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**Hon Nathan Guy  
covers catch limits  
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# Marlin Experience!

**ZZZzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzzz!!!!!!!**, “It's the big Reel!!” I shout back into the cabin. Chaos breaks out on board as people eating / sleeping / lost in their thoughts rush to the back of the boat and all grab a rod and furiously begin to wind. That sound of a 100kg fish stripping line like it had the tension of a floss reel is something I will never forget.

A sound I will live everyday just to hear again.

Recently I was presented with an opportunity too good to pass up on the strike, a spot as deck hand for the 2014 Mercury Bay Ladies fishing competition. Would you believe that two hours into the “just warning you lads, this could be along day” we were hooked onto a striped Marlin off the coast of the Coromandel.

I had been sitting there, feet on the back of the boat in calm conditions, sun beating down on the dark blue tropical water, mesmerised by the lures out the back of the boat when the fish struck. Continued on page 4....



# President's CORNER

Hi,

Hope you all are enjoying the great fishing resources that this city harbour and coastline offers all fishers. The salmon are 'running', with some good catches from our inner city wharves.

Reports from the Dunedin Community salmon Trust Sawyers Bay Hatchery is that they are ready to release another 40 – 50,000 salmon smolt with the help of Price Waterhouse Coopers staff members on the Friday 11th April. There has been numerous school visits from Port Chambers School and Outram Schools – educational and teaching the 'art' of fishing to our children. The Trust has just purchased a 7,500 Litre Tanker for future releases, and securing eggs for the 'next round'. Yes; two salmon has been caught in the Leith trap, thus far. So it's ALL GO here in Dunedin – Salmon City!

Conservation plans are underway with 'planned' marine protection for the Otago Coastline with the 17th March announcement of 14 members to decide the options. This team will be 'chaired' by a Lawyer – Maree Baker Galloway. This group

has representation covering Iwi, Commercial Fishermen, Shell Gatherers, Council, Fisheries Management, Tourism, Forest & Bird; but lacks Recreational Fishers from Clubs/Sports Fishing/Our Fishing Future and other fishing groups. Hope this Otago MPA Group get this right; as the need is for a Marine Reserve of some significance. With our Yellow – Eyed Penguins experiencing food problems this year – perhaps a start, would be a site from 'Penguin Place' shores/beach out from there. This will provide a 'food source' for all, and future survival of this endangered penguin species.

Your Club Fishing Committee has rescheduled the Read Marine Cod Hunt, to suit all boat owners and anglers. There are numerous prizes to be won. Thanks to our Sponsors – Read Marine. Congratulations to the Orca Team in winning the 2014 Nationals 'Team Prize' for Albacore. 'You have done it Again'!

Sorry about not producing a February LURE Newsletter; as work/family & other activities for our Club 'got in the way'. So hope you enjoy this 'combined Month' issue.

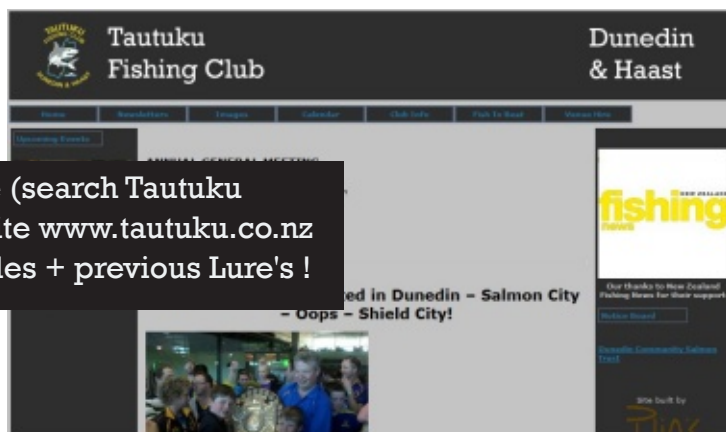
As the Taieri river mouth 'bar' is dangerous @ the moment – take that extra care!

Tight Lines.

Brett



Visit our Facebook page (search Tautuku Fishing Club) and website [www.tautuku.co.nz](http://www.tautuku.co.nz) for latest news and articles + previous Lure's !



# Read Marine Blue Cod Hunt

Friday 18th April – Sunday 27th April 2014

1 entry per boat/crew.

Your 3 heaviest blue cod 'gutted' to be weighed on your fishing day.

Final day of weighing (27th April) no later than 6.30pm.

We have decided to open the competition to non club members providing at least one fully paid up member from the Tautuku Fishing Club is on board.

Latham from Read Marine has really come to the party with competition prizes.

1st prize \$250 cash

2nd prize \$100 cash

3rd prize \$50 cash

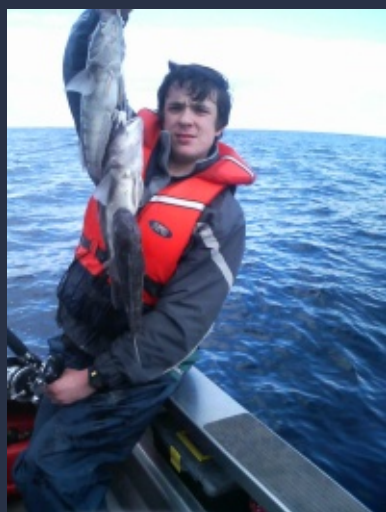
Read Marine are adding a number of other prizes for the crew/boat entries.

\$100 Lucky Boat Draw after final weigh in – 6pm Sunday 27th April.

(You must be @ the Club to win)!

ALSO: Ladies Competition during the week of Competition. Heaviest Fish & Heaviest Blue Cod PRIZES. Junior Prizes apply also.

Please Register with Murray Muir 03-4558808 by Thursday 17th April. If Murray Muir is not home – please leave a message & your phone number, so contact can be made.





