



# Fisheries Management Annual Report

*July 2012 to August 2013*



# New Zealand Sport Fishing Council

## Directory

### Fisheries Management Committee

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### NZSFC Incorporated

<b>Patron</b>	JR Chibnall	<b>Secretary/Executive Officer</b>	
<b>Executive</b>		Roz Nelson	
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	Phil Appleyard	F: 09 4339640	
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Records Officer	Pete Saul	W: www.nzsportfishing.org.nz	
Management Committee	13 members	NZ IGFA representatives	10
Life Members	4	Annual General Meeting	September
Zone representatives	8	Members of the International Game Fish Association	
National membership	54 clubs	Affiliated membership	32,000





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Photo credit: Grant Dixon

Attendees at the 2012 Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council held at the Whangarei Deep Sea Anglers Club, Tutukaka, Whangarei.





Your Sport Fishing Council advocates for “more fish in the water” and for better fisheries management for non-commercial anglers.

The donors to the Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust are pleased to help resource this work and are committed to doing so in the future.

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CHARITABLE TRUST  
*Nga Kaitiaki mo Tangaroa*

The Trust is incorporated and has obtained charitable status as defined by the Charitable Trust Act 1957. We are approved by Inland Revenue for the purposes of sections KC 5, DB 32 and DV 11 of the Income Tax Act 2004. We are registered with the Charities Commission #CC24022





# President's Introduction

**Mark Connor**

As the President of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council it is my privilege to introduce the Fisheries Management Annual Report for the year ended 30th August 2013.

It has been a year of change for the Council and an intense year for the Fisheries Management Committee. Peter Campbell continues to lead the Committee with distinction. I am also part of the fisheries management team, along with John Chibnall and Wayne Bicknell. Scott Macindoe has been co-opted onto the management team to assist with fisheries responsibilities and LegaSea liaison.

Since its inauguration in February 2012 LegaSea has refined its message, grown its appeal and now, after several successful campaigns, is one of the Council's most widely recognised brands. There are so many people to thank for their generous time, expertise and support to make LegaSea so successful. To all of you, well done.

To the LegaSea project leaders, Kaye van der Straten and now Mandy Kupenga, a massive thank you. Your energy, commitment and willingness to get stuck in, to do whatever it takes, while leading a team of both volunteers and experts is meritorious. LegaSea is your legacy.

As expected, fisheries management advocacy on both a local and national level has become more complex and time consuming. We are privileged to have a dedicated team of fisheries management professionals and volunteers to guide the Council's activities and submissions. With their help the Council has produced a range of submissions, contributed to a myriad of science and management processes and developed policies that are relevant to 2013 and beyond.

You can rest assured that the fees gathered from affiliated members and the portion set aside for fisheries management has been well spent on responding to these matters and defending the interests of our members and supporters.

As signalled in many meetings over the past 12 months, the Ministry for Primary Industries has undertaken a management review of Snapper 1. I was hoping to report a positive outcome, but the process is still underway due to a delayed, July release of the discussion paper. A decision is expected around the time of the Council's AGM so there will be plenty to discuss in Pukekohe.

Proportional allocation was the major feature of the Snapper 1 Initial Position Paper, although this was masked by a smokescreen of proposed size limit increases and daily bag reductions. The Council rejects outright any form of quota, or fixed allocation for the public in important inshore fisheries. Instead, we advocate that the Minister, Nathan Guy, allows for our non-commercial fishing interests in Snapper 1 and every other fishery we treasure around the country.

Please take some time to download and review the documents archived online at the Council website [www.nzsportfishing.org.nz](http://www.nzsportfishing.org.nz). They are high quality documents that each of our 54 member clubs and 32,000 affiliated members can be proud of. These documents are well worth reading as they are written to both advocate and educate.

More information relating to Snapper 1, marlin, crayfish, other fisheries and aspects of Council business will be discussed at the AGM on the 27th and 28th September. I look forward to seeing you or your delegate in Pukekohe.

Tight lines  
Mark Connor  
President  
New Zealand Sport Fishing Council



[www.nzsportfishing.org.nz](http://www.nzsportfishing.org.nz)



# Fisheries Management Committee

## Member's profiles



**Peter Campbell**  
Eastern Bay of Plenty



Peter is a respected member of the New Zealand 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 for 13 years.

His distinctive leadership style ensures efficient development of fisheries management submissions and policy documents, and delivery of regular updates for members and supporters. Peter's clear thinking and no nonsense style is an asset when it comes to managing the Fisheries Management team's busy schedule.



**John Chibnall MNZM**  
Patron and IGFA representative



John is the Patron of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. His tenure on the Council executive stretches back to 1967, this includes a stint as President and Past President.

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. He has also earned life membership of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. In 1983 John was appointed to the International Game Fish Association (IGFA). Today he is one of 10 New Zealand representatives to the IGFA. 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**  
Council President, South Island



Mark is in his second year as the Council's President.

He is a long-term member of the Ashley Sport Fishing Club in North Canterbury. He is the South Island's representative on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council executive committee and is a member of the Ministry for Primary Industries' Southern regional recreational fisheries forum.

Earthquakes and challenges in his engineering business have not dented Mark's enthusiasm for fishing, advocacy or LegaSea. Mark is the quiet achiever that every team depends on to get the job done.



**Wayne Bicknell**  
Executive Committee, Lower North Island



Wayne is an active member of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, at club, zone and national level. He is also an IGFA representative for his region.

Wayne contributes his time and energy to many regional and Ministry groups seeking to achieve abundant fisheries and a clean marine environment. He is a founding member of the Guardians of Hawke Bay Fisheries. Wayne and his colleagues from the Hawke's Bay Sports Fishing Club have recently put their effort into developing a Gurnard 2 policy, to achieve "more fish in the water". Wayne will be seeking ratification for their draft policy at the 2013 AGM.

# Fisheries Management Committee



**Peter Campbell**

## Chairman's report

An unprecedented amount of effort has gone into fisheries management in the past year. It has been my privilege and pleasure to be the Chairman of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Fisheries Management Committee in 2013.

Thank you to my Committee colleagues, John Chibnall, Mark Connor and Wayne Bicknell. Special thanks also to Scott Macindoe who has been co-opted onto the Committee for fisheries management and LegaSea liaison. This team is truly inspiring.

Our effort to be more proactive in developing policy and principles has largely been ignored by Ministry for Primary Industries officials. This has not been assisted by the Ministry's statement they are "committed to helping the primary industries to double the value of exports by 2025". However, we continue to meet with senior managers to discuss matters of mutual concern and in an effort to have more meaningful input into management processes.

After receiving overwhelming support for the Snapper 1 policy at last year's AGM the Fisheries Management Committee has worked with a variety of people to assist development of further policies. I look forward to participating in this year's AGM discussion of the Hawke's Bay Sport Fishing Club's Gurnard 2 policy.

