

# LURE



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COMPETITIONS  
RESULTS

# NEWS FROM THE TAUTUKU FISHING CLUB

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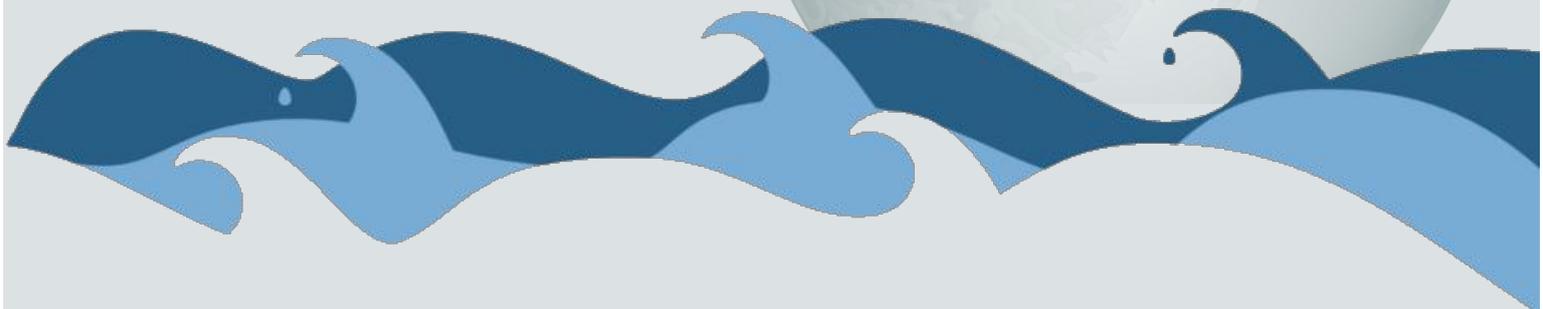
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EPISODE 51



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The "Roaring Season" is upon us - Yep, we all have to have our say with the new Blue Cod Strategy.

The review of the Blue Cod fishing regulations will be determined from our submissions and Fisheries NZ data etc. Submissions must be received by Fisheries NZ no later than 5pm Tuesday 26 March 2019. "On line" information is mentioned separately in this Lure issue; while "hard copy" submission forms, are available at the Club Bar. Make sure you all "roar" a reply to this review.

Interesting to view the recent Blue Cod Potting Surveys of 2013 and 2018. The 2013 surveys show our South-East coast have increased in numbers while other areas have decreased, giving our coast a "Green light" in the proposed 'traffic-light' rating for different areas in the South Island of New Zealand. The 2018 survey shows NO CHANGE for our fisheries. Again this data is available at the Club Bar.

Our unpredictable weather conditions, rough sea conditions determine the lack of 'fishing days' for recreational fishing; plus the unique ecosystem of our local fishery, helped by the mighty Canyons off our coast; must be contributing to good blue cod and overall fish stocks.

Our Club have gone many steps further in helping our Blue Cod fishery. We have with Otago University, cracked the blue cod breeding needs and now launching into a blue cod 'tagging programme'; to collect more needed data.

We are soon to announce an app module to record recreational catches in the future. Therefore a "Status Quo" to our "Green Light" South-East region may be considered.

There will be information soon from a proposed South Island Peak Body group working for the benefit of current and future recreational fishers.

Condolences to Pat Russell and Family of the passing of Alex Russell, who was the Club's President from 1973 - 74. Alex & Pat are current members.

Our Club will soon have a new deck off the upstairs lounge and repairs to the hand rail. Warren Mathieson & Dean Stiles will soon be calling for help for this exercise.

Thanks to Wedderburn, our Club has a new weighing system installed in the weigh room. We also have a number of portable fish weighing devices for on-boat usage.

Easter Blue Cod Classic is planned to be a ripper! Winner receives the 'Fog Cup' in memory of our mate Paul Fogarty who passed away in October 2018. Look forward to your entry.



*Tight lines, Brett*

# NEW ZEALAND SPORT FISHING COUNCIL PRESIDENT

## PROFILE



I've been fishing since I can't remember, love the challenge of growing organisations and firmly believe that despite the social media age, Clubs are still important parts of our community for connecting with others for engaging in our favorite pursuits. I'm passionate about solving problems and leading change.

