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# MINUTES OF THE 65th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 23rd and 24th OCTOBER 2022 AT THE MARAETAI BOATING CLUB AT MARAETAI AUCKLAND COMMENCING AT 9 AM

**PRESENT**:

NZSFC President B Gutsell and Waikato Delegate

NZSFC Vice President Warren Maher

NZSFC Vice President Ian Steele

Secretary H Pastor

Akitio BC R Beales

Ashley SFC J Bruce

M Connor – Board member and Zone 7 Delegate

- Canterbury proxy, Pegasus Proxy, Marlborough Rec Proxy

Bay of Islands SC [Jennifer Troup](mailto:troup_j@yahoo.co.nz) and Andrew Johnson

Big Fish FC P Appleyard – Saturday only

Cape Egmont BC Tim Goodin

Counties Stephen Harper and Darin Burns

Hauraki Gulf Sportfishing Peter Stewart proxy for Manukau Cruising Club Hokianga GFC Marina Stewart and Linda Pattinson

Gisborne Tatapouri Roger Faber

[Hilton Webb](mailto:tilegis@paradise.net.nz) (Life Member)

Hawkes Bay Wayne Bicknell

Kawhia Doug Taucher

Cecil Hickman

Kaikoura Marty Sullivan

Manukau SFC Mark Kelly

Maraetai BC Ian Twist

Marsden Cove SFC Graham Ellis

Matarangi SFC S Arnold

Mercury Bay Gordon McIver and Warren Harris

Mt Maunganui Mark Hemingway IGFA/Life Member/board member Ross Lucas and Vance Fulton Board member

New Plymouth Ian Steele Vice President, L Drummond and P Saunders NZ Landbased FC S Bradley and Richard Baker Life Member board member Raglan Ken Barry and Courtenay Petrie

Tairua Pauanui SFC Geoff Flyger and Dylan Flyger

Tauranga SFC D Nielsen

Te Aroha S Cox and G Shanley

Te Kaha D Murie

[Waihau Bay SFC](mailto:waihau10356@gmail.com) B Muir

Wairarapa SFC E Beetham

Whakatakataka Bay Bill McGarry Board Member

Warkworth [Terry Creagh](mailto:terry@autowatchinterlock.co.nz)

Whangaroa Kelvin Mowat and Tony Allan [Whangamata Ocean Sports Club](mailto:manager@oceansports.co.nz) B O’Neill, M James, P Keogh and K Lynch

Whakatane D Davey, Milton Reynolds and H Johnston – Board member

LegaSea Sam Woolford , Trish Rae (Life Member)

Scott Macindoe, Jessica Beetham, Sydney Curtis-Wilson Momoko Burgess, Dirk Sieling

Peter Campbell board Member LegaSea representative Blue Water Marine Research John Holdsworth (Life Member)

NZACA Jim Yeoman

NZ Marine Research Foundation Jeff Romeril Ngati Hei Joe Davis

IGFA Tony Hill

NZSFC Social Media Alistair Arkell

NZ Fishing News Grant Dixon

# Meeting opened 9.00am

Welcome – Ian Twist welcomed the delegates to Maraetai Club. Jo Davis from Ngati Hei opened the conference with a Karakia

Bob Gutsell welcomed all delegates and acknowledged invited guests

# Apologies

* Ahipara SFC – Linda Matthews
* Whangarei Deep Sea Anglers – Pete Saul and Brenda Saul
* Bays Fishing Club Cliff Solomon
* Canterbury Sport Fishing Club Mark Scaife
* Doubtless Bay Sportfishing Club Evan McKay and Annette Hall
* Manukau Cruising Club Peter Garrett
* Marlborough Recreational Fishers Association Tony Orman
* Muriwai Sport Fishing Club – Spencer Roff
* Pegasus Bay Game Fishing Club Peter van Eekelen
* Southern Sport Fishing Club - Ian Carrick
* Waihau Bay SFC - Christine Elmiger and Clive Fraser
* Tautuku Dunedin and Haast SFC – Brett Bennseman
* Big Fish Fishing Club – Phil Appleyard
* LegaSea – Louise O’Sullivan
* LegaSea – Barry Torkington

# Moved apologies Accepted – Bob Gutsell and Warren Maher – carried

**MINUTES SILENCE**:

A minute’s silence was acknowledged for those members who passed away over the last year. Special mention of John Chibnall and Richard van der fits from Cape Egmont.

# LegaSea AGM - Chaired by Peter Campbell

Peter Campbell thanks everyone and the Maraetai club. LegaSea report is attached.

Thank you to Sam Woolford for leading the team and thanked him for all his hard work and he has done a fabulous job. Welcome Jess Beetham to assist Sam and handle the grant seeking responsibilities. We now have 12 specialist contractors delivering terrific results. Thank you to Scott Macindoe for your ongoing support and mentoring.

**Apologies** - No apologies were noted

Minutes of the previous meeting - moved that the minutes be accepted MC and SW - carried

Annual accounts – attached. as there were no questions it was moved that we continue with auditors Mark Connor seconded Peter Campbell - carried

Auditors will remain the same.

Peter Campbell moved be accepted - Mark Connor seconded - accepted Current directors will remain the same and no directors’ fees will be paid. Standing committee – Ian Steele will attend to replace Bob Gutsell.

General business – Grid Map – Peter advised that the bigger clubs have a grid maps. These are maps broken down into squares and they are auctioned off to sponsors. This can earn clubs good sponsorship money. Deryk Nielson has purchased a LegaSea square at the Tauranga Club at his own cost. He was presented with a plaque and a set of LegaSea knives. Thank you Deryk.

SW acknowledged Peter Campbell, Mark Connor and Bob Gutsell for their support as the governance team. They were also presented with a plaque and set of knives.

Meeting closed

# AGM – NZ Sport Fishing Council CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the previous meeting were distributed.

# Minutes moved Bob Gutsell / Kelvin Mowatt – carried MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Ian Steele noted Motion 9 – should include day members re NZSFC awards and Trophies

Confirmation of the minutes with this correction

# Moved B Gutsell W Harris – carried

**President's Annual Report - Bob Gutsell**

See attached report

Ian Steele thanked Bob Gutsell for all his effort, travel, problem solving, and hours worked.

# Moved Bob Gutsell seconded Warren Harris - carried

**Annual Financial Statements**

[Ian Steele](mailto:peter.campbell@kinect.co.nz) presented the annual accounts.

Ian talked to the statement of financial performance

# Points to note

* Clubs have struggled this year due to covid and so has Council but we have done the best we could.
* Working on improving our forward projection of our cashflow
* Tag sales have continued to increase
* Affiliation fees up by $11,000 by budget.
* Fisheries Management hard to plan for $40,000 underspent at this stage.
* Actuals although negative it is a lot less than budgeted to be. $60,000 ahead of budget.
* Grants donations up compared to budget and have been forwarded to Kai Ika
* We have not been successful in obtaining grants for NZSFC

# Statement of position

$225,000 cash in hand and $100,000 in First Mortgage Trust.

The accounts are still healthy but with two losses in a row we cannot continue to move in this direction.

It was moved that the financial report be accepted, Terry Creagh seconded Lee Drummond - carried

# Appointment of Officers

It was agreed that the following positions to be voted en blanc

It was moved that the Auditors be PKF Kerikeri for the 2022-2023 year

# Board

**President** [Ian](mailto:bob.gutsell@pactgroup.com) Steele

**Vice Presidents** - Warren Maher and [Andrew](mailto:Ian.Steele@btw.nz) Johnson

**Records Officer** - Peter Saul - Peter advised that he is happy to continue.

**Board Zone Reps** Zone 1 – Tony Allan Zone 2 – Bill McGarry

Zone 3 – Phil Keogh Zone 4 - Vance Fulton Zone 5 - Wayne Bicknell Zone 6 - Ken Barry Zone 7 - Mark Connor

Zone 8 - Heyden Johnston

Council Treasurer / Finance Chair - Ian Steele IGFA/life member Representative [Mark Hemingway](mailto:reelfinatic@xtra.co.nz)

# Bob Gutsell Moved the positions en blanc seconded Kelvin Mowat - Carried

The board advised the co-opted members on the board this year.

