

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Advocacy

North Island



May 2025

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) was established in 1957 to advocate for recreational fishing interests. Incorporated fishing clubs in the North Island affiliated to the national body so they could advocate their interests in game species such as marlin, broadbill, sharks and kingfish. At the time that body was called the NZ Big Game Fishing Council. In 1975 the Fiordland Game Fishing Club was the first incorporated organisation in the south to affiliate to the Council.

Over time, the NZSFC has expanded its advocacy to a wider range of species, issues of national interest, and environmental protection. This expanded workload reflects the broader affiliated member base from both the North and South Islands.

This record is a preliminary summary of NZSFC submissions made from 2009 onwards, in response to management, policy or science processes of relevance to the North Island, including some national issues. It is preliminary because the online records are incomplete and some details have been lost over time, including many of the pre-2009 records. Updates are added as required. Currently, this is our best attempt to capture the submissions made for North Island fishing interests.

In 2012 the NZSFC established LegaSea to raise public awareness about the issues affecting our marine environment, what's at stake both regionally and nationally. With the support of the NZSFC, LegaSea is now collaborating with a wide range of fishing, environmental, and public interest representatives and organisations.

LegaSea is also inspiring people to contribute financially to help spread the load of resourcing the advocacy effort. Since inception, LegaSea has operated a 100% Commitment Policy whereby all public donations and unaffiliated club contributions are distributed to the NZSFC to be administered by the Fisheries Management Standing Committee to spend on Advocacy, Research, Education and Alignment. These four work streams feed into the NZSFC submissions.

This chronological summary of submissions excludes the many attendances at meetings, Working Group, research and management discussions, and engagement in other processes. Those engagements are reported comprehensively and separately.

2025 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Proposed amendments to the Fisheries Act.
2. Pāua commercial landing exception.
3. Resource Management Act Amendment Bill.
4. Pacific bluefin tuna (TOR) TAC review.
5. Rock lobster (CRA 2) TAC review.

2024 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Rock lobster (CRA 1) proposed management measures.
2. Aggregation limits for blue mackerel (EMA) and kahawai (KAH).
3. Taranaki s186A closure.
4. Whale Island mātaītai.
5. Snapper (SNA 8) TAC review.
6. Snapper (SNA 2), Rig (SPO 2), John dory (JDO 2) TAC review.
7. Ohiwa harbour s186A closure.
8. Resource Management Act Amendment Bill.
9. Hauraki Gulf s186A closures.
10. East Coromandel s186A closure.
11. Kina (SUR 1) daily bag limit review.
12. Kina special permit for removals.
13. Further submission on Waikato Regional Council Coastal Plan.
14. Fast-track Approvals Bill.
15. Predated Highly Migratory Species commercial landing exception.
16. Southern bluefin tuna landing commercial exception.
17. Rock lobster (CRA 3) TAC review.
18. Southern bluefin tuna (STN 1) review.

2023 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

19. Hauraki Gulf Marine Protection Bill.
20. Hauraki Gulf Trawl corridors.
21. Waikato Regional Council Coastal Plan.
22. Aotea / Great Barrier Island s186A closure.
23. Red Cod land-all catch review.
24. Kina (SUR 1A & 1B) TAC review.
25. Trevally (TRE 2) TAC review.
26. Draft Pāua 2 fisheries plan.
27. Snapper (SNA 7 & SNA 8) deemed values review.
28. Seabed mining inquiry.
29. Tutakaha s186A closure.
30. Seabird mitigation measures.
31. Hauraki Gulf fisheries plan.
32. Pāua (PAU 2) TAC review.
33. Rock Lobster (CRA 1) TAC review.
34. Napier reef s186A closure.
35. Coromandel scallop closure.

2022 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Habitats of particular significance.
2. Waimārama, Hawkes Bay s186A closure.
3. Umupuia beach, Clevedon s186A closure.
4. Hauraki Gulf Marine Protected areas proposals.

5. Review of commercial fishing in the Cape Brett to Mimiwhangata area, Northland.
6. Taranaki s186A closure.
7. Maunganui Bay, Bay of Islands s186A closure.
8. Tarakihi (TAR 1E, 2, 3, and 7E) review of sustainability measures.
9. Kingfish (KIN 3, 7, & 8) Snapper (SNA 2,) and Trevally (TRE 1), review of deemed values.
10. Waikato Regional Council Coastal Plan.
11. Te Māta, Coromandel s186A closure.
12. Fisheries Amendment Bill.
13. Technical changes to fisheries regulations.
14. Northwest Waiheke marine reserve.
15. Coromandel scallop and SCA 1 TAC review.
16. Hāpuku and Bass (BPB 7 & 8)TAC review.
17. Rock Lobster (CRA 1, 7 & 8) TAC review.

