



Fisheries Management

Annual Report
Year ending 30 June 2011



New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Directory

Fisheries Management team

Peter Campbell	Committee Chairman	peter.campbell@kinect.co.nz	0274 976305
John Chibnall	IGFA representative	jchib@xtra.co.nz	0274 752088
Mark Connor	Council Vice President	mpconnor@xtra.co.nz	0274 327485
Mark Hemingway	Council Vice President	finatic@eol.co.nz	0272 052429

Structure

Patron, JR Chibnall	Annual General Meeting, September.
President, R Baker	Fisheries Management meeting, monthly
Vice Presidents: M Hemingway	Zone meetings with delegates, monthly
M Connor	Club meetings, monthly
Secretary Treasurer, R Nelson	Enquiries contact
Auditor, L Kelly	Committee and Council Secretary
Records Officer, P Saul	Roz Nelson
Management Committee, 13 members	P.O. Box 93
NZ IGFA Representatives, 6 members	Whangarei 0140
Life members, 4	Phone: 09 4339648
Zone representatives, 8 members	Fax: 09 4339640
National membership, 57 clubs	Email: secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz

“Kua tawhiti ke to haerenga mai, kia kore e haere tonu. He tino nui rawa ou mabi, kia kore e mabi nui tonu.”

You have come too far, not to go further. You have done too much, not to do more.

Sir James Henare, 1998

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The Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council was held at the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, Paihia, on the 24th and 25th of September 2010.

Front cover images courtesy of Stuart Cameron, NZSFC Zone 2.



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President's introduction

Richard Baker



As President of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council it is my pleasure to introduce the Fisheries Management Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 2011.

Peter Campbell has completed another successful year as chairman of the Fisheries Management Committee. John Chibnall continues to add more years of service to his living legacy. Both Council Vice Presidents Mark Connor and Mark Hemingway deserve special mention for their willingness to continually participate and contribute to management and policy development.

Our team has evolved to a stage where the Fisheries Management Committee, contract service providers and other volunteer advocates all collaborate to produce high quality documents that reflect the Council's objective of "more fish in the water".

There have been some notable changes throughout the past year, both internally and externally. The Council has acknowledged that it needs to improve communication to its 57 club members and supporters. Part of the strategy to achieve wider understanding of our activities has lead to the publication of several online Updates from the Fisheries Management team. These quarterly Updates summarise recent activities and management decisions.

The Ministry of Fisheries has developed Fisheries Plans to prioritise work areas and they have now merged back into Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF).

In the latter half of 2010 the Minister announced his management decisions for several kahawai stocks. The 25 percent reductions in commercial catch levels from earlier decisions were retained in all areas. For Kahawai 1, between Cape Runaway and North Cape, the Minister decided to allow kahawai stocks to continue rebuilding, primarily to better meet the needs of non-commercial fishers. It was notable that industry did not contest those decisions.

Clearly the Kahawai Legal Challenge and subsequent Supreme Court judgment have influenced these decisions. However, we need to remain vigilant as the Minister retains the ability to use his discretion and apply government policy if he can justify doing so.

As a Council our ongoing challenge is to find effective strategies to exert pressure on the Ministry and politicians to ensure we have both abundant fisheries and Ministerial decisions that 'allow for' our recreational fishing interests.

Although I will be stepping down as President at the August AGM, I look forward to continuing to work with the Fisheries Management Committee, our service providers and volunteer advocates to achieve a sustainable fishery for us and future generations of fishers.

For and on behalf of the NZSFC Executive Committee.

R Baker
President
8 August 2011

Fisheries Management Committee

Member Profiles



Peter Campbell - Chairman

Zone 8 - Whakatane to East Cape

Peter is a highly respected member of the NZ Sport Fishing Council's executive committee and was Vice President from 2001 to 2009. He is based in Tauranga and has been a Zone delegate to the management committee since 2000.

Peter's input and experience at club, zone and national level proved to be invaluable during the four-year Kahawai Legal Challenge, where he was at the forefront of the Council's Bay of Plenty effort. Peter's leadership skills continue to develop over time and with experience.



John Chibnall

Patron and IGFA representative

John is both Patron and a member of the NZ Sport Fishing Council's executive committee. In 2010 he was awarded a Member of New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) in recognition of his contribution to recreational fishing and marine research.

John is one of a select group of people who are life members of the NZ Sport Fishing Council. He was appointed to the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) in 1983 and is one of only six current representatives from New Zealand. John's contribution to the Hokianga Accord, the mid north iwi fisheries forum is widely appreciated by both Maori and non-Maori interests.



Mark Connor

Vice President, South Island

Mark is a long-term member of the Ashley Sport Fishing Club in North Canterbury. He is the South Island representative on the NZ Sport Fishing Council executive committee and is currently one of two Vice Presidents. Mark is also a member of the Ministry of Fisheries Southern regional recreational fisheries forum.

