

LegaSea Update The Adventurer

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LegaSea and more fish in the water

By Trish Rea, LegaSea Liaison



LegaSea was established in 2012 by the NZ Sport Fishing Council to raise funds and increase public awareness of the need to secure "more fish in the water". Our depleted marine fisheries need rebuilding to abundant levels for today and to ensure that future generations can enjoy meaningful fishing experiences.

Through fund raising LegaSea endeavours to help spread the cost of delivering quality advocacy, research and education initiatives. LegaSea wants people to invest in the future of fishing and we offer innovative programmes to donors, sponsors and partners.

The LegaSea team

Over the past 12 months LegaSea has benefited from the expertise of at least 30 full-timers, part-timers and volunteers. This team, backed up by a team of experienced advocates, research and policy specialists, is delivering consistent and public-friendly messages so people can understand what is happening in our marine environment.

Events

LegaSea has attended over 120 events since inception. We are blessed by a growing group of passionate volunteers stepping up to staff fundraising events, fishing contests, club nights and boat shows.

Campaigns

Last year we initiated the Hands Off our Marlin and Save Our Snapper campaigns, supported by more than 50,000 people. This year more than 34,000 people engaged in our crayfish and southern scallops initiative. Today over 50,000 people receive Updates directly from LegaSea.

LegaSea is committed to connecting with more people and organisations, helping them to better understand the need to stand up for themselves and their family's future fishing interests.

Principles

LegaSea has developed 5 Principles to help rebuild our depleted fisheries.

- 1. Let's rebuild the fishery.**

Adopt international best practice by setting a target stock size of at least 40% of the original stock size that existed prior to modern fishing.

2. Stop senseless waste.

Remove non-selective and indiscriminate trawling from within the 100m-depth contour, to reduce illegal fish dumping, killing small fish and damaging sensitive seafloor ecology.

3. The public owns the fishery.

Our fisheries are a national resource and our country ought to derive a royalty from quota holders that exploit them for private profits.

4. Equal size limits for all.

It's unfair to allow commercial interests to profit from catching and selling smaller sized fish that recreational fishers must return to the sea, dead or alive. We must ensure equality and commonsense, by setting minimum size limits for sustainability reasons rather than giving priority to commercial fishers.

5. Value recreational fishing.

Recreational fishing contributes significant benefits to the economy and these are not being measured, valued or considered. Resources must be dedicated to establishing how much recreational fishing contributes to the national economy.

Get aboard

Help us protect the future of fishing by subscribing to LegaSea, then encourage your family and friends to sign up and contribute.

LegaSea is Kiwis helping Kiwis to secure the social, economic and cultural wellbeing of our communities. Together we can leave a legacy of abundance for future generations.

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