

**LegaSea Update 14**

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## **People versus profits**

By now a decision has been made about the future of our snapper fishing in area 1 by Nathan Guy, the Minister for Primary Industries. For months now this controversial conversation has been raging with phenomenal support from concerned Kiwis all around the country. Thank you!

About 45,000 submissions were put forward to the Ministry and 345,000 emails sent from the LegaSea website to politicians all around the country.

Regardless of the outcome one thing is certain. The politicians have recognised that they ignore recreational fishers to their peril. Coming into next years election our united force will be pivotal to push positive reform in fisheries management.

The crux of this issue is that the law says that the public has priority over the commercial sector when fishery catch numbers are set. Our social, economic and cultural interests must be allowed for first, before commercial catch is set. Our allowance is guided by how much we actually catch. This is all in the law.

That is why it has been so important to oppose the Ministry options, because they all seek to undermine our legal rights, sidestepping the law through bag limit regulations, and giving the commercial sector preference. Not only does it undermine the law, but it's morally wrong and political suicide.

Rest assured, LegaSea will be here through thick and thin working for the current and future health of our precious fisheries resources. Not just for the here and now but for future generations. We value your support, and if you haven't already please consider making a modest monthly contribution to fund the work being done on your behalf. With your help we really can make a difference.

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