

2 September 2003

Minister of Fisheries

COROMANDEL SCALLOP FISHERY TAC REVIEW FOR THE 2003 SEASON

Executive Summary

1 Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you agree to provide an in-season TAC increase for the Coromandel scallop fishery (SCA CS) from 48 tonnes meatweight to 93 tonnes meatweight for the remainder of the current fishing year. The TAC would revert to 48 tonnes meatweight at the beginning of the 2004-05 fishing year.

2 The SCA CS occupies the area from Cape Rodney in the Hauraki Gulf to Town Point in the Bay of Plenty. SCA CS is included on the Second Schedule of the Fisheries Act 1996 (the Act), which allows for a strategy of an in-season increase in the TAC if supported by information about the abundance of scallops during the fishing year.

3 Since 1978, research surveys have been used to estimate the abundance of scallops in the Coromandel scallop fishery. Yield estimates based on surveys have been used to set limits on catch for the fishery. The yield estimates provide the key information for decisions concerning the utilisation of the resource while ensuring sustainability.

4 In making your decision on required services for 2002-03, you agreed to an optional survey for SCA CS during 2003. Quota holders decided that scallop abundance should be assessed during 2003. A survey was undertaken in May 2003. The survey indicates that increased sustainable yield can be taken during the course of the current fishing year. Details and results from the survey are discussed in the attached Initial Position Paper (IPP).

Initial Proposal and Consultation

5 Ministry of Fisheries proposed that the TAC be increased from 48 to 93 tonnes meatweight based on the research survey. The full proposal was to:

- a) retain the existing allowance for Maori customary fishing at 7.5 tonnes meatweight;
- b) retain the existing allowance for recreational fishing at 7.5 tonnes meatweight;
- c) increase the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality from 11 to 20 tonnes meatweight;
- d) create an additional 36 tonnes meatweight of annual catch entitlement (ACE) for SCA CS by increasing the available ACE for quota owners from 22 to 58 tonnes meatweight; and
- e) require that, at the end of the current fishing year for SCA CS, the TAC will revert to 48 tonnes meatweight, the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality will revert to 11 tonnes meatweight, and the ACE will revert to 22 tonnes meatweight.

6 The Act requires that you consult with parties you consider representative of those with an interest in the species or stocks prior to making a decision on a sustainability measure. Accordingly, MFish has consulted on your behalf with representative stakeholders, including commercial, recreational, environmental groups and iwi, on the proposal to review the TAC and allowances for the SCA CS fishery.

7 This paper has been structured so that summaries of stakeholders' submissions, MFish's discussion on the issues raised in submissions, and MFish's final recommendations are printed on **white** paper. The IPP for this proposal (released to stakeholders on 25 July 2003) is printed on **blue** paper and is appended to the back of the white section for your reference. The two documents together form the full advice on the decisions sought.

Key Issues

8 The key issues to be considered for the SCA CS fishery are:

- a) whether or not the survey information supports the proposed increase in the TAC (and ACE);
- b) whether or not most of the TAC increase should be allocated to the commercial sector as ACE because the commercial and non-commercial fisheries are now mostly spatially separated.

Issues raised in submissions

Proposed TAC, ACE, and allowances

Submissions

9 **Ngaiterangi Iwi (Ngaiterangi)** supports the TAC increase to 93 tonnes meatweight, but considers that the breakdown should be: Maori customary – 10 tonnes, recreational – 10 tonnes, ACE – 53 tonnes, and other sources of fishing-related mortality – 20 tonnes. The Iwi

states there is increasing harvesting by recreational and customary harvesters from the Papamoa – Motiti scallop beds. This is due mainly to increased population growth in the Tauranga area, and also the greater number of dive schools and higher boat ownership. Customary harvesting is also on the rise due to the higher number of hui and tangi in Tauranga rohe. The Iwi notes that divers report that scallop numbers have increased in the Papamoa – Motiti areas.

10 **Te Ohu Kai Moana (TOKM)** supports the TAC increase from 48 to 93 tonnes meatweight. TOKM notes that the average scallop density during the 2003 survey was more than 0.1m² in all areas, which is greater than the traditionally accepted threshold for reasonable commercial fishing of about 0.04m². TOKM also notes the increase in recruited biomass since 2001, although it remains below the average for the 1990s. TOKM is satisfied there are no sustainability issues in the commercial beds and that current biomass trends are consistent with a recovery in the fishery from the events of 1997/98.