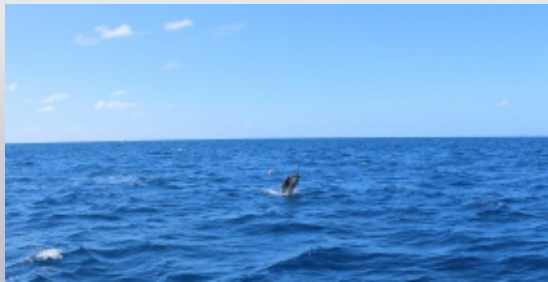
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My mind was deep in thought about how lucky we were to be able to do this, how ordinary folk could go fishing in a clean ocean, with fish still to be caught. I was free. I had nothing troubling me, absolutely nothing. I had great company, great food, plenty water and a fishing rod. Life was complete.

I was on a boat with a family of fanatical fisherman, Mum, Dad and daughter. Yes, a 22yr old that was a far better fisher than I'll ever be and parents with hearts full of pride as we egged her on while she played and fought a fish that was literally twice her weight. Rachel was bugged after an hour of fighting the fish but she did the job, the fish was tagged, photographed and released. She did it! I couldn't stop grinning. Her dad gave her the biggest hug he could without crushing her, I reckon he wouldn't even smile that much on her wedding day!



It dawned on me that at that moment things couldn't get much better than this. I knew I still had a huge task ahead of me with Our Fishing Future still in its infancy and still experiencing the trials and tribulations encountered by volunteer organisations. My Marlin experience was a timely reminder of the goal to unite a fishing community, but more importantly a country.



Fishing is the best leveller I have found, no matter what age, background, sex, class, education, religion, city slicker or salty sea dog. Fishing is the number 1 participative activity in New Zealand. People have to come to realise the importance of this fact, realise that the future of our fishing is actually in our hands. We can ensure its sustainability, we can encourage more to join this sport, we can have a code

that we all live by. We can change everything we have ever wanted and more than we can imagine. You want more fish? You want less poaching? You have issues with slot fishing? We have to come together. Finger pointing and jumping up and down in a tantrum when things go wrong never got me anywhere as a kid. I'm not about to advocate that as the way of influencing change in regulatory or stakeholder groups. The way forward is collaboration. I challenge you to see the vision Our Fishing Future is working towards. The boats leaving, there's plenty of space, jump on board.

Experiences like I had above have to be protected for future generations, there's no excuses, no alternative, no place for a "she'll be right" attitude. Although the sea may be calm in your neck of the woods now, there may come a time when you say "Who represents us?" Make sure you are the first boat on the water.

Head to <http://ourfishingfuture.fishinfuturesearch.co.nz/about/>  
Click on membership if you want to show your support or have a look around the site to find out more.  
Change will take time, but I promise you change is happening.

Aaron Shields.  
Vice President – Our Fishing Future Inc.



# Hon Nathan Guy

## Minister for Primary Industries



20 March 2014

Media Statement

## **New commercial catch limits to ensure sustainability of fisheries**

Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy has today announced changes to catch limits for seven commercial fish stocks, aimed at ensuring their sustainability for all New Zealanders.

The new limits come into effect on 1 April 2014 and are based on robust research and management information, and views from all stakeholders in the various fisheries.

In addition to this the National Rock Lobster Management Group provides advice to the Minister on crayfish fisheries. This group is made up of representatives from the recreational, customary and commercial sectors.

The main changes are:

- A 36 tonne decrease in commercial catch limits for crayfish in the Bay of Plenty (CRA 2) and a 33 tonne decrease in Wellington/Hawkes Bay (CRA 4).
- A 35 tonne increase in commercial catch limits for crayfish in Gisborne (CRA 3), 22 tonne increase for Otago (CRA 7) and 14 tonne increase for Westland/Taranaki (CRA 9).
- A significant increase in the southern blue whiting fishery near Campbell Island (SWB 6I) has enabled a rise in the catch limit from 30,000 tonnes to 40,000 tonnes.
- A decrease to the scallop commercial catch limit at the top of the South Island from 747 tonnes to 400 tonnes.

“We need to ensure the fisheries are maintained at healthy levels for all New Zealanders,” says Mr Guy.

“These changes apply to the commercial sector and there is no change to any recreational or customary fishing limits across the country.

“I have also approved a new management approach for CRA 2 that will closely monitor performance. If the numbers of crayfish don’t improve then I will be looking to make further changes.”

The new limit for scallops at the top of the South Island includes a 347 tonne decrease to the commercial catch limit.

“The decrease in the commercial catch limit takes into account the future enhancement potential of the fishery, while balancing any sustainability risk.”

Mr Guy said that in addition to this reduction to the catch limit, further supporting measures are required to stimulate a rebuild of the scallop fishery and improve fishing outcomes for all sectors.

“MPI will work closely with stakeholders to strengthen the existing management arrangements over the next year to better manage this fishery for all stakeholders.

“If there is evidence to suggest the scallop management framework is not ensuring sustainability and providing opportunities for all sectors, then I will consider further action.

“With the southern blue whiting fishery, interactions with sea lions in the area was a key focus. Commercial fishers have agreed to deploy sea lion exclusion devices (SLEDs) and there will be full observer coverage as part of a suite of measures aimed at reducing the risk of further captures. So far these have been effective at minimising the capture of sea lions in the squid fishery in the sub-Antarctic.”

Detailed information on the Minister’s decisions, including copies of his decision letters and Final Advice Papers are available on the Ministry for Primary Industries website at:

<http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Consultations/Archive/2014/Review+of+fisheries+sustainability+measures+for+1+April+2014.htm>

Media contact: Phil Rennie 021 405 443





# Otago Harbour Salmon from a Kayak

A few weeks ago my Chiropractor told me I should be doing some resistance training on my Kayak to strengthen my back, and what better excuse would anyone need to drag a lure from their Kayak in the hope of catching a salmon.