Richard Baker - Co-opted member with a focus is on Fisheries Management [Peter Campbell](mailto:peter.campbell@kinect.co.nz) - Co-opted member as a director of LegaSea.

**Patron –** BG advised that there was a discussion re who should take on this role and would be it respectful to immediately nominate a new Patron. It was agreed that we needed to nominate a patron this year. A nomination from Bob Gutsell for Peter Saul to be Patron

# Nominated by Bob Gutsell and seconded Richard Baker - carried

**Budget**

Presented by Ian Steele. Budget points

* Challenging last two years with running competitions and getting members back to the clubs.
* Income for NZSFC is directly related to the returns from clubs. We have seen a decrease in the numbers from clubs. 8% decrease across the board.
* Bowentown has resigned from the Council in May. Loss of 733 members.
* If we hadn’t increased our fees, we could have been in a difficult situation. Expenses
* Postage travel mileage have increased approximately 7%.
* Fisheries Management challenge around the country – so we have looked at raising the budget by $25,000 in total spend.
* Youth budget provision – now have $5,000
* CEO position – our CEO has resigned and the cost of having him has ceased. This year will not be at the same level as last year. $90,000 decrease this year.
* Looking like we will be in the black this year.

# Moved the 2022 – 2023 Budget be accepted.

Question as to why Bowentown has resigned. They have been trying to justify reducing their payments to NZSFC. The club did not want to pay for their social membership. The club was given other solutions to alleviate the problem with cash flow, but this was declined.

# Ian Steele seconded Warren Harris - carried.

**Affiliation fees**

Fees have been set for 2023/2024 and remain at $16 and $5.50 being $14 inclusive of GST for seniors and $4.50 inclusive of GST for juniors with an additional $2 and $1 respectively to go to the NZ Marine Foundation.

# Moved Bob Gutsell and Seconded Mark Conner carried

**Bluewater Marine Research – John Holdsworth - this report was broken into two parts**

Update on Billfish and Tuna Research. It has been harder to get much action since the 60 countries getting together online.

John gave a report on longline tuna catch in the western and central Pacific. This region has the largest tuna catch in the world. Decline mainly due to Covid. American and Japanese markets have gone down over the last two years. Stocks have had a little break.

Big eye, yellowfin and albacore are mostly caught by longline. A lot of fishing effort is in equatorial waters. The high levels of “domestic” fishing north of NZ is mainly from reflagged vessels fishing out of Fiji, Solomon Islands Vanuatu. A lot of juvenal yellowfin are caught in this area.

Swordfish catch by fleet 1995 to 2021. The Spanish fleet do a lot of fishing in the eastern Pacific Ocean right across to South America. The Asian more in the tropics and the Tasman Sea but probably the large catch is coming out of Australia and is a domestic fleet. This is historic data and some of this may not be happening now. Australia has currently drafted a paper on management of swordfish to maintain current stocks. It appears there will be some sort of allocation based on catch history.

John talk about the SW Pacific Swordfish projections. Several scenarios have been projected. Australia’s proposal does not seek to reduce fishery catches from 2019 levels but focuses on preventing significant increases in future catches.

Striped Marlin – John shared a chart for the whole of the pacific. This is a big catch numbers in Australia. This is fished by longline. Driftnet fishing in the South Pacific has been banned.

NZ Catch – this based on club and NZSFC data for recreation landed catch. A large portion has been released. Landed catch plus release mortality about 80t on average since 2000. Lockdowns, marine heatwaves and La Nina have not helped in recent years.

NZ Southern Bluefin tuna catch allowance increased to 20t then 34t in 2021. 2022 will be similar to 2021.

$1,000 Lucky Draw – this is a draw from catch cards submitted. Research Budget has been cut and next year we may not have support for the tagging programme. Winner a kingfish 1m – 13kilos – Sam Jensen – he will get an email advising him that he is the winner.

Striped marlin – we are getting recaptures from this project, and this is providing data and helping the fish stock. This year we have the first one from Australia (Queensland).

SBF quota may change – this has not yet been confirmed. This could be helpful for NZ possibly another 180 tonne of tuna to be allocated. WB asked where the stock is at now – John advised 22%. Increasing by 5% a year biomass international quota is likely.

IS – is there a project around increasing the reliability of tags and information from fish. Is there a better solution. Would there be a more reliable way by use of better technology. This could be a project for NZMRF. This was discussed. Satellite tags give the best location information.

# Moved Peter Stewart – seconded Vance Fulton – carried

**Tuna Champions**

India Thompson Institute of Tasmania re the tuna Champions Programme there. She is a recreational tuna fisher – she is a marine science. The programme began in 2018. This is funded by the Australian Government via FRDC. The intention is to improve practices in rec SBT fishing and ultimately reduce unnecessary mortality and increasing steward ship within the recreational sector.

The programme as key messaging being :-

* Catch – reducing fight times, damage and stress
* Handle – prepared to handle with care
* Release – check revive and survive
* Keep – dispatch humanity bleed gut and chill for the ultimate taste and no waste
* Prepare – process store and prepare to make the most of every fish

They have a clear pathway and a recognisable brand. This will create momentum. All information is on the website. Ambassadors help spread the tuna champion word and collaborations help with their messaging. Strategy is to broaden the reach of the programme in Australia and internationally.

# Minister Parker - Minister for Oceans and Fisheries

The minister referred to working with volunteer organisations and that it is very important to this country and the future. The collective social effort is very important for our country and our families and friends and thanked the room for that.

He referred to the challenges that the sea industries have, and discussion was had around the scallop fisheries and the work done at Opitio Bay.

Snapper was used as an example of how certain measures have allowed the stock to recover and that how well snapper have improved. He advised that he was shocked at the fishing on the pink Mao Mao and he thanked NZSFC for their bringing it to his attention and support with the bag limit.

The fisheries amendment bill was discussed, and the Minister advised that he was happy with the Bill and stood behind his decision to have pre-set decisions rules. These can apply within a season and can respond to abundance and can within a season to drop catch limits or increase catch limits. He mentioned that there are concerns that this could be done without public scrutiny. He is satisfied that we are not cutting out consultation. This has come back from select committee were not critical of it but have put in further restrictions re public consultation.

Cameras on boats are going to be added to boats. There has been trouble funding it but this has been done last year. 300 inshore fishing vessels and in about three years it will cover 80% of the

inshore fishery. All fish caught must be landed regardless of its size. This will lead to changes in fishing practice.

Sea change and revitalising the Gulf. Govt has responded to the reports received. Thanked Scott Macindoe and Dirk Sieling. The fisheries plan for this area will be out for consultation in October.

RB – SBT question re the size of catch below the

Recognised a problem with dredging and they are trying to find an alternative. This is a work in progress.

IS – New Plymouth has recently been in consultation with section 186 – comments received was around keenness to see community co management. Question is there an alternative to allow the community to potentially manage. Answer – the law has to be followed. Local scale management with inshore fisheries – ahu Moana has been considered and will be looked into. He advised to make progress carefully.

TR – Question re fisheries amendment bill and pre-set decision rules can be achieved now. Why is this being pushed on with? Fear is that Ministerial discretion will be discounted. Concerned about the sustainability outcomes of the fisheries.

MC – Question about Blue cod and why is this decision taking so long. The minister advised that he is expecting the paper in the next week or two and it is underway.

MC – asked camera footage by 30 January – Minister advised that there are some privacy concerns, but it will be available to researchers and data people on terms of confidentially. The system will over time be designed to protect privacy better. Momoko suggested that cameras pointing at just the catch.

DS – asked re the selection of stakeholders to be consulted. Regarding the fisheries plan there is separate consultation and some iwi have been excluded. Minister Parker advised that one of the consultations was with the wrong section and this caused the problem and subsequently they have been trying to fix that mistake.

