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THE GLOBAL IMPACT

163 words
9 March 2007
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 2007 The New Zealand Herald

BIRDS Migratory and breeding patterns have been thrown into confusion across Europe. Chiff- chaffs are remaining in the United Kingdom throughout the year rather than migrating south.

FISH Fish such as red **mullet**, once found only off Britain's southerly coastline, are now steadily being spotted further north, including the west coast of Scotland. Warm-water species such as tuna are being increasingly found by Cornish fishermen.

TURTLES Breeding grounds on beaches in the Caribbean and the Indian Ocean are under threat from rising sea levels. Water temperature affects the sex ratio, so warmer seas could mean some species becoming entirely female. **BUTTERFLIES** One study reports two-thirds of European butterflies have shifted their habitats north by between 30 and 240 kilometres.

POLAR BEARS Their habitat of Arctic sea ice is melting away, while seals, their natural prey, are believed to be at risk from a decline in fish stocks. Polar bears are now thinner than 20 years ago.

WILDFACT09

Document NZHLD00020070308e3390002i

Four accused of running blackmarket fishing ring

by Elizabeth Binning police reporter
452 words
14 February 2006
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 2006 The New Zealand Herald

A significant blackmarket fishing group has been uncovered in South Auckland, allegedly supplying dozens of households with thousands of illegally caught **mullet**.

Two men and two women were caught on Friday after calls from concerned members of the public led Ministry of Fisheries staff to the blackmarket operation.

The calls came from people who had witnessed the illegal gathering of the fish at Port Waikato and from people who had been offered the mullet in South Auckland.

Fisheries compliance manager Ian Bright said the four were observed by fisheries officers for some time as part of an undercover surveillance operation.

They were seen using a dinghy, especially modified for netting, to regularly catch large quantities of mullet.

The group would then go door to door, mostly around Mangere, selling the mullet - which cost about \$20 for four to five fish, which Mr Bright said was a relatively standard price for mullet.

"We believe they were taking about 100 to 150 a trip and they have admitted that they were out three trips a week over several months," said Mr Bright.

The law says recreational fishermen can take 30 mullet a day but they are not allowed to onsell the fish.

Commercial fishermen can sell the fish but the group are not believed to have had such a licence.

They instead drove around Mangere selling their supplies to dozens of householders from the back of two vehicles.

"From what we observed they had a regular customer base of some 50 or 60 households, plus many more customers who were approached on a random basis."

Mr Bright said the Ministry of Fisheries was first informed of the blackmarket operation when people saw the group taking mullet from Port Waikato.

"They were concerned by the frequency and the dedication of the fishers.

"Then we got a couple of calls from members of the public who had actually been approached and had been offered fish for sale."

Mr Bright praised the residents who had refused to buy the fish and instead called the ministry to pass on vital information about what was happening.

"We are very grateful for that because that information is our lifeblood.

"Thanks to them we are able to stop these poachers and protect the resource for the rest of the community."

Mr Bright said the four, all in their 30s, were spoken to on Friday and charges are expected to be laid within a month.

Fisheries officers spent yesterday talking to customers and will gather more evidence about the blackmarket operation in the next few weeks.

Anyone with suspicions should contact their nearest ministry office or 0800 4 POACHER.

FISHERIES14

Document NZHLD00020060213e22e00013

SCHOOL GALA SMOKED MULLET SELLER LET OFF WITH WARNING

265 words
4 November 2005
New Zealand Press Association
English
(c) 2005 New Zealand Press Association

Wellington, Nov 4 NZPA - The parent frogmarched away from a Northland school gala day for selling smoked **mullet** he caught under a customary fishing permit has been let off with a warning.

Fishery officers seized Peter Yerkovich's supply at the Waiharara Primary School's calf club and gala day on October 15 and took him away for questioning.

The Ministry of Fisheries considered charging Mr Yerkovich, who was selling the fish as fundraising for the school, as he had no permit for selling the fish but today said it would issue only a written warning.

Fisheries' Northland district compliance manager Dave Turner said Mr Yerkovich had ``clearly" committed an offence but Fisheries accepted he had been ignorant of the law and had not been acting for any personal gain.