The first couple of times consisted of loading the Kayak before work and heading out from the Otago Yacht club, it also meant getting used to setting the line out the back and getting my fitness up to a level where I could drag a paravane and lure too. By my third trip I could comfortably handle the paravane and lure for 2-3 hours though the only flash of silver I had seen belonged to the infamous Barracouta.

The next trip was forged for Saturday after work and for a change of scenery we planned to head down to Port Chalmers exiting from Back Beach, once we hit the main channel we deployed paravanes and lures (I have now tried just about every customers favourite). This time we struck the incoming tide and after half an hour of trying to battle the current I pulled the paravane up and paddled into the container wharf harbour. From here I reset and moved along close to the wharf and round past Boiler point, noticing some great sign on the sounder but not touching a thing.

My companion for the afternoon was tiring quickly hang around off Careys Bay while I trolled my

from the current and seemed quite happy to way towards the heads.

When we meet back up again it was getting to have a crack with the softbaits in case some Warehou, Reidy picked up a small Blue Cod and nothing after a couple of drifts so reverted to a lure (my couta' catcher).

around 8:30pm and a plan was hatched of the sign on the fish finder was a few other bites but I had touched large fluorescent Halco bibbed



After a quick paddle back up to Boiler point I turned and headed back towards Back Beach while Reidy started one more drift in the hope of something edible coming to the boat.

As I passed the lone container ship at the wharf I turned and cut across the mouth of the port I was not at all surprised to hear my reel behind me start to sing, I turned and pulled the rod from the holder finding it heavier than normal and some pretty strong head nods. As the fish got closer to the kayak it surfaced and I got my first glimpse of silver, after the fish was played a bit more and tired sufficiently it was gaffed and dragged aboard, put on the fish threader and lcky spiked.

This fish was not the biggest Salmon I have landed but by far the most rewarding and memorable.

# A NEW CREW MEMBER!

Early February, I was out fishing with Warren, Mick and Paul on The Joysea, down at Taieri Mouth.

The days fishing was going nicely, good size blue cod coming on board, some weighing 2-3 kgs. We had the normal amount of bird life around on the water, cape pigeons, moly hawks, albatross and gulls.

Then out of the sky, with all with its landing gear on, came a full grown albatross, straight in, to land inside Warrens boat, one of its wings clipping Pauls head on the way in.

We were all stunned, amazed, no-one had every experienced anything like this before. The next 3 to 5 minutes was hilarious. he was walking around eyeing us all up, what next?

Three of us were busy fishing, so Warren rushed to get his phone/camera to capture this magic moment. The bird tried putting his foot on the side tray of the boat and lifting himself out. No, he wasn't comfortable with this. Went for another walk and think about his situation, then back to the side



tray one foot on that, one wing on Pauls shoulder the other on Micks shoulder and up and away he went, lifting himself over the side.

His wing span was all of 3 meters, what an amazing sight. He was enormous. He didn't have a crown on his head so he was not a royal, so it must have been a wandering albatross. He was that big he could have taken Mick and Paul over the side with him, one under each wing.

This photo was taken by Warren, he was probably a bit shaky at the time, or was it Albi moving.

Another great day out on the ocean at Taieri Mouth.

Murray Muir



# Dangers of 1080 poison to Trout?

## – DoC ‘haven’t the Answers!’

**"Uninformed", "Scaremongers", "Alarmist"...Just a few well chosen adjectives that DoC and its pro-1080 lobbyists have aimed at The Federation since we issued a press release warning of the risks of eating trout during the planned Battle for the Birds aerial 1080 drops planned over the next few years.**

To cut a long story short we asked "If DoC's assertion that stoats will die because they will eat rats that have, in turn, eaten 1080, then why cannot the same logic apply to animals that eat mice poisoned by 1080, in particular trout" One association of a beech mast is an increased mouse population and a corresponding increase in trout size. So, will next season be one more of atrophied trout, rather than trophy trout? DoC persistently asserted that there is plenty of evidence to show there is no risk but we struggled to find it.

We won't bore you with our extensive desk research done to date, suffice to say;

1. there is NO research on the effects of secondary poisoning of trout by creatures that have ingested 1080.

2. there is research to show that mice need to consume 17 times more 1080 (per kilo of body weight) than possums to die of poisoning.

3. there is research to show that mice show an aversion to 1080 and that only 25% of a laboratory group mice died when exposed to 1080 laced cereal bait.

4. there is research to show the effects of trout swimming in a solution of 1080 - in NZ it is published as benign, in the US as leading to skin lesions and deformities in rainbow trout.

5. there is research to show that eels showed no observable adverse affects when fed flesh from 1080 poisoned possums but that same research showed the eel flesh to have 12 times the permissible limit of 1080 as specified by the NZ Food Safety Authority.