JD advised that the Ahu Moana situation could be used regarding the alderman islands. He talked of bi-catch and now it has no value and fears that bi catch could become valuable.

Mark Kelly – Manukau – thanked the Minister for his decision re snapper. He mentioned the Southwick Report and the recreational fishery has a value to NZ.

SM – thanked the Minister for his decision on snapper 8 and he voiced his displeasure on the pre-set decisions.

BG – thanked the Minister for attending.

# Mark and Nicole McKee from the ACT party

Fisheries Amendment Act first reading was discussed. Mark voiced his opinion of rahui as opposed to marine reserves. He asked for questions and advice. Various discussions were had around the fisheries management agenda. HW discussed issues for Gisborne region. Problem with pine trees and what it is doing to the coastline.

RL advised that as the largest representation of recreational fisheries they should use the NZSFC management team and LegaSea as a reliable source of factual information. It was recommended that they read our Rescue Fish information.

SM – advised 12,000 tonnes caught in recreational. He advised the scientists who could give the information.

WM advised the problem of the scallop bed in Opitio Bay and what NZSFC and the local community did to stop the problem and how the Rahui tool has helped his community. He talked of a shared management / go management option.

DS asked about dredging in the Hauraki Gulf. JD – advised that the communities need the help of Iwi as they have the tools available to them. Collectively with all the groups we can made good decisions for our collective future.

BG wrapped up the meeting and thanked them both for attending.

# Notices of Motion Fisheries Policies

## 3.2 - Management of Specific Fisheries - AMENDMENT

***Current policy 3.2 (last paragraph)***

* “That we remain supportive of recreational only fishing areas/with commercial fishing method restrictions. However, because of the perceived difficulties in implementing them, we strongly support the Ministerial adoption of International best practice targets of a minimum of 40% Virgin Biomass.”

## Amendment

* Change “we strongly support the Ministerial adoption of International best practice targets of a minimum of 40% virgin Biomass” to “we strongly support the Ministerial adoption of International best practice targets of a minimum of **50% unfished Biomass”**

## Rationale

* The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council and LegaSea have been advocating for targets of minimum 50% unfished biomass in recent submissions, based on modern science1

## Aquaculture Policy - AMENDMENT Current policy (Part 1 only)

* As new and improved technologies are found, increasing demand is going to be made on our coastline and offshore waters for space to carry out aquaculture. While the NZSFC is not against all aquaculture development, the allocation of public water space to a commercial entity which will restrict or prohibit public access for the foreseeable future should be opposed until the greater benefit to the public is established. Each venture should be judged on its merits and consideration of the following should be addressed.
  1. Marine biosecurity is not threatened.
  2. Ability to enhance localised fishing
  3. Removal of access to safe anchoring areas
  4. Visual pollution aspects
  5. Hazard risk and survivability of structures in storm conditions
  6. Structure removal conditions established
  7. Size of the water area required
  8. Source of feed and type and its interaction with other species.
  9. How the farmed species interacts with the wider ecosystem species
  10. Risk of disease and precautions taken
  11. Effects on water quality
  12. Product being farmed and effects on natural stock harvest of the same.
  13. Type of application and its ability to cater for public use of the defined area and surrounds
  14. The effect on seabed biodiversity and environmental impact from fish excrement

## Amendment

* Amend point 8 in the list of considerations:

8. Source of feed and type and its interaction with other species. **We do not support the utilization of wild caught forage fish to feed farmed fish. See forage fish policy.**

***New addition***

# 15. Safe Anchorage areas are not impinged / impacted.

## Rationale

1. Considering the importance of forage fish to the marine food web, it is vital conservative measures are applied when adjusting forage fish catch allowances (See NZSFC Forage Fish Policy), to ensure unfished biomass remains well above 50%.
2. Demand for forage fish resources is increasing as the aquaculture industry expands, and by

other industries such as ‘other animal production’2

1. As an example of forage fish use in aquaculture, Regal Salmon in New Zealand use forage fish such as anchovies, pilchards, and jack mackerel for fish meal.
2. In New Zealand, deep sea species such as hoki are used for fish meal.
3. Some commercial fishing vessels have meal plants onboard, using unwanted parts of fish and unknown bycatch/ non-QMS species for fish meal.
4. If parts of the Fisheries Amendment Bill are confirmed, undersized fish with low economic value may end up being used as fish meal.

Sam Woolford advised that this policy was aimed at the inputs and outputs from the aquaculture farms and the environmental impact.

Trish Rae advised in amendment 3.2 that we are moving from B40% to B50%. This is in line with the latest science reports. The other point of the amendment is the idea that safe anchorages would not be impugned.

John Holdsworth suggested we put in the word NZ caught fish.

The policy was amended to read

“8. Source of feed and type and its interaction with other species. **We do not support the utilization of wild New Zealand caught forage fish to feed farmed fish. See forage fish policy.”**

# The amendment was moved by Dirk Sieling seconded Vance Fulton – carried

The policy as amended was then voted on.

# Moved Bob Gutsell seconded Mark Connor – the policy as amended was carried.

The aquaculture policy 3.2 part 1 was discussed.

# That part of the policy was then moved by Wayne Bicknell seconded by Ross Lucas – carried Red Gurnard Policy

**Policy**

* Restore red gurnard abundance around New Zealand
* The stocks will be rebuilt and maintained at or above the target level in each fisheries management area.
* The stocks can meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
* Those needs have been adequately identified and allowed for.
* Improve yield per recruit by reducing the mortality of small fish.
* Phase out the use of trawl gear in inshore waters.
* Encourage an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and human induced impacts on our marine environment.

## Strategy

1. Divide the GUR 1 Quota Management Area at North Cape to recognise that there are separate gurnard stocks on the east and west coast of the North Island with different management requirements.
2. Promote management changes to restore gurnard abundance using best available information. This includes setting both a target stock biomass of 50% of the unfished stock size and a rebuild time frame.
3. Stop killing juveniles. For the past 25 years it has been common commercial practice, when targeting gurnard, to discard gurnard below the “market size” even though there has been no minimum legal size for commercial fishers.
4. Undertake regular fishery independent trawl surveys to establish a time series of data to monitor stock abundance, estimate biomass and age a representative sample of population.
5. Oppose the use of mobile bottom contact fishing methods, including trawling, that causes damage to the benthic environment and reduces productivity.
6. Oppose the use of CPUE based management targets and decision rules. Significant changes to commercial fishing gear, techniques and technology, and market demand over the last 15 years means that gurnard Catch Per Unit Effort (CPUE) is not an adequate measure of relative abundance for making management decisions.
7. Apply a precautionary approach when setting to fisheries management settings to account for the mixed species fishery that dominates commercial gurnard catches.
8. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council will initiate research and consultation with recreational fishers about measures that could be embraced to reduce fishing related mortality, to better look after the environment and to accelerate the rebuild of gurnard stocks. This includes the FishCare guides with practical advice and voluntary measures to help recreational fishers achieve these outcomes.
9. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council will encourage recreational fisheries to cooperate with fisheries harvest surveys that are fit for purpose and have been peer reviewed.

This was discussed.

The policy was moved by Vance Fulton seconded by Mark Connor – Carried

# National Tarakihi Policy July 2022

## Policy

* + Restore tarakihi abundance around New Zealand to 50% unfished biomass
    - The stocks will be rebuilt and maintained at or above the target level in each fisheries management area.
    - The stocks can meet the reasonably foreseeable needs of future generations; and
    - Those needs have been adequately identified and allowed for.

