Today’s presentation

- Existing HGMP commercial fishing restrictions
- Synopsis of the seafood industry in the HGMP
- Quota ownership and its value to the industry and Maori
The role of the QMS

- The QMS is an output control that limits total commercial catches
- The QMS replaced ineffective effort controls
- Many existing HGMP commercial fishing restrictions are no longer necessary – they are relics of an abandoned system of effort controls
HGMP effort controls no longer relevant for sustainability reasons

- Vessel size restrictions.
- Method restrictions (Trawling and Danish seining) prohibited in inner Gulf.
- Pair trawling and pair Danish seining prohibited in certain waters of the Hauraki Gulf
- Maximum size/length of Danish seine net
- Maximum length of drag net or beach seine net
- Only hand hauling of drag net or beach seine net allowed
- Maximum length of set net
Early origins of HG trawl restriction
Effects of the unnecessary effort restrictions

- Inefficiency with increased costs to commercial operators
- Increased cost to consumer
- Significant benefit to recreational fishers
  - Much higher abundance of snapper in the inner Hauraki Gulf
  - An increasing recreational catch but with increased risks to sustainability as this catch is not capped
Snapper catch (tonnes) inside Cape Colville to Cape Rodney

![Graph showing snapper catch data for commercial (2010-11) and recreational (2004/05)](image-url)
The HGMP commercial fishery

The main fishery throughout HGMP,
(where vessels are allowed to operate)

- Longline – catch is 90+% snapper
- Danish seine – catch is 80+% snapper
- Trawl – catch is about 70% snapper

Most common bycatch species:
- gurnard
- John dory
- trevally

At least half of the catch destined for local market
Also a discrete fishery operates in the innermost Hauraki Gulf waters on a much smaller scale:

Small vessels use set nets and other netting methods

- 65% of catch is flatfish and kahawai
- 25% of catch is grey mullet, snapper, rig and parore

This catch largely destined for local market
A third component of the fishery occurs in outer HGMP waters

- Rock lobster and scallops
- Trawling and lining for a more diverse range of finfish found in deeper waters including:
  - snapper
  - bluenose
  - cardinal fish
  - gemfish
  - tarakihi
The commercial fishery overall

- Snapper is the economic mainstay of the commercial fishery in the HGMP
- Without snapper, the finfish fishery would be uneconomic
- The inshore fishery is vital to Hauraki Gulf communities such as Leigh, Coromandel and Whitianga
Value of HGMP fishery

- Landed value (port price) of 2010-11 finfish catch exceeds $17M
- Wholesale value of finfish catch $40M
- HGMP snapper catch = 1/3 of NZ wide catch
- Snapper most valuable inshore finfish export
- 1/3 of NZ wide snapper catch goes to domestic market, much of this in Auckland/Waikato regions
Aquaculture

- Mussel and oyster farming throughout HGMP waters, but most development in the Coromandel district

- Recent economic impact studies show:
  - $28M_{2004}$ contribution to Auckland region GDP
  - $31.4_{2010-11}$ contribution to Waikato region GDP
  - more than 900 FTEs in employment, most from processing sector
  - significant growth potential
Summary of HGMP seafood industry benefits

- Contribution to regional and national economy
- Employment, of particular importance to smaller coastal communities
- Fresh seafood for the 80+% of the public that do not/can not fish recreationally
- Significant benefits to hospitality industry, tourism sector and social fabric of the region
Quota ownership

- Property rights create the right incentives
  - 25 years of experience shows that the QMS has performed exactly as economic theory predicts
  - fosters resource stewardship by quota owners
  - stakeholders are investing in research, enhancement and development to protect and increase the value of their asset
Value of quota

- A major commercial asset due to the security it gives each commercial operator
- Acquisition of quota represents a major investment by many fishing businesses
- Quota value attributable to HGMP = $130M
- Snapper quota value attributable to HGMP = $100M+
Quota and Treaty Settlement

- Quota is a core part of the Maori fisheries settlement
- Hauraki, Ngati Whatua and Tainui are all active in the seafood industry
- Iwi fishing businesses in HGMP area have invested heavily in the inshore and aquaculture sectors
Protecting quota value

- The value of quota represents the long term benefits of secure access to the commercial fishery.
- Quota is a key part of the Maori Fisheries Settlement.
- Quota value underpins investment in the industry.
- Health of the resource underpins quota value.
- Quota owners want policy and decision makers to respect their property rights.
Many existing commercial fishing restrictions in the HGMP are redundant as sustainability measures, - the QMS has replaced the need for them.

However, while they are no longer necessary for their original purpose, recreational fishers now benefit from them.

Commercial fishing and aquaculture make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of the region.

Quota property rights in the HGMP have a value of $130M and represent a substantial industry asset deserving of appropriate recognition.
Two concluding comments

- The greatest long term benefit to the marine environment from integrated management under the HGMP Act will come from better management of the effects of land use.

- Fishery management requires real expertise and understanding - it is the role of fishery managers under the Fisheries Act.