

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Advocacy

South Island



May 2025

Since the 1970s the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) has actively advocated for recreational fishing interests in the South Island. In 1975 the Fiordland Game Fishing Club became the first incorporated organisation in the south to affiliate to the Council. Prior to their affiliation, the NZSFC had successfully advocated issues of interest to recreational fishers nationally.

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 our advocacy effort. Since its 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 record is a preliminary summary of NZSFC submissions made from 2009 onwards, in response to processes of relevance to the South Island including some national issues. These include responses to fisheries management and policy proposals, fisheries and spatial plans, aquaculture, and Māori customary management proposals. It is preliminary because the online records are incomplete and some details have been lost over time, including much of the pre-2009 records. However, this is a living document meaning it will be updated with new details in the future.

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. Rock lobster (CRA 7) TAC review.
3. Pacific bluefin tuna (TOR 1) TAC review.
4. Pāua commercial landing exception.
5. Bluff oyster (OYU 5) commercial landing exception.
6. Resource Management Act Amendment Bill.

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

1. Rock lobster (CRA 7 & 8) review.
2. Southern bluefin tuna review.

3. Kaikōura pāua (PAU 3A) reopening.
4. Southern bluefin tuna (STN 1) landing exception.
5. Predated highly migratory species landing exception.
6. Snapper (SNA 7), Flatfish (FLA 7) and Elephant fish (ELE 7) TAC review.
7. Kaikōura pāua (PAU 3A) TAC review.
8. Kingfish (KIN 3) TAC review.
9. Kina (SUR 3) review.
10. Kina removal special permit.
11. Fast Track Approvals Bill.
12. Jack mackerel (JMA 7), Pilchard (PIL 7) and Kingfish (KIN 7) TAC review.
13. Ruapuke Island mātaītai, Foveaux strait.
14. Blue cod Marlborough.

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

1. Red cod land-all catch review.
2. Snapper (SNA 7 & 8) deemed values review.
3. Gurnard (GUR 3) TAC review.
4. Seabed mining inquiry.
5. Seabird mitigation measures.
6. Kina dredging in Tory channel, Marlborough Sounds.

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

1. Kaikōura pāua reopening.
2. Habitats of particular significance.
3. Pāua (PAU 5) Fisheries Plan.
4. Fiordland Amateur regulations review.
5. Kingfish (KIN 3, 7 & 8) and Trevally (TRE 1) deemed values review.
6. Blue cod (BCO 7) TAC review.
7. Red Gurnard (GUR 3) TAC review.
8. Rig (SPO 3) TAC review.
9. Tarakihi (TAR 1E, 2, 3, & 7E) TAC review.
10. Snapper (SNA 7), Red Gurnard (GUR 7), and Rig (SPO 7) TAC review.
11. Fisheries Amendment Bill.
12. Technical Changes to Fisheries Regulations.
13. Rock lobster (CRA 1, 7, & 8) TAC review.
14. Hāpuku and Bass (HPB 7 & 8) TAC review.

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

1. Finfish daily bag limits.
2. East coast Tarakihi (TAR 1, 2, 3, & 7) review.
3. Blue cod (BCO 3) TAC review.
4. Kingfish (KIN 8) deemed value review.
5. Reopening of Kaikōura Pāua fishery.
6. Southern blue fin tuna (SBT 1) TAC review.
7. Cameras on vessels.
8. Rock lobster (CRA 1, 3, 4, 7, & 8) and Packhorse (PCH 1) TAC review.

9. Elephant fish (ELE 7) review.

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

1. Kahawai and Blue mackerel aggregation limits.
2. Southeast marine protected areas.
3. Southeastern Blue moki (MOK 3), Leather jacket (LEA 3), Red gurnard (GUR 3), Rig (SPO 3) review.
4. Pāua 3 QMA.
5. Kingfish (KIN 2, 3, 7, & 8) TAC review.
6. Snapper (SNA 7) and Red gurnard (GUR 7) TAC review.
7. Mātaitai reserve at Tautuku, Southland.
8. RMA review.
9. National Inshore Finfish Fisheries Plan.
10. Rock Lobster (CRA 1, 3, 4, 7, & 8) TAC review.
11. Rock lobster annual catch entitlement.
12. National Rock lobster management group review.

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

1. Marlborough salmon farm application.
2. Omaui Mātaitai application.
3. Hectors and Māui Dolphin Threat Management Plan.
4. Red Gurnard (GUR 7), Rig (SPO 7), Elephant fish (ELE 7), and John dory (JDO 7) review.
5. Tarakihi (TAR 1, 2, 3, & 7) review.
6. Red snapper (RSN 1 & 2) TAC review.
7. Hoki (HOK 1) TAC review.
8. Animal welfare regulations.
9. Charter boat reporting.
10. Fisheries change programme.
11. Blue cod regulations
12. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, & 8) TAC review

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

1. Rock lobster 5, telson clipping review.
2. Kaikoura-Wakatu Quay s186B temporary closure.
3. Mudhouse Bay s186B temporary closure.
4. Elephant fish (ELE 3) review.
5. Kingfish (KIN 3) review.
6. Red gurnard (GUR 3) review.
7. Rig (SPO 7) review.
8. Tarakihi eastern stock (TAR 1 E, 2, 3, & 7E) TAC review.
9. Southern bluefin tuna (SBT 1) TAC review.
10. Scallop (SCA 7) closure.
11. Rock lobster (CRA 2, 4, 7, & 8) TAC review.

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

1. Fisheries Plan for highly migratory species.

2. Bluenose, Gurnard 7, Red cod 2, Pāua 3 and 7 review
3. Scallop (SCA 7) closure.
4. Technical advisory group.
5. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, & 7) review.
6. Emergency closure of Kaikōura coastline.

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

1. Marine Protected area Southeast Coast.
2. Jack mackerel (JMA 3) review.
3. John dory (JDO 7), pāua (PAU 7), scallop (SCA 7), and Snapper (SNA 7) review.
4. Bluenose (BNS 1, 2, 3, 7, & 8) review.
5. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 7, & 8) aggregation limits.
6. Marine Protected Areas Act.
7. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 5, 8, & 9) review
8. Triangle Shell 7 and Deepwater Tuatua 7 deemed value review.
9. Surf clam 7 review.

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

1. Fisheries System Review.
2. Blue cod (BCO 7) review.
3. Rock lobster 1, 3, 5, 7, & 9 review.

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

1. Blue moki (MOK 3) review.
2. Rock lobster (CRA 2, 3, 4, 7, 9) review.
3. Scallops (SCA 7) review.

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

1. Sharks national plan of action.
2. Pacific & Southern bluefin, skipjack tuna review.
3. Animal welfare.
4. Yellowtail kingfish (KIN 7) review.
5. Snapper (SNA 7) review.
6. Pāua (PAU 5D) review.
7. 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 values review.
7. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 4, 5, 7 review).

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

1. Proposed Kaikōura Marine Strategy.
2. Pacific bluefin tuna review.
3. Foreign Charter Vessel Inquiry.
4. Rock lobster (CRA 3, 7 & 8) concession review.
5. Blue cod (BCO 5) review.
6. Bluenose (BNS 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8) review.
7. Pāua carry forward of ACE.
8. Rock lobster (CRA 4, 5, 7 & 8) review.
9. Deemed value standards.

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

1. Fisheries 2030 Sector Indicator Review.
2. Fisheries 2030 Proposed Decision Criteria.

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.