### Summary of activity

A brief summary of Fisheries Management Committee activities for the year ending 30th August 2013:

- 11 submissions developed and tendered for review, in response to –
  - Fisheries management and policy proposals;
  - Draft Fisheries Plans;
  - Highly Migratory Species & Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission management proposals;
  - Local management initiatives.
- New initiative of analysing MPI Final Advice Papers and Ministerial decisions –
  - Four summaries, including comments from the Minister, MPI and submitters.
- Met and maintained correspondence with the Minister and senior Ministry for Primary Industries officials regarding management, policy and engagement issues.
- Participated in at least 50 meetings and developed reports as required -
  - Attended or supported member's attendance at MPI regional recreational fisheries forum meetings.
  - Supported representatives at Wellington-based policy meetings and regional fisheries management meetings.
  - Regularly attended MPI Science Working Group and Plenary meetings to stay abreast of latest developments.
  - Attended peer review meetings of the Large Scale Multi Species recreational harvest surveys, especially relating to snapper.
  - Meetings encompassed a variety of species including Highly Migratory Species (HMS), Blue Cod, Bluenose, Snapper, Kahawai, Tarakihi, Trevally, Gurnard, Kingfish, and baitfish such as Jack Mackerel.
- Improved public awareness of fisheries management activities through regular publication of reports in print and online media. At least 50 publications from July 2012 to August 2013.
- Two successful LegaSea campaigns -
  - Hands OFF our marlin, May 2013.
  - SOS Save Our Snapper, August 2013.



## **Snapper 1 review**

Due to a Ministry delay the Snapper 1 review was not initiated until July, with submissions due by 23 August 2013. Details of the responding LegaSea SOS campaign are elsewhere in this report. Despite low abundance levels in the Bay of Plenty MPI consider there is no sustainability issue in Snapper 1. The fishery encompassing East Northland, the Hauraki Gulf and Bay of Plenty is rebuilding. This recent review process was about allocation.

For the first time the Ministry proposed the Minister for Primary Industries change the order of his decisions after setting the Total Allowable Catch (TAC). MPI proposed the Minister allocate the TAC amongst the various sectors and then decide on a set of regulations to confine catch to those allocations, essentially treating our recreational interests as a quota shareholding in the TAC. The Ministry's proposal had a focus on maintaining catch at the proportions set in 1997 and this proportional allocation approach was set out in their three options.

Within those options was a matrix of bag limit reductions and minimum size limit increases, all intent on constraining recreational catch to a 1997 proportion of the fishery. Most disconcerting was the deliberate attempt by MPI to divert public attention away from the Minister's lawful obligations, and their lack of endeavour to make any case for what a reasonable allowance for the public might look like. In response, the NZSFC reiterated its strong objection to proportional allocation. Recreational interests are not part of the quota system, a regime designed to manage commercial fisheries. The Minister must make a contemporary allowance for the public to recognise the increasing demand and population growth in Area 1. A decision is expected at the end of September 2013.

A special thanks to our clubs and volunteers who assisted in organising venues, media coverage and public awareness for the eleven LegaSea public meetings held in August to discuss the proposals. In particular, Dennis Davey, Deryk Nielsen, Bob Gutsell, Steve Sangster, Craig Smith, Dave Adams, Cliff Solomon and Bob Towersey.

## **Marlin campaign**

Marlin have been non-commercial species since 1988 yet commercial fishers continue to argue for a regulation change so they can take and sell striped marlin. In April the Ministry released an options paper that included introducing striped marlin to the quota system. The NZSFC is vigorously opposed to any such change.

After an inconclusive meeting with industry and Ministry in May LegaSea launched the 'Hands OFF our marlin' campaign. Within three days over 3,000 people had sent the Minister and Ministry a message to keep marlin out of the quota system, and the Minister brought forward his decision. Mr. Guy chose to retain marlin as non-commercial species. Our representatives will continue to advocate for more protection and a ban on the importation and sale of marlin in New Zealand, and more protection for marlin in international waters.

## **Highly Migratory Species and Yellowfin tuna**

In August 2012 the NZSFC submitted the Minister must take a precautionary approach when managing the critically low Southern Bluefin tuna stocks. David Carter increased the TAC from 413 to 830 tonnes from 1 October 2012, but thankfully Southern Bluefin stocks have rebounded with stricter international controls. NZSFC also supported the MPI proposal to ban the take of oceanic whitetip sharks within NZ waters and by NZ-flagged vessels fishing on the high seas. The Minister agreed to this prohibition.

National catch records collected by the Council show that Yellowfin tuna catch in NZ has collapsed. The last reasonable season was in 2005, when 1300 Yellowfin were landed or tagged. This compares with a paltry 10 fish in the 2011/12 year, with none tagged. A report on the state of Yellowfin in NZ, funded by the Marine Research Foundation, was tabled at a Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission meeting. This sparked a study into range contraction of tuna species caused by fishing pressure.

The Council acknowledges and appreciates Greenpeace's ongoing effort to expose the high level of illegal fishing in the Pacific, the use of destructive fishing methods and the parlous state of some pelagic species.

## **Kingfish and Kahawai**

Stocks of Kingfish and Kahawai in Area 1 seem to be improving following reductions in commercial catch in the mid-2000s. NZSFC and LegaSea have been monitoring the number and size of Kingfish catch at the Bay of Islands Yellowtail International tournament. This year 195 Kingfish were measured and the size has increased steadily over the last four years, with more fish in the 15 to 20 kg range. The commercial catch of Kingfish on the west coast of both Islands and the top of the South Island has exceeded the TACC, largely as result of "incidental" catch by large Ukrainian trawlers targeting schools of Jack mackerel. There needs to a balance between the quota available, live release of Kingfish and deemed value charges, to discourage commercial targeting and avoid misreporting of catch. NZSFC wants the Ministry to provide full observer coverage on all foreign charter vessels and to do more to keep vessels away from areas where Kingfish catch is highest.

NIWA have completed two more years collecting Kahawai otoliths to monitor age classes in the population. NZSFC will be at meetings developing the new Kahawai stock assessment in 2013-14. This will reveal progress made towards achieving the Minister's 2010 objective of rebuilding Kahawai stocks to 60% of the unfished biomass, to increase the benefits to recreational and customary fishers.



## **Crayfish management**

Crayfish management remains fraught as MPI and the Minister continue with concessions and increasing commercial catch limits in depleted fisheries. In the past 12 months the Council submitted to both the sustainability and regulatory concession review, we produced a comprehensive analysis of the Minister's 2013 decisions, attended several joint stakeholder meetings and published a variety of updates. A Ministerial meeting was requested in June, no appointment yet.

Crayfish is a popular target species for recreational fishers yet in some areas they are scarce because undersize fish (52mm & 53mm) are being taken by commercial fishers and exported, using a concession. These concessions apply in CRA 3 (Gisborne), CRA 7 (Otago) and CRA 8 (Southland). In 2012 the Minister confirmed these concessions would remain, although there has been a determination by joint interests in CRA 7 and 8 to strive for more abundant and stable fisheries. Advocates in other areas would likely endorse similar goals, for higher abundance, if given the opportunity by MPI.

In January MPI asked if the Council supported a proposal to allow recreational fishers access to concession-size crayfish. The NZ Recreational Fishing Council is advocating for the public to have access to concession size crayfish. Our Council objects to concessions, they need to be abandoned and not used as Trojan horse for reducing the minimum legal size.

## **Animal welfare**

In August 2012 MPI released a discussion paper proposing amendments to the Animal Welfare Act 1999. With project funding from the NZ Marine Research Foundation the NZSFC commissioned a nationwide survey of people's attitudes to animal welfare and fish. There were 2581 respondents. Most fishers would read a best practice guide and would change their behaviour to achieve better welfare outcomes for fish. NZSFC submitted in September that it was important to rely on science-based assessment rather than emotive or animal rights based arguments of animal welfare.

