not great but there is a small population
We are always fishing in blue cod territory and very rarely catch any.
we usually target snapper but catch plenty of Blue cod
Only caught one
Blue cod tend to be a by-catch of snapper fishing and are often quite small but they are common and adults are always welcome on board.
It's about more than fishing. I want to dive and see these animals in their natural habitat not under threat from fishing!

2.2.2 BCO2

It's been steeply declining for years some places it's very hard to get a feed other not so bad
good some days,
good in isolated areas, neutral to poor closer to the city
getting a lot worse in the last five years
Some areas of Wellington Harbour and the south coast are far more productive fishing than the traditional Marlborough Sounds blue cod fishing.
It used to be very good and can be hit and miss... there are still a few areas that fish well.
When I see Blue cod piled up in supermarket open chillers alongside Kahawai its being overfished.
Most inshore Reef in hawkes bay does not hold very many adult cod
Catches have decreased in the last 10 years. Especially close to shore
There are very few blue cod and size is very small.
I dont fish very regularly so it is hard to monitor
Most often fish between the harbour mouth and Palliser Bay.
In your area ? But we fish more than one area. Environmental conditions determine where we fish but what are they you do not want to know by the questions

2.2.3 BCO3

have noticed small decline due to a number of factors commercial potting main factor
We noticed a decline in the numbers of blue cod in Kaikoura in the years leading up to the earthquake - often we would catch just one or none. We have not fished the area often since the November 2016 earthquake.
The size of the fish are smaller than a few years ago. There are a lot more boats out there now
Since the earthquake the fishing has been excellent
in the last ten years the amount of cod has reduced significantly
The reason why it is good is because we go a long way off shore
https://theconversation.com/new-zealands-fisheries-quota-management-system-on-an-undeserved-pedestal-82210
the past 5 years the fishing has been getting better every years with numbers caught and sizes
compared to 10 years or more ago there is a lot more pressure on the fishery observed by an ever increasing number of boats
not as many as the old days

Karitane is our home and very fished out due to ease of access for recreational fishermen
I would love to fish banks peninsula but that fishery has been allowed to collapse it needs to be closed until it recovers. I know the parlour state of that fishery as I dive that area frequently and see very few blue cod. moki are a different proposition.
In the twenty or more years that i have fished this area the size and quantity of fish has remained reasonable constant although i can see that with the use of more sophisticated fishing aids that this could change in the foreseeable future.
I hav fishd between oamaru and shag point for bluecod for well over 10years and i hav had to watch our fishery get raped and plunderd by the growing charter and recreational fisherman and it has got the point that it makes me sick. We are restricted buy quota and hav been for many years my boss ken harris has prity much the only bluecod qota that is caught comercially between oamaru and shag point and thats around 12tons.but with upto 6 charter boats in this area taking double what we do each boat its simply not sustainable and thats not counting the hundreds of recreational boats going out all the time that is why i would like to se the bluecod limit dropd to 10 per person
A reduction in bag limits would keep it good as more people are going fishing
where we fish any more than 15 knots you cant get fishing its all weather dependent 13klms off coast
30 cod is too many 15 would be a good no .we never take more than that .commercial needs to be looked at as well
I think that the numbers are dropping off. I think that the limit is too high, it should reduced to 15 blue per day per person
One can catch Blue Cod, but the size and numbers are considerably fewer than but a few years ago.
Good but at the catch current rate we will over fish it
The weather dictates The amount of fishing we do .Also there seems to be an abundance of smaller fish to put back.
Alot of local knowledge needed to move this to the good group
I believe the quota should have been lowered years ago, 10 Cod at Motunau is far too much, I think 5 or 6 is plenty.
Our local boat club own the boat ramp and part of the agreement of using our ramp is that you adhere to the voluntary limit of 20 fish instead of the MAF limit of 30 fish per person.
There is no argument there has been a decline but we need to be very careful to identify why and how bad it really is.
Was very good 20 years ago
Some periods better than others. Overall plenty of cod over 33 cm. The weather protects the fishery to a large extent. Often too rough, no good after north ,north /east weather.
Good but declining in both size and numbers of fish.
It all depends on the sea conditions, Blue cod do not like turbid waters and after rough seas they can be hard to catch as they tend to sit on the bottom until conditions improve. This is one reason why some people think their area is getting fished out but is in fact environmental conditions at play
Fishing has gotten very poor over the last 5 years. As a club member of the Kakanui and the oamaru clubs we only take 20 fish. As we have been doing this for years why has mpi not done anything be for now
Has significantly declined over the time I have been fishing
At present the recreational fisher is able to catch enough blue cod for dinner with a bag limit of 6 per day but this wont be the case soon with comercial boats setting cod pots.
Not as many but larger than expected.

The fishing tends to vary from good to bad depending on the sea conditions there are areas that you can't catch a bluey when it's dirty yet those same spots can be very productive in good sea conditions
low quantity means that the daily limit isn't reached often
Have noted no change in our area.
All depends on the day like any form of hunting gathering
There is very good fishing there, however it has pushed further from shore due to overfishing in my opinion
The need to consider increasing Charter Blue Cod separately
We mainly fish around Toe Rock and only take enough for a good feed for family & friends.
Daily take limits are far to high. A 50% reduction to 15 fish a day is more than sufficient
No opposed to minimal bag reduction if issues with the fishery is identified. Also support an increase in mls to 33
Very weather dependant
Fantastic ecosystem! Lack of recreational fishing due to constant unfavourable weather and sea conditions!
fishing is good but would be great if take limit was dropped
Stocks are diminishing
reduce bag limits
It is taking longer to catch the same amount of fish
Some days I could catch nothing and other days in the same spot catch good numbers, but always below the maximum allowed.
The Blue cod numbers have declined in the last 5 years and harder to find.
The current pressure upon the fishery will result in a deterioration of the resource as more and more boats go out and over fish what is not an unlimited stock. Modern boats, fish finders and access which is so easier than it had been years ago has placed an undue pressure on this resource. Restriction on catch limits is going to be increasingly important and then a serious look at marine reserves in the area should follow.
There are good days and bad days
Still good but on the decline from personal observation over the last 30 years
Not sure it seems to be getting quite a bit worse though
why is commercial boats allowed to take smaller fish than rec boats
Most of the time the sea conditions protect the fishing off Taieri mouth
Still good but depleting
Moeraki and Karitane
Noticing rapid decline
Blue cod dropping off to many people catching fish close to shore
Can be good but do have to work harder due to local depletion due to charter operators working in shore reefs
We only fish from a small vessel and are having to travel long distances out to sea to find blue cod in reasonable numbers, it involves taking serious risks travelling out that far in a small boat. 10 years ago we could catch blue cod very close to the boatramp but over the years are having to travel further and further to catch bluecod.
year classes missing. Otago need to have a reduced bag limit.
Often hard to find blue cod, and when they are found many of them are below the legal limit.
most times we go fishing we catch enough fish for at least 2 or 3 meals - sometimes more
Not as good as 5-10 years back, that is for sure!

ie four days all day over long weekends and any really flat weather.
Seasonal during the year
Good due to the fact that the weather in our area doesn't allow excessive fishing days unlike the further north where the weather is predominantly more settled.
It is much worse than when i started fishing this area in the mid 1990's
Stocks slowly returning but majority under sized.
There has been a significant decline in abundance of blue cod in BCO3
Good some days and pretty bad the next....a bit patchy
Knowing how it has reduced from before my time, eg evidenced by abandoned shore fishing sites.
remains sound as the biggest detetment is the ability to get out. ie the weather as this is huge factor
It was once a very good fisheries but long lining has completely destroyed it
Numbers are declining, you have to hunt harder to get fewer than 20 years ago
Weather usually determines a good days fishing either boat or rock fishing
Many days spent fishing only to come home empty handed.
It has gotten considerably worse in the last two years.
Not a lot of foul ground in Canterbury bright so fishing is condensed to small areas
Better years ago for sure.
over run by sea perch.
Very good in some areas not greatly fished in.
The area is very patchy. A commercial fisher targeted the common recreationally fished areas a few years ago and almost wiped the populations out.
every day is very different..
It all depends on how much the commercial fishers and poachers have done the area over
I have seen the sizes and they have certainly got alot smaller.
becoming more difficult to catch
Have not seen or heard any on-shore fisherman getting legal bluecod around for past 2 years.
Some days blue fishing is hard to catch on fishing rod, but when you dive same spot there is usually plenty of bluecod down there!
If you know where & how to fish, a daily bag limit is not hard to fill. (local knowledge is a bonus)
Seasonal variances ..generally Good WEather conditions limits/ maintains balance
Obviously good as limit is so high, but how long for? It needs to be reduced and we need the marine reserve sorted sooner rather than later!
Requires a boat or kayak for proper access. Hardly caught from shore
over fished
To much to say to put down here
started going down hill after a commercial cod potter working this area
Was not great now poor due to too large a take limit.
Not in a position to give an informed answer
Not huge numbers but still good
Blue cod fishing has it's days some days they can be not as active but numbers are definately high in the Taieri mouth area because this area is limited to fishing by the weather and the bar crossing.
I have fished this area all my life....it's shocking the level of stock, but not just for blue cod. Really see it when diving.
fishing off beaches is not successful anymore and sizes of fish are small through whole area.

Getting alot better along the inshore. I have dived the area for 17 years and now see lots of juvenile. The area out wide 20km from land is superb and getting better but not many people fish there
Weather dependent on reaching a good area to fish. Hence reason we were never out last year.
The times we are able to fish during the year, we have no problems catching a good number & good sized fish.
I think fish stocks are low for lots of species, this can be seen to have flow on effects on other species i.e. penguins
Managed to catch 5 years ago without much difficulty. Haven't caught nor been out in the past year or two
Limit cod dropped from 30 per person to 12 of outer banks peninsula
It used to be a lot better 10 to 20 years ago It is now over fished by non " local" area fishers who take as many blue cod as they can I and my fishing mates have always limited ourselves to no more than 15 blue cod on a good day .And we have always agreed that 30 blue cod per person was excessive ..
It has declined .
The limit of 30 is insane, it should be five. Plus all the people who break the rules, know that the chances of them being caught are minuscule. The Otago fishing area is huge, and in ten years I've never seen a fisheries officer at our local boat ramp or at sea.
Certain areas get hammered by commercial potting and rec. Fishers. Of areas I visit some stand a lot better than others.
seems to be getting worse
Has declined in my time, smaller size and have to go further to get them, not as bad in the catlins tho
Poor in comparison to what it was 2-3 years ago mainly small fish being caught
But I highly recommend that the limit is dropped to 15 per person
Kaikoura. Slowly over the years we are having to go further and further from the boat ramp to catch a feed.
Over fished by commercial in shore
Every year it gets harder and harder
many amateur fishers assume to know the area but dont and fish in dead areas therefore think the area is not productive
Read point 12
fish size and ease of fishing has reduced over the years.
In 3 years fishery has declined from 3 people on boat getting 10 fish each in 3 hours to only 10 fish per boat in three hours.
Good if looked after
I dont know - i dont fish, but i know that the population is under increasing pressure
Declining
While neither poor or great, In the past it was a lot better.
I think the rec pressure takes more out of area than commercial
I am formally commercial and have seen a dramatic decrease in inshore fin fish
Fish are definitely getting smaller.
I have not seen a legal sized blue cod when spearfishing around banks peninsula.
Quota (fm3) is to large to manage properly.
It has deteriorated to some degree. More smaller fishing compared to larger
This fishery has gone downhill massively in the last ten years with no changes to bag limits.
Fish are getting smaller and harder to catch

The area I fish will remain sustainable with small vessels commercial fishing blue cod and recreational fishers continuing to fish as they have for years. Banning bigger vessels from in shore areas where recreational fish is paramount.
the blue cod are only in specific localised areas and some of these seem to have taken a hammering lately making it quite hard to find any legal fish.
Sporadic amounts
Kaikoura is slowly getting worse for Blue cod fishing . Plenty of small cod around but very few "keepers"
Used to be excellent a 3/4 years ago, but now is getting harder with less abundant fish.
Improved from very poor, though still not good.
Unsure
Very very bad

2.2.4 BCO4

No comment

2.2.5 BCO5

Would like to see daily limits reduced
getting less and less taxable fish
It is clearly not what it was several decades ago but is not in crisis.
Harder to get a feed.
more commerical pressure close inshore and they tend to bomb a area with pots leaving no size takable fish
I think size and abundance are diminishing with time
I think it is in decline from past years and the ability to catch a feed takes longer.
It's the time it now takes to catch same amount of fish, that you would have caught years ago
commercial fisherman have been able to clean out the local areas they have no number of fish limit only a yearly quota
The number of small fish shows the big fish are being taken by pots
About 50 percent of the time i can get one or two cod and that is enough of a harvest for me. However, this is poor because I have to work hard to find them. it would be better to see more and be able to easily get a cod every time I go out.
It used to be good, but with the proliferation of small boats, and catching for the freezer sizes and numbers have fallen.
Mostly spear fish
Stocks are good and remember rec fisherman can't get out on fovo that often.
A noticeable increase in rec anglers over the past 5 years has had an impact on the fishery
Still easy enough to catch, but the size is not what it used to be.
It is good but if we keep fishing it the way we are it will be poor very soon
for every takable fish there are probably 3 or 4 undersize fish released. Very healthy numbers I feel.
you now have to fish longer to get larger cod
The weather only lets us get out a couple of times a month witch helps the fishery
It use to be very good 15 -20 years ago.
The fish are further out and deeper than they traditionally were (so I have been told)
Use to be good , most spots are littered with commercial pots , not good enough

Some days are definitely better than others, but catching a feed and not our limit is our objective. Enough for a couple of feeds each is fine considering we only get out every 6 weeks or so.
I started fishing in BC05 in 2002 and I have noticed a steady decline in numbers of larger cod (the breeders), this area did have a limit of 30 cod!!!! insane number, I limit my take to ten a day as ten Stewart Island cod will feed a family for months. Numbers need to be addressed sooner than later, talking to commercial fishermen they say numbers are high, but size is diminishing
Other areas I have fished have better fishing than Bluff and I think this is caused by overfishing due to ease of access to the bluff fishing grounds. Offshore fishing like rock fishing is very rare to get a legal size cod with ease
It is very evident after commercial boats with pots have been on Waipapa Point for days on end no more than 150 metres offshore has a significant effect on catching legal length cod. The pot system needs to be a restricted time on spots which can be monitored now they all require GPS monitoring. Living near this spot I know when I see boat or boats out there days on end when I take my family out there we battle to catch many legal length cod
Good in areas where big commercial boats can't get to
Lower the limit before it's too late
Yes it has sound science behind it as well. Pre-recruitment is as good as it was in the 1980s. Though if a commercial vessel has fished an area then generally that area will need a spell of around 2 months in order for the younger fish to get to a reasonable size. Our fish catches have been very good with catches of 60 tonnes over 110 days fishing.
If commercial fishing has been through the area the sizes are noticeable
Reduce daily limits
Got to go at the right times to go
My father-in-law skippered a commercial boat for a number of years out of Bluff, and the stories of the cod numbers back in the 70/80/90's, vs now days.
Fish size has decreased
Some good days, some not so.
It has deteriorated over the period I have fished it
There is no sustainable fishing level.
Over the years there has been a steady decline in fishing success
Good to poor. Some times it is hopeless. Like only 1 or two fishers. There are more poor days than good now.
Very much weather dependent for trailer boats in Foveaux Strait. So the fishery is protected to some degree.
I have fished for blue cod for 28 years and have seen the decline in fish per pot and also the average size has got smaller
I farm my local areas. I have no control over others using too many pots and working non-stop. If everyone "farmed" we would have better fisheries. Companies also force fishers to catch cod as a bribe to get cray quota. This is unfair on cod stocks.
The fishery is variable from year to year, out of Riverton since 1984 I have seen the fishery go from good to poor and back about four times. I believe the stocks come and go in any one area over several years. I also believe the catchability of the fish is related to the availability of food. In years when feed is scarce they are easier to catch.
There is so much pressure on this general area from numerous avenues, to uneducated recreational fishers, trawlers (inshore & deepsea), commercial fishers, poachers etc
Always get the quota
Catch and fish size has been very good this season and Pot Mesh size changes aligned with voluntary shelving (Both Industry driven) will enhance this even more. My concern is with more legal

size fish available close to Rec launch areas those breeding fish will be cleaned up by rec fishers. This is an area that has exploded with fishing effort and management measures need to improve in this sector. For example. Bag limits. Fish hook size. Catch and return regulations. High grading. Bag limits for multi day trips. Commercial have Quota capped. There is no capping for Recreational and we don't know how much Rec, Charter, lwi etc take.
Has declined over the last 10 years
Can be great or poor
getting worse for recreational use
good but declining
It's great but I think the recreational catch limit is still too high. 20 cod per person per day (most tourists come here and expect they should get that)

2.2.6 BCO7

compared to 60 years ago
have improved since the closure and then the size rule change
worse every year
Has improved since the seasonal closure from September to 20 December
We can easily catch the limit. Often large fish.
Has improved since the implementation of the Tonga Island Marine Reserve
Declining through fishing pressure whether by commercial cod potting or recreational activities
Poor compared to what it used to be like
Been poorly managed for too long before the changes were made.
all right in spots
Incidental mortality is a major issue in M.S. that has always been ignored. Needs to be quantified.
with a good stock of younger fish
The two cod limit is difficult and should be at least three. The current size limit is now right.
Fish sizes have improved over the last 5 years
6 hours fishing. 15 cod caught. 2 takeable.
A number of smaller fish and a number of mature specimen
Each year over the past five years it has been harder to locate legal sized fish
Not poor but you have to look for them
Has been much improved since the ban several years ago. This seemed to restock the fishery in the Marlborough Sounds.
Have noticed we are catching bigger fish ie around 40cm
fishing ok spring time but fished out by late summer
Always undersized
The cod population picked up after the temporary closure but it has declined rapidly since. Habitat destruction is a major contributor.
the management over the last few years has helped increase numbers and size. Stop commercial dredging.
Mainly undersized
There are alot of smaller blue cod (30-33cm) that are good size to eat . these fish often don't survive release. ... there are alot of fat shags and barracouta in the sounds
Plenty of undersized cod not so many legal sized
Where limits are set for recreational commercial should not be allowed as obviously the fish are not there in abundance

Lots of small fish, which are killed when people using wrong tackle.
Bring back the slot rule in my opinion it was working
2 cod limit and size restrictions mean many cod are caught before a legal sized cod is kept
Easy to catch the very restrictive quantity in place currently.
The blue Cod fishing in our area was very good up until it was targeted by commercial fishermen
feel all fish caught should count in your quota,As mr and mrs shag appear to receive a large proportion of those being returned to the sea
Always catch cod within limits to eat fresh seldom catch and freeze
Have fished the area for 25 years and seen cod stocks reduce markedly
Closed areas, 2 fish limit and predominantly small fish is a joke and strong indication of toothless enforcement and bad quota management. Scallops are just the same?
Poor due to the run off from logging in the Marlborough Sounds, which has destroyed the cods natural habitat
There has definitely been more cod around since the ban
The west Coast is lucky because the place is protected to a degree by access and rough weather, limiting the amount of recreational fishing achievable.
Declining annually
A lot of cod under 33cm
I fish the outer sounds and fishing is ok in the right spots but noting like it was 35 years ago.
Never catch any, went fishing a couple times with the pops only caught a few snags.
Fish must not be handled with human hands if being returned to the water
It has declined into almost nothing in the last 20 years
Many small fish
must hang onto first 3 fish over leagle size { Don't fish all day}
The end of the slot rule allowed for improved catches but obviously only until all the legal cod were caught .we are now back to square one which was always a concern of mine.
there is a very healthy population of blue cod around durville island tho that will change as a result of the ever increasing number of recreational fishers
Cod are a real pain when targeting trumpeter, hapuka, snapper etc. There are too many in Challenger West
Lots of cod around D'Urville and Okiwi, but as per answer 14 below many are small. Not so good in inner sounds.
A lot of smaller fish,sometime you have to work to get take able fish,how ever some days in the same areas,eg: Delewea bay, you can catch fish of good size consistently.So I guess that's fishing.But there is definitely good size fish on certain days,ranging from 33cm up to 40cm.
very good blue cod travel I have once caught tagged cod In cape Jackson that were tagged in bluff/stewart island and I've also fished for years recreationally also never had a problem catching my daily limit it isn't hard just have to travel for it people complain but alot of people travel to the same spot every time and hammer it
Inner sounds are very poor due to over fishing from rec's
stocks are fairly good but size is down
There are pockets within the Sounds that have very good numbers.
Has been better, but also has been a lot worse than what it is now.
Over the years it has seriously decreased in numbers and size. You have to go a long way out now to get fish
I have done little fishing the last few years so my answer is from what Im told by other fishermen.

