

# CUSTOMARY & RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

## Fisheries Management – Quota Management System

In Aotearoa New Zealand, catch limits are required by law to be set for all fish stocks to ensure sustainability. The New Zealand law or system used to achieve sustainable fishing is called the Quota Management System (QMS).

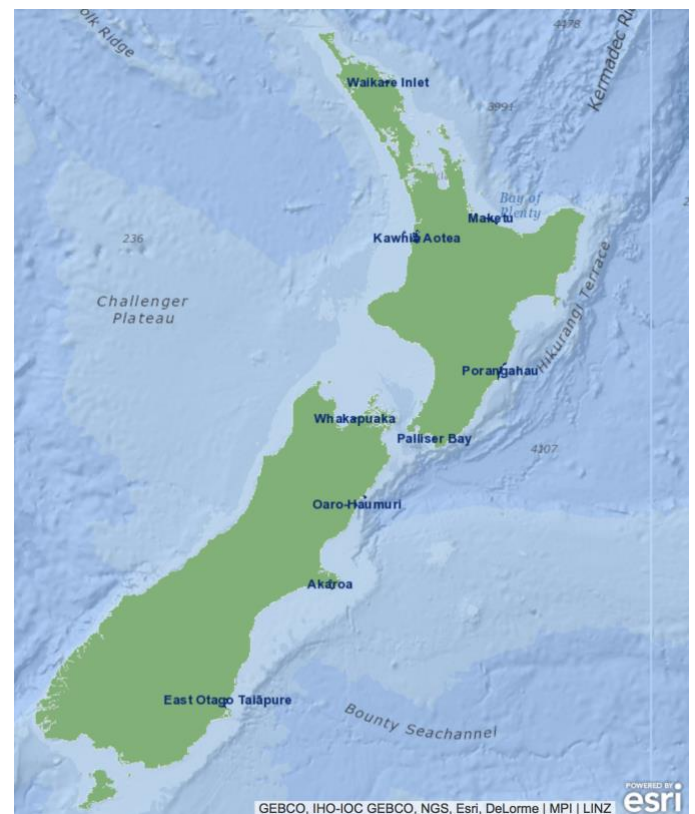
By controlling the amount of fish taken from each stock, the QMS helps keep New Zealand fisheries sustainable. From the Total Allowable Catch (TAC), an allowance is made for recreational and customary fishing and other fishing-related deaths, and the remainder is the Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC). Only commercial fishers can legally sell fish.

## Customary Fisheries

Tangata whenua [people of the land with authority in a particular place] manage fisheries under customary fishing regulations and the Fisheries Act. This means tangata whenua can manage fisheries in ways that best fits local practices. Kaitiaki / tiaki [guardians] can be appointed for specific rohe moana [fishing areas].

Tangata whenua and others can apply to have a fishing area approved as a special customary management area. There are several different ways to manage customary fisheries.

- Mātaitai reserves – are for traditional fishing and allow fisheries to be looked after locally. In a mātaitai reserve customary and recreational fishing is allowed but commercial fishing is not normally allowed.
- Taiāpure – are estuarine or coastal areas that are significant for food, spiritual, or cultural reasons. They allow all types of fishing and are managed by local communities.
- Rāhui [temporary closures] – areas that are



Location of Taiāpure

Source: Fisheries New Zealand

temporarily closed [rāhui] to fishing or certain fishing methods.



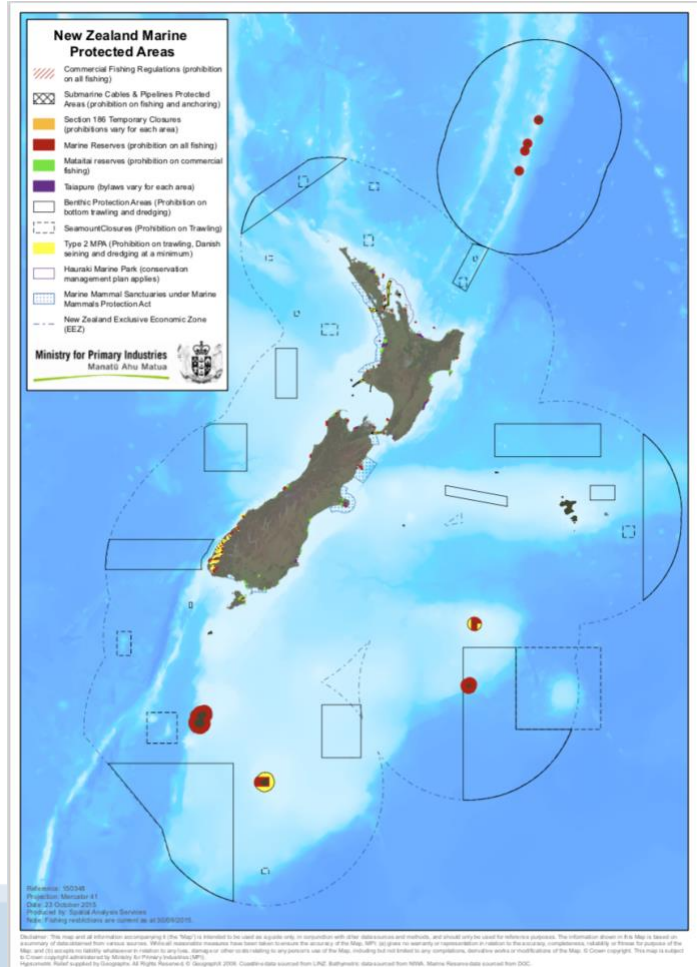
- Fisheries bylaws - on some occasions, changes to fisheries management rules can be made by tangata whenua or tangata kaitiaki/tiaki [guardians].