Mark is keen to continue to building on the work completed by previous Council advocates, to ensure the next generation of New Zealanders enjoy quality fishing, a productive marine ecosystem and strong representation of amateur fishing interests.



Mark Hemingway

Vice President, Mount Maunganui

Mark is a delegate to the NZ Sport Fishing Council from the Mt Maunganui Sportfishing Club, based in the Bay of Plenty. He has been involved in management, policy and strategy development since the late 1990s.

His love for fishing and appreciation of the marine environment goes beyond the many records he holds for his meritorious captures.

Service Providers Profiles



Roz Nelson

Committee and Council Secretary

Roz is a valued member of the NZ Sport Fishing Council's executive committee and was awarded life membership of the Council in 2006, in recognition of her contribution to the organisation. She is also Secretary Treasurer, the communications co-ordinator and mainstay of the annual Nationals fishing tournament. Roz is based in sunny Northland where the sun always shines!



John Holdsworth (BSc)

John is a director of Blue Water Marine Research, established in 1997, to conduct research including recreational harvest surveys and gamefish tagging projects. He has over 20 years experience in fisheries management and research and is the ideal person to represent the Sport Fishing Council's interests in the Ministry of Fisheries Science Working Groups. In particular these include working groups for Highly Migratory Species, Northern Inshore Finfish, and Marine Amateur Fisheries.

John's ability to translate complex issues into simple concepts makes him a valuable asset to the NZ Sport Fishing Council's fisheries management team.



Tim Sippel (PhD)

Tim has completed his PhD on striped marlin movement and behaviour in the southwest Pacific Ocean at the University of Auckland School of Biological Sciences. Much of the data used came from electronic tags, which send information via satellite. These projects, undertaken by Blue Water Marine Research, were largely funded by NZSFC clubs and the New Zealand Marine Research Foundation.

Tim is now based at the University of Hawaii modelling the behaviours of pelagic marine species, but remains available to assist the Council as required.



Pete Saul

Pete is a fisheries researcher and charter boat operator with over 30 years experience. Based in Tutukaka he owns and operates the charter vessel Lady Jess. Pete is also a director of Blue Water Marine Research and is currently the NZ Sport Fishing Council's records officer. He contributed to the development of the moratorium on commercial billfish catch, which is now replaced by fisheries regulations prohibiting commercial fishers from landing marlin in New Zealand waters.

In recent years a superb recreational fishery for Pacific bluefin tuna has developed off the west coast of the South Island. Pete has been at the forefront of a joint project, between Stanford University, Auckland University and the NZ Marine Research Foundation, to deploy satellite tags on these bluefin. Remarkably all fish have survived capture and release, even after extended fight times. He is a regular columnist in several game and fishing related publications.

Service Providers Profiles



Barry Torkington

Barry has a background in commercial fishing and aquaculture. At one stage he was a director of the local commercial operation, Leigh Fisheries, and a lead developer of the Snapper Management Plan for the largest snapper fishery in New Zealand, Area 1.

Barry's key attributes are his clear thinking, his ability to analyse policy and management proposals and articulate the core issues. These skills are highly sought-after and the NZSF Fisheries Management Sub-Committee has appreciated Barry's input and guidance on significant issues over the past five years.



Trish Rea

Trish has more than a decade of fisheries management experience working with a variety of non-commercial environmental and fishing interest groups. During this time she has developed a range of skills from advocating non-commercial interests to website development and public awareness.

She works closely with the NZ Sport Fishing Council's other service providers to develop responses to a variety of policy and management proposals, and with Zone representatives on local issues. Trish also provide logistical and secretarial support to the Hokianga Accord, the mid north iwi fisheries forum.



Stuart Ryan

Stuart is a barrister with a specialist practice in public law and environmental law, and related areas. Stuart represented the (then) New Zealand Big Game Fishing Council, New Zealand Recreational Fishing Council, and option4 in the Kahawai Legal Challenge proceedings.

He has 20 years experience in advising public and private sector clients, and has built a strong relationship with many non-commercial environmental and fishing interest groups. Stuart enjoys his boating and fishing.



Kaye van der Straten

Kaye has completed a postgraduate thesis on the reproductive biology of male black marlin off the coast of North Queensland, and has also been involved in satellite tagging projects of blue marlin in Hawaii and striped marlin in New Zealand. She assisted in the development of the Billfish Logbook Project, and has just finished working with Bluewater Marine Research on the Kingfish Monitoring Project around the north-eastern coast of the North Island.

Kaye has experience working for both NZ and Australian government departments on projects such as bycatch mitigation strategies for longline fisheries, inshore finfish management, and pest management programmes. In addition to fisheries related research, Kaye also undertakes contract work as a Marine Mammal Observer on seismic exploration vessels operating in offshore regions around the Southern Hemisphere.