NZSFC believes there are welfare gains to be made with better catching, handling and dispatch of fish caught by recreational anglers. NZSFC and LegaSea supporters are working on a Guide to help educate fishers to take a responsible approach to animal welfare and make good use of the fish they catch and keep.

## **Marine protection**

A new Marine Reserves Bill, to replace the defunct 2002 Bill, is expected within a few months. The new Bill is expected to better align with government policy and EEZ legislation. Nick Smith is the Conservation Minister responsible for marine reserves.

## **Future Search**

In February this year 66 people attended the Future Search meeting in Nelson. Agreement was reached on eight points. NZSFC sought and received clarification on one point, 'equity of access'. This equity concept and their tacit approval of proportional allocation subject to discussion, in their recent Snapper 1 submission, are at odds with the Council's stance and our reliance on the Minister to make a lawful allowance for the public when setting or varying the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC).

While MPI continues to assure us they are not in the business of being "kingmaker" their continued funding of the Fishinfuture Search compromises their statements. The NZSFC needs to discuss whether it is appropriate for MPI to be directing public money to a small group of citizens gathered without mandate, resources or a transparent plan, and who are striving to "*establish an accountable and representative national body for recreational fishing in New Zealand*".

It is up to us, the people of New Zealand, to decide how we manage ourselves. Currently the NZSFC is the largest body representing marine recreational fishing interests in the country. At our AGM in 2010 NZSFC members voted against the establishment of a statutory body and the inevitable licensing of recreational fishers. There have been further discussions. Our Council remains committed to a voluntary advocacy model and has initiated LegaSea to inspire public support for the work we do and execute a long term strategy for positive change in fisheries management.

## **Conclusion**

There is a strong push towards proportional allocation, recreational catch reporting, and a more hands-off management approach through the implementation of Fisheries Plans and Management Procedures. Our Council must remain vigilant to the various initiatives threatening our access to, and availability of, abundant fisheries.

Our members can be assured that their affiliation fees have been well spent over the past year. The Fisheries Management Committee works hard to ensure we have the necessary expertise, willingness and appropriate personnel to deal with these challenges both for now and for the future. Without doubt, 2014 will be another interesting year.



# LegaSea Report



**Mandy Kupenga**  
National programme leader

LegaSea was launched by the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council in February 2012. Since then it has become a successful public outreach brand of the Council, initiating several effective campaigns in 2013.

Our collective aim is to protect and conserve our precious marine resources for people, our communities and future generations of New Zealanders.

LegaSea's role is to appeal to all Kiwis, beyond the Council membership, to inspire and empower people to stand up for themselves and their future fishing and environmental interests. They can do this in numerous ways; the most recent, popular initiative is people committing to a regular, modest contribution of \$10, \$20 or even \$50 per month.

This level of commitment means LegaSea can get on with the job of raising awareness, enabling people to work together and promoting education initiatives. LegaSea provides an opportunity for us to unite in action, to stand up for and protect our rights for abundant fisheries, a quality fishing experience and to put food on the table for our families.

## Outreach

"Reach" has been achieved through various media including mass market TV, radio, print, newsletters, social media, online and more. Our cumulative current monthly reach is approximately 100,000 people – many of whom fish.

Our reach provides LegaSea the opportunity to communicate and raise awareness of the issues affecting our fisheries, opportunities for conservation and utilisation of our marine resources, and how together we can make a difference.

Key milestones achieved to aid LegaSea raise awareness in 2013 include a database of 45,000 people, 10,000 Facebook "likes", articles in each edition of all three major fishing magazines, high engagement in the fishing.net.nz forums as well as online updates with business partner databases that reach more than 60,000 people, and thousands addressed at the many events LegaSea has attended.

## Effective campaigning

Specific activity such as the 'Hands OFF our marlin' and the highly publicised 'Save Our Snapper' campaigns have solidified the recognition and understanding of LegaSea's role as the active and organised voice facilitating effective advocacy on matters that are important to the public of New Zealand.

The power of effective communications was epitomised during these campaigns. The foundations built over the past 12 months ensured we had the infrastructure and ability to deliver a comprehensive campaign programme. Best practice methodology was used in the planning and execution of these campaign, and will again be used in future advocacy campaigns.

## Hands OFF our marlin

Since 1991 commercial longliners have been banned from taking and selling striped marlin in Aotearoa. There have been periodic attempts to change the rules, all unsuccessful due to effective NZSFC advocacy. Commercial interests were again campaigning for a regulation change to allow them to keep and sell marlin. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council continues to oppose any rule change as marlin are a valuable, national marine resource.

Our team was taken aback in May this year when the Ministry suggested that marlin could be introduced into the quota management system. Naturally industry were all for it, we were not!

After reiterating our objections to any change through the official channels there was only one option remaining – public outcry.

We swung into action with a 'Hands OFF our marlin' campaign. We engaged media to drive people to an online tool we engineered, and encouraged people to stand up for themselves.

Within three days over 3,000 passionate responses had been sent to the Ministry and Minister for Primary Industries, Nathan Guy. After three days the Ministry announced there would be no management changes. This was a fantastic result – your voice was heard loud and clear.



But there is no room for complacency. If anything, this process demonstrates how quickly (and quietly) rules can change, altering public access to our fisheries.

LegaSea is pleased to be supporting a New Zealand Sport Fishing Council team dedicated to keeping an eye on any proposed management changes.

We are also blessed to enjoy the support of so many people volunteering their time, expertise and resources to make a difference. Many thanks to all the team, including Matt Watson and the ITM fishing show crew, Adam El Agez, Tim Taylor, Joe Dennehy and Ian Wills.

### **SOS Save Our Snapper**

As early as May we suspected there was going to be bad news for recreational fishers in Snapper 1. People fishing for snapper in East Northland, the Hauraki Gulf and Bay of Plenty were in for a major shake-up.

LegaSea took the opportunity at the May 2013 Hutchwilco Boat Show to alert the public to the upcoming snapper review. People were on standby to act if required.

Snapper 1 is our largest inshore fishery of interest to recreational fishers in the country. Naturally we were concerned about the potential for cuts to recreational limits while nothing was being done to address the significant waste and discards of juvenile fish caused by trawling inshore.

As anticipated, the Ministry proposals emerged in July proposing a variety of bag limits and size limits, all aimed at reducing recreational catch and giving those fish that we have voluntarily conserved to commercial interests. This was outrageous!

LegaSea took the lessons learnt from the marlin campaign and used those to refine our 'SOS Save Our Snapper' campaign. Our communications plan incorporated TV, radio, press, print, newsletters, public meetings, "action packs", online forums, social media and more. Our aim was to engage as many people as possible.

It worked.

We had unprecedented media coverage. At one stage it was the lead news item for several days in a row.

Then the team hit the road. Our roadshow team of myself, Scott Macindoe, Trish Rea, Simon Yates, Adam El Agez and volunteers travelled from Whakatane in the south to Kaikohe in the north. There was overwhelming support for our major issues:

- Ban trawling and Danish seining from nursery areas.
- Measure and report commercial waste.
- Deduct commercial waste / discards from commercial quota.
- The Minister must make a lawful allowance for the public.
- Increase the Total Allowable Catch (TAC) and properly allow for recreational catch.
- Engage with recreational fishers on practical ways we can assist the rebuild of Snapper 1.
- Recognise and account for the impact of any reductions on fishing related businesses and organisations.

