



# TINDALE MARINE RESEARCH CHARITABLE TRUST

Charities Registration No. CC55555

IRD no. 126-648-057

## Newsletter #7...Spring 2019 roundup

Hi Everyone

Welcome new members and old to the 7<sup>th</sup> Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust update. Winter has kept most anglers off the water but for a few of us there has been some great fishing in early spring, quite a few tagged fish recaptures and some interesting behind the scenes developments.

**Donations** received this year have gone towards replacing tags deployed and adding extra tags to the tagging kits ordered. A big thankyou goes out to those who have supported the trust in helping to keep this project alive and to NZ Post who have kindly supported the Trust with DLE envelopes for the year. Grant applications are always complicated & drawn out affairs, especially for a relatively new organisation like ours. Unfortunately our application to the GIFT foundation was unsuccessful. We had hoped to support the Lure masters competition with tagging kits helping rebuild the Hauraki Gulf but the foundation have changed direction so we will try elsewhere in the New Year. Our goal is to encourage tag and release so our effort is in finding support in supplying tags as an incentive to give our fish a second chance.

**In the news this quarter**, I hope you all saw the great articles in the October/November edition of the New Zealand Bay Fisher. Tony Dawson tags some fish with the locals at the Chatham Islands and Naomi Peterson writes about the new wave of taggers and her own introduction to the program. Be sure to grab a copy.

**Xmas present/registration.** We have had quite a few orders of tagging kits as presents to friends and family for Christmas. This is great to see so the trust has added extra tags in these kits on us. If you intend purchasing kits for someone special please advise the recipient's registration details for their membership card. We will not spoil the surprise by contacting them before they receive them. Clinton Duffy has been in the news checking out a 4.3m wide Manta Ray washed up on Rarawa beach. The female ray had no signs of trauma and is the first documented beaching on record in NZ. These beaching's though sad are a gold mine for research.

**Trademe** Michael Jenkins has taken on the role looking after the new trademe account. Michael saw this as a great opportunity in getting measure mats to as many anglers as possible helping anglers in documenting recaptures of tagged fish and encouraging the measuring, photographing and releasing of fish for a more sustainable future. The Trust's NZ made measure mats are sold at cost making them the most affordable on the market. The tagging kits and accessories will still be able to be ordered through the trusts website as well. Michael will add extra items as time goes by.

### **Satellite Tagging**

Due to the success of the satellite tagging of the Oceanic Manta Rays off the northland coast earlier this year Conservation International has secured 5 additional tags for another mission early next year. In addition to tracking the migration of these giants of the seas this project is also after observations, photo ID of the underside of the rays from citizen scientists out there big

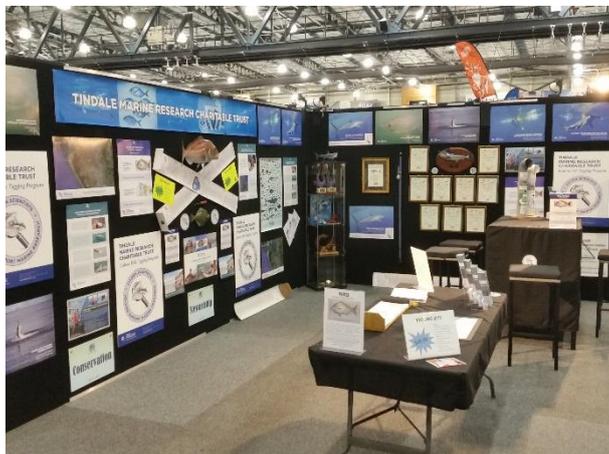


game fishing. Manta rays commonly roll upside down when swimming alongside the boat making it easy to take these photos. If you get the chance to see any and take photos please write down the GPS coordinates and contact us. Generally spotted on the surface between the 100 and 400m contour lines here over summer the Oceanic giant Manta ray can be distinguished from the smaller spine tail devil ray by its behaviour and coloration. From the surface the Devil rays have a dark stripe across the head while the more solitary Oceanic Manta rays have a white L shaped stripe each side of the centre line of the shoulder running part way down their back. The Manta has a shorter tail too.



