

**Analysis of Public Submissions to the
Joint Working Group's Discussion
Document
“Soundings”**

Prepared by Career Options Limited

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1 Executive Summary

The “Soundings” document and associated submission form produced a wide and varied response from a variety of sources. Option 4, a group of primarily individual recreational fishers provided the majority of submission numbers (98.5% of submissions). The other submissions were from industry sources, iwi, fishing and recreational clubs, local government and regional councils, environmental and conservation groups and individual recreational fishers.

The four main issues that arose from the report and which formed the basis of the Option 4 group were:

- Recreational Priority Right over commercial fishers for free access to a reasonable daily bag limit in government legislation
- The ability to exclude commercial fishers from recreationally important areas
- No licensing of recreational fishers
- Need the ability to devise plans to ensure that future generations enjoy the same or better quality of rights, while preventing fish conserved for this purpose being given to the commercial sector

Of those submissions not affiliated with Option Four seven key issues emerged from the comment section of the submission form. Better communication and co-operation between the fishing sectors was seen as the most important issue. This was followed closely by the fact that fishers are prepared to pay a small voluntary fee with certain conditions in order to contribute to the costs of recreational management groups. It was recognised that there is a need for healthy fisheries for all, through enhancing inshore fisheries and by the protection of species thereby improving the quality of catch but that maintaining the sustainability of species would be difficult. Acknowledgement was given to the issue that fishers are individuals who primarily want to fish to "get away from it all" and not necessarily be involved in politics however there was recognition that fishers needed to participate at regional/local level in the management of recreational fishing. There was also the issue of the difficulty in enforcing and policing the recreational share.

Of those who returned the JWG form 82% agreed with the JWG vision and 80% agreed with the JWG description of the current problems. In allocation of share 58% disagreed that the Minister should continue to allocate the recreational share of fisheries. There were 55% of respondents who agreed with a proportional share and 49% who agreed that recreational should have priority over commercial fishers. In area management 65% agreed that a coastal zone should be established and 67% agreed that particular commercial fishing methods should automatically be excluded. Within recreational management 62% disagreed with the government continuing to manage recreational fishing with only limited involvement and 72% agreed that recreational management groups should play an active role in managing recreational fishing. 58% stated that the recreational management groups should be set up in one go to cover the whole country with 53% agreeing to contribute to the cost of those groups. 55% would be prepared to pay to support a recreational group however only 40% thought that this support should be compulsory.

2 Methodology

Ministry of Fisheries contracted out the submission analysis process to Career Options Ltd. All submissions were to be considered irrespective of the format and style. A database was set up using the Joint Working Group style of submission form as the template primarily as this was asking for the broadest amount of information and criteria. A team of analysts read the information and entered it on the database endeavouring to properly reflect the view of all those making the submissions. The four main types of submission were the Joint Working Group submission form, the Option 4 submission form, individual submissions in letter form and group/organisation submissions in letter form. There were four sections to the analysis – profile of the submission, personal profile of the submitter, qualitative and quantitative data.

2.1 The Joint Working Group submission form; whether an individual submitted it or a group was mapped onto the database. Information for each section and category were entered. In the quantitative section the tick boxes (the sections that asked whether the respondent agreed or disagreed) were noted as were comments in the qualitative section. If the respondent left a blank space where a space had been left for a comment then a ‘no comment’ was entered. This JWG form is the only submission form where it was possible to use the personal profile of the submitter information. This information was on the back page of the form. If there was no indication of preference then a ‘not stated’ was entered. Information from this type of submission form has been analysed in all four of the analysis sections – profile of the submission, profile of submitter, quantitative and qualitative data.

2.2 It was necessary to analyse **The Option 4 forms** in two ways. This occurred because there were those submission forms that were sent individually to MFish and those that were sent as a substantial compilation from Option 4. For those who sent individual Option 4 forms name and address, number of signatories and region were entered. Any further comments added to the form were entered in ‘general comments’ in the qualitative section of the report. The compilation of submissions sent to MFish by Option 4 were counted and then analysed in the qualitative section of the report. Information from the Option 4 forms is analysed in two sections of the report - profile of the submission and the qualitative data.

2.3 Information in the **Individual letters** was not available for the personal profile or the qualitative sections. Name and address, number of signatories, whether the respondent was an individual or organisation, organisational affiliation (if that information was available) and region were entered. No tick boxes were used and all other information was mapped onto the database in the appropriate comment categories. If the submitter did not offer information within a certain section of the submission form then a ‘no comment’ was entered. Information from individual letters is analysed in two sections of the report - the profile of submission section and the qualitative data.

2.4 Group/Organisation submissions were often quite substantial documents. However in an effort to give fair and judicial treatment to all it was also decided to standardise the submitter profile as in the individual letter. The number of signatories was only entered if that information was available. Information from this type of submission is analysed in two sections of the report - the profile of submission section and the qualitative data.

3 Profile of submissions

A total of 62,117 submissions were received. Of these 61,178 were Option 4 and 939 were JWG submission forms, individual and group/organisation letters.

Of the 61,178 Option 4 submissions 60,182 were a compilation of forms that were counted and then processed in the qualitative section of the report. 996 were sent individually to MFish and were included in the Joint Working Group submission data entered onto the database.

Submissions were processed in the following ways

- The type of submission
- Number of signatories
- Affiliation
- Region

3.1 Submission by type

Of the 62,117 submissions 61,178 were Option 4, 610 were on the Joint Working Group submission form, 238 were individual letters, and 91 were from groups/organisations in letterform. The Joint Working Group submission form included submissions from both individuals and organisations. Option 4 was not analysed by individual and organisation.

Submission Type by Individual and Group/Organisation

Type	Individuals	Groups/ Organisations	Number
Option 4 form			61,178
JWG Submission Form including individuals and groups	593	17	610
Individual letter	238		238
Group/Organisation Submissions in letter form		91	91
Sub Total	831	108	
Total			62,117

3.2 Numbers of signatories

Groups and organisations that clearly stated the number of signatories they represented were included however if this was not clear, for example, they represented four associations, fourteen affiliated groups and 106 members then the ‘not stated’ category was used.

Of the 163,739 signatories the largest contribution to the individual category comes from Option 4. The three largest groups/organisations that stated the number of signatories were Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu (27,500), New Zealand Big Game Fishing Council (30,000) and Yachting New Zealand (33,000). Several other large organisations and industry bodies made submissions as well as numerous sporting clubs and bodies.

Number of Signatories

Signatories	Number of Submissions	Number of Signatories
Not stated	79	0
1	61,941	61,941
2-10	69	168
10-50	7	154
50-500	15	2,749
500-5,000	3	8,227
5,000-50,000	3	90,500
Total	62,117	163,739

3.3 Affiliation

Affiliation information of both individuals and groups/organisations was not asked for on the submission form but where it was offered, or obvious, such as a fishing club name, the analysts noted this.

Affiliation Summary

	Individual	Group/ Organisation	Total
Academic	1		1
Charter fishing	4	1	5
Conservation Board		4	4
Environmental/Conservation group	2	2	4
Fishing Club	90	40	130
Fishing Company	26	9	35
Fishing Organisation	2	12	14
Industry	1	5	6
Iwi		14	14
Local Government		1	1
Not Affiliated	702		702
Option Four			61,178
Ratepayers Association		2	2
Recreational Clubs	2	17	19

Tourism	1	1	2
Total	831	108	62,117

3.4 Region

The regional breakdown was based on the addresses given and set within the local government boundaries from the New Zealand Official Yearbook 2000 except for Tasman/Marlborough, which was treated as a single authority. Group/organisation addresses were listed as their head office. Where no address has been listed then the 'not stated' category was used.

The 60,182 compilation of submissions received from Option 4 were not analysed in this section. The 996 Option 4 submissions sent individually are included in this section. For this reason the sub-total number of submissions in this category is 1935.

The biggest response was from the Auckland/Northland area where a higher proportion of the population resides. The nine overseas responses were from the United Kingdom (3), Canada (1), and Australia (5).