Neither would any action be taken against Waiharara Primary School. ``Any suggestion that we would prosecute a school conducting a fundraising event is nonsense."

Mr Yerkovich had a customary permit to take fish but not for sale, Mr Turner said.

The kaitiaki (guardian) who had issued the customary permit had told Mr Yerkovich the fish could not be sold but Mr Yerkovich ignored the advice, Mr Turner said.

He said there were legal means of raffling and selling fish for fundraising events and anyone wishing to do so should first contact their local Ministry of Fisheries office for guidance.

School principal Kathy Cotching earlier said children had watched ``wide-eyed" as the rangers seized the fish and took away a bewildered Mr Yerkovich.

NZPA WGT cm

Document NZPA000020051104e1b40003i

School fish sale decision

175 words
31 October 2005
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 2005 The New Zealand Herald

A decision is expected this week on whether a parent who sold smoked fish at a Far North school's calf club fundraising day should be prosecuted for breaching the Fisheries Act.

Kaimaumuau recreational fisherman Peter Yerkovich, who has two children attending Waiharara School, was questioned by two Ministry of Fisheries officers after selling \$6 packs of smoked **mullet** during a school fund- raising gala on October 15.

The officers, who had travelled on a tip-off from Whangarei to the school 40km north of Kaitaia, interviewed Mr Yerkovich at the Kaitaia police station before taking him home and seizing nets, chilly bins and fishing gear.

Mr Yerkovich was not arrested but was told he was acting illegally by selling fish that had not come from someone licensed by the ministry to sell fish.

He had caught the mullet himself after obtaining a Maori customary fishing permit, but learned later that this covered seafood only for hui and tangi and the fish could not be sold to anyone. - Tony Gee

GSMOK31

Document NZHLD00020051030e1av0001h

SCHOOL TAKES LEGAL ACTION AFTER FISH SEIZED FROM GALA

436 words
21 October 2005
New Zealand Press Association
English
(c) 2005 New Zealand Press Association

Wellington, Oct 21 NZPA - A Far North school is taking urgent legal advice after Ministry of Fisheries officers seized fish being sold at a school gala, and took the parent in charge of the stall away for questioning.

Parent Peter Yerkovich was selling smoked **mullet** at a stall at Waiharara Primary School's calf club and gala day on Saturday to raise funds to send the children to Te Papa museum in Wellington.

Two fisheries officers, believed to be acting on a tip-off, seized the fish and Mr Yerkovich's fishing gear, because the mullet was being sold illegally.

School principal Kathy Cotching said that children watched "wide-eyed" as the rangers seized the fish and took away a bewildered Mr Yerkovich. "We've just done, last Saturday, what we've always done. Somebody's gone out and gathered some fish and suddenly these people arrive and said 'we want the fish and we want to talk to you'," she said on National Radio. "So you can imagine it really floored us."

The ministry's acting compliance manager for Northland, Harvey Ferguson, said the smoked mullet stall was clearly outside the law. "It's illegal for any person to sell fish unless that person is a permitted commercial fisherman or a licensed fish receiver or has obtained the fish legally from either of those two entities. In this instance there was quite a considerable amount of fish. The fish was being sold and had not been received from an appropriate source, therefore the offence was committed."

Mr Ferguson said there was a good reason behind the law. "Put it this way, if every school in the north took fish and used it as a fund-raiser, we might as well do away with commercial fishing because they could then get commercial fishing ventures going with absolutely no permits, no quota and it would lead to gross abuse of the quota system."

Mr Ferguson said the ministry was not sure if they would charge Mr Yerkovich, but Waiharara local Angie Seymour said the community was ready and waiting. "If it goes to court you can guarantee the school and the community will be there with him and we will fight this. There's no way we are going to let somebody innocent take the rap for this. It's just not on."

Waiharara School and others in the Far North are now seeking legal advice -- they say the future of tuatua fritters and smoked mullet at school galas may depend on it.