## TFABS 2019

**The Tauranga Fishing And Boat Show 2019** was held November 1-3 at the Trust Power arena in Baypark. Event organisers kindly donated a stand for the Trust to showcase to the public the citizen science projects we have been involved with. We had plenty of posters and a Snapper mount Donated by a talented



northland resident to demonstrate the inshore tagging program.

Members Kingi Ranui & Bastian Buchmann were on hand to talk to fishers on their first hand experiences in handling, tagging and releasing healthy fish. Marine scientist Clinton Duffy was there to answer any

technical questions on marine species and talk about sharks. During the show Bill Hohepa mc and Southern Seabird Solutions representative Katrina Bowers presented Trust founders Scott & Sue Tindale with the 2019 Seabird Smart Award for their volunteer work in promoting seabird awareness to recreational anglers and the public over the past 5 years.



## The Hutchwilco New Zealand Boat Show 2020

Yes it's not far off so pencil in the 14-17 of May 2020 at the Auckland showgrounds. Event organisers have kindly donated a stand to the Trust in the fishing hall. Make sure you look us up on stand 101 just by the entrance. Tagging kits and accessories will be available for sale to those that want to sign up on the day so tell your friends. We will again be looking for a few volunteers to help out showcasing the inshore tagging program and other citizen science projects. If you are interested in helping out drop me an email.



## Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust Inshore Fish Tagging Program Recapture Report.

We have now been operating for over a year and have distributed around 7000 tags to members. Over 1630 fish belonging to 31 species have been tagged and released. The great thing about citizen science is the ease with which we can get results. Thanks to the efforts of our members we have fish tagged all around NZ from Three Kings islands in the far north to Chatham Islands way out east and Haast in the Deep South, and of course all of the popular fishing spots in between. At the time of writing have 36 fully documented recaptures, and somewhat unfortunately an additional 10 or so that were re-released without the anglers reporting the tag info. Shows the importance of sharing the Wanted poster to as many people as possible. Make sure that your local fishing clubs and tackle stores display a copy.

Again we ask that taggers send in their data on a regular basis. We have had a couple of recaptures that we needed to ring members to find information for. Luckily we keep a record of which tags you are allocated so I can follow up. But this does not help if you misplace or loose the tagged fish info before sending it in.

If you intend tagging high numbers of fish over summer email us and we will send you a simple spreadsheet to keep all your info together. They are easy to update when you get home, an updated copy can be sent in at the end of each month to be added to the Trust main database.

### Notable recaptures and releases

Length Records pending/approved. One of the additional benefits of tag and release in the 21<sup>st</sup> century is the possibility of catching a NZ Record fish without having to kill it. This quarter we congratulate three members.

Wayne Downer received the New Zealand all tackle length record (boat section) for a snapper he tagged and released measuring 84cm while soft baiting off the Surville cliffs. He later commented "I better get some more tags this week, I reckon it's very addictive"



Michael Jenkins tagged and released a pending All Tackle length record for a Kermadec Kahawai he caught in the far north measuring 57cm. Clinton Duffy was able to formally identify this uncommon species from the photos supplied by Michael. The most obvious distinction between the two species found in NZ is the larger dark tail lacking the notch in the base of the V as seen in the common Kahawai. Remember we can assist with record applications or species ID for those strange catches.

The third is an all tackle length record for a Yellowbelly flounder caught on fly tagged and released in the Kaipara harbour on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August.



Unfortunately another member fishing off the Wellington coast tagged and released a potential All Tackle length record for a Rig measuring over 1.5m but was not able to get a photo of it.

We have just had our first recapture for a fish at large for over a year. A snapper was recaptured off the Manukau heads this month that had been tagged and released 414 days earlier, 102km away. More on this further on....

### T0356

Sam Clark was surfcasting from the Karekare beach on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September 2019 when he caught a tagged Kahawai measuring 50.5cm



This fish was tagged and released by Michael Jenkins on the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2018 at the same general location. Therefore this fish has been at liberty for just under a year at 318 days and was recaptured 1.06km from the tagging location. Was this a resident fish or returning from a long migration?



