



# **Fisheries Management Annual Report**

*July 2014 to June 2015*



# New Zealand Sport Fishing Council

## Directory

### Fisheries Management Committee

Peter Campbell	Committee Chairman	peter.campbell@kinect.co.nz	0274 976305
John Chibnall	IGFA representative	jchib@xtra.co.nz	0274 752088
Mark Connor	Council President	mpconnor@xtra.co.nz	0274 327485
Richard Baker	Management team	richard@legasea.co.nz	021 869889

### NZSFC Incorporated

<b>Patron</b>	JR Chibnall	<b>Secretary/Executive Officer</b>	
<b>Executive</b>		Dave Lockwood	
President	Mark Connor	PO Box 207-012	
Vice Presidents	Mark Hemingway Phil Appleyard	Hunua 2254	
Auditor	Alan Martin	P: 021 1771705	
Records Officer	Pete Saul	E: secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz	
Board members	13	W: www.nzsportfishing.org.nz	
Life members	4	Members of the International Game Fish Association (IGFA)	
Zone representatives	8	NZ IGFA representatives	10
National membership	59 clubs	Annual General Meeting	September
Affiliated membership	31,600		

**Image credits:** Mark Kitteridge, Richard Baker, Trish Rea, Scott Macindoe.

**Image right:** Attendees at the 2014 Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, hosted by the Gisborne Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club, Gisborne.



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# 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 and was Vice President from 2001 to 2009. He is based in Tauranga and has been a zone delegate to the NZSFC Board for 15 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 and IGFA/Life Member representative on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Board. His tenure on the Council executive stretches back to 1967, this includes stints 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 fourth and final year as the Council President. He is a long-term member of the Ashley Sport Fishing Club in North Canterbury. Mark is the South Island's representative on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Board, and is a member of the Ministry for Primary Industries' Southern regional recreational fisheries forum.

Mark is keen to continue 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.



**Richard Baker**  
Board member, Auckland

Richard is one of New Zealand's International Game Fish Association representatives. He is also LegaSea's spokesperson on fisheries management, policy and public education issues.

Richard is a founding member of the Land Based Game Fishing Club. He became involved in the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council around 26 years ago and served as Council President between 2008 and 2011. He now uses his knowledge and experience to assist LegaSea achieve the goal of restoring abundance in our depleted inshore fisheries, for the benefit of our children and future generations of New Zealanders.



# NZSFC President's Report

## Mark Connor



As the President of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council it is my privilege to present the Fisheries Management Annual Report for the year ended 30th June 2015.

Membership of our fisheries management team has remained stable over the past few years. Peter Campbell, Chairman, John Chibnall, Richard Baker, Scott Macindoe and I lead the team effort. Together we have guided Council input into a variety of policy, advocacy, research and education processes. This team and our contractors have faced new challenges over the past 12 months and responded with a growing level of professionalism, with an emphasis on presenting realistic solutions.

The Council continues to engage with officials and other stakeholders on the management of gamefish species, kingfish, kahawai and inshore stocks. Work on regional issues continues to increase, including the Snapper 1 Strategic Planning Group, Hawke's Bay stock depletion, Sea Change Hauraki Gulf spatial plan, crayfish Management Procedures and Marlborough Sounds blue cod.

Multi-sector working groups and marine spatial planning seem to be the preferred new operating models. While these drawn-out processes may suit officials, it stretches the resources of organisations like ours. More so, they easily deflect the focus from the real issue of restoring abundance in our fisheries and marine environment.

LegaSea continues to grow the Council's profile through the promotion of our work, particularly the fisheries management responses. Consequently, awareness of the importance of this work is increasing amongst our affiliated Club members, LegaSea supporters and the public.

Our alignment programme is underway with a number of national and local representative organisations committing to support each other. While we might have distinct constituencies and purposes there is a common aspiration for abundant fisheries and restored marine habitat.

Seabirds and fishing go together, so with the Southern Seabird Solutions Trust's support we have been working to educate the public about protecting seabirds. We continue to develop material for recreational fishers because small changes in the way we fish can make a big difference to seabird survival.

Another success in our education work stream is the Hiwi the Kiwi Goes Fishing project teaching children about fishing for the future and water safety. Since 2009 more than 250,000 children at 840 schools have experienced the HTK interactive show. In November 2014 the Council congratulated Mark and Chris de Lacy on winning the 'Outstanding Contribution' award at the Sealord New Zealand Water Safety Awards, in recognition of the work they do to keep kids safe on the water.

At the 2014 Annual General Meeting in Gisborne we received Baldwin Boyle's analysis of the Council's public relations and LegaSea messaging. Their feedback is appreciated and is now guiding our communications and public awareness initiatives.

I encourage every club member to take advantage of Petroleum Logistic's discount fuel offer and Club Marine's special rates for boat insurance. There are multiple benefits associated with these offers for you, your club and the Council. Please, get stuck in and maximise these opportunities!

It is with much pleasure that my club, the Ashley Sport Fishing Club, will be hosting the upcoming AGM, on the 25th and 26th September 2015. I look forward to seeing you all there and trust that you will give the incoming President, Phil Appleyard, the same level of support as you have given me over the past four years.

Tight lines  
Mark Connor  
President, New Zealand Sport Fishing Council.





# New Zealand Marine Research Foundation



**Jeff Romeril**

**Important message!**

The New Zealand Marine Research Foundation has commissioned a groundbreaking study to determine the value of recreational fishing in New Zealand and we need your support.

It is vital we get some hard-hitting and persuasive facts to convince decision makers that recreational fishing supports the national economy by generating spending, jobs, new taxes and even tourism!

Quite frankly, a successful outcome from this project could have the biggest impact on our recreational fishing interests, now and for the future. Potentially surpassing our project on satellite tagging of striped marlin, the historic kahawai legal case by the NZ Sport Fishing Council and the recent newsworthy outcry over the reduction of catch bag limits of snapper in SNA1. I say this with confidence because similar studies done elsewhere have led to a dramatic rethink on how fisheries are managed, to enhance the benefits derived from those resources.

For example, in Mexico no-go commercial fishing zones remain closed after being threatened with opening to commercial fishing. Greater recognition is now given to low impact and sustainable sportfishing tourism. Panamanian authorities now recognise the importance of sportfishing to the economy and citizens wellbeing, when previously the fishery was managed only for commercial fishing. Costa Rica now has a National Sportfishing Commission to advise and monitor all issues related to sportfishing. Prior to that, they only managed for commercial harvest.

NSW Australia has just completed a similar study and found that recreational fishers contribute an estimated AU\$3.4 billion to the New South Wales economy and generate over 14,000 jobs. This is staggering, and more importantly Aussies have a similar lifestyle to our own, where 1 in 5 people fish.

In New Zealand we have the Quota Management System that was designed to generate the maximum sustainable yield from the resource for commercial fishing interests. The commercial industry has advocated for decades that recreational fishers should be constrained to a fixed allocation in all the species we compete. This will only see diminishing returns in time to us as individual fishers. And that will happen if the decision makers continue to believe we offer little to the economy!