## Problem definition:

* + Tarakihi were once abundant on the east coast of New Zealand and supported important recreational and customary non-commercial fisheries.
  + There is poor information for tarakihi so the eastern stocks of TAR 1 & 7, TAR 2 and 3 are managed as one stock.
  + The stock assessments have indicated that the eastern tarakihi stock has been below the soft limit since the early 2000s and had an overall downward trend for approximately 30 years, reaching its lowest point around 2014.
  + The main commercial fishing method for tarakihi is bottom trawling. Bycatch species in the east coast tarakihi trawl fishery include john dory, trevally, red gurnard, snapper, and red cod.
  + The eastern tarakihi population has been slow to respond to the 20% reduction in Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) in 2018, plus the 10% TACC reduction and the industry rebuild plan in 2019. National Panel Survey estimates show recreational harvest declined between 2012 and 2018. In 2018 the combined allowance for recreational fishing interests in eastern TAR was reduced from 652 t to 221 t (-66%).
  + It is suggested by Ministry that once tarakihi numbers reach a soft limit of 20% unfished biomass, catches will increase. Fisheries New Zealand view this outcome as a substantial rebuild. There is an unwillingness to make decisive catch reductions to rebuild to an accepted target in a reasonable timeframe, and sustainable depletion (see Glossary 1) is likely to persist.

## Objectives

1. Improve yield per recruit by reducing the mortality of small fish.
2. Phase out the use of trawl gear in inshore waters and important spawning grounds.
3. Encourage an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management and human-induced impacts on our marine environment.
4. Maintain a high-value niche fishery for commercial, recreational, and customary fishers.

## Strategy

1. A 45% reduction of the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC), subject to flexibility. Reduce the eastern tarakihi TACC in 2022 to ensure rebuild targets are reached by 2032.
2. Divide TAR 1 into two separate management areas into separate east and west coast Quota Management Areas.
3. Protect juvenile tarakihi by applying a ‘move on’ rule if more than 10% (by number) are being caught in an area.
4. Line fishers to use circle hooks that are size 4/0 or larger for tarakihi to lessen likelihood of gut-hooking.
5. Support a mixed amateur daily bag limit, which includes tarakihi, of 20 finfish per person in the North Island, and 30 finfish per person in the South Island. The South Island clubs do not support any change to the status quo.

## Discussion and rationale

1. Tarakihi was introduced into the Quota Management System (QMS) in 1986. The commercial fishing year for tarakihi is 1 October to 30 September the following year.
2. The tarakihi fishery developed with the introduction of steam trawlers in the 1890s, and by the mid-1930s annual catches had increased to about 2000 tonnes (t).
3. Annual catches increased substantially from the mid-1940s, and catches were estimated to be between 5000 to 6000 t per annum during the years 1950 to 1981.
4. Since 1986 total landings increased from 4446 t to 6119 t in 2002, and remained around 5000-6000 t until 2019, declining to around 4400 t in 2020.
5. Tarakihi fillets retail for around $30 per kilo. Unlike other fish species, around 11% of tarakihi are exported, and the rest is sold/consumed in New Zealand. With such a high price for fish fillets, it is important we conserve fish so everyone can enjoy catching tarakihi, and future generations have a fair go at enjoying tarakihi also.
6. A rebuild plan for east coast tarakihi was introduced by the-then Minister in 2019, a plan written by Southern Inshore Fisheries, Fisheries Inshore New Zealand, and Te Ohu Kai Moana. The plan failed to rebuild east coast tarakihi, and in 2021 a High Court decision ruled that Minister Nash’s decision was not conservative enough. Commercial interests appealed the High Court decision and as of mid-2022 the Court of Appeal has not released its decision on the future management of the east coast tarakihi stock.
7. The plan included a commitment from commercial fishers to stop trawling in QMA 3 areas where populations of juvenile tarakihi live. From 2019 to 2021, it was revealed compliance to this aspect was only fulfilled 50% of the time.
8. In 2021, east coast tarakihi were estimated to be at 19.3% of unfished biomass (B19).
9. Areas TAR 1E, 7E, 2, 3 (East coast of both North and South Islands) account for 60% of tarakihi catch in New Zealand.
10. Tarakihi fishing areas 4, 5 & 8 have never been assessed. FNZ describes TAR 4 (Chatham Islands) as ‘lightly fished’. (May Plenary, vol 3, 2022).
11. Spawning biomass of tarakihi (all areas) has decreased between 20-30% since 1975.
12. FNZ suggest that the change in stock status most likely indicates “a more accurate estimation of abundance as a result of refinements to the modelling”. There is no explanation of the changes to the modelling so an informed response to this statement is not possible. ([Joint recreational submission, 2021).](https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/TAR-submission-recreational-9-Aug-2021.pdf)
13. There are only three main spawning areas for tarakihi in New Zealand. These are habitats of particular significance for fisheries management that need to be protected. Companies targeting spawning aggregations use up ACE that is needed to cover bycatch in the rest of the year.

## Glossary

1. **Sustainable depletion -** Most commercially fished marine finfish species have high reproductive potential, with large **numbers** of **fertilised** eggs **broadcast** into the **environment. They are much less at risk of** catastrophic decline than marine mammals, turtles, or sharks. Stocks of finfish can be sustained at depleted levels for long periods due to overfishing. This can be caused by Growth Overfishing, when too many small fish are caught

and/or Recruitment Overfishing when reproductive output declines significantly due to depletion of breeding stock.

John Holdsworth – advised a stock assessment has pulled together all the stock and had movement between those areas. The Policy is not specific, but it is an example of errors. This is a wait and see policy now and covers where NZSFC is at the moment.

Moved – Ken Barry seconded Heyden Johnston – carried

# National Pāua Policy

## Policy

* + Monitor and support local initiatives to enhance customary and recreational fisheries, while sustaining a niche commercial fishery.

## Problem definition

* + Pāua is one of New Zealand’s most valued species for customary and recreational fishers. Regional differences such as fishing population size and pāua population size between pāua fisheries means differing pressures on each fishery. In anticipating changes to recreational fishing management of pāua, we aim for all clubs to follow a respectful NZSFC pāua policy.

## Objectives

* + Due to regional differences in fishing pressure, management controls, environmental conditions, and stock monitoring a regional approach to management is required. As each pāua fishery differs largely, instead of making it species specific, the policy must emphasise flexibility around local input and adaptive management.
  + Pāua policy will differ between regions. We endorse localised fine-scale spatial management of pāua such as Ahu Moana.
  + Maintain a high-value niche fishery for commercial, recreational and customary fishers.

## Strategy

* + Apply localised fine-scale spatial management to pāua fisheries nationwide.
  + Support applications for customary management controls proposed by hapu.

## Discussion and rationale

* + Pāua is an important marine species highly valued by customary, amateur, and commercial fisheries, as well as having a strong presence in international markets.
  + The 2021 Fisheries Assessment document, application of fine-scale spatialised management to allow fishing in areas with high abundance and shut areas with low populations until they recover is recommended.
  + Pāua abundances differ between areas, providing an environmental rationale for localised management.
  + Pāua are haemophiliacs and have no blood clotting agent, so they are highly prone to release mortality if cut when removed from rocks. Differing the size limit from 125mm would only exacerbate release mortality in the recreational fishery because amateur fishers

are generally less experienced than commercial fishers, and therefore handle more unsized

pāua.

* + Pāua form large aggregations on reefs in shallow sub-tidal coastal habitats. They do not move much, so considered sedentary.
  + Pāua are broadcast spawners, spawning annually. Growth, shape, and recruitment can vary over short distances and may be influenced by wave exposure, habitat structure, availability of food and population density.
  + Localised fishing pressure makes pāua vulnerable to recruitment failure, impacting overall productivity. Changes in environmental conditions, loss of drift algae, increased water temperatures, sedimentation and run-off can all influence the health and viability of pāua populations.

John Holdsworth – this is a national policy and why it is so general. Each area is quite different. We need one that supports local areas local management decisions and clubs.

Moved Bill McGarry – seconded Mark Connor – Carried

# Forage Fish Policy

## Policy

* + The NZSFC does not support industrial harvest of forage fish for low value export or to feed reared fish in aquaculture.