NZPA WGT rq dj jaf

Document NZPA000020051020e1a1000bz

MAN ACCUSED OF ILLEGALLY SELLING FISH BELIEVED TO HAVE PERMIT

405 words
21 October 2005
New Zealand Press Association
English
(c) 2005 New Zealand Press Association

Wellington, Oct 21 NZPA - Labour MP Shane Jones says he has been told the man accused of illegally selling fish at a Far North school gala holds a Maori customary permit.

Parent Peter Yerkovich was selling smoked **mullet** at a stall at Waiharara Primary Schools calf club and gala on Saturday when Ministry of Fisheries officers seized the fish and took him away for questioning.

The school is outraged and is taking urgent legal advice.

Mr Jones, a list MP who contested the Northland seat in the general election, said he had been contacted by concerned parents. "I think it's alarming...these characters appear to have raced into the situation as if they were apprehending patagonian toothfish poachers," he told NZPA. "They ended up being in a calf club day acting, according to parents, like goats."

Mr Jones is a director of the Maori fisheries trust Te Ohu Kaimoana, which last year took over from the Waitangi Fisheries Commission.

He previously chaired the commission, which was responsible for settling the multi-million dollar Sealord Fisheries claim. "I have been told Mr Yerkovich has a Maori customary permit, and they are available for community purposes," he said. "That regime was agreed to in the Sealord settlement."

School principal Kathy Cotching said children watched "wide-eyed" as the rangers seized the fish and took away a bewildered Mr Yerkovich. "We've just done, last Saturday, what we've always done. Somebody's gone out and gathered some fish and suddenly these people arrived and said 'we want the fish and we want to talk to you'," she said. "It really floored us."

The ministry's acting compliance manager for Northland, Harvey Ferguson, said the smoked mullet stall was clearly outside the law. "It's illegal for any person to sell fish unless that person is a permitted commercial fisherman or a licensed fish receiver or has obtained the fish legally from either of those two entities," he said. "If every school in the north took fish and used it as a fund-raiser, we might as well do away with commercial fishing because they could then get commercial fishing ventures going with absolutely no permits, no quota, and it would lead to gross abuse of the quota system."

Mr Ferguson said the ministry was not sure if they would charge Mr Yerkovich.

NZPA PAR pw sl

Document NZPA000020051021e1a10005e

[NO PUBLISHED HEADLINE]

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17 January 2005
Dominion Post
8

English
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GETTING HIS HAND IN: National Aquarium volunteer Chris Stokes-Sutton, watched by holidaymaker Tiffany Reynolds, of Taradale, feels quite safe handfeeding these yellow-eyed **mullet** during a Feeding Frenzy programme at the Napier aquarium last week.

Education officer Carol Larson said meat-eating fish were lightning-fast at feeding time. "(Toothed fish) are very quick when they are feeding. When you drop some food in, they are all in for the kill."

People were often keen to see the "scary animals" feed, such as the shark or alligator, she said.

Document DOMPOS0020050117e11h0004m

Sewage plant revamp returns life to harbour.

By Philip English.
673 words
7 April 2003
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 2003 The New Zealand Herald

Fish are jumping and birds are busy in front of the outfall from the Mangere sewage purification works as the plant begins work after its \$450 million, five-year overhaul.

Previously, it would have been unheard of for fish like kahawai or **mullet** to be jumping at the site. For more than 40 years smelly and sludge-filled oxidation ponds excluded the sea from the scene.

Now, with the ponds gone as a major part of the upgrade, wildlife has been returning to the area beyond the predictions of planners involved in the project.

The upgraded plant, opened on Friday by the Prime Minister, Helen Clark, includes New Zealand's biggest coastal marine restoration project.

In total, 500ha of oxidation ponds have been returned to the sea and 13km of shoreline has been returned to the Manukau Harbour.

"It's all a good news story, I have to say," says Watercare Services projects general manager Derrick Adams.

"Wonderful" is the single word a kaumatua of nearby Makaurau Marae, Maurice Wilson, uses to describe how he and his people feel about the upgrade and to be included in the project, unlike their treatment when the plant was first constructed.

"It's still effluent. It's not drinking water but the effect on the receiving environment is minimal," says Mr Adams of the 286,000 cu m of treated wastewater that passes through the plant every day.

