

# Your fisheries – your say

**Strengthening the management of  
New Zealand's commercial fisheries**



**Fisheries New Zealand**

Tini a Tangaroa

# Outline of presentation

- Vision
- The journey so far
- The opportunity in front of us
- Proposals
- Have your say
- Next steps



# Vision

*“Abundant and sustainable fisheries, thriving communities, and a healthy marine environment for the benefit of all New Zealanders.”*

Achieving this requires a renewed focus on our fisheries management system, and constant innovation and improvement.



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# Proposed process and timelines for strengthening fisheries management



Public consultation  
(this paper)

Consider feedback  
Confirm approach  
Develop legislation

Implement any agreed changes  
to landing & return to sea rules,  
offences & penalties, and other  
technical fixes

Public consultation on monitoring and  
verification approaches for commercial  
fisheries

**2017-2019**  
Ongoing, phased rollout of  
electronic catch and position reporting



# Improving our fisheries system to ensure more efficient and sustainable fishing

## Our proposals

Amending the rules for commercial fishers that set out what fish must be brought back to port and what fish can be returned to the sea

Ensuring effective and fair offences and penalties

Streamlining the decision-making process for setting catch limits

Technical fisheries management changes



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# Amending the rules for commercial fishers regarding what fish must be brought back to port and what fish can be returned to the sea

## Change sought:

Improved sustainability through good practice fishing and innovation

## Options

**Tighten the rules for returning fish to the sea**

**Increase the flexibility around fish being returned to the sea**

**Retain current rules**



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# Landing and returns-to-sea summary

Our Options	Minimum Legal Size (MLS)	Other Releases
<b>Current Rules (Option 3)</b>	There are MLS for a range of fish, mostly found inshore	Some species of fish can be returned to the sea live, if they meet certain conditions, e.g. likely to survive
<b>Option 1: Tighten the rules</b>	Removal of MLS for finfish, but MLS retained for shellfish, eels and crustaceans	Only under very limited circumstances
<b>Option 2: Increased flexibility</b>	Potential for MLS to be set for a wider range of species, based on both biological and economic grounds	Greater flexibility in allowing fish to be returned to the sea



# Ensuring effective and fair offences and penalties for landings and returns

## Change sought:

Effective and fair approach that ensures the integrity of the fisheries system, and maintains a level playing field

## Our proposal

**Introduction of  
new criminal  
offences**

**Introduction of  
infringement  
offences**

**Changes to  
defences for  
illegal behaviour**



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# Streamlining the decision-making process for setting catch limits

## Change sought:

Improve our responsiveness to changes in our fish stocks while providing greater certainty to stakeholders

## Our proposal

Enable our catch limits to be adjusted using Harvest Control Rules

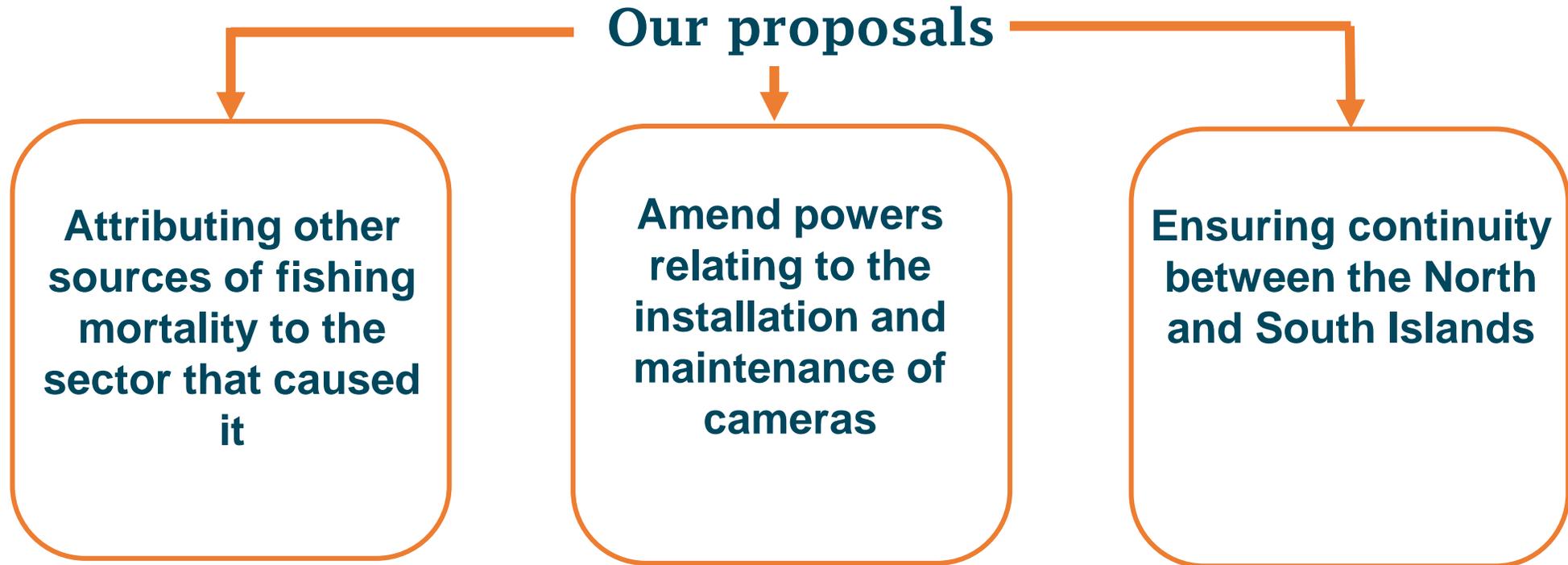
Enabling other controls to be changed more quickly



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# Technical fisheries management changes



# Have your say

Fisheries New Zealand wants to hear from you

Submission can be made:

- Online
- Emailed
- Posted

A submission template is on our website: [www.fisheries.govt.nz/haveyoursay](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/haveyoursay)

**Consultation closes at 17 March 2019, 5pm**



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# Next steps

Your feedback will help to:

- inform the development of policy and legislation changes.
- develop options for how our monitoring and verification for commercial fishers can be improved.

Feedback will be collated and advice presented to the Minister.

Cabinet will make final decisions.



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