## Problem definition:

* + Forage fish, more commonly known as ‘bait fish’ are critical to the health of the wider marine ecosystem.
  + Forage fish are schooling fish species that are prey for larger game fish, marine mammals, and seabirds. They are distinguished by their feeding and schooling habits. They feed on zooplankton species, such as krill (in New Zealand), transforming zooplankton production to food at higher trophic levels (see Glossary 1).
  + Forage fish species are a vital component of the marine food web, as consumer and prey.
  + It is critical that forage fish populations remain or rebuild to high unfished biomass levels.
  + There is little science and stock assessments to tell us forage fish numbers in New Zealand, yet for species such as skipjack tuna catches are declining. Despite this, bulk harvest by purse seine occurs.
  + There are economic and social values attributed to forage fish, yet in New Zealand they are exported and bulk-harvested without environmental consideration. See the below example, under point 4 in discussion/rationale.

## Objectives:

1. Prevent over-exploitation/ exploitation, and unintended bycatch, of forage fish species using industrial, bulk-harvesting, fishing methods.
2. Highlight importance of forage fish species in marine ecosystems.
3. Maintain a high-value niche fishery for commercial, recreational, and customary fishers.

## Strategy

1. Adopt conservative measures when adjusting catch allowances.
2. Develop public awareness material designed to help the public understand the critical importance of these species in the ecosystem and how overharvest risks cascading impacts on other predatory species such as kingfish, marlin, and tuna.
3. Apply an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, as forage fish are a vital component of marine food webs.
4. Support an amateur daily bag limit of 50 forage fish, excluding large blue mackerel, skipjack tuna, kahawai, or mullet species.

## Discussion/ rationale:

1. Forage fish also called prey fish or [bait fish,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bait_fish) are small [pelagic fish](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pelagic_fish) which are preyed on by larger [predators](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Predator) for food. Predators include other larger fish, [seabirds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seabird) and [marine mammals](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Marine_mammal).
2. Forage fish are considered keystone species due to their wide abundance and availability as prey for a variety of marine species.
3. Forage fish species in New Zealand include, but are not limited to:
   1. jack mackerel and other mackerel species
   2. yellow-eye mullet & grey mullet
   3. kahawai
   4. skipjack tuna
   5. koheru
   6. piper/garfish
   7. pilchard
   8. barracouta
4. Forage fish occupy an intermediary niche between predators and zooplankton species. Overfishing of forage fish could in result in a trophic reorganization (see glossary 1) of set marine ecosystem, negatively affecting abundance of predators.
5. Forage fish species such as jack mackerel, often go undistinguished as part of a species complex when caught and exported.
6. In New Zealand, forage fish are mostly caught by purse seining. Some species such as jack mackerel are caught by midwater trawl.
7. Most forage fish are exported, and blue mackerel in 2021 was exported for $1.44/kg (whole and processed fish average).

## Glossary

1. **Trophic levels -** Are the hierarchical stages of different organisms sharing functions in the food chain and have similar nutritional relationships to the primary source(s) of energy. Singularly, the trophic level of an organism is its occupied position in the food chain.

Sam Woolford – this is to encourage responsible harvest of these fish and try to leave them in the water, so we encourage growth of the predator species.

Ian Steele noted that videos and information about these policies are going on social media channels such as Facebook and Instagram so that the public is aware of them and what they mean to recreational fishers.

Moved Mark Hemingway seconded Ken Barry – Carried

# Ahu Moana Panel Discussion

Sam Woolford led a discussion re Ahu Moana and the great work that the Coromandel community, clubs and Iwi have done recently protecting the area and how good it would be if the concept was carried on around the country.

Dirk Sieling advised that discussions have been had for a while now about the ahi moana concept. Ngati Hei and the local community worked hard together to get a result with the rahui on scallops in the coromandel and he pointed out that this was in fact Ahu Moana in action. Community and Iwi standing together to better the marine environment. He feels that if this gets supported by science then will be a very strong tool.

Warren Maher – Tairua Pauanui Club – advised that as we already we had a scallop policy and this helped us move forward quickly. Opitio ratepayers contacted LegaSea due to their frustration with nothing happening and along with all the local clubs, Mercury Bay, Tairua Pauanui, Matarangi and LegaSea they worked together to obtain scientific evidence, working with all the communities. The team then decided to put a Rahui over the area.

They advised the public that they were likeminded people with likeminded concepts that want to protect their local marine environment. This included customary rights. Lots of people asked what Rahui was and what it meant to them. Warren advised that the Ahu Moana policy was like minded members of the community from all the different community groups working together to find a solution.

The Ministry then saw how powerful this was to have a letter coming to them from all the groups advising they were all in agreement and the Ministry decided that they would legalise this, and have the area protected for two years. Other areas saw this happening and wanted to do the same thing for their areas. It has been proven that this is a valuable tool that can work with our clubs, and Iwi and our communities to get things done. This tool also worked for the problem with Pink Maomao. Local Iwi are the only group that have tools to help that can work quickly. To grow this from Rahui to an Ahu Moana policy is the obvious solution.

Joe Davis introduced himself. He is Ngati Hei. He said without the collaborative effort these projects would not have got over the line. It is valuable that we are doing our own research, and this is very important to review in two years’ time.

# Ahu Moana Policy

## Policy

* The NZSFC recognises Ahu Moana as a form of localised fine-scale spatial adaptive

management and will offer assistance and encouragement to build relationships between local fishing clubs, communities and mana whenua.

## Problem definition

* Ahu Moana is localised marine management by mana whenua and local communities.
* The managed area would generally extend from Mean High-Water Springs (the high- tide mark) out to 1 kilometre offshore. In some places, it would extend further to take in significant fisheries or places.
* In attempting to evolve fisheries management, new systems with more local and indigenous involvement need to be at the forefront.
* Communities need a solution to rebuild local abundance of marine life that avoids both the inflexibility of no-take High Protection Areas and Marine Protected Areas (marine reserves) and the ineffectiveness of management at the Quota Management Area level.
* Ahu Moana is a community-based alternative to no-take High Protection Areas.

## Objectives

* 1. The NZSFC supports the application of Ahu Moana –
     1. When engagement, participation and consultation are offered to community and relevant clubs to work alongside mana whenua.
     2. To be included as a section in the Fisheries Act 1996.

## Strategy

1. Build relationships between fishing clubs and mana whenua, to pave the way for future collaboration around localised fisheries management.
2. Support Ahu Moana management if it meets the above objectives, in public consultation, public awareness, and co-managing capacity.

## Discussion

1. In the past the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council has demonstrated consistent collaboration with mana whenua.
2. Application of Ahu Moana aims to restore abundance and diversity of marine life in local waters and revitalise the mauri (see Glossary 1) of the area.
3. Ahu Moana will also allow for application of special rules for recreational and customary harvest, and exclusion of commercial fishing from the appointed area.
4. The bringing together of mātauranga Māori and local knowledge, including that of recreational and small-scale commercial fishers, alongside scientific data, can better provide responsive and adaptive management and strengthen mana whenua relationships with local communities in their shared spaces1.
5. A steerage committee would be established. It would include mana whenua, local commercial fishers, recreational fishers, divers and spear fishers and environmental

concerns. This committee would be supported by subject matter experts from NIWA, MPI or DOC etc.

1. The committee would be responsible fordeveloping a restoration plan addressing localised issues in the area. This may include a set of specific rules for boating, fishing and/or accessing the area. For example, most shellfish species are ideal for Ahu Moana application as they are sedentary, local species.

Change wording to “definition” not “problem definition” and to change the last line of the policy to

add the word “communities” between fishing clubs and mana whenua.

# Warren Maher moved that the amendments be approved, seconded Bob Gutsell – carried

Point 3 was discussed

Amendment was discussed that clause three to delete wording “and exclusion of commercial

fishing”

1. Ahu Moana will also allow for application of special rules for recreational and customary harvest and commercial fishing from within the appointed area.

# Amendment no 2 Policy moved by Wayne Bicknell seconded Grant McIvor – carried

Mark Kelly – suggested take out the word “will also” and replace with may in clause three first line and take out the second and ….

* + 1. Ahu Moana may also allow for application of special rules for recreational, customary harvest and commercial fishing from within the appointed area.

