

Our Fishing Future (Inc.)

On 14 February 2013, 66 participants drawn from all walks of the community of Aotearoa New Zealand met for three days to decide a course for recreational fishing using a ground-breaking inclusive framework known as Future Search. Following this event, a steering group agreed to establish Our Fishing Future (Inc.) as the next step towards the formation of a national body to advance fishing for all Kiwis.

Common Ground

At the February 2013 event, the participants adopted the following statements of “common ground”:

Sustainable fisheries	<i>We ensure a healthy marine environment enjoyed by all.</i>
Community buy-in and support	<i>We all take pride in an abundant and healthy marine environment when our community extends Manaakitanga over our fisheries and oceans.</i>
Unity across the recreational fishing sector	<i>We believe in unity and inclusion within the recreational fishing community.</i>
Equity of access	<i>We strive to ensure equity of access through stakeholder engagement.</i>
Education	<i>We ensure New Zealanders understand and value our marine environment and its resources so we can all be responsible for a better future.</i>
Governance	<i>We are a recognised representative and accountable body that promotes and protects responsible recreational fishing.</i>
Sustainable funding	<i>We create an independent and sustainable income stream to achieve our aspirations and meet our responsibilities.</i>
Communication	<i>We create a comprehensive strategy and a network to communicate with members, stakeholders, media and other interested parties.</i>

Our Fishing Future Inc. has been established to advance this vision and to give voice to all those concerned about public fishing for future generations.

Crimpy says it best



I have yet to meet a child who doesn't smile, shout and giggle when they feel the tug of a fish on their line. There is a pure delight that comes from fishing and it lights up the child in all of us, so much so that it is accepted as the “Kiwi way”.

Weekends at the bach, camping at the beach, fishing from the boat, rocks or shore, taking a charter trip, fishing for sport or food, or just fossicking along our coastline; the majority of New Zealanders have a connection with recreational fishing and an affinity with the sea. It is part of our heritage and helps define us as a people.

But we cannot continue taking these opportunities for granted.

Fortunately, Kiwis are waking up to positive change and realising that we all share in this marine resource and need to be part of the solution; we have a collective responsibility to manage and enhance it for future generations.

This was never more evident than at the FISHinFuture Search event in February 2013 which I had the privilege of attending. Nearly 70 individuals with disparate interests and varied views met to seek common ground in finding a way forward. It was inspirational, transforming and enlightening.

In over two decades of involvement in advocacy at various levels, my work in the media and my involvement with fishers, both recreational and other, I sense that the time is now.

What is required is commitment and momentum.

Our Fishing Future (Inc.)

Membership Application

This form can be used by an individual and family members having the same postal address.

Privacy statement: This information is being collected to establish a record of membership of *Our Fishing Future* and to enable us to communicate with you and to represent your interests. We will use your personal details only for these purposes and will not sell or give your details to anyone outside the organisation without your permission.

First name*	Last name*	Date of Birth (dd/mm/yy)	Gender (M/F)

Postal address*			
Email*			
Landline		Mobile	

Additional family members at same postal address

	First name*	Last name*	Date of Birth	Email address*
1				
2				
3				
4				

* required information

Optional donation

We do not ask for a membership fee but a donation or Koha will provide for your Fishing Future. We need funds to operate and your donations are greatly appreciated. To make a contribution please click [here](#).

Please tell us about your fishing interests

If this application covers several people, please tell us about the first person listed on this form.

<input type="checkbox"/> I am a fisher	I fish using the following methods (tick all that apply)
<input type="checkbox"/> I am a non-fishing supporter	<input type="checkbox"/> Line fishing from land
<input type="checkbox"/> I own a boat	<input type="checkbox"/> Line fishing from boat
<input type="checkbox"/> Customary	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish collecting from shore
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Shellfish collecting from boat
_____ days fished in past 12 months	<input type="checkbox"/> Net fishing from land (whitebait, mullet, other)
The main species I target are:	<input type="checkbox"/> Net fishing from boat
1	<input type="checkbox"/> Scuba Diving (photo, other)
2	<input type="checkbox"/> Free Diving (photo, other)
3	<input type="checkbox"/> Potting
4	<input type="checkbox"/> Kayak fishing
5	<input type="checkbox"/> Helifishing
6	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (e.g. flounder, eel, koura, seaweed)

Post to administration@ourfishingfuture.org.nz or to Membership Administrator, 27 Victoria Heights, Nelson 7010.

For office use only

Memb. No.	Memb. Type	Date approved	/ /	Database entry
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