Regional Analysis

Area	No.	%
Auckland	593	30.65%
Bay of Plenty	153	7.91%
Canterbury	98	5.06%
Gisborne	45	2.33%
Hawkes Bay	100	5.17%
Nelson, Marlborough, Tasman	113	5.84%
Northland	321	16.59%
Not Stated	68	3.51%
Otago	45	2.33%
Overseas	9	0.47%
Southland	30	1.55%
Taranaki	38	1.96%
Waikato	134	6.93%
Wanganui-Manawatu	77	3.98%
Wellington	109	5.63%
West Coast	2	0.10%
Sub Total	1935	
Option 4 compilation, address not analysed	60,182	
TOTAL	62,117	

4 Profile of the submitter

This section provides a statistical profile of the individual submitter and applies only to those individuals who filled out the ‘About Yourself’ section on the back page of the Joint Working Group submission form, a total of 593. Where the submission had more than one signatory, for example a husband and wife, then the information was multiplied by the number of signatories, which gives a total of 613. This section does not include individual and group/organisations letters or Option 4. The ‘not stated’ category applies to those who did not indicate a preference.

4.1 Gender

If there was more than one signatory, as in husband and wife, then both male and female was entered.

Gender

	No.	%
Female	79	12.89 %
Male	513	83.69%
Not Stated	21	3.43%
Total	613	

4.2 Age groups

Age Groups

	No.	%
15 - 29 yrs	33	5.38%
30 - 49 yrs	242	39.48%
50 - 64 yrs	205	33.44%
65 years and over	113	18.43%
Not Stated	20	3.26%
Total	613	

4.3 Prior involvement in fishing

Prior involvement in fishing

	Yes	No	Not stated
Member of fishing club?	293 (47.80%)	22 (3.59%)	298 (48.61%)
Fished in the past and hope to do so again.	374 (61.01%)	2 (0.33%)	237 (38.66%)
Fished frequently - more than ten times a year?	417 (68.03%)	4 (0.65%)	192 (31.32%)
Fished infrequently – less than 10 times a year	103 (16.80%)	8 (1.31%)	502 (81.89%)
Involved in commercial fishing in the past 12 months	108 (17.62%)	16 (2.61%)	489 (79.77%)
Fished customary authorisation in past the 12 months	12 (1.96%)	14 (2.28%)	587 (95.76%)

4.3 Ethnicity

It is possible that the submitter entered more than one response on the submission form. Each response was counted individually therefore the total will not add to 613.

Ethnicity

	No.
Asian	4
Caucasian	414
Maori	76
Not Stated	211
NZ er	126
Other	18
Pacific Island	1

4.4 Interested in the issues

It is possible that the submitter entered more than one response on the submission form. Each response was counted individually therefore the total will not add to 613. This section has been filled in by the submitter unlike the affiliation section that was derived by the analysts from the information available.

Specify which issues you are interested in:

Issue	No.
Academic	103
Active participant	21
Charter skipper	7
Citizenship rights	4
Club Committee member	1
Commercial	14
Diving club	3
Employment related	17
Environmental/conservation	337
Fishing club	1
Honorary Fisheries Officer	4
Not Stated	202
Recreational	26
The Future	6

5 Analysis of Submissions

Submissions were analysed and summarised using both quantitative and qualitative data.

5.1 Quantitative and qualitative data

The quantitative analysis applies to all those who filled out the Joint Working Group submission form and filled in the tick boxes, the total of which is 610 submissions, both individuals and organisations.

The qualitative analysis applies to all those who submitted irrespective of format including Joint Working Group submissions, individual and group/organisation letters and Option 4. The comments were mapped onto the database in the appropriate sections. For those who submitted Option 4 forms and added extra comments these were mapped onto the 'general comments' section of the database.

The qualitative and quantitative data are examined conjointly here to correlate them with the framework of themes existing on the submission form.

- Vision
- Current Problems
- Allocation of recreational share
- Area Management
- Recreational management and organisation
- General comments

5.2 Overall summary

The key issues that emerged out of the qualitative section of the report from the total number of submissions are as below. It shows all comments that were made more than a hundred times.

Comment	No.
Recreational Priority Right over commercial fishers for free access to a reasonable daily bag limit in government legislation	61,597
No licensing of recreational fishers	61,528
The ability to exclude commercial fishers from recreationally important areas	61,469
Need the ability to devise plans to ensure that future generations enjoy the same or better quality of rights, while preventing fish conserved for this purpose being given to the commercial sector	61,288
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	655
It is a human right/ birthright/ our heritage to fish	642
Prepared to pay a small fee with conditions	601
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch needs to be improved	561
There is difficulty in enforcing and policing the recreational share	501
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	478
Fishers essentially individuals who fish to "get away from it all" and not be involved in politics	476
Maintaining the sustainability of species will be difficult	403
Government is responsible for managing and funding recreational fishing (not fishers)	311
Critical of MFish capabilities/Government policies	285
Protection of inshore fisheries/coastlines for recreational fishers is necessary	271
Effective management of fisheries through laws and regulations is required	260
More education, information and research is needed	256
Current dispute procedure is inadequate and needs to be improved	233
Supports Proportional share option	220
There is difficulty in enforcing and policing commercial fishers	206
More Government intervention is necessary to enforce rules	185
Disagree with the Joint Working Group proposals	169
There should not be fees or costs for recreational fishing	169
Soundings is not a good document /hard to read and interpret	154
Time is an important factor /too busy making a living to participate in management	150
Concerned with how recreational fisheries to be managed and funded	148
Already paying for fishing through taxes on petrol and gear	145
The status quo should be maintained	132
Agree with the Joint Working Group vision	131
Difficulty in maintaining sustainability of species is a concern	125
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	123
Accessibility to the coastline for all New Zealanders is a priority	113
Change in the dispute resolution process is a step in the right direction	108
The Govt should define in law our rights as for commercial and Maori sectors	104

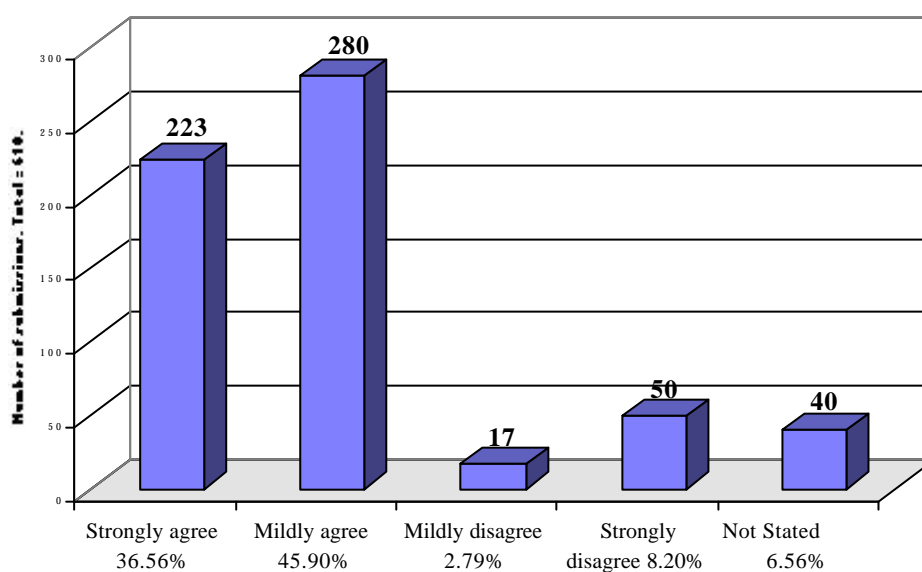
5.3 Vision

82% of submitters agree with the Joint Working Group's vision for recreational fishing in 2010 with 393 submitters stating that the most pressing concern was the need for healthy fisheries through enhancing inshore fisheries, protection of species and the quality of catch to be improved. However 127 people were concerned with how recreational fisheries were to be managed and funded.