You only need to look back at the family albums of 1 or 2 generations to see my kids will not know what an abundant cod fishery is like. The Sounds cod fishery has improved with the recent rule adjustments, but its a long way off being as good as 20yrs ago, and miles off 60 years ago.
Blue Cod fishery in Pelorus Sound for recreational fishers has been destroyed. Look at the way the Canadians manage their West coast salmon fishery and report recreational catches and require licences as a good example of better management.
Only if you know how,where and when
Has improved in the last few years but still nowhere near where it needs to be or where it was 20 years ago.
Blue cod numbers from Okiwi to Western Durville Island have remained about the same from 1991 to 2017
Its been in decline since I was a kid fishing in the sounds and the continued and increasing recreational pressure in the Durville and Marlborough sounds area is really hitting cod hard. Even with lowered catch limits and the closed season numbers still arent recovering and the few big fish you see around at the end of the closed season are quickly caught and it then gets hard to catch legal fish again very quickly.
Good compared to other areas, poor compared to what it could be
Commercial fishing is still having a strong impact on Blue Cod fishing, despite the ban from August to December
the popular areas like seperation point get fished out early, over the xmas break, cos everyone goes there. if there was more info on other places to fish, that might help to spread the load
The closed season in Marlborough Sounds has given some improvement in recent years and is a good thing. I do not struggle to catch two regulation size cod when venturing out. The area is not as abundant as some areas for Blue Cod but this should not stop those other areas from having a similar catch restriction.
Fishing success is dependant on local knowledge to a large extent.
However need to go to Outer Sounds
Dont fish often but some areas are better than others. Its easy to find popular locations.
More and brtter suitable habitat required in some zones
Some areas very poor numbers other areas fair.
Has consistently dropped off since total ban was lifted few years ago. We are back to where we were before the ban.
Rec limits far too high
Over my life time the Blue Cod fishery has declined, to help recovery I have elected not to fish at the moment
Too many trawlers in too close
Don't need to go far now to catch a good feed of blue cod.
the slot rule era added little value to the fisheries and was impractical. the rule simplification has helped but the fishery has not improved
It's not that hard to catch a feed if you know what you are doing
Getting better, and it certainly improves after the 'seasons' and regulations were introduced. Some of regulations cost the lives of many fish though (ie when the size limit was between 30-35cms).
Blue cod are abundant but mostly undersized, which makes fishing for them unattractive in most areas
Good for those that know what they're doing ;)
I believe the stocks where I fish have been enhanced over the last few years and if they continue to grow, I would rate the blue cod fishing in my area to be good

Over the years it has as been a lot better than currently. Certainly affected by the heavy fishing in the area over the summer period.
Just got back from four days fishing in the outer Pelorus Sound with a group of six people. Caught our quoter each day with the average size of around forty centimetres and practically zero undersized cod caught,
My wife and I recently spent six hours fishing in the Sounds without catching a single legal-sized blue cod to take home and also found it galling that fish being released "to grow bigger" were simply eaten by shags as soon as they were returned to the water - 30 out of 42 fish were lost that way!
I feel that the closed season has a large part in the replacement of fish in the Marlborough Sounds.
bag limit used to be 20 - then progressively dropped as the population collapsed - always too little too late
See above I also went to Golden Bay recently where I fished extensively years ago both Commercial and recreational and went to historic areas near Seperation Point and 2 of us were unable to catch any Cod , a recent trip to the Brothers and other Cook Strait areas evidenced very poor fishing . The resource is NOT recovering
Particularly outside the Pelorus Sound
We are much more successful spearfishing now. It could take half the day to get our 2 cod each, but 30 mins to get butterfish on the spear.
The current regulations are limiting BCO catch by the rec sector - however i have concerns about the increased commercial catch in Stat Area 17 over recent years
Very good in patches. Always able to take home a feed.
I fish a range of coast line from Durvile to cable bay , and have seen the decline in the fishery over the last 20 years and some what of a recovery in the last 5 years but we are again killing more fish with the increase of the size limit to 33 cm
When I was 12 there were so many cod that catching quota was pretty easy. Not it's a bit hit n miss. I dived in the sounds until the scallop ban and in places I could dive for 40 minutes and not see a single cos. Other bays I've dived at I've seen dozens. I'm don't know the answers but something has changed. Has it been over fished or has something happened sub aqua that has slowed their breeding or have they moved away due to lack of food??
High population of juvenile cod
It is tough to get blue cod in Tasman Bay. It must have been overfished to date
At this stage the progress that has been made with recent rule changes have increased numbers in cod but the General size is still very small with a lot of fish being just under size.
Can get a feed in most areas although some local depletion does exist
Lots of pressure on resources, plenty of small fish but legal fish can be a struggle at timed
It was good now bloody Holiday makers go out every day over summer sometimes twice and catch Blue Cod as it's not to far out. There need to be like a seasonal biannual system in place of an area that is classed as a ' Blue Cod Fishing Area' as every area can have different start and end times...
I fish just out side of sounds and don't have trouble catching cod
Within Queen Charlotte and Tory Channel we try and avoid blue cod but when we are on them there is a very high percentage of fish that are just under legal limit, I have seen 30 fish come up, 2 keepers and 28 returned, all within 10% of legal size, mortality rates must be huge given the volume of fishers in the area. I know there are a lot of indiscriminant people out there but would a slightly smaller size and maybe a slightly larger limit, even 3 per person per day help satisfy people and avoid the continual lifting of fish that get returned. I am not a scientist but I do fish with care and legally, on many occasions if the size was 30cm I could get the limit and move off easily and with less disturbance to so many other fish. All that said, we head out to Stephens Island/Jag rock areas and get our 2 monsters easy, out there is no problem but there are far less people further out

2.2.7 BCO8

Unbundant small cod just under the size limit , very little over
We have localised depletion all around kapiti island. Inside the Kāpiti marine reserve there are 10-20 times more legal sized blue cod than in the areas outside the reserve.
But my answer is anecdotal.
Plenty of under sized blue cod but limited legal specimens.
Abundant undersized cod which very likely die after being caught and released.

2.3 “How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?”

2.3.1 BCO1

Havnt caught any yet
dunno if this is due to environmental effects or fishing. Suspect not fishing related at all.
We are always fishing in blue cod territory and very rarely catch any.

2.3.2 BCO2

if we are catching cod , we are primarily catching the legal size, but alot to do with using bigger hooks, and not trying to catch anything marginally on the limit size
we have to fish longer now to get a good feed
Have insufficient experience to assess any changes in fishery performance
Real abundance of blue cod, however the keepers only make up less than 10% of the catch.
Not as good as it used to be. Over the last decade the numbers have dropped significantly
The comercisl use of Cod pots has changed the areas catch availability.
Almost imposable to get a legal size blue cod unless you go very deep and even then they are hard to find
I have only ever caught two legal sized cod inshore, the rest being under 30cm
Less legal fish caught in recent years. More smaller fish as % of catch
Just gotta know the spots
we target fish so no problem

2.3.3 BCO3

20 years ago you could catch 20 legal Cod in an hour easily now it takes 6 hours to catch 10 legal size cod in which time at least 10 undersize fish are released.I worry about the mortality rate of released undersize cod.
Not too much pressure
you can only take a fish once and a 30cm blue cod is far to small. Give it another year or two to reproduce and get a decent sized fillet ie:34 cm
there is less big ones
barbless hooks should be mandatory
we want to keep it this way
we dont get many undersize if we do we shift
Legal sized blue cod are harder to come by
Blue Cod can be caught in the area, but like Q13 above, the numbers and sizes are considerably less than but a few years ago.
Have no trouble getting our objective have a good day and bring home a couple of feeds
alot of just size fish about
Legal size fish are there in the right places but you always catch far too many undersize fish, we always wonder if they survive or die.
There are many reefs in the area, on some. (The more popular) size is an issue. I'm sure from over fishing. On others it is hardly ever an issue.
Should be 33cm
Getting less

We rely in the scientists to provide data on the best size limit to allow breeding etc, perhaps lower daily bags limits may allow size limits to increase if this would benefit the cod fishery.
The bigger fish are just not out there any more like they news to be. And charter boats are not helping the course
There a number of smaller cod,resource recovering.
Depends on area. Motanau good banks peninsula generally poor
Here is an opportunity to increase the 'take' size of the fish
this has generally reduced over time per number of fish caught on hooks
Generally over 40cm
all fish caught have been well sized but not abundant.
Areas deemed recreational should be of limits to commercial as I have seen first hand the effects of cod potting
In over 30 years rec fishing I have not seen any change in fish availability
The coastline is weather protected, and is in pretty good shape
Can be fickle - some days have seen more undersized fish caught and thrown back and my anecdotal sources elsewhere indicate that this is fairly common
reasonable mix of all sizes
but slowly declining
reduce bag limits
we always catch a mixture of small and legal sized fish. some are very large.
Gone from being most well over 30cm to alot around 30cm or under in last 5 years
There is room to increase the size
The size and abundance has shown a steady decline. Some areas are better than others at responding to fishing pressures.
Recreational fishers should pay a license fee each year and boats should be licensed
reducing due to commercial pots in local areas that hit it too hard and over take the fish in one area
The size is depleting
bigger ones cleaned out 2 to 3 nm from moeraki and shag point fish still all right offshore a lot more
we would catch as many legal size blue cod as under sized blue cod on average
For the available fishing ground around Kaikoura, and how the fisheries used to be there 20 or 30 years ago, the availability of legal blue cod is pretty poor. There are a lot less than there should be if the fishery had been more sustainably fished.
there are times when we catch more undersized and smaller fish but this has been the pattern for a number of years.
harder to find size fish in good numbers
Size seems to be seasonal
There seem to be significantly fewer legal sized cod now than 20 years ago
See above
You need to put the time in and visits several spots to get onto the fish.
You need to go way offshore to get good cod
Was once good but has been fished out by longliners
Some days good others bad
however one has to travel out some distance like 16 to 22km each way
when you do manage to catch some they are generally of legal size.
See above comment, fewer now than two years ago.
Cod pots screw it up abit. Maybe take the breaders?

commercially potted areas can struggle for a little bit but seem to improve with time
The population is sparse in the commonly fished areas, but some gravel patches are good.
there are a lot of small blue cod but also many large size
As said above
Not many undersize fish. The minimum size should be greater.
Again I say, if you know where & how to fish, it's not a problem (I started fishing over 65 years ago, & first started in Kaikoura about 47 years ago. (kept diaries since 1967)
It was easy a few years ago to find legal sized fish, not so easy now.
Should be longer 32cm
Use kayak so for safety reasons distance off-shore is restricted to 0.5k-1.5k
Not in a position to give an informed answer
It is actually pretty rare to pull up and undersize blue cod sizes are good. In fact we put back legal size smaller blue cod
Higher fines for people who break the law. More reserves. More officers!!
all fish are small and when fishing from boat many fish are thrown back but damaged.
Inshore is mixed but out wide is great
Sometimes hard to find legal size (spear fishing)
Legal size is too small - I suggest 33cm.
Only 1 in 5 fish are legal size now. The mortality rate of released undersize fish must be high
Can vary
Some days lots of small ones
Varies.. depending where.
Fish size decreasing. Breeding sized fish slowly getting fished out
The size limit is far too small at 30cm, should be 33 or 34 cm
It is reasonably easy to find legal sized blue cod but there are not many that are considerably over minimum size.
Good but harder to find really good fishing
I would like it to say good, so only ever take enough for one meal ie one fish per person. taking 30 is amoral!!
But used to be a lot better seems to be a lot more boats on the water these days
Don't catch a lot of under sized cod at Kaikoura
Commercial are taking and selling undersized and just legal to sell to local markets by the size of fillets at supermarkets
never have any problem in getting enough fish -- the current limit is too high at 30 - should be cut to 10 per person fishing -- that plenty for a good feed
but the legal amount should be reduced over all parties
Decreasing in numbers
Size seems to be seasonal
I don't know - I don't fish, but I know that the population is under increasing pressure
Declining
There is plenty of 30cm blue cod, but not many of the bigger size ones now days (i.e. the breeding stock)
It is well protected with weather and bar conditions
Fish stocks change throughout the year and with conditions
as above.
Size limit needs to increase to 33cm bag limit to 20 blue cod but still 30 fish in total.

Getting harder to find legal size. Due to pressure
have noticed decline in number of fish and general size over time
But not as good as it was
as above, some areas that were very productive previously now seem pretty barren
Used to be excellent a 3/4 years ago, with 8/10 fish caught legal size. Now is getting harder, with 2-3/10 being legal size.
Unsure

2.3.4 BCO4

I have been fishing this area for many years and would no longer target blue cod as numbers have been so depleted.
We are trying to set a larger pot mesh size to ensure the cod size caught remains large.

2.3.5 BCO5

we find an area with good sized fish one month has only small fish the next month. taxable fish cleaned out
Few large fish
Less these days
I fish from the shore so get little blue cod. But I get grouchy when commercial fishers pull in tonnes constantly.
foveaux straits weather tends to look after the fishery as every day is not a boating day due to rough weather
The numbers of keepers to fish caught is good, the ones coming aboard are a good size
Most fish caught now are just above the minim legal size. Very few larger fish caught.
The size need to be increased to 35cm because the fillet of is twice the size of a 32mm fish and that means that you could take less fish and still get the same amount of food
As above
I mostly spear fish off the shore and blue cod are pretty sparse off the rocks.
good in Paterson Inlet, poor in Foveaux Strait
in comparison to the outer Fiordland coast where large blue cod predominate the Foveaux fishery is primarily fish less than 10cm over legal minimum size
Numbers have reduced in recent years. Still plenty of undersized fish.
modern methods like softbaits select larger fish, bait catches smaller ones
It use to be very good 15 -20 years ago.
Just size , hard work just to get a feed these days
Again it varies from trip to trip.
see q13 its good now but it is getting harder
you can get a small feed but sizes appear to be smaller than other areas
Every 3rd fish can be kept in some places all kept in others mentioned above
Again if someone has fished it recently it will need a break of about two months. Think of grass growing and sheep gave eaten it down, it just needs a break. Also fish have feeding patterns and this takes experience to know what their habits are.
Cod pots should be limited to commercial area
It varies, some days good size cod are available, other days, not so good
Have to work at it to get a good feed. Catch plenty undersized to return to sea

The availability of legal size blue cod has decreased over the period I have fished it
There is no sustainable fishing level.
If there was a closed time period this would give the cod a chance to spawn without harassment. Even if this was done every 2 years, it would help the stocks.
Even without fishing the size of fish changes even over time frames as short as a couple of months.
The cod fishing around Stewart Island is now what it used to be like in the Marlborough sounds 20 years ago lots of undersize fish!
Not outing many back fish to a 35cm limit
It'd be better if the limit was lowered

2.3.6 BCO7

can always catch our two though it can take time!
lots of small ones
It gets thrashed over the Christmas holiday season, legal size fish are harder to catch for a couple of months.
We catch (and release!) quite a few juveniles but virtually none of legal size
declining
Poor compared to what it used to be
A lot of small fishing due to overfished
over fishing
No problem catching fish over 33cm,
too many over size cod caught
Legal fish are harder to find
Sometimes good but pretty average
good at start but harder as season goes on
see above
over the last few years there is plenty on cod just under size, so as the size limit increases so do the number of jut under size.
Mainly undersized
at times of the year it's great but on average you really have to work hard to get blue cod over 33cm in the sounds. I believe that the size limit should be 30 or 32cm min.
in areas fished during slot rule fish over 50cm was common in the same areas a legal size cod one in thirty
Now the the stupid slot rule has been removed, that killed more fish than it saved.
The marlborough sounds was recovering after the 3 year closure, however it now is under real strain, on my last dozen trips over the last 4-6 months, I am now catching three fish before catching a size blue cod (as an average)
Improving catch in size and number each season
Closed areas, 2 fish limit and predominantly small fish is a joke and strong indication of poor management
There are many more smaller blue cod than legal sized ones in the sounds
Poor due to very little cod in the area - and this is because of run off from logging sites
Lots of undersize and a fair number of oversize, not much in between and possibly kill (injured or shags) 5-10 fish to get 1 of legal size.
Seasonal variation, autumn being best for larger hungrier fish.
Alot of under sized fish caught before legal sizing limit achieved

We usually only keep the cod that are 2cm or more than the legal limit
Showing better signs since the slot rule was abolished
mostly very good tho this year in partular we have noticed a larger then normal number of smaller fish.Maybe a good year for recruitment
Just caught in the range 45cm to 51cm
Large numbers of small fish. Not so many larger ones. Still very easy to get the 2 fish bag limit around D'Urville. Not so good in inner sounds.
As above,some days good,some hard work to get legal fish,but may be its just the day.
Often when there's the size limit we always catch ones that are to big so have to put them back it can be hard to catch the smaller sizes
as I said above never had a problem catching size cod
they are there but there are more smaller cod
Depends which area of the many I fish. Remove commercial along with reasonable control of reccies in those areas.
re answer to question 13
We recently spent 1 day (roughly 6 hours) fishing for cod with 7 people. We caught 76 fish, about 70 cod to get 12 legal sized cod, and only 2 of those were >40cm
Even in outer Marlborough Sounds most fish caught are undersized.
In the inner sounds what few cod are there seem to be of a good size however almost no small ones about. This has been observed when diving.
It's not difficult to catch 2 cod at 33cm or bigger.
Its ok at the beginning of the open season, or if you travel a very long way out to areas that get less targeted. But there are less and less areas that dont get targeted these days as people get bigger and better boats and better electronics. Nursery areas for large fish that never used to be touched in deep water are now being targeted a lot and this reduces the breeding of large adults and recruitment of juveniles into other areas.
Very pleased the slot rule has gone. Still when releasing smaller fish we are finding Shags pick up quite a few.
Commonly 20: 1 undersized to legal
Plenty of under-sized cod are caught and returned, before the legal bag is acquired. The survival rate when returned to sea of the small catch is a concern. We fish for enjoyment and a days outing - not for survival. All onboard catching their bag limit is not the priority.
The areas that I tend to fish are in the vicinity of Outer Pelorus , where the conditions provide a degree of protection in terms of fishing pressure
Poor in popular close in locations. Good in outer areas.
improving slightly in Tasman Bay but far from healthy
Too much rec pressure
I hear from fisher friends that the cod recovery has not been as fast as predicted with generally low yields in the inner Sounds
Tell us what size your legal is? 32. because we know you will change.
Outer sounds in reference to
Not sure of the fate of released illegal sized blue cod in spite of handling them with wet cotton gloves.
Small hooks and crap technique catch small fish end of story
it noticably gets depleted quickly near the end of the season
Again, it has, over the last three years, improved.
Generally very many undersized cod brought up for each legal sized cod
As per last question