Our current system doesn't give us the traction we need to have the fisheries managed in a way that actually benefits us. The decision makers understand jobs, tax take, GDP, foreign dollars and tourism, both domestic and international. These are the powerful levers that will make a difference and why the NZMRF thinks it is so important to find those numbers.

The Foundation doesn't have sufficient money to go this alone. The research itself costs \$250,000. Initial scoping work, fundraising and sharing the results will cost another \$150,000, of which a large sum has already been spent. LegaSea is helping us fundraise through a variety of channels, including grant applications, contributions from businesses and we also need \$100,000 from the public, including you, your family, friends and colleagues.

If you value your fishing and want to enjoy a better quality fishing experience for yourself and generations to come then I urge you to get behind this project. All donations are tax deductible with a tax receipt returned to you within minutes, check out [www.whatsfishingworth.co.nz](http://www.whatsfishingworth.co.nz).

Yours sincerely  
Jeff Romeril  
Chairman.



# Fisheries Management Chairman's Report



**Peter Campbell**

As chairman of the Fisheries Management Committee I am pleased to report the team continues to provide quality service and outcomes on behalf of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council.

Our Fisheries Management Committee includes Mark Connor, John Chibnall, Richard Baker, Scott Macindoe and I. The contractors are John Holdsworth, Barry Torkington, Trish Rea and Stuart Ryan. Together we provide the Council and member Clubs with policy, science and legal advice, analysis of proposals, management recommendations and support for local area issues.

## Significant developments

This past year we have put much effort into developing connections with national and local organisations that have an interest in the marine environment.

The LegaSea team has worked hard to forge relationships with the Southern Seabirds Solutions Trust, the New Zealand Angling and Casting Association, the Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association, and the Coalition of the Combined Clubs of Wellington who have a collective affiliated membership of over 20,000 people.

Alignment with other organisations is especially important when it comes to regional disputes because it is unrealistic to expect local voluntary groups to grapple with the raft of complex issues arising because of fundamental flaws in the Quota Management System.

One of these flaws is the lack of quality stock assessments for many stocks, which allows sustainable depletion as a management target. The Bay of Plenty and Hawke Bay are two examples of where depletion is affecting people's ability to provide for their social, economic and cultural wellbeings from fishing.

Building understanding, unity and trust amongst national and regional representative organisations is essential if we want to meet the increasingly complex challenges affecting our marine resources.

These challenges include policy development, spatial planning, collaborative fisheries management, land management, nutrient and run-off issues, and maintaining coastal access.

Back in 2002 the Ministry offered us some guidance and this advice remains relevant today:

*"Developing regulations regarding the management of a fishery will, over time, have a significant influence on the nature and evolution of recreational fishing rights. The rules that define the right to go fishing, such as the different bag limits and closed areas, come about through a process of consultation.*

*"Therefore the strength of the right over time is dependent, to a large extent, on the degree of organisation of local recreational fishing interests. If local fishing interests are well represented then regulations will evolve to reflect the value that the public places on their local fishing access and quality."*

As individuals or singular groups we cannot hope to cover all the issues that arise in our marine space. However, as we have proved over the past 12 months, if we align our principles and policies there is potential for us to build functional relationships to achieve common outcomes.





## Summary of activity

This year's Fisheries Management Annual Report summarises the team's activities from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015:

- Two submissions were developed and tendered in response to management proposals for –
  - Crayfish nationwide, CRA 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9
  - Marlborough Sounds Blue cod, and the wider BCO7 stock.
- Met and maintained correspondence with the Minister for Primary Industries and senior Ministry officials regarding management, policy and engagement issues.
- Contributed to and reported on more than 40 meetings -
  - MPI regional recreational fisheries forums
  - MPI Science Working Groups and Plenary meetings
  - Spatial planning forums, rountables and regional listening posts
  - Highly Migratory Species (HMS) and Inshore Finfish Fisheries Plan meetings
- Multi-sector Snapper Strategic Planning Group meetings
- Ongoing public awareness and education through regular publication of reports in print and online media. At least 63 publications from July 2014 to June 2015.
- Confirmed management policies, namely –
  - Crayfish 3 (CRA 3), Gisborne coast
  - Fisheries Management Area 1 (FMA 1).
- Several successful LegaSea campaigns -
  - Tip The Scales pre-election campaign, Aug – Sept 2014
  - Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat show, May 2015.



A positive outcome from the last 12 months of work is the indication from both industry and Ministry officials that they are open to working with the recreational sector to achieve agreed management outcomes. This could take time. The Snapper Strategy Group will likely continue in some form to help implement the SNA1 Strategic Plan and management meetings in Hawkes Bay are planned to continue in 2015.

From our team's perspective, the first step in working together is to reconcile each group's aspirations for fish abundance. Currently these are very different.

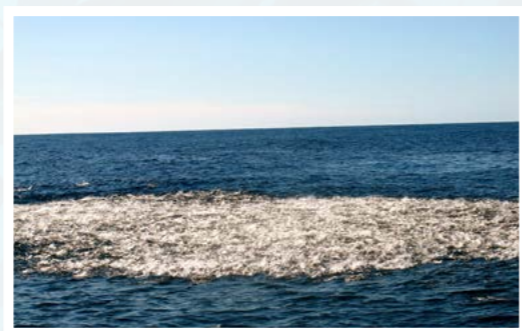
For commercial fishers it is the return to quota shareholders, profitability of catch and available markets that determines success. Success can be achieved as long as the fish stock can sustain current catch levels.

Rebuilding stock levels to a minimum of 40% of unfished biomass (B40) is Council policy. It is the minimum target we aspire to because that is expected to provide abundance, diversity and choice for public fishers and future generations. What's more, world's best practice and the Government's agreed standards now demand that low and medium productivity fish stocks have management targets of B40. This applies to our favourite species including crayfish, snapper, trevally, hapuku, kahawai and kingfish.

If we aspire to collaborative management and achieving acceptable outcomes then we must change our view of "sustainability", because the current version is clearly not delivering adequate abundance for public needs. Nor is it returning best value to New Zealand Inc.

Our New Zealand Sport Fishing Council fisheries management team remains committed to assisting the Minister to deliver on his statutory obligations to both sustain fish stocks at abundant levels and to provide for the foreseeable needs of future generations. To achieve that outcome there must be a paradigm shift:

***the contemporary state of sustainable depletion must give way to improved productivity in our marine environment and restored abundance.***



Peter Campbell  
Chairman, Fisheries Management Committee.

# Fisheries Management Committee Report

## Fisheries Management Committee

### Introduction

It is pleasing to have growing support for the Council due to the efforts of the Fisheries Management team, our Committee members and contractors. This encouragement is coming from affiliated Club members, LegaSea supporters and organisations aligning with the Council's policies. Having such solid back-up inspires our team to continue to strive for robust management outcomes, productivity gains and restored abundance in our marine environment.

### Policies

At the Gisborne Annual General Meeting, in September 2014, delegates supported the adoption of two policies:

- Crayfish 3 (CRA 3), Gisborne coast
- Fisheries Management Area 1 (FMA 1), northeast coast, N.I.