What do you think of JWG's Vision for recreational fishing in 2010?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

Table 1



What would you like recreational fishing to be like in 2010?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch to be improved	393
Effective management of fisheries - laws/regulations is required	260
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	238
It is a human right/ birthright/heritage to fish	180
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	159
Recreational fishers to have priority over commercial fishers	127
No licensing of recreational fishers	122
No fees/no cost	114
Government to define in law our recreational fishing rights as for Maori/commercial	98
Status quo	84
Return to past fishing capabilities	68
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	53
Customary fishing should be abolished	42

Marine reserves to be established	41
More education, information and research is needed	38
No regulations/restrictions on recreational fishers	26
Greater restrictions on recreational fishers to be put in place - licensing	25
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	18
Prepared to pay a small fee with conditions	15
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	14
Recreational fishers to accept responsibilities with their right to fish	13
Recreational fishers to acknowledge the right of customary and commercial fishers	2
Miscellaneous	1

Quotes:

The major cause for the demise of the fishing grounds both fresh water and coastal is feed. Many of the spawning grounds of some of the fish varieties have been disturbed to such an extent that we no longer have the vast shoals of small fish we saw 50 odd years ago. Without small fish to feed upon, we won't get bigger fish. Submission 147

I envisage a future where every individual who goes fishing in NZ is aware that their right to go fishing is concomitant with a responsibility to manage their impact on the fisheries resource. This includes those fishing for recreational, customary and commercial purposes.

In this future, the fishing sectors have respect for each other, cognisant that they are all impacting on the fisheries resource and together must manage this impact for the overall benefit of this and future generations. The Minister of Fisheries supports the work of the fishing sectors and safeguards the bottom line of sustainability.

For recreational fishing in particular, I envisage a situation similar to that outlined on page 4 of the Soundings document. This includes good access to local fishing spots, full information on how to take up recreational rights and responsibilities that includes incentives as well as deterrents for non-compliance and well-resources and effective management bodies. Submission 1163

I have fished all my life ... I have lived half my 40years here in Auckland and half in Canterbury so have fished a wide variety of species.. I find it hard to believe the diverse range and sheer quantity that have existed in places like Otago Harbour. Many species are gone, probably forever. Submission 554

(Our group) submits that there are three inter-linked elements to improving the status quo. These are:

- *better protection for access to and exercise of harvest rights for both commercial and recreational fishers*
- *the setting of a proportional share in stocks with significant recreational harvest*
- *the effective representation and participation of recreational fishing interests in fisheries management processes.*

Submission 1207

In New Zealand acknowledgement of the pre-existence of both Maori Traditional and Maori Commercial rights has been given management effect through the customary provisions in the Fisheries Act and the Sea Lord deal. However, the pre-existing rights of the rest of the New Zealanders were not so well defined. Members of the public who have an interest in harvesting from the sea have become very aware that it is not just recreational fishing which is being debated, it is the rights of the population at large to harvest seafood from the sea,

regardless of race of creed. In short, it is a fundamental Human Rights issue. Submission 1205

What do you think of the JWG's vision for recreational fishing in 2010

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Concerned with how recreational fisheries to be managed and funded	127
Agree with the Joint Working Group vision	48
Ability to devise plans to ensure future generations meanwhile restricting commercial	46
Recreational fishers to have priority over commercial fishers	42
Government is responsible for managing recreational fishing	39
Concerned with the amount of regulation that may be necessary	30
The Government to define in law our recreational fishing rights as for Maori	26
More education, information and research is needed	22
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	21
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	21
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch to be improved	20
Miscellaneous including abusive comments	12
Disagree with the Joint Working Group vision	11
Support Option 4	7
No licensing of recreational fishers	7
No regulations/restrictions on recreational fishers	4

Quotes:

Our vision for the management of our marine environment is that it will promote sustainable development: growth that builds economic, social and cultural strength while maintaining ecological integrity and health. We consider that this requires us to build a more integrated approach to management at both national and local levels founded in a clearer specification of the rights of all stakeholders. Submission 1159

In all my deliberations on the Soundings document I just cannot envisage how recreational fishing people can manage recreational fishing, carry out enforcement, maintain the sustainability of the fisheries, in all species, in all areas and in their own time. SO the end result still comes down to government management through MOF but with RFC input on a regular basis. Submission 813

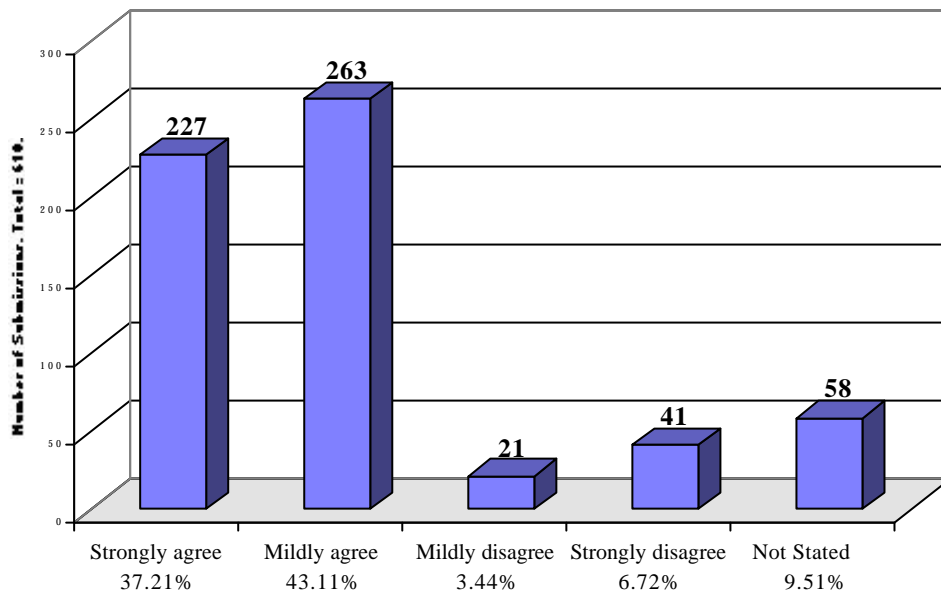
5.4 Current Problems

80% of submitters agreed with the JWG description of the current problems with 283 submitters stating that difficulty in enforcing and policing the recreational share was the main issue. However 169 made comments disagreeing with the proposals put forward by JWG.

What do you think about the JWG's description of the current problems with the management of recreational fishing?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

Table 2



What do you see as the most important problems?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	283
Difficulty in maintaining sustainability of fish species	124
Difficulty in enforcing and policing commercial fishers	116
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	92
Accessibility to coastline for all New Zealanders	91
More Government intervention is necessary	69
Insufficient funds to support management or make any changes	66
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	64
Erosion of coastal fisheries is a problem	55
More education, information and research is needed	50
Fragmentation of recreational fishing sector is a problem	45
Lack of education about rights and responsibilities	43
Erosion of basic right of New Zealanders to fish is a problem	37
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	30
Lack of same/equal rights as customary and commercial fishers	27

Greater restrictions on charter operators are required	26
Customary fishing should be abolished	23
Greater restrictions on customary fishers are required	5
Customary fishing interests to be protected	3
Support Option 4	2
Miscellaneous	2

Quotes:

It must be twelve or fifteen years since I have been approached on a boat ramp by an HFO. [More HFOs] would encourage me to believe that the authorities do have some commitment to the regulations they have implemented. Submission 616

The effect of increasing technology is far greater than simple numbers of fishers - most boats today have GPS and sounders, once a rock is found, it is fished until nothing is left. It isn't as hit and miss as once it was. Now even many small 5m dories have Furuno colour sounders good to 500m, 3m inflatables have little hummingbird units. Submission 1202

From the commercial fishing industry's point of view, one of the major problems with the current fisheries management regime is that, when it comes to addressing recreational fishing issues, there is no-one to talk to. While commercial interests are now well defined and well represented and the representation of customary fishing interests is improving, recreational fishing interests remain unidentified and poorly represented. This is a major barrier to the integration of recreational harvest into the fisheries management regime. Submission 1207

We support the following initiatives to address some of the sustainability issues associated with recreational fishing:

- *New initiatives to better estimate the recreational catch overall. The current surveys are not sufficient to provide the necessary information upon which a recreational allowance within a TAC could be set.*
- *Compulsory registration of charter boats*
- *Marked reductions in individual bag limits on charter boats and/or combined boat limits for charter boats (for example 100 finfish/boat/day)*
- *Compulsory reporting of catch by charter boat operators (including CPUE data). This should not pose a problem financially, given that charter boating is a pseudo-commercial operation.*