Has improved in last couple of years
A large number of juvenile fish are being caught and released with a high mortality rate while endeavouring to catch legal sized fish, which would probably be more beneficial to the health of the fishery to leave in the sea as breeding stock.
See above
Areas I fish near Cape Soucis and others within the Sounds often have a plethora of undersized fish
As for 13 above
We catch a lot of small cod and have to throw them back just feeding them to the shags!
Increasing the MLS to 33cm has been a positive move, should have been done years ago
A lot of small BCO thrown back before getting the limit of two.
Some areas hold good numbers of take able fish, Cape Soucis south towards Cable Bay catch rate has been declining for 20 + years, with the limit reduction to 3 cod at 30 cm I have seen an increase in cod numbers from the northern side of this area down to Durvile, I regularly free dive the Marine reserve off Glendune in the summer and have on occasion seen very good size cod inside the reserve.
You can get them but there really should be more. It can be hard going.
heaps of under sized ones though
Good numbers poor size
As above

2.3.7 BCO8

Have caught many cod, but only one in 2 years which was legal size.
Abundance at 32cm

2.4 “Would you like to add more information about your answers” – Relating to Q20

2.4.1 BCO1

not a huge population in the area, there are more snapper
Commercial Fishing
i don't really know why there are so few. I suspect not fishing related.
The regulations are back to front as any dryland farmer/wildlife manager will tell you (and there are a lot more of them than there are fisheries experts) You harvest the multitudinous young stock and look after the mature breeding stock. Have you ever met a farmer who kills capital stock and leaves thousands of lambs running around?
The commercial take of fish by fishing boats
Don't know what the major issues are

2.4.2 BCO2

Caught 1 undersize cod 2 years ago. Have visited the same site 10 plus times since with no more blues
NZ has an economic view to fish sustainability, it needs to be ecological.
As a commercial fisherman, I see more cray pots out than there are crays to be caught, the local cray fisherman are catching on average .7 crays per pot, as a commercial fisherman, it pisses me off that the government can let big fisheries like the Russians take hole schools of fish for a tax take, that has helped blow out our quoter system and catching fish when they are in Row is not allowing the fish stocks to regenerate
Far fewer cod seen while spearfishing compared to 5-10 years ago
bag limit amount is to many for most species
The 33mm size prevents a shore based fisher taking a legal fish. The feeding of blue cod to the introduced pied shags by charter boats must be made illegal

2.4.3 BCO3

A lot more larger recreational boats with fish finders etc now than in the past placing increased pressure on the fishery
Current allowable take for recreational fisherman is excessive and not sustainable. Recreational catch bag should be no more than 10 per person
The closure of shell fish could have been done better. 80% coastline had minimal change up to a meter. Shell fish has had little effect. Kina should be allowed they are in deeper water 5 to 10 meters (also a local delicacy).
We want to be able to fillet our catch at sea
increase size decrease daily limit, and impose a boat take charter boats going out up to twice a day and also using cod pots they are in a grey area somewhere between recreational and commercial. A boat limit would help the charter boats protect their buissness as they could cite the law regarding boat limits and take the pressure of the skippers when the clients want to carry on fishing
charter boats. doing multiple charters per day. They are the ones who get paid for for blue cod. So reduced numbers for their limit by per fisher and total combined
Recreational fishermen are going out daily here, I watch them. There's no way they're eating what they've caught before they go out again.

I would entertain the idea of an upper boat limit on total amount of wet fish take , this could be up for discussion.
30 bluecod per person is [REDACTED] ridiculous its just stupidity wake up and do something about it and [REDACTED] hurry up
We are over fishing our oceans, we need to protect the fish from commercial & recreational & illegal fishing. Commercial fisheries should be contributing to the fish population with egg releases etc
with the threat of marine reserves more pressure on less reefs
charter boats should have to have quota they make money from fish for a living
TACC is set too high
Ban amateurs from using cod pots also lower daily takes per person and per boat .
Recreational bag limits should be reduced to 20 per person per day and Total Allowable Commercial Catch settings should be set according to the AVERAGE SIZE of fish caught as well as total number caught to improve sustainability.
Water quality from local rivers
10 is far too many, the size needs to lift as well, you don't get a very big fillet off a 30 cm cod but you get a really good fillet off a 35 cm fish, its a "No brainer"
We have been asking for a 15 fish per person catch limit for some time, however I don't believe there should be a boat limit as has been discussed if we take 3 people out they should be able to catch 15 fish each.
With Respect to the bag limits, I feel there should be a boat limit also enforced. a large boat with 10 people should not be able to take 100 cod from the sea per day. That is not management.
20 blue cod @ 33cm would ensure fishery remains sustainable. Perhaps allow 10 other species to be kept as well. Most fishers just target the cod.
Not sure of commercial fishing pressure on numbers in the area
We need to be able to respond more quickly, the current process is too slow.
Blue Cod is the cash fish of the sea due to the insatiable demand for it, more needs to be done to check retailers stock is backed by quota
I'd like to add heaps more but were do you start if people keep putting there head in the sand
Lack of surveilance, i have fished for seven years and never had my catch checked.
All charter boats should have to line fish for the blue cod not use pots
current regulations allow too large bag limits, do not know what section111 and recreational allowance settings mean
The weather here limits the availability to get fishing . It is not like the north island where you can fish everyday
I think increase size to 45, no recrecreational Fisher should be catching bluecod by pots, decrease take to 20 and decrease for commercial also, it's known of a certain recreational guy that we know is selling commercially also.....that has gotta stop its illegal and he fishers out our areas of bluecod, amateur fishing charters need to decrease limits and need to provide a take chart for fisheries.
The rules and regulations are to hard to follow and keep up with even MPI staff struggle to past on the right info
As mentioned previously, I think both Commercial and Amateur Fishing vessels need to monitored more closely. There are a reccies here but not to the same effect as a commercial fisher.
I feel bag limits could be reduced, current allowable catch is very large and not helping with numbers. Or alternatively make size limit larger
When there is no commercial fishing the managers must look else where and understand what is being removed.
Inadequate policing of all fish take

I personally would like to see Recreational line fishing only ie no Recreational potting. Would support a lower bag limit, say 20 fish, and an increase to mls to 33. There needs to be parity between red and commercial, but not sure how to achieve this. Charter boats should have quota, ACE, or a boat limit.
By upping the mesh size on all pots your leaving more to spawn ;have no blue cod fishn for the month of August while there spawning for all sectors ,charter boats using cod pots should be banned
Habitat loss due to industrial pollution. Commercial pot fishing close to shore. Small area recreational fishing will occur if proposed Marine Reserves take away our grounds.
there should be more inspectors checking limits,
I don't have any concerns in my area, i.e. Kaka Point. I have never caught the daily bag limit of 30 fish. Some days I might catch a high number of small fish which are returned to the water, however, other days in the same location we catch fish well over the legal minimum size. I can depend on the weather patterns, sea conditions, bait used, hook size is always the same, locating the fish on the reef as they are never in the same spot. I have only once had another amatuer vessel fish next to me on the reef I preferr to fish on.
7 options is not enough!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
dropping daily from 30 to 15 or 20.
commercial fishing should be kept away from recreational areas, commercial quota and practices should be 100%montioned
Limited fishery areas, good weather which in some cases is resuting in some coming down and going out every day. This happens with some coming into the area and being out every day with what could be quite a large number of fish. A charter operator with 10 on board out every day is going to catch a lot of fish and this is not going to be good for a fishery.
recreational pots should be baned
Amateur fishing charter vessels seems a contradiction to me. How is it that charter operators can profit from the amateur fish take? They are essentially "selling" fish caught under the recreational take. They are commercial operators and should only be able to operate using commercial quota.
Current regs should be changed and quickly to sustain the fishery,Rec bag limits in my area should decrease from 30 to 20, Rec size limites from 300 to 450mm, Rec fishing should be catch by fishing rods only no pots, if decreasing Rec take then you need to decrease Commercial take and increase Commercial size also, charter vessels should be advising MPI of their charter catch, Increase Voluntary fishery officers in our area.
I believe the limit should be decreased to somewhere between 15-20 fish rather than the current 30
not enough data and reliable information and management tools implemented to ensure good decisions and effective rules
Poting for cod should cease
Weather is important factor further south in bco3
boat from up north coming south with 4 or 5 men fishing for 3 days passed about 20 boats headind north 20boats x4 people = 80 people x 30 fish 2400 fish a day way to many fish
fishing regulations are only being changed when fish stocks are in dire straights, more forward thinking needs to occur with reducing the total allowable catch for both recreational and commercial fishing.
recreational bag limits are not consistent in all areas
Better policing and education of recreational boats fishing. New rules are no good unless they are policed
15 fish per person max 30 per boat no accumulation including charter boats unless they use quota
Make limit compulsory 6 not voluntary 6
Filleting at sea is a good thing as long as fisher man abide by the sizes.

A bag limit of 30 cod in most of the south eastern area is hugely excessive. Should be a maximum of 12 at the most
Restoration of inshore stocks so spearfishing is viable
As mentioned, weather is a factor that limits time at sea, although reduced limit to 25 and increased size length to 35cm is warranted
Overfishing of tacc by longliners and trawlers
Commercial fishing by-catches; if they have met their quota on a species but catch some 'accidentally', the fish don't (usually/always/sometimes) survive release.
In 50 years I have never been checked by a fisheries officer
The commercial boats are always in close to shore hammering the fish stocks. And recreational fishers bag limit is too big and size too small
There is a huge blue cod area out of Taiari Mouth however it's mainly small blue cod and many jock stewarts due to overfishing (30 bag limit) and commercial pots.
Huge population of seals full length kiak 1 to lighthouse most seals ever seen since living in area 50 years
I think commercial charters, like the ones I use take too many fish. A smaller limit, perhaps for two to three years would be a good idea.
Please lower bag limit to 15 or 20 per person per day for blue cod but someone needs to check catches like I was saying catch checked once in 44 odd years
need more policing, need management rather than marine reserves. total exclusion will just put pressure on other areas
Don't know; but I am concerned about the sustainability of fish stocks, in general
As stated in my previous comment, the current regulations allow recreational fishers to 'over fish the blue cod' all legally
Just cut it all back so the future is sustainable, do it now not like the Orange roughy
commercial no go zones
The hole lot
I fish mostly from a 12ft dinghy, & the majority of trips, catch my (daily bag of) 6 bluecod, & yet other fishers with their big flash boats & gear grizzle they hardly get any blue cod. (the fish are there, they just don't know how to catch them), almost no one uses rec. pots in KK., so that is not an issue. Section 111 is not a major issue in KK. but is a VERY serious issue in other areas. Our local bag limit is fine. We are happy with our size limit. Some of our local charter operators have set up a code of practice. If ALL charter operators were made to follow that, or an improved version, of code of practice, then I would be happy. I am totally (strongly) against accumulation limits, because fish is a major part of my diet, & weather can keep me off the water for long periods, so I need to keep some in reserve. Habitat loss!, my concern is trawlers, I would like them banded from FMA 018. We (through Te Korowai), have set our rec. regs. & they are currently fine. Timeliness of management decisions (you did well postquake) but things don't normally happen like that. Fish mortality. I think more education is needed, (& too many people that don't give a damn). I don't think the TACC is currently the problem. What the problem is, the quota can be moved around the QMA. I think the quota has to be returned to the FMA it was originally allocated to, & ONLY fished in that area. As far as illegal take, I don't think this is a major, because we have good fisheries officers, & they do a good job. Our major dread is that we might lose one, & that destroy all the good work done to date. Rec allowance setting doesn't mean much to the average fisher, as they just understand daily bag limits & minimum legal size. If you change the Rec. allowance, (say increased it, but not increased the rec. fishers daily bag, to 'Joe Bloggs' that means nothing, most wouldn't understand that, you are trying to cover increased fishing pressure, or better knowledge of what is coming out of the water). Concentrated effort on small areas can occur due to lack of access points, closing of some areas & shifting effort, etc. (also I find 'non locals' suddenly turn up around my boat, in an otherwise empty sea). As far as lack of

knowledge for management purposes, This has always been a sticking point, & we need to find a way round it, without ruining the fishing experience. I don't think there is an issue with rec. fishing during spawning. They don't congregate in massive schools like snapper, waiting to be scooped up by a trawler. Filleting at sea. I know this is an issue in the 'Sounds', where offal disposal is a problem, but locally, fish frames are used for cray bait & not hard to give away. Bringing fish back in a measurable state would make the fisheries officers job much easier. I have had feedback from some fisheries officers (west coast) that is a real problem. Lack of education. Better education always helps, but I think some people blatantly ignore the rules, then try to 'I didn't know!'. Hook size is not an issue. My 3/0 & 4/0 circle 'tarakihi' hooks, quite often catch greyboy, groper, & even mako, in the corner of the jaw. I would estimate, less than 0.0001% of my fish would be caught in the gills or gut. Type of hook is far more important. We still need to use small hooks for some species. Localised depletion is not a major issue here, yet. I think the management & enforcement we have at present, will keep it in check, as long as you deal with some of the other things I have mentioned. Seasonal fishing pressure hasn't become an issue yet. As long as the charter doesn't increase, & we don't get too much 'overflow' from Motunau, we should be ok. (I believe Motunau locals want to close their blue cod fishery & to give it a chance to recover).

There should be a boat limit like Crayfish. If 4 people fishing 15 cod each 60 Cod. 5 or more people on boat limit set at 60 cod

commercial potting targeting small areas

My opinion is that the Taieri mouth area is naturally protected because of the bar and weather. If you surveyed the number of boats you would agree and the numbers of blue cod corresponds that. Other areas that do not have these factors preventing people from getting out to sea for example Moeraki and Taiaroa head can really take a hammering from commercial and recreational fisherman because there is not as many natural protections from the environment and for that reason we do not fish Moeraki as this area does not perform as well as Taieri mouth. Bag limits are too high. 30 per person per day. 120 blue cod for a boat of 4 people is a lot of fish. We catch more around 15 each and this is more than enough. You would have to fish for a long period of time to catch 30 and the only reason I know of that people catch there like it is to sell which is illegal or to give away.

The need for more reserves. More officers. A true and realistic amount for areas with having separate fishing areas.

Not familiar enough with the blue cod fishery to be able to specify

need fully documented fisheries we need to know how many fish are being caught by everyone. Need to know how many fish are killed.

Daily limits are far too high, no one needs that many fish per person unless they're selling which is obviously illegal for rec fisherman

Reduce the daily quota, increase the length of a take-able fish

Don't think pots or nets should be used by recreational fishers. I think the limit of 30 fish is too high, even good fishing areas like ours should be about 20 max. Harbours and easy to get to areas should be restricted to 2 fish, so people can share in the fun of fishing. If fish stocks can be increased if there is no fishing during spawning this should be considered but it would need to be for both commercial and recreational fishers.

20-30 fish per person is FAR too much

Too many seals

I see none, the fishery appears to sustain its current level of take very well, fish numbers and sizes haven't really changed in 20 years as far as I can tell.

We are allowed to take 30 fish per person per day however as a member of the local power boat club who owns the ramp we instruct all our ramp users they aren't allowed more than 20 per person per day if they wish to use our ramp.

why only 7, lots of these are causes of depleted stocks (in my opinion)

Recreational limits should be no more than 10 per person. Charter operators should be limited to 6 cod per person
Commercial charter fish take allowance.. too hard on fishery of recreational spots
Decrease daily bag limits and increase size limits.
Potting for cod commercially and high recreational bag limits. 10 per person is heaps. 30 ensures there won't be any for future generations.
In otago southland recreational fisherman dont get out that much with rough weather and seas and also having to go to work, so lining everything up is a mission, the commercial boats do the damage mainly, but I do thing the recreational bag limit is too high and the size limit for all is far too small, both recreational ang commercial need to take a reduction, why cut the recreational quota and then give it to the commercial boys to make more money
30 fish limit for blue cod is excessive for recreational.
Size limit should be increased to 38cm
Recreational fishing must be favoured in front of commercial quotas
Current recreational take limit is 30 finfish. Generally that is made up if solely bluecod. That is too high, could be halved eg 30 finfish of which only 15 can be bluecod
Area daily limit is to high
Half the take limit 30 cod per person is way to much
I think we need to stop having high limits of blue cod. 2 or 3 is plenty for a feed. Make fishers target other species ie terakihi gurnhard. Filleting at sea? Are u not suppose to bring back fish whole in a measurable state?
Our limits are far to high and size far to small
I am not a fisher, but know of many people who filet at sea because they claim the fish will die anyway- educate!
The recreational catch limit of 30 blue cod per person per day is far too much to be sustainable in the long term. Size also needs to go up to around 35cm.
I am curious to how many people have noticed a change from Harwood point to the Pleasant river since the extention of the dunedin sewyer outlet? Over nutrients in the water changing fioid chain
I think it's a mixture of many if not all of these are effecting the fishery. I'm not an expert or have access to all the facts but I am keen to understand more.
MPI not engaging unbiased experts in the commercial sector and not policing the commercial sector.
Kaikoura as a whole is Overfished. That is the Fact. Too many people. Too bigger Bag limits. The Kaikoura fishery needs a rest.
Major concerns regarding Commercial Quota Management System, fish dumping and bycatch.

2.4.4 BCO4

Cod potting has had a major impact on the area around Haast and Jacksons bay.
The accumulated catch limit is 30 cod a day which is far too high. 5 a day is more than enough.
Need to close August and September.

2.4.5 BCO5

commercial over fishing
Recreational best practice should be used as a guide covering many of the above as well as how to care for fish caught to avoid wastage. Its focus is education rather than rules based and may in fact advocate different limits than those in rules.
The 30 fish limit is ridiculously high.