These documents highlight the need to rebuild fish stocks to a minimum target size of 40% of unfished biomass (B40). The FMA1 policy describes the changes required to ensure management is consistent with international best practice.



Taking an ecosystem-based approach means that when deciding catch limits for one species a range of matters are considered. These matters include human impacts, the effects of fishing on the seabed and fish habitat, dependent species, environmental productivity and local variations of abundance. Our work over the past year has been enhanced by the ability to reference these Council policies when considering management responses.

### Political engagement

Representatives of the Greens and Labour parties addressed the August 2014 Hokianga Accord hui held at the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club. This was a useful meeting enabling the exchange of ideas between party representatives, tangata whenua and recreational interests.



Maggie Barry congratulating them on their (re)appointments as Ministers; Guy as Minister for Primary Industries, and Barry as Conservation Minister.

Four NZSFC representatives met with Nathan Guy, Dave Turner (Director, Fisheries Management) and Steve Halley (Inshore Manager) in early December. The Minister committed to putting more resources into fisheries during this parliamentary term. Minister Guy understands the need for Kiwis to be able to go fishing for food and fun. Ministry officials expressed a desire to pursue opportunities to improve engagement with the Council; a series of strategic meetings in the New Year was mooted. No meetings have eventuated.

### Yellowtail kingfish

Numbers of recreational fishers in New Zealand targeting yellowtail kingfish have increased in the last five years. While many of these kingfish are released, the large size of fish kept means our total harvest is significant.

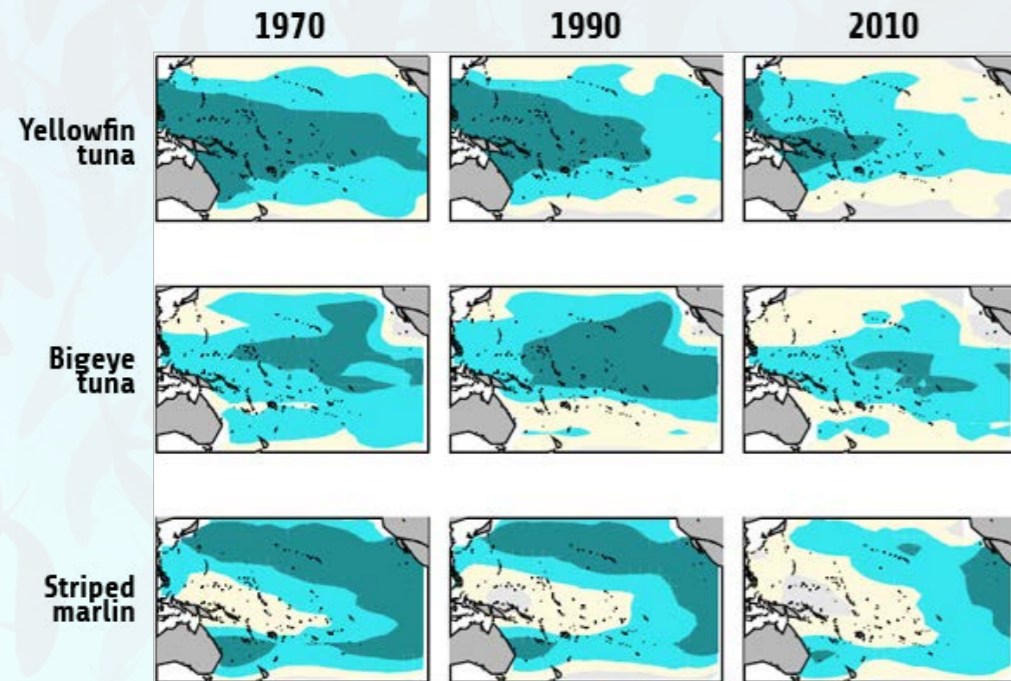
In November 2014 the final report for the National Panel Survey was published. The national amateur harvest estimate for kingfish in 2011-12 was 64,700 fish, for a total weight of 662 tonnes (+/-11%). More than the national commercial catch of 235 tonnes for that same year. This puts kingfish at number three in the recreational harvest list, by weight, behind snapper and kahawai.

For the past five years the Bay of Islands International Yellowtail Tournament has provided a valuable opportunity to measure large numbers of kingfish every June, to improve our knowledge on annual changes in size of fish caught by anglers. This project is not Government funded. Recreational fishers fund the project through the support of the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, the NZSFC and LegaSea.



## Highly Migratory Species (HMS)

The Council has ongoing concerns about the disappearance of yellowfin from New Zealand and range contraction of some migratory species in the Pacific. In August the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) released a report showing a relationship between abundance and range for the main tuna and billfish species, including striped marlin and yellowfin tuna. The conclusion was that range contraction was happening and should be taken into account in stock assessment models. More work by WCPFC is planned.



**Figure 1:** Predicted range using high (dark green), medium (light blue) and low (beige) detection thresholds based on longline catch rates for three decades, 1970s, 1990s and 2010s.

**Source:** Relationship between abundance and range size in longline target species. Tremblay-Boyer, Harley, and Pilling, 2014. WCPFC-SC10-2014/MI-WP-06.

The status of the Southwest Pacific striped marlin stock is a concern. The 2012 stock assessment concluded that it was approaching an overfished state. Catch by longline and purse seine reported to the Commission has not increased in the two years since the assessment and NZSFC has requested that this catch is monitored. A new stock assessment is due in 2017.

A stock assessment for South Pacific albacore tuna is due later this year. Measures proposed by the Commission, to limit commercial fishing for albacore and bigeye, are expected to also reduce yellowfin catch.

Southern bluefin tuna stocks have been rebuilding. NZSFC has questioned whether the goal of reaching 20% of unfished biomass by 2035 was an adequate target given the long time frame and the inherent uncertainty in projections. Some interim milestones need to be established to monitor the stock, particularly since the international Southern bluefin quota will be raised by 2000 tonnes for the next 3-year management period.

The Annual Review meeting of the HMS Fisheries Plan was held in May. This Plan is five years old and due for review. Purse seining will be included in the revised Plan, this is important given members' ongoing concerns that purse seining is impacting on prey species, seabirds and the availability of game species in the Bay of Plenty.

Overall, 2015 was an average season for striped marlin recreational catches, particularly on the northeast coast. More swordfish have been caught due to the increase in daytime targeting with deep baits. Commercially, skipjack and albacore tuna fishing was poor this past season.

## Kahawai

May 28th was the 6th anniversary of the Supreme Court Kahawai Legal Challenge decision. LegaSea released a media statement celebrating the occasion.

A full stock assessment was recently completed for Kahawai 1. This northeastern stock is estimated to be at or above the target size of 52% of unfished biomass. This B52 target was set by the Minister in 2010. The next stock assessment is due in 2020. There has been no indication of a KAH1 management review.

While the 2015 stock assessment model was better than the previous one, it still fails to capture the rapid decline in kahawai schools seen in the 1980s and early 1990s. Today, there are fewer and smaller kahawai schools so it seems implausible that the kahawai biomass in Area 1 is currently two thirds of the unfished stock size.