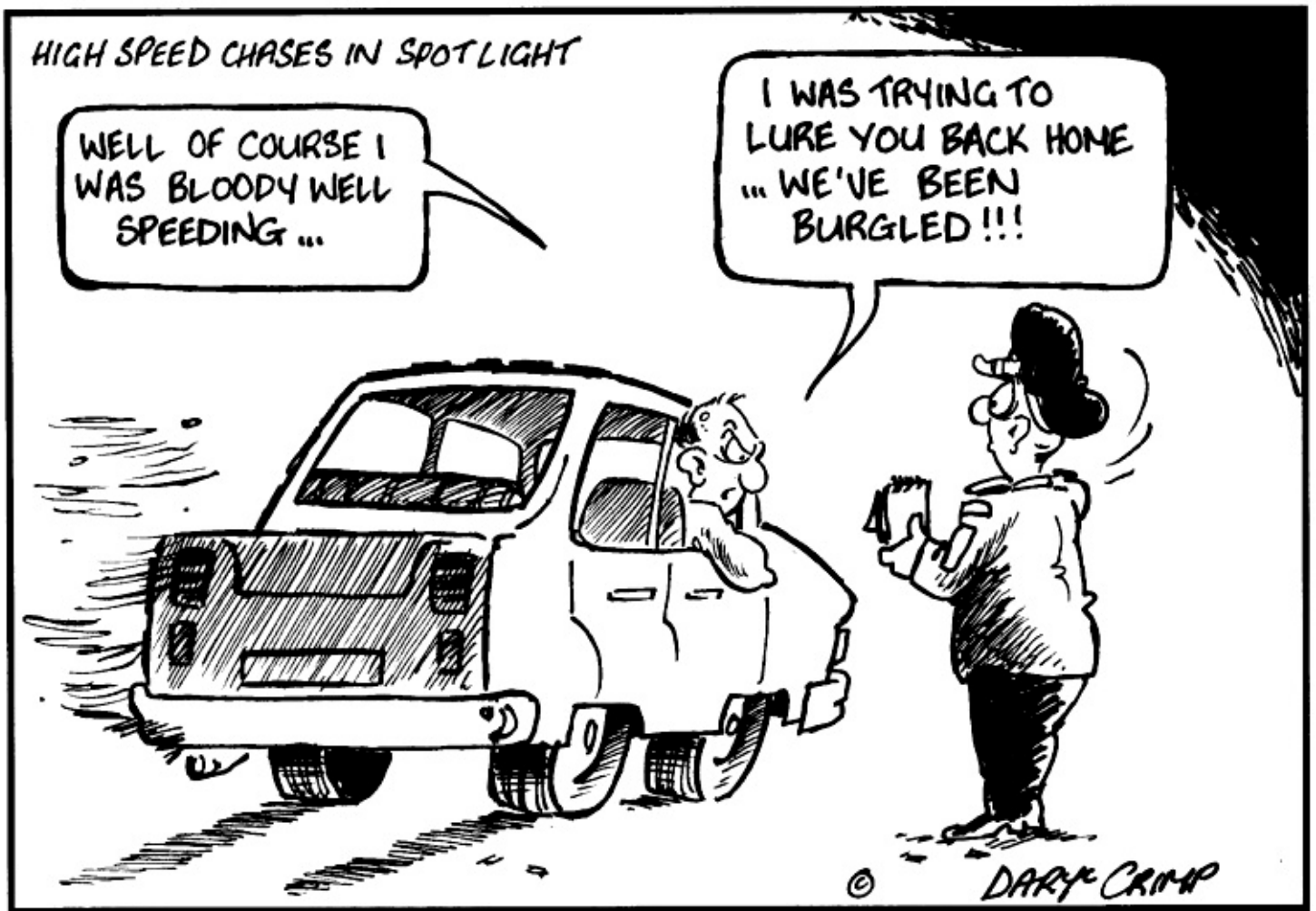
Finally DoC "fessed" up to there being no research undertaken specifically in respect of secondary poisoning of trout (NZ Herald, Sat 1 March) and, to their credit, said they would work with Fish and Game to plug this omission.

We are pleased to report that the first scoping meeting has been completed with the Federation, DoC, Fish & Game and independent fisheries and toxicology scientists with a view to resolving this. All parties to the meeting were positive and committed to finding the best way to proceed.

We will keep all concerned anglers informed of progress.

Tight Lines  
David Haynes  
President. NZFFA.





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PAPER

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news

*Simply flowers*  
By Donna

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# The Four Biggest Trout I Never Caught



## Episode 1 (of 4)

Since I bought my first fishing license way back in 1949, I have never given up boyhood ambitions of capturing trophy trout. In my book, trophy trout are those colossal critters that are not only beautiful to look at but also weigh at least 10 pounds on honest scales.

And if it is your wish to locate trout such as these with minimal effort, then you really need to visit a wildlife sanctuary such as exists around the wharves at Queenstown where I have ogled brown trout of at least 30 pounds cruising around, patiently waiting for tourists to drop bits of bread to gorge on.

However, sanctuaries aside, big wild trout are certainly much rarer to find and the average angler may have few opportunities not only to locate them, but also capture them. I have yet to capture a trophy trout but the ambition is still very much alive. My best effort to date is a 9 pound jack taken from the upper Pomahaka river in South Otago in 1998. Unfortunately for me it had spawned otherwise it would have weighed well above 9 pounds but not bagging 'The Biggie' doesn't necessarily mean I have been a failure. Four times I have hooked up with monster trout, twice on spinning gear and twice on a fly rod but sadly, all four eluded capture.

The first of 'The Four Biggest Trout I Never Caught' occurred at Lake Hawea in 1983. I

was trolling for salmon one morning in my 13 ft runabout, just idling along and happy enough with two modest salmon taken on a silver slice just a short distance from the shore and close by the Lake Hawea Holiday Park. The lake abounds with land-locked salmon averaging just 1.5 pounds and there is a generous daily limit of 6 per angler. Although small, the salmon are excellent eating especially if bottled.

Quietly meandering along, my reel's ratchet suddenly came to life, the rod tip jerked down and metre after metre of line went spooling off into the depths. I frantically tightened the clutch but to no avail; whatever had taken my spinner was unstoppable. Then quite abruptly, the run stopped and I took up the strain.

In the lake's depths I could feel something shaking its head and in spite of fishing with 10 pound line and the clutch set to max, I retrieved not one inch of line. I was also dealing with a stiff north-west breeze, desperately trying to keep the boat's bow pointing into the wind and well aware of a breaking shore downwind - something I was keen to avoid.