Future adjustments to recreational bag limits based on this better information of the nature and extent of the recreational harvest. This would be conducted on an area by area basis. For example blue cod in BCO3. Submission 1158

Because of the wide range of public rights that are being debated and the obvious priority nature of some of the rights discussed, it is (our) firmly held opinion that a priority public right is the only reasonable and just way of ensuring the needs of ALL non-commercial rights holders are adequately expressed. Submission 1140

Has the JWG got the problem "right"? For example has it missed anything?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Disagree with the Joint Working Group proposals	169
Agree with the Joint Working Group vision	83
Same/equal rights for all fishers	50
More education, information and research is needed	42
Sustainability/protection of species is a concern	40
Recreational fishers to have priority over commercial fishers	39
Protection of inshore fisheries/coastlines for recreational fishers	32
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	32
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	29
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	29
More Government intervention is necessary	28
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch to be improved	20
Miscellaneous	14
Joint Working Group has missed some of the issues	10
Support Option 4	9
Need to address the issue of recreational allocation of share	7

Quotes:

If locals had more input and say about their local area and felt more involved and that what they were being listened to and then saw an improvement in the fishing then they would be more responsible etc. Perhaps the mātaitai concept should be adopted for all areas, particularly inshore. Submission 802

The real issues are the continual conflict between the commercial and recreational objectives - always diametrically opposed and further compounded by the more recent customary fishing regulations - a rule for one and a rule for another. Maori share has no limit placed on it.' Submission 777

We would emphasise the following as the most important current problems

- *inadequate knowledge of the marine environment*
- *inadequate funding for marine research including minimal input from recreational fishers*
- *inadequate knowledge of both the quantities of fish removed and the impacts of the three groups, customary, recreational and commercial fishers on marine diversity*
- *lack of independence of research scientists. Submission 463*

The answer lies with recreational fishers, firstly, recognising they are not property rights holders in relation to fisheries resources and, secondly, that they have to work with tangata whenua to ensure a healthy non-commercial fishery, rather than lobbying separately, which has been the case to date. The tools to increase the involvement of recreational fishers in fisheries management are already available.

*The answer...lies with the Ministry of Fisheries recognising that the recreational fishing issue is about **sustainability** NOT the creation of rights. Submission 1158*

5.5 Allocation of share

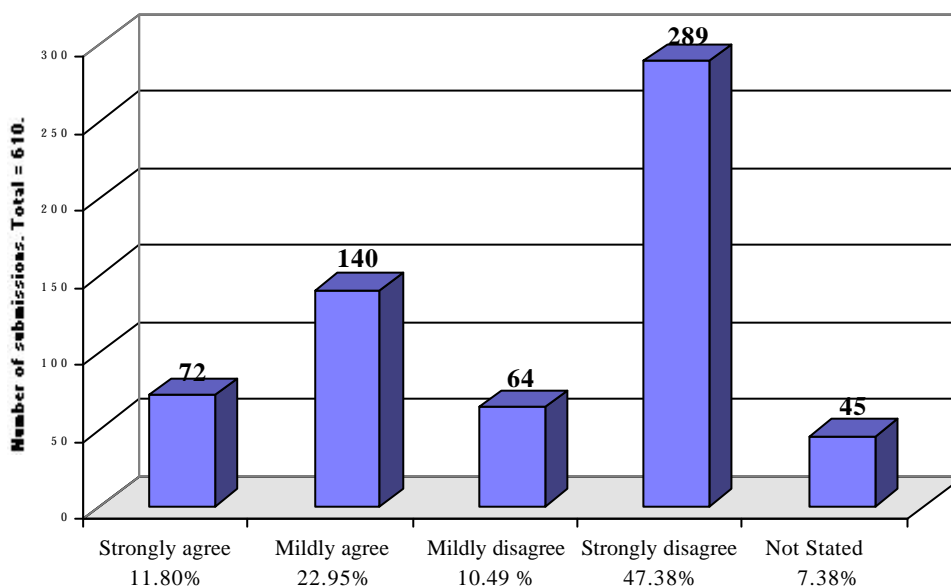
In allocation of recreational share 58% did not think the minister should continue to decide how much should go to recreational fishers and how much should go to commercial. For important fish stocks 55% agreed that there should be an on-going proportional share with commercial fishers and 49% agreed that recreational fishers should have priority over commercial fishers.

Of those who commented 220 submitters supported proportional share and 118 stated that recreational fishers should have priority over commercial fishers. Further suggestions for allocating share elicited 81 responses for better communication between fishing sectors.

What do you think about the minister continuing to decide how much should go to recreational and how much to commercial?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

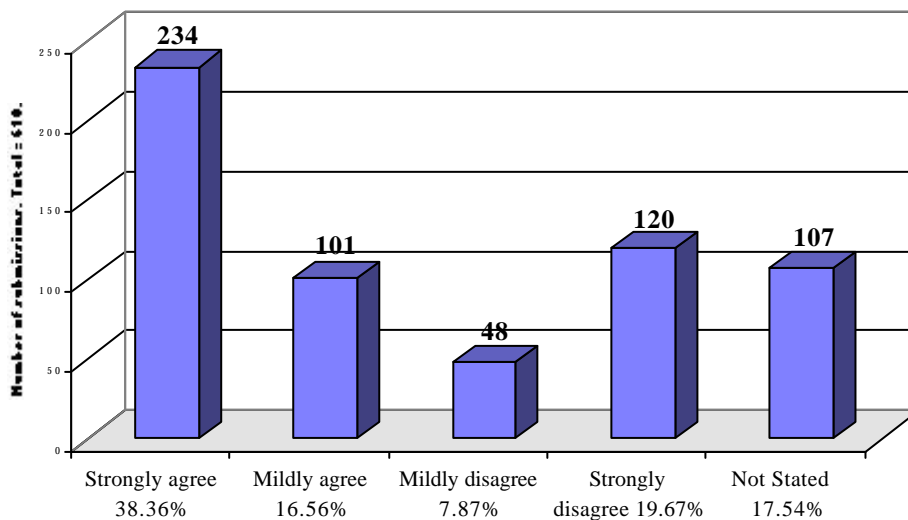
Table 3.



As on-going proportional share with commercial?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

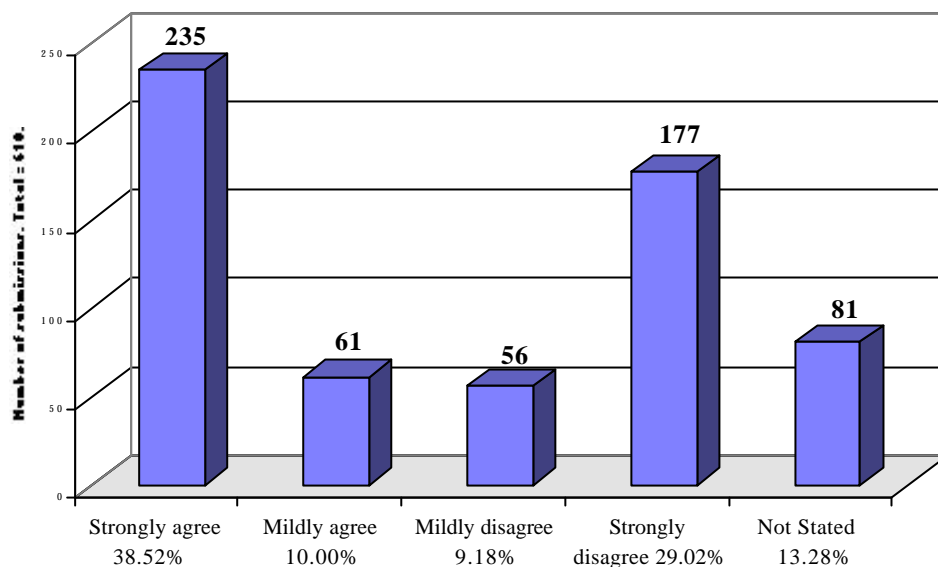
Table 4.