Barbless hooks, lower limits for both commercial and recreational users, better understanding of the fishery
There are certain areas that are always fished by both commercial and recreational. If we could rotate areas of exclusion would be good.
I mostly fish off the shore (spear fishing) close to bluff. Proximity to population is a likely reason for the poor cod stocks.
Now we catch undersized cod, and when released the mollymawks get them. Also filleting at sea means that size cannot be measured
Reduce the daily take
it's the commercial catch that is the problem. too much quota
out of Garden bay is one nearby reef which is targeted heavily by rec anglers
20 cod per person per day is a ridiculous amount. It should be maximum 7-10 so that you can have a feed and give a feed to someone who appreciates it. You don't need to fill freezers with it and it should be a limit not a goal. Filleting at sea makes no difference and I would not like to see this stopped, as those who obey the rules get penalised. It's nice to bring home clean fish.
There already is some localized depletion, For the Bluff area the customary catch has become a major issue with one vessel in particular exceeding to the whole area limit.
Accumulation should be ok in fiordland
Reduce bag limits especially on a mature charter vessels and reduce commercial take
many recreational anglers greedy and wasteful
As indicated in the check boxes.
I believe a larger size, say 35cm would be beneficial as there is an abundance of large fish on the reef
The areas in which a small boat can reach are limited, yet big fishing boats have access to all of BC05 but choose to rape the easy to get areas leaving it in tatters for the average small boat
Unfortunately with bigger boats people get out more and go to the same spots regularly meaning fish stocks get depleted or scared off quickly.
20 cod per person per day is ridiculous, this needs to be halved and Accumulation limits need to be put into place. Amateur fishing charters use of pots should be banedand. Amateur fishing charters should need qouta to match the take.
chater vessels with groups of fishers are adding severe pressue on areas technology is making it easier to target known spots.
Talk is that our changed Southland rivers, with much higher nitrogen loads from intensive agriculture, are damaging inshore fisheries. Is any work being done to understand if this is correct?
Released small cod get eaten by molyhawks 90% of the time
In the south we have the weather on our side
Recreational pots should be banned
Bag limit too high at 20. 10 fish per day per person is ample for rec. fishing.
Minimum hook size 6 or larger - small hooks - small cod
Some people use limits as targets. Reduce limits to 10blue cod per person per day. That is still a good feed by anywones standards
Hooks should be barbless.Education on fishing methods needs work.
There is no sustainable fishing level.
Charter vessels ability to go several times a day each person bringing back several kilo of fillets must be affecting our local area.
Ban cod potting for recreational & charter boats. Hand lines & rods only.
we have been asking for 2 years for the mesh size to go up to 54 mm and the tacc to be 1050 tons
MPis inability to act ,lack of "fisher" involvement in decisions

Some boats work too many big pots.
Fishing charter boats should have to have quota.
Need more policing by fisheries officers
Take enough for a 1-2 feeds thats all.
The increased mesh size will help with localised depletion in the Commercial sector but there are no controls over where Rec or Charter effort occurs. Fish mortality also and issue with Hook size.
you should only take enough for a feed and don' need to get the daily limit every time you go out

2.4.6 BCO7

Habitat loss due to factors such as scallop dredging depleting cod habitat and damaging the sea bed
too many undersized fish are cocaught and likely do not survive
Blue Cod can be territorial, it is possible to fish out a small area. For instance, I have a spot I will only fish once a year but it consistently produces good fish because I don't thrash it and not many other people seem to fish there.
Bacause of the low daily limit,I believe there is alot of upsizeing (throughing back legal size to keep fishing for the biggest) goes on.
Closed season to apply to Commerical fishing as well
Habitat loss applies to areas which are capable of being bottom trawled which should also be made illegal in all fishing activities.
Should not allow commercial fishing within the inner sounds. Should not be able to store fish, e.g. Freeze. Should only have your daily limit e.g. What you can eat that day.
Not well science based.
There is a lot of fishing pressure over xmas and summer holiday periods, consider a daily boat limit.
Hook size should be regulated for cod fishing. Introduce mandatory barbless hooks for cod fishing. Reduce Commercial cod fishing in the sounds.
2 cod per person per day is an unreasonably small amount in the marlborough sounds. The transit rule is ridiculous and unfair.
Too much pressure on the fishery over Christmas and New Year period , lift the ban late January
barbless hooks should only be allowed for all fishing in the sounds
Needs to be an ecosystem approach to research & management rather than single species.
current regulations were set in the 80s are now totally out of date ,as cod are part of the 20 finish take per day,so get hammered the most because thats what fishers wont t y
Habitat loss caused by marine farming especially salmon farms and run off from forestry
When an area is closed to recreational fishers it needs to be closed to all fishingredients. .
Habitat loss due to commercial fishers destroying coral beds from 1980s until 2000. The fish stock appears depleted and this makes it very hard to achieve a bag limit despite the reduced bag. It needs a closure to allow stocks to replenish but only after an accurate survey identifies the current stock.
Barbed hooks and small hooks should be banned. Catch should be accumulated, there is a difference for bach with road access and those with sea access only.
Marlborough sound blue cod closure us set at wrong times. Dec 20th the fish have not spawned so completely waste of time in closing.. I believe Nov to Jan would be best time to close for spawning
The size regulations for recreational fishers means that there is a great loss to shags of returned fish. I had one day in which I returned 22 undersized cod only to lose them to shags.
The size regulations for recreational fishers means that there is a great loss to shags of returned fish. I had one day in which I returned 22 undersized cod only to lose them to shags.

Blue cod are at risk at many levels from habitat destruction (dredging and aquaculture sedimentation) to increased mortality from inappropriate tackle and handling eg softbaits and other hooks which gut hook fish and returning fish dead or mortally wounded
the restriction on the use of set nets has taken pressure off species caught only in set nets increasing pressure on hook and line fish
The current rules in the Marlborough sounds have helped
Commercial potting areas should be outside recognized recreational fishing areas. Daily limit for transporting to landing site too restrictive. Filleting should be allowed if carcass are kept, not applied to other species. Bag limits should be reasonable, ie the cost to fish should recognize that it is not a daily exercise, and allow a reasonable bag. I would certainly support a limit that also recognizes the charter operators viability.
Allowing certain sections to plunder the fishery by signing a piece of paper.
I would like to see a policy implemented (this is purely for the Marlborough sounds) where a line was put through the middle of each of the main sounds (Queen Charlotte, Tory channel, Kenepuru, Pelorous) running approx east to west. The north side of the line is closed for all cod fishing for 5 years, with all cod fishing having to take place on the south side of the sound. After 5 years the ban would swap to the south side of the line. Alternating every 5 years. I noted after the cod fishing opened up after the 3 year closure, the fishing was excellent for 2 seasons. After this the pressure of recreational fishing depleted the stocks very quickly. I believe if each area has a 5 year recovery period, it will recover strong enough to then absorb 5 years of seasonal fishing (dec20 through to the end of August), before being closed again
Over fishing over holiday periods. The fishery should be closed during the peak holiday season.
Happy with present rules and objectives, fish size has improved and catch numbers hve improved
There has been at least a 20x increase in recreational fishing in the last 25 yrs plus the addition of commercial fishing in the last 10 years.
Complete lack of enforcement
Set netting should be permanently banned in the Sounds
Again loss of habitat - due to run off from forestry blocks after logging.
no
Recreational bag limits too low -- prefer 3 or 4 blue cod.
By lowering the catch amount it may lower the blue cod caught and released that will either die prematurely due to bird life or damage to fish.
Opening the Marlborough sounds during xmas period is major cause to stock reductions from sheer pressure.
While i have ticked some boxes here they do not relate to the sounds areas i fish as some of these issues are not relevant or already have a separate regulation covering this area. ACV'S are issues in certain areas,Section 111 are issues in certain areas . While remembering that recreational are 10-15% of the inshore fishery and that is being very generous i think we should be looking at the management of the people who are 85% of the fishery and the regulations around them.
Only line fishing should be permitted with a minimum hook size
all 3, would be helped if first 3 fish(per person) over size were kept and then the fisherman ceased fishing. Use circle hooks as standard .
Lack of marine reserves and kiwi mentality of Cath the limit and not limiting your catch.
The real threat to blue cod populations in the outer marlborough sounds is the increasing number of recreational fishers and blatant over fishing by some members of the recreational sector
I don't see any reason that commercial cod potting should be legal in the enclosed waters Of the Marlborough Sounds. It is the safest place in the South Island for recreational fishing. I support

sustainable fishing rules but think in depleted areas commercial fishing should be completely banned. There is plenty of off shore deep water around the country for large commercial vessels
I do think,the nelson Bolder bank,Glen marine reserve has helped a lot.I have noticed on a good days fishing,catching consistant big cod,in great condition,I presume the reserve is helping to restore numbers.
dredging plays a big part in habitat loss
we think only large hooks should be used
It is hard not to catch blue cod in the off season. Scallop dredging has ruined the sea floor - although currently banned.
There should be no commercial blue cod fishing within the Marlborough Sounds & Port Underwood areas.
Not without proper participation
Habitat loss by expansion of Marine Farms, mussels and salmon
I wonder whether we are wasting a lot of cod that are caught and released to die during the search for the limit within the narrow window of permitted size. I think for recreational fishing it might be better to simply take the first 4 fish you catch and then go home. Anyone seen discarding cod would be prosecuted. I realise that there would be unseen discard but it would be no worse than what is done now.
There isn't enough enforcement of the size and number limits this has led to flouting of the rules. Even batch owners advise the rules don't matter you can just go out and get whatever you want and won't get caught
I think smaller fishing areas like the sounds should not be open to commercial fishermen these days.
Lack of fish due to years of commercial overfishing. More marine reserves are required.
More need to be done sooner. Now I think there needs to be even tougher rules, seasons etc. At least untill the inner sounds recover as well.
If you are concerned about cod depletion then bring in a barbless hook rule, most will adhere to it. Lots of damage occurs when you try to get a hook out of a cods mouth. Barbless hooks would mean far more fish being returned to their habitat unharmed. This would mean catch numbers could be increased. I would consider 3 cod at 33cm to be a fair compromise.
Opening fishing on 20th December when thousands go on holiday wholesale slaughter
2 per fisher per day is more than enough - keep the first 2 you catch no mater what the size, then stop fishing.
there are now huge numbers of shag in my area which in my opinion are decimating the cod numbers. we have tried many methods to safely release cod only to have them snatched by shag.
Also lack on consistent regulations throughout the entire BCO7 area. Areas prebiously very infrequently targeted like Kahurangi, Stephens and Durville are now heavily targeted and stocks are quickly and obviously being depleted.There needs to be a much longer closed season and it needs to occur at least partially when the greatest fishing pressure occurs and over the breeding seasons. i.e. grow some balls and leave blue cod closed over the spring AND summer when the most impact to the fishery is occurring.
I think that two fish per person is probaly too low - especially if fishing alone. Also from my experience I think that it would be better to lower the legal size as many put back do not survive. There is a big problem with cunning shags getting the released fish. Please note that if fish sizde is expected to be OK people will put back those too small.
There simply is just too much pressure on a finite number of legal sized cod
Fish management decisions don't appear to align with what is happening in the area meaning too slow to make calls on how restrictions should be imposed. More vigilance from fishery inspectors towards the visitors to the area who are known to stretch and breach the rules.

Over much of the Sounds fishery there is a very high mortality rate per take home fish. Popular sites suffer unrelenting pressure.
More than 7 of the above points are major issues
Huge boating and fishing pressure over Xmas and New Year
Single hook rigs and large barbless hooks. Too many mussel farms.
season should be closed till mid january
The recreational catch limits are unsustainably high
There should be more encouragement to use cod pots thus reducing fish injury and mortality rates
Also local people and tribal rites take a huge amount of fish compared to all other regional fishermen.
Niwa surveys are not quantitative enough
One of the problems we have is differing basic rules for different species i.e. All fish for which there is a size limit should be landed in a measurable state no ifs and buts. It is too easy to slip BCO fillets in with SPE fillets for example
Bag limits are small meaning people go out more often and catch more juvenile fish. Habitat loss to mussel, oyster and salmon farms along with increased weather events dragging sediment from Farms and Forestry.
In the area I fish I have noticed an increased size in population of shags. These shags have learnt (I'm convinced that they listen for the sounds of boats arriving), to wait until fish are released and then grab them on the way down. It is a complete waste of fish. We had 7 shags around us at one time in January and they kept taking the returned undersized fish. The handling and mortality rate of fish is ridiculous. If the bag limit remains the same, then why not let people keep smaller fish? The fact that people have to keep fishing to get a bigger one only increases the chance of other fish dying (through handling or through shag/seal/barracutta eating or injuring them). I have no issue with there being an upper size limit to protect better breeders and it appears their size increases their chance of a safe return to the bottom.
Shags eating what you release. Inhumane unhook and release methods by amateur recreational fishers.
I believe, from an amateur fisher's point of view, how fish are released is of paramount importance. This involves educating fishers and their mindset. The three important areas are how the fish are handled upon catch, including how the hook is removed, how the fish is released into the sea and the manner in which the fisher observes potential predators when the fish is released. Too many fair weather fishers show little regard on how undersized fish are released.
It is very easy to catch 2 legal sized cod in the areas I fish, seems to be an abundance and the limit of 2 could be easily raised to 5.
Because of minimum size so many undersized cod are caught and released 2 issues arise: 1. How many of the released fish will survive the catch and release trauma. 2. There are so many shags in the area that the majority of released fish are eaten by the shags which negates the possible benefit of releasing undersized fish.
Commercial take should not be allowed in such a confined area as the Sounds as it is too easy to eliminate whole cohorts of fish, especially juveniles
recognition of CPUE data, observer coverage to validate CPUE data. Need for recreational only areas.
Tasman & Golden Bay sea beds have been trawled, dredged, and chained, the seabed has been totally modified as commercial fishers have treated the sea floor as if they 'owned' it - much like landowners destroying native bush to grow grasses
As well as the observations above I observe high mortality with Shags and general damage to fish, there should be a wealth of information as I worked for NIWA on ramp surveys and very few people were able to catch a limit of Blue Cod and many had none
Why do you not identify aquaculture and land use as a possible issue? Are you in denial?

When staying out in the sounds for a week or so before returning to port it is impossible to keep whole fish in good condition without filleting and freezing. Often fish caught and taken ashore to outlying accomodation without Road access and then later loaded back onto the boat for transporting back to port falls foul of the 2 days maximum take. This penalises those who stay out for more than 2 days compared to those that travel in and out on a daily basis. A launch or yhact may take a day to reach the outer sounds fishing grounds and another day to return.
Make barbless hooks mandatory. Suggest fish release device be used
While there are significant DBL restraints in Challenger East Area (that on teh surface seem to be working) the same cannot be said for the rest of Area 7 and neighbouring management areas where teh bag limits are excessive nad shifting pressure to tehse areas and transiting of catch between areas is a real issue
People need education on how to remove and handle fish that are to be returned to the sea.
A recent increase from 30 cm to 33cm has seen more fish being handled to catch a 33 cm fish...if the size was left at 30 and limit reduced to 2 fish then you will kill less fish whilst trying to catch two fish at 33, cod hate being handled period I have dived under boats that where we have being releasing fish that looks fine only to find a number on the bottom white and dead ..my thoughts take the first 2 fish at 30 above, less mortality
The seabed looks so barren during a dive. I have only dived for the past 6-7 years so don't know what the seabed was like before that. I find it hard to believe that habitat could sustain a good amount of fish.
Better education on fishing methods.
Habitat loss due to siltation and water quality degradation is egregiously under-researched
Why is the open season during the busiest time of the year
Rec bag limit to low when TACC has not been reduced to lower levels, remember the Act, Rec fishers before any commercial take
If you have a closed season it should carryover the Xmas period so the fish don't get hammered by holiday makers from out of the regen
Close the fishery over the Christmas/New Year/summer holidays - surely this is when it's under the most pressure. This would probably partially address complete flouting of the 5 knot rule too.

2.4.7 BCO8

Fish mortality due to fishing in areas predomintary producing undersized catch which are released
Must do enharnsment/farming

2.5 “Are there any other issues relating to blue cod in your area not already covered?”

2.5.1 BCO1

predation, lack of prey, water quality, water temperature, maybe there never were many in the Hauraki Gulf anyway?
Barbless hooks mandatory; very heavy fines for anyone seen/photographed throwing dead fish back in the sea.
Commercial TAAC Volume / catch size
Blue cod are wonderful friendly fish who become accustomed to divers feeding them. This means they are easy prey for spearfisherman. Please make laws forbidding the feeding of blue cod while scuba diving or free diving.

2.5.2 BCO2

commercial potting
Commercial over fishing, constant commercial pressure for years
<p>We have to look at the changing ecology and the pollution of our harbours and waterways, especially the silt load going into Wellington Harbour from the Hutt River. Silt load is the killer of territorial fish such as blue cod, gurnard, skate, spotties etc. I have seen the fishing in Wellington Harbour progressively decrease from the upper harbour area where the silt load is depositing on the upper harbour bed at the rate of 20mm per year which is stifling the traditional shellfish and seabed life with thick grey organic silt. The sand sized particles are being dredged out of the Hutt River mouth commercially and it is the sand that needs to be replenished to sustain the shellfish and crustaceans that the territorial fish such as blue cod and flounder need to feed on. Flounder have totally disappeared. I understand that once silt enters the gills of any fish life the whole reproductive system of fish closes down and that fish type never regenerates. I see the interesting demarcation of where the horrible blue silt sediments terminate in the upper Wellington Harbour and on the northern side of Somes Island there is an abundance of juvenile blue cod. I took my 5 yr old grandson fishing there recently and he caught 15 blue cod in the space of about 30 minutes, but there was only one legal sized blue cod that we kept. He has been taught correctly with large long shanked hooks that we file the barbs off to ensure ease of hook removal and release of undersized blue cod. The further we go out through the Wellington heads and into deeper waters of the southern coast line, blue cod are there in abundance and that is fishing around the traditional commercial fished areas. Again I put this down to the quality of the environment out AND no silt load in the water. I watched the blue cod stocks in Marlborough Sounds progressively decline over the first decade of this millennium when we went and cruised the Sounds in our keelboat. I said repeatedly to friends, this is not as a result of over-fishing - something is going wrong with the ecology of the area. Most of the time and in the height of the holiday season. I would be the only one fishing in an entire bay or even sound and all I would take was sufficient to put on the breakfast table for 4 of us. Even the snapper seem to decline and disappear over that decade in the Sounds and I know that I was the only one I knew or saw who targeted and caught snapper in the change of light time frames. Again I believe it was sediment load going into the waters, together with the intensity of mussel farming growing in those times and contamination of the waters with fish farming of salmon. I heard on the radio today that with mussel spore that only 1 in 1 million mussel spore actually produces a shellfish. It worries me that the blue cod spore or eggs are suffering the same fate heightened by mussels on the long raft lines extracting or filtering out the fish eggs to feed on or the effluent of excess feed waste and contaminates flowing out of salmon farm enclosures. And we must also consider the silt runoff from the large areas of land development or forestry in that area.</p>

Insufficient protection of habitat - we need more marine reserves or no take zones.
Taking any species of fish using a pot is akin to shooting an elephant tethered to a chain. You can't miss.
Its not just blue cod, its most fish species we eat, changers are needed urgently
Please reduce the bag limit for recreational fishers. 10 cod is plenty. Reduce tacc as well.
The feeding of blue cod to shags must be stopped with a education plain. If this blue cod plan does not address the shag population then those who made up this survey were not recreational fishers

2.5.3 BCO3

water quality
There is no MPI policing of regulations that I have seen at Moeraki
Commercial area to big ,they can over fish area's and then move to another area
https://theconversation.com/new-zealands-fisheries-quota-management-system-on-an-undeserved-pedestal-82210
lack of visible protection officers
bad weather in our area can not go out every weekend. Bigger boats know
Mpi need to do there job and properly police the recreational and charter fishers people are going out catching there limit going back in and getting rid of there fish then going back out and doing it again the same day its not good enuf and what upsets me the most is if i make a mistake with my job i get dragd into an mpi interview and treated like a scum bag criminal but use dont seem to giv a [REDACTED] about the real issues in the fishery
there is only one type of fish out here that you only catch blue cod if you set your gear up to catch other fish it dose not work you still get blue cod
around the catlins Kakapoint area there are not many days in a year when the sea is flat,most of us only have small boats ,around the 5-6 meter
Natural blue cod predator and food chain balance
Management is always too little too late. Government has not taken their responsibility to manage the fisheries and have hidden behind macro management allowing localised depletion short term ultimately demise of the fisheries eg red cod.
Marine reserve threats that will put huge pressures on other cod fishing spots as there are three main reefs available in the Catalina that's over the Pounawea bar the Cannibal Bay or White Head or Long Point which DOC wants to make a marine reserve?
education on volunary limits - fish for a feed not to the limit as some do
Far to slow to reduce the limit from 30 to 20 years ago, plus too slow again to drop it from 20 to 10, we don't need Motunau closed we just need it reduced, if you can only catch 5 or 6 fish many fishermen won't bother to go, lowering the pressure, but it means that a local can still go out and catch his tea or take his son or grandson out and catch a fish. The limit of 30 in the Oamaru area needs to be dropped immediatly, no recreational fisherman needs 30 Blue Cod.
We have a know group of people who recreationaly fish regularly and then sell the fish that needs to be clamped down on.
In the area I fish I feel that the Amateur charter vessels have had the largest effect on the fishery. if the weather is good at one time they were removing the best part of 700 cod per week each and at one time I believe 3 where operating. Their charter is being paid for, this fish should be on the commercial quota system or they shouldn't be allowed to do it. They are all commercial fisherman by profession.
The proposed marine reserves could alter the size of this fishery which would pressurise the remaining areas.

