

# Fisheries Management

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Annual Report 2020-21



NZSFC Directory

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT MARINE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (FMMP)

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NZSFC INCORPORATED

**Patron** – John Chibnall

**Executive President** – Bob Gutsell

**Vice Presidents** – Peter Campbell and Ian Steele

ADMINISTRATION

CEO – Steven Stanford

Admin Officer – Helen Pastor

Auditor – PKF Kerikeri Ltd

Records Officer – Pete Saul

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bob Gutsell

Peter Campbell

Ian Steele

Pete Saul – Zone 1

Lewis Avenell – Zone 2

Warren Maher – Zone 3

Vance Fulton – Zone 4

Wayne Bicknell – Zone 5

Ken Barry – Zone 6

Mark Connor – Zone 7

Ross Lucas – Zone 8

Mark Hemmingway – IGFA/Life members

Scott Macindoe – Co-opted

Richard Baker – Co-opted

BY THE NUMBERS

Member clubs – 55

Affiliated members – 37,220

Life members – 13

Zone Board representatives – 8

IGFA approved representatives – 8

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He herenga waka he whitiwhiti whakaaro he whitiwhiti korero e u ko te marama

Whenever canoes are tied up together, thoughts are exchanged, dialogue is exchanged and enlightenment comes forth.

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Attendees at the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, hosted by the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, Paihia. Covid-19 restricted attendance numbers in 2020.





# President's Report

## NEW ZEALAND SPORT FISHING COUNCIL

### Bob Gutsell, NZSFC President



The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council is the largest mandated organisation representing recreational fishing interests in New Zealand. We were originally formed in 1957 as the New Zealand Big Game Fishing Council. We have evolved to provide a focal point for the 37,000 members of our 55 affiliated clubs. But mention the name of our organisation and it often triggers a response along the lines of, "Oh we're not really into fishing for records or anything like that, we just like catching a feed."

What you don't see from our name is that we advocate for the wider community's interests in having abundant fish stocks and a vibrant marine environment. We do this by active participation and input into a myriad of policy, management, science, and legal processes.

We created [LegaSea](#) in 2012 to take our ambitions and policies to the wider public of New Zealand. To inform them of the burgeoning fisheries crises, and to provide a platform for the public to support our work.

Our Council creates and gives life to policy that represents the clubs and members' collective view of what we believe is the right thing to do.

Last year we released our no scallop dredging policy. Not long afterwards I was interviewed about the policy on talkback radio, then the Opito Bay Ratepayers Association reached out for help to address the depletion of scallops around the Coromandel. From that came the Opito Bay citizen science scallop survey project, and a rāhui by Ngāti Hei and voluntary ban on scallop harvesting from Opito Bay last summer. Ngāti

Hei has since applied for a formal closure on a much larger area of the eastern Coromandel. We expect a Ministerial decision soon.

Similarly, the announcement of our hāpuku-bass policy was well received by none other than Fisheries Inshore NZ, the representative organisation for inshore commercial fishers. Over the past decade their annual allowable catch limits have halved. After expressing our collective concerns to Fisheries NZ, we now have the hāpuku management areas around most of the North Island under review. Our agreed policy will guide our submission in response.

New Zealand's Quota Management System is often described as "world leading". But when the system fails, it fails cataclysmically. We see this time and again, with scallops, crayfish, tarakihi and now hāpuku and bass, as recent examples.

The Council has developed Rescue Fish as an alternative to the current management system. We believe the implementation of Rescue Fish will help to deliver the "holy grail" of leaving more fish in the water and putting more money in the pockets of those who actually fish for their livelihood.

More recently, the unlicensed commercial fishery of pink maomao was uncovered on the Coromandel east coast. Our 2019 policy formed the backbone of our approach to the Government, to limit recreational catch to stop the unlicensed sale of the fish.

We have other things we're working on too.

Communities frustrated by Fisheries NZ's ongoing failure to act have resorted to using the [Resource Management Act \(RMA\)](#) for purposes that it's not intended for – banning fishing from large swathes of marine waters.

Just recently the reefs surrounding Mōtītī Island in the Bay of Plenty were closed off for at least the next 10 years because of an Environmental Court decision. Our Council is heavily engaged in the Environment Court proceedings that are considering a similar closure in the Bay of Islands.

The NZSFC is strongly objecting to any closures using the RMA in this manner. No doubt there will be other occurrences of this RMA silliness to deal with before that legislation is replaced.

Finally, the Government has announced its response to the Sea Change plan for the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. They couldn't have got it more wrong if they tried. In the Revitalising the Gulf plan their answer to decades of depletion and unrelenting habitat destruction is 11

marine reserves that permit customary fishing, meanwhile trawling and dredging can continue. And, the future of purse seining in the Marine Park depends on the outcome of a forage fish evaluation. Clearly, we have work to do to get this plan back on track to implement the previously agreed Sea Change plan.

So, we might be called the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council but there is more substance to us than what you might think. I encourage you to read this report to better appreciate what we are doing to both advocate for abundant fisheries and to protect access to fishing in your part of New Zealand's coastline, then please think about how you can help.



# Chairman's Report

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

### INTRODUCTION

#### Lewis Avenell, NZSFC FMMP Chair



What an epic year it's been. I am grateful to the unwavering support of our Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee (FMMP), all of whom are volunteers, for the countless hours they do

and their dedication to restoring the abundance of our inshore marine environment and ensuring future generations get a fair go.

Over the past year our FMMP team has included Bob Gutsell, Peter Campbell, Mark Connor, Ken Barry, Scott Macindoe, Richard Baker, Wayne Bicknell, Vance Fulton, Dirk Sieling, Jim Yeoman and Andy Stewart.

We are privileged to have Jim Yeoman co-opted to the team. Jim is President of the New Zealand Angling & Casting Association and a spokesperson for LegaSea Hawkes Bay. His regional, grassroots perspective is invaluable when advocating for abundant inshore fish stocks.

Andy Stewart has also been co-opted onto the team, contributing as an Executive Board member of the New Zealand Underwater Association. He sits alongside John Holdsworth on the National Rock Lobster Management Group – invaluable input.

In 2020-21 our contractors included John Holdsworth, Pete Saul, Barry Torkington, Trish Rea, Momoko Burgess, Glen Carbines, Stuart Ryan (legal) and Rowan Ashton (legal).

