

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

PAU4 Management by Meatweight

1 MFish recommends that you **agree** to implement the MFish preferred *Option three*: Use of a Conversion Factor. This option requires that you agree to the following:

- (i) Amend the Fisheries (Reporting) Regulations 2001 to specify the use of the conversion factor specified in the Fisheries (Conversion Factors) Notice 2005 to estimate greenweight from meatweight.

Seabird mitigation measures by circular

2 MFish recommends that you:

- a) Agree to amend the Fisheries (Commercial Fishing) Regulations 2001 to authorise the Chief Executive to issue, amend or revoke seabird mitigation rules in circulars and to apply the rules to one or more fishing vessels.

Amateur Rock Lobster Harvest Regulations

Hand-Operated Lassoos

3 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) Amend the Fisheries (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 1986 to:
 - a) allow the use of hand-operated lassoos for the amateur harvest of rock lobster in all New Zealand waters; and.
 - b) prohibit the concurrent possession of spring-loaded lassoos (and lassoos that do not comply with the hand-lasso definition) and rock lobster.

Holding Pot Requirements

4 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) Amend the Fisheries (Southland and Sub-Antarctic Areas Amateur Fishing) Regulations 1991 to:
 - a) exclude holding pots from general rock lobster pot limits and escape aperture requirements in the Fiordland Marine Area, and;
 - b) institute a separate holding pot definition for the Fiordland Marine Area and impose a holding pot limit of one pot per person or two pots per vessel.

Paua accumulation and personal export limits

6 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

Amend the Fisheries (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 1986, for all New Zealand fisheries waters except for the Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua)

Marine Area, to limit the amount of paua that one person can have in their possession at any one time, by setting an accumulation limit at:

- i) TWO (2) times the maximum daily bag limit of paua (20 paua), **OR**
- ii) meat weight of 2.5 kilograms of paua;

Whichever is the **lesser** amount.

Standardising Minimum legal sizes of Flatfish for amateur fishers in Challenger Fisheries Management Area

7 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) Increase the minimum legal size for sand flounder from 23 cm to 25 cm for recreational fishers in the Challenger Fisheries Management Area.

Standardising amateur net minimum mesh sizes in Challenger Fisheries Management area

8 MFish recommends you **agree** to:

- i) Set the minimum mesh size for red moki at 114mm in regulation 3B of the Challenger (Amateur Fishing) Regulations 1986.
- ii) Retain the minimum mesh size for butterfish at 108 mm for the time being.
- iii) Clarify the minimum mesh size for red snapper, parore and porae in MFish promotion material rather than through changes to regulation.

New management measures for the amateur Paua fishery in Taranaki

9 MFish recommends you:

NOTE that submissions on the proposed measures for the amateur Taranaki paua fishery are polarised in support and objection to enabling a recreational fishery to proceed.

AND:

AGREE to (Option 2) – MFish preferred option

- ii) Introduce a new amateur MLS at 85 mm shell length (reducing from 125 mm) for the area between the Awakino River and Wanganui River, Taranaki for a five-year trial period (refer Figure 2);

AND

- iii) Require recreational fishers taking paua between Awakino River and Wanganui River, Taranaki, to only possess this paua inside an ‘*Amateur Taranaki Paua Fishery Area*’ delineated by State Highways 3 and 4 for a five-year trial period.

OR:

AGREE to (Option 3)

- i) Implement measures under Option 2 AND decrease the amateur daily bag limit from 10 to 5 paua per person for the area between the Awakino River and Wanganui River, Taranaki and within the proposed ‘*Amateur Taranaki Paua Fishery Area*’

Proposal to shorten the closed season for commercial fishing in the CRA7 Otago Rock Lobster fishery

10 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) **Amend** Regulation 8 of the Fisheries (South-East Area Commercial Fishing) Regulations 1986 to shorten the closed season for commercial fishing to approximately six and half months (20 November through to 31 May, inclusive of both days).

Pukerua Bay – Prohibition of all fishing methods except hand-held line fishing

11 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) Introduce a fisheries regulation that prohibits all fishing methods, except hand-held line fishing, in Pukerua Bay, Wellington commencing 1 October 2009 for a five-year period (expiring 30 September 2014); **and**
- ii) Approve a s 186A temporary prohibition on all fishing methods, except hand-held line fishing, in Pukerua Bay from 7 June 2009 for a one-year period (expiring 6 June 2010), in order to make provision for the use and management practices of Ngāti Toa in the exercise of their non-commercial fishing rights.

Milford & Doubtful Sounds – Proposal to extend the Blue Cod amateur fishery closures

12 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

- i) Place a notice in the *Gazette* to extend the current closures of Milford & Doubtful Sounds to amateur fishing for blue cod with no specified end date.

Offence and penalty provisions for breaches to reporting requirements

13 MFish recommends that you agree to amend the Fisheries (Reporting) Regulations 2001 and the Fisheries (Infringement Offences) Regulations 2001 to correct inconsistencies and omissions in offences and penalties that support commercial reporting obligations as follows (**Option 2**):

- i) Reduce the offence and penalty level for not completing a CLR, TCEPR, SJ CER and TLCER from a ‘high end’ commercial offence (a maximum fine on summary conviction of \$100,000), to a ‘low end’ commercial offence (a maximum fine on summary conviction of \$20,000).
- ii) Create an offence for not completing a LCER, as a ‘low end’ commercial offence (a maximum fine on summary conviction of \$20,000).

iii) Create infringement offences for not completing and/or providing late a CLR, TCEPR, LCER, NCELR, SJ CER and TLCER at the normal \$400/\$750 fee levels.

Correction of Coordinates and description errors in Central Area regulations

14 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

i) Amend the Fisheries (Central Area Amateur Fishing) Regulations 1986 and the Fisheries (Central Area Commercial Fishing) Regulations 1986 with the revised area definitions and coordinates.

Regulatory amendments to support electronic provision of catch and effort returns

15 MFish recommends that you **agree** to:

i) Amend the Fisheries (Reporting) Regulations 2001 to:

- Allow for the electronic completion and provision of catch effort returns; AND
- Require all users of electronic catch effort reporting to be registered; AND
- Allow for the approval of all third party software; AND
- Set out the specifications for alternative options in the event of problems with electronic catch effort reporting; AND
- Make this change mandatory from the commencement of this regime for all catch effort returns provided from High Seas permit holders and foreign charter vessels; AND

ii) Either **AGREE** to:

ii) Daily electronic reporting of catch and effort information; OR

iii) Maintain the current reporting timeframes in electronic form, while providing the capacity for the Chief Executive to change the timeframes at some point in the future (**MFish's preferred option**).

Akaroa Harbour Taiāpure – Recommendation to make regulations

16 MFish recommends that you:

(a) **Approve** the recommendation from the Akaroa Taiāpure Committee to:

- (i) Set the maximum daily bag limits at **3** each for blue cod, blue moki, butterfish, red cod, rock lobster, sea perch, and trumpeter, and **20** each for catseye and cockles from the Akaroa Harbour

Taiāpure;

- (ii) Set the maximum combined finfish daily bag limit at **10** from the Akaroa Harbour Taiāpure;
- (iii) Prohibit the taking or possessing of seahorses from the Akaroa Harbour Taiāpure; and
- (iv) Prohibit the taking or possessing of shellfish from the Onawe Peninsula area of the Akaroa Harbour Taiāpure.