## Seabirds

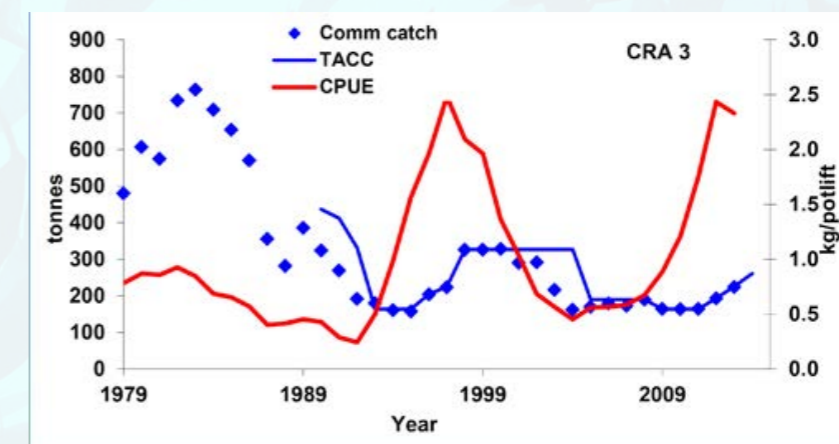
A recommendation arising from the December Seabird Advisory Group was that recreational fishers needed to start advocating on behalf of seabirds. The NZSFC has acknowledged the need to educate fishers on how to both avoid seabirds and safely release any captured birds. Since November 2014 LegaSea has been working with the Southern Seabird Solutions Trust to distribute seabird avoidance information suitable for recreational fishers.

## Crayfish management

Management of crayfish continues to cause strife in selected areas, namely CRA2 (Waipu-BOP) and CRA3 (Gisborne). Public catch in CRA2 has collapsed and managers acknowledge that commercial CPUE, below 0.5kg/potlift, is the lowest among all CRA areas.

Recreational fishers targeting crayfish from Gisborne are concerned about ongoing poor catch rates of legal size animals due to the concession enabling commercial fishers to take male crayfish at 52mm, 2mm smaller than the recreational minimum legal size. This concession was implemented in 1993 as a temporary measure. There have been several TACC changes since, and the concession remains in place despite numerous objections, meetings, letters and submissions. (Figure 2).

Local interests have accused MPI of favouring commercial interests over non-commercial. CRA 3 was reviewed in early 2015 following a new stock assessment and proposed Management Procedure. The Minister retained current management settings and there is no indication the concession will be removed in the foreseeable future.



**Figure 2:** Commercial catch in tonnes, Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) in tonnes, and Catch Per Unit of Effort (CPUE) in kilos per potlift, from 1979 to 2013.

**Source:** Presentation. CRA 3 data for stock assessment. New Zealand Rock Lobster Industry Council. July 2014.

## Marlborough Sounds blue cod

This year the Council invested in the development of a joint submission in response to the proposals for the future management of blue cod in the Marlborough Sounds. A combined submission was filed on 30 June.

Signatories to the document included the NZSFC, the Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association, New Zealand Angling and Casting Association and the Coalition of the Combined Clubs of Wellington, representing an affiliated membership of well over 50,000 people. Subsequent to the submission the Council has received a membership request from the Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association.

## Snapper 1 Planning Group

The drafting of a management plan for the northeastern, Snapper 1 stock has been underway for 18 months. A collective of recreational, commercial and customary representatives has worked with group chair, Sir Ian Barker, Ministry officials and scientists to develop the plan.



Our team has been alone in contributing comprehensive documents outlining measures to achieve a meaningful stock rebuild in Snapper 1. The draft plan will go to the Minister and then be released for public comment. Ideally, public discussion of the plan will occur within months.

### Rebuilding Hawke's Bay fisheries

LegaSea Hawkes Bay has been actively seeking a rebuild of fish stocks in FMA2, lower east coast of the North Island, and around Napier in particular. Localised depletion has caused recreational fishing success to collapse over many years. MPI has committed to reversing the decline in recreational fishing in Hawke Bay. MPI is facilitating meetings with recreational, customary and commercial fishing interests. The Council would like to see a meaningful rebuild strategy in place by December 2015.

### Hauraki Gulf management

A draft marine spatial management plan for the Hauraki Gulf was expected by now. NZSFC representatives have participated in this process for 18 months. The plan's delivery deadline has been extended several times without explanation.

There is a suggestion the new Marine Protected Areas Bill will encompass provisions for the recreational fishing parks in the Hauraki Gulf and Marlborough Sounds that the National Government promised at the last election. Environment Minister, Nick Smith, is taking a lead role in the MPA process. It is unclear when the MPA Bill may be released for public discussion.

### Conclusion

Our Fisheries Management team continue to strive for excellence to achieve maximum value for our members and supporters. We encourage our affiliates to use the published submissions and reports as back-up material when seeking grants, support for your club and fishing interests. This information is available from our secretary at [secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz](mailto:secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz) or online at [nzsportfishing.org.nz](http://nzsportfishing.org.nz) – Fisheries.



### NZSFC Fisheries Management - Income and Expenditure

	30/06/13	30/06/14	30/06/15
Source of funds	Actual	Actual	Actual
Affiliated club member levies	60000	70000	65000
LegaSea donations - budgeted	20000	45000	65000
<b>Fisheries Management budget</b>	<b>80000</b>	<b>115000</b>	<b>130000</b>
LegaSea donations - budget excess/shortfall	2752	11683	-8582
<b>Total Fisheries Management Income</b>	<b>82752</b>	<b>126683</b>	<b>121418</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Sustainability and management processes			
Snapper		71303	40698
Crayfish		17481	10653
Pelagics		2858	1624
Other fisheries		3899	3816
MPI and political engagement		11812	12797
Policy and Council attendance		15853	12254
Hokianga Accord		0	4004
Marine protection and spatial planning		2605	11401
Regional issues		2886	1376
Reporting and public awareness		10958	14033
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>70940</b>	<b>139655</b>	<b>112656</b>
<b>Surplus/deficit</b>	<b>11812</b>	<b>-12972</b>	<b>8762</b>

## LegaSea Report



**Scott Macindoe**  
LegaSea support crew

LegaSea is a public outreach initiative of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. LegaSea raises funds and provides public friendly information about a variety of processes that are important to restoring abundance in our fisheries, for the benefit of current and future generations.

### Governance

A Committee has been appointed to oversee LegaSea operations. This Committee includes both LegaSea Directors, Peter Campbell and Mark Connor, and myself, Richard Baker, NZSFC Board members Phil Appleyard and Kelvin Mowat. Dave Lockwood, NZSFC Executive Officer, has regular oversight of LegaSea's progress.

### Finances

Annual Financial accounts have been completed and filed with John Phibbs of Lynch Phibbs Accountants acting. As of April 2015 we have changed the funding model. Originally 66% of all individual and unaffiliated club contributions to LegaSea were transferred to the NZSFC, this is now 100%.

This is a breakthrough development that reflects the maturity and success of LegaSea, in being able to support itself through private and corporate sponsors while passing on 100% of public contributions. These funds are applied directly to the four core areas: Advocacy, Research, Education and Alignment.