# Mark Kelly moved this amendment – seconded Kelvin Mowatt – carried

Ed Beetham – will the one kilometre out would this restrict the point that was trying to protect. It was advised that there was reference to further out if necessary.

# Policy moved Wayne Bicknell seconded Warren Maher – carried.

## Customary Fisheries management Tools Policy

***Policy***

* The NZSFC recognises the suite of customary fisheries management tools, and we encourage our affiliated clubs to take any opportunity to engage and participate with mana whenua to further develop these tools.

## Discussion

1. We have no confidence in the Quota Management System to bring the necessary timely and fine scale management responses required to restore the abundance of our nearshore marine environment.
2. Developing and nourishing good working relationships with mana whenua can only benefit the marine environment, fisheries, and long-term community relationships.
3. The Quota Management System is failing our intertidal and nearshore fisheries, not to mention the communities that depend upon them for their social and cultural well-being.
4. The public have been stripped of fine scale local management mechanisms.
5. Tangata whenua have had both their kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga obligations recognised in statute with the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi Fisheries Settlement Deed and subsequent legislation that enables **mātaitai and taiāpure** customary fisheries management mechanisms as well as the customary fishing regulations for Māori (and others who may be endorsed by the permit issuers - ngā kaitiaki) to provide for tangi and other important hui, occasions.
6. Māori have a strong connection with kai moana, and it is vital to satisfy their sacred obligation to manaaki manuhiri (provide proper hospitality for visitors)
7. **Rāhui** - is an age-old Māori practice used to regulate human activity for the future well-being of the people and natural resources such as fisheries. ‘Rāhui’ translates ‘to prohibit, or a prohibition’. It is used in the form of restriction/ prohibition of a resource, area, or activity. In fisheries it is used to ban harvesting of a particular species and can also apply to ban harvesting from a specific area. Rāhui is not something taken lightly by kuia and kaumatua when being laid. This is a binding obligation on themselves and to breach it is unthinkable for those engaged.
8. However, rāhui is not binding or enforceable on the public or commercial fishing sector. This is where **Section 186a and 186b (South Island) two-year regulatory closures** may be applied for. These mechanisms are administered by well-established statutory processes whereby Fisheries New Zealand must consult with all affected parties, consider submissions, make recommendations to their Minister who then decides whether to approve such a closure. This process is renewable.
9. The NZSFC has had good experiences and outcomes working with mana whenua to implement mātaitai, rāhui and Section 186a closures.
10. A good example is the Ngāti Hei rāhui, which the NZSFC and LegaSea were raising public awareness around and supporting local iwi in spreading the word from 2020 onwards.
11. In 2021, we worked with Ngāti Pāoa to lay down rāhui around Waiheke for scallops, mussels,

crayfish and pāua. This was followed by a Section 186a closure process.

1. As of 2021, we are working with Ngāti Manuhiri and local communities to achieve rāhui and S186a closure for scallops.
2. In the Bay of Islands, the Council and club have developed excellent relationships with mana whenua working together on the Te Puna mātaitai and the subsequent bylaw promulgation for no-take of mussels from the Black Rocks.
3. Ahu Moana is a form of localized management, a collaborative process between mana whenua and local communities. It is not a customary fisheries management tool, as its

strength lies in the collaborative process between stakeholders. See NZSFC Ahu Moana Policy.

Warren Maher – put forward a clarification that these tools will be flexible and can be changed when required. The group will get together to discuss and see how this can be fixed. This is around recognising the tools that are available to iwi already and not only the Ahu Moana policy

# Moved Warren Maher – Wayne Bicknell – carried

**NZ Marine Research Foundation – Jeff Romeril Report as attached.**

Things achieved

* + History of John Chibnall – video documentary which spans the 50 plus years of his involvement.
  + Looked at upgrading website – this is underway – documents and applications online
  + Marlin satellite tagging programme is still going but should finish this year
  + King salmon Marlborough Sounds – this is still working through the process.
  + World Rec Fishing Conference – John Holdsworth was going to attend but cancelled due to Covid, but one will be held in Melbourne next year.
  + Bronze Whaler shark research through Auckland University – they are planning to put in an application.

Finances are healthy and the Foundation is ready to accept suitable grants for research.

Jeff thanked the Council and clubs for their support and also for the use of Helen’s services with admin and secretarial services.

This year we lost John Chibnall as a Trustee. Video will be on the NZSFC Website and the new NZMRF website.

Report moved Mark Hemingway seconded Mark Connor – report accepted

John Holdsworth continued the remainder of his Blue Water Marine Research report which has been amalgamated with the first part of his report.

Ian Twist explained the process for the evening and parking.

PIC Virtual Fishing Comp will be held downstairs from 6.00pm onwards

*Meeting closed for the evening to reconvene at 9.00am tomorrow.*

***Meeting opened 9.00am***

# Legasea report – Sam Woolford

LegaSea report attached in Annual Report.

Sam Acknowledged the team. Thanked them all and advised that they are growing. He advised that we have a talented group of people who are all working well together.

Last couple of years :-

* + - Blue Cod 3
    - Coromandel Scallops
    - Snapper 8
    - Hauraki Gulf Alliance
    - Fisheries Amendment Bill 2022

More and more engagements are happening and we are engaging more and more people.

Up to 70,000 people involved and the issues are increasing. Information from the Ministry is difficult. Feels that the community is being separated and it is increasing hard to understand the benefit of this behaviour.

HGA is a unique campaign. For this one we have been in the room with all of the stakeholders, and this has shown that we are working together and show that this is a community led initiative. It is so good that we are all in step with organisations that we have historically been battling against and it a powerful thing to show that when we all agree on something we can and will all work together.

# Kai Ika – Dallas

* + 250,000kg of previously unwanted fish parts recovered
  + Kai Ika gained a highly commended for a New Zealand Sustainable business award at the Tamaki Makaurau Zero Waster Awards
  + Employs 2 full time and 3 part time filleters
  + Fed thousands of families

# Fish Filleting

* + Events trailer is available for clubs and events
  + Fish care is another programme Legasea – the plan is to invest in this and go forward with this programme.
  + Tamaki Makaurau zero waste award nomination and the Westhaven Sustainability Award.
  + Hi Ika cards have now been published in collaboration with the Turkish Bread company. 2 million cards have been distributed and have gained 15,000 new subscribers. Another campaign will be around shark species.
  + Dallas thanked all the sponsors.

Sam went through all the items that they are involved with currently. Advised that they are currently being pulled different directions and are working hard to make sure that all is covered and thanked NZSFC for their support in the submissions and public forum.

# Campaigns - Fisheries Management.

Trish Rae advised the support from LegaSea for the Council and how successful

* + Blue Cod – 1500 submissions on blue cod 3. East Coast South Island.
  + Scallops – Coromandel scallop – 2,200 individual submissions through LegaSea.
  + Snapper 8 – work was done with different agencies to make videos and information and 9,500 submissions were received.
  + Waikato Coastal plan – 2,700 submissions
  + Fisheries Amendment Bill – 6,500 submissions

This shows the reach we are receiving through LegaSea. The combination of the reach to the public and also have the solid base of NZSFC membership and policy to work with. Sam pointed out that the budget is for one big campaigns a year but this year 3 others were not budgeted for and things are accelerating.

Trish thanked the great responsive team that they have and managed to get things done. DS thanked the team for all their work. WM advised that the work on the scallop plan enabled us to reach out to other clubs in the region and donations have been received and thanked the team. SM advised how funds were distributed.

John Holdsworth – submission process on the fisheries habitats of significance and this is quite significant as this could push back on some of these rulings and if we can show that near show environment this will help us with our submissions and strategies. TR - Due to the Motiti court ruling, regional councils are now looking at their coastal marine plans as they have been drawn into this space as they now have jurisdiction out to the 12-mile territorial sea. They have been directed to start looking at ways they can protect the seabed. Councils are trying to work out how they could do this and they asked what we thought were the areas of significance. LegaSea pushed back to make sure the plans were realistic and reasonable.