Commercial fishing depletion over previous decades
After a number of years of advocating the use of barbless larger hooks which was sowing a marked increase in the availability of takeable Blue cod fishers had to revert to small hooks to enable them to catch Moki that were otherwise taken by set nets which are banned to protect dolphins. Now the small Blue cod are being killed off again very quickly.
Get rid of the charter boats and get the limit of blue cod down we have been saying this for years
lack of fishery officers
We need far more marine reserve areas. shut off at least a third of the coast
consideration of the habitat modification and effect of other activities and decisions also need considered
Commercial use to be bottom longline now it's all trawling
30 cod per person for a recreational fisherman is too high. I'd suggest between 6 - 10 is plenty. In saying that, I haven't come across anyone who has catch anymore than 10 per day in the last 2 years.
With weather conditions down here the recreational fishing guys only get out 10 or so times a year.....so decrease commercial take.
Why is the fishery open on the busiest time of year with so many more people targeting cod and Wellington people crossing the strait and illegally fishing .Make catch limits more uniform around top of south and wellington with simpler rules
Moving ACE/Quota within FMA's. Restricting charter vessel DBL's or use commercial quota
The lower bag limits in other areas, therefore making more attractive to fish in lower BC03.
Counting fish and knowing how many people actually go fishing.
Recognise that our fishery is naturally managed by access limits, sea and weather conditions, and that the current recreational catch limit could be reduced.
Timing of this means a double-whammy on red fishers, with the possible introduction of Marine Reserves under the SEMP process. Greater education on the commercial side of the fishery I needs to be known by the general public, ie ACE limits for the area. Relationships between commercial and rec has never been better so please do not do anything to jeopardise this.
The size limit should be 34cm for all
Seals and sea lions also take Blue cod from set areas, further depleting stocks
Science information!!!!
people have been asking for bag limits to be reduced for years, this should happen ASAP.
The weather controls the amount of fishing activity off Kaka Point and any other location. If the sea is to rough we don't go out purely for safety reasons. I have not heard of anybody taking more than the maximum legal limit in my fishing area. There is no commercial fishing under taken on the inshore reef I fish. The water dept is 6 metres!
Food chain. (Seal control). We have taken out their predator's so there population has exploded. They eat fish. Promote targeting other very eatable other species.
I would like to see charter operators placed on some form of restriction on numbers as they have the potential to catch quite a large number of fish to the detriment of the over all fishery.
close one area only puts pressure on an other area
I think the rules need to be monitored/ enforced more. I have never seen a fisheries officer at Moeraki
The need for more Voluntary fisheries officers
should be non commercial area, non rec areas, non charter areas that may change seasonal etc but research is needed
with am increase in immigration thete needs to be cultural group specific education about fisheries management.

taking of fish during spawning
The eastern coast off Dunedin area is protected by the weather as well. I think the daily limit could be dropped to 15 - 20 blue cod easily. 30 is too many.
the blue cod regulations for recreational fishing need to be set up so that only enough fish is being harvested for a single feed and commercial fishing for bluecod should only take place in waters where it is very hard for recreational fishers to access, ie, very far out to sea.
Would like to see recreational bag limits set to a compulsory 6 not a voluntary 6 rather than the 10 as it is at present especially the fishing charter operators
Customary rights.
Recreational fishing should not be aloud to use pots did not think you could use them
Catch limit is too high at the moment. 5 should be plenty.
My concern is dropping the bag limit to low will encourage some fishers to be selective on taking fish....replacing smaller caught fish with larger and throwing the dead fish back.
You need much more observer coverage to know what is going on, both commercial and recreational.
Good recreational blue cod fishing is decreasing in the coasts of the Canterbury area due to an increase in commercial fishing
The fish food chain: the fishermen work hard and get paid bugger all. Yet blue cod is still \$35/kg. Talleys are robbers.
As above. Overfishing and commercial blue cod pots
Charters fish big boats in all weather take 12 to 15 people 4 boats some doing 2.charters day and best electronic plus wiz wheel.they are same as comercial as they recive payments up to 150 per person.
Trawlers fishing too close to shore
Lack of inspectors at ramps (ie Taieri Mouth). Need more of a presence including mid-week.
The area is self limiting due to accessibility due to the weather and very rugged coast. The commercial fishers target the quick access areas for the same reason. Some accessible areas were wiped out when one operator continuously hammered the
Impact on water quality from adjacent land use
Pressure from fishing competitions
I covered most in the comments,in previous (Q.15)as I can't predict your next question.
Stronger co-operational by all parties
Dropping the quantity limit a few years back (from 10 to 6) was a good start towards protecting the fishery
lack of information on commercial quota on each are recreational take is well known to all in areas why isnt commercial take so we all can look after our fish stock
Fishing should not be limited as it it is already due to weather and the bar at Taieri mouth but bag limits should be reduced to maybe 20
Lack of enforcement. Fishing charters and their take are a joke in areas where climate does not restrict their "Take"
to ensure blue cod survival we need laws and serious enforcement of law. Marine reserves vital for all fish stocks and need clear protection.
Policing is good during holiday seasons but more honary fishing inspectors in local bays and boat ramps might help also, the locals have a resource to protect/manage and have a vested interest I'm sure many would become honary inspectors
A huge increase in seals along the coast. We dived an area where a seal colony was and the area was dead of fish

Our area is only a small part of the East Coast of the South Island, we should not be enveloped in restrictions that may be required because of poor fish stock further north.
Too many seals
Drop bag limits per person daily catch
In 20 years fishing from Moeraki I have never had my catch checked or seen a fisheries officer
Why only seven options once..
Recreational bag limit too high. Pots can decrease local populations and insufficient no take areas or reserves.
yes lack of policing, more rangers out checking both commercial and recreational catches
As mentioned above people see the limit as a target to be reached. Education along these lines may help. Something along the line of "taking the limit doesn't mean you're more of a man, it means you are greedy" Ok maybe something a little more diplomatic :-)
I think closing an area such as sounds has put more pressure on Kaikoura. My answer would be don't close areas. Reduce limits
How many fish can any boat take on a trip regardless of people onboard
Yes other areas we dive and fish off Timaru, Akaroa, Oamaru, the sounds.
Commercial fishing of the blue cod and their limits over use of net fishing
Policing at boat ramps
Good data is needed every year! Then a timely response can be made. The best way of fish recovering is a ban.
No recording of recreational catch
Review the bag limit in the North Otago area, and bring it down to 15 per person per day.
Commercial fishing using cod as bait and not allocating to a catch recorded. Clearing areas of heavy potting
charter boat operators need to come into a quota system
Foreign fisherman fishing for family Restaurants. Basically illegal fishing but fishing partly under the rules.
There should be no trawling inside 12 nautical miles
Commercial take limits
Stop penalizing and blaming the recreational fisher, if you're serious about making blue cod, and any other sea life, sustainable, put money last and limit the commercial sector.
Major concern regarding Commercial Quota Management System, fish dumping and bycatch.
There's no good habitat out from Lyttelton having some artificial reefs put in off the coast out from Lyttelton and a release of cod on these artificial reefs could boost the populations and be home for other fish species like seasonal kingfish and all year round species like kahawai. Artificial reefs will really boost the population of fish of the Canterbury coast especially off from Lyttelton harbour

2.5.4 BCO4

Blue cod is a major recreational species in the South Island and I think in the Haast region it needs to be prioritised for recreational fishers.

We have a long line fishery around Chatham's who catch BCO how much ?

2.5.5 BCO5

amateur catch a very small portion of total taken and have minimal effect on the fishery. not take areas would be great for future protection of the fishery

Protection of spawning areas and populations. This needs to be based on good science rather than anecdotal evidence or assumptions and take into account the wider implications of factors such as land use and sedimentation as well as seabed disturbance from commercial fishing and other seabed activities.
Compliance management by govt agencies
I believe there should be an area for recreational only with a limited day catch to increase the chance of getting a fish and also to remove the Commercial pressure. This would in turn free up other areas for better Commercial catch.
There needs to be more recreational only areas near to the launching sites
I'm not sure if we fully understand the pressures on blue cod populations and their environment
The limit that rec fishers are allowed per day if they went fishing everyday, but they don't most only go a few days a year.
Trawling from bigger companies (nelson) through coding grounds of south coast.
Charter vessels and recreational catch
Boats from outside the area coming over on fine days and hammering our stocks. Not illegal and quite understandable, but it skews the figures and makes it look like we're cleaning out our own back yard.
Accumulation should still be ok from Milford it's one of the best managed fisheries
need better information on how to reduce release mortality
We could do with restricted zones for commercial, like paua. Fish size limit for commercial, just take a look at the fillet sizes in fish markets as compared to 20 years ago.
to many people are going out to catch their limit every time they go out. As stated all ready enough for a couple of feeds each trip should suffice.
The establishment of an amateur catch reporting system. Without accurate catch information from the recreational/amateur sector, then ultimately the TAC is system is flawed. If no accurate data from recreational/amateur sector to assist modeling, then the reliability of the results are compromised and there could be the chance that BCO fisheries are fished beyond the TAC.
a yearly limit for recreational
education around hadling and illegal take and the long term affects. there is a miss giving that we have an abundance of fish so it will not hurt but they have no understanding or don't care about bout the long term affects.
The weather maintains the amount of fishing days for small recreational boats in Southland
20 blue cod for recreational fishermen is unnecessary and stupid
Recreational cod pots should be banned
I believe a season for coddling is a great idea.
Interested in retaining breeders. Maybe there should be an upper size limit.
Weather dictates the recreational blue cod fishing in Foveaux straight - not many days where you can get out in a smallish boat so there is less pressure on the blue cod fishery down south. Different for the commercial fishermen though who can fish in most weather.
Amateur catch monitoring
Polution and risk of disease. Protection of breeding areas. Marine farming
There is no sustainable fishing level.
customary fishing
To many pots and boats simply because the current quota is not being caught.
Should there be an upper size limit to preserve good breeding stock?
I think promoting fish to be eaten fresh only ...no freezers .
Recreational & charter boats should report on quantity & specys & number of people onboard.

rec and charter fish limits 10 fish per person and no accumulation / easey to enforce
Effort ,modern technology,recreational growth,rec fish reporting
Recreational fishers should have to bring fish whole in, not filleted at sea.
Just drop bag limits to 4-6 fish per person depending on the Area,

2.5.6 BCO7

I have always liked the idea to close one side of the sounds each year (west one year east the next) There is then always somewhere to take a grandchild fishing! ... while at the same time giving large areas time out to recover, this would help in self policing as you can politely tell any uninformed fisher. sorry you cant fish here...but you can over there...
Fishers from out of zone taking legal but excess bags ie. Wellington 20 cod v Picton 2 cod/person
the loss of habitat and pollution from marine (mussel and salmon) farming
People need better education about Blue Cod
Lack of Marine Reserves
There is alot of fishing pressure because of the coincideing Xmas hollidays for batch and out of province fishos to the opening of the season.
Size 7 barbless circle hooks would help lower fish mortality
Publicity regarding hook size in the recreational area.
Some controls on fishers eg licencing
Inshore gill netting should be banned
20 cod per person 2 many may be 10 plenty if you can catch them
Still the idea of single species management is being pursued even though it fails more than it succeeds
Lifecycle interruption due to possible switch to mussel lines by juvenile for protection rather than using ethnic zone. Possible need for habitat protection zones if critical to l
we need smaller zones or areas to manage both recreational and commercial sectors better.like from the Spit south to Heaphy River
Blue cod cannot be analysed as a species on its own - they are part of an ecosystem - the whole system needs to be assessed and protected if ANY species is to survive and be prolific.
Shags are a huge issue in the inner sounds. Seals are a huge issue with other species as well
More marine reserves
The cod fishery needs to have time to reach a biomass sufficient to allow sustainable recreational only fishing in Tasman Bay.
If the individual limit for recreational fishers was 2 regardless of size then there would not be the huge loss to shags.
Why open the season over summer holiday period at peak fishing pressure which decimates fish stocks??
Customary fishing rights
Commercial set nets for other target species
1/Up sizing fish ie catching and potentially killing more small fish in order to catch 2 fish as large as possible 2/ Fishing down the large fish which predate the kinas which form a kina barren in the sounds resulting in less habitat (no seaweed), noticeably worse since the slot limit was removed and the large fish were caught
more on the water enforcement more enforcement all together
The abuse of customary rights by some maori. ie taking more than limit or undersized fish
I support areas set aside that would be "no fish" zones for spawning and breeding our future stock.

Retain the present size and limit.
Political will power. Closed seasons must be closed for recreational and commercial, fish size must be the same for recreational and commercial interest. Policing effort must be applied to recreational and commercial activity
Is there a link between the decline in cod and decline in scallop pollutions? ie increase in dredging pressure in and around cod habitat
Visiting vessel from Mana rape and pillage the waters around the top of the South Island especially around Stevens Island and around Durville. This needs more scrutiny. The fisheries have just got new boats so I would expect them to be out there often. May be the catch should also be the first two fish caught by a person. This way there is are no mortality rates by fish being thwon back or eaten by shags.
Dredging for scallops - this form of gather scallops should be banned from sounds and surrounding areas as new style dreges with teeth causing major dmage to seabed
Commercial boat in the Marlborough sounds
Yes. residents should be allowed to bring processed cod/ frozen to ramp Havelock/Picton without being prosecuted.
Again ...lack of marine reserves throughout the Marlborough sounds. I believe radical special closure is needed in the sounds and other pressured areas in the South Island. For the sounds I propose closing all west and/or north facing bays for a period of five years then rotating it.
bound to be
People are essentially greedy. You need very basic rules. None to be taken. That is if you are serious about saving the BCO.
I think that baches with sea access only have a disadvantage
Different limits should apply to inner and outer sounds
The quantity of blue cod at the top of the Marlborough Sounds makes it incredibly difficult to fish in the off-season without catching blue cod.
commercial bycatch, illegal catch, customary take, habitat loss, aquaculture, belief by mpi that process=decision,lack of trust
One Hook per line specified size
the amount of shags and seals both reducing the population
the fun of fishing for me has gone, too many rules and regulations and penalties if you should misunderstand something. I wouldnt know If I have the latest Rules.
MPI is not asking for solutions or suggestions. I think we could offer even more relief on fishing pressure by having complete bans in alternating areas. Logistically difficult, but closing fisheries is the only absolutely successful way to restore stocks, and then return with realistic and safe limits. Looking again at the rescue of the marlborough fishery, and the current strategy being used for scallops
To many people fishing for to few a fish. The pressure will only increase as more people retire and take up fishing.
Lack of marine reserves.
I have fished Okiwi to Durville 50 times a year for the last 26 years. There's no shortage of cod out there but we can do better by introducing large barbless hooks. Shags take a lot of small cod on the way back down but if they are returned to the water unharmed they will have a better chance of eluding a shag.
Target the fish you want - enough for afeed for you and the wife = 1 X 33mm cod
yes put shag on the duck licence. but compulsory 10 per day. horrible bird
I have a property in the sounds. If I want to take fish home after a long weekend I have to keep the fish whole when it would be far better to fillet and freeze the fish and take it home. This of course

<p>does not work as when I arrive at the launch ramp several fisheries officers await to measure code. Clearly this rule does not work in a pragmatic sensible way. Also I am very concerned that at any time when I am commuting to Waikawa with no evidence of fishing - no rods or bait table in view I can be pulled over by the fishery officers for no legal cause that I can see. The stop now! sign fishery officers use is absolutely an abuse of citizens rights in my view and does the Fisheries reputation no favours. That and also when I might be fishing they will come up and take my name and contact details, again when I am fishing legally.</p>
<p>BCO7 is targeted heavily by larger boats that come across from the lower north island. And these vessels frequently take their limits based on landing back in the lower north island where daily limits are much higher and if asked say they caught them on the wellington side. This is decimating cod stocks in the outer sounds area of BCO7.</p>
<p>Commercial fishing should be banned in the Sounds, and recreational fishing banned for at least five years to allow the cod to recover. It's nothing like it was 40 years ago.</p>
<p>Srr comments above.</p>
<p>iwi permits</p>
<p>Should have boat limit for total catch landed in place of people limit per boat...some larger boats with large numbers of fishers catch too much in one spot</p>
<p>The failure of MPI Fisheries to deal effectively and in a timely manner, despite warnings, with regard to the fishery.</p>
<p>Commercial take within the marlborough sounds and relative coastline</p>
<p>boats visiting from north island / or outside of district not knowing or caring about local rules</p>
<p>No option for stopping commercial take on Sounds</p>
<p>Aquaculture farms impacts are not fully understood</p>
<p>Black shags require control. Amateur sea fishing requires a licence system for a dozen valid reasons</p>
<p>Impact of dredging, forestry, marine farming, boating, siltation</p>
<p>Fish tags??,</p>
<p>Habitat, sediment</p>
<p>the establishment of marine reserve areas has worked well around Maude island and could be extended</p>
<p>Destruction of fish habitat and depleting quality of the remaining habitats</p>
<p>Increase in predators like shags and barracuda. Increased vessel movements creating underwater wash over the habitat.</p>
<p>I'd love to see some 'reserves' put in the Marlborough sounds that gives the fish a chance to restock. I know Blue cod don't move much, but surely if there were enough of them it would help. I'd also like to see a ban on all commercial fishing in the sounds (and perhaps if necessary, recreational fishermen have to accept that commercially designated grounds are only available to commercially registered vessels).</p>
<p>Environmental damage, ie: farming and forestry run off and dredging are destructive, cause silting & deteriorate the sea floor</p>
<p>Need to look at rules for Launch owners - being able to stay overnight and carry more than 1-days limit onboard</p>
<p>While this does not specifically relate to the blue cod catch, I have great concern at the number of recreational set lines which are regularly placed in the Tasman Bay fishery.</p>
<p>The rules cover a very wide area, in many localities cod are numerous, make the rules more location specific.</p>
<p>If the size limit were reduced in the area to say 30cm, while keeping the bag limit (of 2) would mean less waste of stock through less fish needing to be released to potentially be eaten by shags or die of</p>

trauma. Even 2 fish at 30cm represents a good meal. Current closed season seems to have a good effect in that when the season opens there are usually better stocks available.
closed areas , more small ones , open them up afte 5 years and shift them around
Vessels coming across from the North Island and catching their local bag limit which is larger than the Marlborough Sounds and heading back North with them.
bag limits, hook sizes etc are useful tools but are really just 'shuffling deck chairs' until a 'wholistic' approach is developed for marine conservation
crackdown on the charter boat operators who don't care what size the fish are that are caught on their boats.
I think both Rec and Commercial take should be halted again
How does aquaculture really impact on the ecology of the sounds .
The impact of commercial salmon and mussel farms depleting food abundance for cod
in an effort to retain equity in the BCO fishery the TACC needs to be spllt among reporting areas in the FMA. this will also assist with recreational buy in
There should be a minimum hook size (6/0) along with maximum of 2 hooks
The way cod are handled a lot of them die after released
Insufficient monitoring of fisherpeople and catches
Loss of weed banks due to dredging, kinas eating it and water quality leave little or no where for the eggs to attach during spawning, then having mussel farms (filter feeders) everywhere the eggs don't get a chance
An upper size limit like 50cm anything over to be released for both rec and comms. Encourage taking first fish you catch

2.5.7 BCO8

Yes as above
Illegal fishing in the marine reserve is poorly monitored.

Section 3: Other Feedback

3.1 Social Media Advertisement Comments

Please note that names have been suppressed under legal requirements.