2021 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Finfish review of daily bag limits.
2. East coast Tarakihi (TAR 1, 2, 3, & 7) review.
3. Snapper (SNA 8), Gurnard (GUR 1), and Hāpuku/Bass (HBP1 & 2) TAC review.
4. Southern blue fin tuna (STN 1) TAC review.
5. Cameras on vessels.
6. Kingfish (KIN 8) deemed value review.
7. Whangaroa Harbour s186A closure.
8. Eastern Coromandel s186A closure.
9. Rock lobster (CRA 1, 3, 4, 7, & 8) and Packhorse (PCH 1)TAC review.
10. Flatfish (FLA 2) TAC review.
11. Yellow-eyed mullet (YEM 9) TAC review.
12. Waiheke Island s186A closure.

2020 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Waimārama, Hawke's Bay s186A closure.
2. Kahawai and Blue mackerel aggregation limits.
3. Kingfish (KIN 2, 3, 7, & 8) TAC review.
4. Pōrae (POR 1) TAC review.
5. Maunganui Bay, Bay of Islands s186A closure.
6. Hauraki Gulf Sea Change spatial plan.
7. Rock lobster (CRA 1, 3, 4, 7, & 8) TAC review.
8. Rock lobster annual catch entitlement.
9. Scallops (SCA 1) TAC review.
10. National Inshore Finfish Fisheries Plan.
11. RMA review.
12. National Rock lobster management group review.

2019 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Te Māta, coromandel s186A closure.
2. Pōnui, Hauraki Gulf Aquaculture.
3. Hector's and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan.

4. Tarakihi (TAR 1, 2, 3, & 7) review.
5. Hoki (HOK 1) TAC review
6. Red snapper (RSN 1 & 2) TAC review.
7. Animal welfare regulations.
8. Charter boat reporting.
9. Fisheries change programme.
10. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, & 8) TAC review.

2018 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Rock lobster (CRA 2) management review.
2. Umupuia, Clevedon s186A closure.
3. Tarakihi eastern stock (TAR 1 E, 2, 3, & 7E) TAC review.
4. Southern bluefin tuna (SBT 1) TAC review.
5. John dory (JDO 1) TAC review.
6. Flatfish (FLA 1) review.
7. Maitaitai reserve at Cape Runaway.
8. Tauranga beach access.
9. Rock lobster (CRA 2, 4, 7, & 8) TAC review.
10. Southern bluefin tuna (SBT 1) TAC review.

2017 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Fisheries Plan for highly migratory species.
2. Red cod (RCO 2) & flatfish (FLA 3) TAC review.
3. Technical advisory group.
4. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, & 7) review.

2016 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Future of our fisheries review.
2. Seabed mining, South Taranaki.
3. Rock lobster (CRA 3) TAC review.
4. Maunganui Bay, Bay of Islands s186A closure.
5. Bluenose (BNS 1, 2, 3, 7, & 8) review
6. Umupuia beach, Clevedon s186A closure.
7. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 7, & 8) aggregation limits
8. Marine Protected Areas Act.
9. Astrolabe, Bay of Plenty s186A closure.
10. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 5, 8, & 9) review.
11. Coromandel scallops management review.

2015 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Future of our Fisheries System Review.
2. Rock lobster (CRA 1, 3, 5, 7, & 9) review

2014 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Fisheries Management Area (FMA 1) policy.
2. Pacific/Southern Bluefin tuna & skipjack tuna management review.

3. Maunganui Bay, Bay of Islands s186A closure.
4. Rock lobster (CRA 2, 3, 4, 7, 9) TAC review.
5. Seabed mining, South Taranaki.

2013 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Sharks National Plan of Action.
2. Seabed mining, South Taranaki.
3. Southern bluefin tuna (STN 1) review.
4. Animal welfare.
5. Sea perch (SPE 1) TAC review.
6. Snapper (SNA 1) review.
7. Coromandel scallops TAC review.
8. Rock lobster sustainability review.

2012 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Rock lobster regulations.
2. Animal welfare.
3. Protection of Whitetip sharks.
4. Southern bluefin tuna, Mako shark, and Porbeagle shark review.
5. Elephant fish (ELE 5), Ghost shark (GSH 2 & 8), Red gurnard (GUR 3 & 7), and John dory (JDO 7) TAC review.
6. Snapper (SNA 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, & 10) deemed value review.
7. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, 5 & 7) management review.

2011 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Pacific bluefin tuna review.
2. Foreign charter vessel inquiry.
3. Draft Auckland MPA plan.
4. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 7 & 8) concession review.
5. Pacific bluefin tuna review.
6. Rig (SPO 2) review.
7. Yellowtail kingfish (KIN 8) review.
8. Bluenose (BNS 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8) review.
9. Pāua carry forward of ACE.
10. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 5, 7 & 8) review
11. Deemed value standards.

2010 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Fisheries 2030 Sector Indicator Review.
2. Coromandel scallops review.
3. Fisheries 2030 Proposed Decision Criteria.
4. Rock lobster 3 and 4 review.

2009 submissions – [visit here](#) for more information

1. Fisheries 2030 Proposed Alternative Strategy - More Fish in the Water II.

2. Fisheries 2030 Proposed Alternative Strategy - More Fish in the Water II Recommendations.
3. Fisheries 2030 Government Strategy.
4. Fisheries 2030 Proposed Alternative Strategy - More Fish in the Water I.