### Recreational fisheries

Everyone who fishes recreationally in New Zealand has to follow the recreational fishing rules. Different rules apply to different fisheries areas. The rules change regularly – so it is important to check the rules for your fishing area every time you go fishing.

### Marine protected areas

Marine protected areas (MPA) help ensure New Zealand's marine environment remains healthy in the future. MPAs are areas where you are not allowed to fish. These areas are usually protected because of how unique or rare they are or because they do a special job for marine life.



Location of MPAs Source: Fisheries New Zealand

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit the following web pages to find out more about the Quota Management System:

- Fisheries New Zealand webpage on [Māori customary fishing](#) and [Mātaitai reserves](#)
- Fisheries New Zealand webpage on [Taiāpure \(local fisheries\)](#)
- Fisheries New Zealand webpage on [Rāhui or temporary closures](#) and [Fisheries bylaws](#)
- Fisheries New Zealand webpage on [Recreational fishing](#)
- Fisheries New Zealand webpage on [MPAs](#)



# QUESTIONS

## What did we learn?

### Multiple choice

*Circle the correct answer*

1. The New Zealand law or system used to achieve sustainable fishing is called the \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) Quota Management System (QMS).
  - (b) Total Allowable Catch (TAC)
  - (c) Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC)
  - (d) Fisheries Management Area System (FMAS)
  
2. Which of the following includes the recreational and customary catch?
  - (a) Total Allowable Commercial Catch (TACC)
  - (b) Total Allowable Catch (TAC)
  
3. Mātaitai reserves – are for traditional fishing and allow fisheries to be looked after locally. In a mātaitai reserve what kind of fishing is usually allowed?
  - (a) Customary and recreational fishing but usually no commercial fishing
  - (b) All fishing
  - (c) Only commercial fishing
  - (d) Only customary fishing, no recreational or commercial fishing
  
4. Taiāpure are managed by local communities. What types of fishing are allowed in Taiāpure?
  - (a) Customary and recreational fishing but usually no commercial fishing
  - (b) All fishing
  - (c) Only commercial fishing
  - (d) Only customary fishing, no recreational or commercial fishing
  
5. \_\_\_\_\_ who fish(es) recreationally in New Zealand has to follow the recreational fishing rules. Different rules apply to different fisheries areas.
  - (a) No one
  - (b) Only people from the city
  - (c) Only some people
  - (d) Everyone
  
6. Under the Quota Management System which of the following fishers can legally sell the fish that they catch?
  - (a) Commercial & customary fishers
  - (b) Only commercial fishers
  - (c) All fishers
  - (d) Commercial & recreational fishers







## ACTIVITY 2: RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

1. As a recreational fisher are you able to sell fish or shellfish?
2. Visit the [Fisheries New Zealand Fishing Rules](#) webpage or download the [App](#). Look at the maps. Write below the name of the area where you live.
3. In your area – what is the combined maximum daily bag limit for finfish?
4. How many snapper can you legally catch and what size must they be?
5. What is the minimum size and bag limit for tua tua (shellfish)?



### **Extra for fast finishers!**

*Use the space below and or your own sheet of paper to .....*

1. Write all recreational fishing rules (gear, size and catch limit) for two species of fish that are not Tāmure / Snapper.
2. Use MPI [\*\*NABIS \(National Aquatic Biodiversity Information System\)\*\*](#) and draw a map of your local coastline. Draw in any taiāpure, mataitai or MPAs that are in your local area / rohe.
3. Write three sentences. Each sentence should explain a new or interesting fact that you learnt from this worksheet.
4. Make a list of new science / fishery related words and next to each word write your own definition of each word.

### **Class discussion**

- How is the QMS a key tool for ensuring sustainable fisheries in Aotearoa New Zealand?



# FOR TEACHERS

## Answers

### Multiple choice

1 (a); 2 (b); 3 (a); 4 (b); 5 (d); 6 (b)

### Activity 1

Answers are area dependent

### Activity 2

1. As a recreational fisher are you able to sell fish or shellfish?

*No*

2. Visit the [Fisheries New Zealand Fishing Rules](https://www.fisheries.govt.nz/fishing-rules) webpage. Look at the maps. Write below the name of the area where you live.

*Area dependent*

3. In your area – what is the combined maximum daily bag limit for finfish?

**Answers can include:**

*Auckland and Kermadec area = 20*

*Central area = 20*

*South-East area = 30*

*Kaikōura area = 30*

*Fiordland area = 30*

*Southland Area = 30*

*Challenger Area = 20*



4. How many snapper can you legally catch and what size must they be?

**Answers can include:**

*Auckland and Kermadec area = 10 bag limit, 27 and 30 (from North Cape to Cape Runaway SNA1) minimum length*

*Central area = 10 bag limit, 27 minimum length*

*South-East area = 10 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

*Kaikōura area = 10 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

*Fiordland area = 30 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

*Southland = 30 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

*Challenger Area = 10 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

*Marlborough Sounds = 3 bag limit, 25 minimum length*

5. What is the minimum size and bag limit for tua tua (shellfish)?

**Answers can include:**

*Auckland and Kermadec area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*Auckland and Coromandel = 50 bag limit, no size limit*

*Central area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*South-East area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*Kaikōura area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*Fiordland area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*Southland = 150 bag limit, no size limit*

*Challenger Area = 150 bag limit, no size limit*