11 TOKM is concerned that the Minister uses “commercial data” to determine catch levels for non-commercial fishers in non-commercial fishing areas. TOKM notes that commercial and non-commercial fishing is spatially separated. TOKM notes that the commercial areas are unlikely to be representative of non-commercial fishing areas as the shallower non-commercial beds produce better quality scallops with respect to size, taste, texture and abundance.

12 TOKM notes that there has been an observed increase in non-commercial take resulting from a rise in population and marae activities (hui and tangi). These increases in catch are unlikely to affect the commercial fishery because of the spatial separation. Therefore any adjustments in TAC to accommodate the increased non-commercial harvest should only apply to the non-commercial beds. TOKM considers it makes more sense for non-commercial fishing areas to be surveyed separately and the information used to set a TAC for those areas, as there would be no need to make an allocation to commercial within non-commercial areas – the same principle should be applied to commercial beds.

13 **Hauraki Marine Development Trust (Hauraki)** supports the TAC increase from 48 to 93 tonnes meatweight. Hauraki considers that there are no sustainability issues in the commercial beds and that current biomass trends are consistent with a recovery in the fishery from the events of 1997/98.

14 Hauraki is concerned that only “commercial data” is used by the Minister to determine catch levels for non-commercial fishers in non-commercial fishing areas. Hauraki believes this method is certain to be unrepresentative of non-commercial fishing areas, especially as the commercial and non-commercial fishing areas are spatially separated. The Trust considers that setting non-commercial levels based on the survey results of commercial areas has no regard to an increase in non-commercial take resulting from an increase in population and Marae activities. The Trust suggests that an approach needs to be explored prior to next season that better enables the non-commercial take to be set.

15 **Ron Smerdon, Mark Aislabie, Peter Sopp, and Neville Seward** (four quota owners) support the proposed TAC increase, and the increase in ACE. These submitters consider that the fishery has recovered strongly, that the proposed increases may be conservative, and that possibly the fishery may be capable of sustaining higher catches.

16 **Environment and Conservation Organisations of NZ Inc (ECO)** supports the full proposal for the TAC increase, but ECO retains major concerns over the state of this fishery. ECO does not share the optimism of fishers that the events of the last few years were anomalous and the fishery is returning to some level of normality. ECO considers that despite the innate variability of scallop fisheries the overall downward trend is alarming.

17 ECO notes that the proposed harvest level is about 1/10th that of the mid-eighties. ECO considers that the possible effects of the Southern Oscillation Index, poor food availability, and temperature have always undoubtedly influenced productivity. But, ECO considers that these factors alone do not explain the large-scale loss of productivity or the downward trend the fishery has experienced over less than three decades.

18 ECO believes that consideration should be given to whether the fishery has declined to the point where the management and environmental costs of maintaining the fishery outweigh the economic benefits.

19 **Keith Ingram (Vice President of the NZ Recreational Fishing Council)** considers that a survey should be undertaken to assess the scallop abundance in the areas of the fishery that are accessible only to non-commercial fishers. Ingram states that it should be noted that all other areas of the fishery are open to access by all sectors (Maori customary non-commercial fishers, recreational fishers, and commercial fishers). Keith Ingram considers that the recreational sector should be assured of a minimum of 20 scallops, but that if the season is good (and commercial get an increase above their baseline) then the recreational bag limit share should be increased to 30 or up to 50.

MFish Discussion

Level of the TAC

20 The basis for the proposed TAC increase was fully outlined in the IPP. No submissions were received from stakeholders that explicitly opposed the proposed increase (the submissions from Ngaiterangi and Keith Ingram dispute the division of the TAC). The rationale for the TAC increase is that the research survey in May 2003 has indicated that scallop abundance has increased compared to 2002 and that a greater sustainable yield is available for the current fishing year. Based on the results of the survey, MFish recommends that you set the TAC for SCA CS at 93 tonnes, as described in the final recommendations.

21 Nonetheless, MFish shares the general concerns expressed by ECO and Keith Ingram about the state of SCA CS as the catch from the fishery is now considerably less than the catch from the 1980s. For this reason, MFish considers it appropriate that the stock assessment resulting in the CAY estimate for SCA CS should generally allow for precautionary assumptions. For example, a lower CAY estimate is calculated by assuming the efficiency of the dredge used during the recent research survey was equivalent to the highest historical dredge efficiency rates (this issue was discussed in paragraph 36 of the IPP).