Fishing seems to have been in my blood since birth, have no idea where it came from, neither of my parents were particularly keen on fishing. My earliest recollection of fishing is a photo my mum has of me as a 2 year old holding a hapless sprat by the tail at the Raglan Wharf.

**"HUMAN BEINGS ARE INHERENTLY  
GREGARIOUS BEASTS"**

Onto my teens and for some reason very few of my mates were that keen to fish. So I booked charters and filled them up by inviting people I worked with. The only fishing club in Hamilton at the time was the Hamilton Anglers club, fresh water fishing club. Despite not being remotely interested in trout fishing during those years, I joined that club out of desperation for fishing camaraderie. Voila! connected with some guys who fished both fresh and saltwater. We subsequently started doing charters with Rick Pollock on the original Pursuit, and in 1988 we formed the Waikato Saltwater Sport Fishing Club.

I'm still a strong believer in the camaraderie of being in a club and what clubs can still offer, what have become very much an online virtual community. Human

beings are inherently gregarious beasts and despite the numerous and dominating opportunities to interact online, there's still no substitute for getting out and fishing together and sharing a few drinks and yarns about the day and previous experiences afterwards.

I think that clubs have a job to do in redefining their value propositions as clubs in the online age, and I thoroughly enjoy with with clubs and the challenge of my role with NZSFC to help clubs be better clubs in an age where a lot of people have less discretionary time than they ever have.

The NZSFC is essentially a co-operative for 55 member clubs representing 34,000 shareholders. Our duty of care is to protect our fishery and help our clubs grow for the enjoyment of our current and future generations. I'm thoroughly enjoying the challenge of being able to work with the board to make that happen.

Bob Gutsell - President.

**NB: Tautuku Fishing Club Dunedin & Haast Inc became a Full Member of the Council on 22/09/1979.**



## **EASTER CLASSIC "FOG CUP"**

**SATURDAY 13TH - SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 2019  
(INCLUDES EASTER WEEKEND)**

**HEAVIEST BLUE COD  
ONE BLUE COD PER ANGLER  
WINNER: \$100 AND "FOG CUP" (IN MEMORY OF  
PAUL FOGARTY), DONATED BY SOUTHERN BOATS**

**PLUS: 16 PRIZES OF FOG'S FAVOURITE BEVERAGE!**

**PRIZE GIVING FUNCTION:  
SUNDAY 28TH APRIL 6.30PM**

# LADIES DAY



LADY PRIZE : CATE BARDWELL 6.95KG GROPER

ASSOCIATE PRIZE & TROPHY : HEATHER GUNION 1.650KG COUTTA

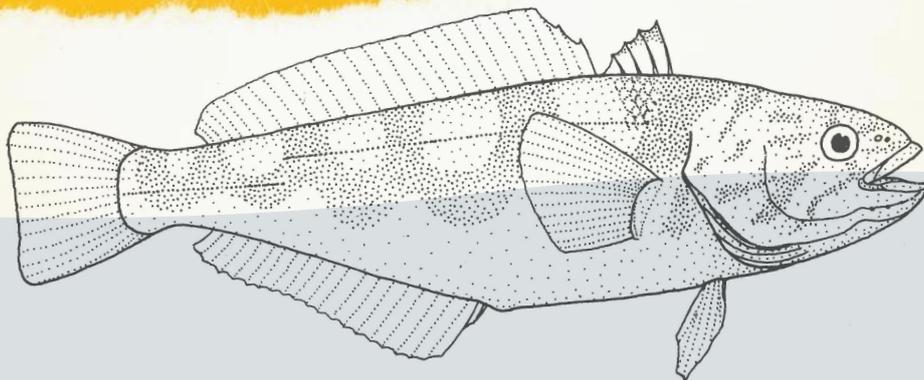


BLUE COD – NATHAN PITCHER 3.56 KG  
GROPER – IAN GUNION – 12.75 KG  
COUTTA – JACK TODD 4.994 KG  
SALMON – NATHAN PITCHER 5.84 KG  
KAHAWAI – AMBER SHAW 3.55 KG  
CRAY – IAN GUNION 3.46 KG  
SHARK – CRAIG HARRIS 35 KG BLUE SHARK (1ST OF SEASON)