LegaSea Legends and Works are two new packages offering individuals and businesses the opportunity to make a regular contribution towards our efforts. These packages compliment the Building LegaSea programme, which is now well established in the business community as a way to make a meaningful contribution towards a better fishing future.

### Campaigns

LegaSea launched the Tip the Scales campaign prior to last year's election. There were two objectives: one to encourage all political parties to commit to rebuilding our inshore fisheries and, secondly, to empower people with enough information to make an informed choice on election day. There was a good level of public engagement and the campaign collateral continues to be a useful resource. [www.tipthescales.co.nz](http://www.tipthescales.co.nz).

### Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat Show

Si Yates, Pieter Battaerd and the team put in a special effort to showcase LegaSea at this year's Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat show. Show organisers were generous with their support of our team and in siting LegaSea in the Matt Watson ITM Fishing Show Experience Hall. The feedback and engagement we received from the public and fellow exhibitors was uplifting.

Matt Watson did his best to motivate showgoers to talk with LegaSea. A team of volunteers sold life rings supplied by Club Marine. Over \$2400 was raised and Club Marine contributed those funds to LegaSea. Thanks Brent and team!



In recognition of the organiser's ongoing support, the Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat Show has been elevated to LegaSea Gold Partner status.

### Outreach

There is increasing demand for LegaSea attendance at events. On most occasions we have been able to fulfil the requests. In lieu of attendance, collateral and advice to event coordinators have been freely supplied.

A special thanks to Lindsay and Lindy Gregory of Axys Web Systems, for their service, patience, skill and delivery to a range of non-commercial fishing entities over the past 15 years. You have set a high standard for our next e-service provider. We wish you well in your future endeavours.



## What's Fishing Worth?

In 2015 LegaSea committed to help raise funds to support the New Zealand Marine Research Foundation's project to measure the contribution recreational fishing makes to NZ Inc. This commitment was based on the vision for abundant fisheries and our Principle 5: Value recreational fishing. [www.legasea.co.nz/tipthescales](http://www.legasea.co.nz/tipthescales)

This research, by Southwick Associates (Florida), will make a difference to how we view the ocean and conservation. It will also impact on your rights and access to fish.

We're not seeking bigger bag limits, we just want more fish in the water. We are now drawing on international expertise to achieve this outcome and we trust the public will also get in behind the project.



### Inspirational effort

The enthusiasm and commitment of our LegaSea team continues to be an inspiration.

It is a privilege to be serving the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council of clubs, affiliated members and other organisations seeking more abundant fisheries and a productive marine environment.

Scott Macindoe  
LegaSea support crew.



<b>LegaSea Ltd - Income and Expenditure</b>	<b>31/03/13</b>	<b>31/03/14</b>	<b>31/03/15</b>
<b>Income</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Actual</b>
Donations from people and unaffiliated clubs	28891	85184	73467
Donations from events and affiliated clubs	5621	26231	11891
Donations for the establishment of LegaSea	105412	60825	266520
Partner sponsorships programme	7193	130472	101529
Building LegaSea programme	0	0	61598
Merchandise (surplus/deficit)	8242	-5650	-6571
<b>Total income</b>	<b>155359</b>	<b>297062</b>	<b>508434</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Donations to NZSFC	43012	55074	59222
Fundraising	28943	81435	216159
Communication and public awareness projects	70918	83902	139854
Marlin campaign	0	3812	0
Snapper campaign	0	49158	2700
Crayfish campaign	0	7073	1894
Tip the Scales campaign	0	0	43767
Strategy and planning	10288	10948	20646
Administration	3332	18616	40235
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>156493</b>	<b>310018</b>	<b>524477</b>
<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>-1134</b>	<b>-12956</b>	<b>-16043</b>

## 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 was at the forefront of the 2013 effort to fend off industry challenges to commercialise marlin. In May 2013 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 his 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 over 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 2014 to June 2015

A summary of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's activity and input into fisheries management, policy development and environmental initiatives, from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015.

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2014</b>		
<b>July</b>	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. MPI and recreational interests. MPI most interested in NZSFC view of recreational rights, increasing biomass and stock targets. Three representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable	Sea Change Biodiversity-Biosecurity Roundtable meeting. Auckland. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 18.	'Pivotal campaign launch in August' LegaSea is tooling up for another campaign. It was a pleasure to meet supporters and new people at the May Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat Show in Auckland.
	Meeting. Crayfish 1 Northern coast NI.	Crayfish 1 meeting. Kerikeri. MPI workshop to discuss future management of the crayfish stock around the upper North Island, east and west coast, including the Three Kings Islands. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Crayfish 3 East Cape NI.	Crayfish 3 meeting. Gisborne. MPI workshop to discuss future management of the crayfish stock around East Cape and Gisborne. NZSFC and club representatives attended the meeting. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 5th meeting. Discuss draft management target, develop draft objectives to achieve targets. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Building LegaSea Whangarei.	Building LegaSea meeting, Whangarei. Presentation of Building LegaSea package to fishing and marine interests from around Northland. Presentation followed by Question & Answer session. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 30.	LegaSea roundup: Southern blue moki submission process, political update, Hokianga Accord news, Snapper 1 Strategy Group progress update and celebration of the successful Building LegaSea launch in Whangarei.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher # 23.	'Snapper Update'. Since the beginning of the year there has been 5 meetings of the multi-stakeholder Snapper 1 Strategy Group. Our representatives are ready to discuss the issues to increase the snapper stock size, but it is slow going.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. Recreational interests meet with MPI officials to discuss the recreational view of rebuilding the Snapper 1 fishery. Three representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
<b>Aug</b>	Meeting. Hokianga Accord hui Bay of Islands, NI.	Marine protection and reserves, crayfish and finfish management and the merits of local area management tools featured in discussions during this hui held at the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, Paihia, Bay of Islands.
	Campaign. Tip the Scales Launch.	LegaSea launch the 'Tip the Scales' pre-election campaign. Newsletter distributed to LegaSea and other databases. Media release issued nationally. People encouraged to engage with their local MPs and raise awareness of the issues around fishing, and why their party needs to adopt fisher-friendly fisheries policies. Around 17,000 people signed up. Campaign closed 20 September 2014, election day.
<b>Key:</b>	IPP = Initial Position Paper MPI = Ministry for Primary Industries NZSFC = NZ Sport Fishing Council TAC = Total Allowable Catch TACC = Total Allowable Commercial Catch ACE = Annual Catch Entitlement	

