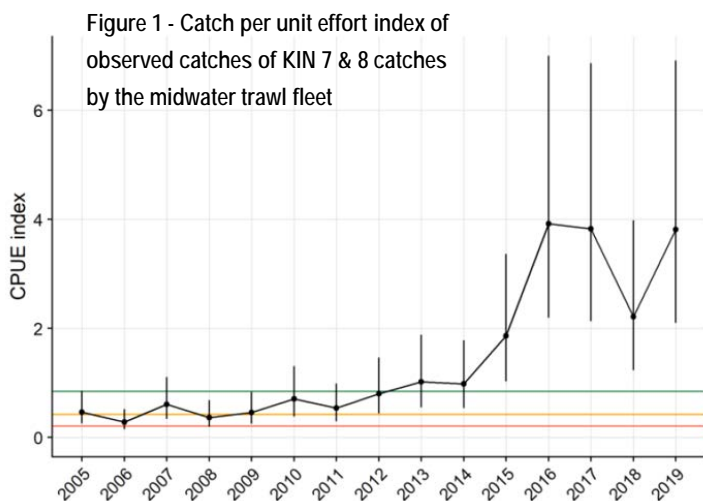




Review of Sustainability Measures for Kingfish for 2020/21 (KIN 2, 3, 7 & 8)

Prized for their large size and sporting attributes, kingfish are a very important species to recreational fishers.

Due to the value of kingfish to non-commercial fishers, the goal of the overall management framework is to manage commercial catches to unavoidable bycatch levels only.



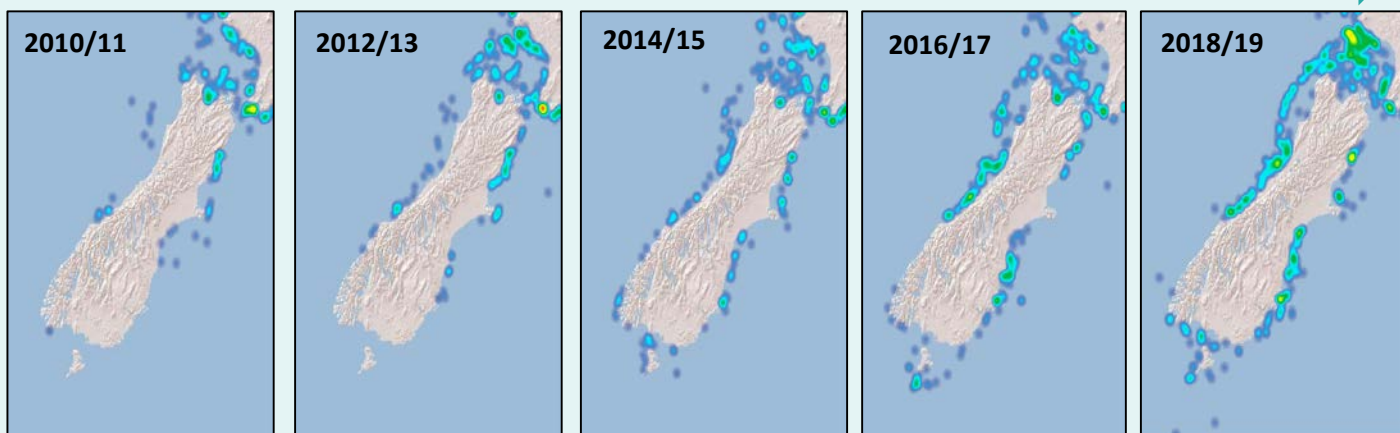
The total allowable catch (TAC) of kingfish stocks were initially set at low levels due to sustainability concerns.

Recent analysis of catch per unit effort data suggests that this approach has been successful, as the abundance of kingfish has increased considerably (Figure 1).

The increased abundance has resulted in increased catches for all sectors.

In addition, increases in average sea surface temperature around New Zealand have likely made southern regions more habitable for kingfish, with both commercial and recreational fishers reporting increasing kingfish catches from as far south as Stewart Island.

Location of commercial catches of kingfish around the South Island over the last decade



Fisheries New Zealand proposes to increase the TAC, total allowable commercial catch (TACC) and allowances of KIN 2, 3, 7 & 8.

The proposed options are provided on the next page and would broadly retain the current proportional allocation of the TAC between sectors.

Fisheries New Zealand considers that all options are unlikely to impact upon the sustainability of the stock, or the wider marine environment.