# Fisheries Management – Mark Connor

Mark referred to the Fisheries Management report which has been distributed.

* + 19 comprehensive submissions
  + Sydney and Momoko have been working more with the team.
  + Work in the regions such as Bay of Islands, Coromandel, Kaikoura and Taranaki
  + Snapper 8 – Mark commented that MPI was instructed to have a management plan for the stock. At this stage we have not seen a plan or even information on what is being consider. Snapper 8 is being challenged.
  + Fisheries Amendment bill will be discussed in full later in the meeting.

Mark thanked the teams for all their hard work both the LegaSea team contractors and the Fisheries Management teams. Mark also thanked both Scott Macindoe and Bob Gutsell for their contributions.

**Momoko Burgess – Scallop discussion**. Trish Rae introduced Momoko who is working closely with Trish. She has been working with communities and the NZSFC on restoring scallop beds. She reported on the science of scallop beds and how we can help to restore the species. She advised that the best way is to keep dredging out and encouraged members to support the Hauraki Gulf Alliance. Clean habitat and clean water are needed. Studies have shown that another big problem is sediment from dredging and forestry.

It has been suggested that we should consider farming scallops in this country. Discussion was had around the problem of dredging and keeping environments healthy and important spawning areas.

Andrew Johnson – He has been involved in how nzsfc spend $100,000 to allow northland fishers to fish in their area. The Motiti experience has shown that if these three characteristics are met being:-

* + Outstanding Natural Landscape
  + Significant Biodiversity
  + Culturally significant

Then the regional councils have the jurisdiction to start managing those areas. This is a whole new format on the way we have to deal with this. The risk is that this could bring about the closure of very large areas. The council is now aware of this issue and has been very strong in refuting the evidence supplied. Andrew Johnson thanked the Council for their time and effort with the Northland area. The court has asked that they go back and find a Fisheries Act solution that works better than an RMA solution. One big red light issue is the new proposed resource management act because if they encroach more on the Fisheries Management Act we will really be in trouble.

# LegaSea Hawkes Bay - Wayne Bicknell and John Stewart

* + 6 Wharf project involving building a new 350m wharf in Napier Port. This required dredging of 3.2 million cubic meters of material. Now have a monitoring programme to protect the reefs.
  + After meetings with regional council HB LegaSea were able to achieve 4 principal assurances.
* 1. Increased levels of monitoring during the dredging programme project.
* 2. Guaranteed LegaSea Hawkes Bay representation on the yet to be formed Fisheries Liaison Group that would monitor environmental issues of the whole project and to have input into the various management plans.
* 3. Commitment to continue sponsor the Hawkes Bay Sport Fishing Club Family Classic for 5 years; and
* 4. Napier port would establish an artificial reef for recreational fishing subject to consent and the material for that reef would be provided from the Port from repurposed rock wall that was surplus to requirements.
  + Artificial Reefs - in conjunction with the 6 Wharf project they have been created to provide for a fisher habitat in Hawkes Bay. The sea floor has improved since the reef has been established. Have an application with MPI for a customary research grant for seeding and monitoring. There is also a two year Rahui S.186A over the area.
  + Have identified bottom trawling issues. Discussions re silt filtration.
  + Ahuriri Estuary enhancement. $10,00 donated by the estate of Barry Rollo - and they are now planting 3,000 trees.

# Fisheries Amendment Bill – Trish Rae

Notice came out in November last year. This was not initially actioned on but in May this year it was noticed that there were issues that we needed to act on. Submission set in June.

SM – He is proud that we have become so sophisticated in our approach and that we have a good team of experts. Commercial are putting on extreme pressure and this is one of the driving forces of this amendment bill.

TR – Bill has 5 elements to it.

* + Land or Catch – with exemptions which could be quite extensive. Graduated offences for fish dumped for which we have not got involved with.
  + Technical changes to allow rule changes
  + Pre-set decision rules. This means that the rules can be changed without having to be approved by the minister. Concern is that the pre-set rule can be manipulated and cannot rely on only catch rates data. Our call was for more precautionary management and the decision to be Ministerial discretion. Public was advised that there will be no public consultation in the future once this bill is approved.
  + Changes in recreational rules by regulation.

Discussion was had with the Minister regarding these elements. Minister was advised that if he cant do anything else to make sure that the limit be B50 biomass for all fisheries. Sustainability is a big issues these days as well so we do need to leave more fish in the water.

DN – Has rescue fish gone by the board? Answer Rescue Fish will go on. We have found that it is easier to work on individual sections as this works with the local public.

KB – snapper 8 sustainability is good – advised that all the other fisheries are down almost to 20%. Other fisheries are suffering. Concern should be given to interdependent species.

Whole point of Rescue fish was to support the individual fishermen – so rescue fish is the roadmap. Using the opportunities we have now, will to create a precedent for going forward.

Discussion was had about how to measure B50 as commercial fisheries do not have any monitoring of biomass.

WM – Thanks to Jo Davis for sitting at the table and giving confidence that this is an inclusive group and that we can move forward with the Ahu Moana policy.

# Incorporated Society – Guy Beatson – General Manager of the Governance leadership centre in the Institute of Directors

**Changes from 1908 to 2022 Act**

* + An incorporated society can now be of 10 people, but it has to be 10 people constantly.
  + There is now a dispute resolution
  + The new legislation requires you to have a committee and the requirement of the board have to be members of the society. The concept of an officer is explained.
  + Officers duties have caused worries but this covers some standard points to cover members and same if you happen to be a company director.
  + An AGM must be held within 15 months of the society’s financial year end.
  + Financial statements must be filed 6 months after financial year and financial statements must appear consistently.
  + Winding up and criminal offences are explained.

Rules are in place as from the 1st of July. Need to look at your consitition.

# pillars of governance practice are:-

1. **Purpose – be clear what you are there for** Make sure your Constitution is acceptable Needs purpose and strategy

# Making a difference in the future Society best interests – memberships

Focus on the best interests of the entity

1. **Holding to account** – oversight – transparency – monitoring progress are important
2. **Effective compliance** – complying with the spirit of the law

Delivering wider community outcomes – eg health and safety and safeguarding suppliers Safeguarding society and committee members

Progress has already been made in Sports sector initiatives and also a community governance mode / evaluation and a short form governance code.

April 2022 – new act has been passed but do not have to do something immediately. During May 2022 to September 2023 regulations will be developed. Re-registration won’t start till October 2023 and have till April 2026.

Courtenay – Raglan club – what does consistent membership mean – it means you must maintain the membership number.

PK – asked re clubs are having trouble with governance and governance and management – is there any governance assistance and training available. Answer - the duties will help with this conflict.

The Institute does offer training and also community-based providers are available. At lunch photos will be taken of board members and the whole group

**IGFA - Report - Mark Hemingway**

IGFA has set up an Oceania committee -South Pacific. This has been more difficult than first thought due to rules in Australia regarding working with children. Mark Hemingway and Richard Baker went to Sydney for a meeting and this tended to be around the new constitution. Discussion was also had around sponsors to ensure that any funds gained by the Oceania committee could be used in Oceania and not absorbed into the IGFA funds.

Passports of Fishing – these have now come up with a traffic light system. Beginner intermediate and experienced. This will lead to fishing clinics which will be targeted game fishing, inshore fishing and land based fishing.

Met Indi from Tuna Champions which we saw yesterday. She advised she would help where she could and would like to come to New Zealand next year.

Pete Saul has been working on the records side of things.

Mark acknowledged John Chibnall who was a life member of IGFA and he will be sadly missed. Moved Vance Fulton – seconded Phil Appleyard – carried

# Youth Committee - Warren Maher

A photo montage was shown during this presentation of the Youth Nationals.