### RESCUE FISH

The Council launched the [Rescue Fish](#) policy in May 2020. We also launched a concurrent campaign to raise public awareness of the challenges facing fisheries reform in Aotearoa,

and to introduce an alternative to the Quota Management System. [The Price of Fish](#) documentary was aired on TV3 in late July and made available 'on demand' afterwards. The documentary was well received, attracting 260,000 views in just four weeks. Recently the documentary reached over 40,000 views on YouTube.

On review, the Rescue Fish policy has not gathered the support we would have expected by now. It has been over a year since our last research, so in May we commissioned independent research to measure the public's views on our major streams of messaging: bottom trawling and rebuilding depleted fish stocks. The results confirm these issues are still important to the public.

The New Zealand public support our three policies:

- 65% support banning bottom trawling and dredging from coastal waters.
- 73% support reducing overall catch levels to restore fish populations to 50% to 60% of their unfished biomass.
- 72% support amendments to the Fisheries Act to apply a precautionary principle with the aim of rebuilding fish populations.

These results are encouraging. Work now needs to go into repackaging the messaging to describe how Rescue Fish is relevant to regional and local communities.

### RESCUE FISH CASE STUDY

The depletion of the [Coromandel scallop fishery](#) is a good example of systemic failure at a local level. Opito Bay scallops is a localised issue with strong community and iwi/hapū support for a rebuild yet no effective tools are available to address ongoing dredging in the Bay. The overallocated TACC is fuelling unbridled commercial dredging

in the search for the remaining brood stock, and there has been years of mismanagement by officials.

The Council's response to helping the Coromandel community address scallop depletion in Opito Bay has proven to be a prime opportunity to demonstrate the value of Rescue Fish reforms to smaller communities.

### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT (RMA)

Over the past year Bob Gutsell, Vance Fulton, John Holdsworth, Barry Torkington, Scott Macindoe and Dirk Sieling have continued to work on [RMA issues](#) with our legal counsel, Rowan Ashton.

The first issue to arise was in the Bay of Plenty. After a lengthy legal process marine spatial provisions to establish and protect three Mōtiti Protection Areas within the Mōtiti Natural Environment Management Area have now been included in the Bay of Plenty Coastal Environmental Plan (RCEP). These provisions came into effect on 11 August 2021.

Forest & Bird, with other parties, have appealed the Northland Regional Council's decision not to ban a range of fishing methods to protect marine indigenous biodiversity in the Proposed Regional Plan for Northland under the RMA. A mediation hearing was held and fishing interests were given the opportunity to submit a counter proposal. A counter proposal was submitted to the Forest & Bird legal team. This proposal was rejected.

Rowan Ashton led our Council's response to the proposals during the Environment Court hearings held in Whangarei over three weeks in July and August this year. The proposals include no take areas from Deep Water Cove to Oke Bay in the Bay of Islands, and around an extended Mimiwhangata Marine Park. A decision is expected in early 2022.



It is important the Council continues to participate in these appeals in a representative role for the many recreational fishers who will be potentially affected by these marine area closures, because once a precedent is set under the RMA, Regional Councils may identify and close many Significant Ecological Areas to all fishing.

Our legal team is also developing submissions in response to the proposed legislation, the Natural and Built Environments Bill, drafted to replace the Resource Management Act.

### WHAT NEXT

After three years as Chair of the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee it is time for me to step aside. Mark Connor has stepped up to chair the Committee. I will remain on the Committee and continue to add value where I can. Thank you to everyone who supports this important work to ensure a fair outcome for all Kiwis who have an interest in the marine environment.

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## 40,000

views of *The Price of Fish* documentary

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## 65%

of New Zealanders want bottom trawling banned

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## \$60,000

spent on RMA proceedings

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# Committee Report

## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT MARINE PROTECTION

### INTRODUCTION

Demands on the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee and contractor team continue to grow as issues become more complex and as we broaden our participation in the realms of policy, scientific, fisheries and environmental working groups.

In summary we report the following achievements over the past 12 months:

- Participation in 140 forums, working group meetings and hui.
- 10 substantial submissions completed.
- 4 comprehensive Quarterly reports distributed.
- Attended hearings and provided substantive evidence to Environment Court hearings on proposed marine protected areas promoted under the Resource Management Act.
- Confirmed new policies for bronze whaler sharks, hāpuku/bass, spatial planning/RMA applications and scallop dredging.

### GAMEFISH UPDATE

Once again, NZSFC affiliated members did not allow Covid-19 restrictions to dampen their enthusiasm for getting out on the water over summer and making some spectacular catches. Despite some disruption, marlin catch rates were up on the west coast. There were some nice catches of yellowfin tuna around the north and east coasts of the North Island, and swordfish showed up later in the season.

NZSFC club weighstation records are a useful resource for research and advocacy. There was some online discussion early in 2021 about whether tag and release of marlin was worthwhile. This year there have been some interesting recaptures and data recorded for tagged billfish provides a much more complete record for this fishery.

There were at least five tagged striped marlin recaptured this season. Australian anglers have tagged over 30,000 striped marlin since 1975 and on 6 Feb 2021 we recorded the first Australian striped marlin recaptured in New Zealand. It was caught off the Manukau Harbour and had been at liberty for 17 months. A stripey tagged off the Poor Knights in January 2019 was recaptured two years and one day later off Ahipara weighing 122kg. Short term recaptures were also reported, one off the Hokianga after 7 days and the other at the King Bank after 28 days. A tagged marlin moved from the west coast to the east coast in 79 days. This fish was tagged off Hokianga on 5 Feb 2021 and recaptured off the Nine Pin, Bay of Islands. There was a sixth tagged marlin caught but the tag could not be retrieved before the hook pulled, and a swordfish was recaptured in April 2021 after 36 days at liberty off Cape Karikari. Tag recaptures can now be reported online at [fishtagnz.co.nz](https://fishtagnz.co.nz)

A new stock assessment for southwest Pacific swordfish was reviewed in August 2021. The model predicts the stock to have gradually declined from the 1950s to the mid-1990s before rapidly declining to an overall low point near 2010. Current stock status is estimated to be at a similar level as the overall low with a declining trend in the 4 years to 2019. This fits with the decline in catch rates in the NZ recreational and commercial fisheries. However, 2021 was a better year with good catches in April and May.