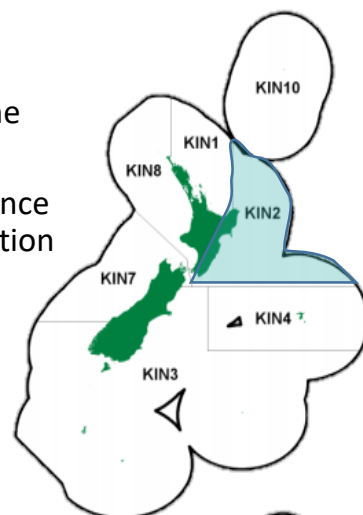


East Coast of the North Island (KIN 2)

The best available information indicates that total mortality is low, and the stock is expected to increase in the short term.

A single option is proposed which would increase the recreational allowance and TACC to reflect current catch levels, with the Customary Māori allocation increased to provide for increased take.

Stock	Option	Total Allowable Catch	Total Allowable Commercial Catch	Allowances		
				Customary Māori	Recreational	All other mortality to the stock caused by fishing
KIN 2	Option 1	189 ↑ (11%)	70 ↑ (11%)	21 ↑ (17%)	79 ↑ (22%)	19 ↓ (21%)

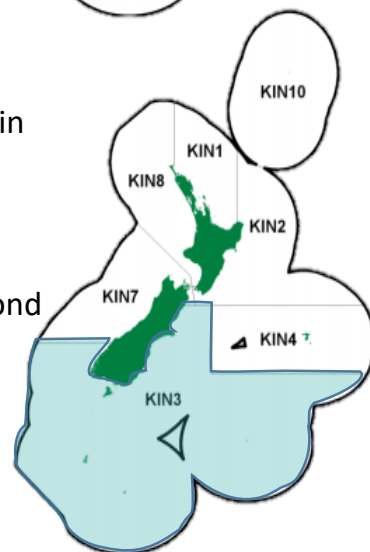


South and East Coast of the South Island (KIN 3)

The best available information suggests that there has been an increase in the abundance of kingfish in KIN 3, which appears to be the result of increased population size in northern regions, and increasing water temperature encouraging range expansion.

Two options are proposed; one which reflects current catches and a second option which would provide for increased utilisation in future years.

Stock	Option	Total Allowable Catch	Total Allowable Commercial Catch	Allowances		
				Customary Māori	Recreational	All other mortality to the stock caused by fishing
KIN 3	Option 1	21 ↑ (24%)	9 ↑ (50%)	4	6	2 ↑ (100%)
	Option 2	23 ↑ (35%)	11 ↑ (83%)	4	6	2 ↑ (100%)

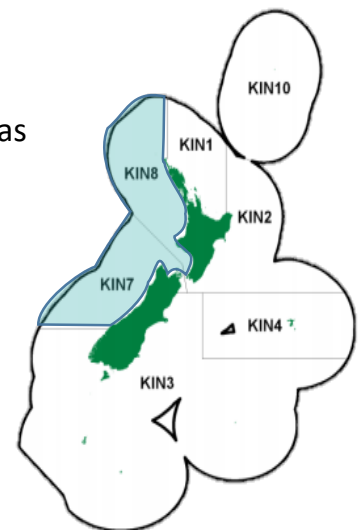


West Coast (KIN 7 & 8)

The best available information estimates that the biomass of KIN 7 & 8 has increased considerably since the TAC was last reviewed, with biomass anticipated to increase at current catch levels (see Figure 1).

Two options are proposed for KIN 7, and one for KIN 8.

Stock	Option	Total Allowable Catch	Total Allowable Commercial Catch	Allowances		
				Customary Māori	Recreational	All other mortality to the stock caused by fishing
KIN 7	Option 1	82 ↑ (100%)	30 ↑ (100%)	4 ↑ (100%)	40 ↑ (100%)	8 ↑ (100%)
	Option 2	122 ↑ (198%)	44 ↑ (193%)	6 ↑ (200%)	60 ↑ (200%)	12 ↑ (200%)
KIN 8	Option 1	167 ↑ (77%)	80 ↑ (77%)	17 ↑ (89%)	55 ↑ (77%)	16 ↑ (129%)



Your views

Fisheries New Zealand seeks the views of tangata whenua and stakeholders regarding the options proposed in this paper, and the wider management of kingfish stocks.

More information can be found in the consultation paper, available on the Fisheries New Zealand [webpage](#).