TAC allocation

22 Much of the focus of submitters, especially Ngaiterangi and Keith Ingram, was on the allocation of the TAC. In particular, the issue is whether the non-commercial allowances should be increased in line with the proposed ACE increase. The non-commercial submissions generally argue for an increase in the non-commercial allowance, whereas most of the quotaholders argue against any change.

23 As mentioned in the IPP, when allowing for interests in the fishery and apportioning any in-season increase in the TAC between stakeholders, MFish notes that the Act does not expressly state the factors to be taken into account. The allocation of the TAC is a matter for you to determine, taking into account relevant considerations.

24 In terms of providing for an in-season TAC increase for SCA CS, MFish believes that the most relevant consideration is that the fishing sectors are now essentially spatially separate in this fishery. Moreover, the estimate of CAY relates to the scallop beds that are primarily fished by commercial fishers. These beds are open to non-commercial fishers, but MFish considers that very little of the non-commercial scallop catch is likely to be taken from these areas that are generally in deeper water. Scallop beds closed to commercial dredging were not included in the survey.

25 Changes in scallop abundance in the “non-commercial” beds are likely to be similar to abundance trends for the surveyed beds. Accordingly, MFish considers it likely that there could be a concomitant increase in the catch for the Maori customary and recreational sectors during 2003. It is also possible that the non-commercial increase might be proportionately larger than the increased commercial catch because MFish agrees with TOKM’s comments that the shallow beds closed to commercial dredging are likely to be more productive. However, MFish noted in the IPP (paragraph 49) that the current allowances for non-commercial catch exceed the estimates from the 1996 survey of recreational catch. Those estimates were derived when the biomass of SCA CS was closer to the long-term average, and substantially larger than it is currently. MFish considers, therefore, that the current allowances represent a reasonable basis for allocation while the stock is below long-term average biomass.

26 MFish considers that an increase in the non-commercial yield and catch need not necessarily be reflected in increased bag limits. Any additional yield could be distributed to a greater number of fishers and by a greater number of fishers attaining their full legal entitlement of scallops ie. the daily bag limit of 20 scallops per fisher per day. There is no statutory obligation to make any adjustment to Maori customary or recreational interests when the TAC is varied pursuant to section 13 (7) of the Act.

27 MFish notes that any effect of commercial scallop fishing on recreational interests was largely resolved by the provision of areas closed by regulation to commercial scallop fishing. Most recreational scallop fishing occurs in areas closed to commercial scallop fishing. The areas closed to commercial dredging include popular recreational and customary fishing areas such as Great Barrier Island, Kawau Island, Omaha Beach, parts of Waiheke Island and the Firth of Thames, Great Mercury Island, Otama Beach, Opito Bay, Slipper Island, the Bowentown entrance to Tauranga Harbour, Papamoa Beach and Motiti Island. The rationale for these closed areas in this fishery is that the closures protect key non-commercial fishing areas from the effects of commercial scallop dredging as agreed to

initially under a three year plan by negotiation among the sectors. The closures are an allocation measure, rather than a measure intended to ensure sustainability.

Future management of SCA CS

28 Many of the submissions have requested that the research surveys should be extended in the future into areas that are closed to commercial scallop dredging. However, the costs of determining a yield estimate for the non-commercial only areas would be significant and would not necessarily provide the best information for management purposes. MFish considers that the merit of surveys of the beds closed to commercial scallop fishing needs to be considered by the appropriate Research planning groups. In this way, the relevant processes will be used to determine the research requirements needed to support the management of the fishery.

29 MFish also recognises that there would be problems in varying the recreational scallop daily bag limit per fisher on an annual basis eg. 50 scallops in “good” years and 10 scallops in “bad” years. Indeed, some recreational fishers may prefer the bag limit retained at the same level through “good” and “bad” years to avoid any confusion with compliance. This sort of intensive management would have significant extra costs in terms of publicity and enforcement.

Environmental Issues

Submissions

30 ECO considers that further consideration has to be given to the effects of the fishing method and possible impacts on the productivity of the stock. In particular these need revisiting with reference to the recent work of Thrush et al. 2001¹. ECO considers that MFish should investigate further the associated and dependent species and how biological diversity is being maintained in the benthic environment impacted by the scallop fishery. MFish should also research the habitats of particular significance to this fishery and whether the current unfished areas are sufficient to maintain biodiversity and habitats, in particular of benthic species.