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2014</b>		
<b>Aug</b>	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 31.	Four articles: 1. Your opportunity to Tip the Scales. 2. Real snapper wastage being hidden. 3. Reducing waste is a priority. 4. Big work up in Northland. Emphasis on getting people to engage with politicians and encourage adoption of fisher-friendly fisheries policy.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher # 24 NZ Fishing World Sep-Oct.	'Make your vote count'. Last year's snapper debate proved that fisheries management is political, and that decision outcomes can be heavily influenced by how many of us stand up for ourselves. This year we have a prime opportunity to advocate for improved fisheries management. Make your vote count.
<b>Sep</b>	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable 3rd meeting. Auckland. Useful presentations from NIWA scientists on ecosystem function and management. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 7th meeting. Discuss management targets, draft objectives to achieve targets and increasing the snapper biomass. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group.	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Auckland. Discuss projects to estimate recreational finfish and crayfish harvest in Kaikoura and Motunau, amateur harvest of crayfish in Northland, web camera monitoring of boat ramps and potential new tools to monitor recreational fisheries. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Quarterly reports.	Fisheries Management and LegaSea quarterly reports developed and distributed for NZSFC Zone meetings, delegates and Board meeting.
	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Progress reports on stock assessment for Kahawai 1 (northeast NI), Trevally 1 (northeast NI), and Trevally 7 (western NI, SI). One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable 4th meeting. Leigh. Site visit to Leigh Fisheries. Meeting at Goat Island Marine Discovery Centre. Presentations on biomass estimates, snapper movement, CRA2 industry perspective of crayfish management. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 32.	Six articles: 1. Tip the Scales campaign. 2. Principle 1 - let's rebuild the fishery. 3. Principle 2 - stop senseless waste. 4. Principle 3 - our fisheries are publicly owned. 5. Principle 4 - equal size limits for all. 6. Principle 5 - value recreational fishing. Breakout - 1994 snapper mortality report still under wraps.
	Meeting. AGM NZ Sport Fishing Council.	NZSFC Annual General Meeting. Gisborne. 89 attendees. Two days of discussions, LegaSea presentations, and review of fisheries management activities and report.
	Policy. Crayfish 3.	NZSFC AGM adopt the Crayfish 3 (CRA3) policy developed in conjunction with the Gisborne Tatapouri Sport Fishing Club. Goal: to increase the size and abundance of rock lobster in CRA3 and ensure the needs of customary and amateur fishers are met.
	Policy. Fisheries Management Area 1.	NZSFC AGM adopt the Fisheries Management Area 1 (FMA1) policy developed by the fisheries team. Goal: to rebuild the inshore marine ecosystem of FMA1 through diversity and abundance.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher # 25.	'Hot topics thrashed at Accord hui'. Leading up to the election LegaSea reiterated the need for our decision makers to implement policy that supports abundant fisheries and fairer management decisions.
	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Sep.	'Thousands support Tip the Scales'. LegaSea is pleased around 15,000 people signed up so far in support of the Tip the Scales campaign. This campaign was aimed at getting political parties to commit to rebuilding our fish stocks so future generations can enjoy a meaningful fishing experience.
<b>Oct</b>	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 22.	Campaign highlights and newsbites. LegaSea is pleased with the outcome of the recent Tip the Scales campaign, and support for the 5 Principles aimed at achieving abundant fisheries, balanced and fair management decisions.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2014</b>		
<b>Oct</b>	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 8th meeting. Discussed a range of factors that could be applied and how to test their effectiveness on rebuilding the snapper fishery, over time. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 33.	'Differing perspectives on allowances'. One of the major talking points during the 2013 snapper campaign was the assertion that recreational catch had increased exponentially and that effort needed to be reined in through bag limit reduction. Fact is, the fishery had not been reviewed for 16 years.
	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable 5th meeting. Thames. Update of Snapper 1 Strategy Group discussions, presentations on the economic valuation of fisheries and the Sea Sketch tool. Useful presentations on shellfish monitoring and fish management. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Highly Migratory Species Working Group.	Highly Migratory Species Working Group meeting. Auckland. Updated Working Group reports underway for 6 major tuna species caught in NZ waters: albacore, bigeye, Pacific bluefin, skipjack, yellowfin and Southern bluefin. Stock assessments for these species were updated during 2014. Only minor changes to striped marlin and swordfish WG reports. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 9th meeting. NZSFC repeated request for 1994 trawl snapper mortality report. Data collected from cameras on trawlers in SNA1 is being evaluated. MPI will present the results to the Group soon. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing World Nov. NZ BayFisher # 26.	'Surprising outcome from Tip the Scales campaign'. This year we set out to promote the need for good quality fisheries policy from all political parties. By election day more than 17,000 people had registered support for the Tip the Scales campaign.
	Quarterly reports	Fisheries Management and LegaSea quarterly report for NZSFC Zone meetings, delegates and Board meeting.
	Letter. NZSFC to Minister for Primary Industries.	NZSFC congratulate Nathan Guy on his reappointment as Minister for Primary Industries, after the election. Requested meeting. Minister's office responded on 18 Nov, offered meeting on 4 Dec. Four NZSFC representatives met with the Minister and officials in Wellington on 4 December 2014.
	Letter. NZSFC to Minister of Conservation.	NZSFC congratulate Maggie Barry on her post-election appointment as Minister of Conservation. Requested meeting. Minister's office responded on 16 Feb 2015, offered meeting on 19 March. On 24 February Barry's office cancelled the March meeting, no explanation and no future time available. Would advise if future slot is available. No further invitation has been received.
	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Sep.	'Advocacy gets solid support'. Team LegaSea received positive feedback during the recent AGM of the NZSFC held in Gisborne. Council delegates appreciated the effort being made to increase public awareness of fisheries issues and the need to rebuild abundance in our nearshore waters.
<b>Nov</b>	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable 6th meeting. Auckland. Industry overview of Coromandel scallop fishery. Presentation on the impacts of trawling and dredging on benthic habitats in the Hauraki Gulf. Presentation on habitats of importance to juvenile fish in the Hauraki Gulf. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 10th meeting. Discussed management options for reducing the mortality of sub-legal snapper. Also discussed allowances, allocation and area based regulations applying in Snapper 1. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan.	Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan meeting. Auckland. Important meeting as MPI seeking initial views on the update to the Fisheries Plan, which is due to expire in 2015. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 25.	Online newsletter. LegaSea expands east and west. Building LegaSea Hawkes Bay launch, recreational allowances, Building LegaSea west Auckland event and successful fundraising of \$4695 for LegaSea by the Hibiscus Coast Boating Club.