Watercare Services believes the effluent is treated to a higher standard than any sewage-treatment plant in New Zealand can achieve.

When the original plant was opened in 1960, treatment involved primary sedimentation and disinfection by the oxidation ponds.

A second level of treatment was added later in the form of an early biological breakdown process.

Now improved sedimentation remains as the primary level of treatment, followed by a state-of-the-art biological-nutrient removal process, filtration and ultra-violet treatment of the effluent to carry out the job of the oxidation ponds.

The old plant made about 100 tonnes of sludge a day. The upgraded plant produces 300 tonnes, destined for landfill.

The new outfall discharges the treated effluent twice a day at high tide.

Mr Adams says levels of viruses, faecal coliforms and nutrients have been reduced dramatically - in some cases by up to almost half those of the old treatment process.

Watercare Services is required to meet new effluent standards by October 1. Commissioning of the plant is continuing, but Mr Adams is confident the new standards will be met by the target date.

Mr Wilson says the foreshore is still not as clean as it was before the plant was opened, but the water quality of the area is improving to the point that it is starting to resemble what it was like 40 years ago.

"Our parents were humble people. In the days when the treatment plant was built there was little consultation from the authorities," he said.

"But the old people agreed to the building of the plant and its ponds because they believed it would improve the lives of fellow Aucklanders.

"Our old people gave up their traditional fishing and shellfish gathering grounds, their local beach and the Oruarangi Creek estuary where they launched their fishing boats. "In many ways they made the

biggest sacrifice of all. Now our places are coming back to us ...

"When I heard the sound of the sea rolling back in after all those years it was truly a great day."

By October 1, Watercare Services will also have to ensure that there will be no more objectionable odours from the plant at its boundary. A nearby resident of 42 years, Jan Brinkman, says locals have put up with smells, noise and midges.

He is impressed by the removal of the plant's smelly sludge lagoons and oxidation ponds.

"That is a vast improvement."

Mr Brinkman believes, though, that the plant will always smell, just as it has done at times over the past week.

Document nzhlid00020030406dz470006x

Hook, line & sinker.

1,982 words
11 January 2003
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 2003 The New Zealand Herald

MILO cheerfully opens the boot of his battered blue Toyota when invited by Jack Amoroa, whose laid-back approach is at odds with the official badges on his blue uniform and wide-brimmed hat.

"I only caught one fish," says the Samoan, his long black hair dripping wet. He pulls a modest **mullet** from a sack and holds it up, still smiling broadly.

But Amoroa, an honorary fisheries officer for the Ministry of Fisheries, frowns when he sees the net Milo's been dragging along the Mangere foreshore. He draws a ruler from his pocket and measures the mesh size.

"It's too small," he says. "The mesh size for mullet is 90mm. You're using a 50mm bait net. You can't take your mullet home with you. And I'm taking your net back to the office."

On this damp midweek day, there are a handful of cars at the end of the potholed dirt road which leads to Ihumatao Beach, near Auckland Airport. It's high tide on the Manukau and a couple of set nets are marked by buoys about 150m offshore.

A couple carrying bagged nets are walking around the point, apparently on their way home. On the grassy slopes above the beach, two Asian men huddle under a bivouac, no more than a plastic sheet over a stick frame, beside a smoky fire. In the embers lies the skeleton of a small fish.

They keep a wary eye on the two honorary fisheries officers who have pulled up in their blue four-wheel-drive with its Ministry of Fisheries logo.

Farther along, another fire sends up a small plume of smoke.

Milo is explaining to Amoroa that he borrowed the net from a mate, who assured him it was legal. It's only his second time here, he says.

Amoroa says his mate can retrieve the net by turning up at the office and explaining why it was used for mullet.

The obliging Milo suggests he look in the boot of a black Honda parked opposite, which one of the Asians is hovering near. "I saw a lot of fish in there."

Amoroa is doing the rounds with Trevor Collings, doyen of South Auckland's honorary fishery officers, HFOs as they are known.

After 32 years, Collings knows all the illegal fishing and shellfish-gathering hot-spots, and Ihumatao can be a problem. It is out of the way, skirted by farmland and with no houses whose residents might do in illegal netters.