31 Ron Smerdon considers that tubeworm is less abundant this year compared to previous years, possibly due to the colder waters this year. Mark Aislabie also notes that tubeworm was not so apparent on the mussel lines this year.

32 Keith Ingram considers the prevalence of tubeworm is still a problem, and that commercial dredging has been responsible for spreading tubeworm. Keith Ingram considers that commercial fishers should be helping to avoid spreading tubeworm further.

MFish Discussion

33 MFish acknowledges that dredging is having an effect on the benthic environment in the localised sub-areas within SCA CS. It is likely that benthic biodiversity in these areas has decreased compared to areas that are not dredged. However, MFish is not aware of any information for SCA CS suggesting that the biodiversity in the dredged areas is likely to have

¹ Thrush S F, J E Hewitt, G A Funnell, V J Cummings, J Ellis, D Schultz, D Talley, A Norkko (2001) Fishing disturbance and marine biodiversity: the role of habitat structure in simple soft-sediment systems. Marine Ecology Progress Series Vol. 223: 277–286, 2001.

been significantly different (prior to the start of the dredge fisheries 30 years ago) in species composition from surrounding areas that are not dredged. Therefore, it is likely that the overall level of biodiversity in the wider area surrounding the scallop beds (involving both dredged and non-dredged areas) is being maintained.

34 Another consideration concerning the issue of the effects of dredging on the benthic environment is that dredging is the only currently cost-effective method for taking scallops on a commercial basis. It is not economically viable to take scallops by diving. If dredging were to be banned, then society would not have the benefits associated with the scallop fishery. This is in contrast to some finfish fisheries where a range of methods (eg. longline, trawl, set net, purse seine) can be used to commercially harvest the resource.

35 Nonetheless, if information becomes available that indicates dredging is having an adverse effect on an area of special or significant biodiversity, then MFish will take steps to avoid, remedy, or mitigate the adverse effect. Such a situation occurred at Spirits Bay in the Northland scallop fishery in the late 1990s. Research information indicated that dredging and trawling were likely to be having a significant adverse effect on the rare and endemic benthic biota in the area. Consequently, a large area at Spirits Bay and Tom Bowling Bay was closed by fisheries regulation to these methods.

36 MFish acknowledges that dredging will be having some impact on habitats of particular significance to the management of the scallop fishery. This is because juvenile scallops in dredged areas tend to experience higher mortality than juveniles in non-dredged areas. However, a good feature of SCA CS is that the fishery is closed each year from 20 December. Anecdotal information suggests that a large part of the annual scallop spatfall occurs in the New Year when juvenile scallops would be most vulnerable to damage from dredging if the juveniles had recruited into the adult beds. MFish does not consider that dredging is having a significant adverse effect on habitats for finfish fisheries. For example, the scallop dredging areas do not occur in areas that are important to snapper spawning or juvenile recruitment.

37 MFish notes that all sectors remain concerned about the distribution of tubeworm throughout the Hauraki Gulf and Whitianga area. However, MFish notes that some of the commercial scallop fishers consider that the abundance of tubeworm may be waning. The fishers speculated that the decrease might be due to the colder water temperatures this year. MFish has no quantitative information on water temperatures in the Whitianga and Hauraki Gulf areas where scallops are taken by the commercial sector.

38 As noted in the IPP, research indicates that tubeworms that are broken, such as may occur when disturbed by dredges, are capable of regeneration. However, MFish is not aware of any other evidence to support Keith Ingram's concern that commercial fishing contributes to the spread of tubeworm throughout the fishery. Other fishing methods such as trawl and Danish seine may also contribute to disturbing tubeworm. There is also no hard evidence that tubeworm is detrimental to scallop beds. Divers have reported to MFish that scallops seem to be able to co-exist amongst tubeworm. The problem is that dredges are unable to dredge through areas of tubeworm as the dredge becomes ineffective by becoming clogged with tubeworm.

Current and Potential Research

Submissions

39 Keith Ingram considers there has been no scientific work to determine whether or not the predicted benefits of reducing the commercial size limit to 90 mm are being derived – Keith Ingram proposes that research should be conducted to assess the benefits of the change. Keith Ingram also considers there should be research to determine if there is a bed(s) that provides the major source of spat for SCA CS, and if so, there should be measures to manage the bed(s) to ensure the continued supply of spat for the fishery.