Recreational priority over commercial?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

Table 5.



Quotes:

No Minister involvement. Strictly agreement between commercial, customary and recreational fishers groups. MAF sets allowable catch limits but is an observer in the share agreement. Submission 448

Minister of Fisheries must still have power to enforce policy that has been lobbied on. Ban of commercial fishing in some areas, or formation of reserves or local rules/bylaws if needed on sites of local importance. Submission 462

What are the reasons for your views on the way of allocating of the recreational share? Do you have any comment on the advantages and disadvantages of the options above? Do you think they can be achieved?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Supports Proportional share	220
Recreational fishers to have priority over commercial fishers	118
Sustainability/protection of species is a concern	91
Protection of inshore fisheries/coastlines for recreational fishers	86
It is a human right/birthright/heritage to fish	70
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	61
Same/equal rights for all fishers	44
Does not support proportional share	39
Difficult to achieve reasonable allocation of share	37
Allocation on a revisable basis	37
Ability to devise plans to ensure future generations meanwhile restricting commercial	28

Ability to exclude commercial fishers from recreationally important areas	28
Difficulty in enforcing and policing commercial fishers	26
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	22
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	22
Commercial fishing interests need to be protected	21
Bag limits should be adequate to provide a reasonable supply of fish for family	17
Greater restrictions on recreational fishers to be put in place - licensing	17
More education, information and research is needed	16
Status quo	15
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	13
Tradable quotas are necessary	7
Insufficient funds to support management or make any changes	5
Customary fishing interests to be protected	4
Miscellaneous	4
Reject the concept of priority share for recreational fishers	4

Quotes:

An ongoing proportional share will ensure one currency with a TAC and will ensure all parties commit to the sustainable utilisation of the resource. Submission 558

I support the proportional share for the following reasons:

- *A proportional share will protect the recreational, customary (Maori) and commercial sector's share in the New Zealand fishery, will more clearly define the property rights and encourage all sectors, recreational, commercial and customary (Maori) to work more co-operatively together, to achieve sustainable utilisation of the resource.*
- *A proportional share will lower management costs because of reduced conflicts and provide greater incentives for all participants to comply with fishing rules.*

Submission 1017

Difficulty in determining when the recreational fishing catch has exceeded its yearly allocation. Maintain bag and size limit mechanism and adjust according to fish stock, health and size. Submission 603

All recreational fishers should have logbooks as at present no one knows how much fish is caught by recreational fishers. Submission 591

NZ recreational fishing is an individual right to fish anywhere and at any time, except in customary or marine reserve closed areas, and allows the daily take of limited quantities from key fish stocks and otherwise of unlimited quantities, but always for non-commercial purposes. Submission 998

If the people harvesting fish or shellfish do so primarily for food then the issue is not about 'recreational' fishing, it is about the public right to gather seafood from a public resource for sustenance purposes. The right to harvest from our natural wild resources must take priority over commercial use of the same resource. Submission 1205

We strongly support the concept of an ongoing proportional share as with the commercial sector, this will ensure that we have a common interest for all resource users from which to

apportion a Total Allowable Catch. This will ensure that all users work together to commit to the sustainable management of the resource. Simply, both the recreational and commercial fishers would benefit from co-operative efforts to improve the stock status, conversely both sharing the consequences of TAC reductions. Submission 1185

(We) supports a priority, unconstrained share for customary harvest with second priority being accorded to commercial rights. This means that TAC reductions would be taken from firstly the recreational allowance unless there was a buy back of commercial quota. However, in situations where fishers are working co-operatively on solutions, it will mean that Maori will agree to changes that are more evenly distributed where they believe those changes will foster long-sighted, co-operative approaches that enhance the sustainable management of fish stocks. Submission 1159

Do you have any other suggestions for allocating the recreational share?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	81
Protection of inshore fisheries/coastlines for recreational fishers	50
Ability to devise plans to ensure future generations meanwhile restricting commercial	33
More Government intervention is necessary	30
Greater restrictions on recreational fishers to be put in place - lower bag limits	30
Automatic exclusion of fishing methods to protect sustainability	26
More education, information and research is needed	22
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	21
It is a human right/ birthright/heritage to fish	20
Set lower bag limits for recreational fishers	19
Status quo	16
Miscellaneous	6
No fees/no cost	5
Not a strict annual share rather 5 year rolling target to be met	2

Quotes:

In a sense the recreational sector is now driving a problem perceived by fisheries managers prior to the introduction of the QMS in 1986 - "too many fishermen chasing too few fish". It is an untenable proposition that any group of extractive users can just fish to the limit of their expectations. Submission 1137

I think that fishing tour/trip operators should be classed as commercial fishermen, not recreational as it is no longer a recreation for them it is their living, their job. Submission 69

In shared fisheries it is vital that social, economic and cultural goals be addressed when setting Total Allowable Catches. It is not good enough to have Maximum Sustainable Yield as the only objective of fisheries management... What about considering maximum social yield (benefit), maximum economic yield or maximum cultural benefit. Legislation must allow for an Optimum Yield to replace an estimate of Maximum Sustainable Yield when setting quotas

for key species shared by commercial, Maori, recreational and subsistence fishers.
Submission 1055

We should all be able to share but I would like to see the commercial boats work further off shore. Submission 99

'The Minister is going to be subject to biased views and pressures from commercial and Maori interests for their rights. Submission 288

We think both groups [customary and recreational] should be working together to ensure the sustainability of the fishery resource. Submission 1177

'There should always be a closed season for fish when they are spawning. This includes commercial as well as recreational fishing. Submission 696

I strongly believe that customary take should also be included in any proportional share arrangement for the same reasons of encouraging co-operation and for basic human fairness. Can see a role for proportional in some fisheries and priority in others.
Submission 782

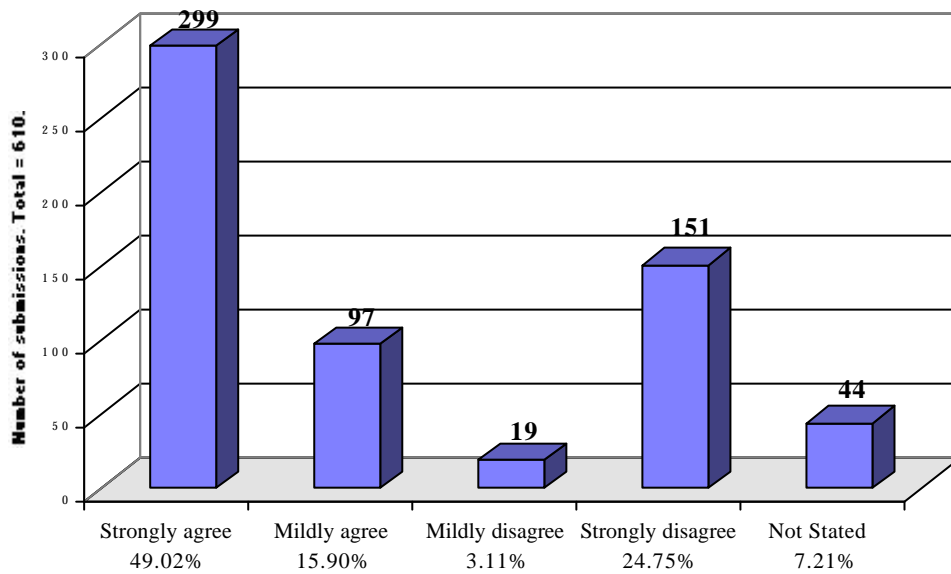
5.6 Area Management.

In area management 65% agreed that a coastal zone should be established and 67% agreed that particular commercial fishing methods should automatically be excluded.

Of those who commented 179 submitters thought that commercial fishers should be excluded from recreationally important areas and 233 mentioned that the current dispute procedure was inadequate.