It's a picturesque place even in the rain, with views across the harbour to Cornwallis and the Manukau Heads. At low tide, fishermen can walk out up to 4km to set their nets.

"This place is like Queen St when the mullet are running," says Collings.

He asks the Asian man to open the boot of the Honda. The man says the keys are with his friend, who's wandered off around the point.

Collings sends Amoroa off to find the "friend".

HFOs now work in pairs for their own protection, on the ministry's orders. They are equipped with walkie-talkies and cellphones, and the recently issued uniforms have added an air of authority.

There's no hint of danger today, but a few months ago Collings, a craggy-faced, amiable 56-year-old, was savagely beaten at Kawakawa Bay.

He'd found too many snapper on a launch at the boat ramp. Getting out of the boat, he was put in a headlock and thrown to the ground.

"Then they started kicking.

"It was bruises and scratches - a chipsealed roadway is not the best place to get kicked around on."

HFOs are trained to deal tactfully with people and back off from confrontation. Their job is to record any illegal activity and leave follow-up to the ministry.

What fooled Collings this time was the lack of warning. "We'd just been speaking in a very friendly manner. There was never any indication that anything was likely to happen."

Threats to HFOs are becoming commonplace. With tighter rules and the prospect of hefty fines, there's more at stake for those caught with excess takes, undersized species or using illegal equipment.

A growing number of poachers are professional, feeding black market networks for snapper, paua, crayfish and scallops.

But Collings says aggression is just as likely to come from recreational fishermen. "They don't realise that the purpose is conservation."

The directive to double up is the latest of several moves to protect the HFOs, some forced by health and safety legislation. But it also follows a "rationalisation" which has reduced the number of HFOs covering greater Auckland from 130 to 48.

Many HFOs worry that they will cover less territory by buddying up, allowing more of the poaching that is raising fears for the future of popular fish and shellfish stocks in the region.

Shellfish beds have already declined to the point of closure at four Auckland beaches - Cheltenham, Eastern Beach, Karekare and Long Bay - and on the Coromandel Peninsula from just north of Thames to near Coromandel.

Senior fishery adviser Dave Allen says the closures are not necessarily due to over-fishing. Sediment from stormwater runoff and pollution also causes depletion, particularly in the Waitemata Harbour.

Allen says it takes a lot to knock populations of cockles, pipis and cat's eyes, but if too many people take too many for too long, populations will suffer. Catch limits are set to ensure long-term sustainability.

He recalls when people could gather toheroa at Muriwai, Dargaville and other west coast beaches - now a fading memory. "That's what people could be looking at if we don't look after our resources better."

But as the volunteer ranks of HFOs are thinned, it's clear that the fisheries are under unprecedented pressure, some of it organised. A joint operation last March involving defence personnel, fisheries and police officers led to the confiscation of one tonne of paua, 1500 crayfish, 13 fishing boats and more than a tonne of bait.

Fisheries officers believe the black market for paua and crayfish could be worth more than \$20 million a year and suspect it has links to organised crime. There are moves to equip ministry officials with pepper spray in case they come under attack when making arrests.

The ministry's Auckland compliance manager, Ian Bright, believes there's a thriving black market for snapper in South Auckland.

"When you get people with no nautical background investing \$20,000 in an upmarket boat and you find a couple of hundred fish iced up under the floorboards - you just can't eat four hundred fillets of fish.

"We've heard that they're getting \$5 a kilo for their fish, so 200 fish represents a lot of money."

He adds: "Most of the people we deal with have access to some sort of tool, whether it's a knife for filleting fish or a chisel for shellfish. It's a sign of the times that people stand and argue the toss more than they used to."

Are there enough HFOs?

"That's a dangerous question," says Bright. "There's probably not an enforcement agency in the country that wouldn't like more staff.

"Over the last 12 months we've had a good look at putting HFOs in the areas where they are required. There's no point in having HFOs where we aren't detecting any significant offending."

Collings says most of the offending he comes across is by individuals who are simply greedy.

Over the years, he has heard all the excuses and seen all the tricks: fish hidden in the bilges, in bait bags or in the anchor locker; net fishermen who bury sacks in the shallows and check if anyone's around before dragging them ashore; families who bring in a haul, change clothes and go out again.