This year has been another good season for sport fishers chasing southern bluefin tuna. Fish have been caught from Hawke Bay up to the northern Bay of Plenty. Cape Runaway fished well when the weather allowed. There were some solid bluefin tuna across the Waihou Bay weigh station this year. In 2021 the best catch rates out from Waihou Bay were in the last week of June and first week of July. The annual commercial catch for southern bluefin will end up at about 700 tonnes from the 1,046 tonne TACC.

### ROCK LOBSTER MANAGEMENT

The Council continues to advocate for the removal of all concessions permitting the [commercial harvest of rock lobster](#) below the recreational minimum legal size. Current concessions apply in CRA 3 (Gisborne), CRA 7 (Otago) and CRA 8 (Southland).

There has been extensive modeling work to develop new rock lobster management targets over the last two years. The results are estimates of Maximum Sustainable Yield for each stock. The Council has been advocating for adopting an ecosystem approach with higher abundance and slightly less yield.

The new rules affecting recreational harvest of crayfish in CRA 2 (Hauraki Gulf-Bay of Plenty) and CRA 5 (Marlborough-Canterbury) have applied since July 2020. In CRA 2 the Council and NZ Underwater supported the recreational daily bag limit reduction from 6 to 3, to assist with the rebuild. In CRA 5 an accumulation limit of 3 daily bag limits now applies.

Telson clipping applies to all recreationally harvested crayfish in CRA 2 and CRA 5. The Council continues to advocate that telson clipping is unnecessary as it is ineffective at limiting illegal harvest.

### SOUTH ISLAND ENGAGEMENT

A big year for engagement on South Island issues.

In August 2020 the Council submitted in response to proposals for extensive marine protected areas around the southeast coast. In December the Department of Conservation advised they had received 4056 submissions in response to the proposals. They would summarise the submissions and provide advice to the Ministers of Conservation and Fisheries. No further updates have been received.

In terms of species management, submissions were made in response to proposals for the future management of pāua, snapper, kingfish, tarakihi, crayfish, elephant fish, moki, leatherjacket, red gurnard and rig.

The Council continues to support the Kaikōura Boating and Recreational Fishing Club in their advocacy efforts to restore and maintain reasonable public access to the [pāua fishery](#).

There has been mixed feedback on our Snapper 7 submission supporting the South Island stakeholder working group's recommendation of a 100 tonne increase to the total allowable commercial catch (TACC). While the 100 tonne TACC increase was not as conservative as what we might have ordinarily submitted, our team considered it was important to support local Marlborough and Nelson interests in this stock. The stock is expected to increase over time even allowing for the increased catch levels.

Implementation of the National Blue Cod Strategy and unfair rules applying to recreational fishing of [blue cod around the east coast](#) has caused major rifts. The traffic light system specifies different catch limits depending on the area fished. In July we worked closely with Canterbury clubs to gather over 1400 submissions in support of the need for the Minister to set aside the unfair rules that limit recreational fishers to 2 per person, per day, in areas where trawl fishing occurs.

### CUSTOMARY FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

Our team continues to be actively involved in, and encouraging of, fisheries management by mana whenua and their local communities. Mana whenua have kaitiaki (guardianship) obligations that are recognised with the authority to apply customary management tools (rāhui, mātaimai, taiāpure, and 2-year closures) to manage species, harvesting and area controls.

In the past year we have submitted in support of rāhui and seven applications by mana whenua for a 2-year temporary closure of their local fisheries or areas. These areas include [Whangaroa](#), [Thames](#), [Bay of Islands](#), [Waiheke](#), [Coromandel east coast](#), [Waimarama](#), Hawke's Bay and [Ōmāui, Southland](#).

We continue to work alongside the Bay of Islands Swordfish Club, Spearfishing NZ and other community groups to support the bylaw banning mussel harvesting in the Te Puna Mātaitai, Bay of Islands. Kaitiaki of the Mātaitai are deeply concerned about mussel depletion, and consulted widely on the need to give the mussel stock a chance to recover. The bylaw has applied since February 2020 and will remain in place until revoked.

## SCALLOPS

In late 2020 the Council worked with mana whenua Ngāti Hei and a wide group of community organisations to address concerns about scallop depletion off the east coast of the Coromandel Peninsula in the Hauraki Gulf. There are only two active commercial scallop fisheries left in the country, Northland and Coromandel. The South Island scallop fishery has been closed to all harvesting for the past five years.

In December 2020 the Council agreed to support a snapshot survey of scallop abundance in Opito Bay, Coromandel. The Coromandel community rallied to support the survey. Our local clubs including Tairua-Pauanui SFC, Mercury Bay GFC, Matarangi and Whangamata actively supported Dive Zone Whitianga who generously contributed their time, effort and resources to complete the scallop survey over the 2020-21 summer.

A total of 1571 scallops were measured during the survey. Survey findings:

- Only 36% were found to be at or above the 100mm recreational minimum legal size.

- In the commercially fished area there was one scallop 100mm or larger every 26.8 sq.m.
- In the recreational only area, there was one legal sized scallop every 9.5 sq.m.
- Compared to previous surveys, there were very few scallops smaller than 60mm. This could mean fewer legal scallops in 2022 and 2023.

Local groups strongly supported the rāhui announced by Ngāti Hei in December, banning the harvest of scallops from Opito Bay. A voluntary ban on recreational harvest was well respected over the summer. The Minister of Oceans and Fisheries, David Parker, has been asked to approve a [2-year temporary closure](#) to all scallop harvesting from the Ngāti Hei rohe which extends from Cuvier Island down to Opoutere, Coromandel. After an unreasonably long delay, a decision is still pending.

This work has been important in raising awareness amongst hapū and local communities that the Quota Management System is not adequately serving local interests in fisheries and marine management. This is evidenced by the reality that commercial catches have averaged 45% of the TACC over the past five years. Rescue Fish is an alternative that will, over time, restore fish abundance and marine biodiversity.

## WEST COAST SNAPPER

[Snapper on the North Island's west coast](#) is rebuilding from a low base of around 7% of unfished biomass in the 1980s. It has taken 33 years to rebuild to an estimated 54% of its natural size. This year Fisheries New Zealand proposed to increase the total allowable commercial catch (TACC) by either 23, 50, 75 or 100%. We submitted in support of no TACC increase this year and another review in three year's time. We remain hopeful that the Minister will make a conservative decision.

