



Megabites Fishing Charter Ltd

October 2013, Newsletter

Welcome to our October 2013 Newsletter.

We have seen some exciting things happen in the last month. We would have loved to bring home the America's Cup but it was not destined to be. Dean Barker and his team fought till the end and we applaud them for their efforts. The races did keep everyone on edge. We had great moments when we were 8-2 up and thought that the cup is definitely coming home. Things changed dramatically as Oracle worked on getting a faster boat and even though team New Zealand won many starts we were not able to hold on to the lead till the finish. Some of us would say Team



New Zealand were unlucky in some aspects, especially on races where the clock played against them and the race that was abandoned due to the winds when team New Zealand had a certain victory. Great work team New Zealand and hats off to Dean Barker, to me he is still the best sailor in the world.

Then came the announcement of the recreational snapper quotas. It was announced by the Ministry of Primary Industries of our snapper cuts. From 1st April 2014 the legal size of snapper will be 30 cms instead of the 27 cms and will be allowed 7 snapper per person per day instead of the 9.

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What's happening with the fishing?

With the water temperature slowly rising the bait fish are starting to move in closer. Schools of Dolphins and our aerial friends can be seen working really hard. Huge workups are often seen and the Hauraki Gulf

is in carnage as the bait fish get chased around and devoured.

Large male snapper are starting to move in close and they will be in a frenzy to eat and fatten up for the yearly spawning ritual that is not too far away. Mind you it is still “Hit and Go” with the fishing on some days at the moment.

Huge schools of fish are seen in the 40 meter mark behind the Noises and the Eastern side of Kawau Island and Tiri.

Gannet rock and the surrounds have slowed down at the moment but the line between Gannet Rock and Happy Jacks in around 45 mts are still producing some good fish with some good work ups as well.

No luck in the inner harbours as of now and it is a bit early for the schools to enter this area. However if you sit on the edges of the reef at Narrow neck or flax point at the change of light and stray line using a very light sinker you can still draw out the kelpies that stay put in the winter. Burley is a must here and a SW wind with an outgoing tide will produce some good results.

Save Our Snapper

It's hardly surprising why so many voices were raised when this issue of reduction in recreational quotas was raised. Have you seen the interview telecast on Campbell live on 10th September 13 Where commercial fishermen have anonymously been interviewed and confirmed the practice of the commercial dumping of snapper almost on every trip. It's shocking to know that over 100 tonnes of fish (equates to about 35 million dead fish) get dumped by commercial fishermen each year. What a shame!! It's also shocking to know there's

corruption, violence and intimidation in the fisheries industry.

All was not lost in the protest and retaliation and we have certainly showed the MPI that we care about our fishing.

The MPI has promised to take steps with the commercial fisheries as well and I guess that is a relief. There will be net sizes imposed and cameras on board to monitor actions.

Let us all work together to see that we sustain the fish population, so that our grandchildren can go out and enjoy what we did.

This starts with us as too: Remember the big snapper will be coming in very soon to spawn and some big fish will be landed on your fishing trips. Please limit the number of breeders that you take and release the others carefully to go and reproduce. The phrase “Limit your catch and Not catch your limit” should be implemented. Let us do our bit as well and show that we care.

Here are some tips that you may want to use



to help sustain the fish population:

- If you are in an area catching only juvenile fish, then move to another spot.
- Use at least 5/0 hooks to avoid catching smaller fish.
- Release fish quickly if undersized.
- Use a wet towel or net when handling fish. un- barbed hooks if p
- Use un-barbed hooks if possible for easy release and also to cause the least damage.
- If the fish swallow the hook and they are under sized then please cut the line as close as possible to the hook and release it. It has a better chance of living with the hook rusting and falling off, rather than ripping its guts out and then releasing it.
- If the fish are badly damaged and they are of legal size, just keep it towards your quota. Why waste a fish that won't live.
- Keep only what you can eat! No use of taking too many fish and putting it in the freezer only to find out 6 months later that it is inedible and has to be thrown out.
- Remember every small contribution will help in taking care of fish sustainability.

Great Fishing Deals:

The \$69 winter specials for an 8 hour fishing trip had been a huge success. Many of you

made use of the opportunity to grab yourselves a deal and come aboard. As you would agree it was well worth its value and even though it is cutting even for us, it is our way of saying thank you for your support in keeping us operating during the winter months. Please keep an eye out and check our website regularly we will be coming up with a few more deals to mark special occasions.

Photo Competition:

From now to well over summer we will be running a photo competition on our website. All you have to do is post your best fishing photo on our photo competition page and get in a draw to "Win a Free Fishing Trip" One entry will be picked each month and the winner will be notified by email. It's as easy as that. So get in there and get clicking and post your best photo. You have to be in to win. So look up our "Photo Competition" page on our Website and get posting.

I will no doubt be seeing most of you over the Summer , so In the mean time "Taker Care " and Keep Safe !
"Tight Lines"!!