"Most people say they didn't know, or it's their first time here. With the Asian community, they will tell you they can't speak English.

"But most of them know the rules. They may not know all the fine detail, but those that go fishing have a pretty fair idea of the rules and what the consequences are."

The audacity of determined poachers still surprises him. "Just when you think you know all the tricks, they invent new ones."

A love of fishing and shellfish-gathering led him to become an HFO. The telecommunications contractor has lived most of his life at Orere Pt on the Firth of Thames, where there was once a huge mussel bed.

"It got to the stage where people were taking them away by the truckload, and it became obvious the resource could not sustain that level of harvesting pressure.

"That bed has gone now - there's nothing there, and that's happening at many other places around Auckland."

He helps to co-ordinate, and mentors, the HFOs who police the vast South Auckland coastline. The ministry's cutbacks mean they can't be everywhere at once, so they concentrate on known troublespots.

The HFOs come from all walks of life - office workers, builders, salespeople, drivers who might see things while out on the road.

He says they share a concern for the longevity of the resource. "They want their children and grandchildren to be able to fish and gather shellfish in the future." They see their jobs as educating the public.

"If we see people at boat ramps with illegal fish, we give them some pamphlets so they've got the information. A large percentage of the population is fine. It's only 5 per cent who are the real greedy ones."

But the sheer weight of numbers in Auckland is taking a toll. Asian immigration has added to the pressure, but Collings says not all Asian ethnic groups flout the rules.

"Some recent arrivals don't know any better. Once you explain the rules, they are okay. But others don't take any notice. They come from countries where, if you drop a piece of paper behind you, someone will pick it up because it might be useful to them.

"They come here and see all this and they just take anything they can get."

Just as bad are staff at big workplaces who take the day off to go fishing, then sell to their mates, or churches which pay for fishing equipment to help to feed the congregation.

Catch limits are openly flouted and recreational fishers are finding it harder to get what they want.

"Twenty years ago at Duder's Beach you could get cockles the size of a 50c piece," says Collings. "Now you're lucky to find any bigger than a 10c piece. But people are still taking them away by the thousands."

The minimum-size regulations for finfish are intended to allow at least one breeding cycle. "If people keep taking the young ones, there's nothing left to breed."

At best, people are ignorant of the long-term damage they are doing.

Collings recalls watching two Pacific Island women carrying sacks so full they had to stop every 10m or so on the 500m journey from the cockle bed to their car.

"To carry those sort of quantities, you have to have a pretty big family. Unfortunately the public hasn't accepted enough onus of responsibility for the resource. They expect someone else to do it."

There's a crackle over the walkie-talkie and Amoroa makes contact.

The Asian with the keys has doubled back and the Honda has taken off. But Amoroa has seized their net, which he found hidden under long grass behind a rock wall.

He also has their number plate and he'll know them when he sees them again. "It's like a sixth sense. You just remember."

Document nzhld00020030110dz1b0001e

FISHERY OFFICERS ON TRAIL OF MULLET POACHERS.

419 words
14 November 2000
New Zealand Press Association
English
(c) 2000 New Zealand Press Association

Auckland, Nov 14 - Poachers are snatching hundreds of **mullet** illegally from the Manukau Harbour.

Ministry of Fisheries staff and honorary officers are waging war on the poachers, swooping on well-organised groups suspected of supplying the black market.

Ministry fisheries officer Keith Beale says at least two large groups are fishing regularly at Ihumatao, near Auckland Airport, in Mangere, taking fish well over the legal mullet limit of 30 and using illegal nets.

Two recent operations uncovered serious breaches of quota limits, he says. "This is big-time stuff we are talking about."

Honorary officers found one group of 10 people with 245kg of mullet. Clive Dadson, one of the officers, says that equates to about 600 fish - twice the limit for a group of 10.

The officers had to call for police back-up to help to identify and charge some of the group. Five police cars attended the incident.

Mr Dadson says the poachers are devious, but not clever.

"Their signals, if they see us coming, are quick. They dump bags of fish down banks and hold up their hands, trying to look innocent.