By the Ministry's August 23rd deadline LegaSea had presented to more than 2,000 people, amassed over 47,000 online submissions and sent more than 350,000 emails to the Minister, Ministry and politicians.

People love their snapper. More so, they treasure being able to conserve fish for future generations of Kiwis.

Ensuring solid fisheries management policy for all political parties will be critical going into next year's election, as will effective lobbying of both the decision makers and governmental agencies who are caretakers of our fisheries resources.

Using our New Zealand Sport Fishing Council team of experts, the dedicated volunteers and the expertise of our media friendlies LegaSea aims to maximise the opportunities we now have to communicate with a far broader audience who are tuned into fisheries management and conservation.

Together we can make 2014 another successful year.

Kia kaha  
Mandy Kupenga  
LegaSea National Programme Leader







**LEGASEA**  
FISH FOR THE PEOPLE

# GOLD PARTNERS



**REDINGTON**

Fly Fishing Tackle



Fly Rods and Reels



Bags Packs and Luggage



Getting you to the **BIG** fish... **FASTER!**



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# GOLD PARTNERS



Fishing knowledge online

**The Fishing Website**

[www.fishing.net.nz](http://www.fishing.net.nz)



**LEGASEA**  
FISH FOR THE PEOPLE



# SILVER PARTNERS





# Service Providers



## Team profiles

### John Holdsworth (BSc)

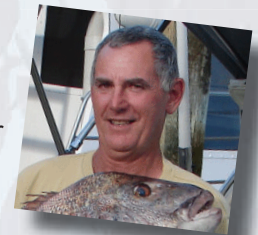
John is a director of Blue Water Marine Research, established in 1997 to conduct research including recreational harvest surveys and gamefish tagging projects. He has over 20 years experience in fisheries management and research.



John is the ideal person to represent our members' interests in the Ministry for Primary Industries' science, policy and Working Group processes. He has a particular interest in the Working Groups for Highly Migratory Species (HMS), Northern inshore finfish and shellfish, and marine amateur fisheries. John's ability to translate complex issues into simple concepts makes him a valuable asset to the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's fisheries management team.

### Pete Saul

Pete is a fisheries researcher and charter operator with over 30 years experience. Based in Tutukaka, Northland, he owns and operates the vessel *Lady Jess*. Pete is also a director of Blue Water Marine Research and is currently the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Records Officer.



He contributed to the development of the moratorium on commercial billfish catch, which has been replaced by fisheries regulations prohibiting commercial fishers from landing marlin in New Zealand waters. Pete has been at the forefront of the 2013 effort to fend off industry challenges to commercialise marlin. In May the Minister agreed to retain marlin as a recreational-only species.

### 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 Council's Fisheries Management Committee has appreciated his input and guidance on significant issues over the years.

### Stuart Ryan

Stuart Ryan 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, and other non-commercial interests, in the Kahawai Legal Challenge proceedings.



He has 20 years experience in advising public and private sector clients. Stuart has also built a strong relationship with many non-commercial environmental and fishing interest groups. He enjoys boating and fishing, but like most of us, he doesn't get out as often as he would like.

### Trish Rea

Trish has more than a decade of fisheries management and advocacy experience working with a variety of non-commercial environmental and fishing interest groups. During this time Trish has developed a range of skills that enable her to make a valuable contribution to the Council's ongoing policy and management work.



These skills include advocating non-commercial interests, website development, public awareness, logistical and secretarial support for the Fisheries Management Committee.





# Schedule of Activities

## July 2012 to August 2013

A summary of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's activity and input into fisheries management, policy development and environmental initiatives, from July 2012 to August 2013.

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2012</b>		
<b>July</b>	Working Group meeting	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.
	NZSFC Update 14	NZSFC Update 'Truth is stranger than fiction'. Discussed proposed new deemed value rates for snapper. NZSFC submit no changes to SNA1 rates until the 2013 sustainability review completed, the system is flawed and excess catch must be deducted from next year's ACE.
	LegaSea Update 6	LegaSea Update 'LegaSea is constantly morphing'. LegaSea has changed dramatically over the past 6 months. It's now easier to get family and friends onboard with LegaSea.
	Kahawai Challenge summary	NZSFC summary of the Kahawai Legal Challenge. The KLC proved that recreational fishers were able to foot-it with commercial interests when pushed. Lessons were learnt and our rights were clarified. Recreational fishers have a right to quality fishing.
	MPI proposal to amend Deemed value rates for various species. MPI IPP released 5 July. NZSFC submission 30 July.	NZSFC submission - all commercial catch taken in excess of the TACC in a fish stock must be accounted for by proportionally reducing the amount of ACE generated in that same stock, in the following fishing year. <b>Minister's decision</b> - mostly followed MPI advice, alternative decision for SNA 3, 7 & 10. Applied from 1 October 2012.
	MPI proposal to increase the TAC for a variety of low-info stocks & reduce the Bluenose TAC & TACC. MPI IPP released 5 July. NZSFC submission 30 July.	NZSFC submit that a precautionary approach needs to be taken when managing low information stocks like Elephant fish, Ghost shark, Gurnard and John dory. None of the Ministry's options are precautionary. <b>Minister's decision</b> - followed MPI advice to increase the TAC & TACCs for low info stocks, implemented the planned TAC reduction for Bluenose stocks. Applied from 1 October 2012.
<b>Aug</b>	MPI proposal to increase Southern Bluefin tuna TAC and reduce the TACC for Mako & Porbeagle sharks. MPI IPP released 5 July. NZSFC submission 3 August.	NZSFC submit to retain the TAC for Southern Bluefin tuna, and reduce the TACCs for Mako and Porbeagle sharks. <b>Minister's decision</b> - Southern Bluefin tuna TAC increased from 420 to 830 tonnes. TACC increased from 413 to 817 tonnes. Mako sharks - TAC reduced from 512 to 276 tonnes. Porbeagle sharks - TAC reduced from 249 to 129 tonnes.
	Working Group meeting	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.
	Working Group meeting	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.
	Recreational fishing conference, Australia	NZSFC & Blue Water Marine Research representatives attend a recreational fishing conference in Queensland, Australia. Discussion on recreational rights, access, management & policy. Report filed & distributed 11 Sept.
	MPI proposal to protect the oceanic whitetip shark. MPI IPP released 18 July NZSFC submission 22 Aug.	NZSFC submit in support of MPI proposal to prohibit the taking of whitetip sharks in NZ waters & by NZ flagged vessels operating on the high seas. <b>Minister's decision</b> - Agreed to this prohibition. Proposal supported by all four submitters, two commercial and two non-commercial.
<b>Key:</b>	IPP = Initial Position Paper TAC = Total Allowable Catch	MPI = Ministry for Primary Industries TACC = Total Allowable Commercial Catch ACE = Annual Catch Entitlement NZSFC = NZ Sport Fishing Council