### T0502

On the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 2019 trust founder Scott Tindale tagged and released 8 yellow belly flounder while fly fishing in the Kaipara lagoon. One of which was this 33cm fish. Flounder only frequent this area for a few months prior to Christmas so I was keen to see how far they would travel.

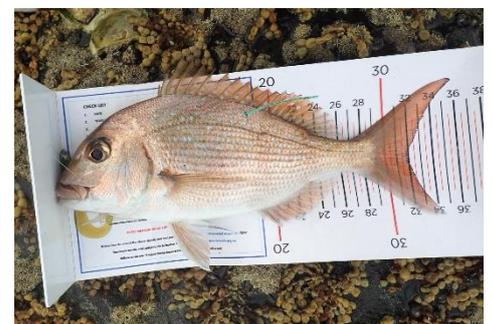
On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September David Gifford recaptured this flounder netting the same area. The flounder had moved 270m in the 11 days. David has joined the program keen to see what his tagged fish will tell us.



### T1820

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2019 Michael Jenkins tagged and released a 32cm snapper fishing from the northern shore of Motuihe Island in the Hauraki Gulf.

263 days later on the 13<sup>th</sup> October & 6.65km away David Turton recaptured this tagged fish while fishing off Motutapu Island. He noted the tag was broken and was only spotted when the fish was filleted.



### T2944

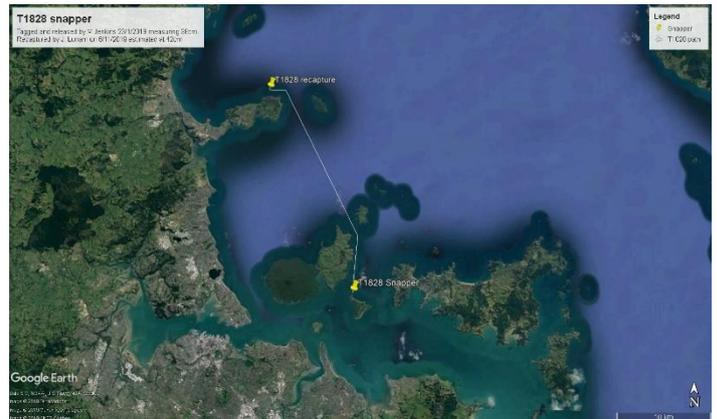
Robert Janse tagged and released a 40cm snapper at Horn Rock on the 26 of May 2019. This was one of 13 he tagged that day.

163 days later on the 5<sup>th</sup> of November Rod Keir recaptured this fish in the same location & within 300m of the original release location. Rod estimated the snapper V length at 42cm on recapture

### T1828

Michael Jenkins 5<sup>th</sup> tagged fish to be recaptured and the second from this tag location is this 38cm snapper he tagged on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2019 from the northern side of Motuihe Island.

Eleven year old Jake Lunam was very excited to recapture this tagged fish on the 6<sup>th</sup> of November while fishing off Army bay on the Hibiscus coast. His dad Deon estimated the length at 42cm. The fish had travelled 28km from its release point in 287 days.



### T3213

Luke Davis of Yeehaa Fishing tagged and released this very dark snapper while fishing the eastern side of Great Barrier Island on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2019. Luke measured the fish at 74cm.

On the 13<sup>th</sup> of November, while fishing off the mussel farms at Waikawa Bay in the Firth of Thames, Mark Woolnough recaptured this fish measuring 75cm and weighing 15lb



### T5252

Another fish tagged and released by Michael Jenkins, this time fishing from the shore on the eastern side of Kawau Island on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2019. A snapper measuring 38cm.

Keen angler Brent Liddle recaptured this fish on the 24<sup>th</sup> of November, not far away just inside Nelson rock. It measured 38cm and was in good very fat condition.



### T3241

The second recapture for Luke Davis. Luke tagged and released this 62cm snapper while fishing at Maria Island on the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2019.