Greymouth

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155674770087495>

██████████ Ban blue cod pots and lift the minimum size as it is NOT the recreational fisherman that is hammering this species of fish but is the commercial guys making a healthy living as usual and it is so easy for the corrupt government to point the finger at the minority as a quick answer . They are just a **fuckin** bunch of corrupt **sholes** looking for a quick fix answer to fool the masses.

· Unhide · 24 August at 21:46

Wellington

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155674767082495>

██████████
· 22 August at 18:42

██████████
· 23 August at 18:26

██████████ Please save the Blue Cod.
· 25 August at 17:44

██████████ I have a blue cod strategy of my own
· 26 August at 15:44

██████████
· 29 August at 21:06

██████████ Save the cod ██████
· 29 August at 21:07

██████████ Easy MAF, stop fishing when fish are in Row, Crayfish are in berry, and make the Paua size larger, when I worked on a fishing boat we where gutting tens of thousands on fish in Row, how stupid, it's not rocket science
· 31 August at 11:48

Ministry for Primary Industries Hi ██████, make sure you fill out our survey so you can have your say
Commented on by Joanna McLeod · 31 August at 13:30

██████████ **Ministry for Primary Industries** thank you, will do
· 31 August at 16:30

██████████
31 August at 15:09

██████████ You left it a bit late to save them !....Put a total ban on catching them.
· 31 August at 15:15

██████████ If MPI got rid of a few of the resident Seals in Lochmara Bay in the Marlborough Sounds. We would once a again have a lot more Blue Cod.
· 7 September at 22:11

Invercargill

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155674769037495>

Reduce the total allowable catch by 30 percent . Unfortunately the commercial sector has not achieved tonnage for a number of years. Yet MPI have not reduced the quota. It's at a level that is not achievable
Recreational day limits have been reduced by 30 percent.
The solution is very simple- reduce quota.

· 23 August at 08:30

Ministry for Primary Industries Thanks for your feedback , make sure you fill out the survey too please 😊

Commented on by Amy Sok · 23 August at 09:07

That's not correct. Let's get this very clear.. Industry lead a reduction of 20% of Quota a few years ago and have shelved quota this season and the next. In addition to this Industry have pushed through mesh size increases beginning 1st October.

· 23 August at 19:26

A 30% reduction in bag limits with a 50% increase in rec fishers doesn't reduce the overall catch,unlike a reduction in commercial catch.lots of people struggle to understand this it seems

· 24 August at 12:17

Thanks Greig, I do have it wrong. Great to see a reduction in quota and increase in mesh size! At present recreational catch is about 15 percent of the total allowable catch 1256 mt in Bc05. Yes we have seen a noticeable decline in fish size and numbers. What has been the commercial landed catch for the past 5 years? Thanks Paul

24 August at 13:39

Ministry for Primary Industries Hi , you can find information on the shared blue cod fishery here: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/tra.../fishing/fish-species/blue-cod/> and you can find out about the BCO stock status, including BCO5, here: <http://fs.fish.govt.nz/Page.aspx?pk=113&dk=24069>. Hope to see you at one of our drop in sessions and remember to share your thoughts in our survey!: <https://goo.gl/3jKkZ8>

Commented on by Felicity Spiers · 24 August at 14:56

Saying recs only catch 15% of tac is irrelevant.Most of com catch comes from areas unfished by recs.If we look only at shared areas the numbers are not so flattering I would imagine.dont see many fizz boats at the traps or south cape aye

· 24 August at 16:41

That's for sure, most wood be limited to 30 km from any given boat ramp, with odd exception.

· 24 August at 16:54

the commercial fishery has been going for over 100 years. A significant recreational fishery has only been around for about 20 years. Maybe the commercials aren't to blame?
I find the size and availability in an area varies year on year some years they are bigger some smaller some years are better and others worse it's a natural cyclical thing. Some areas of the straits are prone to local depletion there is no doubt.
A small pot mesh survey a couple years ago was showing a catch rate of about 40kg a pot of juveniles but not a lot of big fish. The smaller sizes being caught now may be these small fish growing to catchable size?

· 10 September at 19:25

· 23 August at 13:41

· 23 August at 20:23

· 24 August at 21:23

Mm, blue cod.. the daily catch limits are huge. Hopefully no one actually catches that many. Is it still 30 fish per day per person? !

· 25 August at 21:13

Nah dropped to 20 a day but 10 or 12 is heaps so needs to come down further I reckon

· 25 August at 22:14

· 29 August at 11:13

██████████ F
· 2 September at 21:21

██████████
· 3 September at 10:16

██████████ You no where they gone to Heaven because there eating plastic that humans throw in the sea that's where they gone
· 6 September at 20:54

██████████ The allocation of the resource was corrupt to say the least , the guy who got the biggest quota in bco5 never caught that amount of fish .
· 7 September at 06:44

Blenheim/Nelson

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155685969782495>

██████████ Why don't we just leave them alone? They're beautiful
· 22 August at 21:22

██████████ Why don't we just reduce the daily bag limit, create a slot fishery thus increasing juvenile mortality and then when it crashes let's just blame the commercial sector.....oh wait we did that already in the Marlborough Sounds. Bravo MPI, well played...
· 23 August at 18:27

██████████ your right on the bloody money there mate
· 25 August at 04:35

██████████ Sounds like a brilliant idea reduce it from 2 to 1 and a half lol otherwise 1 then you won't need a bag lol
· 29 August at 03:37

██████████
· 26 August at 08:22

██████████
· 26 August at 09:11

██████████ At Last as long as you listen to all the people who are catching the fish this time and not just commercial fishers or by far worse scientists with theories but no practice.
· 26 August at 11:09

██████████ When MPI ask for your opinion, don't expect it to be considered, in fact don't expect anything other than what they think. (or do they)
· 26 August at 17:39

██████████ The problem started when the commercial fishermen start using cod pots.Caught everything.
· 27 August at 20:17

██████████ Thats bull ~~shit~~..Cod pots were the best thing they could have done... 0 undersize deaths..Compared with VERY high percentage in rec fishing.. due to small barbed hooks and size limit that increases throw back of huge amount of small fish that die...Could be as high as 50% put back in my opinion..And even higher kill than total legal fish take for blue cod.. And what an unnecessary waste. Thats what i recon anyway.
· 1 September at 15:01

██████████ dead right mate
· 1 September at 18:02

██████████ The "only" time this fishery was recovering(& fast) was a few yrs back when they banned amateurs taking Blue Cod for 3 yrs, but after all the bleating from Amateurs & Charter Operators, it was reopened after 18 mths, & what do you know, the Blue Cod Fishery went into crash status again. Yay said the Amateurs, we can blame the Comercial Sector again.
· 1 September at 18:06

██████████ well said Marty, was the rec fishers that destroyed it in the first place.
· 1 September at 21:25

██████████ You really don't have a clue about what you are talking about John Doherty.
· 2 September at 03:39

Well i think MPI need to take the blame Mike as most rec fishers only fishing their unpractical shiney shoe office walla and totally wasteful regulations
· 2 September at 07:49

MPI can wear the blame for the fish that die from throwing those not allowed back, but whatever the cause of the continual decline, it's Not the piddly amount of comercial fishing of Cod pots; but hey, the amateur sector will Always blame the easiest target, except themselves.
I was at an amateur meeting a couple of weeks ago & one guy actually voiced his opinion, "that we have no one to blame but ourselves"! An Honest Honourable Man!
· 2 September at 08:14

The thing is the real **wankers** usually seem to be the most vocal at these meetings..Its the meme mentality for any benifits and... themthem for anthing thats gone wrong. But it will never work relying on fair play from anyone..Needs good robust fish saving but simple and fair rules for all.. as comercial have now. Thats not that hard to do surely
Cod pots came into use over 40years ago,there were plenty of blue cod until they came . Commercial fishers weren't throwing anything back then.Before they were used there was all enough for everyone but once the pots came in a area it reduce the cod so quickly.Ask some of the old fishermen ,they tell you.Its just like the pair trawlers , wrecked the snapper fishery
· 2 September at 16:43

MPI has messed up big-time letting commercial outfits just rape the sounds in the past. Close the sounds to commercial Blue Code fishing indefinitely.
· 29 August at 20:03

No one commercially fishes the sounds (inner) anyway ! Get your facts right before shooting your ignorant mouth off!
· 1 September at 19:35

Calm down. Did I say inner sounds? I think all commercial fishing can get out. Maybe MPI should have imposed a lower blue cod limit on the inner sounds a few years earlier but maybe alot of cod come in from cook strait where these commercial guys are raping it. There has been a low limit inside the sounds for a long time now. Maybe alot of fish from out of the sounds but inside the ban area (still the sounds) venture into the sounds to breed etc. I don't even care but I know it's just the way life is. Baby boomers **ruin** everything up and it's the new generation who have a clue about the bigger picture who pays the consequences.
[Unhide](#) · 1 September at 20:09 · Edited

Dead right Robert.
· 1 September at 21:27

It's people such as yourself, with a "let's blame someone else" attitude that stops you from looking where the real cause for colapse lays!
Mirror Mirror on the wall.....Oh no, it's the ugly truth; no it can't be!
· 2 September at 09:49

Have you always been totally ignorant, or is it something that has just developed in recent years
[Unhide](#) · 2 September at 12:19

Keep the Wellington fisherman from coming over from Mana etc and taking more Cod home than we are allowed.No check up on them I gather when they get. Back north
· 31 August at 18:34

Typical, advertise the event for the wrong day so no one can have their say. 90% of our cod would be caught over the Christmas holidays by outta towners. Close it for that 6 week period.
· 1 September at 06:36

Ministry for Primary Industries Good spotting **██████████** we'll fix that mistake asap 🙌 . And please fill out the online survey anytime if you can't make it to an event.
· Commented on by Amy Sok · 1 September at 08:29

Is it really that Complicated? Surely overfishing has to be one of the main reason' s, Be it Comercial or Recreational.Just Stop being so DAMN Greedy! How can you police it? Seriously how many planes and ships does New Zealand actually have to police the surrounding Waters?? We will end up just like other countries because we do not practise what we preach.
[Unhide](#) · 1 September at 08:44

I believed we need more reserves area to provide marine populations. On that way we knew, there will be breeding grounds for the years to come.
· 1 September at 18:16

have you ever seen a cod pot work.small ones escape thru the mesh .no hooks in gills or gullet.wen bait gone the cod simply swim out.get educated son before you mouth off
· 1 September at 21:03

Well said Adie.

· 1 September at 21:28

Ban hooks for cod.

Maybe recos need to use only cod pots to target cod. ?

Not hooks. Someone could design a small fold away pot for this very purpose.

Mpi need to listen to the professional operators.

Not the emotive whingers.

· 2 September at 06:15

Why not have a minimum hook size like a 6/0 or 7/0 and ban J Hooks all together in the Sounds.

We use Circle or Recurve hooks all the time and don't seem to gullet hook cod anymore. We also find shags account for a huge amount of undersize cod deaths,

· 2 September at 06:24 · Edited

Yes the Shags take more blue cod than the person fishing

· 2 September at 19:29

Don't blame the commercial guys. They have every rite to make a living from the sea. Keep the limet at two each for the privet people. Myself I think blue cod are a pain...the inner sounds all you catch is small ones. The shags get most of the thrown back ones. Keep the session and two per person limet.

· 2 September at 07:38

Yes you almost need to carry a bit of 3 inch plastic tube to drop them back into the water to avoid the shags getting them

· 2 September at 07:56

Create new habitats. Close areas off entirely. Close during the Christmas period. Limit catch to the first three caught and none get thrown back to die. The inner sounds lack of fish is all down to overfishing by us not the commercial guys. We need to own it and fix the problem ourselves. Fishing responsibly is the only answer.

· 2 September at 10:03

Recreational guys still catching all the fish and blaming commercial guys.



How many commercial guys are catching cod in the Sounds Adie? Not counting the charter operators, they count as recreational as TAC doesn't apply to them either.

I was the second largest Blue Cod quota holder in area 7 so I think I should have an opinion. Most years I left my quota uncaught, not worth the hassle.

· 2 September at 12:24 · Edited

I have never ever fish in sounds and nor my brother or father

· 2 September at 12:42

Yep, and your brother is the largest quota holder in area 7.

· 2 September at 16:36

Did they not close the sounds a while ago and then catch nearly 35 tones just out side the sounds

· 3 September at 08:32

There needs to be some sort of incentives to fish other species.. Spoties.gurnard..etc and to use other methods of catching...Barbed hooks are killing to many small blue cod..Cod pots..nets..trolling for surface species..Spear fishing..?? Sitting out there all day trying to catch the TV show epic big snapper in a blue cod area is doing way to much damage to undersized fish.

· 3 September at 22:38

MPI are trying to stop us catching fish to feed our families, meanwhile they turn a blind eye to overfishing by commercial fishermen and dumping of less valuable species caught

4 September at 16:47

Ministry for Primary Industries Hi Alan, this is about making sure there are abundant and sustainable blue cod fisheries for all New Zealanders. Please make sure you have your say in our survey: <https://goo.gl/3jKkZ8>

· Commented on by Amy Sok · 5 September at 10:13

Thank you MPI I have.

· 5 September at 10:35

Christchurch

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155674764982495>

██████████ Keep the foreign boats out of our waters!!!!

· 22 August at 18:48

██████████ Fill in the survey then and give them your opinion. Change starts with a voice

· 23 August at 00:48

██████████ Then with action aka you doing the survey

· 23 August at 00:49

██████████ ...yes I'll complete the survey. opinion? more like fact. ..The south pacific Islands have foreign fishing boats raping the waters..Unfortunately the gvt have allowed this at a cost...and the locals who rely on fishing to survive suffer..

· 23 August at 19:55

Ministry for Primary Industries Hi ██████████ There are approximately 1150 vessel registered to commercially fish in New Zealand. Of these, only 11 (0.1% of the total number of vessels) are owned by overseas companies and these have 100% MPI observer coverage. These vessels must be registered to New Zealand by law and they all fish on behalf of New Zealand owned companies. As these are all deep sea vessels they have little or no blue cod catch. Please remember to have your say about blue cod by filling out our

survey: <https://goo.gl/3jKkZ8> or attending one of our drop in sessions 😊

· Commented on by Felicity Spiers · 24 August at 15:02 · Edited

██████████ Don't eat fish. Easy.

· 22 August at 20:43

██████████ Your clearly an idiot sure ok every single person officially quit eating fish tomorrow *yeah right*

· 23 August at 00:49

██████████ The standard of your grammar proves that there are now two idiots in the room.

Fish stocks are depleting worldwide. Other countries are reaching out further because they have over fished their own back yard. Same for our water. The Chinese are taking that too. Reason one to stop eating fish.

Sea pollution is at its highest level than any other time. Apart from parasitic worms your fish are now riddled with plastic beads and other pollutants which will end up in your digestive tract. Reason two not to eat fish.

The eco system is vastly out of balance affecting our living environment. Reason three not to eat fish.

All the nutrients gained from fish can be obtained from plant sources. Reason four not to eat fish.

You may say jobs are at stake. The fishing industry in NZ employs over 20000 people. The net migration onto NZ last year was over 70000. Cut that and re train the fishing industry workers. Reason five.

And your argument is?

· 23 August at 23:14

██████████ Well put right on the money

· 27 August at 10:20

██████████ seriously, do you think EVERY person in NZ would stop eating fish taking in your reasons? I've recently moved from Waikato to live in Chch and the fishing up there is fantastic. Compared to opportunities here in Chch, not too much chances of over fishing down here. Have tried surf casting a few places but not much luck. Chances of every one stopping of eating fish is probably next to none.

· 3 September at 15:50

██████████ Well it will happen by choice or by force. We are depleting stocks as a global population, which will make it harder to catch fish, put pressure on prices and force people to look at other options. The reason you are not catching fish is due to this very reason. Last year I made a choice to not eat anything but plant based food. Was it easy, hell no, do I regret it, hell no. Now I couldn't go back to my old lifestyle, it has changed me for the better. Like I pointed out, much of the food we eat now is polluted, including plants/crops. Look at the last few weeks the issues with dairy farms. Watch the Al Jazeera documentaries on NZs rivers and lakes, we are on a fast track to poisoning ourselves. People once would have said that women would never have a vote, blacks would always be slaves. Never say never. It will happen, it is just when.

· 3 September at 15:59

██████████ You are mentally unstable ██████████

Unhide · 5 September at 20:40

██████████ Do elaborate ██████████

· 5 September at 22:00

██████████ Drop rec limits..30 on bp ...wtf?6 everywhere

· 5 September at 22:57

· 23 August at 02:47

My opinion on Blue Cod is they taste nice 🐟.

· 24 August at 11:25

Like most fish stocks that end up depleted to low levels you will find that these species are supposedly managed by a commercial quota system. I.e. Commercial take. The word Take is the reason they get into trouble. There is complete lack of management for such a massive removal of stock and as for by catch. Well let's not get started there. Remove commercial taking. Add a few reserves (we have seen what has been achieved from the Banks Peninsula cray fishery) then manage the levels for recreational fishing.

· 25 August at 08:10

Cod potting. Beautiful eating fish!!!

· 29 August at 16:54

get boyd to do this survey

· 29 August at 21:00

cut the commercial take recreational fishers will be blamed as usual didnt you see those sunday night programs of propaganda saying how good the big fish processing companies were looking after the fish stocks ,total bull the programs were sponsored by them .

· Unhide · 3 September at 18:25

Reduce the east coast limit. 30 per person per day too many. Unnecessary and non sustainable.

The Marlborough sounds restrictions came about too late and were too fiddly! Unhooking over size cod has limited success. If you have fished them you know how they swallow the lot! Big percentage end up back in food chain when put back... act sooner. Don't let them get fished out then get "reactive!"

· 4 September at 22:50

Ministry for Primary Industries Hi everyone, thanks for all your comments, don't forget to have your say by filling out our survey: <https://goo.gl/3jKkZ8> or attending one of our drop in sessions 😊

· Commented on by Amy Sok · 5 September at 10:06

The biggest thing for this consultation to succeed is trust. The feeling on the ground from historical processes that is, why do we bother? They are going to do what they (MPI) want anyway!. This could be the last chance to prove that the public's input is actually responded to. Be warned don't stuff it up.

· 5 September at 12:48

Wouldn't give MPI the skin of my 🐟

· Unhide · 5 September at 16:40

· 5 September at 20:08

You want our opinion so you can give more to the Commercial sector

Dunedin

<https://www.facebook.com/933406430074467/posts/10155674766067495>

· 23 August at 07:37

· 24 August at 07:26

· 25 August at 07:12

I am not stressed over it. Blue cod isn't what I enjoy eating. Better species to eat out there.

· 25 August at 16:02

Pass the inshore responsibilities of enforcement to appropriate Runaka, along with the pūtea.

· 26 August at 20:17

██████████ best eating fish ever and its overfished i think ,seen a big decline in size and quantity over last 14 yrs
· 26 August at 20:28

██████████
· 27 August at 09:34

██████████ Ban Towny's fishing off Brighton blackhead

Taieri mouth

Aka tore and south that will fix it

· 29 August at 10:33

██████████ Not really that's the exact cause for lower numbers of fish in this area

· 5 September at 11:04

██████████ Jorja hutton

· 29 August at 16:12

██████████
· 29 August at 16:12

██████████
· 29 August at 16:12

██████████ Drop the limit to ten thirty each is not a feed it's a business think about it no one goes out on there own so that's a lot

· 29 August at 17:28

██████████ If you propose a 70% cut to the recreational fisherman then the commercial quota should be cut the same, that's too much too quick maybe a 20% cut across the board and most defiantly increase the size limit to 33 or 34 cm so they get more chance to breed.

· 29 August at 17:56 · Edited

██████████ Reserves and quota cuts what next.