The Council has contributed to the science working groups and monitoring of the SNA 8 fishery for many years. This year the Minister was reviewing several related stocks so the Council responded with a joint submission discussing snapper, hāpuku/bass and gurnard. A successful public awareness campaign by LegaSea in July generated over 9,400 submissions in support of our stance.

Our concern is that a TACC increase will see more trawling and benthic damage, with no specific proposals to measure the impacts on other vulnerable stocks such as gurnard, trevally, tarakihi, john dory and juvenile hāpuku.

Snapper 8 is the second largest snapper fishery in New Zealand, encompassing trawl exclusion zones created to protect māui dolphin. We support the Minister extending the trawl exclusion zone to 4nm off the coast from Maunganui Bluff to Tiriparepa/Scott Point to enable Māori customary and recreational fishers in the Far North to benefit from the rebuild of

Snapper 8. Ideally, the no-trawl zone would be extended to span all of SNA 8 so that people fishing from Taranaki to Kapiti could also benefit from a more abundant snapper fishery.

# 36%

of surveyed scallops were legal size

# 5

tagged striped marlin recaptured this season

# 33

years to rebuild the west coast snapper stock



Dive Zone Whitianga commencing the Opito Bay scallop survey, December 2020.



# Policy Development

NZSFC

## LEADERSHIP THROUGH POLICY

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council has a rich history of fisheries policy development and implementation.

Being a national organisation there are inevitable differences in fishing conditions between the north and south so achieving consensus can be challenging. However, we will not shy away from finding solutions because it is important for the Council to show leadership.

As our input and participation expands into a wide range of processes and as we engage with external service providers, having fresh, relevant and science based policies gives strength to our advocacy efforts.

### NO SHORTCUTS

There are no shortcuts. Our process to achieve ratification and acceptance of our fisheries policies is robust.

Each policy is framed as a motion for consideration at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). Council clubs or the Board must propose and distribute a motion at least 60 days prior to the AGM.

To ensure good understanding, complex issues are accompanied by a discussion paper. Feedback from clubs, delegates and affiliated members is encouraged.

Delegates arrive at the AGM fully briefed by their clubs on how to vote. Amendments may arise during the AGM and these are discussed, then adopted or rejected.

The thorough process prior to the AGM leads to a relatively easy passage for the majority of motions to be adopted unanimously.

The policies remain effective unless amended or deleted in future years.

## AGM OUTCOMES

At the September 2018 AGM the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council confirmed its support for the research and study of fisheries management systems that will deliver abundant fisheries and a diverse marine environment.

Since this resolution the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee has overseen the development of our most ambitious project – the Rescue Fish policy and ongoing campaign.

### AGM 2019

In 2019 the following fisheries related policies were adopted:

1. National policy on rock lobster fisheries.
2. Southern bluefin tuna policy.
3. Marlin policy, amendment.
4. National policy on broadbill swordfish.
5. Catch shares policy.
6. Policy on a peak body for recreational fishing interests.
7. Added protections for pink maomao.

### AGM 2020

Notable policies adopted in 2020:

1. Hāpuku and bass policy.
2. Bronze whaler policy.
3. Spatial planning, marine protected areas, Resource Management Act area closure applications policy.
4. Scallop dredging policy.

These policies are non-binding however, this thorough approach to policy development and implementation gives the member clubs and affiliates the confidence that they have the support of the Council.

*‘Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.’*

Margaret Mead (1901-1978)

# Income and Expenditure



NZFSC

	30/06/17	30/06/18	30/06/19	30/06/20	30/06/21	Notes
SOURCE OF FUNDS	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	
Affiliated club member levies	70000	70000	80000	95000	95000	
LegaSea donations – Budgeted	100000	120000	140000	160000	160000	
Grant income – Budgeted	58000	0	10000	20000	40000	
<b>Fisheries Management Budget</b>	<b>228000</b>	<b>190000</b>	<b>230000</b>	<b>275000</b>	<b>295000</b>	
LegaSea donations (under or over budget)	313	1379	5219	-26552	-18609	1
Grant income (under or over budget)	-53066	0	0	-20000	-30870	2
<b>Total Fisheries Management Income</b>	<b>175247</b>	<b>191379</b>	<b>235219</b>	<b>228448</b>	<b>245521</b>	
EXPENDITURE						
<b>Sustainability and management processes</b>						
Snapper	18155	46	375	3243	12019	
Crayfish	19351	12905	12167	4931	1911	
Pelagics	1510	6016	9995	3543	4520	
Other fisheries	5137	15799	18644	20132	33625	3
<b>Total Sustainability and Management processes</b>	<b>44153</b>	<b>34766</b>	<b>41181</b>	<b>31849</b>	<b>52075</b>	
FNZ processes and political engagement	72390	74558	22780	25372	31452	4
Rescue Fish	0	0	125169	104491	62148	
Policy development and Council attendance	19720	21042	12541	9588	19825	
Hokianga Accord/Symposium	2579	4343	158	0	0	
Marine protection, RMA and spatial planning	6864	4328	7111	30770	64109	5
Regional issues	6371	3019	7142	1439	23594	
Reporting and public awareness	35072	24708	18236	18090	19856	
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>187149</b>	<b>166764</b>	<b>234318</b>	<b>221599</b>	<b>273059</b>	
<b>Surplus/deficit</b>	<b>(-11902)</b>	<b>24615</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>6849</b>	<b>(27538)</b>	
Unspent LegaSea Contributions Reserve	1689	26304	2,205	34054	6516	

1. Budgeted to receive \$160,000 public and unaffiliated club contributions through LegaSea, received \$141,391.
2. Grant of \$9130 received from Opito Bay Residents and Ratepayers to support the scallop restoration project.
3. This includes \$21,967 invested in the Opito Bay scallop restoration project and rāhui, of which \$8,082 was spent on the dive survey science coordination and report.
4. Including \$13,769 for National Rock Lobster Management Group participation and \$2,250 for contributions to the Rock Lobster Science Working Group.
5. Responding to the Bay of Islands Environment Court case cost \$59,543 with approximately another \$40,000 expenditure for y/e June 2022.

