

LegaSea Update 13

New Zealand Fishing News magazine, March 2013 edition.



We love fishing but how much do we care? Let's get real.

Who amongst us will take the time to bury our heads in the detail of Fisheries Management? It's specialised and complex and most of us look for the 'highlights reel' to find out where we stand, what the big issues are and what we can do.

LegaSea stands proudly beside a team of dedicated and professional fisheries management advocates and researchers that are making a stand for your recreational fishing rights. This team is guided by the New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Fisheries Management Committee. Their expertise, passionate work and dedication is tireless.

One objective of LegaSea is to demystify Fisheries Management and bring you the 'highlights reel' so you can make informed decisions and choose to take simple decisive action that will make a difference to protecting our marine environment and enhancing the fishing experience you have on your doorstep, today and into the future.

There's no question that the way fisheries are managed is becoming increasingly contentious. Government agencies and the commercial fishing sector are pushing harder to meet their objectives (profit and export dollars) and so we must adapt and evolve.

We continue to deploy available resources to stem the tide of negative impacts on our local fisheries however more issues are arising and so more resources are required. Our representatives will fight to the highest level if we need to; we've done it before, and won! The Supreme Court judgment for the Kahawai Legal Challenge is proof of this.

Together LegaSea and the NZSFC are clear and unwavering in advocating for "independent recreational representation" in fisheries management. We are uncompromised by handouts from the government or the commercial fishing sector.

We will have to work hard to rebuild depleted fish stocks and provide for future generations. It is written in the Fisheries Act. We don't need salt water licence fees to make it happen, just a steadfast commitment from as many people we can muster. Responsible fishing has to be the priority for fishers from all sectors. We will be promoting best practice methods and individual action, not another committee.

To maintain this stance funding must come from voluntary contributions, from us, for us, amateur fishers and the recreational fishing businesses of New Zealand.

LegaSea is about us, your kids, friends and neighbours, not only saying we care but caring enough to visit www.legasea.co.nz and ticking a box to find out more, make a stand, strong and proud that says "I won't let this happen in my lifetime".

Think of fisheries management for recreational fishers like the challenge of catching a marlin on a hand line from a dinghy. Matt Watson, a staunch LegaSea supporter, has shown us you don't need an expensive boat with the latest gear. With great expertise and experience, efficient yet effective gear, excellent organisation, guts and determination it can be done. We have the expertise, organisation, guts and determination. With your support resourcing the 'efficient and effective gear' we will be successful.

Our collective and united voice will make a difference. But only if we care enough to do something. A simple one-off contribution or a modest monthly commitment would be most welcome and used effectively. Please visit www.legasea.co.nz now with all the guts and determination you have!

A very big thank you to the people and businesses who have already contributed to our fishing future.

P: 0800 LEGASEA (534 273)

E: info@legasea.co.nz

W: www.legasea.co.nz

FB: www.facebook.com/LegaSea

M: LegaSea, PO Box 20-319, Glen Eden, Auckland 0641.