· 29 August at 18:35

██████████ If you cut the recreational fisherman then the commercial quota should be cut the same !

If you can not do that , do not touch it , also increase the size limit

· 29 August at 19:05

██████████ I agree, fill out the survey you get a chance to say what you think, I did it earlier

· 29 August at 21:03

██████████ F

· 30 August at 06:06

██████████ We have same problem here 20 cod per person and big **Bastard's** too.

[Unhide](#) · 30 August at 22:24

██████████ 20????? Where the hell are you fishing for that??? Limit is 3 isn't it

· 31 August at 19:42

██████████ The article in Thursday's ODT stated Otago fishers backing the blue cod strategy. Sounds like its already decided before the public meetings!,

· 1 September at 19:29

██████████ It's yum

· 3 September at 17:06

██████████ <https://m.facebook.com/story.php...>

· 5 September at 18:06

██████████ Play this video above at your meetings, click on the link above, you will see where the damage is getting done.

· 5 September at 19:07 · Edited

██████████ Recreational fishermen genrally don't get that many good days to go out fishing down here. Cutting catch numbers down just means we might go out more for more days fishing if the freezer gets down and weather is good. Cutting the limit to 20 and cutting the quota down by a third could be an idea.

· 5 September at 18:32

Well said i have a boat but have never taken the limit as i believe 60 blue cod fillets per person is ridiculous cut the limit to 15 or 20 per person recreational and commercial quota accordingly.
· 6 September at 16:32

3.2 MPI Unpaid Social Media Comments

Ministry for Primary Industries

[12 September](#)

did NZ Herald or ODT get your permission to use this blue Cod image? · [12 September at 12:42](#)

No they did not, was just wondering about this, where did they get the image from? · [12 September at 22:01](#)

I didn't give the pic to them and never would as it's not mine to give 😊. I suspect they just scooped it off the guardians Facebook group or an associated story/post as it looks very grainy/low res. I tried calling the odt yesterday but got no answer. Will follow up again today they should have asked your permission and at least credited it although really they should be paying u for it so I will suggest this to them ok?3 · [13 September at 06:02](#)

[22 August](#)

Chance to have your say · [1 September at 07:27](#)

[4 August](#)

I think [Alistair](#) needs to stop catching them all and save a few for the boyzz · [4 August at 15:42](#)

Blue Cod strategy, Snapper 1 strategy, Crayfish CRA2 strategy... sounds like a lot of strategy going on to rebuild depleted near stocks from a 'world class' quota management system. If it was world class, we shouldn't even be having these discussions. · [4 August at 16:10](#)

Get involved · [4 August at 20:56](#)

Need to sort out the manatee first. we need assistance · [4 August at 23:51](#)

I have it on good authority that manatee ain't interested in blue cod. · [7 August at 16:47](#)

we need this material referenced · [7 August at 18:51](#)

MPI Fisheries – Northland

No comments on posts

MPI Fisheries - Canterbury/Westland

[15 September](#)

How many came to the drop ins??? Is is a successful approach to public engagement · [22 September at 07:39](#)

I went to the invercargill one m8,and it was horse shi.all posters stating 2012 figures ,how's that for great up to date info. [Unhide](#) · [22 September at 08:21](#)

How will this differ from the rotr which was the SNA1 process a few years ago? · [22 September at 08:29](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Canterbury/Westland](#) Hi [REDACTED], thanks for your comment. We had over 300 people turn up to the drop in sessions throughout the South Island and a total of 1105 people fill out the online survey. The results from this engagement phase will be made publicly available in the near future, so stay up to date at www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod. Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · 22 September at 10:04

[MPI Fisheries - Canterbury/Westland](#) Hi [REDACTED]. The development approach for the National Blue Cod Strategy is a novel approach and consists of three engagement phases (refer to the diagram). The first engagement phase which has recently finished was to talk to people in their local areas about their local blue cod fisheries. This was done so that we can piece together a clear picture of what is happening in people's backyards with blue cod so that when we start developing solutions in the second development phase, we have a clear overview of the issues facing the fishery. This multi stage development approach enables people to have input and provide feedback three times throughout the process. This will ensure we capture all of the potential issues and solutions for our blue cod fisheries. Visit www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod to keep up to date with the development process. Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · 22 September at 10:06

[REDACTED] Thank you for you reply. But my point with SNA1 was that mpi had predetermined the outcome in that, in defiance of both letter and intent of the Fisheries Act, recreational was to take a cut to preserve TACC. How can the public have any faith at all in MPI after that and after the absolute debacle around cameras, Hippocamp etc? · 22 September at 13:27

[REDACTED] MPI Fisheries

Thanks for the numbers.

To be honest it was a loaded question. The engagement process at 1105 people is what percentage of south island rec fishers. Is it fair to say its a 200k/400k split between North and South Islands.

That being the case your reach was 0.5% of the south island .

It seems people are disillusioned with MPI and wont engage that means your employers the NZ public are unhappy.

I would like to think you could raise the bar to at least 10 % representation.

At 0.5% its certainly no mandate to change the rec take.

Interested to hear your thoughts on improving turnouts. · 22 September at 15:20

[MPI Fisheries - Canterbury/Westland](#) [REDACTED] thank you for your thoughts. To ensure we get an effective strategy for blue codwe are asking for public input three times during the development process as stated above. Stay up to date on how to be involved at www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod. Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · 22 September at 15:40 · Edited

[REDACTED] I couldn't believe they call themselves a group of experts,when not one of them catch cod commercially and there's no rec people there either. Expert in my book is someone with years of knowledge at the Rock face. But at least the qouta owners made it in there lol. You would of thought with the problems where having a stock assessment after 30 % cut and shelving would be sped up instead of waiting till 2019.But I spose the com guys and rec guys will be to blame,mismanagement seems fine ,maybe we should privatise the fishery policing and protection and see if we get a better bang for our buck · 22 September at 15:33 · Edited

[REDACTED] Classic comment [REDACTED] · 23 September at 00:17

[REDACTED] Let me know if you get a response.... · 22 September at 17:17

22 August

[REDACTED]. Be worth filling out the survey. May help protect Kaikoura fishery for future Generations. · 22 August at 18:20

[REDACTED] you're famous 00:45 [REDACTED] · 22 August at 17:01

[REDACTED] Haha! Limp wrists · 22 August at 17:10

[REDACTED] Pretty sure that's still his favourite jacket for hitting the town · 22 August at 17:24

[REDACTED] He's only ever had one. Got it for his 13th birthday · 22 August at 17:47

4 August

[REDACTED] would be good to get a spearo club representative at this · 4 August at 15:22

[REDACTED] Good call. Time to start growing a beard again oh wise one who all will listen to. · 4 August at 21:36

[REDACTED] · 4 August at 21:42

26 May

Ask Maggie she'll 1080 it..or try? · [27 May at 18:59](#)

· [27 May at 18:54](#)

MPI Fisheries - Nelson/Marlborough/Kaikoura

4 August

UM I feel a little confused - why hold workshops in ChCh when it is the Nelson Marlborough area that you are targeting? · [4 August at 17:14](#)

There arnt any night clubs in the sounds and you have to make your own coffee · [5 August at 23:29](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Nelson/Marlborough/Kaikoura](#) Hi [REDACTED], we're developing a National strategy for blue cod which has an initial focus on the South Island, including the Nelson, Marlborough blue codfishery. We'll be reaching out to the public soon with drop in sessions throughout the South Island – including Nelson. Make sure you check www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod to find out when and where they'll be happening. · Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · [7 August at 11:08](#) · Edited

I assume Picton as well. · [7 August at 21:32](#)

How about holding the workshops where the problem is? I know, small thinking, but sometime it helps 😊 · [4 August at 17:43](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Nelson/Marlborough/Kaikoura](#) Hi [REDACTED], the first expert workshop was held to identify the aim and objectives for the strategy. We will be reaching out soon to the public to get their feedback on what has been developed so far by the experts and to find out about people's local bluecod fisheries. We'll let you know about meetings and other ways you can be involved as soon as they're confirmed. Check www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod or keep an eye on our MPI Fisheries Facebook pages for updates. · Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · [7 August at 10:47](#)

Are you guys getting behind those who have been able to successfully breed blue cod in captivity? · [4 August at 18:09](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Nelson/Marlborough/Kaikoura](#) Hi [REDACTED], all aspects of the blue cod fishery, including the work you've highlighted, will be discussed and reviewed during the development of the National Blue Cod Strategy. Visit www.mpi.govt.nz/bluecod to find out the work that's been done so far and how to have your say. · Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · [7 August at 11:05](#)

AS I have had much past experience with the Ministry of Fisheries, (now MINISTRY of PRIZE IMBECILES) I would find it absolutely pointless and a waste of my time having any input or even attending a venue on your JUNKETS around the country.. YOU WILL DO WHAT YOU CHOOSE AND F**K THE REST, AND ALL YOUR PLAQTITUDES ARE JUST VERBAL DIARHEA. · [Unhide](#) · [4 August at 23:44](#)

Get rid of the shags for start .that will improve stocks ,who has had them round the boat getting all the small returned fish · [5 August at 07:43](#)

All the time · [7 August at 10:55](#)

26 May

What worries me is "THE HIGH VALUE COMMERCIAL

[MPI Fisheries - Nelson/Marlborough/Kaikoura](#) Hi [REDACTED], thanks for sharing your views, make sure you keep an eye out and have your say later this year! · Commented on by [Amy Sok](#) · [29 May at 12:01](#)

It's a waste of time. I have submitted numerous submissions over the last 15 - 20 years. Unfortunately, I was wasting my time because the Ministry of Fisheries never actually listen to what the recreational sector have to say due to a BANKRUPT GOVERNMENT NEEDING FUNDS and to sell QUOTA to gather funds is in my opinion a travesty because the resource BELONGS IN TOTAL TO NZ'ers. · [29 May at 13:02](#)

What a dick head [Unhide](#) · [20 June at 14:32](#)

MPI Fisheries - Otago/Southland

22 August

██████████ The bluecod off the oamaru and moeraki coast is in crisis due to the added pressure from the growing pressure from amateur sector and also more people are going out on charters , the KNOWN take from charter vessels in this area is over 80ton , the size minimum size limit on bluecod needs to go up from 30cm to 35cm and the daily bag limit needs to come down from 30 to atleast 8 , the avage daily take on charter boats is 9 - 10 bluecod per person , also cod pots should only be used by commercial fishermen , hook size should be a minimum of 12/0 , commercial take should be cut by two thirds as they are taking from the same fishery , and posibly a 2 month closure during spawning will let the breeders breed , from what i have seen a ban of codfishing inside the 30 meter depth should also be implemented as fizz boats tend to hammer these areas and catch and release to many undersize fish that a high number dont survive. This fishery is for everyone and MUST be looked after and returned to where it was before its decline · [23 August at 15:22](#)

██████████ Well said. Totally agree with ya Middlemiss. That could be a first 😄 · [23 August at 18:26](#)

██████████ Its only the meat hunters that will argue against whats needed to save the fishery · [23 August at 18:43](#)

██████████ 👍 · [23 August at 19:06](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Otago/Southland](#) Hi ██████████, thanks for sharing your thoughts with us – we’ve taken your comments on board. You can also have your say about blue cod in your area by filling out our online survey: <https://goo.gl/asrJLh>. We hope to see you at one of our drop in sessions! · Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · [25 August at 13:14](#)

██████████ I tried your web page but couldnt get on , i am currently in the southern indian ocean and wont make the moeraki meeting on the 10th but will watch proceedings with interest and hopefully mpi can save the fishery off the moeraki coast . . You guys are long overdue to get it right . . · [26 August at 09:08](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Otago/Southland](#) Thanks ██████████. Did you manage to get through to the survey?: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/bluecod1> · Commented on by [Felicity Spiers](#) · [28 August at 14:30](#)

██████████ Yeah mate . . Filled out all the questions , lets hope thid time the right limits come into place · [29 August at 10:07](#)

██████████ Pretty good summary ██████████. I put in a submission for a 10 bag limit. Changes must happen now. No good after the horse has bolted · [24 September at 20:48](#)

4 September

██████████ · [4 September at 20:19](#)

██████████ What time is the meeting in Moeraki? · [4 September at 21:25](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Otago/Southland](#) 1pm - 4 pm at the Coronation Hall on 10 September. It's a drop in session so anytime during it. · Commented on by [Greg Forbes](#) · [4 September at 21:36](#) · [Edited](#)

██████████ · [4 September at 23:29](#)

██████████ I've been told there is a meeting in Balclutha. Is this correct?? · [5 September at 12:27](#)

[MPI Fisheries - Otago/Southland](#) We will check but its not on the list. The full list of meetings is at this link: <http://www.mpi.govt.nz/.../national-blue-cod-strategy/>. · Commented on by [Greg Forbes](#) · [5 September at 12:35](#)

██████████ · [5 September at 13:35](#)

██████████ · [6 September at 15:18](#)

██████████ · [7 September at 08:59](#)

3.3 Fisheries Management Submissions Inbox (FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

Please note that names have been suppressed under legal requirements.

1)

The Marlborough Sounds

Fiddling with bag/size/seasons is plainly not working for blue cod in the Sounds and fishing pressure is growing. Drastic action is called for. The problem of blue cod are no different from any other animal that is under hunting pressure. There are thousands of juveniles showing recruitment is not the problem but pressure on the adults of legal size is extreme. In my view the only way to solve it is to do exactly what farmers do. They let their stock grow across a number of paddocks and then they harvest them. In the case of blue cod, this would involve dividing the Sounds up into a number of areas, and closing some to let the small fish reach legal size. These would then be opened, and the others closed until an (undefined) proportion had reached legal size. Yes, difficult to police and many would "cheat", but if the areas were big enough, say 6 in the whole of the Sounds, it would not be possible for the "cheats" to have such an impact as to destroy the whole system.

NZ fishers are not used to such systems, and marine fishers are hardly acquainted with regulations at all. Compare NZ with the complex Fisheries notices seen at many Aussie beaches.

2)

Hello

I feel so passionate about this that I have difficulty writing. Actually writing is not my forte

What is about your systems that it allows information received from stake holders, to be treated as accepted scientific data!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Where is your Data???

What operator, commercial or recreational, is going to supply you with information, that is going to restrict their livelihood.

So, what scientific information other than that provided by "Fisherman" are you using to justify your decisions.

I am fully in favour of Laws around fishing but they have to have some substance and then they have to be policed.

In thirty years of launching my inflatable of the Dunedin Beaches of St Kilda, St Clair, and Tomahawk, for Paua and Blue Cod I have never had my catch inspected by Fisheries Officers.

The only policing is from nature itself or the morals of the fisherman

So tell me if you are really that concerned about the blue cod, and any other fish for that matter, I would like to know that if you are going to make changes, how are you going to police them.

I have just had a look at your survey. Really !!! Is that it.

I have fished like a number of people since I could walk. I love being in the water. diving or snorkelling, as much as I do being on top fishing for my family.

It is an experience that gives me incredible satisfaction and peace.

For too long now, 30 fish per person at 30 cm or 32 cm is a joke. I witnessed the decimation of the fish stocks in Patterson Inlet, Rakiura. With no one, yes no one to police other than the environmental restrictions imposed by the weather.

The area over the next twenty years or so, was completely plundered.

In 1986 i was fortunate enough to travel with a group of 12 work mates to Patterson's Inlet Stewart Island and camp in Goose Cove.

All with different ideas about right and wrong. I witnessed extreme exploitation and total disregard for the law and also what was morally right or wrong.

I was disgusted at the dumping of shellfish and fish that had gone "OFF" when we caught more than we could possibly eat or store.

I also witnessed those in the group who where truly concerned about our lack of respect, to the point of heated arguments.

luckily the majority within the group choose to impose self enforced restrictions on our catch.

As we left another group arrived, this time with a freezer and generator and I have no doubt that when they left that the next group arrived no doubt expecting to get their fare share.

Twenty years on and a number of other trips, and the area has been fished to the point where we went from having the most pristine, bountiful area in New Zealand, to an area where suddenly governed by Maitaitai's, and Marine Reserves.

To little to late and then a total knee jerk reaction.

Surely at some stage, did some one in Fisheries Management, not for one moment, suspect that their might have been a problem.

Or do we wait with Ambulance at the bottom of the cliff!!

During our Last trip we went to Port Adventure. Sadly the process was already repeating itself again no policing and seemingly no lessons.

Both these areas do not have the same climatic restrictions as the area directly east of Dunedin's East Coast and as such are open to abuse and over fishing.

O

While doing your survey, one of your questions was which area was I interested in. The area "1" was interested in included half the east coast of the South Island.

Are you therefore saying that the populations of Blue Cod are similar through out the area specified on your map? [REDACTED]

And as such you will make adjustments to regulations based on the health of the populations in those areas.

These areas are vast and are hugely diverse within their boundaries.

The populations of cod, directly of the Dunedin coast are one of the healthiest in the South Island and yet not 80 km North, at Moeraki, the numbers and size of cod are heading the same way as Patterson inlet.

Pressure from Fishing charters is huge, as is recreational and commercial. So much so a self imposed 20 fish/person by the locals has been implemented. Why has it been left to the locals to make such a decision????? Yes I fish their a lot we have a small Bach a Hamden.

What I would like to see;

- 1) Far greater numbers of Fisheries Officers in the field, maybe not so many in offices.
- 2) Scientific data to back up decisions, not word of mouth from self interested parties.
- 3) A better system of identifying areas and the governing of those areas depending on population numbers and fishing pressure.
- 4 A reduction in the take per person. 30 is ridiculous.
- 5) An increase in the size limit.
- 6) A rotational plan that that allows areas in heavy pressure to recover over specified periods. Similar to grazing stock on a farm.

7) Regulations made governing fish "Take", are made dependent on the pressures and populations in those areas. Not Blanket Rules for vast areas, which in fact have smaller, extremely diverse habitats and populations.

8) A Plan that allows us to still enjoy a pastime and fish for our Families in twenty years time.

9) An education programme that encourages people to understand that they don't have to take the designated limit .

10) A reduction to ten fish per person on charter boats. It should be about the experience as well as the number of fish.

11) A Maximum Number of fish per Boat. (12 people/ per Charter Boat at 20 each = 240 blue cod/trip. Some times twice a day. And up to 5 Charter Boats a day out of Moeraki. Hmmmmm and you wonder why we have a problem.)

10) For gods sake put some barriers up at the Top of the cliff, but make sure there is room for the Ambulance to park.

Thank you for letting me get this off my chest.

regards

3)

hi

I am 63, have worked on fishing boats as a deckhand all my life, off and on, hold skippers tickets for NZ and Tasmania, worked on a salmon farm, and have done one season working for NIWA, collecting data from fishers at Taroakohe, Golden Bay. In October I will start another year of this work, which I love. I talk to many people who know much more about the specifics of blue cod, than I do. It will be very easy for me, and a pleasure, to ask particular questions in the course of my interviews, when I have time, which will be often, though not all the time.

You may wish to contact the NIWA officers, who have charge of the interview process in the South Island, if you have not already thought of this, with a view to enhancing the blue cod info.

Having worked for so long in the industry, and seen the trends in legislation, stock reduction, fish-finding technology, exporting of premium fish, boat sizes, etc., my opinion is that the commercial sector is responsible for the present problems and the recreational sector is a positive element, in many ways, with the potential to be more useful still, in terms of being self-policing, and keeping an eye on foreign boats etc., and taking into account many other positive factors, inherent in our national fishing culture and tradition.

In my view, blue cod should be one of a number of species, including and especially kahawai, which should be available to the public directly off the backs of commercial boats. The present legislative framework heavily favours corporate interests, which is not conducive to amateur fishers taking healthy responsibility for the fishery, and is anyway, just plain wrong.