# Annual Report

## LEGASEA

### INTRODUCTION

#### Sam Woolford, LegaSea project lead



Over the past nine years LegaSea has successfully raised public awareness of the many issues affecting our coastal fisheries. As a result of this effort, it has been heartening to have gained the confidence

and support of many organisations and trusted brands in New Zealand.

We are grateful for the support of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, delegates, affiliated and non-affiliated clubs. Having this solid platform helps to attract and hold a high performance team committed to more fish in the water and a fair go for future generations.

### GOVERNANCE

The LegaSea Governance Advisory Standing Committee (LGAS) has included both LegaSea Directors Mark Connor and Peter Campbell, as well as Bob Gutsell, Scott Macindoe, Richard Baker, Lewis Avenell, Ross Lucas and Dirk Sieling.

Contractors who have generously shared their expertise over the past year include Simon Yates, Pieter Battaerd, Louise O'Sullivan, Jess Beetham, Momoko Burgess, Benn Winlove, Dallas Abel and Trish Rea.

It is also important to acknowledge our guiding lights, the brains trust who we look to for expert advice and wisdom. The Fisheries Management Standing Committee, Barry Torkington who generously offers sage guidance and the occasional straightener when required. We also acknowledge Paul Barnes who sadly passed away in late 2020. He was the originator of option4 and showed us the value of having clear principles to guide all activity. Paul's clarity and

depth of understanding of all fish matters is sorely missed. However, his legacy will live on in our hearts and minds. Haere, haere, haere.

### PUBLIC AWARENESS

Changes demanded by the response to avoid a Covid-19 crisis meant many events over the past year were cancelled or scaled back. Our digital team leader Benn Winlove has stepped up, leading us into the online world of webinars, zoom meetings and collaborations. As our expertise and confidence grows our team is engaging more naturally and often in this online space.

Interest in our campaigns and messages continues to rise. Over the past year we have successfully published 58 print articles, 29 digital newsletters, 8 media releases and a range of one-off material on request.

We are grateful for the commitment of our print partners to help us raise public awareness of the challenges facing us and the continuing decline of our fish stocks. Our communication partners include [Monster Print](#), [NZ Fishing Media](#) (NZ Fishing News), [NZ Bay Fisher](#), [The Adventurer](#) and Dive New Zealand.

### FINANCES

#### Public donations

The advent of our Rescue Fish policy has given people the confidence to invest in our work. The rise in recurring donations is a good indicator of the widespread support and desire of Kiwis to see real change in fisheries management. We have a long-standing policy that 100% of public and unaffiliated club donations to LegaSea are distributed to the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. These distributions are tagged specifically for investment in the Advocacy,

Research, Education and Alignment work streams. Any unspent monies are accumulated in a reserve. As of 30th June 2021 the reserve is \$22,000.

#### Platinum and Gold Partners

We are humbled by the commitment of our [existing Partners](#) to stick with us during the past tumultuous year. We have also enjoyed some great growth in Partners, with nine new partners joining us in the last 12 months. We are encouraged by the number of our Partners asking us "what more can we do to help?" and how comfortable they are working alongside each other. Si Yates takes most of the responsibility in running our Partner programme, he is pleased that we have tagged them with the description "Partners" because that's exactly what they are.

#### Grant seeking

Jess Beetham is our lead on grant seeking. Her versatility is much appreciated as she is able to skillfully manage grant applications for LegaSea, Kai Ika, our educational projects, and for our partners who need a helping hand. In the past year we have secured over \$690,000 in grants, with some spanning multi-year projects, several Covid related projects and debt reduction. Regular accountability reports are produced for funders and supporters.

#### Campaigns

With the objective of improving Kiwi kids' knowledge of species found in our coastal waters we have collaborated with a team of experts to develop a Kiwiana version of the quintessential kids card game 'Go Fish' called [Hi Ika](#). Hi Ika is a bilingual game using Te Reo Māori for the names of the fish, and providing a description of each species.



In the advocacy realm, we have managed successful campaigns to elevate public awareness of management issues relating to snapper, blue cod, scallops, crayfish and tarakihi. Promoting the [Rescue Fish](#) policy has had its challenges over the past year particularly because we have been limited in our ability to have public meetings. As more people realise there are problems with existing management, and that Rescue fish is a viable alternative to address fish depletion and biodiversity loss, we are gathering momentum.

Thank you to everyone for their ongoing support for these important initiatives.





# Rescue Fish



## WHAT IS RESCUE FISH?

[Rescue Fish](#) is a practical and affordable alternative to the failing Quota Management System. It is a comprehensive policy that offers a pathway to a more productive marine environment capable of sustaining abundant fish stocks.

It is a collaboration by a team of people who between them have over 200 years experience in fisheries and environmental management, policy development, political and public relations.

The Rescue Fish policy traverses three core streams: the status quo, how we got here, and what is possible with wholesale policy reform.

Our challenge is to get sufficient support for widespread reform from politicians, Māori fishing interests and the public.

Since 2018 the team have worked with a range of experts to develop strategies to help amass the necessary support for reform. Sam Woolford and Trish Rea have led this effort on behalf of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council. Progress has been slow due to the complexity of the issues that need addressing, the lack of meaningful interest in reform by officials, and the limited availability of Sam and Trish. To progress this project, renewed effort is now going into repurposing the material so it is digestible by a wider range of people.

## THIS YEAR IN RESCUE FISH

LegaSea launched Rescue Fish in May 2020. This was followed in July by the release of the documentary [The Price of Fish](#). The documentary was watched by hundreds of thousands of Kiwis. It exposes the fatal flaws of current management and leads people to consider the prospects of a more durable system that will enable all Kiwis to benefit from the use of New Zealand's marine resources and was so popular that it was rescreened by TV3.

We relaunched Rescue Fish in August when the documentary was available for wider public release. It has since reached 40,000 views on YouTube.

Since late 2020, the team has focused its efforts on localised issues that highlight the challenges that Rescue Fish seeks to address. These issues include bottom trawling in mixed finfish fisheries, inequitable access to important fish stocks, and the lack of meaningful constraints on destructive fishing techniques in coastal waters.

Banning bottom trawling and dredging are simple messages that the public are keen to support so we will be using new engagement opportunities to promote other Rescue Fish principles over the next year.