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2012</b>		
<b>Aug</b>	Hauraki Gulf seminar presentation	Presentation on recreational fishing interests made to the Hauraki Gulf seminar. NZSFC rep co-opted onto the Mussel Reef Restoration Working Group.
	NZSFC Update 15	NZSFC Update 'Voluntary model beats compulsory taxation'. Discussed Future Search, LegaSea as an alternative to compulsory statutory body and licensing, abundance is key and the Minister's legal responsibilities.
	LegaSea Update 7	LegaSea Update 'Have you got what it takes to be a champion?' LegaSea has hit the market with a new range of material to increase public awareness. Now is our best chance to make a difference for our future fisheries.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 1	'Future abundance is in your hands' LegaSea has been launched to achieve the vision of 'more fish in the water for future generations'. It's a bold plan that supports people campaigning for less wasteful fishing practices.
<b>Sept</b>	Meeting with MPI Minister	NZSFC fisheries management team meeting with MPI Minister, David Carter. NZSFC members encouraged to participate in regional fisheries forums and fish plan processes. Report filed and distributed 10 September.
	MPI proposal for a new Ministerial purpose for a special permit. IPP issued 24 August. NZSFC submission 7 Sept.	NZSFC submit the existing deemed value regime and sixth schedule of the Fisheries Act are the appropriate provisions for addressing unexpected or unwanted catch in Taranaki due to the set net ban in inshore waters. <b>Minister's decision</b> - No decision or documents made available by the Ministry for Primary Industries, despite repeated requests in 2013.
	MPI briefing on WCPFC meeting, Auckland	MPI briefing on Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission CCSBT, conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna proposals. NZSFC rep attended.
	NZSFC Update 16	'Rebuilding fisheries in the Hauraki Gulf' Discussed the proposed marine spatial plan for the Gulf. Biggest impact will be on fishermen. Abundance is key to success. Mussel restoration project underway.
	LegaSea Update 8	'LegaSea springing into action' After a peak and a promise spring is here and so is LegaSea. Requests for LegaSea collateral is increasing so people need to get organised and tooled up.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 2	'LegaSea has broad appeal' LegaSea is a cause working for 'more fish in the water for future generations'. To achieve that vision we need at least 20,000 people to get onboard and make a contribution to protect our fishing future.
	MPI proposal to amend the Animal Welfare Act. IPP released 13 Aug. NZSFC submission 28 Sept.	NZSFC submit it is important to rely more on science-based rather than emotive-based assessment of animal welfare. Animal welfare does matter. <b>Outcome</b> - Amendment Bill passed its first reading in parliament. A Select Committee hearing process is expected next.
	NZSFC AGM Tutukaka, Northland	NZSFC Management Committee and Annual General Meeting of delegates and guests held at the Whangarei Deep Sea Anglers Club in Tutukaka, Whangarei. 28 - 29 September 2012.
	Summary report - Yellowfin tuna	NZ Marine Research Foundation summary report on the Yellowfin tuna fisheries in NZ and the southwest Pacific. Catch of Yellowfin in NZ waters has always fluctuated, but have been very low since 2005. The NZ Yellowfin fishery has virtually collapsed.
<b>Oct</b>	Working Group meeting	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Discussed results of Area 1 recreational harvest overflight and boat ramp survey. Preliminary results - big increase in Hauraki Gulf snapper and kahawai catch in 2011-12. Pitiful catch estimates of secondary species. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.
	NZSFC Marlin media release	'Marlin off the Menu' media release. NZSFC urge consumers not to buy marlin products and to tell retailers and restaurants to take marlin off the menu. Media release supported by an International Game Fish Association (IGFA) letter advising of the successful passage of the Billfish Conservation Act, banning importation of all billfish into mainland USA.
	Working Group meeting	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Discussed results from three overlapping recreational harvest surveys of Area 1. We need to encourage critical analysis of the survey results no matter how similar the three surveys may seem, because the outcome will likely have a major influence on future management decisions.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2012</b>		
<b>Oct</b>	Working Group meeting	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. NZSFC rep attended. Report filed.
	NZSFC Update 17	NZSFC Update 'Snapper fishery rebuild plan underway'. NZSFC AGM supported a dedicated rebuild strategy for Snapper 1. The Policy explanatory manual will be updated as new information becomes available.
	LegaSea Update 9	LegaSea Update 'LegaSea into summer events' As summer approaches LegaSea is gearing up to attend public events and a dedicated event coordinator has been appointed. Event managers are encouraged to contact LegaSea to advise of special events.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 3	'Notable response to LegaSea' It is heartening to have so many Kiwis willing to stand up for themselves and their kid's fishing future. Like many freedoms, we don't realise how precious they are until they are gone, or some bureaucrat decides he wants to make a quick buck by charging us a fee for what we've always enjoyed!
<b>Nov</b>	Aquaculture meeting, Whangaroa, Northland	NZSFC participate in meeting to discuss proposed marine farm in Whangaroa Harbour, Northland. A local fisheries company has sought consent from the Northland Regional Council. Around 80 people attended the meeting. There was unanimous opposition to the proposed farm. Submission deadline was November 9th. Report filed and distributed 9 November.
	Set net/Maui dolphin meeting, Auckland	NZSFC hosted a meeting to discuss the proposed extension of the set net prohibition area in the Manukau Harbour. This meeting unanimously supported the protection of Maui dolphin, and rejected the proposed closure of an (approx) additional 66 square kilometres of the harbour.
	MPI briefing on WCPFC meeting, Auckland	MPI briefing on Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission CCSBT, conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna proposals. NZSFC rep attended.
	NRLMG meeting, Wellington	Two NZSFC representatives attended a National Rock Lobster Management Group meeting. NZSFC representatives were granted 'observer status' and permitted to ask questions about Crayfish science and management.
	Working Group meeting, Wellington	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. Further discussion about the interim results of recreational harvest surveys. NZSFC rep attended and report filed.
	HMS Fish Plan meeting, Auckland	Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan Advisory Group meeting in Auckland. Continued decline in commercial Yellowfin & bigeye tuna catch, but increased Southern Bluefin tuna catch. Poor recreational season 2011-12, marlin captures 33% below 10-year mean. No Yellowfin tagged. A record 49 swordfish tagged. Kingfish tagging down 25% on 10-year mean. NZSFC rep attended & report filed.
	Marlin Management Group meeting, Auckland	Marlin Management Group meeting in Auckland. Commercial longliners want to keep those marlin that come to the boat that are unlikely to survive. The NZSFC objects and is advocating for a total ban on importation and sale of marlin in NZ. NZSFC representatives attended. Report filed.
	NZSFC Update 18	NZSFC Fisheries Management Update 'Many reasons to celebrate 2012'. Reviewed the progress made during 2012, how the MPI Harvest Strategy Standard and KLC decision will influence future management decisions. Also discussed the Snapper 1 policy, with more policies expected in the future.
	LegaSea Update 10	'Growing awareness is positive for LegaSea'. Support for LegaSea's vision of 'more fish in the water for future generations' is growing thanks to the effort of many NZ Fishing News readers, NZSFC affiliated members and LegaSea supporters.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 4	'Growing support for LegaSea initiatives'. There is now a band of outlets hosting LegaSea material. If you haven't already, please contribute online or drop into one of our host outlets, grab yourself a couple of brochures and get stuck in. The more people involved and contributing, means the more likely we are to achieve the vision of 'more fish in the water for future generations'.
<b>Dec</b>	Working Group meeting, Auckland	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Discussion focused on results from the Large Scale Multi Species recreational harvest survey. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2012</b>		
<b>Dec</b>	Regional recreational fisheries forums	MPI regional recreational fisheries forum meetings held nationally. FMA 1 and 9 forums, north of a line from East Cape to Tirua Point, had a joint meeting. Discussion continued on national Fish Plans. NZSFC reps attended. Report filed.
	MPI proposal to amend Crayfish concession regulations. IPP released 8 Nov. NZSFC submission 16 Dec.	NZSFC submit the Minister needs to revoke all concessions applying in Crayfish 3 (Gisborne), CRA7 (Otago) & CRA8 (Southland). Until then retain status quo. NZSFC support some, not all, changes to Fiordland regulations. <b>Minister's decision</b> - followed NRLMG advice, retained concessions & reduced regulations to maximise commercial benefits. Applies from 1 October 2013.
	NZSFC Update 19	NZSFC Update 'NZSFC ready and waiting for 2013'. Discussed the prospects for 2013. Likely issues include national and local fisheries and aquaculture issues, Hauraki Gulf spatial planning process and a Snapper 1 management review.
	LegaSea Update 11	LegaSea Update 'Bay of Plenty LegaSea launch a hit'. LegaSea is underway in the BOP. LegaSea is a bold and unifying initiative by the NZSFC. It's a positive message to the public that we can and need to stand up for our future fishing interests, voluntarily and generously.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 5	'Celebrating founding sponsorship for LegaSea'. Thompson Walker has been confirmed as the first founding Silver Sponsor of LegaSea. The team is pleased to be working with such a well-respected and established company. This sponsorship is vital to help establish and operate LegaSea.
<b>2013</b>		
<b>Jan</b>	LegaSea Update 12	LegaSea Update 'Free Fish Heads project needs successful fishermen'. Matt Watson and LegaSea have initiated FreeFishHeads.co.nz to enable fishers to share unwanted fish heads and at the same time conserve our fishery.
	Coromandel scallops - Issues summary	NZSFC summary of the MPI proposals to increase the TAC and TACC for Coromandel Scallops. Analysis of the proposals, a review of the fishery and a comprehensive list of issues to be addressed in an upcoming submission. Summary document distributed.
	Working Group meeting, Wellington	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. All meetings between January and May 2013 will be focused on finalising the stock assessment for Snapper 1. NZSFC representative attended. Report filed.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 6	'An innovative way to conserve fish'. FreeFishHeads.co.nz is a new innovation aimed at getting Kiwis to make the most of what they catch. Instead of whipping off the fish fillets & dumping the rest, people can now share the heads & frames with others who welcome the succulent bits of meat tucked in amongst the bones.
<b>Feb</b>	MPI proposal to increase Crayfish TACs & TACCs IPP released 14 Dec. NZSFC submission 1 Feb.	NZSFC submit against any TAC or TACC increases in CRA 3 (Gisborne) and CRA 4 (Hawke Bay-Wellington), and support a decrease in CRA7 (Otago). The Minister needs to be more actively involved in management, a full review is required. <b>Minister's decision</b> - followed NRLMG advice, increased commercial catch limits in CRA 3 and 4, decreased limits in CRA7 and status quo in CRA8. Applies from 1 April 2013.
	MPI proposal to increase TAC & TACC for Coromandel scallops IPP released 20 Dec. NZSFC submission 8 Feb.	NZSFC submit to retain the existing TAC & commercial catch limits until there is better understanding of abundance in the new Hauraki Gulf scallop beds. <b>Minister's decision</b> - followed MPI advice, increased TAC from 48 to 131 tonnes and commercial catch limit from 22 to 100 tonnes. Increased baseline non-commercial allowances from 7.5 to 10 tonnes. Applies from 1 April 2013.
	Working Group meeting, Wellington	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. All meetings between January and May 2013 are focused on finalising the stock assessment for Snapper 1. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.
	NZSFC Update 20	NZSFC Update 'Wayward advice skewing decisions' reviewed the recent NZSFC crayfish and Coromandel scallop submissions. A full review of crayfish management is required. The Coromandel scallop commercial catch limit ought to be retained until more information is known.
	LegaSea Update 13	LegaSea Update 'We love fishing but how much do we care?' LegaSea stands proudly beside a team of dedicated and professional fisheries management advocates & researchers that are making a stand for our recreational fishing rights.
<a href="http://www.nzsportfishing.org.nz">www.nzsportfishing.org.nz</a>		