Fisheries Management Committee Report

Peter Campbell, Chairman

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Fisheries Management Committee has overseen a year of capacity development and input into a wide variety of activities on behalf of you, our members and supporters.

The Council's involvement in fisheries management, policy development and environmental protection processes continues to improve. Notwithstanding that there is room for better performance in some areas such as communication.

In the past twelve months the Fisheries Management Committee comprised John Chibnall, Mark Connor, Mark Hemingway and myself.

We have maintained the rigour and discipline required to keep within budget. A big thank you to our Committee members, the NZSFC executive team, those who contribute to the Zone structure and our bevy of service providers. Over the last year we have participated in developing alternative management strategies to improve sustainability outcomes and ensuring our Council's views are put forward in meetings held to discuss management and policy issues.

Overview

A brief of Fisheries Management Committee activities for the year ending 30th June 2011:

- Developed submissions on more than 12 fisheries management proposals, reviews or policy development processes. Kahawai was a major focus in July-August 2010.
- Maintained correspondence with the Minister and Ministry of Fisheries regarding management issues and specific concerns around species and areas.
- Initiated correspondence with MFish through the Hauraki Gulf Forum, in respect to the Minister giving effect to the Court's rulings on the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act 2000.
- Given regional and national support to the T90 square trawl net trials occurring in the Hawke Bay aboard the Nancy Glen II
- Provided input into three Fisheries Plans.
- Attended or supported member's attendance at MFish regional recreational fisheries forum meetings.
- Sent and supported representatives to Wellington-based policy meetings and regional fisheries management meetings.
- Regularly attended MFish Working Group meetings to discuss aquaculture and management of a variety of species including bluenose, kahawai, trevally, gurnard, kingfish, snapper and shellfish.

Partnerships

As issues become more complex and time consuming it has been an advantage for both the Fisheries Management Committee and the Council's executive to be working closer with other organisations that seek to achieve "more fish in the water".

Our relationship with the Hokianga Accord, the mid north iwi fisheries forum, continues to mature. Ngapuhi and Ngati Whatua remain firm allies. Through the Accord we are also building strong links with various Iwi and hapu throughout the northern region.

Our Fisheries Management team and service providers are regular attendees and contributors to Hokianga Accord hui.

Programming overlaps enabled a contingent of NZSFC personnel to be at the last hui, held in Poutu, northern Kaipara, and then return to Auckland for the Hutchwilco Boat Show and an executive committee meeting. Great timing all round.

We continue to build solid relationships with a number of environmental organisations. There is now regular communication with several entities or their representatives and consequently much better understanding amongst us all.

Clive Monds of the Environment and Conservation Organisations of Aotearoa New Zealand (ECO) has been most helpful in keeping us informed of progress in regards to the aquaculture reforms that seek to remove barriers to finfish farming in coastal waters.

Links with Greenpeace are being strengthened as we work together on policy, aquaculture, pelagic species and marine biodiversity issues.

Karli Thomas, Greenpeace's Oceans campaigner, is an experienced advocate whose courage, commitment and willingness to share and contribute has earned our respect. She is now a regular presenter at Hokianga Accord hui and is expected to address the Council's AGM in August.

The option4 team has committed to serving the NZ Sport Fishing Council as an online information portal, keeping a complete, timely and accurate record of our engagement in the various management and policy processes.

As reported elsewhere in this document, www.LegaSea.co.nz has been launched to raise funds to support the advocacy that the NZSFC is doing to achieve "more fish in the water".

The Fisheries Management Committee is excited by this development and is looking forward to reporting on progress throughout the upcoming year.

Ministry of Fisheries

As of 1st July 2011 the Ministry of Fisheries (MFish) has merged with the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF). This move was part of a government-wide initiative to improve state sector performance. At the time of writing Wayne McNee was acting Chief Executive of MFish. In October 2010 Wayne left MFish to take up 5-year contract with MAF as their Director General.

There has been mass staff and role changes at MFish in the past year. These have been due to an earlier internal restructuring process and the merger announcement, both leading to redundancies and an exodus of experienced staff.

Progress on many issues has slowed and there has been a notable drop in the standard of MFish proposal papers. We can only speculate that these are the result of a change of personnel or role definition. Either way this does not augur well for the national Fisheries Plans due out mid-year.

MFish decided earlier that the multi-stakeholder approach to developing Fisheries Plans was too cumbersome, so they have developed five national plans with limited stakeholder input into three of them.

As a Council we were fortunate to have John Holdsworth represent our interests during the development of the Highly Migratory Species (HMS) Fisheries Plan for large pelagics and skipjack. Our objectives were incorporated into the plan for large pelagics. We were disappointed but not surprised when industry rejected the proposal for large-scale purse seine closures and advised they would cooperate on an ad hoc basis.