Rescue Fish will benefit all New Zealanders. ***Please, if you haven't already done so, go to [rescuefish.co.nz](https://rescuefish.co.nz) and sign the petition for positive change.***

# Kai Ika

## 'HE IKA HE TAONGA' – THE GIFT OF FISH

Since the inception of the [Kai Ika Project](#) in 2016 we have collected and distributed over 150,000 kgs of previously unwanted/wasted fish parts to families in need through various marae around Auckland.

The Kai Ika Project is a collaboration between LegaSea, the [Outboard Boating Club](#) of Auckland and the [Papatūānuku Kōkiri marae](#) in south Auckland.

The Kai Ika Project started off as an exchange of goodwill and fish parts between fishers who only wanted the fillets, and those who appreciated the unwanted fish parts. Kai Ika has now evolved to include filleting and knife sharpening services, a sophisticated fish processing trailer based at Westhaven Z Pier and soon, a mobile trailer to service events and fishing contests.

The good news is that even the inedible fish parts are used, mainly as organic fertiliser in the community gardens at Papatūānuku Kōkiri marae.

The Kai Ika Project is a head to tail solution that enables people to respect and appreciate every fish they catch.

## 2020 – WHAT A YEAR

In the past year The Kai Ika Project has hit the high notes – feeding more families and taking on extra staff to support the work. On 20th April 2021 Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern visited Papatūānuku Kōkiri marae with project team leader Dallas Abel, to see the project in action. More recently the project received several commendations for community collaboration and innovation at the Tāmaki Makaurau Zero Waste Awards.



Kai Ika has attracted support, endorsement and financial assistance from a wide range of organisations and agencies. It is encouraging for the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council, LegaSea and the whanau at Papatūānuku Kōkiri marae that their efforts are recognised and appreciated.



**150,000kgs**  
fish parts repurposed



Valerie Teraitua, Dallas Abel, Lionel Hotene and whanau with their Community Collaboration award.

# LegaSea Hawkes Bay



## INTRODUCTION

[LegaSea Hawkes Bay](#) is a volunteer group established in 2015 to address declining fisheries in the Bay. Our team includes Wayne Bicknell, Jim Yeoman, Brian Firman, Alex Smith, David Bicknell, David Cheetham, David Scott and Carl Fairey. Our Chairman is John Stewart. LegaSea Hawkes Bay enjoys the support of LegaSea (national) and the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council.

Over the past year LegaSea Hawkes Bay (LHB) has continued to build strong relationships with other organisations that have an interest in the marine environment. LHB is represented on several working parties including the Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Marine and Coastal Group, Napier Port's Fishing Liaison Group and Pan Pac's Stakeholders Group.

## 6 WHARF PROJECT

The Napier Port 6 Wharf Project involves building a new 350 metre container wharf. This requires dredging and then disposing of 3.2 million cubic metres of material. Work commenced in February 2020 and an estimated 738,000 m<sup>3</sup> of material has been dredged and taken to the dump site 4 km offshore.

This massive two-year project has progressed well. LegaSea Hawkes Bay has confidence in the extensive monitoring of the dredging which has not detected any adverse effect on the nearby Pania, Town and Hardinge Road reef systems.

## ARTIFICIAL REEFS

LegaSea Hawkes Bay has worked with the 6 Wharf Project to create new artificial reef structures from repurposed natural limestone boulders dismantled from the Port's old revetment wall. The revetment wall was dismantled to make way for a new wharf. LHB

is pleased to report that two artificial reefs have been created as a direct result of negotiations with the Port of Napier.

The first reef is commonly referred to as the "LegaSea Reef". It has been under construction since 2020. It is located 1.4 kilometres northeast of Pania Reef. Around twenty barge loads of limestone rock have been deposited there. The second reef is at the Gwen B shipwreck in 55 metres of water at the Northern Springs area. A third reef structure is currently under construction.

These artificial reefs will provide a variety of habitats for marine life and eventually enhance opportunities for diving, and recreational and Māori customary fishing around Napier. A recent dive survey indicates the reef is already attracting a range of fish species and fresh growth.

We are proud of this collaborative work to successively balance environmental and economic needs.

## FISHERIES LIAISON GROUP

A success story for LegaSea Hawkes Bay has been our involvement in the Napier Port Fisheries Liaison Group. Established in 2019 as a condition of the 6 Wharf resource consent, this group has an advisory role in all aspects of the environmental monitoring of the project. Management plans are now in place. This has been a successful collaboration, with recreational and commercial fishers working alongside Napier Port on this significant development.

## LOCAL AREA FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

In 2016 commercial fishers agreed to voluntarily exclude bottom trawling from around the "Springs" area of Hawke's Bay, from December to February. LegaSea Hawkes Bay are concerned about the disappearance of hāpuku from the

Lachlan Ridge and Banks. Hāpuku were once abundant in shallow waters around Hawke Bay, but are now only found around the deeper reef systems.

Discussions are under way with Fisheries New Zealand, commercial fishers, and fishing clubs in the region to find workable solutions, including voluntary reductions in bag limits, banning the use of droppers and longlines, and possible area closures. It is in everybody's interest that we work together to restore abundance of these species.

## CLIVE RIVER DREDGING

In December 2020 the Hawke's Bay Regional Council announced its intention to dredge part of the Clive River to remove sediment in the lower reaches of the river, to increase water flow and maintain channel capacity.

LegaSea Hawkes Bay is not opposed to the dredging, however the Regional Council has failed to provide a compelling scientific case to justify dumping the dredged silt at sea. LHB will continue to monitor progress to ensure that the effects on the marine environment are addressed throughout the Resource Consent process.

## AHURIRI ESTUARY ENHANCEMENT

LegaSea Hawkes Bay has been instrumental in facilitating a successful grant application by the Ahuriri Estuary Protection Society to the Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust. Substantial funds sourced for the Estuary Enhancement Project were bequeathed by the estate of Barry Rollo.

The Ahuriri Estuary is one of the most significant habitats of its type on the east coast of the North Island. Of the original 3,840 hectares of the Te Whanganui-ā-Orutū inner harbour estuary existing prior to the 1931 earthquake,

only 470 hectares remain. The funding will be used to purchase 3,000 native trees and shrubs to plant adjacent to the upper Ahuriri Estuary. This planting will improve the nursery habitat, spawning habitat, and feeding areas for fish using this significant estuarine area.

Planting will be undertaken by the Ahuriri Estuary Restoration Group, a group of volunteers established and supervised by the Department of Conservation.

## THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

LegaSea Hawkes Bay appreciates the ongoing and generous support from so many local people and businesses. Our total income for the past year was just over \$10,000, all derived from donations. More than \$9,000 was spent on education, advocacy or public awareness initiatives to achieve a more abundant fishery for current and future generations. Your support for this team is most welcome, please email [hawkesbay@legasea.co.nz](mailto:hawkesbay@legasea.co.nz).



Left to right. John Stewart (LegaSea Hawkes Bay), Paul Rose (Environmental Advisor Napier Port), Brian Firman (LHB), Wayne Bicknell (LHB), Michel de Vos (Infrastructure Manager Napier Port), Todd Dawson (CEO Napier Port).



During the year the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea collaborated with member clubs, aligned organisations, individual experts and advocates to develop a range of material.

This collaboration led to the development of submissions and presentations, support in response to fisheries management reviews, policy proposals, environmental initiatives and community outreach.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea acknowledge and are grateful for the support and cooperation of many individuals and organisations including the following:

- Blue Water Marine Research
- Deepsea Conservation Coalition
- Dive Zone Whitianga
- Environment and Conservation Organisation of Aotearoa New Zealand – ECO
- Greenpeace New Zealand
- Guardians of the Sea Charitable Trust
- Hokianga Accord, mid north iwi fisheries forum
- KASM (Kiwi’s Against Seabed Mining)
- Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association
- Napier Port
- Napier Port Fishing Liaison Group
- New Zealand Angling & Casting Association
- New Zealand Marine Research Foundation
- New Zealand Underwater Association
- NIWA
- Opito Bay Ratepayers Association
- Outboard Boating Club of Auckland
- Papatūānuku Kōkiri Marae
- Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society of New Zealand
- Spearfishing NZ
- Sustainable Coastlines
- Te Pūtahi a Toi, School of Māori Knowledge, Massey University

- Te Rūnanga Ā Iwi O Ngāpuhi
- University of Auckland
- Waiheke Marine Project – Future Search
- Yachting New Zealand

**SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATION**

Since October 2020 the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea have collaborated with a number of organisations to address ongoing depletion of scallops in Opito Bay, eastern Coromandel. Action has been led by local iwi Ngāti Hei and the Opito Bay Ratepayers Association.

This collaboration inspired the community to draw its resources together to develop a restoration plan. Many organisations came onboard to help, including Dive Zone Whitianga, Kūaotunu Residents & Ratepayers Association, New Zealand Underwater Association, Tairua-Pauanui Sports Fishing Club, Mercury Bay Game Fishing Club, Matarangi Boat & Fishing Club, Whangamata Ocean Sports Club and Whitianga Oceans Festival.

Communities rallied and traction for the cause snowballed. The community was eager to protect scallops and take a stand against scallop dredging which is destroying the seafloor. Letters were written to David Parker, Minister of Oceans and Fisheries. A voluntary ban and rāhui on all harvest of scallops from Opito Bay was applied from December 2020.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council commissioned a citizen science scallop survey carried out by scientists from Toi Ohomai, volunteer divers from Dive Zone Whitianga, and data collectors from local clubs and communities.

This collaboration was a success due to the communities’ passion for the cause, the generosity of many people and organisations, and the countless volunteer hours from those involved.



LEGASEA

	30/6/2019	30/6/2020	30/6/2021	Notes
INCOME	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	
Donations from Legends, public & unaffiliated clubs	144900	137644	159213	
Partner sponsorship programme	154657	184061	181656	
Building LegaSea and LegaSea Works	31361	38517	32498	
Grants received	438905	559569	698314	
Merchandise income	44583	36457	15233	
Other income	15032	13280	76728	1
Total income	829438	969528	1163642	
EXPENDITURE				
Donations to NZSFC and LegaSea Hawkes Bay	144900	137644	159213	2
Public outreach	198658	182667	171884	
Fundraising	81565	95348	68446	
Governance, Strategy and planning	58044	85351	82317	
Administration	93649	103110	104608	
Campaigns	346819	403065	474917	3
Total Expenditure	923635	1007185	1061385	
Surplus/Deficit	(-94197)	(-37657)	102257	4

- 1. Other income: Kai Ika income and donations from affiliated clubs.
- 2. Distributions of \$155,974 to NZSFC to be administered and invested in Advocacy, Research and Education. \$3239 distributed to LegaSea Hawkes Bay to support their valuable work.
- 3. Other Campaigns: Scallop Campaign and Snapper 8.
- 4. \$105,000 grants were received in income to be used to reduce debt which didn't appear in expenses as it reduces a current liability in the balance sheet, thus the \$102,257 surplus.

# Profiles



## FISHERIES MANAGEMENT MARINE PROTECTION COMMITTEE



### LEWIS AVENELL

Lewis is an active member of the Clevedon Game Fishing Club and the Big Fish Fishing Club. In the past couple of years he has taken responsibility for representing the Zone 2 (Auckland) clubs on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Executive Board. Lewis is also the chair of the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee. He is enthusiastic about working alongside a dedicated team committed to an abundant fishery.



### PETER CAMPBELL

Peter is based in Tauranga and has been a Zone delegate to the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Executive Board for 21 years. He has been Vice President of the Board twice, from 2001 to 2009, and 2012 onwards. Peter is an active contributor to all aspects of fisheries and resource management, and marine protection activity. He is also a LegaSea director.



### MARK CONNOR

Mark is the South Island's representative on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Executive Board. Mark is a long standing member of the Ashley Sport Fishing Club in north Canterbury, and remains actively involved in local and regional fisheries management processes. Mark was President of the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council between 2012 and 2015. Mark has been a director of LegaSea since 2012.



### RICHARD BAKER

Richard has been involved with the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council for over 30 years. Richard was Council President from 2008 to 2011, and is the Council's youngest ever life member. He is one of New Zealand's eight representatives to the International Game Fish Association. Richard is the Council's spokesperson on fisheries management and public education issues.



### SCOTT MACINDOE

Scott has been an active contributor to the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council in a management and public awareness capacity for more than a decade. He has been a member of the Warkworth Gamefish Club committee for 10 years. Scott provides strategic advice to the fisheries management and LegaSea teams. His insights and contributions are highly valued by the team and Council.