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2013</b>		
<b>Feb</b>	LegaSea BayFisher Update 7	'More fish in the water' reflected on how many of us have happy memories of summer holidays by the beach, fishing and exploring. Our fisheries and coastline are being exploited to the detriment of our kids' long-term interests.
<b>Mar</b>	NZSFC media release - Tuna	The NZSFC is concerned about the collapse of the recreational Yellowfin tuna fishery in NZ, overfishing and wasteful fishing practices that are putting Yellowfin and bigeye tuna stocks at risk.
	Working Group meeting, Wellington	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. Finalising the Snapper 1 stock assessment. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.
	Regional recreational fisheries forums	MPI regional recreational fisheries forum meetings held nationally. Joint FMA 1 and 9 forum meeting. Discussion continued on national Fish Plans, snapper, trevally, marlin, sharks, tuna and crayfish. NZSFC reps attended. Report filed.
	NZSFC Update 21	NZSFC Update 'Caught a crayfish lately?' Reviewed the poor management of crayfish and that people are struggling to find a legal size crayfish to take home. The ongoing concession to enable commercial harvest of undersize crayfish is unfair and unpopular, especially near Gisborne. Commercial concessions must be revoked.
	LegaSea Update 14	LegaSea Update 'Sealords think we're dumb'. Sealords latest TV adverts are all about buying canned Yellowfin tuna with the tag line "Smart Choice". Now that's dumb!
	Panel review, Auckland	Expert panel review of recreational harvest estimates. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.
	NZSFC-MPI meeting, Auckland	Second NZSFC meeting with MPI senior fisheries managers. NZSFC would welcome more effective engagement with MPI. MPI not interested in being "kingmaker". A single recreational voice would be helpful, but it needed to be a voluntary initiative with no compulsory levy for recreational fishers.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 8	'Even Nauti Girls fish responsibly'. Reviewed the Whangamata Nauti Girls fishing tournament. LegaSea was there to share the good news and publicise the many issues to more than 700 keen lady anglers and their supporters.
<b>Apr</b>	Working Group meeting, Wellington.	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. Finalising the Snapper 1 stock assessment. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.
	Working Group meeting, Wellington.	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. Another meeting to finalise the Snapper 1 stock assessment. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.
	MPI proposal to enable commercial paua harvest in closed Otago areas. IPP released 11 Mar. NZSFC submission 19 Apr.	NZSFC objects to the closed Otago and Southland coastal areas being opened for commercial harvest of paua. The proposal seems to be a step towards issuing more quota in the future, while depleting existing non-commercial only areas. <b>Minister's decision</b> - Directed MPI to work with locals to try and reach an agreement. MPI will then make recommendations to the Minister.
	NZSFC Update 22	NZSFC Update 'Marlin are ours but for how much longer?'. Explained the latest moves by industry to commercialise the marlin fishery. The NZSFC is firmly opposed. Marlin need more protection, not less. The importation and sale of marlin in New Zealand ought to be prohibited.
	LegaSea Update 15	'Photo of three dumped marlin sparks outrage'. Recent photos of three dead marlin dumped by a commercial fishing boat off the Manukau Harbour sparked an outpouring of rage. It was a sad sight and the dumping was witnessed by a recreational boatie outside the bar. Commercial interests are lobbying for the ability to land and sell marlin. This waste of marlin is outrageous.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 9	'Matt Watson calls for a boycott of all Sealord products'. Matt Watson called Sealord's campaign advertising canned Yellowfin as incredibly arrogant or ignorant. Yellowfin tuna are almost extinct in New Zealand waters due to commercial overfishing in the wider Pacific region.
	LegaSea NZ Fishing World Update May/June	Introducing LegaSea to the NZ Fishing World magazine audience. LegaSea is all about preserving, enhancing and protecting the health of New Zealand's fisheries, for the benefit of the public's social, economic and cultural wellbeing.
<b>May</b>	Working Group meeting, Wellington.	Northern Inshore Fisheries Working Group meeting in Wellington. More work to finalise the Snapper 1 stock assessment. NZSFC representative attended and report filed.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2013</b>		
<b>May</b>	HMS Working Group meeting, Auckland.	Highly Migratory Species Working Group meeting. Discussed marlin, Yellowfin tuna, albacore and other pelagics. MPI team due to attend an overseas meeting to discuss albacore management in the Pacific region. NZSFC representative attended meeting. Report filed.
	Snapper Plenary, Wellington.	Snapper Plenary meeting. Snapper stock assessment reviewed. Some questions raised about model inputs. More work required and another Plenary session planned. NZSFC representative attended meeting. Report filed.
	MPI Marlin management options paper.	MPI release a discussion paper with several options for the future management of marlin. This follows a stakeholder marlin management meeting in Nov 2012. NZSFC are clear about their objectives to retain marlin as a non-commercial species. A meeting to discuss the management options is planned for 21 May.
	HMS Fisheries Plan meeting, Auckland.	Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan meeting. NZSFC highlighted the lack of any specific actions plan to address Yellowfin tuna depletion or the plan's objective to "maintain/enhance world class gamefisheries in NZ fisheries waters". NZSFC representative attended meeting. Report filed.
	Marlin management meeting, Auckland.	Marlin management meeting. Industry want to take dead marlin. Industry not clear if they are concerned about the waste or lost money-making opportunities. NZSFC strongly opposed, support status quo. No agreement between sectors. MPI will advise the Minister on appropriate future management. Seven recreational representatives attended meeting. Report filed.
	LegaSea public awareness campaign - Marlin.	'Hands off our Marlin' campaign launched. Media release distributed and online submission tool made available through the LegaSea website. Within three days over 3000 submissions were sent to the Minister's office. On 24 May MPI announced there would be no changes to the management of striped marlin. Further talks with industry and recreational interests are expected.
	NZSFC decision review - Crayfish.	NZSFC detailed analysis of the 2013 Ministerial decisions for Crayfish 3, 4, 7 and 8 completed and distributed. The Minister demonstrates no understanding of the lack of abundance and availability of crayfish to the public, especially in CRA3, Gisborne. Subsequent letter sent to Minister, 28 June, requesting a meeting. No meeting as of 30 August 2013.
	NZSFC decision review - Coromandel scallops.	NZSFC analysis of the Ministerial decision to increase the Coromandel scallop TAC from 48 to 131 tonnes. Minister's decision favours MPI and commercial interests. Decision biased towards reducing research and management costs for the industry. No MPI response to NZSFC February request for information about the industry CPUE limit rule programme.
	Crayfish 2 stakeholder meeting, Tauranga.	Crayfish 2 stakeholder management meeting. Presentation on stock assessment process and management procedure evaluations. Workshop discussion on stakeholder views of the current Crayfish stocks and aspirations for the fishery in the future. A discussion document on management options will be released in December, for feedback by Feb 2014. Three NZSFC representatives attended. Meeting report filed.
	LegaSea media release - Marlin.	'Marlin not for sale'. Regulations protecting striped marlin as a recreational-only fishery are under threat by commercial fishermen who want to keep and sell marlin. LegaSea is sure that people are passionate about taking care of our marlin resources. An online tool was created to enable people to voice their concerns.
	Snapper Plenary, Wellington.	Snapper Plenary meeting. Second snapper plenary meeting to review the stock assessment and model inputs. Model inputs adjusted after the meeting and a revised Working Group report distributed at the end of May. NZSFC representative attended meeting. Report filed.
	NZSFC Update 23	'Paua campaigners pride of the south'. The crowd literally went wild when the Ministry and industry suggested the public of Otago & Southland needed to take a back seat to commercial interests in paua. The NZSFC got in behind the Tautuku club and locals and submitted against the proposals. The backlash has forced MPI to rethink its strategy and work with the locals to find a collective solution.
	LegaSea Update 16	'Rough seas ahead for our beloved snapper'. Snapper is the largest recreational fishery in NZ and the majority of those fish are caught along the east coast of the North Island. But trouble is brewing. It seems catch levels may need to be cut.