Kahawai review

Early in 2010 our representatives engaged in a vigorous debate as the science Working Group was asked to select a single kahawai stock status and recreational harvest in KAH1 from a range of possible options. Our team objected to the way this stripped away all the uncertainty in these estimates so as not to give the Minister a small number of options.

In the end, MFish confused itself and consulted on the wrong option. The most conservative option released in June 2010 by the Ministry in KAH1 was a 30 t reduction in the commercial catch, which they claimed would result in a rapid rebuild. The Final Advice Paper (FAP), released after the Minister had made his decision, showed that MFish had changed the size of the reduction required to for a rapid rebuild to 215 t.

The Council submission, made in conjunction with option4 and the Hokianga Accord, advocated for lower Total Allowable Catches (TACs) and Total Allowable Commercial Catches (TACCs) in KAH 1, 2 and 3. We objected to the proposal to decrease the non-commercial allowances in KAH 1, between East and North Cape.

At the NZSFC AGM last year the Minister made it clear that he would not choose an option that hadn't been consulted on. A few days later he announced that the TACC in KAH 1 would be maintained and the TAC would be reduced due to a "technical adjustment" to the allowances. The overall allowance for customary interests was reduced by 60% and by 48% for recreational interests.

However, the positive aspect is that in making the decision for KAH i the Minister chose to allow the stock to continue to rebuild, primarily to better provide for the needs of non-commercial fishers. This seems to be affirmation of the Supreme Court's interpretation of the Minister's discretionary decision-making powers, and identifies the pressure point for future lobbying.

Another encouraging aspect is that there are increasing reports of kahawai returning to inshore waters, particularly on the northeastern coastline. These seem to be seasonal runs, although numbers and size are nowhere near the levels they were prior to the advent of large-scale industrial purse seining of kahawai schools.

Communications

One area we need to develop further is our communications, with our member clubs, supporters and the wider public. There is plenty of work being completed by our team, but much of that is not being recognised because we do not advertise our achievements.

To address this shortfall we have this year initiated the publication of a quarterly, online Fisheries Management Update. These Updates provide a brief description of the activity and a link to further information online. Currently those links are to external websites, with most of the fisheries management-related material being available at www.option4.co.nz. With a revamp of the NZSFC website we will be able to upload material directly onto our site in the future.

Fisheries management is largely political so public awareness is important, particularly in election year. The NZSFC has an important role to influence public perception about fisheries sustainability measures, their effectiveness or inadequacy, and the integrity of the quota management system itself.

Our Fisheries Management Committee will continue to work with our allies to build effective communication networks and maximise our opportunities to present our viewpoint to a wider audience.

Conclusion

Our outputs and results for this past year are a demonstration of the input from Zone meetings, delegates and member clubs. The current Fisheries Management Committee is benefiting from having such an organised and functional regional and national structure. We are all beneficiaries of Roz Nelson's dedication to delivering our submissions and other material in a timely manner.

Our year ending June 2011 has certainly been interesting and successful. The Minister's kahawai management decisions were a revelation into how Crown Law is interpreting the various Court rulings and the Fisheries Act 1996.

As a Committee and a Council we need to continue implementing measures and building on relationships to ensure we maintain access to healthy and abundant fisheries as a legacy for generations to come.

Schedule of Activities

2010 to 2011

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Fisheries Management's policy development and fisheries management input from June 2010 to 30th June 2011.