40 Keith Ingram notes that during past meetings it was stated by the commercial fishers that the issue of dredge design, incidental mortality and enhancement were on hold until the permit holders had sorted themselves out and scallops were in the QMS. Keith Ingram considers that selected shared areas of the fishery should be enhanced where the costs and benefits of enhancement would be shared between all contributors. Keith Ingram wants to know about progress with these initiatives.

MFish Discussion

41 A major review was recently undertaken for MFish examining the different types of gear used in the main scallop fisheries around the world and in New Zealand. The ring bag dredge used in the Southern (Nelson) scallop fishery results in less damage to scallops and benthic epifauna than the box dredge used in the Coromandel and Northland scallop fisheries. However, the review concluded that the box dredge was more efficient and necessary on the harder sandy substrates in the north – in the Southern scallop fishery the seafloor is a soft muddy substrate.

42 MFish is satisfied that the research that led to the establishment of the 90 mm size limit for commercial fishers is robust. The main benefit of the change is that there is now less incidental mortality in the commercial scallop fishery because 90-100 mm scallops are now not being returned to the sea. In the past, when this size of scallop was returned, a proportion of these fish would not have survived. Scallops mature and spawn before reaching the 90 mm size limit. Part of the reason for the improvement in SCA CS may be due to the size limit change.

43 MFish is aware that the Coromandel commercial scallop fishers have had preliminary discussions with research providers over the feasibility of enhancing the fishery. Submissions advanced by recreational representatives lend their support to pursuing enhancement options. The support for enhancement is likely to be influenced by the role that the Southern Scallop Enhancement Programme had in rebuilding the collapsed Southern scallop fishery during the 1980s and 1990s.

44 The management framework supporting the Southern scallop fishery was reviewed in 1997, and a model developed to evaluate fishing strategies. Under the model, rotational fishing was found to be highly stabilising, even when 80% of the biomass was taken each year. Enhancement was found to improve catch and biomass, but was not in itself identified as a key factor in ensuring sustainability. On this basis, enhancement was deemed to supplement the management framework, rather than underpin it.

45 While government played a part in establishing the Southern Scallop Enhancement Programme in the early years, the programme has been entirely funded by commercial interests since the late 1980s. MFish considers this funding arrangement to be appropriate since stakeholders are the beneficiaries of increased abundance and the utilisation benefits achieved through enhancement.

Social, cultural and economic factors

46 No submissions addressing social, cultural and economic factors were received. No further information or consideration is available to that provided in the IPP.

Consultation

Submissions

47 Ngaiterangi considers that consultation has not been adequate on the SCA CS proposals. The Iwi asks MFish to advise and consider whether a hui could be held in Tauranga with the Bay of Plenty Iwi and other parties.

48 TOKM and Hauraki note that paragraph 72 of the IPP states “The 2003 in-season review of the Coromandel scallop TAC is based on the process that operated for SCA CS in 2002, and stakeholders are now familiar with the process.” Both groups consider that this statement may be correct as regards industry, but is not necessarily so for Iwi. Both groups also consider that MFish should review the quality and delivery of consultation to Iwi within SCA CS. The review needs to effect quality input and participation by Iwi with respect to sustainability and fisheries management decisions.

49 TOKM has drawn the contents of the IPP to the attention of Iwi, but has not had time to discuss its contents. Therefore TOKM’s submission conveys only the views of TOKM, and does not remove the responsibility for MFish to consult with tangata whenua as required by section 12(1) of the Fisheries Act 1996. TOKM requests confirmation that MFish has consulted each of the Iwi on a list TOKM provided to MFish for consultation purposes.

50 At the consultation meeting in Auckland (5 August 2003), Ron Smerdon, Mark Aislabie, and Neville Seward (quota owners) strongly expressed their disappointment that the additional ACE was not being allocated as quickly as they wanted after the completion of the 2003 research survey. Peter Sopp (Whangamata Seafoods; quota owner) has also strongly expressed a similar view to MFish about the consultation process taking too long and delaying the TAC increase.

MFish Discussion

51 MFish considers that the overall consultation timetable for SCA CS is reasonably streamlined for adequately considering the possibility of an in-season TAC increase, while still deriving the benefits that might flow from an increase before the fishery closes on 20 December. MFish considers that the timetable of two weeks for consultation on the draft research report on the actual research survey, and then three weeks for consultation on the IPP are the minimum amounts of time that are reasonable for these processes. However, MFish is also aware of the need to progress the consultation process as quickly as possible due to the affects of delays on commercial fishers and fishing processing operations. MFish notes that the same considerations must be taken into account in making an in-season

adjustment as in setting the original TAC for SCA CS. Indeed, this necessitates the same process that is used for the TAC review of any fishstock or other management controls in other fisheries.