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2013</b>		
<b>May</b>	Regional recreational fisheries forums	MPI regional recreational fisheries forum meetings held nationally. Joint FMA 1 and 9 forum meeting. Discussion on national Fish Plans, albacore, skipjack & Yellowfin tuna, seabirds, sharks, marlin, bluenose sea perch, Snapper 1 and 7 stock reviews and other species. NZSFC representatives attended. Report filed.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 10	'Target species: snapper'. Snapper is a renown favourite so keeping the fishery in good health is really important to LegaSea. That's why snapper is going to receive some special attention this year.
<b>Jun</b>	NZSFC-MPI meeting, Auckland.	NZSFC meeting with MPI managers to discuss engagement between MPI and NZSFC. MPI not happy about some of the messages used in the LegaSea Boatshow snapper pamphlet. NZSFC urged MPI to defer the Snapper 1 management review until 2014. Report filed. Letter sent to MPI after the meeting.
	Regional recreational fisheries forum meeting - Snapper 1 review.	Four FMA 1 and 9 regional forum members attended a meeting with MPI managers to discuss Snapper 1. Reductions to recreational access to Snapper 1 was rejected outright. MPI had mismanaged the SNA1 fishery for a long time, hadn't reviewed it for 16 years. No new information offered by MPI. NZSFC rep attended and filed a report.
	NZSFC Update 24	'New Zealanders love their marlin'. Striped marlin has been a non-commercial species since 1991 yet commercial fishers continue to argue for a regulation change so they can take and sell marlin. The NZSFC is vigorously opposed to any such change. The successful "Hands OFF our marlin" campaign proved how much we love our marlin.
	LegaSea Update 17	'United we protected marlin from the quota system'. LegaSea was pleased the 'Hands OFF our marlin' campaign was so successful. Within 3 days of launching over 3000 people voiced their opinion to the Minister, Nathan Guy. LegaSea and the NZSFC appreciate the Minister and Ministry's prompt response in backing away from regulatory changes. Status quo will remain until further talks are completed.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 11	'Snapper bag limit cuts will make way for commercial fishing'. Recreational fishers may be forced to take bag limit cuts of up to 40% to make way for commercial quota. This response would load most of the cost of rebuilding Snapper 1 onto recreational interests. LegaSea object until destructive and wasteful commercial fishing methods are stopped.
	LegaSea NZ Fishing World Update July/Aug	'Marlin saved, now snapper is under review'. A big thank you to all the passionate fishos who united to save our marlin from commercial exploitation. A big thanks also to the Minister, Nathan Guy, for having the foresight to make the decision to retain the status quo for marlin. With marlin under control there might be changes next to snapper bag and size limits.
<b>Jul</b>	NZSFC Update 25	'Time to fight for your snapper, your rights'. Once again the government is expecting the public to shoulder savage cuts to rebuild the Snapper 1 fishery while leaving the commercial sector and their archaic, destructive fishing methods relatively unscathed.
	LegaSea Update 18	'Time to fight for our snapper'. It is shocking that the Ministry for Primary Industries has proposed to slash snapper bag limits while the commercial sector is largely unaffected. The time has come for action and LegaSea needs the public's support.
	LegaSea BayFisher Update 12	'Snapper battle in full swing'. Action time. LegaSea is rallying support to fight for the future of our snapper fishery, fight for our voice to be heard, and fight against commercial greed and government mismanagement.
	LegaSea media release - Save Our Snapper (SOS)	'SOS Save Our Snapper'. Commercial exploitation of our snapper resources will alienate the public from an important food source if proposed management changes are implemented. LegaSea challenged the proposals as unfair and encouraged all New Zealanders to stand up for their future fishing interests.
<b>Aug</b>	LegaSea SOS campaign launched, online.	LegaSea Save Our Snapper (SOS) campaign launched. Submission summary and online tool made available. Supporting info supplied and released to media. 47,000 online submissions and 365,000 emails sent to the Minister, MPI and politicians. Regular media releases and updates. More than 2000 people attended LegaSea public meetings from Kaikohe to Whakatane, in August.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Whakatane	LegaSea public meeting, Whakatane Sportfishing Club. Presentation to more than 400 people. Submissions gathered and merchandise sales.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Tauranga.	LegaSea public meeting, Tauranga Yacht Club. Presentation to more than 250 people. Submissions gathered and merchandise sales.