What do you think about establishing a Coastal zone?
Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

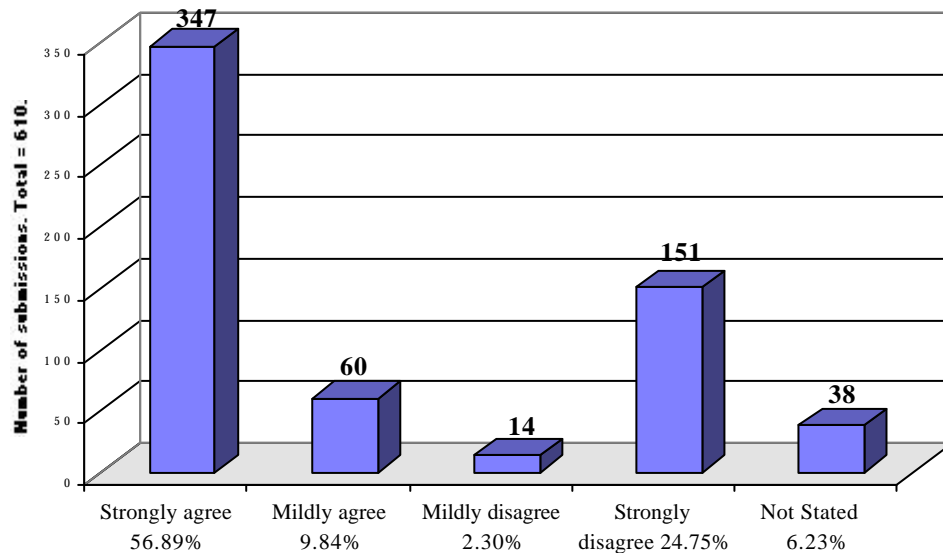
Table 6



What do you think about automatically excluding particular commercial fishing methods in a coastal zone?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

Table 7.



What are the reasons for your views? Do have any comment on the advantage and disadvantages of the two area management options as above? Do you think they can be achieved?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Ability to exclude commercial fishers from recreationally important areas	179
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	159
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	129
Protection of inshore fisheries/coastlines for recreational fishers	102
Sustainability/protection of species is a concern	98
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	80
Government is responsible for managing recreational fishing	63
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	55
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch needs improving	34
Area management options are achievable	26
Same/equal rights for recreational and customary fishers who should come first	25
Greater restrictions on recreational fishers to be put in place - lower bag limits	16
Establishment of a marine park is required	16
Commercial fishing interests need to be protected	13
Personal experience	11
Concerned with how recreational fisheries to be managed and funded	10
Automatic exclusion of fishing methods will harm local commercial operations	10
Recreational management created out of govt plus interest groups	10
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	10
Area management to have more influence on decision making	6
No regulations/restrictions on recreational fishers	5
Miscellaneous	3
Greater restrictions on customary fishers are required	3

Quotes:

Joint management would be the best tool to use to manage the resource, local problems addressed in the local area, under proper management/disputes procedures. Submission 356

Before the 200 mile limit was introduced shoreline fishing was good but this changed with trawlers coming close inshore. I feel there should be a 3 mile limit for trawling gillnetting (excluding flounder/crayfish) and long lines over 24 hooks. In my area long lines of a 1,000 hooks are daily set in 30-40 meters and systematically worked up or down the coast. Likewise with gill netting. This area is a good nursery and should not be under pressure from both groups. Submission 364

A coastal zone will create ill-feeling between Commercial and Recreational fishers, I would not recommend its establishment. I feel a better option would be to exclude certain types of commercial fishing methods, if they can be proved to have a detrimental effect on a particular area. Submission 377

Artificial reefs for fish breeding are a tool used in Australia to improve fish stocks within the in-shore fishery. These could be constructed relatively cheaply using old tyres chained together, or using standard tetrapods or similar to form reefs. These artificial reefs would be no take areas for all sectors. Mātaihai reserves need to be well signposted as people from other areas or travellers will be unaware of local restrictions. Submission 515

A waste of time. All very good in American soap opera but they don't work in real life. Submission 64

A Fisheries Protection Zone - a marine area where damaging methods and wasteful practices of all fishing are banned eg trawling, seining and set nets on reefs. They are meant to be supportive of, and adjunctive to, the QMS by filling the hole in the latter left by the problem of wastage and damage to the marine biodiversity. Submission 332

This sounds like a frustrating, emotionally gagged process, probably overseen by academics heavily weighted in favour of the 'Green Machine' who would have no idea of what is actually happening. Thus resulting in making decisions to exclude, etc to boost their own profile and be seen as an environmental saviour. Submission 325

For example I think that 10-15% of the coastline should be set aside like has been done at the Poor Knights and Cape Rodney. It is my view that if NZ could be turned into a Recreational Fishers Paradise that the income both directly and indirectly would be worth far more to the country than selling "Wet Fish". Submission 315

To work properly the governance body would need to be the employer of those people engaged to execute the 'means' by which the governors goals were to be achieved. To have these staff employed by the public service would only set up a triangular relationship that would undermine the performance accountability between the Crown, the governance and fisheries staff. The structure should be vertical. Submission 867

The Commission opposes the erosion of commercial rights represented by the proposal for Coastal Zones that arrogate a preference for recreational fishers. The Commission considers that the desire by recreational and customary fishers for enhanced local stocks can best be dealt with through the existing mechanisms of mātaihai, taiapure and management plans, once basic entitlements and organisational issues are addressed. Submission 1159

[Our group] believes that the lack of an appeal body for the rights-holder disputes is a significant gap in the current fisheries management framework..

... Ideally all fisheries rights holders (including marine farmers) should be able to negotiate access arrangements directly, but this needs to occur within the broader context of the Crown's Treaty obligations. Submission 1207

Establishing coastal zones or exclusion areas may be difficult. What do you think about using the disputes resolution process, and fisheries plans to deal with area management issues?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Current dispute procedure is inadequate	233
Change in the dispute resolution process is a step in the right direction	107
Proportional share allocated between all fishers would result in reduced need for Dispute resolution	53
Disputes resolution process is too complicated and expensive	51
Use the same disputes resolution process as customary fishing	10
Miscellaneous	9
More education, information and research is needed	8

Quotes:

This option completely misses the point of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. Maori have a customary entitlement, which is intact today, and stakeholders have rights that are bestowed on them by the governing body of the day. Submission 1141

We want the Government to develop legislation that will require clear management objectives to be developed for each quota species. The allocation of the recreational and subsistence priority right should be linked to these management objectives and the size of the harvest for that species, not simply the size of the population. Submission 1151

Disputes resolution is too late. There needs to be agreement at the local community level for any management measure to work effectively. If there isn't, the enforcement costs make it prohibitively expensive. Submission 1202

Clear guidelines need to be established to ensure the process works smoothly and quickly, also costs need to be at a level where any individual or group can participate in the process without incurring undue expense. Submission 695

5.7 Recreational Management and Organisation

Within the recreational management and organisation section 62% of submitters disagreed with the government continuing to manage recreational fishing with only limited recreational involvement. 72% agreed that recreational management groups should be established to play an active role in managing recreational fishing with 58% stating that these groups should be set up in one go over the whole country.

53% of submitters stated they would support recreational fishers contributing towards the cost of recreational management groups with 55% stating they would be prepared to pay. 51% stated they were prepared to pay \$2 or more with 40% stating that support should not be compulsory.

Of those who commented 323 submitters thought the main reason given for not supporting existing groups was that the average fisher is mainly interested in fishing as a leisure activity not in the politics of fishing and 131 felt that the Government was responsible for managing recreational fishing.