Key	CPUE - Catch Per Unit of Effort DBL - Daily Bag Limit MFish - Ministry of Fisheries MLS - Minimum Legal Size	NZSFC - NZ Sport Fishing Council TAC - Total Allowable Catch TACC - Total Allowable Commercial Catch t - tonne/s
Date	Description	Outcome
2010		
June	MFish letter - Advice and provision of a 21-page document listing 21 proposed performance indicators. MFish seek feedback on proposed indicators. Submissions due by 2 July 2010.	Submission sent to MFish 9 July, after MFish extended submission deadline from 2 July.
	Endorsement letter - Six organisations jointly support the ongoing trials of the T90 trawl net in Hawke Bay. Trials being conducted by Rick Birch on MV Nancy Glen II.	Trials and net development continuing. Local NZSFC representatives supporting Richard Burch. Initial report drafted in June 2011. Awaiting further results.
	Submission - Review of Challenger Area Commercial Fishing Regulation 11. NZSFC submit: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• no pair trawling in the inner Tasman Bay.• There needs to be limits if commercial fishers manage their "own ship" in the name of increased efficiency.	9 November - Minister's decision released. Regulation 11 revoked on the basis that the regulation is inefficient in achieving its original objectives - to reduce conflict between different commercial methods, and prevent localised depletion of snapper within Tasman Bay.
July	Submission - Key Performance Indicators for 2030 Outcomes. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Joint submission rejected most draft indicators, as they do not directly measure whether an outcome is achieved or not.• More information needed in key areas.	Meeting held in Wellington.
	Submission - Bladder kelp harvest measures. Joint submitters support MFish proposed harvest measures plus and an additional requirement to ensure preservation of the environment and people.	Decision announced 17 Sept 2010. Minister agreed to two harvest measures and for MFish to work with industry to develop a Memorandum of Understanding, which may contain other measures.
	Joint submission - Review of sustainability measures for Trevally 2 and Hapuku Bass 3. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• TRE2 - Increase TAC, make initial non-commercial allowances and reduce the TACC by 41 tonne.• HPB3 - set a TAC, make initial non-commercial allowances and reduce the TACC by 35.1 tonne.• Deemed catch is taken from following year's catch limits.	Decision for HPB3 and TRE2 complies with MFish recommendation to set a TAC and maintain existing TACC. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nominal 1 tonne allowance made for customary interests (NZSFC recommended 10t).• HPB3 Recreational allowance made of 195t (NZSFC recommended 200t).• TRE2 Recreational allowance made of 100t (NZSFC recommended 120t).
	Joint submission - Deemed value review. Cancel deemed value rates and make all commercial fishers responsible for total catch. All commercial catch accounted for within the TACC. Any overcatch is taken from next year's catch limits.	9 November. MFish release Draft 2011 Deemed Value Standard and ask for feedback by 30 November 2010. 29 November MFish advice submission deadline extended to 21 January 2011.

Date	Description	Outcome
2010		
July	Joint submission - In-season review of Minister agreed with MFish's recommendation to give a Coromandel scallop TAC - Mt Maunganui maximum TAC increase to commercial interests for the SFC developed a separate submission with fishing year similar recommendations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAC increased from 22 to 100 tonnes Recommend commercial limit increased to 65t, increase in baseline non-commercial on 31 March 2011.
August	Joint submission - Review of kahawai Minister's decision - KAH 1, maintain TACC and make sustainability measures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative, lower TAC and TACCs for KAH 1, 2 and 3. Agree with MFish to maintain levels in KAH 4, 8 and 10.
October	Joint submission with option4 - Marlborough Sounds Blue Cod fishery to Sounds Blue Cod fishery (BCO7).	<p>16 December - Marlborough Sounds Blue Cod fishery to reopen on 1 April 2011 to 31 August 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support in principle the reopening of the fishery but remain cautious due to the debate around abundance and the impracticality of some of the proposed management measures. Object to seasonal closure from 1 Sept to 31 January.
December	Submission Southern Bluefin tuna - NZSFC urged the Minister to be precautionary when considering an in-season increase in TAC for Southern Bluefin Tuna.	<p>Mid Feb 2011 - Minister released a partial decision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended the existing commercial allocation be retained and decreased to 380t in 2011-12. SBT stock is critically low and declining.
2009-10	Large Pelagics Fisheries Plan - Participated in the drafting and review of HMS fisheries plan. Recognition of the world-class quality of NZ sport fishing.	Objectives incorporated
	Skipjack Fisheries Plan - Participated in the drafting and review of HMS large pelagics fisheries plan. Recognition of the important role of skipjack on the pelagic ecosystem and sport fishing.	Large scale purse seine closures not accepted by industry. They will cooperate on ad hoc basis only.
2011		
January	Submission - Deemed Value Standard. May 2011 - MFish advise the Final Advice Paper (FAP) Recommendations: Minister to implement was being finalised and would be submitted to the controls to curb excessive fishing; that Minister soon after. A decision expected within a month commercial catch in excess of the TACC to be or so. MFish would advise that decision as soon as it is deducted from next year's catch.	available.
February	18 February - Fisheries Management Update	NZSFC Fisheries Management Update #1. Quarterly newsletter advising of recent activities and submissions.
February	Submission - Crayfish management in Hawke Bay/Wellington, Canterbury/Marlborough, Otago and Southland Areas. Joint Submission recommending: that a set of principles is discussed and developed; that CPUE is not a reliable indicator of abundance; reject the proposed TAC and TACC in CRA 4; Retain existing TACC in CRA 5, increase TAC and allowances; Retain existing TAC, TACC and allowances in CRA 7; Reduce TAC, TACC and allowances in CRA8; Highlighted ongoing issues in CRA 3, Gisborne to Wairoa.	<p>March 2011 - Minister's decision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased the TAC and TACC in CRA 4; No change in CRA 5; Decreased TAC and TACC by 8% in CRA 7, Otago; Decreased TAC and TACC by 5% in CRA 8; Deemed value rates increased. <p>No other changes advised.</p>

