


Proposal type:	<p>Anchovy 1 (ANC 1), Garfish 1 (GAR 1), Yellow-eyed mullet (YEM 1), Sprat 1 (SPR 1) TAC Review</p> <p>ANC 1, GAR 1 - Reduce the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC), set allowance for all other mortality.</p> <p>SPR 1 - Reduce the TACC, recreational allowance, set allowance for all other mortality.</p> <p>YEM 1 - Increase the TACC, set allowance for all other mortality allowance.</p>
Affected area:	East coast, North Island; Sprat - Whole North Island
Date received:	24/06/2025
Response date:	23/07/2025
Project lead:	Sydney Curtis
Stock status:	There are no biomass assessments for any of the species within the forage fish / baitfish complex proposal.
Introduction: 	<p>FNZ propose for Anchovy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set an allowance for other mortality allowance at 1 t. • Reduce the 200 tonne TACC by 50% or 75% <p>FNZ propose for Sprat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set an allowance for other mortality allowance at 1 t. • Reduce TACC by 50% or 79% • Reduce the recreational allowance by 50% or 75% <p>FNZ propose for Garfish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set an allowance for other mortality allowance at 1 t. • Reduce the TACC by 5% <p>FNZ propose for Yellow-eyed mullet:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set an allowance for other mortality allowance at 1 t. • Increase the TACC by 15% <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There has been no TACC review for any of these fish stocks since their introduction into the QMS. 2. The YEM TACC was overcaught in 2023–24, this does not warrant an increase in catch allocation.
Preliminary view:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A precautionary approach is required until more information is available. 2. None of the proposed reductions will manage actual commercial harvest. Landings in YEM (2 t over TACC) and 6 t of garfish. 3. There are spatial concerns and concerns of effort shift for yellow-eyed mullet. 4. There is anecdotal evidence of localised depletion and threats to estuary habitat, impacting on garfish. 5. Beach seining has potential bycatch of juvenile snapper, trevally

	<p>and other species. Release mortality can occur.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Sprats are particularly vulnerable to climate change and warming sea surface temperature. 7. Actual commercial catch needs to be managed. The total harvest of anchovy in NZ has been less than 10 t since 2016. Reducing the 200 t ANC 1 TACC to 100 t or 50 t is not management.
Main beneficiary:	<p>ANC 1 - 25 quota owners GAR 1 - 30 quota owners SPR 1 - 45 quota owners YEM 1 - 38 quota owners</p>

