

NZSFC Club Monthly Report: October 2023

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

October 2023: This is a report for our clubs throughout New Zealand. Please distribute this information throughout your Club. This report includes a summary of:

- ❖ ACT NOW FOR THE HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK
 - ❖ WEIGHMASTERS BOOKLETS
 - ❖ ANNUAL RETURNS
 - ❖ AFFILIATION INVOICING
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 - ❖ HAURAKI GULF MARINE PROTECTION
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ACT NOW FOR THE HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK!

There are two crucial matters unfolding in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park that demand your attention:

1. The Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill - Deadline: November 1

This bill is currently before parliament and aims to introduce 19 new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. While well-intentioned, it won't effectively tackle issues like over-harvesting and destructive fishing techniques.

2. Trawl Corridor Consultation - Deadline: November 6

Another process concerns trawl corridors within the Marine Park. The proposed options do not go far enough in protecting our marine environment.

Your action is vital. Here's how you can help:

1. ****For the Marine Protection Bill:**** Public submissions are open. While bureaucrats may downplay their significance, we can still make powerful submissions.

2. ****For Trawl Corridors:**** We're advocating for Option Zero - 0% trawling in the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. We need mass public opposition to make a difference. Make your submission [here](#) in less than a minute.

Confused about these issues? We're here to assist:

- We're developing talking points to simplify your submission from your club, and its members.

- **Join our webinar on October 17, 2023, at 6:30 PM** (Auckland, Wellington time) to guide you through the process. [[Zoom Link](#)]

(<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83690922137?pwd=LDCDhtlCo3WtsN5aYtDvisPFfukzxD.1>)

Public submissions are now open. The bureaucrats have made it clear that public submissions hold little weight in this process. Therefore, we will be supporting organisations to make powerful submissions and encouraging you to have your say in front of the Select Committee.

Your involvement can make a significant impact on the future of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. Let's ensure our voices are heard!

NZSFC WEIGHMASTERS HANDBOOK

Version 2 of the NZSFC Weighmasters Handbook was released at the NZSFC AGM.

Many Clubs took theirs from the AGM, for those clubs who did not collect their Weighmaster's Handbook, these have/will be sent directly to your clubs. Please keep an eye out for these. A huge thank you to all the contributors who assisted with creating Version 2 of the popular Handbook.

ANNUAL RETURNS

NZSFC has issued the request to your club for your Annual Return.

Information is needed from your Club regarding your affiliation numbers, club information for the yearbook, and also your catch count.

Please send them to Helen as soon as possible. If you have any fabulous photos that you would like to share for the yearbook please send them to secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz

AFFILIATION INVOICING

Invoices will be sent to clubs over the next few weeks.

NZSFC AGM 2023 & FEEDBACK SURVEY

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council (NZSFC) 2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on September 22nd and 23rd at the Tairua-Pauanui Sport Fishing Club in Tairua. NZSFC's AGM is a democratic gathering that brings together delegates from 53 affiliated clubs, representing a collective membership of 36,000 individuals from across the country.

During this event, the delegates engaged in meaningful discussions on various crucial topics that shape the NZSFC's trajectory. In addition to the formalities, these discussions included updates on initiatives such as the:

- Nationals
- Youth Nationals
- Weighmasters - handbook and training
- Sustainability of Clubs
- NZ Coastguard
- CRM for clubs (Sporty)
- Youth Ocean Trust
- Fisheries management: Ahu Moana, RMA matters, Kaitiaki, Annual reports, Commercial Kina harvesting
- LegaSea initiatives, and much more.

This democratic process allowed delegates to raise important questions, exchange insights, and provide feedback to their respective clubs regarding the ongoing work streams within the NZSFC. The AGM serves as a platform where decisions are made through remits, motions and voting, enabling NZSFC as a Council of Clubs to steer its own course in a manner that reflects the collective will of its membership.

In addition to NZSFC's updates on the initiatives listed above, distinguished guest speakers, including Scott Simpson (Member of Parliament for Coromandel and National party spokesperson Ocean and Fisheries), Callum Gillespe (NZ Coastguard CEO), Todd Herbert (commercial kina gathering), Peter Kara (Water Safety NZ and NZ Coastguard) and Rowan Ashton (NZSFC Fisheries legal representation), enriched the event by sharing valuable insights, particularly regarding the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park. Their contributions added depth and perspective to the discussions held during the AGM.

If you were present at the 2023 AGM please complete the following survey to provide important feedback to our organisers, and be in the draw to win some cool prizes.

[Click here to complete survey](#)

There are still some AGM shirts available for purchase. If you would like to have one please contact Helen at secretary@nzsportfishing.org.nz

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

Drink Coasters for Clubs

Our Communications Committee has been hard at work to enhance NZSFC's visibility in club environments. We've introduced NZSFC-branded drink coasters, specially designed for our affiliated clubs with questions and answers on everything fishing. These coasters offer a unique opportunity to raise awareness about our organisation among your club members.

You can find these coasters at club bars and clubrooms, where they serve as a conversation starter about NZSFC's initiatives. These coasters have been printed and are being progressively sent to all affiliated clubs over the next few weeks.

NZSFC Display Stands

We understand the importance of conveying a message effectively within club premises. To that end, we have created a display stand with eye-catching visuals and concise messaging. These stands will be made available for display in your club's common areas, providing members with informative content and reinforcing the importance of responsible fishing practices and other topical issues. These stands will serve as a central point for club members to access hardcopy information about NZSFC and issues your club is involved with, including latest campaigns, publications, and events. The display stand will be a valuable resource for sharing our commitment to sustainable fishing practices and marine protection.

