Ministry for Primary Industries

Manatū Ahu Matua



12 July 2013

Tëna koe

2013 Review of sustainability measures and management controls for fishstocks

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is seeking feedback from tangata whenua and stakeholders on proposed changes to the sustainability measures and management controls for selected fishstocks.

The review of fishstocks is an annual process that reviews catch limits and other management controls for selected stocks. This is consistent with the requirement that the Ministry ensure sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources.

The proposals have been assessed in the context of the relevant statutory requirements and the best available information, including (where relevant) the latest scientific information on the status of the stock, and tangata whenua and stakeholder input.

MPI is releasing for public consultation the following proposals:

Fishstock(s)	Мар	Management Proposal
Bluenose BNS 1 BNS 2 BNS 3 BNS 7 BNS 8	BNS1 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2 BNS2	MPI is proposing to decrease the TAC across five bluenose stocks. A stock assessment in 2011 assessed the combined stock size for all bluenose stocks as being below the target stock size. In 2011 and 2012, catch limits (TACs, TACCs and bag limits) were reduced. These steps were part of a recovery plan. The final step in that plan is further reductions in TACs and TACCs in 2013. Based on current information, MPI considers further reductions are necessary to allow for the rebuild of bluenose stocks.
Kingfish KIN 7	X2N1 X2N1 X2N2 X2N4 37	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for KIN 7. Current KIN 7 commercial catch levels have exceeded the TACC for three of the last nine fishing years. MPI considers there is an opportunity to increase the benefits to fishers by increasing the TAC to cover current catch. The TAC proposed is cautious because of the strong recreational interest in the fishery.

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Fishstock(s)	Мар	Management Proposal
Snapper SNA 1 SNA 7	5043 5043 5043	SNA 1: MPI is reviewing the TAC, TACC, allowances and other management controls for SNA 1. SNA 1 is an important shared fishery – it is highly valued by recreational, customary and commercial fishers. This year's review of SNA 1 was triggered by new information on the status of the stock and current catch levels. SNA 7: MPI is proposing to increase the TAC, TACC, and recreational allowance for SNA 7. There has been an increase in the SNA 7 commercial catch per unit effort (CPUE), indicating an increase in SNA 7 abundance, over the past two years. All stakeholder groups report increasing snapper in SNA 7. MPI is also proposing to increase the daily bag limit of snapper in the Marlborough Sounds, to
Leatherjacket LEA 3	LEA1 LEA1 LEA4 7.	increase the benefits of the fishery for recreational fishers as well. MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for LEA 3. Commercial catch levels of LEA 3 have exceeded the TACC for the last four fishing years. CPUE analysis indicate that these catches are sustainable and that there is sufficient information to support a potential increase in the TAC
Oyster OYS 4	0/53 0/53 0/54 2 0/554 2 0/554 2	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for OYS 4. A recent stock assessment has been conducted in OYS 4 and the result indicates an increase in TACC can be considered.

Fishstock(s)	Мар	Management Proposal
Sea Perch SPE 1	SPE10 SPE10 SPE2 SPE3 SPE3 SPE3 SPE4 #	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for SPE 1. Current SPE 1 commercial catch levels, which have exceeded the TACC for four of the last six fishing years, are considered sustainable. The TAC proposed is cautious because of the wide distribution of sea perch and historically low levels of catch.
Scampi SCI 2	SCII SCIII S	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for SCI 2. The 2013 stock assessment for SCI 2 estimated the stock to be above the level that will support maximum sustainable yield and is very likely to be at or above the default management target of 40% of unfished biomass (B_0).
Hoki HOK 1	Hotel Stock Entern Stock Western Stock Western Stock Western Stock Western Stock	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for HOK 1. The 2013 stock assessment has indicated that both hoki stocks are above the level that will produce the maximum sustainable yield and also above the lower bound of the management target range. Projections of future biomass over a five-year period indicate that the stock is unlikely to decline below the management target at current catches. The stock is projected to remain stable if catches are increased.

Fishstock(s)	Мар	Management Proposal
Ling LIN 5 LIN 6 LIN 7	LING LING 1997	LIN 5 and LIN 6: MPI is proposing to increase the TACs and TACCs for LIN 5 and LIN 6. The south western (LIN 5) and Sub-Antarctic (LIN 6) fisheries are assessed as the same biological stock but are managed separately with two TACs. The 2012 stock assessment for LIN 5 and 6 estimated biomass to be at 70% B ₀ which is well above the default target level of 40% B ₀ . This indicates that the stock could support an increase in the TAC. LIN 7: MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for LIN 7. Catches in LIN 7 have regularly exceeded the catch limit by more than 10% and are likely to increase further with potential TACC increases in hoki leading to increased fishing activity in the fishery. The 2013 stock assessment for LIN 7 estimated the stock to be above the biomass that will produce the maximum sustainable yield (B _{MSY}) and above the default management target (40% B ₀). This estimate of stock status indicates that a higher TAC is likely to be sustainable.
Orange roughy ORH 3B	East and South Chatham Rise Findand Ent and South Chatham Rise Findand Findand	MPI is proposing to increase the TAC and TACC for ORH 3B. In 2011 a significant new orange roughy plume was discovered and surveyed within the East and South Chatham Rise stock. Based on the new biomass and an agreed harvest strategy, MPI is proposing to increase the catch limit for the East and Southern Chatham Rise substock.

Deemed Values

MPI is also proposing to adjust the deemed values for selected stocks. The changes proposed are based on the deemed values provisions of the Fisheries Act 1996 and the draft MPI deemed value guidelines, which describe the practical application of these provisions.

Copies of the Initial Position Papers are available on MPI's website at: http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Consultations/default.htm

If you would like a hard copy of these documents to be sent to you, please contact Nekel Upton at (04) 894 4506 or nekel.upton@mpi.govt.nz

Closing Date for Submissions

The closing date for submissions is 4 pm, Friday 9 August 2013.

For the SNA 1 and BNS Initial Position Papers, the closing date for submissions is **4 pm**, **Friday 23 August 2013**.

Written submissions should be sent directly to:

Inshore Fisheries Management Ministry for Primary Industries P O Box 2526 Wellington 6011

or emailed to FMsubmissions@mpi.govt.nz

Yours sincerely

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