"Unfortunately for them I am like a beagle at the airport. I'm on to them, I know all the tricks."

During the most recent sweep one suspect denied a bag of fish was his - but the sack was tied with a piece of cloth torn from his lavalava.

But the sheer volume of mullet involved means the poachers are being taken seriously.

"Those numbers put them in the commercial bracket," says Mr Dadson. "If they are prepared to dump their nets, which are worth a couple of hundred dollars, they must be making some good dollars."

Mr Beale says ministry officials have identified buyers and sellers frequenting the Ihumatao area.

"Really the only thing they didn't have was the 'fish for sale' sign."

Penalties had increased in recent years to an average fine of \$750 to \$950.

Mr Beale says the dedication and passion of honorary fisheries officers is a great help in stopping poachers. "They are out there every weekend."

Although officers approach many situations with an educational focus, "there's no point trying to educate some people," says Mr Beale. "People fishing like this are taking big chunks out of our sustainability."

The job has its dangers, too.

"A lot of these people carry machetes.

"While I've never known one to have raised [a machete] in anger, it's...pretty intimidating."

Document nzpa000020010816dwbe00b9c

FISH QUOTA CHANGES.

78 words

15 September 1998

The Christchurch Press

3

English

(c) 1998 Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News

Nine new fish species will be added to the quota-management system, but total allowable catches for others, including orange roughy, will be reduced. Minister of Food, Fibre, Biosecurity and Border Control John Luxton said that it was vital that New Zealand fish stocks continued to be sustainably managed. The new species are black cardinalfish, frostfish, ghost shark, ribaldo, rubyfish, sea perch, trumpeter, white warehou, and yellow-eyed **mullet**.

(c) The Christchurch Press, INL 1998.

Document thepre0020010927du9f00fto

NINE FISH SPECIES ADDED TO QUOTA SYSTEM.

119 words
12 September 1998
The Dominion

2

English

(c) 1998 The Dominion, INL .

NINE more fish species will come under the control of New Zealand's fishery Quota Management System next month in time for the new commercial fishing year.

Black cardinalfish, frostfish, ghost shark, ribaldo, rubyfish, sea perch, trumpeter, white warehou and yellow-eyed **mullet** have now been included.

The Total Allowable Commercial Catch for some fisheries has been reduced. Two stocks of orange roughy will each have catch reductions of about 500 tonnes imposed as precautionary measures and catch limits on two gemfish stocks will each be reduced by about 300 tonnes. Other reductions to catch limits are to specific stocks of grey mullet, barracouta and oreo dory.

(c) The Dominion, INL 1998.

Document domn000020010923du9c009b9

ELEVEN NEW SPECIES FOR FISHERMEN.

176 words
28 October 1997
The Dominion
14

English
(c) 1997 The Dominion, INL .

ELEVEN new species will be available to commercial fishermen under the Fisheries Ministry quota management system, Fisheries Minister John Luxton has announced.

Scampi, white warehou, ruby fish, cardinal fish, ghost shark, yellow eye **mullet**, sea perch, ribaldo, trumpeter, frostfish and southern blue whiting would join the other 46 species allowed to be caught.

Apart from southern blue whiting - to be added on April 1, 1999 - these species could be caught from October 1, 1998.

Mr Luxton said that the inclusion of the new species was part of meeting the Crown's obligations to Maoris and to the industry.

It followed extensive consultation with industry stakeholders, he said.

Under a 1992 deed of settlement, Maoris receive 20 per cent of the total allowable catch for species introduced to the quota system. Mr Luxton said it was difficult to put a monetary value on adding new species to the quota system, but it would significantly increase the value of catch rights. - NZPA

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NEW FISH SPECIES IN QUOTA.

96 words

27 October 1997

The Christchurch Press

3

English

(c) 1997 Knight-Ridder/Tribune Business News

Eleven new fish species will be available to commercial fishers under the Ministry of Fisheries' quota management system, Fisheries Minister John Luxton says. Scampi, white warehou, ruby fish, cardinal fish, ghost shark, yellow eye **mullet**, sea perch, ribaldo, trumpeter, frostfish, and southern blue whiting would join the other 46 species able to be caught. Apart from southern blue whiting - to be added on April 1, 1999 - these species would be able to be caught from October 1, 1998.-NZPA

Supplied by New Zealand Press Association.