Engaging on Social Media

Our social media presence continues to grow, and we encourage all affiliated clubs to connect with the NZSFC Facebook and Instagram accounts online. By both your club and your club members engaging with NZSFC social media platforms, you can stay updated on NZSFC activities and share relevant content with your club members.

We will also provide space in the display stand to showcase social media content for those who can't access it online.

We value your feedback and suggestions. If you have ideas on how we can improve our communication efforts within affiliated clubs or if you require additional materials, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. Your insights are invaluable in helping us better serve our shared goals. Stay tuned for more updates and resources to help spread the word about NZSFC within your club.

SPORTY CRM AND WEBSITE

At the NZSFC AGM, Kieren Scheele from Sporty provided an overview of their membership database and website system. Many NZSFC Fishing clubs already utilise Sporty, and several at the AGM were interested to know more. Sporty benefits for Fishing Clubs include:

- Online registration for events
- News - stories aligned with social media

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- Websites with the 'wow' factor - custom designed by graphic designers.
 - FREE Mobile App automatically updates from your website.
 - Digital Photo I.D. cards, avoid plastic cards & go digital.
 - SuperCRM communicates with individuals or groups with just one click.
 - Online payments integrated with Xero & MYOB.
 - Magic links make membership renewals easy.

If you would like to know more, please contact Kieran Scheele from Sporty on **021 791 574** or kieran.scheele@sportsground.com.

NZSFC COOKBOOK

The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council invites your members to participate in our Cookbook Competition by submitting your most delicious and creative seafood recipes,

By taking part in this competition, you'll be supporting our Youth Ocean Trust, as the proceeds from the cookbook sales will contribute to nurturing the next generation of marine enthusiasts.

And that's not all—every entry will automatically enter the draw to win a remarkable three-generation guaranteed Ironclad Legacy Pan valued at \$279.

To participate, visit our website and click on 'news' or simply follow this link:

<https://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz/cookbook-competition/>

HAURAKI GULF / TĪKAPA MOANA MARINE PROTECTION BILL

The Minister of Conservation has introduced the Hauraki Gulf / Tīkapa Moana Marine Protection Bill, aimed at establishing 19 new marine protected areas (MPAs). These MPAs include 12 High Protection Areas (HPAs) with no-take zones and 5 Seafloor Protection Areas (SPAs) prohibiting bottom-contact fishing. This bill represents a substantial step towards conserving marine biodiversity but also raises questions about the balance between conservation and fishing interests. Public submissions are open until November 1, 2023.

TRAWL CORRIDORS IN THE HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK

The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Fisheries Plan includes the contentious proposal to establish trawl corridors, officially known as Bottom Fishing Access Zones.

These corridors are part of a broader plan to manage fishing activities and create MPAs within the Marine Park. Fisheries New Zealand is currently seeking public feedback on specific trawl zone options until November 6, 2023.

Concerns have been raised about the absence of an option to ban all trawling, dredging, and Danish seining in the Marine Park.

LATEST MINISTERIAL DECISIONS

The Minister of Oceans and Fisheries, Hon. Rachel Brooking, has announced decisions for various fish stocks, effective from October 1, 2023.

The decisions cover four key areas:

- commercial kina dredging in Tory Channel,
- the management of kina stocks (SUR 1A & 1B),
- Trevally 2 (TRE 2), and Gurnard 3 (GUR 3).

Below is an overview of the proposals, feedback received from various stakeholders, and ultimately, the Minister's choices.

What's Changing?

- **No More Dredging for Kina in Tory Channel:** There won't be any more commercial dredging for kina in Tory Channel, Marlborough Sounds. This is because it was harming some special ocean communities. You can still collect kina by hand or go diving for them. This new rule began on October 1, 2023.
- **Bigger Catch Limits for Kina in Some Places:** In some spots, you can catch more kina for commercial reasons. This is because there are more of them in those areas. We're talking about a 16% increase in one place and 5% in another.

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- Changes to Catch Limits for Trevally and Gurnard: For trevally, the catch limit will be based on how many have been caught in the past. For gurnard, the catch limit will increase.

Summary of decisions

For Kina (SUR 1A & 1B), there were various submissions, with some supporting the status quo, while others favoured Option 2, which involved the development of a management plan. Option 3 had significant support as well. Concerns were raised about increased commercial catch and the ability to monitor catches if the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC) was increased. The Ministry for Primary Industries (FNZ) recommended Option 2 for SUR 1A and Option 3 for SUR 1B. The Minister's decision was to support Option 2 for SUR 1A and Option 3 for SUR 1B.

Regarding Trevally 2 (TRE 2), there were nine submissions with varying preferences, including Option 1, Option 3 (a 16% TACC increase), and Option 2 (a TACC increase aligning with past catch levels). FNZ noted that trevally abundance was high, and commercial fishers reported difficulties in avoiding trevally as bycatch. Cyclone Gabrielle's impact was also acknowledged. FNZ recommended Option 2, aligning the TACC with past catch levels. The Minister decided to support Option 2 for TRE 2. NZSFC had supported Option 1 in their joint submission, citing concerns about data reliability and the need for precautionary measures. They opposed Options 2 and 3 due to concerns about catch as an indicator of abundance and over-catch not justifying TACC increases.

NZSFC remains committed to actively participating in these discussions and advocating for responsible and science-based marine conservation and fisheries management.