Date	Description	Outcome
2013		
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Thames.	LegaSea public meeting, Thames High School. Presentation to more than 200 people. Submissions gathered and merchandise sales. Motion moved and carried unanimously - "We do not accept a proportional share that will inevitably lead to our children losing a meaningful fishing experience. We do not accept the globalisation, privatisation and corporatisation of our assets".
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Hamilton.	LegaSea public meeting, Central Baptist Church. Presentation to around 350 people. Submissions gathered and merchandise sales. LegaSea presentation, followed by brief presentations from Labour's fisheries spokesperson, David Cunliffe, and local MP David Bennett (Nal, Ham East). Lively Q & A session with good media coverage.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Kaikohe.	LegaSea public meeting, Te Runanga A Iwi O Ngapuhi. Presentation to more than 90 people. Submissions gathered. Resolution from remaining 85 people, "We the undersigned, who attended the public meeting held at Te Runanga A Iwi O Ngapuhi on August 12th 2013, agree to support the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Snapper 1 policy dated October 2012".
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Whangarei.	LegaSea public meeting, Toll Stadium. Presentation to over 500 people, lively Q & A session. Submissions gathered & merchandise sales. Good media coverage.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Bowentown.	LegaSea public meeting, Bowentown, Bay of Plenty. Presentation to over 100 people. Submissions gathered. LegaSea presentation, Q & A session. Good local support. Report filed.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Warkworth.	LegaSea public meeting, Warkworth. Presentation to around 190 people followed by Q & A session. Submissions gathered and merchandise sales. Brief presentation from local National MP. Report filed.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Browns Bay.	LegaSea public meeting, Bays Club, Browns Bay, Auckland. Presentation to around 40 people followed by some lively questions. Submissions gathered and people encouraged to recruit family and friends to submit. Report filed.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Albany.	LegaSea public meeting, Albany, Auckland. LegaSea presentation to around 120 people, followed by a brief presentation from Labour's fisheries spokesperson, David Cunliffe. Interesting Q & A session. Report filed.
	Editors SOS rally, Bucklands Beach.	Magazine editors' SOS rally, Bucklands Beach Yacht Club, Auckland. Panel discussion, including three LegaSea reps, three industry reps, 3 editors and Phil Heatley (ex fisheries Minister, National) and David Shearer (Labour). Lively Q & A session with good media coverage. Report filed.
	LegaSea SOS meeting, Te Atatu.	LegaSea public meeting, Te Atatu, Auckland. LegaSea presentation to more than 100 people, followed by brief presentations from Labour's fisheries spokesperson, David Cunliffe, and local MP Phil Twyford (Lab). Submissions gathered and merchandise sales. Lively Q & A session with good media coverage. Report filed.
	MPI proposal to reduce recreational harvest in Snapper 1 IPP released 12 July. NZSFC submission 23 Aug.	NZSFC submitted in support of existing bag limits and size limits until a management plan is agreed, and all trawl methods must be immediately banned from inshore nursery and sensitive areas. No proportional allocation of the fishery, the Minister must make a lawful allowance for the public. <b>Minister's decision</b> - expected by end of September. Will apply from 1 Oct 2013.
	LegaSea media release - Snapper 1.	'The fight for our fish is far from over'. Serious accusations have been levelled at the fisheries Minister in parliament over the snapper proposals. LegaSea says it's not okay that our legal rights will be undermined by bag limit reductions while our fish are reallocated to the commercial industry for export.
	NZSFC Update 26	'We can change the predetermined snapper outcome'. Claims there is no predetermined outcome in the Snapper 1 debate are untrue. MPI has already decided in future you will have access to a smaller share of the snapper fishery and your daily take must be reduced. These changes are required to protect commercial interests from a growing population and demand for fish.
	LegaSea Update 19	'Nathan Guy - will you Save our Snapper?'. Nathan Guy is due to make his decision for Snapper 1 by the end of September. No pressure Nathan, but get it right or there will be hell to pay!
	LegaSea NZ Fishing World Update Sept/Oct	'Save our snapper Nathan Guy'. Thanks to all the caring fishos who united with LegaSea and sent their submission to Save Our Snapper. We need to keep the heat on the Minister to do the right thing because only he can save our snapper.



# LEGA SEA

FISH FOR THE PEOPLE

## Hiwi the Kiwi Goes Fishing



*Fishing for the Future*



Created by the vision and support of the NZ Sport Fishing Council and launched in 1999, the NZ Marine Research Foundation is there to help fund research that will benefit recreational anglers.



The support that the NZSFC gives is ongoing with a \$1 yearly donation for each and every senior member and 50 cents per junior member of the Council. This is added to by grants from clubs and other trusts, donations of time and resources from individuals, companies and the scientific community who have a strong affinity to maintaining recreational angling as a popular and productive activity.

While your representatives continually lobby the Government and Ministries for funded research supporting your interest there will always be a need for targeted research that will not be funded by the crown. This is where the NZMRF directs its effort to fund those projects. These range from world leading striped marlin research to administrative studies on your contribution to the economic activity to the economy. These projects can be relatively low in cost, a few thousand, to some which when valued out in real cost would require over \$500,000. All the NZMRF needs is your willingness and worthy projects that will benefit one of New Zealand's favourite recreational activities, fishing.

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# NZSFC NATIONALS 2014

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