CHILD TROPHY – LACHIE SHAW 7.55 KG GROPER  
YOUTH TROPHY – JORJA HUTTON 5.09 KG LING  
LADIES SHIELD – CATE BARDWELL 6.95 KG GROPER

# FISH TO BEAT

WINTER CUP – MURRAY MUIR 9.21 KG GROPER  
FLY TROPHY – SCOTT TINDALE SNAPPER 1.21 KG ON 1KG FLY LINE (WR)  
CHRISTMAS CLASSIC – NATHAN PITCHER 7.65 KG GROPER  
ASSOCIATE TROPHY – HEATHER GUNION 1.650 KG COUTTA  
TERRY CORBETT TROPHY – IAN GUNION 9 SPECIES



# Hon Stuart Nash

Minister of Fisheries



29 January 2019

MEDIA STATEMENT

## Views sought on blue cod fishing rules

Fisheries Minister Stuart Nash is encouraging people to have their say on proposed changes to rules controlling the blue cod fishery.

Proposed changes to regulations would apply to both recreational and commercial fishing. They were flagged in the Blue Cod Strategy released last month.

Mr Nash says the blue cod population is under pressure from a number of factors.

“Blue cod is one of our most popular eating fish but the species is vulnerable due to overfishing, changes to the marine environment such as warmer seas and pollution, and issues with their unique biology and life cycle,” Mr Nash says.

“The proposed changes to the recreational fishing rules include lowering daily bag limits in the South Island, which are up to 30 fish per day in some areas. The proposals also include the introduction of a two-day accumulation limit on the number of fish which can be taken over consecutive days, a requirement for blue cod to be landed in a measurable state, and a standardised minimum legal size of landed blue cod to 33cm nationwide.

“Changes proposed for both commercial and recreational fishers include introducing a minimum mesh size for cod pots of 54 millimetres.

“Blue cod stocks are becoming depleted. We are proposing new rules to address the decline we have seen in relatively small areas, and to make the regulations more consistent nationwide. This will make regulations easier to enforce and to comply with.

“The consultation is now open for the public to have their say. Once consultation closes on 26 March, I will consider advice from Fisheries New Zealand officials which will include the information and feedback we receive through this process. I will make a decision on any potential changes later this year,” Mr Nash says.

For more information, and to have your say, visit [www.fisheries.govt.nz/bluecod](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/bluecod)

ENDS

Media Contact: Kathryn Street 021 803 707



# Fisheries New Zealand

Tini a Tangaroa

## Have your say on proposed changes to blue cod fishing rules

Go to the Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M53JY8Z>

Dear Fishers,

### Have your say

Fisheries New Zealand is seeking your feedback on the following proposed changes:

- a. require all fishers to have a minimum cod pot mesh size of 54mm
- b. standardise the Minimum Legal Size (MLS) for recreational fishing at 33cm
- c. require all recreational fishers to land blue cod in a measurable state
- d. set a two-day accumulation limit for recreational fishing
- e. change the recreational daily bag limits for some blue cod stocks, according to a 'traffic light' system.

**Note:** In all cases, we are also consulting on retaining the status quo as an option (that is, there may be no change to these regulations).

**The consultation closes 5pm on 26 March 2019.**

### Background to proposals

The proposed changes are one outcome of the National Blue Cod Strategy, a guiding document to manage blue cod in New Zealand released in late 2018. Other initiatives outlined in the strategy include:

- an integrated education and research programme
- reviews of the total allowable catch, total allowable commercial catch, and allowances for key blue cod stocks later this year.

The changes are designed to ensure that areas that have been depleted by localised overfishing are rebuilt. In the Challenger East Area (including Marlborough Sounds), most of these measures (including a daily bag limit of 2) have been in place since December 2015 to ensure the ongoing sustainable utilisation of the fishery.

