

NZSFC Club Monthly Report: May 2023

A Round up of NZSFC Club News and information for Club Committees and Delegates

May 2023: This is a report for our clubs throughout New Zealand. This is our first edition of the monthly report, and welcome suggestions on content.

This report includes a summary of:-

- NZSFC Youth nationals
 - NZSFC AGM
 - Mike Plant Visits
 - Tacklebox - a resource for Clubs
 - Weighmaster Booklet Version 2.0
 - Youth Committee update
 - Mushy Snapper - what's the story?
 - CRA1 judicial outcome - what does it mean?
 - Club Roundup
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NZSFC YOUTH NATIONALS SUPPORTED BY DAIWA NEW ZEALAND

The second running of the annual NZSFC Youth Nationals was held during the April school holidays over 16 days. There were 234 anglers that competed in the High School and Primary sections across 14 competing Clubs. The weather wasn't ideal around the country, though overall we saw increased competition and participation from Anglers.

Tyler Speed from Mt Maunganui won Primary Top Angler. Brock Johnston won the Top High School Angler, and his club, Counties Sport Fishing Club won Top Club.

More clubs are scheduling youth events to coincide with the Youth Nationals - a trend we encourage for 2024.

Read the full story here 

<https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/youth-nationals-article.pdf>

2023 NZSFC AGM

2023's NZSFC AGM is in Tairua 22nd-23rd September. The NZSFC AGM is hosted by the Tairua Pauanui Sports Fishing Club this year - registration forms have been sent out to Clubs by email. As well as Delegates, this year we would love our club Presidents to attend, so if you are interested please contact us.

The registration form is here <https://www.tpsfc.co.nz/nzsfc-agm-registration>

Once you have filled in the registration form, you will be sent an invoice and also all the information about accommodation. We have tentatively blocked some bookings as accommodation is hard to get.

This year we also have a weighmasters and marine art workshop and soon to be announced guest speakers on Thursday 21st September.

MIKE PLANT - OUR NZSFC COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONSHIP LEAD

Mike, our team member that joined us in January, has been visiting many of our clubs and if you would like him to come and meet your committee / members please reach out to him via mike.plant@nzsportfishing.org.nz. Mike is happy to visit clubs in person, discussing Club matters while sharing insights from other clubs.

NZSFC TACKLEBOX - A RESOURCE FOR NZSFC CLUBS

This has been released to all clubs - this contains a range of resources for Clubs including template documents and reference information generally sourced from other NZSFC Clubs. Access is only available to NZSFC Clubs. If there are items that are not there and you would like to see, or conversely if you have something useful you would like to share with other Clubs, we would like to hear from you - we are constantly updating the Tacklebox. If you cannot find your Club login or password, or need assistance with the Tacklebox please contact Helen at secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz

Weblink here: [NZSFC TACKLEBOX](#)

NZSFC WEIGHMASTERS BOOKLET - Version 2.0

Version 2.0 is well underway and the updated booklet will be available over coming months. We have no printed copies of the first edition, and are printing hardcopies as well as a PDF online version for Version 2.0. Contact us if you would like to pre-order hardcopies - this will assist in knowing how many to print.

YOUTH COMMITTEE UPDATE

We have a group of young anglers who form our Junior committee (which sits under the guidance of our Youth Steering Committee. We are looking for more keen young anglers from around the Country to get involved. Please contact Helen Pastor if you know of any likely candidates from your club.

We have established the Youth Ocean Trust and have been given the name *Nga tai tamariki ki te moana* from Joe Davis of Ngati Hei. The Trust will be launched this year, and will assist in funding of Youth activities.

MUSHY SNAPPER - WHAT'S THE STORY?

Recently in the media there has been much discussion about '*mushy snapper flesh*' - many people have asked - what's the story? In short:

- Since last year fishers around the North Island have been catching snapper, kahawai, and trevally with mushy, milky-coloured flesh. Last December the NZSFC sent an Official Information Act request to Fisheries New Zealand (FNZ) asking for information.
- The '*mushy snapper flesh*' has been described by a recent NIWA study as being due to '*muscular dystrophy*' - a breakdown of muscles due to chronic starvation. NIWA have said the fish are safe to eat. FNZ's reports identify a range of factors with '*chronic malnutrition*' as the most probable cause, which means starvation over a long period of time. FNZ says the fish is safe to eat. Images of the issue are available here: <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/fishing-aquaculture/recreational-fishing/information-on-popular-fish-in-nz/snapper-status-and-information/milky-white-flesh-in-snapper-and-some-other-finfish/>
- This condition is distinct from '*spent*' fish with white flesh - the difference is the meat being firm versus '*mushy and soft*'
- Seen in approximately 20% of fish - tending to be smaller fish.

If your Club members report catching any mushy flesh fish, please take pictures and email them with an approximate location to katie@legasea.co.nz. We will keep you updated. Read the FNZ reports, OIA documents and media coverage [here](#).

FAR NORTH CRAYFISH (CRA1) JUDICIAL OUTCOME - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

In November 2022, the outcome of a Judicial Review initiated by Environmental Law Initiative (ELI) regarding the Ministers decision when setting of the total allowable catch (TAC) for Northland Crayfish in CRA1 (East Coast Northland) was published.