Juggling the throttle, the steering, and somehow maintaining contact with an extremely large fish had me wishing I had had a mate with me - someone to handle the boat while I handled the rod. It had to be a trout down there. Salmon were growth-restricted due to the confines of the lake and the largest salmon ever captured

after the construction of the Lake Hawea dam was just 7 pounds. I know this because I weighed and photographed it when a Cromwell fisherman gleefully showed it to me many years ago. But for now, my luck was running out. An irresistible force was meeting an immovable object and something had to give. Gripping the rod tightly and determined to hang on regardless, I let the drift of the boat exert maximum lift but with a resounding 'ping' the line snapped. Naturally, I was extremely disappointed. Disappointed not to have even got a glimpse of a monster trout but resigned to the fact that in reality, I was in a no-win situation.

Lake Hawea is renowned for its monster trout and some years later I was there when a 28 pound brown trout hen washed up on a nearby beach on New Year's Day. It

had died of old age according to a Fish & Game ranger and was completely black - the legacy of living deep, deep down. The depth of Hawea is impressive too; at least 1,300 feet in places which is in fact, below sea level. Had I connected with that huge trout back in 1983? It's a nice thought to savour!

In fishing you win some, you lose some, yet my angling 'duffs' over the years have become just as memorable as my successes. It's all part and parcel of the wonderful sport of angling and an ambition to capture 'The Biggie' keeps me returning to lakes and streams.

I have a boyhood dream to fulfill.

*Frank Cartwright*

## **'BOAT OWNERS' – Get together!**

**6pm Sunday 13th April 2014**

**"Jug Shout" for each  
Club Boat Owner.**

**Our Club Captain,  
Murray Muir &  
Records Manager,  
Russell Moylan are  
holding this Club get  
together to discuss  
your needs / ideas /  
support.**





# New Zealand Masters Games

## February 2014



39 competitors fished in 'favourable' conditions.

Tautuku Fishing Club Dunedin & Haast Inc supported this major event in New Zealand's Sporting Calendar by staging the 'Salt Fishing' sector.

Our Club member, Roger Kan, who is totally blind, was a 'hit' with the media; as he explained in an interview, that being blind is not a handicap while fishing.



## Well Done Roger!

## Current Lines 23rd February 2014

"I can see clearly now the rain has gone, I can see all obstacles in my way... It's going to be a fine, fine, bright shiny day", oops maybe I sang too soon!

**NZSFC Nationals** - the NZSFC premier points scoring line class championship tournament colloquially known as 'The Nationals' has now finished. 1,485 anglers were entered on 418 teams and 37 Clubs took part. Some huge entries from some clubs – Mercury Bay had 290, Waihou Bay 235 and New Plymouth 107 but can't forget Muriwai who had 96 anglers fishing and the club only has 172 members. The results are being checked and the provisional results will be going final soon. Check out how your team, your club, or your region placed. The link for the results is:  
<http://www.nzsportfishing.org.nz/nationals/results14/>

**Tauranga has another big black** – Gary Crom fishing on the vessel 'Primal Instinct' close to the Astrolabe hooked and boated his big black marlin on a live kahawai. It went 361kg and was courtesy weighed at the Mount Maunganui Sportfishing Club's weigh station.

**Whangamata Ocean Sports Club** has just had their 'Classic'. A One Base styled tournament, with over 500 anglers fishing off 130 odd boats had three days of hard but good fishing. For the first time this writer experienced first-hand a marlin about to be released after a successful tagging, when the crew found themselves in a tug of war with a very large, very hungry mako shark. The end result was one marlin boated without its tail and one pissed off shark. Upon weighing what was left (100 kg) they were awarded a hard luck prize for showing honesty and integrity is still alive in the fishing fraternity.

First place in the Classic went to the first marlin weighed on day one, caught from the vessel 'Jasana' weighing in at 140.4 kg on a live skippy using a smallish 5/0 circle hook mostly used for terakihi fishing. Second place went to the launch 'Sword Dust' weighing in at 131.7 kg on a live bait and third place to the trailer boat 'Two Bouys' weighing in at 127.3 kg on a live bait. Ironically all of the marlin caught, landed and tagged were on or inside the 100 meter line from Dogger Bank up to and just past the Alderman Islands, with all but 2 (12) caught on live baits, the two were on lures, different sized and different colours. Two Bouys owner Glenn Dyer I have known since high school some 37 years and after 5 years of trying finally got his first marlin for the boat.

**Check out Facebook** - First hand reports of game fishing out and around Whangamata can be found by liking the 'Whangamata Channel 28' Facebook page. To see what is happening out from Tutukaka like the 'Tutukaka Channel 4' Facebook page. Whangaroa Sport Fishing Club and the Bay of Islands Swordfish Clubs have regularly updated Facebook pages as well. I cannot say I have found all the Facebook pages as yet but one of the better ones reporting catches in almost real time is "Trophy Lures" for the Waihou Bay area, a fantastic service over the Nationals. The New Zealand Sport Fishing Council's Facebook page has had the Nationals results posted each evening and any other great captures as well.



The last words from Whangamata – on the day after the competition local launch 'Grand Dame' went out and caught a stripey weighing 151kg. This would have been a daily heaviest and heaviest overall had it been caught a day earlier.

**The Doves Bay weigh station for the BOISC** weighed in their first black marlin on 16/02 caught on a lure from Cape Brett waters on the vessel "Fish Razor" weighing in at 147.5 kg.

New owners of the vessel 'Andros' went out and christened it by getting angler Nathan Kilgour a blue marlin weighing 181.7kg on 37 kg line.

**Houhora is in the news**, the first two west coast marlin were caught for the Club on the 8/2 from the trailer boat 'Offshore' with the best weighing in at 146.2kg for angler Parker Bellingham, a local lad who a couple of years back won the Houhora One Base's \$5,000 for the heaviest striped marlin.