### Meetings will be held during the consultation

Fisheries New Zealand is available to meet with fishing clubs and other groups during the period of consultation to discuss the proposals and seek feedback. Email your request to [FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:FMSubmissions@mpi.govt.nz)

For more information on the proposals please visit the consultation page.

Go to the Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/M53JY8Z>

## BRETT BENSEMANN CAUGHT UP WITH NZ FISHING NEWS MANAGING EDITOR GRANT DIXON AT THE RECENT NZSFC'S AGM IN AUCKLAND.

THE OCTOBER EDITION WAS GRANT'S  
300TH, COMPLETING 25 YEARS AT THE  
MAGAZINE'S HELM. BRETT PUT A FEW  
QUESTIONS TO HIM...



### *Biggest changes in 25 years?*

Technology, both around the way we produce the magazine and the way we fish.

When I first started in journalism lead-eating Linotype machines set the copy. It then moved to cutting and pasting up galleys of type – both long, laborious processes that I am pleased to say moved to a far more efficient electronic system – to the point today I can (and do!) work anywhere in the world and still get job done.

On the fishing side of it, probably the biggest change has been with line and lures. Braid has revolutionised the way many people fish, especially associated with lighter, stronger reels. For me this tackle, and soft-baits and the Japanese style of lure fishing, has put the sport back into catching fish, particularly around table fish such as snapper.

Marine electronics have come a long way – I started out fishing with my dad and our 19-footer had a Marlin sounder with a paper chart, which for trailerboat based rec fishers 50 years ago was ground breaking stuff. More recently GPS had taken a lot of the guesswork out of finding fish and structure, but having said that, people are still hitting rocks – ask the skipper of the Rena – the ship that hit the Astrolabe reef in the Bay of Plenty several years ago.

Trailerboats and better, bigger and more reliable engines, along with the electronics, have given many people greater access to marlin and offshore species in particular. Look what happened when the word went out two seasons ago when the bluefin tuna arrived off Waihou Bay. Via social media, the info was shared instantly, resulting in 200 trailerboats a day launching at

the Waihou bay ramp alone during the 'tuna rush' peak.

Social media is another big influencer in many people's lives and while as a magazine we can't compete with the immediacy of the likes of Facebook and Instagram, we will get the 'story behind the story' which has all the details and is normally much more accurate than the original posts.

Social media has turned a number of people into 'media super stars in their own minds'. Having a few likes has them thinking they deserve the same considerations the more established and genuine rec fishing personalities such as Matt Watson, Graeme Sinclair, the Fishing and Adventure boys and Tony Orton (to name a few) receive. Those guys and their colleagues have earned their stripes over many years, where as many of the facebook fiends haven't and lack any real street cred.

### *What stands out in your mind? Any particular events?*

I have caught some great fish over the years and been a part of some successful tournament teams. The Maverix Rods 6kg events, run by Rex and Lynette Smith, stand out as some of the most enjoyable tournaments I have been part of. It was a great concept – everyone fishing the same 6kg line – which attracted some of the best snapper and kingfish anglers around.

I have always pictured myself with the Furuno Snapper World Cup in my grasp, but it has never happened – fifth was the closest I have ever come to getting my name on that trophy.

Had a couple of interesting incidents involving fire. One was 30 miles out of Port Vila in Vanuatu when the 35ft Blackwatch Shogun caught fire. We took to the life

raft and watched her burn to the waterline. Two lessons - fire moves incredibly fast; and always have your lifejackets stored where they can be reached easily. In our case they were in the forepeak and we couldn't get past the flames in the starboard engine bay to access them. Fortunately we had the life raft.

The second time came in Fiji when we arrived late one night at our resort at Denerau and ordered room service.

Before it could be cooked, the kitchen caught fire, resulting in much of the resort burning to the ground. The fire engine had to be transported across the lagoon by barge which was a whole story in itself.

I have never had a huge amount of luck when it comes to catching big billfish, but tuna seem to follow me around – there are worse things that can happen to an offshore angler I guess!