All the best with this job of work, and I look forward to being helpful.

4)

Just a point I would like to make about your blue cod meetings such as the one scheduled at the Moeraki hall. The majority of recreational fishers that fish from Moeraki are spread from Canterbury, Otago and Central Otago. My experience with the North Otago locals is that they have their heads in the sand regarding the severe depletion of blue cod stocks. They are generally negative at lowering bag limits.

Social Media and Facebook and emails will give you a better picture of the Blue cod catch.

I strongly suggest a lowered limit to 10 per person and increased surveillance of recreational fishermen which includes myself.

In 20 years of fishing at least once a month at Moeraki I have never seen a fisheries officer.

5)

To Whom It May Concern,

My submission is to ask that MPI considers a strategy that allows regeneration of recreational and commercial cod stocks.

You look back at photo albums and cod were large and abundant. Overfishing from recreational and commercial pressures have reduced the stocks to a fraction of their previous levels.

We recently had a fishing trip in the Marlborough Sounds, it was 1 day (about 6 hours of active fishing) and to get 12 legal cod (2 x >40cm) we caught a total of 75 fish. Although the size limit is good, the stocks are young and susceptible, and the collateral catch is too high.

Fisheries need a complete respite. We need more recreation reserves, and more absolute reserves. We may even need closures again in areas that are under pressure.

I want my grandkids to enjoy the same fishing my grandparents did.

Thank you

6)

All blue cod fisherman stood in the bluff town hall in 2014 and told (name suppressed) and his team cut the quota or you'll kill this fishery, you sided with greedy quota owners and took advice from sanfords and a few other big company's and now your in trouble. Fix your own mess, the biggest problem is MPI and its ability to be swayed to the dollar. The fishery is doomed, its unsustainable, efforts gone threw the roof, quota owners are hiding and using week tools (mesh size) to carry on rape and pillaging. Companys are using blackmail tactics to get the fish caught offering cray quota "only" if the cods caught. The quota management system is failing, fishers are now criminals who are going to be videoed and there intellectual property stolen all because you don't listen to the rock face. We aren't going to help you, you made this monster clean it up yourself. And as for these blue cod experts , how much fish do they fiscally catch, not own, fiscally catch. Good luck come 2019 when your stock assessment is done then we as fishers will have our say and let the media have there pound of flesh. 2019 will see this fishery halved "at least".

7)

Thanks for the chat this morning re the “buy-in” clarification on the survey.(I suggest the results of this “buy-in” question may be askew as some fishermen may have viewed it as meaning licences, which would be hotly rebutted).

In short I believe it is easy to “overthink” this issue.....In reality, we wont ever know for sure the exact impact on the fishery until we do something and see. It is always going to be a best guess situation.

From where I’m sitting I would be initially aiming for the following:-

1. Setting up a representative board (of a cross section of recreational and commercial fishermen and MPI and a fish ecology expert) to assist in determining changes to catch takes and rules.
2. Seeking faster process and response time in applying such changes (from Government).
3. Making an immediate initial reduction in the take, and see how that goes.
4. Getting all interested persons on a data base for e-mailing(which provides feedback and the added benefit of better education on such things as release, hook types etc).

As mentioned I have been doing some work directly through the Prime Ministers Office relating to (in)efficiencies in Government and fixing stupid things. I am prepared to assist where I can if you find bureaucracy a stumbling block.

Regards,

8)

Hi

Thanks for the e mail and the answers to my questions. It is quite clear the Moeraki fishery is at the Crossroads, at present there is no solid evidence that the environment may be causing the depletion of blue cod. What is more clear is that the blue cod fishery has been thoughtlessly exploited, and that the TACC requires a reduction to preserve the fishery. We could be looking down the barrel of days when its no longer viable to recreational fish for blue cod, no one ever thought these days would happen but when you look at historical Groper catches at Moeraki blue cod was a bye catch. Now that blue cod numbers are decreasing the bye catch is Sea Perch (Jock Stewarts) could we be looking at history repeating itself?. Fisherman I have spoken to have been landing Sea Perch due to the low Blue Cod numbers, Just as with Groper stocks I see this as the canary in the mine scenario. In recent years the numbers of recreational & charter fishing vessels has greatly increased (perhaps an impact from population growth). Not only are vessels increasing they are more sophisticated and technically advanced from those of thirty years ago, they can reach further areas faster in difficult weather conditions. Technical highly accurate chart plotters and advanced fish finders are also having an impact this means specific areas can be decimated by repeat visits. Where to from here?.

Reduce the TACC

Cease and desist from using cod pots recreationally.

Limit catches to on a 7 day basis.

Reduce recreational catch limits.

We must all act TOGETHER and reduce the TACC, the sooner the better. It is also my opinion that we can't afford to be non committal or hesitate on this issue we need to act now!, its a hard decision but it has to be NOW and it has to be a EFFECTIVE perhaps 50% across the board on all levels by that I mean Commercial, Charter, Iwi rights, and recreational. Also we must adjust our behavior and attitude towards this fishery and at all costs preserve it for future generations and the Eco system as a whole. We must learn from mistakes of the past, The North Sea fishery collapsed pushing some birdlife to the brink of extinction its not just our species.

9)

I couldn't get to the drop-in session here but have a few other discussion points.

When discussing limits and number of fish killed you should consider that many fishers here use cod for bait (usually undersized fish). A boat with 4 fishers on it could use 40 cod for bait to catch 20 legal size fish each. The amount of bait used has increased as the average size of the fish has decreased.

Predation of released undersize fish is a factor. Mollymawks and barracouta account for a number of released fish. Education of fishers could reduce the bird predation by suggesting that fish are released in close to the hull of the boat but I don't know what can be done about sharks and other fish predators. I have observed fishers who think it is a good idea to feed undersized fish to Mollymawks

The use of pots by rec. fishers would reduce damage done by unhooking small fish. There will be a grizzle about losing the "sporting" side of fishing but who gets much of a "sporting satisfaction" out of catching blue cod. Essentially it is a food gathering activity. Bigger, barbless, long shank hooks will reduce damage during release. I see too many people using small hooks which tend to be swallowed and require invasion techniques to remove, frequently causing fatal damage.

With recent introduction of foreign diseases to a number of previously clean environments - cattle in S. Cant., oysters at Stewart Island, myrtle rust, bees. - it would seem wise to consider potential disease risks for Blue Cod and ways in which they might be introduced here especially if they are to be considered for aqua-farming.

About 20yrs ago there was some work done in Southland on catch and release and migration of cod. You may have the results and they would be of value in the considerations now under way.

I did the questionnaire.

Good luck,

10)

Hi guys

Further to our discussion at the Christchurch meeting on September 7th regarding my ideas on sustaining and growing the Blue Cod fishery .

The biggest restriction i see to growing the fishery is habitat, there are no extra areas available to increase any big numbers of new fish.

I have thought long and hard about how we can create new habitat. My proposal is that we create a whole new fishery using old containers as a new reef starting in the Canterbury bight these containers will have holes cut in them just big enough to stop Seals and Dolphins getting at the young Blue Cod. These containers could be placed 2 to 3 meters apart in rows in any area that has a muddy or sandy bottom. Initially a trial of say 20 containers could be placed in an area assessable to divers so it can be monitored.

My long term vision is to create a sustainable fishery using 1 million 2 million 3 million containers supplying the world with Blue Cod could be a 10 billion dollar industry with factory ships continually potting Cod and the other species that will be attracted to the reef.

Imagine rowing your grandchildren 300 metres out into Akoroa harbour catching 30 legal size Blue Cod in half an hour this would be a great legacy we could leave for future generations.

Or will we leave them a limit of 1 or 2 fish or worse still a video so they can see what they used to look like.

Regards

Grandfather of 1 so far

11)

Resident in Marlborough I've seen several years of mismanagement of blue cod. It began with the 2007 decision by the then Minister of Fisheries Jim Anderton to initially ban recreational fishing but then in the face of understandable strong public opposition this was altered to just blue cod. This was agreed to by the NZ Recreational Fishing Council president with no consultation with the Marlborough recreational fishing community.

The perception by the Ministry that there was a blue cod crisis was not justified by credible research. The potting survey was poorly sited relative to vital sampling locations, was at the wrong time of the year when blue cod had probably migrated out of the Sounds to spawning areas and sampling was inadequate numerically.

Had the Ministry consulted with regular recreational fishers it would have been realised there was no dire crisis notwithstanding that management should be flexible and adaptable to any immediate needs. As a regular fisher, in 2008 I had no trouble getting my three (3) fish cod limit in 20 minutes to an hour, depending on the individual day.

Unfortunately Ministry moves following Anderton's ban were ill-conceived and damaging such as the slot rule which on the fishery's reopening resulted in thousands of vital breeding female cod being targeted and dying on release. What was disappointing was ministry's stubbornness and inability to realise its blunder. I was part of three representations to three ministers and frankly except for Phil Heatley the other two (Carter and Guy) were a waste of time with obvious disinterest.

Obviously there is a culture attitude problem there.

In the nine years since the Anderson ban, it is a measure of the lack of management, that the ministry has apparently done no research into where and when blue cod spawn. Experienced commercial fishermen like the late Ted Collins pointed to the Cape Campbell/Marfells area as the likely spawning ground for blue cod and to August and September as principal months. Yet currently the ban, based on pure guesswork, goes from September to December 20.

I suggest two measures relative to spawning protection:-

Change the closure to August to October 20.

Immediately instigate credible research to ascertain where and when Sounds blue cod spawn.

Other measures:-

Reinstate the three (3) blue cod bag limit. This worked perfectly well in 2007. This would bring consistency across the “Top of the South” thus avoiding confusion and ludicrous “lines ion the water” concepts that fish do not understand!

On size limits the current mandatory 33 cms is probably satisfactory. However commercial have a voluntary 33 cms limit so why not make it the same for recreational. This would allow damaged cod of say 28 to 33 cms to be kept.

At the drop-in session this was countered by a ministry officer with claims of “high grading” and “dumping”. My reply was commercial do the same but much more extensive as was revealed by a leaked report last year. So what’s the difference, except commercial do it in tonnes of fish rather than one or two fish.

Make recreational size limit 33 cms voluntary.

In addition it is important that the ministry’s ‘rec-fishing team’ have bona-fide recreational representatives.

12)

Good Afternoon

Thank you for your email.

The North Otago Yacht & Power Boat Club has a Membership of 325 Members approx. The Club owns the two boat ramps at the Oamaru Harbour. These Ramps are permanently locked and are only available for use by Members.

The North Otago Yacht & Power Boat Club Inc discussed a Submission regarding the daily limit for Fin Fish and Blue Cod at their recent Annual General Meeting. It was agreed that the following Submission be forwarded to MPI:

That the daily Bag Limit remain at 30 Fin Fish per Fisherman but that the maximum number of blue cod for the daily bag limit be 15 Blue Cod.

The reason for this Submission was that the Club would like to support a reduced Amateur Daily Limit to ensure that the fish stocks are sustained for the future.

The Club does not have any evidence to provide that there is any change in Blue Cod numbers locally and it was discussed regarding asking Members to record their daily catch to be able to provide some actual evidence but this option was not supported by all those present.

Thank you for accepting this late submission and for also adding the Club's Email address to any future correspondence, notices etc. The Club has an extensive Email Address book so I will be able to forward all Emails to the majority of its Members.

If you should require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me.

13)

I would like to submit the following submission re blue cod in the dUrville Island fishery. My back ground is being a charter boat operator (Seabird Charters Ltd) since 1999 and probably spent approximately 4000 days charter fishing around the coastline of dUrville Island.

Without doubt the blue cod fishery is seriously declining in quality of fish (40cm plus size). Not that long ago we would catch blue cod 45 cm + with ease and over a large area from 5m through to 130m depth pretty well anywhere within 4 miles of the islands coastline. This has radically changed in the last 5 years. The 2 fish rule is fine by me and the size (33 cm plus) is a good size to target remembering that in reality the size actually has to be 34cm to allow for shrinkage after death. On average I would say that we catch 3.5 undersize blue cod for each fish kept, this could be much higher if we fished known nursery areas. We try very hard to rotate our fishing pressure and avoid known areas of juvenile fish.

My observation of fishing pressure over the past 5 years is that there is a significant increase in both recreation and commercial fishing around dUrville Island. Recreation boats can now number up to 60 boats a day (winter fishery) especially around the Stephens Passage/Port Hardy. Along with this are up to 4 commercial boats potting and hand lining in the same area...the area is being thrashed!!! The commercial boats apart from Craig Ashton flog the same ground day after day after day. It is incredulous that F.V.Stornaway can anchor up in the same place for weeks and target blue cod with rods and reels. I know what our stats are for undersize cod to 'keepers' are and theirs cannot be much different meaning that they are handling thousands of undersize fish and releasing them in whatever state with the hope that they will survive...to me a very poor practice. Simply 35 ton of fish hooked, handled and released per 10 ton of kept fish. Potting surely has be a far better practice.

Until this year, the main cod pressure commercially tended to be late in the quota year when other quota species had been caught and cod was the last option to tie the fisherman through to October 1st...the very time the fishery was shut down for recreation fishers supposedly to allow the blue cod to spawn. Dear O dear.

I notice now that the fishery to the east of Cape Stephens/French pass has been closed to commercial fishing until December 20th, the commercial fishers have moved in to the western side of the dUrville Island especially Port hardy and are now thrashing that area...in my opinion already under serious stress.

F.VStornaway is fishing the area south of dUrville (Beef barrel rocks) which is an area heavily targeted by recreation boats based from Okiwi Bay and French Pass..again way too much pressure on a small area.

Conclusion...the blue cod fishery around DUrville Island is failing badly and quickly. To me it appears the over whelming commercial blue cod catch is coming from the dUrville Island/Stephens passage area and is not being spread out over the greater area 7.

Sincerely

Appendix 1 – Full List of Survey 1 Questions

Q1 What group do you most identify with or are involved in?

- Amateur fishing charter vessel operator
- Commercial fishing
- Environmental
- General public
- Recreational fishing
- Tangata whenua

Q2 What area is of most importance to you?

- BCO1
- BCO2
- BCO3
- BCO4
- BCO5
- BCO7
- BCO8

Q3 Where do you mainly fish within BCO1? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- 90 Mile Beach
- Bay of Islands
- Eastern Coromandel
- Hauraki Gulf/Western Coromandel
- Hokianga Harbour/West Northland
- Kawhia
- Manakau Harbour/West Auckland
- Mangonui
- Matapouri
- Other (please specify)
- Parengarenga Harbour/North-east Northland
- Port Waikato
- Raglan
- Shelly Beach/Kaipara
- Tauranga/Mount Maunganui
- Whakatane/Opotiki
- Whangarei

Q4 Where do you mainly fish within BCO2? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- Castlepoint
- East Cape
- Gisborne
- Hawke Bay
- Mahia
- Makara
- Mana/Plimmerton/Mana Island
- Ocean Beach/Waimarama
- Other (please specify)
- Palliser Bay/Lake Ferry
- Tokomaru Bay/Tologa Bay
- Wairarapa Coast
- Wellington Harbour/South coast

Q5 Where do you mainly fish within BCO3? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- Akaroa Harbour
- Aramoana
- Brighton/Green Island
- Catlins
- Eastern Otago Peninsula
- Kaiapoi
- Kaikoura
- Kaka Point
- Karitane
- Lyttleton Harbour
- Moeraki
- Motunau
- Oamaru
- Otago Harbour
- Other (please specify)
- Outer Banks Peninsula
- Shag Point
- Taieri Mouth
- Timaru
- Waitati/Blueskin Bay

Q6 Where do you mainly fish within BCO5? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- Bluff
- Colac Bay
- Doubtful Sound
- Dusky Sound
- Fortrose
- Other (please specify)
- Outer Fiordland
- Pahia

- Paterson Inlet/Stewart Island
- Riverton
- Te Waewae Bay

Q7 Where do you mainly fish within BCO7? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- Golden Bay
- Greymouth
- Haast
- Hokitika
- Kahurangi Shoals
- Karamea
- Marlborough Sounds
- Other (please specify)
- Port Jackson
- Port Underwood
- Tasman Bay
- Westport

Q8 Where do you mainly fish within BCO8? All subsequent answers refer to this area. If you are a non-fisher, please choose the area you are most interested in.

- Horowhenua Coast
- Kāpiti Coast/Kāpiti Island
- Mokau
- New Plymouth
- Opunake
- Other (please specify)
- Patea
- Pukerua Bay
- Tongaporutu
- Waitara
- Whanganui

Q9 How many years have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area?

- Twenty one or more years
- Eleven to twenty years
- Six to ten years
- Three to five years
- Two or less years
- Not a fisher

Q10 If you are a recreational or customary fisher, how often have you fished for blue cod in your chosen area over the last 12 months?

- Ten or more days
- Four to nine days
- Two or three days
- I haven't fished for blue cod over the past 12 months
- Not a recreational or customary fisher
- Just once

Q11 Do you support or oppose the Aim? Aim: To work together to deliver abundant and sustainable blue cod fisheries for all.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q12 Do you support or oppose Objective 1? Objective 1: Get the right information. Information is the bedrock of any fisheries management system. We need the right information and science, and we need to figure out the best way to get it.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q13 Do you support or oppose Objective 2? Objective 2: Set the right targets. Set targets for fish stocks to make sure we're keeping them at sustainable levels that are right for the fishery and the people using it.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q14 Do you support or oppose Objective 3? Objective 3: Set the right rules. We need to look at the current rules and make changes where appropriate.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q15 Do you support or oppose Objective 4? Objective 4: Make the right decisions. We need a framework to drive good, consistent decision making and to make sure decisions are made on time.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q16 Do you support or oppose Objective 5? Objective 5: Get buy-in. If this is going to work, we need everyone to come along and understand their responsibility to our blue cod fisheries.

- Strongly support
- Support
- Neutral
- Oppose
- Strongly oppose

Q17 Do you have anything to add to the Aim and Objectives developed by the expert panel? Please feel free to provide alternative aims and objectives.

- No
- Yes (please specify)

Q18 How would you rate the blue cod fishing in your area?

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poor
- Very Poor

Q19 How would you rate the availability of legal size blue cod in your area?

- Very good
- Good
- Neutral
- Poor
- Very Poor

Q20 What do you think are the major issues in your local blue cod fishery? (You can select up to 7 options).

- Accumulation limits - how many fish you can keep over consecutive days
- Amateur fishing charter vessels
- Commercial pot mesh size
- Concentrated effort on small areas
- Current regulations (please explain below)
- Filleting at sea
- Habitat loss
- Illegal take
- Lack of education on fishing rules
- Lack of information for management purposes
- Localised depletion
- Recreational allowance settings
- Recreational bag limits
- Recreational pot mesh size
- Recreational size limits
- Released fish mortality
- Season open during spawning
- Seasonal fishing pressure
- Section 111 blue cod take
- Small hooks and hook type
- Timeliness of management decisions
- Total allowable commercial catch (TACC) settings

Q21 Are there any other issues relating to blue cod in your area not already covered?

- No
- Yes (please specify)

Q22 Please enter your email address if you would like to be emailed the results of this survey. Your email address will not be used for any other purpose.

- No thanks
- My email address is...

Q23 Please indicate if you would like the above email address to be added to the recreational fishing mailing list for general updates on fishing related issues in your area. Information of national significance will be sent to everyone who is signed up.

- Yes, add me to the mailing list
- No, don't add me to the mailing list

Q24 How did you hear about this survey?

- Other (please specify)
- Newspaper/magazine articles or advertising
- MPI social media
- Other social media
- Fishing related website
- MPI recreational fishing mailing list
- Drop-in sessions
- MPI website
- Radio advertising
- Google