And again, **Charter Boat 'Gladiator'** with angler Donna Pascoe weighed in a whopping 411.6kg Pacific Bluefin tuna on 60 kg line caught in the Nationals on a live skippy close to the King Bank which is a pending NZ and World Ladies 60kg line class record as well as an All Tackle World Record claim. This is the third Thunnus orientalis or Pacific Bluefin tuna for those who don't know Latin. With Houhora's 'One Base' set to start 12th March it is starting to look very fishy up there.



PL Fuel Cards – No Card Fees – Just savings! 6c/L incl gst discount off pump price at PL Marinas! 10c/L incl gst discount off pump price at participating Mobil Service Stations & Truck Stops, Pak N Save, New World Fuel and Allied Fuel Sites! Email [admin@plpl.co.nz](mailto:admin@plpl.co.nz) or phone Claire on 0800 42 83 83 to request forms! EASY! Summer is finally here in the lower North Island! Enjoy your fishing around NZ and good luck with the big ones for those in competitions! Leave the bananas at home!!!!

Regards  
NZSFC

### **Current Lines 8th March 2014**

It's the peak of Game fishing contest season, the only song that makes a connection at present, "Walk this way talk this way" well the talk is let's go catch some fish, the weather forecast is for southerly quarter 25k plus, so they walk this way to the nearest bar!

**New ruling from the IGFA:** The NZSFC Records Officer, Pete Saul, says "about time and let's circulate this far and wide". This came in via an email to NZSFC – "We had some discussion around our last committee meeting (as my son Cameron who is 8 tagged and released a nice 120+KG Bronze Whaler last month on 24 kg stand up) as to the extent an angler can be assisted for safety sake in catching a fish. I thought I would see if you could clarify as have been reading the rule book and it does not make it 100 % clear. Tethering, I can see in the rules you can attach a safety rope to rod, so that is fine. Could it instead be attached to the angler, on the same basis not assisting with the fight?" We were awaiting a formal reply from IGFA to confirm the new rule, however I would say that safety lines attached to the

angler are now perfectly legal. We just need to receive the fine details to confirm that. OK, a look at the IGFA website shows the new angling rule. ***Under I. OTHER EQUIPMENT, the old Rule 7 stated: "A safety line may be attached to the rod, reel or harness provided it does not in any way assist the angler in fighting the fish."***

***Surprise, surprise:*** Have a guess which club during the 2014 NZSFC Nationals achieved a super grand slam in the billfish section?...Yup you guessed it - Waihou Bay managed the following: a broadbill, a black marlin, several blue marlin, a shortbill spearfish, and many striped marlin. This is the first time I can recall this being done by one club entered in the Nationals.

***BOP fishing*** – is picking up after the last front passed through. Whitianga weighed two nice stripies for their Small Boats Tournament 130 and 140kg. Tauranga One Base started with a hiss and a roar when just under 100 boats sailed off for the start in 20 knots of breeze. Half way into the event there has been 1 S/M landed, 1 tagged, 1 blue marlin, 1 mahimahi, 12 kingfish and 6 snapper. A little slower than past One Bases but due to trying weather, moon and tides ever decreasing available dollars and increasing costs.

**NZSFC Nationals** - The NZSFC premier points score line class championship tournament colloquially known as "the Nationals" has well and truly finished with the final results checked and online. Check out how your team, your club, or your region placed, the link for the results is;  
<http://www.nzsportfishing.org.nz/nationals/results14/>



**PL Fuel Cards**– No Card Fees – Just savings!

**6c/L incl gst discount** off pump price at PL Marinas!

**10c/L incl gst discount** off pump price at participating Mobil Service Stations & Truck Stops, Pak N Save, New World Fuel and Allied Fuel Sites!

Email [admin@plpl.co.nz](mailto:admin@plpl.co.nz) or phone 0800 42 83 83 to request forms! EASY!

Applications are coming aboard but for those of you who haven't netted the savings yet – Get your PL Fuel Cards and save yourself \$'s. It's easy and you will also be helping your club and NZSF! For those in the far north the cold blast hasn't hit (lucky!). For the rest of the hardy fishermen and women out there, wrap up warm and maybe it's time to take the thermos out on the fishing trips! Didn't say what you have to put in it!

Regards  
NZSFC





# NATIONALS 2014

For the second successive year, the 'Orca Team' (Mike Archer, Wayne Macdonald & Russell Moylan), have been without boat owner & skipper, John Millar; fishing the Nationals over on the West Coast, Jacksons Bay; Haast. For this reason 'the team' wanted to do well for John & for the Club.

The Nationals didn't start well, as day one, saw us trolling without finding water warmer than 14.1 degrees and subsequently no tuna. We ended the day trolling in the bay, in drizzle turning to light rain; for Kahawai. Although we landed three fish on 1kg line; they weren't over the 2kg minimum to qualify for the Nationals. One lure was lost when a strike occurred doing a turn, as lines crossed.

DAY 2 – dull and overcast; but warmer water and we found tuna. We just couldn't get them to stick. Mike and Wayne were busted off on a double strike and I hooked up straight after only to have the line pop after 15 minutes. I lost the next three fish and the lures on the next three strikes. Then Wayne hooked up and although the fish was being stubborn; things were looking good. After just on three hours, we thought the fish had died as there was just weight on the end of the line. After getting the gear back to the boat, we found the 1kg line was intact with the clip on the heavier leader, which was neatly cut in half. The weight was some sort of salp or jelly fish – new to us. Six lure down and time to go in.

Days 3, 4 & 5 were lost to rain and wind. We did get on the water on the day 5, just to do the cray pots. But the conditions allowed us to lift only two of the five pots.