- The Judicial Review found that the TAC setting in 2021 and 2022 was unlawful and the Government was forced to remake the decision ASAP.
- The Minister was directed to review CRA 1 management this year. NZSFC invested significant funds and worked with our partner organisations to [submit a comprehensive response](#) supporting the Court judgement
- The East Coast of Northland has significant 'kina barrens' - this phenomenon was at the centre of the argument (where predators such as snapper and Crayfish are removed from an area, and Kina numbers explode when they don't have a natural predator - and in turn eat the kelp forests) - essentially the Court agreed that the consideration of the ecosystem had not been taken into account.
- A key argument was that the health and abundance of the ecosystem must be considered as a whole when considering the possible tonnage when harvesting a given species - in this case Crayfish. This is a notable precedent acknowledged by the Courts.

From 15 April 2023 the recreational daily bag limit for spiny rock lobster was reduced from 6 to 3, within a combined bag of 6 for spiny and packhorse crays. Read more [here](#).

CLUB ROUND UP

This is what we clubs are up to - if you have anything further for next month's update please let us know.

ZONE 1 - Northland

Ahipara Gamefish Club [RADZ 2023 results](#)

Bay of Islands Swordfish Club [History Repeats 50 years on](#)

Doubtless Bay Sportfishing Club [Records and Trophies](#)

Hokianga Big Game & Sport Fishing Club [Jordan Slater Lands a Stripy](#)

Houhora Big Game & Sports Fishing Club [News and Events](#)

Whangarei Deep Sea Anglers Club [Latest News](#)

Whangaroa Sport Fishing Club [Totara North School Fundraiser](#)

ZONE 2 - Auckland

Bays Fishing Club Inc.

Big Fish Fishing Club Inc. [10 lb Comp now 11th June](#)

Clevedon Game Fishing Club [Winter Whoppers Comp](#)

Counties Sport Fishing Club Inc. [Grunter Hunter Comp](#)

Demon Anglers Catching Club Inc. [Website for open Day](#)

Hauraki Gulf Sportfishing Club [Latest News](#)

Mangawhai Boating & Fishing Club [Clinton Rodgers Broadbill](#)

LegaSea [Latest Updates](#)

Mangere Boating Club Inc. [Facebook page](#)

Manukau Cruising Club Inc [Maiden Annual Guitar festival](#)

Manukau Sport Fishing Club Inc. [Sword it out](#)

Maraetai Beach Boating Club Inc. [Wots on](#)

Muriwai Sports Fishing Club Inc. [Latest News](#)
New Zealand Land Based Game Fishing Club Inc. [Trip up North](#)

New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Inc. [Youth Nationals](#)

Piha Deep Sea Fishing Club [Fundraiser for Piha preschool and United North SLSC](#)

Warkworth Gamefish Club [10kg comp Kings Birthday weekend](#)

Whakatakataka Bay Sport Fishing Club [El Dorado](#)

World Sports Fishing Federation (NZ Charter) [2024 Fishing World cup](#)

ZONE 3 - Coromandel

Matarangi Fishing and Boating Club [April Junior Photo Competition](#)

Mercury Bay Game Fishing Club Inc. [Club leaderboard](#)

Tairua Pauanui Sports Fishing Club [Kilwell winter tournament](#)

Whangamata Ocean Sports Club [Austen Crawe Pending NZ record](#)

ZONE 4 - Central Bay of Plenty

Mount Maunganui Sport Fishing Club [Latest newsletter](#)

Taupo Fishing Club Inc. [Ollie Basset wins NZ river champs](#)

Tauranga Sport Fishing Club Inc. [Newsflash](#)

Te Aroha Angling Club Inc. [Facebook page](#)

ZONE 5 - Lower North Island

Akitio Boating Club [Quiz night chaos](#)

Gisborne Tatapouri Sports Fishing Club [North vs South](#)

Hawke's Bay Sports Fishing Club Inc. [Swordfish Jackpot](#)

Mana Aquatic Divers Inc

Porangahau Fishing Club [Latest including Swordfish Jackpot](#)

Wairarapa Sports Fishing Club [Facebook page](#)

Wellington Surfcasting & Angling Club [Club night at Parrot Dog Brewery](#)

ZONE 6 - Waikato / Taranaki

Cape Egmont Boat Club [Snapper Classic](#)

Kawhia Boating & Angling Club Inc. [Latest newsletter](#)

New Plymouth Sportfishing & Underwater Club Inc. [Satellite tagging](#)

Raglan Sport Fishing Club [Latest news](#)

Waikato Sport Fishing Club [Big 4 Tournament](#)

ZONE 7 - South Island

Ashley Sport Fishing Club [Prizegiving](#)

Canterbury Sport Fishing Club [Howard and Rob catch Rays Breem](#)

Kaikoura Recreational Boating & Fishing Club [Latest news](#)

Pegasus Bay Game Fishing Club [Youngest Ever President?](#)

Southern Sport Fishing Club [Albacore appearing in greater numbers earlier](#)

Tautuku Fishing Club Dunedin & Haast Inc. [Fog Cup winner](#)

ZONE 8 - Eastern Bay of Plenty

Te Kaha Sport Fishing Club

Waihau Bay Sports Fishing Club [Last comp of the season](#)

Whakatane Sportfishing Club Inc [Mike Rivers T&R Stripy](#)