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FISHER HITS BACK OVER DYING SEAS.

By DARREL MAGER.

316 words

26 July 1997

New Zealand Herald

English

(c) 1997 The New Zealand Herald

DARGAVILLE - A man who used to make his living from the sea says chemical run-off from farms is more responsible for the Kaipara Harbour's sinking fish population than commercial fishing vessels.

Barry Searle of Glinks Gully, on the Pouto Peninsula, believed the increased use of pesticides on farms and waterways in the area has had a huge impact on marine life, notably shellfish and **mullet**.

Commercial fishers are being blamed for dwindling Kaipara fish stocks and one coastal community wants to ban them from part of the harbour.

Mr Searle's 30-year career as a commercial tuatua picker ended two years ago when normally massive beds of shellfish seemed to "vanish almost overnight."

He is also a former commercial mullet fisherman.

"Agrichemicals are ending up in the sea, either through flooded farmlands or people trying to kill weeds by spraying directly into drains," he said. "As a result, it's killing the algae and plankton which play an essential role in the food chain for fish and shellfish.

"If one starts disappearing then they all

He said he had forensic tests conducted on shellfish in the area, which revealed high traces of chemicals.

He has lodged a submission on the Northland Regional Council's proposed air-quality plan, and intends to push for more stringent controls on aerial spraying.

A Ministry of Fisheries policy analyst Richard Fanselow, said the chemical issue would be looked into, after it was raised at a meeting with commercial fishermen this week. But it could be a year before any conclusive results were known.

Dr Kendall Clements, a lecturer in marine biology at the University of Auckland said: "The impact on marine life would depend on what type of chemical it is how it is applied, and how much run-off there was."

(c) The New Zealand Herald, 1997.

Document nzhd00020011002dt7q000ta

MULLET FISHING TRIAL DELAYED BY OUTCRY.

By ADELIA FERGUSON.
236 words
9 December 1996
New Zealand Herald
English
(c) 1996 The New Zealand Herald

Public protests have prompted the Ministry of Fisheries to postpone a trial on the west coast of powerhauling for **mullet** but officials still believe that the idea is worth investigating.

A ministry spokesman, Mr Richard Fanselow, said it was possible that powerhauling would allow fishers to make more money from fewer fish, which meant the total commercial catch could be reduced without hurting incomes.

Powerhauling, a common method in Australia, involves taking nets out to sea in boats and hauling them back to land by four-wheel-drive vehicles.

The ministry had granted a 12 month licence for the scheme to be tested on west coast beaches in Auckland and Northland but has delayed the permit until February.

Mr Fanselow said powerhauling would allow fishers to operate in the surf, where they could catch mullet full of valuable roe. Most of the present mullet catch was taken from estuaries and the fish were not carrying roe.

Critics of the proposal have said that not only mullet but kahawai and snapper would be caught in the nets. They also cite possible environmental damage from vehicles as a reason for not allowing powerhauling.

Mr Fanselow said powerhauling had never been done in New Zealand and ministry officials did not know what effects it would have.

He said the trials would be closely monitored.

(c) The New Zealand Herald, 1996.

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Commercial net ban in Bay harbours.

126 words
17 March 1990
New Zealand Herald
2
English
(c) 1990 The New Zealand Herald

Set-netting, long-lining and commercial drag-netting may be banned in Bay of Plenty harbours.

Only amateur flounder and **mullet** fishing will be allowed with nets in Tauranga, Maketu, Little Waihi, Whakatane, Opotiki and Ohiwa harbours if the Bay of Plenty Regional Council's recommendations are passed.

All set-netting and trawling within 8km of Bay islands and reefs should also be forbidden, says the council in its recommendation to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Auckland fisheries management plans.

The council's submission said recreational fishing should be restricted to a daily individual catch of 20.

The popularity of the area was putting pressure on fish resources, and local feedback suggested catches were small compared with earlier times.

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