### WAYNE BICKNELL

Wayne is a life member of the Hawke's Bay Sport Fishing Club and is a New Zealand representative to the International Game Fish Association. He is also a New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Executive Board member. Wayne has years of experience in local and national issues. He is also a founding member and spokesperson for LegaSea Hawkes Bay.



### BOB GUTSELL

Bob is the President of the Zealand Sport Fishing Council. He is also a past President of the Waikato Sport Fishing Club. He has been a member of the Executive Board for nine years and now contributes his expertise to the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee.



### KEN BARRY

Ken has represented the Zone 6, North Island west coast, clubs on the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Executive Board for the past two years. He is also President of the Raglan Sportfishing Club. Like so many fishermen, Ken started off very young and was soon hooked on the thrill of fishing. He is now an active advocate for local, regional and national issues. Ken is proud to stand with all Zone representatives in advocating for more abundant fish stocks and support efforts to enhance ethical fishing practices.



### JIM YEOMAN

Jim is the President of the New Zealand Angling & Casting Association (NZACA). He is also a spokesperson for LegaSea Hawkes Bay. Jim has been co-opted onto the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee to represent the NZACA's members' interests. His generous and authentic contribution to the Committee and the discussions over the past six years is much appreciated. He continues to advocate for local and regional interests in fisheries and the marine environment.



### ANDY STEWART

Andy is a long-standing Executive Board Member of the New Zealand Underwater Association (NZUA). He is also a PADI Dive Instructor Trainer. Andy has been co-opted onto the Fisheries Management Marine Protection Committee to provide a keen focus on underwater species and environmental management. For the past several years Andy has been one of two recreational representatives on the National Rock Lobster Management Group.



# Profiles

## SERVICE PROVIDERS



### JOHN HOLDSWORTH (BSC)

John is a director of Blue Water Marine Research, established in 1997 to conduct research including surveying recreational fishers and various tagging projects. He has over 20 years experience in fisheries research and management. John is the ideal person to represent our club members' interests in the science, policy and working group processes run by Fisheries New Zealand.



### BARRY TORKINGTON

Barry has a background in commercial fishing and aquaculture. At one stage he was a director of his local commercial fishing operation, Leigh Fisheries. 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 has appreciated his input and guidance on significant issues over the years.



### 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.



### STUART RYAN

Stuart is a barrister with specialist practice in public law, environmental law and related areas. He represented the (then) New Zealand Big Game Fishing Council and other non-commercial interests in the Kahawai Legal Challenge proceedings. Stuart has over 20 years experience in advising public and private sector clients. Over the years Stuart has built a strong relationship with many non-commercial environmental and fishing interest groups.



### ROWAN ASHTON

Rowan is a senior associate with Brookfields Lawyers and specialises in resource management, local government and public law. Rowan has experience in a diverse range of resource management matters. This experience has proven to be invaluable as he helps lead the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's response to Resource Management Act fishing controls arising since the Mōtiti Environment Court decision.

# Friends and Partners

## HILARY PEARSON – FREEDOM FARMS

### On attitude and respect.

*"We stand for change in the way animals are farmed and strongly believe in no crates, no cages. We are asking the "hard questions" and then only delivering food we feel right about. Much like choosing to only serve line caught fish. It requires a shift in attitude mixed with respect. If the question is "How do we turn the tide on marine life depletion?" then we believe the NZSFC and LegaSea have the answers. That's why we're supporting them."*

## KEN VAUGHAN – TURKISH BREAD

### On loaves and fishes

*"I simply make pizza bases and Naan bread but if I could make fish I would. Nature makes fish and the way we have abused our fish over such a short period is disgusting. LegaSea and the NZSFC have opened my eyes to the hard work of a few people presenting ways to give nature a hand to rebuild our fish. You supply the fish. I'll bring the loaves."*

## FLEUR SULLIVAN – RESTAURANTEUR FLEURS PLACE, MOERAKI, OTAGO

### On the pride of fishing for local community.

*"I feel a huge pride for the fishermen here. I go to the local bar and when I hear people ask what locals do, everyone mumbles they are fishers. I heard someone ask one of my guys what he did, and he said, 'I fish for Fleur'. Hearing that just about made me tear up, I felt proud. With my guys, the fish comes in and goes directly to the restaurant. Everyone knows where it comes from and where it goes. Nothing is wasted."*

## TOM HISHON – FOUNDER AND CHEF KINGI RESTAURANT

### On your local fish market.

*"Our country is surrounded by coastline, imagine the positive impact it would have if every coastal town and city had a thriving fish market where the seafood sold there was caught, gathered or harvested by local people within the community using non-destructive methods. We choose to work with people who share our values of kaitiakitanga."*

## SAMANTHA WHITE – KŌPAREPARE AMBASSADOR, WHITEHAVEN WINES

### On commitment to each other.

*"We've backed LegaSea for several years now, stepping it up a notch with the relaunch of Kōparepare wines, which has helped to support the Coromandel Scallop Programme. We want future generations to enjoy all the benefits of a healthy marine environment and are committed to supporting LegaSea and their great work towards achieving this goal. To quote our recent promotion, it is most definitely 'Time for a Wine about Scallops' and your support of our wine will help us raise more for the causes that affect us all."*



# Platinum and Gold Partners

## PLATINUM



Our Partners are our lifeblood. They help with funding, communication, social engagement, brand enhancement and materials. Their support motivates the team and demonstrates a commitment to all New Zealanders, to ensure our lives are made richer through the health of our fisheries and the environment that surrounds us.

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea gain confidence from having these Partners onboard the waka (canoe) seeking to rebuild our inshore fisheries to abundant levels.

Our team strives to act in a fair and professional manner, and our dedication to detail has given our Partners the confidence to stick with us. Rebuilding our inshore fishery to a level of abundance is now a shared vision.

We could not achieve our collective outcomes without the generous support of many people and businesses. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea appreciate this ongoing trust and confidence in us to deliver the best outcomes for today's fishers and future generations of New Zealanders.



## GOLD



Image credits: Guy Mac, NZ Fishing Media, Digital Fish, Momoko Burgess, Napier Port, Simon Yates.





**RESCUE FISH**

**IKA RAUORA**

**A pathway to fish abundance and  
marine ecosystem recovery**

**Sign the petition**

**RESCUEFISH.CO.NZ**