Thanks to the committee: Mark Hemingway, Ian Steele, Cie Robinson-Bates, Warren Maher and Helen Pastor for their work. Steven Stanford was also on the committee for a short time. Also, a big thanks to the kids – we asked for kids who want to be involved. They gave us the input for the youth nationals. Daiwa and Fuji Film NZ supported the youth nationals and have advised they will come on board next year. We ended up with 208 anglers out of 22 clubs over the school holidays. Everyone had fun. One of the resounding points that came about was that the clubs who put another competition at the same time of the youth nationals were more successful. Feedback was great and

parents advised that they loved the time to bond with the kids. Sadly, clubs have let us down with our overall trophy. We just needed clubs to support this. So Warren asked that clubs get their act together ad get them into us.

Next nationals will be the 7th till the 23rd of April 2023.

We are forming a Youth Trust. We have called it the Oceans Trust and have a Te Reo name to go with it – we need to have the name gifted and are finalising this over the next few weeks. This will be a vehicle moving forward for us to use to get funding and also to be able to fund projects on things like water safety, the sea to the plate, bringing in schools with other organisations. A Workshop is going to happen in Whangarei to discuss the trust and programme moving forward with a teaching programme.

The committee is looking forward to a positive outcome for the next year.

TA asked re age groups. Warren advised the rules are being looked at to make them less confusing. Also, the age point is aligned with the schools and not necessarily with our club age groups. It was noted that the primary age group goes from 0 – 12 and entry forms will be looked at.

Moved Bob Gutsell and Warren Harris – seconded

# Communications plan - Ian Steele

Last 12 months has been a game to two halves with solidification of approach and messaging, changes in personnel and swings and misses.

We have a new chairperson – Cie Robinson-Bates from Tairua Club and joining the committee are Benn Winlove from LegaSea, Alistair Arkell for social media and the new committee from the board of Phil Keogh, Andrew Johnson, Ian Steele and Helen Pastor.

# Recent Progress is

* Development of the social media platform
* Schedule social media posts
* Increase followers
* Development of groups – presidents’ group is a start. This can be used as a forum for presidents to discuss amongst themselves as well as a platform for the committee to get information out there.
* Develop Job Description for club delegate. Main reason for this is something consistent to give to those who wish to get involved to know what the job entails.
* Development of a resource for clubs called “the Tackle Box”. This has been worked on for the last 6 months and we are in the final states of development and working on the back end. There will be a login for each club.

Facebook following has increased a lot and we now stand at 9,000.

Ian gave a rundown of how the tackle box page. This will have folders available with documents to use. He asked for any input that they would like to see in here. Suggestions was some governance documents.

Comms committee has tried hard to promote specific events. Ian shared a run sheet for the AGM with regard to social media as an example of how we break it down.

# Next steps

* Monthly summary of communications to clubs
* Partnership – getting our clubs to know each other. Ensure that the communication is stronger when our clubs communicate.
* Helping club get social media going

# Education

* Technical – SST, tips and tricks – source of knowledge
* Video content
* Fishcare
* Create your own u-tube channel

# Recruit

* Help club recruit members and retain member
* Recruit non-affiliated clubs
* Youth Recruitment – schools’ information – joint discuss around a learning package for schools.
* Develop recognition of NZSFC with the wider public and also the linkage of NZSFC and LegaSea.

Alistair – social media – asked for information or stories and asked the room for cool stories and input.

HJ suggested we have a policy on social media. Answer is that we have a draft policy that is in the tacklebox but it was also suggested to have a training programme/workshop.

Warren asked the room to thank Alistair and the comms committee for their work Moved Deryk Nielson and Phil Appleyard – carried

# CEO Replacement Project 2022 – Ian Steele

In 2019 the board had a goal to take the council to the next level. Looked to do that by appointing a CEO. This was developing income, seek grants, deliver strategy. Through 150 applications and appointed Steven Stanford.

In 222 we can say that we were not successful and our aspirations were not fulfilled. Income did not grow through grants as expected.

Value in the role by getting a NZ Sport grant and development of relationships. Steven advised that he was resigning.

Sub committee was formed in the July board meeting. This committee was made up of Ian Steele, Bob Gutsell, Warren Maher and Andrew Johnson. We also locked in Rowan Larsen who is a HR specialist to help with our exit interview and recruitment advice.

We had a needs assessment on the role and a revised job description and advertisement was agreed upon. Summary of this was a less corporate position focussed on grass roots of our council.

* Relationship focus – clubs’ stakeholders and to know what is going on
* Develop a network – clubs to clubs, NSFC to club at all levels
* Focus on the doing – getting stuff done problem solving and connecting with people
* Sponsor recruitment and management – bond with sponsors
* Grant application and preparation – we have been working with Jess from LegaSea in this space.

Person description might include:-

* Natural communicator – happy to visit and share a beer with clubs
* Level of ability to deal with detail – understand clubs and people
* Experience with working with volunteers – patient and persistent
* Ideally like or understand fishing – maybe an ex-club Manager etc
* Hours – full time but will consider someone in a part time space. We need flexibility in our organisation.

Location somewhere between Warkworth to south of Hamilton so within a 2 or 3 hour drive they are not too far away.

At this stage we are still in the searching role and happy to chat with anyone who is interested and will take one step at a time.

SM – talked about sharing and collaborating a staff member. He suggested a network of regional support officers which could help our clubs.

Move report Warren Maher seconded Mark Hemingway carried

# General Business Nationals Shirts

Mark Hemingway – Nationals shirts. Asked if clubs would support a shirt for the nationals 2023. The

Majority agreed that this was a great idea. It was agreed that clubs would have the option to have their clubs on them. SM suggested we include Barkers in this discussion.

Kevin – tournaments to run at clubs are getting harder these days. Suggested an ideas forum could they put it out somewhere other clubs can use it. IS certainly encouraged this.

# Fisheries Amendment Bill

Momoko Burgess – asked for the FAB it is important for us and asked what clubs and individuals can do about this issue? Trish advised it is hard to know because it looks like it is following through.

Maybe we can send out information for a supplementary paper. Scott Macindoe advised members to get on the phone and contact your MP and advise your displeasure. He also mentioned that the same with the Hauraki Gulf alliance – please go to the alliance on the website, update your logo and Benn will get it on the alliance.

# Regional officer

Andrew Johnson advised that it might be better to acknowledge that a flexible role could be beneficial to us and would possibly be more than one person.

Ian introduced the new board members and members attending.

* Jeff Flyger Tairua Club new Delegate
* Dillan Flyger Tairua Club new Delegate
* Courtenay Petrie – Raglan Club new Delegate
* Marina Stewart - Hokianga BGFC – new Delegate
* Mark James – Whangamata Ocean Sports Fishing Club – new Delegate
* Tony Allan – new zone 1 rep on the board
* Andrew Johnson – New Vice President – member BOI Swordfish Club
* Gordon McIver – new President Mercury bay and new Delegate
* Phil Keogh – New Zone 3 delegate on the board and club delegate – Whangamata
* Robert Shelley – nz world fishing club - delegate
* Greg Shanley – delegate Te Aroha Club and President
* Neil Wilson – Mohua Marine Trust Golden Bay – new to the organisation
* Lex – member of terikohi sea anglers club and plan to join as a club Tributes to John Chibnall from Jeff Romeril, Peter Saunders and John Holdsworth. Ian Steele advised the delegates that John Chibnall has donated a trophy for youth. **2023 AGM – Warren Maher**

67th AGM will be held in Tairua. 22nd and 23rd of September 2023. Two hours drive from Auckland and Hamilton. Partners programmes organised. Accommodation proposals will g out and also boats in the Marina. Which will be limited 30 – 50 a night.

Transfers will collect from airports.

An on line registration form will go out in the next month or so – there will be an early bird reward. Oy was suggested in 2024 we might have a zone 8 club and will await a formal offer.

# Thanks to our sponsors

* PIC for virtual fishing
* Asahi Beer
* Maraetai Beach Boating Club for their hosting and to Ian Twist for all his hard work.

# Presidents’ shout

Motion to have a president’s shout of $1,500 on the bar – Ian Steele seconded Bob Gutsell – carried this will start at 6pm tonight.

Meeting closed 3.10pm