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2014</b>		
<b>Nov</b>	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Review of stock assessments for Kahawai 1 (northeast NI), Trevally 1 (northeast NI), and Trevally 7 (western NI, SI). Evaluation of Snapper 1 tagging project design. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 34.	'A boost to rebuild important fisheries and habitats'. Healthier ecosystems means more fish in our coastal waters, bigger fish, and brighter prospects for future generations to enjoy a meaningful fishing experience.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing World Dec. NZ BayFisher # 27.	'Brighter prospects for marine ecosystems'. Strategies to rebuild marine ecosystems and local fisheries around the northeast coast, Gisborne and Hawke Bay were confirmed during a recent meeting held at the Gisborne Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club.
	Media release. NZSFC.	'Award winning fishing show a hit with safety conscious youngsters'. NZSFC celebrates the The Minstrel winning the outstanding contribution award at the 2014 Sealord New Zealand Water Safety Awards.
	Update. LegaSea The Adventurer # 1.	'Principles and standing up for our fishing future'. LegaSea was established in 2012 by the NZSFC to raise funds and increase public awareness of the need to secure more fish in the water. Our depleted marine fisheries need rebuilding to abundant levels for today and to ensure future generation can enjoy meaningful fishing experiences.
<b>Dec</b>	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 11th meeting. Discussed a draft timetable to achieve a management plan by mid-2015. NIWA to develop some simple yield calculations based on the parameters suggested by the Group. Results will be available at the February 2015 meeting. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable 7th meeting. Auckland. Agreed on a vision: Fish stocks in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park are productive, diverse and abundant. Goals and objectives to achieve that vision were debated over the 2-day meeting. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Minister for Primary Industries.	Four NZSFC reps met with Nathan Guy, Minister, and senior Ministry officials in Wellington. Discussed fisheries management and aligning processes with conservation efforts. Discussed having a series of meetings in 2015 to settle a new working relationship with MPI and the Minister. No meetings have eventuated. Recommendations made to NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Regional Recreational Fisheries Forum.	Regional Recreational Fisheries Forums meet nationwide. FMA 1 & 9 meeting on 9 December. Discussed upcoming CRA1 review, Sea Change spatial plan, Snapper 1 Strategic Plan progress, electronic monitoring of trawlers and recreational research projects. Two reps attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Seabird Advisory Group.	Seabird Advisory Group meeting. Wellington. Multi-stakeholder group chaired by DoC. Recreational fishers not well informed on seabird mitigation measures or release techniques. A release kit and procedure have been developed. Recreational groups asked to distribute this information. LegaSea working with Southern Seabird Solutions Trust and Forest & Bird to educate fishers.
	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Discussed results of evaluation of tagging project design for Snapper 1 and 8. Recommendations made to NZSFC. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 26.	Online newsletter. News medley: LegaSea respecting our fish and building communities. Free Fish Heads. FAQs. Strategies to rebuild local fisheries. Wastage in our fisheries. Innovation award for lightweight trawl system. Seabirds. Last minute gifts for family and friends.
	Newsletter. Gamefish Tagging News.	Gamefish Tagging News. There were 2263 fish tagged in the 2013-14 season including 647 kingfish, 346 mako sharks and 116 blue sharks. It was a poor season for billfish, both landed and tagged totals were down. There were 468 striped marlin tagged, down from 745 in 2012-13, 4 black marlin and just 9 blue marlin tagged and released.
	Quarterly reports.	Fisheries Management and LegaSea quarterly reports developed and distributed for NZSFC Zone meetings, delegates and Board meeting.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2014</b>		
Dec	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Dec.	'Recreational fishing is not part of the quota system'. A popular misconception is that all fishing is managed via quota and the quota management system. Truth is, quota is used to manage commercial fishing. Recreational fishing is managed outside the QMS, and daily bag and minimum size limits are used to control each individual's catch.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher # 28.	'Two reasons to celebrate LegaSea support'. LegaSea is celebrating the generosity of people and their vision to support an abundant fishery for future generations. Building LegaSea Hawkes Bay has been launched to address declining fisheries in the southeastern area.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing World Dec.	'5 Principles to rebuild our fisheries'. After a hard-out year many of us look forward to time on the water catching a fish, sharing that catch with family and friends, and importantly, enjoying the experience with our kids. To achieve success we need fish in the water.
	Update. LegaSea The Adventurer # 2.	Frequently Asked Questions about fisheries. As the spotlight turns on fisheries and marine protection issues people are questioning current management practices and seeking solutions. LegaSea has summarised a few snapper FAQs.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 35.	'Gut hooked fish are a dying waste'. There has been widespread discussion about the number of small snapper being caught in close off the northeast coast and whether the new 30cm minimum size limit is good for the fishery.
<b>2015</b>		
Jan	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Jan. NZ BayFisher # 29.	'Fishing smarter to avoid waste'. Since last year's rule changes there has been an increase in the numbers of gut hooked snapper being released. These fish will most likely die. This outcome goes against all notions of conservation and makes us feel bad when we watch those wasted fish floating away or being eaten by birds.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing World Jan. Pacific Powerboat.	Recreational fishing is not a waste. Summer is a hectic time of year for the LegaSea team as there are so many fund raising events, fishing contests and community gatherings to attend. It is such a buzz to see people enjoying the fishing, the camaraderie with their mates, and spending quality time with family.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 36. The Adventurer Feb.	Surprises in new recreational harvest survey. Over 4.5M snapper, 1.1M kahawai and 680,000 blue cod were caught and kept by recreational fishers during 2011-12. These are the 3 most popular marine species, by number, in New Zealand. Around 5.4 percent of all finfish catch was taken from charter vessels.
	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Review additional information to assess the preferred options and relative costs of the proposed Snapper 1 and 8 tagging project. Recommend NZSFC support the collection of fisheries independent data where possible. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
Feb	Meeting. Sea Change Roundtable - SWG handover.	Sea Change Fisheries Roundtable - SWG meeting, 2 days. Whitianga. Presentations and hand-over from 7 Roundtables to the Stakeholder Working Group. The SWG to compile the reports and write a strategic plan for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park by June 2015. Two reps attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 12th meeting. NZSFC keen to get a SNA1 biomass estimate sooner than the earliest projected time of 2019. Members agreed to develop fishery indicators to discuss at the next meeting. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea The Adventurer # 3.	Valuing recreational fishing. One of LegaSea's 5 Principles is to value recreational fishing. Our fishing supports a vast array of businesses, from charter operations, boat builders, tackle dealers, bait and ice suppliers and the assortment of fishing media.
	Submission. Rock lobster review	NZSFC submit a raft of measures to restore crayfish abundance, to ensure the public's needs are met, to mitigate the risk associated with low stock levels and to sustain the fishery for future generations. <b>Minister's decision:</b> Followed NRLMG advice to retain or increase commercial catch levels. Made allowances for non-commercial interests in CRA1 (Northland).
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 27.	Online newsletter. Fish dumping is not okay. TV One Breakfast interviewed LegaSea spokesperson, Scott Macindoe, to discuss fish dumping off the west coast. Footage of floating dead fish has gone viral online.

Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2015</b>		
Feb	Newsletter. Yellowtail Kingfish News.	Yellowtail Kingfish Newsletter. Five year warrant of fitness for kingfish stocks. Kingfish is an increasingly popular target species for recreational fishers and divers. This project is collecting kingfish length and age data to monitor recruitment and exploitation rates in 2014-15.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 37. NZ BayFisher # 32.	'Crayfish becoming exclusive property'. Crayfish may not be on everyone's catch list but they are a treasured meal when shared with family and friends. Not surprisingly they are also a valuable commercial species so when it comes to management there is always high interest in any catch increases.
	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Feb.	'Crayfish management under the spotlight'. Crayfish are a prized catch and important ecologically so it is critical we protect the fishery from over-exploitation. NZSFC has responded to proposals for several crayfish stocks.
Mar	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 13th meeting. Discussion on utilisation options for each sector. Updates from MPI. The SNA1 trawler camera trial data has been reviewed. The Group will receive the summary information from trials prior to the public release of the information in May. Two reps attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing World Mar NZ e-Fisher Mar.	'Exciting reappearance of yellowfin'. It seems that yellowing tuna are not gone forever from New Zealand waters. Dare we hope that this season is just the start of their return, or is this just a painful reminder of the superb fishery that has been lost?
	Update. LegaSea The Adventurer #5. NZ e-Fisher Apr. NZ BayFisher # 31 NZ Fishing World May	'Stop wasting our fish!' Fish dumping and unnecessary wastage in our fisheries has to stop, and many of you have the handiest tool to address it - your cellphone camera. Several trawlermen have revealed that dumping happens on every trawl. One skipper estimates 10-15 bins of undersized fish were thrown back dead after every trawl. The crew is required by law to discard undersized fish, but damaged or unmarketable fish are dumped as well.
	Meeting. Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group.	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Auckland. Boat traffic has declined from peaks in 2010-11. The average weight of snapper catch from the Hauraki Gulf has fallen, from around 7 kilos per trailer boat in 2011-12 to around 3.5kg per trip in 2013-14. NZSFC asked for the results to be included in the May Plenary reports. Results included in those reports. One rep attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Quarterly reports	Fisheries Management and LegaSea quarterly reports developed and distributed for NZSFC Zone meetings, delegates and Board meeting.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 38.	'Crayfish leftovers not good enough'. There are ongoing issues related to the management of our crayfish stocks that need to be addressed this year. Crayfish are a prized shellfish, a taonga, and we need to be sure that the public's long term interests are protected and we have reasonable access to our crayfish.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher 30. The Adventurer #6. Pacific Powerboat # 4.	'Increasing effort despite collapsing fishery'. Given the state of tuna stocks it is incredible that regional authorities have allowed more than 6000 industrial fishing vessels to target tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean. Fishing boats have flooded into this area over the last 20 years as stocks have declined in other oceans. At the same time New Zealand's tuna catch has collapsed.
Apr	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Review draft results for Kahawai 1 and Trevally 1 stock assessments. Review preliminary results of SNA1 measures, analyse for productivity gains. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 28.	Online newsletter. News medley: Speak up for Marlborough Sounds blue cod. Crayfish decision review. Tuna fishing increasing in the Pacific. Dumping and wastage must stop. Go Fuel Westhaven fishing classic.
	Update. LegaSea Club Marine # 1.	Introducing LegaSea: Who and what is LegaSea? What does LegaSea do? How is LegaSea funded? What has LegaSea achieved? What is Building LegaSea? What next? What can you do?
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 14th meeting. NIWA analysis of the effects of changing snapper size limits or fishing methods. Most changes made little difference to productivity. Work is ongoing. Two reps attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Auckland. Ongoing review of draft results for Kahawai 1 and Trevally 1 stock assessments. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.



Date	Description	Outcome
<b>2015</b>		
Apr	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 39.	'Unprecedented agreement in Marlborough fishery'. For the first time in 4 years management of Marlborough blue cod is being reviewed and LegaSea is encouraging recreational fishers to have their say on the future of this most prized fishery.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 15th meeting. Presentations: Bycatch issues in the snapper fishery. Effects of trawling on seabed communities and the role of snapper in the ecosystem. Two reps attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
May	Meeting. Northern Inshore Working Group.	Northern Inshore Working Group meeting. Wellington. Meeting to finalise Working Group reports for multiple stocks, including Kahawai 1, Snapper 7, Gurnard 1, Trevally 7. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. Kahawai Plenary.	Kahawai Plenary meeting. Wellington. Multi-stakeholder meeting to discuss results of recent stock assessment and agree on final Working Group report. Report to be finalised and distributed by MPI. One rep attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 29.	Online newsletter. LegaSea has joined forces with Matt Watson to be at the Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat Show from 14th to 17th May 2015, at the Auckland Show Grounds.
	Meeting. Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan.	Highly Migratory Species Fisheries Plan meeting. Auckland. Summary of season by stakeholders. Overall, average season for striped marlin, patchy on northeast coast, better than normal at 3 Kings and west coast. Encouraging numbers of yellowfin tuna. One representative attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group.	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 16th meeting. NIWA presentation on modelling of different minimum size limits and release mortality rates. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
Jun	Meeting. Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group	Marine Amateur Fisheries Working Group meeting. Auckland. Discussed projects: Developing performance indicators for recreational fishers and electronic self-reporting of recreational fishing. One rep attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher May. The Adventurer # 8.	'LegaSea Legends recognised'. LegaSea Legends is a new initiative that recognises people who are committed to fishing and conserving fish for future generations. One of the most encouraging aspects of the recent Boat Show was the willingness of people to talk and share their fishing experiences with us.
	Update. LegaSea NZ Fishing News # 40.	News medley. 1. Future management of Snapper 1. 2. Rebuilding inshore ecosystems. 3. Protecting spawning habitats. 4. Juvenile habitat protection. 5. Hauraki Gulf spatial plan. 6. Quick action required in Marlborough.
	Media release. Nationwide.	Ongoing celebrations for Supreme Court ruling. Recreational fishers are celebrating the 6th anniversary of the Supreme Court kahawai ruling that changed the fisheries management landscape in New Zealand.
	Meeting. Marlborough blue cod	Marlborough Sounds blue cod meeting. Blenheim. Discussed proposals for the future management of blue cod in the Marlborough Sounds and top of the South Island. Submissions close 30 June. One rep attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
	Meeting. SNA1 Strategy Group	Snapper 1 Strategy Group meeting. Auckland. 17th & 18th meetings. Discussed draft SNA1 Plan. Presentation of initial results from Precision Seafood Harvesting trials of new trawl gear. Two representatives attended for NZSFC. Report filed.
Jul	Newsletter. LegaSea Online # 30.	Online newsletter. Boat Show and giant tuna. Thanks to Matt Watson for selling a print of a giant tuna he caught and released in Nova Scotia. All auction proceeds were given to LegaSea. \$475. Thanks again Matt!
	Report. Kingfish monitoring.	Yellowtail kingfish monitoring report 2015. Report on national catches of kingfish and advice on how to measure and tag a fish for release.
	Update. LegaSea NZ e-Fisher Jun.	'Restoring abundance by reducing waste'. Snapper is the species most often targeted by recreational anglers in NZ. In 2012 nationwide amateur harvest of snapper was estimated to be 4811 tonnes, more than the combined harvest of 9 other species.
	Update. LegaSea NZ BayFisher # 33.	'Recreational fishing parks a distraction'. Prior to last year's election National surprised us when they announced a policy to introduce 2 recreational fishing parks, one in the inner Hauraki Gulf and another in Marlborough Sounds.
	Quarterly reports	Fisheries Management and LegaSea quarterly reports developed and distributed for NZSFC Zone meetings, delegates and Board meeting.
	Submission. Marlborough blue cod review	Joint recreational submission from 4 groups. Submit in favour of a more abundant blue cod fishery and fair access to the available fish. <b>Minister's decision:</b> Will be announced prior to 20 December 2015.







# NATIONALS 2016

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