Why do you think recreational fishers do not better support existing recreational groups, clubs and organisations?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Average fisher just wants to fish/ leisure activity/not get involved in politics	323
Fishers essentially individuals who fish to "get away from it all"	152
Time is an important factor /too busy making a living	150
Club fees are too high.	37
Dislike club structures- set agendas/dominated by vocal minority/few people doing most work	24
Clubs are well supported already	20
Groups like this are continually exploited by Govt. bodies	15
Clubs not always accessible /remote locations for some fishers	13
Miscellaneous	5
Don't know much about clubs	3

Quotes:

Re: Lack of support for clubs: Many are confused by the size of the problem and feel the government has let them down in the past. Though many think new minister has a good understanding of the issues involved in giving all groups a fair share, plus conserving stocks for future generations. Submission 337

Most people have little enough time to go fishing, without spending some of that time and energy in recreational groups. Only a small percentage are voluntarily involved in any organisation in which there is not a clear and immediate personal interest and advantage. It is not unique to fishing, it is across all aspects of society. Submission 1202

There are hundreds of fishing and boating clubs around New Zealand, and if they were to have a united front, they would be a formidable lobby group as well as having a vast amount

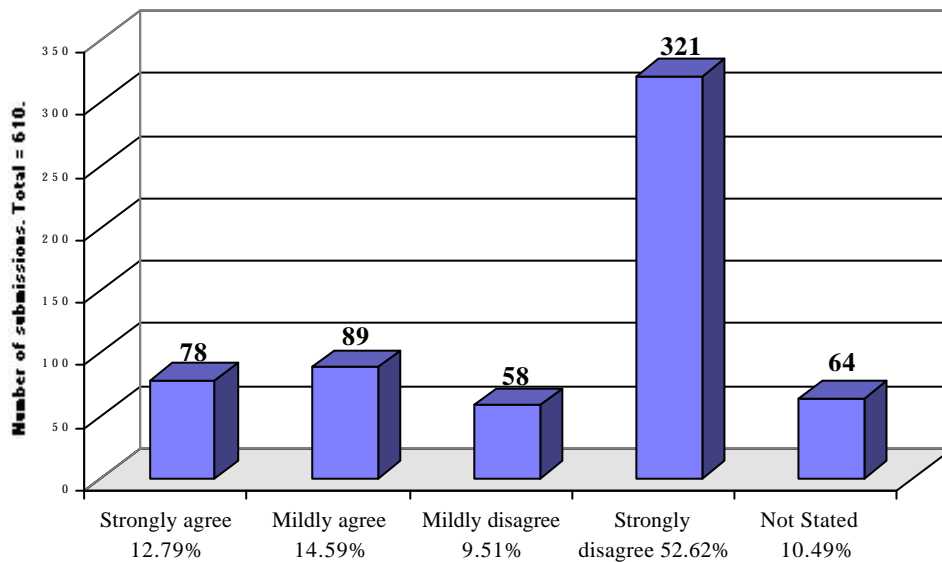
of local knowledge and experience of fish stocks, size etc. These same club members are also a voluntary labour force, available to dog tagging and on the water management of the fishery as wardens etc. Submission 515

We submit that recreational and subsistence fishers should be represented by 7 to 10 regionally elected representatives on a National Board. Regional boundaries would be determined on the basis of the population of fishers and fisheries management areas. The core functions of the regional representatives should include effective communication and consultation with recreational and subsistence fishers, coupled with transparent decision making and provision of advice to the Minister. The Board would be funded by Government for provision of this service and would be able to co-opt MFish staff to work on issues from time to time. Submission 1209

What do you think about the government continuing to manage recreational fishing with only limited recreational involvement?

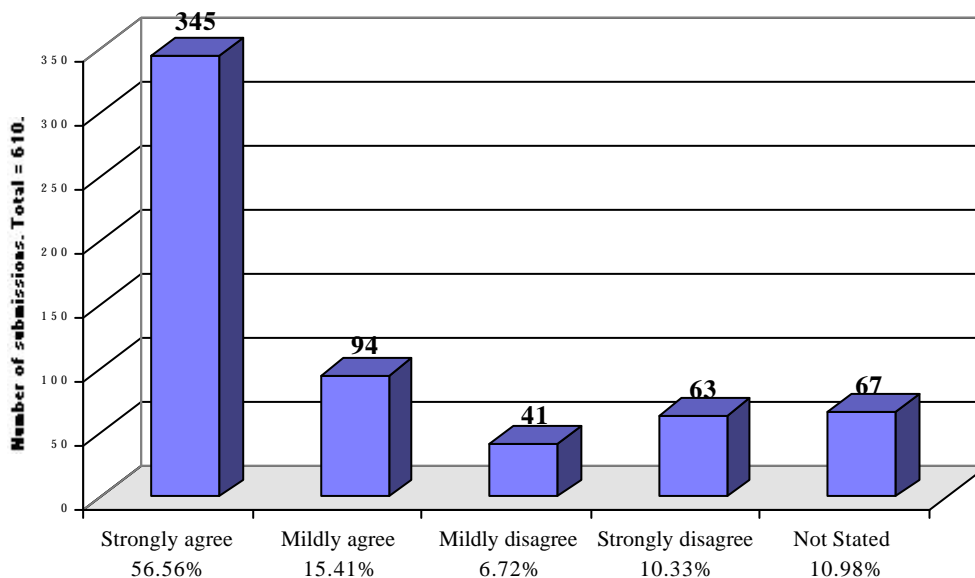
Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

What do you think about establishing recreational management groups to play an active role in managing recreational fishing?



Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

Table 9



<i>If recreational management groups are established should they be:</i>	No.	%
<i>Includes only those who returned the standard submission form</i>		
Established voluntarily as needed over time	146	23.93%
Set up in one go to cover the whole country	354	58.03%
Not stated	110	18.03%
Total	610	

<i>Do you support recreational fishers contributing towards the costs of recreational management groups?</i>	No.	%
<i>Includes only those who returned the standard submission form</i>		
No	252	41.31%
Not Stated	33	5.41%
Yes	325	53.28%
Total	610	

Do you support recreational fishers contributing towards the costs of recreational management groups' comments?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

<i>Comment</i>	<i>No.</i>
Government is responsible for managing recreational fishing	131
Prepared to pay a small fee with conditions	110
Use revenue collected from GST, road tax/ taxing of equipment/fishing tackle	98
Already paying through taxes on petrol and gear	76
No fees/no cost	49
It is a human right/birthright/heritage to fish	19
Greater responsibility of fishers to find a voice	19
Use the successful licensing and management of salmon and trout as a model.	15
Combined Government and user contribution to fund recreational fishing	11
Funding should come from penalties and lawbreakers	11
Fees could make fishing a rich man's pastime	10
Compliance and enforcement costs would be too high	9
Children under 18 should be free	7
More Government intervention is necessary	7
Recreational management should be self funded	5
Miscellaneous	2
Government should not pay	1

Quotes:

My response is that the Government was culpably negligent in its duty to govern 'for the people' in 1989 and again 1996 when it gave, at no cost, our right to fish to industry. To ask individual fishers to buy back that right is clearly inequitable and totally unacceptable. Submission 455

'MFish should continue to manage the fishing resource for the benefit of all New Zealanders. (We are) opposed to the idea that any aspect of management or research should be devolved to the commercial sector. Submission 863

That such access be freely available, without charge and without quota and for saltwater fishing without any form of licensing.

...As this resource firstly belongs to the peoples of New Zealand access to it should be free and without charge. The principles of "user pays" should not apply as the resource is the property of the people and to access it should be a right. Whilst it is acknowledged there is a cost to manage this resource on behalf of its owners - the peoples of New Zealand - this is a cost which should be met from general Government income (taxes), or fully/partly from revenues received from commercial activities concerning this resource.

A charge, in whatever form that be, to "gather food" from a public resource is inappropriate. Submission 384

'The Joint Working Group has not recognised the fact that recreational fishermen pay road tax on their petrol - we need this tax to go into recreational fishing so don't ask us to pay for licences to go fishing. Submission 92

I think there should be Recreational Management Groups and people to control or oversee them. Paid for by the Covenants Consolidated Fund, as the tax, GST on fishing gear and related items is many millions. Also taxes, of fuel including "road tax" is paid by the fisherman for water use. None of that is coming back to us. Surely it could pay for representatives to give our say and monitor local stocks. Submission 830

Would you be prepared to pay to support a recreational group to represent your interests?

Includes only those who returned the standard submission form

	No.	%
No	210	34.43%
Not Stated	59	9.67%
Yes	341	55.90%
Total	610	

I would be prepared to pay:

<i>Amount</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>%</i>
\$0.00	304	48.75%
\$10 and less	45	7.5%
\$11 to \$25	72	12.32%
\$26 to \$50	47	8.04%
\$51 to \$75	7	1.25%
\$76 to \$100	133	21.78%
Over \$100	2	0.36%
	610	

Would you be prepared to pay to support a recreational group to represent your interests'?