Date	Description	Outcome
2011		
March	<p>7 March Public meeting attendance. Napier, Hawke Bay. Fisheries scientist Ray Hilborn. Professor Hilborn was invited by commercial fishers from the Area 2 Fisheries Management Company to give his talk on The myths of fisheries collapse to a public meeting of recreational and commercial fishers in Hawke Bay. John Holdsworth and Barry Torkington attended on behalf of NZSFC and supported members of the Hawke's Bay Sportfishing Club and the Guardians of Hawke's Bay Fisheries.</p> <p>Letter sent by Barrister to Hauraki Gulf Forum (HGF), on behalf of NZSFC and 2011. Advised HGF that kahawai proceedings have concluded, the Minister has made new decisions for kahawai and asking what action MFish, as a forum member, is taking to address depletion of fish stocks within the Gulf.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting report, some of Ray's discussion included: A complacent attitude in NZ that the QMS solves all fisheries management problems. NZ is well behind other countries in using fishery independent surveys. In QMS smaller-scale fisheries such as FMA2, local knowledge and data is under-valued. Catch data alone does not tell what is happening to stock abundance. Changes in stock abundance need to be monitored. <p>Letter tabled at Hauraki Gulf Forum meeting 11 April 2011. A response from MFish was received via the Forum option 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MFish advise the Minister takes all relevant information into account when making decisions. Their research budget is limited. Fish plans are being developed. Research into trevally abundance is currently underway and results will be available for a review in 2012.
24 March Northern Inshore Finfish Working Group meeting. MFish, Auckland.	<p>Meeting report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bluenose catch sampling Species composition of commercial jack mackerel catch in JMA1 Estimation of NZ jack mackerel catch by species prior to 1994; and Aerial sightings per flight as an index of fish abundance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Wairarapa coast catch sampling project unlikely to reflect the age and size of overall bluenose population. Value per kilo of jack mackerel now higher than blue mackerel at times. The large Chilean jack mackerel has largely gone from NZ waters. In 2007-08 and 2008-09 over 9,000 tonne of NZ jack mackerel was taken commercially. These catches far exceed the old TACC of 5,970t for NZ jack mackerel and the agreed TACC increase applied in 1998. This issue will be raised with fisheries managers. MFish needs to consider reviewing all jack mackerel TACCs. No agreement on method or whether aerial sightings are true indicators of trevally and kahawai abundance in the Bay of Plenty (BOP). It was highly unlikely that there had been a four-fold increase in kahawai in the BOP in 2003 and 2004. The Working Group asked NIWA to use a longer time series of data in FMA1, results may be available later this year.
31 March Northern Inshore Finfish Working Group meeting. MFish, Wellington.	<p>Meeting report.</p> <p>Bluenose - characterisation of 4 main areas and preliminary results of stock assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most stocks had been in Adaptive Management Programmes, which allowed TACC increases. All AMPs ended in 2008. Concerns about declining catch rates led to cuts in all areas in 2008. Commercial fishers are targeting bluenose, ling and a bycatch of bass. Bluenose CPUE shows a consistent decline in all areas from 2001 to 2005. Quota cuts made in 2008. Recreational bluenose catch likely to be zero until 10 years ago. Braid has enabled some targeting of deepwater species, but still likely to be a minor catch for recreational fishers.

