



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



2019

2020

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



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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
Current Rules (Option 3)	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
Option 1: Tighten the rules	Removal of MLS for finfish, but MLS retained for shellfish, eels and crustaceans	Only under very limited circumstances
Option 2: Increased flexibility	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

Our proposal

Change sought:

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

Enable our catch limits to be adjusted using Harvest Control Rules

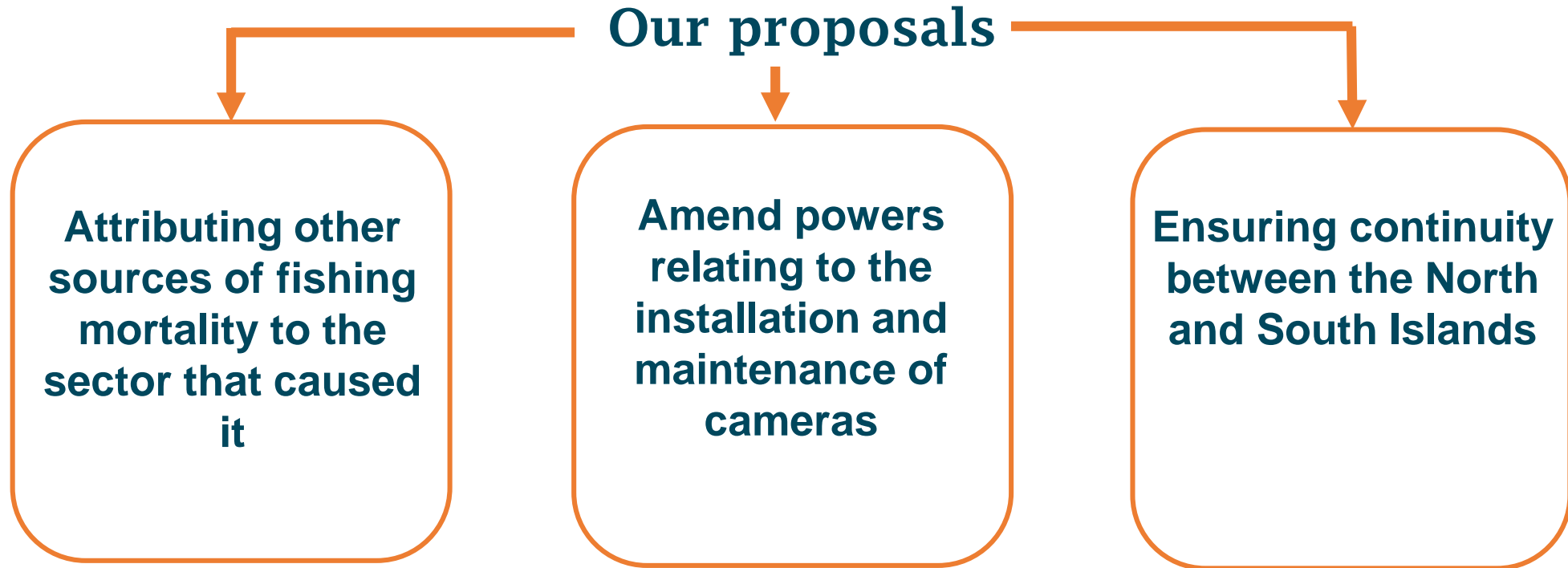
Enabling other controls to be changed more quickly



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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

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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