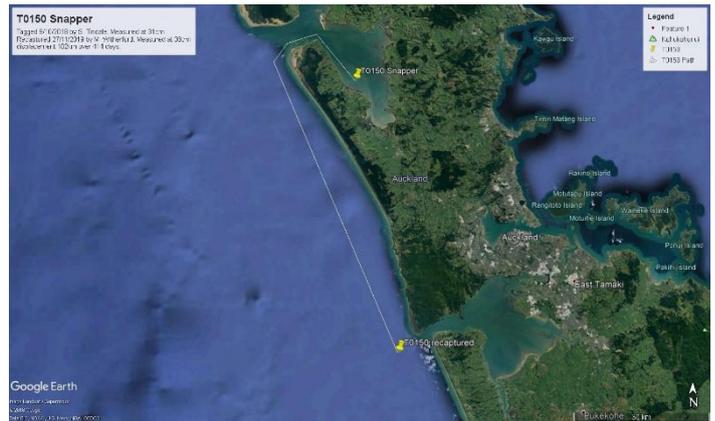
On the 24<sup>th</sup> of November new tagging member Edward Scharenguivel recaptured, documented and re-released this fish. It measured 64cm and was also caught at Maria Island. On returning to shore Edward mentioned to Luke he had recaptured a tagged fish and how it would be funny if it was one of his releases. It turns out it was, 101 days later at the same location.

## T0150

We often talk about the importance of the Kaipara harbour to our west coast fishery and some of the big distances tagged snapper from this harbour have travelled.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018 Trust founder Scott Tindale tagged and released a 31cm snapper in 2.6m of water on the Omokoiti flats.

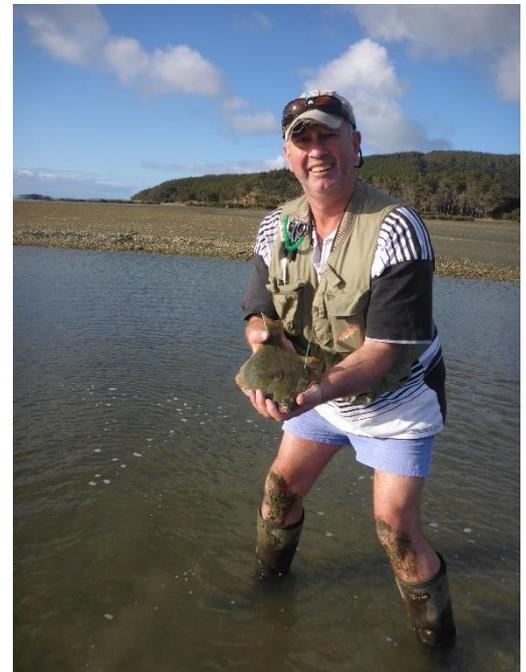
Just over a year later, 414 days to be exact, on the 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019 Mike Witherford recaptured this snapper while fishing in 50m of water off the Manukau bar. Mike noted both the tag and fish were in good condition. The fish measured 36cm on recapture. That's 5cm in just over a year.



## T0507

Scott Tindale's 9<sup>th</sup> tagged fish recapture is a Yellowbelly Flounder he caught fly fishing at the Kaipara lagoon on the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2019 measuring 36.5cm. It qualified for a New Zealand all Tackle Length record and was tagged and released.

66 days later on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December father and son Paul and Adam White recaptured this fish while netting in the upper reaches of the Waionui inlet. They reported it was a healthy looking fish and measured 36.5cm



## T5709

Robert Janse tagged and released a 259cm TL Female bronze Whaler shark on the 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019 while land based fishing at Grahams Beach, in the Manukau Harbour.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 land based angler Nick Robinson recaptured this shark at Big Bay on the Manukau harbour. Nick was able to get the tag number and a precaudal length of 230cm before releasing it again.



Hope you all have a safe and enjoyable Christmas and Tight lines from all of us at the Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust.... See ya out on the water

Until next time....



Email [tindaleresearch@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tindaleresearch@xtra.co.nz)

[www.tindaleresearch.org.nz](http://www.tindaleresearch.org.nz)

Phone 0274 760678

Po. Box 278 Silverdale 0944 Auckland NZ