Day 6 – you would not believe after the previous days weather. On what was to be our only full day of sun. We had 'dead flat' seas and water to 18.6 degrees. We went to where

we last knew the Albacore to be; to find them there and willing. First up was Wayne, who after 20 minutes landed the first Albacore of the trip of 4.21kg on a 1kg line. "We were on the board"! Next to stay hooked up was myself and landed a 4.93kg Albacore again on a 1kg line in 20 minutes. The bite went off and we started to troll in. Wayne then hooked up and had the leader to the boat in only 10 minutes; to have the fish dart under the boat. 'Skill-full' work saw Wayne holding the rod under water and away from the prop. It took another 40 minutes to get the fish back to the boat and safely landed. It went 6.15kg on a 1kg line. What a Day! Through all of that; fish and gear were still lost. I know I lost another 3 lures and leaders; but that is just light line fishing. We now had fish for the teams points – just needed another 2 good fish for the Club points.



Day 7 – it was that foggy; we couldn't see the heads when we went out or any sign of land for that matter. 'Aren't GPS's wonderful things'. The water temps had dropped and we just couldn't find fish. We had one half arsed strike, and when the fish ran, it was game over. Another lure lost! Unfortunately, that was the some total of our action for the day.

Day 8 and final day. Raining and seas not good. We did try to troll, but couldn't go far. We even tried trolling in the bay for Kahawai; but although the water was 16 degrees; it was filthy, with no sign of life. End of the Line!



We were once again the 'Top Team, & angler awards. But sorry we just couldn't do the same for the 'Club Award'.

Team 'Orca' have fished the Nationals for a number of Years; with seven wins as 'top team' in NZ – the last 3 'straight'. We have fished along side some great team mates and have had lots of laughs on the way. We are not the only club boat to have won this title. It would be great to see someone else from our club to 'step up' and have a 'crack'.



Russell Moylan.

# fish to beat

## f i s h t o b e a t

Blue Cod – 3.995 kg Allen Hurrell  
 Barracouta – 2.585 kg Rakesh Pandey  
 Salmon – 4.08 kg Roger Kan  
 Groper – 6.995 kg Jack Todd  
 Jock Stewart – 1.255 kg Murray Muir  
 Ladies Trophy – 2.505 kg Blue Cod Cate Bardwell  
 Junior Blue Cod – 2.335 kg Jorja Hutton  
 Junior Trophy – 6.995 kg Groper Jack Todd  
 Fergus Mathieson Memorial Cup – 3.995 kg Blue Cod Allen Hurrell  
 West Coast Tuna – Wayne Macdonald  
 Albacore 6.15kg  
 West Coast Blue Cod – Kelvin Nyhon 1.66kg  
 Kahawai – Wayne Macdonald 1.54kg  
 Smaill Family Salmon 'Senior Angler' Trophy – Roger Kan 4.08kg

Game Fish Skippers Points.  
 Mike Archer 1Pt, Provisional 2 Pts.

Skippers points non game fish are;

Nathan Pitcher	3 points
Allen Hurrell	2 points
Mike Todd	1 point
Rakesh Pandey	1 point
Grant Hutton	1 point
Carl Nyhon	1 Pt

Provisional points;

Grant Hutton	2 points
Nathan Pitcher	2 points
Mike Todd	2 points
Rakesh Pandey	1 point
Allen Hurrell	1 point

**Club 'Lineclass Trophy' has been won by Wayne Macdonald with his Albacore of 6.15kg on a 1kg line earning 615 points in the Nationals.**





## \* Surfers Paradise \*



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# salmon city



The Salmon City video is now live on [insidersdunedin.co.nz](http://insidersdunedin.co.nz) - its getting a lot of attention:

<http://www.insidersdunedin.co.nz/videos/2014/3/19/salmon-city-dunedin-harbour>



## Corbett Memorial Competition!

Sunday 25th May 2014.

Most Species on the day, caught by an angler. In event of two or more anglers catching the same number of species – Trophy & Prize (Mitchell's Tavern Meal Voucher PLUS 'other goods') will go to the angler with the heaviest combined weight.

To enter: contact Murray Muir PH 4558808 or Brett Bensemann PH 4557592.





# Of salmon otoliths and scales

Their value for understanding life history, growth and age.

By Mark Lokman.

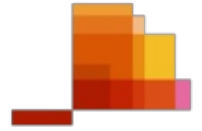
When a fish is caught, whether by a fishing mad fisher or a fish biologist, the question “I wonder what this fish has been up to in its life and how old it is” is one that is probably often asked. We can ask the fish these questions until the cows come home, but of course, won't get an answer. However, much information can be found in several of the fish's hard body parts: scales and otoliths.

Otoliths are hard mineral deposits, typically in an oval-like shape, that are conveniently termed 'balance organs' – these structures play a role in balance, movement and gravity sensing, among others. Fish have 3 pairs of these otoliths; normally, only the sagittae (the largest pair, found in the brain case, in a jelly pocket just behind the brain itself) are collected for study: as the fish grows, the otoliths grow, and if the fish grow rapidly, so too do the otoliths. Rapid growth in summer and slow growth in winter accordingly alternate, giving a ring pattern like what is seen for trees, and we can simply count the rings to get an estimate of age. The size of the otoliths and the distance between the rings can further tell us a little bit about the growth rate of the fish in a given year(s).

The 'aging trick' is well-known and has been used for quite some time – in fact, this trick is now so well established that otoliths from young fish can even help us estimate their age in days, as in these young fish, the rings develop as alternations between day (fast growth) and night (slow growth) – the rings are not as easily identifiable as annual rings, but with practice and the right gear, a reasonable guesstimate can be obtained. More recently, ecologists have come to realise that otoliths are not only calcium carbonate, but they also contain trace elements – and the amount of these trace elements can differ along the otolith (from centre to edge). The trace elements strontium and barium are especially useful here; strontium content is relatively high in seawater and barium content in fresh water, so as the ratio of these trace elements is determined in the otoliths in different distances from the centre, we can get insights into whether and when fish may have been spending time in fresh water (locally high barium content in the otolith) or seawater (locally high strontium content in the otolith).