Date	Description	Outcome
2011		
April	<p>4 - 12 April Regional Recreational Fisheries Forum meetings held nationwide by MFish. New forum members, format of meetings and chaired by MFish staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MFish seeking feedback on a priority list of fish stocks to be reviewed this year. MFish inshore team was meeting the following week to decide on their priorities. Industry had been asked for their preferences. A decision is likely to be based on what and if there is new information available in a fish stock. Future management priorities will be based on those identified in Fisheries Plans. Fish plans are expected to be available by the next round of forum meetings in July. <p>Charter boat reporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Registration and reporting introduced in Nov 2010. Very controversial move with many operators still opposed to the scheme. 310 vessels registered and no infringement notices issued as of early April.
	<p>14 April Northern Inshore Finfish Working Group meeting. MFish, Auckland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Characterisation of FMA 2 fisheries TRE2 and GUR2. Bluenose stock assessment Catch at age sampling from SNA 1 in 2009-10. 	<p>Meeting report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FMA2 - more work required to finalise a CPUE index for Trevally & Gurnard. Bluenose - tests show a decline in abundance. SNA1 - 2800 longline-caught snapper aged. Sampling has occurred for 21 years, this is last year. Industry funding other projects for next 2 years. Snapper growth rates well below what they were 10 years ago.
	<p>26 April Northern Inshore Finfish Working Group meeting. MFish, Auckland.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bluenose stock assessment SNA 1 CPUE analysis Age composition of recreational kingfish catch in KIN 1. 	<p>Meeting report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bluenose, declining CPUE in the last 10 years, predicted to collapse within 20 years at current catch rates. If zero catch applied now stock estimated to rebuild in 13 years. Recreational fishers support a review of bluenose TACs this year. SNA1 CPUE project needs more work to determine if the data can be used to track snapper abundance. Results to be presented at meeting on 12/5. KIN1 Recreational catch - 2100 kingfish measured and 460 otoliths analysed for ageing in 2010. Kingfish grow very fast in their first year and reach 75cm (MLS) in their 3rd or 4th year. Changes in the size and age structure of kingfish from different areas is being investigated. More work required to finalise project.
April, May	28 April, 3 & 16 May, 8 & 23 June	Shellfish Working Group meetings.
& June	9 - 13 May	Stock Assessment Plenary meetings
	12 May & 28 June	North Island Inshore Working Group meetings
	13 & 30 May, 13, 15 & 29 June Recreational Working Group meetings.	15 June report - Southland bluecod fishery review underway. Some debate about how boat ramp web camera data is being used, NZSFC to maintain participation in the review of this NIWA project.
	19 May & 2 June	Stock Assessment Methods Working Group meetings.
	31 May - NZSFC Fisheries Management Update #2	Quarterly newsletter sent to database advising of recent activities, meetings attended and submissions.
	MFish proposal to enable the carry-over of uncaught Paua ACE to next season.	14 June NZSFC submission objecting to the carry-over of uncaught paua ACE to the following year.

Income and Expenditure Review and Budget/Forecast

Fisheries Management

		2011	2012	2013	
	Notes	Budget	Actual	Budget	Forecast
NZSFC affiliated club members		32000	32000	32000	32000
Contribution per member		1.56	1.56	1.88	1.88
<u>Income</u>					
NZSFC Consolidated account		50000	50000	60000	60000
Grants and donations	1	55000	29589	30000	35000
www.LegaSea.co.nz	2			30000	35000
Total Income		105000	79589	120000	130000
<u>Expenditure</u>					
Fisheries management	3	28000	32164	40000	45000
Ministry-led policy development	4	24000	18190	20000	20000
NZSFC policy development	5	6000	1324	5000	5000
Marine protection		5000	13	5000	5000
Research		3000	676	3000	3000
Zone initiatives - Regional Forums	6	11000	5457	8000	8000
Communications/public awareness	7	5000	2546	12000	12000
Fisheries Management committee		8000	6199	5000	5000
Fund raising and networking	8	10000	1820	10000	10000
Contingency/other		5000	0	3000	3000
Total Expenditure	9	105000	68389	111000	116000
Surplus/deficit		0	11200	9000	14000

Notes

1. "Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust" this year and a variety of funding sources going forward.
2. www.LegaSea.co.nz has had establishment and initial promotional costs underwritten in the year ended June 2011. The income projected going forward is conservative.
3. Advice and submissions to MFish and the Minister on fisheries management.
4. Input into Fisheries Plans, Standards, fisheries objectives, and how they are measured.
5. Development of discussion and promotion of New Zealand Sport Fishing Council fisheries management objectives.
6. Support for regional or RMA issues affecting zones or their fisheries, and support and reporting for MFish regional forum members.
7. Media releases, website content management, printing, road shows etc.
8. LegaSea and the promotion of the voluntary advocacy structure.
9. These totals are a small fraction of the real investment made year after year by the hundreds of committed committee members at club, zone and national level - tens of thousands of hours spent digesting complex discussion papers, considering recommendations and debating direction. Regional forums, local issues and national policy discussions are well served by these people. A rapidly growing capacity and competence that must never be discounted or undervalued.



Worried about the Future of Fishing?

Put your money where your mouth is!

The New Zealand Marine Research Foundation stands for all amateur fishers and the preservation of our national fisheries and coastal environment.

We need your help to commission research to support sustainable fishing, continue with satellite tagging and continue to work for a fishery for our future generations. We are committed to listening to your concerns and are proud to represent fishers with evidence-based arguments to lobby for better fisheries management.

**You are our family.
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You can do something.
You can be part of a better future.**

We are a non profit Marine Research Foundation. A Registered Charitable trust. And donations are tax deductible.

We are the Council's Research Organisation. Support us with your donation and consider a bequest;

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Contact: Roz Nelson – 09 433 9648
Or donations direct to our Bank Account
would be most appreciated:
Westpac, Whangarei – 03 0498 0536573 00

New Zealand Marine Research Foundation Report

The value of marine recreational fisheries

One of the New Zealand Marine Research Foundation's goals is to sponsor research on interactions between people and marine ecosystems, including fisheries, to improve the understanding of the social and economic values of marine resources and ocean recreation.