52 To some extent, MFish considers the length of time allowed for consultation is a matter of balancing the needs of the commercial and non-commercial sectors. As indicated above, the commercial fishers want the process shortened. Conversely, Keith Ingram was very concerned in 2002 that only two weeks had been allowed for consultation – he considered that more time should be provided. On balance, MFish considers that three weeks is a reasonable length of time for SCA CS consultation.

53 MFish (Auckland) does not have a record of receiving a specific list of Iwi contacts from TOKM. However, MFish did post the IPP to the following people on MFish contact lists representing various Maori organisations and Iwi: David Taipari (Ngati Maru Iwi Authority), Elaine Tapsell (Ngati Whakaue Marae Committee), Harry Mikaere (Hauraki Maori Trust Board), Makare Harawira (Waitaha representative), Mary Nuku (Patuwai Maori Trust), Tipa Comain (Te Runanga O Ngati Paoa), Tom Norris (Te Ohu Kai Moana), Josie Anderson (Hauraki Seafood Ltd), Ngati Awa Trust Board, Te Ruunanga A Iwi O Ngati Tamatera, Ngaiterangi Iwi Inc, Ngati Hei Charitable Trust, Ngati Ranginui Iwi Society, Te Runanga O Ngai Tamarawaho Inc, Te Runanga O Ngati Rangitahi, Te Runanganui O Te Arawa Inc, and Ngati Wai Trust Board.

54 Ngaiterangi was the only Iwi group that provided a submission on the IPP. In response to the request in Ngaiterangi's submission for contact and a meeting, MFish contacted Ngaiterangi and offered to meet the Iwi at any reasonable time and place to discuss the scallop proposals. Ngaiterangi have yet to reply to MFish's offer.

Conclusion

55 MFish has undertaken an in-season review of the TAC for the Coromandel scallop fishery. MFish is satisfied that the scientific stock assessment for SCA CS is robust and that the fishery can support the TAC increase proposed in the IPP. Accordingly, MFish recommends that the TAC be set at 93 tonnes meatweight for the remainder of the 2003-04 fishing year, based on the research survey as the best available information on abundance for the current fishing year.

56 MFish recommends that the non-commercial allowances should remain the same as under the current TAC, while the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality should increase from 11 to 20 tonnes meatweight. MFish recommends that an additional 36 tonnes meatweight of ACE be created for SCA CS by increasing the available ACE for quota owners from 22 to 58 tonnes meatweight. MFish recommends that at the end of the current fishing year for SCA CS, the TAC should revert to 48 tonnes meatweight, the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality should revert to 11 tonnes meatweight, and the amount of ACE should revert to 22 tonnes meatweight.

57 MFish does not consider that the non-commercial allowances and amateur bag limits for SCA CS should be changed at this time. The commercial and non-commercial scallop fisheries are now essentially spatially separated, and the CAY estimate from the research survey is for the area fished mostly by the commercial sector.

Final Recommendations

58 MFish recommends that you:

- a) **Agree** to increase the TAC for SCA CS from 48 tonnes meatweight to 93 tonnes meatweight for the 2003 season, and within the TAC:
 - i) retain the existing allowance for Maori customary fishing at 7.5 tonnes meatweight;
 - ii) retain the existing allowance for recreational fishing at 7.5 tonnes meatweight;
 - iii) increase the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality from 11 to 20 tonnes meatweight;
 - iv) create an additional 36 tonnes meatweight of ACE for SCA CS by increasing the available ACE for quota owners from 22 to 58 tonnes meatweight; and
 - v) at the end of the current fishing year for SCA CS, the TAC will revert to 48 tonnes meatweight, the allowance for other sources of fishing-related mortality will revert to 11 tonnes meatweight, and the amount of ACE will revert to 22 tonnes meatweight, and
- b) **Sign** the attached *Gazette* Notice.

John Taunton-Clark
for Chief Executive
Ministry of Fisheries

AGREED / NOT AGREED / AGREED AS AMENDED

Hon Pete Hodgson
Minister of Fisheries

/ / 2003

Encl