The Dunedin Community Salmon Trust and the NZAnglers Association have been releasing salmon smolt in the harbour for the last 4-5 years. Quite a few have been hooked this year – are they 2-, 3- or 4-year-olds? Otolith analysis may be able to tell us this, but the analysis can be time consuming – fortunately, scales also produce a 'tree-ring' pattern, reflective of growth; the only constraint here is that when scales are lost during damage, new scales will form that do not give the true age of the fish. So, aging on the basis of scales is preferably done by collecting several scales from different parts along the body. The DCST is keen to get some aging done to gain some insights into the growth rates of the fish that have been released. Can you help? From the fish you catch from the harbour, please collect some scales from different parts along the body, dry them, tuck'em in a small Ziplock bag, with weight/length and date, and hand it over to a Trustee – these scales may well tell us the fish's life story....

**Thank you for supporting our activities in the Otago Harbour!**



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# Otago Harbour Salmon Fishing Competition

## 1st –2nd March 2014

Fantastic Competition organised by the Otago Salmon Anglers association.

Attracted 220 entries.

The Competition was won by Barney Topping with a 6.01kg (from a boat); Jack Salmon; while Sam Hutton (14yrs), won the first day prize @ 5.24kg; from a boat on the harbour. Sam also won the Junior Section. Denise Downey won the Ladies Section with a 3.76kg salmon, fishing from the city wharf.

36 salmon weighed in over the weekend – 22 on Saturday & 14 on the Sunday.

Saturday – 7 caught from boats & 15 from our city wharves.

Sunday – 12 caught from boats & 2 from land.



Thanks to Sponsors & organisers for a very successful event.

**DUNEDIN is SALMON CITY!**



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# UNFORMED ROAD SALES CONSIDERED

The above heading on an Otago Daily Times article (March 15th) which reported on a Southland District Council suggestion that they should advocate for a law change to facilitate sale of Unformed Legal Roads shows a depressing lack of understanding of that Council's rights and responsibilities ..

Unformed Legal Roads of which some 56,00 kilometers exist throughout New Zealand are a highly valued public asset which are not available for disposal at the whim of any Territorial Local Authority – either to their benefit or the benefit of the adjacent landholder.

In its excellent publication “Guidelines for the Management of Unformed Legal Roads” the Walking Access Commission has stated

“ The unformed roading network originally held in trust by the Crown and now administered by local Councils is one of the greatest recreation assets of the Nation for it is the one mechanism which provides an unqualified guarantee of access for everyone “

The fact that the Southland District Council would wish to sell Unformed Legal Roads “which it no longer needs” and/or “would no longer need for its roading network” is quite irrelevant and treats those roads as though Council's interests alone are to be considered ..

For the record

In spite of the fact that responsibility to manage our roading system was vested in Territorial District Councils by the Crown in 1972 that responsibility does not extend to a level of ownership and control which would allow those Councils to act unilaterally to alter their status.

Primary consideration must always be given to the public interest and local Councils have a substantial role as guardians of that public interest ..

As one notable member of the Judiciary has stated

“Despite the vesting in the local authority the right of passage over a road is one possessed by the public, not the local Authority which holds the title and exercises its powers in relation to a road as upon a trust for a public purpose “

Hopefully these brief comments will dissuade the Southland District Council from proceeding further with its unfortunate consideration to sell off these roads.

They are far too valuable to be treated in this way



**Alan McMillan**  
Chairman,  
Public Access New Zealand Inc  
P.O.Box 17 Dunedin  
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25/3/14



# New Zealand Nationals 2014 Statistics

Total Number of Anglers: 1488 in 418 Teams

Total number of Fish weighed: 624

Total number of Billfish weighed 10

Blue Marlin 8

Broadbill 1

Black Marlin 1

Total number of Striped Marlin weighed 44

Total number of Shortbill Spearfish weighed 1

Total number of Shark weighed 9

Blue Shark 1

Bronze Whaler 1

Mako 7

Total number of Tuna weighed 1

Blue Fin 1

Total number of Skipjack 219

Total number of Albacore 74

Total number of Yellowtail 10

Total number of Kahawai 115

Total number of Snapper 72

Total Number of Trevally 23

Total number of Mahimahi 46

Total number of Fish tagged & released: 288

Total number of Billfish tagged & released 5

Black & Blue Marlin 3

Total number of Striped Marlin tagged & released 100

Total number of Shark tagged & released 115

Blue shark 38

Bronze Whaler 6

Hammerhead 3

Mako 68

Thresher 2

Total number of Yellowtail tagged & released 65



## Top Club overall of the 39 Clubs in the Association.

1st: Houhora 6,426 Points. (42 Anglers / 9 Teams)

7th: Tautuku 1,529 Points. (3 Anglers / 1 Team)



### Albacore Kilwell Sports Due Trophy.

( Champion Club – Inter Club “Top 5 Scoring Fish” ).

1st: Wellington 1,751 Points.

2nd: Tautuku 1,529 Points.

3rd: Pegasus Bay 1,272.05 Points.



### Albacore Hickey Sports Trophy.

( Champion Team-Top 3 Scoring Fish ).

1st: Orca – Tautuku 1,529 Points.

2nd Black Pearl - Wellington 1,091.50 Points.

3rd: Reel Scream'n - Southern Sports 972.33 Points.

**Champion Line Weight – Anglers Heaviest Fish.** 1kg: Wayne MacDonald 6.150 kg

**NZ Champion Angler Meritorious Single Fish:** Albacore 6.150kg on a 1kg Line – Wayne MacDonald