Caught a 132kg big eye on 24 at the Three Kings a few years back and had an amazing trip to Mexico where I was the sole angler on an 82ft Viking sportfisher for nine days. Caught yellowfin to 50kg on topwater gear and an 82kg yellowfin on 15kg stand-up. The most memorable trip of my angling lifetime – thanks to my hosts and good friends Tony and Bea Orton.

### **Perks of the job?**

Biggest perk is the opportunities I have had to fish around the globe – have been to most of the Pacific destinations at least once – including Tonga and Samoa 20 times plus each as well as a number of more exotic ones – Mexico several times, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Japan, China, Florida and most recently Guatemala.

Above all of that, there are the people. Those who I have fished with, others in the industry and above all else, my colleagues. We have had an amazing array of contributors over the years – the best in the business – and at HQ there has been Sam Mossman and up until just recently Mark Kitteridge. Daughter Miah joined us earlier this year and she brings a new perspective and enthusiasm to the operation.

Partnering with Grant Blair, we purchased the magazine from Fairfax nearly three years ago and combined it with his website [www.fishing.net.nz](http://www.fishing.net.nz) to create NZ Fishing Media Ltd. Having the biggest print and digital entities in recreational fishing sees us in a strong position going forward. Print is not dead and at our last independent audit a couple of months ago we had 213,000 pairs of eyes reading the magazine each month.

### **Any downsides?**

Having to go out on the water in less than desirable conditions due to deadlines. There are days when we have done charter tips and boat tests when you would ordinarily have stayed home.

Sitting in the office at my computer in magazine production when the weather forecast is 'five knot variables' when I would much rather have had a sounder screen before me, out on the briny somewhere. People tend only to see the glamour side of the job, but it is not all fishing trips and rum!

### **Do you still get to go fishing as much as you used to? Favourite haunts / tackle?**

I have given up diving over the last four years due to an ear problem and I really miss that. I might not do as much fishing as I used to, but what I do do is probably better quality.

As a family we have a large caravan on an annual site at Camp Waipu Cove at the southern end of Bream Bay (Whangarei) and we spend as much time together as we can up there. Fishing is still good, as is the diving.



Miah and I have just recently put together a FC535 Centre Console trailerboat which we launch off the beach. I love fishing with Miah and see her getting the same enjoyment out of being on and under the water as I have.

Soft-baiting is one of my favourite ways to target snapper. These days my favourite bit of kit is a seven-foot Offshore custom-built rod with a Shimano Twin Power 4000 reel. I have caught some great snapper on it and a kingfish of 21kgs.

You still can't beat a good bait and berley strayline session for snapper – showing my North Island prejudices here. A Penn International 975 LD reel spooled with 6kg mono on a Maverix custom built 6-8kg rod is my go-to bit of kit. Best bait is jack mackerel – either as a livie or a butterflied dead bait.

Haven't done a great deal of fly fishing but have caught many hundreds of trout spin fishing on the Waikato river – in particular Lakes Arapuni and Waipapa. Was introduced to Lake Taupo fishing as a toddler and spend thousands of hours harling, jigging and trolling its waters, as well as the lakes around Rotorua – Tarawera in particular.

The outdoors has always featured in my lifestyle. Duckshooting and chasing upland game have been a passion, especially growing up in the Waikato where it was on my backdoor step – literally. Did a little bit of pig hunting as a teenager, but never carried through with that. My parents were a big influence in my life as they were keen boaties, anglers and sports people, something they passed on to my brother and I.

# CAN'T BEAT COMPETITION!



Phil Seque using the Club Tractor to launch his boat off our local beach to catch the crayfish that will beat 'Gunnies' best ! Sorry Phil - Ian still has the largest Cray to date' of 3.46kgs. Look out 'Gunny', there is still 3 Months of the Club fishing calendar; to go!



# CHRISTMAS CLASSIC FISHING CLUB PHOTOS

# TERRY CORBETT MEMORIAL TROPHY



WINNER OF TROPHY & \$100 - IAN GUNION 9 SPECIES  
SECOND PLUS \$75 - MICHAEL TODD 8 SPECIES  
THIRD PLUS \$50 - JACK TODD 7 SPECIES



GUNNI AND GRANDSON LACHIE WITH HIS 7.5KG GROPER