In May 2011 the NZMRF trustees agreed to a project outline developed by Lincoln University as a scoping analysis of the potential for value transfer. Value transfer studies use adjusted estimates of marine recreational fishing values from abroad, and previous domestic studies, to derive an estimate of value for contemporary NZ marine recreational fishing. The scoping study entails identifying the availability of studies and assessing their suitability for transfer. This work is being undertaken by Dr Geoff Kerr and Nancy Latham. To date they have identified 64 studies with value transfer potential, and have obtained electronic or physical copies of 54 of those studies. Forty of these appear relevant to inshore fin fish species and will now be assessed for transfer potential.

The project will identify techniques to deliver cost effective "ball park" estimates of value for recreational fisheries and will suggest where resources may be best used in the future to deliver reasonable estimates of value. The Ministry of Fisheries has contracted NRB to do a national recreational fishing and non-fishing survey that is likely to provide more accurate recreational harvest estimates for most species in early 2013. Having updated estimates of the number of fishers, the number of trips and size of catch could fit nicely with the value transfer method.

Third striped marlin satellite tagging paper published

The Foundation's major project, tagging striped marlin, is still producing results. In June 2011 a scientific paper was published in the open access journal PLoS ONE. It describes striped marlin switching between behavioural modes, fast and slow transiting or area restricted behaviour (ARB). Striped marlin tended to transit away from the tagging location for up to 16 days after release before switching to ARB likely to be associated with more intensive feeding. Although several fish travelled along the Coville Ridge when leaving it seems that striped marlin spread out to forage as they move north, diving below 60 meters at regular intervals but spending most of their time in the top 10m. The full article is available at:

<http://www.plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0021087>

John Holdsworth had the opportunity to present these results at the International Symposium on Tuna and Billfish Tagging, November 2010 in the southern province of Taitung, Taiwan. A well organised meeting with representatives of 12 countries. The innovation shown by New Zealand researchers using tail tags for accurate striped marlin locations and translating those locations into behavioural modes was well received.

Pacific bluefin tuna tagging paper draft

Progress has been made analysing the results from 46 pop-off satellite tags deployed on Pacific bluefin tuna off the West Coast of the South Island. A model has been used to give daily locations. Movement appears to be associated with sea surface temperature (mainly 13 – 19° C) and plankton concentrations (productivity). Last year a fish was tracked for 102 days using a satellite tag, it was recaptured after 2 years just 22 miles southwest of where it was tagged. Foraging on the hoki grounds would seem to be a regular behaviour for some of these bluefin that wander into the south Pacific.



LegaSea - Reclaim your fisheries

What is LegaSea?

LegaSea is an online fundraising tool designed to give every caring New Zealander the chance to stand up for themselves and maintain one of our last freedoms – the freedom to fish in abundant seas.

LegaSea is not a charity. LegaSea's sole purpose is to provide a straightforward method for people to support the advocacy work that the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council freely does on behalf of all who desire "more fish in the water".

The Council has been funding this advocacy effort for many years and is both deserving of, and has earned your support.

Your support will enable the Council to continue to expand its participation, and representation of your interests in fisheries management processes.

Why do we need LegaSea?

Our right to fish in the sea for food or recreation is a valuable freedom worth protecting for the future.

This freedom to fish is held by every individual in this country, and is increasingly unique in a world of privatisation and mass exploitation.

But these fundamental rights are threatened by recent moves to establish a statutory body to "manage" recreational fishing, supported by a licensing regime.

With your help LegaSea will support meaningful advocacy to protect your fishing interests.

If high level, effective advocacy is the outcome, who knows where this momentum might go?

Ideally it would be awesome to have a net \$300,000 per annum hitting the target and adding your support via an annual contribution will make a big difference.

What are LegaSea's goals?

LegaSea's objective is to inspire thousands of Kiwis and proud expats to stand up for their future, and commit to resourcing the advocacy required to protect our non-commercial fishing and environmental interests.

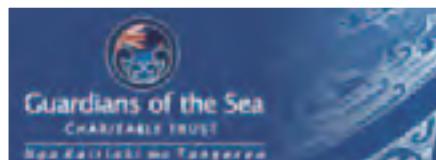
Recent research suggests over 40% of households have a fisher amongst them and everyone in the house benefits from that fisher's efforts.

Who is behind LegaSea?

Experienced people who are convinced that the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, its vastly experienced national network of clubs and delegates supported by its team of contractors and volunteers will continue to advocate for every Kiwi's right to have quality access to our fisheries and "more fish in the water".

Go to www.LegaSea.co.nz to reclaim your fisheries!

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council thank the following organisations for their support over the past year.



The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council thank the following people and organisations for their support over the past year.

STUART
RYAN



A special thank you to the many supporters of the 'Hiwi the Kiwi Goes Fishing' educational programme.





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