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

<i>Comment</i>	<i>No.</i>
Prepared to pay a small fee with conditions	269
Government is responsible for managing recreational fishing	77
Already paying through taxes on petrol and gear	68
Combined Government and user contribution to fund recreational fishing	22
Status quo	16
Tag and tackle tax to create funds	14
Clubs are a good source of information	13
Licensing would be necessary to pay a support group	10
Would pay to support group only under protest, to assert rights.	7
Miscellaneous	3
Fee required for non-residents, tourists and visitors.	1

Quotes:

With the propensity of a proportion of people well able to support a cause to 'freeload' on those who do, some form of compulsory contribution is needed. Submission 171

Avid fishermen would support this automatically for fear of restrictive controls. Submission 185

I would support a recreational group only if it was to pursue issues like seal cull, marine reserves and taiapure/mätaitai reserves. Submission 175

If each fisher contributed this would be a considerable amount provided all fishers including Maori paid. Submission 169

Should this support be compulsory?

No	301	49.34%
Not Stated	64	10.49%
Yes	245	40.16%
	610	

Should this support be compulsory? Comments:

Those who made a comment were grouped as follows:

Comment	No.
Prepared to pay a small fee with conditions	207
Difficult to implement compulsory costs	62
There should be no form of compulsory support	52
No licensing of recreational fishers	38
More Government intervention is necessary	17
Miscellaneous	8
Support Option 4	2

Quotes:

Compulsory is the word of fascists and we know what happened to them! Submission 119

Incentives usually work better than compulsion. Submission 904

Do I who fish perhaps 100 plus days a year pay the same as a person who fishes 5 or 6 times a year and does this apply to mum, dad and the 5 year old who fish off the jetty for sprats. Submission 364

5.8 General Comments

This general comment section is the final section on the JWG submission form. Any comments written in this section were entered here. Any comments from individual and group/organisation letters and extra comments from Option 4 were also entered here.

The concept of fishing as a birthright or heritage right was the strongest overall comment made here. 285 submissions were critical of the Ministry of Fisheries, their capabilities and government policies relating to fisheries. 154 found the “Soundings” document hard to read and interpret.

Nonetheless 171 wanted better communication between the fishing sectors.

Other Comments and Suggestions.

Comment	No.
It is a human right/ birthright/ our heritage to fish	352
Critical of MFish capabilities/Government policies	285
No licensing of recreational fishers	183
Sustainability/protection of species is a concern	173
Better inter-sector communication and co-operation is necessary	171
Not a good document /hard to read and interpret	154
Healthy fisheries/enhancing inshore fisheries/protection of species/quality of catch improved	93
Recreational fishers to have priority over commercial fishers	92
Restrictions on certain methods used by commercial fishers	87
Ability to exclude commercial fishers from recreationally important areas	82
Fishers need to participate at regional/local level	79
Difficulty in enforcing and policing recreational share	73
Difficulty in enforcing and policing commercial fishers	64
Support Option 2	60
More education, information and research is needed	58
Greater restrictions on commercial fishers are required	57
Tourism and economic benefits of recreational fishing need to be protected	51
Support Option 4	41
Set lower bag limits for recreational fishers	38
Protection of the local environment	35
More Government intervention is necessary	34
Customary fishing should be abolished	32
Unhappy about the consultative process	26
Same/equal rights for recreational and commercial	24
Concerned about the abuse of customary fishing rights	23
Need to change attitudes in order for there to be a change	22
Accessibility to coastline for all New Zealanders	22
Fishing is economic necessity for many families	20
Government is responsible for QMS and should pay off commercial fishers	19
Marine reserves to be established	15
Forest and Bird have too great an influence	14

Increase of population and uneven distribution means greater strain on fishing Resources	11
Concerned with how recreational fisheries to be managed and funded	11
Miscellaneous	10
Nation-wide survey needed to identify recreational fishers	8
Recreational fishers need better representation	8
Support Option 3	8
The Government to define in laws our recreational fishing rights as for Maori/commercial	6
Support Option 1	6
Customary fishing interests to be protected	3
Support Option 4 but short on responsibility	3
Ability to devise plans to ensure future generations meanwhile restricting commercial	3

Quotes:

Members of the public who have an interest in harvesting from the sea have become very aware that it is not just recreational fishing that is being debated, it is the rights of the population at large to harvest seafood from the sea, regardless of race or creed. In short it is a fundamental human rights issue. Submission 1205

Crawl back under your rock Ministry of Fisheries because no one believes you are doing this for our benefit. If you were so worried about the state of OUR fishery you should be putting pressure on these councils that allow sewerage and other pollutants to be pumped directly in to the sea and our harbours. Commercial groups who are only driven by greed to rape our sea and proclaim it by catch. Dishonest Maori who use the guise of "customary take" to destroy the integrity of Maoridom and cripple fishing resources needed by other families. Submission 86

The Board is generally disappointed with the Soundings document and resolved not to adopt a position on any of the three options set out in Soundings - or to suggest the relative merits of the same...

...it is not the "rights" of future generations to have a share in the fishing resource which should be the sole or even major concern. Any and all rational and future management options must safeguard the life-supporting capacity of eco-systems as well as marine biodiversity above all else.

Submission 871

The Soundings document is very complex and covers many issues. Rather than trying to tackle all the issues at once individual issues should be resolved in logical sequence. The process for this document should have started with meeting in all locations around NZ prior to producing the Soundings document thereby obtaining a better representation from the fishos and marine users as to what they actually want. The produce the document for discussion and re submission. There are many parts of the document fishers regard as being undesirable and feel a particular line of thought or fact is being forced upon them. This created a tense meeting in Wellington and I'm sure in other meetings around the country. Submission 695

. . the future of the marine environment is more about total management and not different ministries and departments working individually. Submission 738

What's happening in the far north is a crime - we suffer the consequences big time. 10 yrs ago we had huge American Tuna boats, in a couple of months they wiped out nearly all the Kawhai, next we had scallop boats - scallops are hard to find now. Now we can't get near the wharf for surface longliners. Deckies are getting \$80 kilo for shark fins and dumping the trunks. Huge trophy marlins are dumped as by-catch all the time. Local bread bill populations are being targeted. There will be none of these soon. It is a crime, it has to stop, and everyone in the north hates what is going on. Submission 20

Have the impression that MFish and JWG is attempting to place responsibility for past overfishing and depletion of resource on recreational fishers and now is expecting them to pay for past departmental errors and omissions. Submission 903

Central government policy has created interface problems, which exist in the recreational fishing environment ie between recreational fishers and commercial fishers; between commercial fishing and Maori customary rights; between recreational fishers and Maori customary rights etc. The government has a duty of care to ensure that the interface problems are addressed, and solved in a manner which guarantees priority rights of recreational fishers. If a choice has to be made recreational fishers must have priority over commercial fishers. The central aim must be for all New Zealanders to have a reasonable access to a daily limit bag. Submission 1117

Option4.co.nz appears to be currently the only group prepared to deliver on the views and opinions of the man in the street. Attendance at a number of the public meetings discussing Soundings by our members, confirmed a bias against the Option4.co.nz advocates by the MFish and NZRFC representatives. Submission 685

Te Runanga recommends recreational fishing remain under a discretionary share arrangement (option one); that recreational groups continue to give advice to the Minister as they do now through the Ministry of Fisheries; and that recreational fishers work with tangata whenua and stakeholders to increase their participation in fisheries management through:

- the establishment of mātaitai*
- the implementation of Fisheries plans to improve fishing opportunities at the local level*
- the establishment of 186B temporary closures and/or method restrictions to improve the size and/or availability of fish stocks*
- the establishment of taiapure, when appropriate, to improve fishing at the local level*

Submission 1158

In conclusion, changing the framework for the management of recreational fishing through negotiated access agreements, alternative disputes resolution procedures, proportional shares in key fishstocks, and the effective participation of representative recreational groups in fisheries management, is not in itself sufficient. What is also required is a change in attitude, particularly by the Crown and recreational fishers. Submission 1207

APPENDICES

- 1. Joint Working Group Submission Form***
- 2. Option4 Form Letter***