



**TINDALE
MARINE RESEARCH
CHARITABLE TRUST**

Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust quarterly report. Includes Trust member news, activities, engagements and achievements over Spring of 2021

Scott Tindale
Founding Director

SPRING REPORT

#15

December 2021



TINDALE MARINE RESEARCH CHARITABLE TRUST

Charities Registration No. CC55555

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Newsletter No.15 Spring update 2021

What an end to the year! Half of the population of New Zealand grappling with lock downs (lock in's) and Auckland cut off from the rest of the country. Businesses' closed or adjusting to limited access to markets, and job insecurity with the masses on wage subsidies. Time out for good behaviour saw families reunited for Christmas, but Covid restrictions may yet interfere with the gamefishing season for a third year. Politics, protests and increasing division. Everyone watching the clocks tick by wondering when life will resume to some sort of normality.

The only reprieve from the dramas of it all is the tranquillity of a peaceful days fishing or so we thought. Weekends now run for most of what was the precovid working week, with crowded beaches and boats everywhere. Only the weather has limited the fishing effort around the coast this spring. Reports of fish in high numbers and size are coming in across the country. With spring well and truly upon us fish are congregating to spawn as the water temperature rises. Sharks are seen in close as the females offload their young in sheltered bays. This is another reason that tag and release is a sustainable form of fishing at this time of year, with released fish being able to continue to spawn and replenish fish stocks.

Seasonal movements and catch makeup across the tagging program each year show repeated trends for many of our inshore species. To monitor these trends we ask members of the tagging program to fill in as much information as possible in their tagged fish reports. GPS co-ordinates, date, tag number, depth of water and fish length are the most important. Observations like fish condition and sea surface temperature can also be useful information as we monitor things like climate change impacts to these fish spawning grounds, juvenile fish habitats and seasonal migrations.

- **Seabirds**

First off, its time again to nominate that someone who you think deserves recognition for their efforts in looking out for seabird welfare. Many take these feathery friends for granted. It's not until you travel abroad that you notice their absence in other parts of the world. Not surprisingly New Zealand is home to most of the world's seabird species so it is up to us to avoid harm to them, their nesting sites and their foraging habitats. I'm getting tired of picking up discarded fishing gear, death traps for unsuspecting seabirds, so please do your bit and be a tidy kiwi.

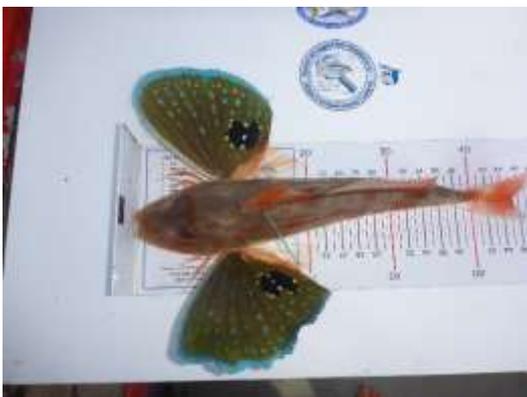
- **Boat Show confirmed**



Thanks to the team at the Hutchwilco New Zealand boat Show the **Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust** will be back at the same location for the 2022 event. We hope to have another great stand setup with giveaways and the latest on the tagging program and marine research projects undertaken around the country. So pencil in 12-15th of May 2020, Auckland showgrounds, Greenlane. We will be at hall 1, stand 101

- **Notable captures NZ & IGFA world records**

One of the advantages of tagging and releasing fish is the ability to enter the record books without the need to kill and weigh fish. This quarter we have had several new NZ length records and 3 pending IGFA World records for fish tagged and released in the TMRCT inshore tagging program. For world records the fish must be photographed on the approved IGFA measure board and released live to qualify. For NZ length records there are additional approved measure boards including the official TMRCT measure mat. You will need a good photo showing the fish's length and again the fish must be released alive to qualify.



This 45.5cm Gurnard tagged and released on the 16th October 2021 in the Kaipara Harbour has been approved and leads the All-tackle NZ length records (M/B) for this species

Paul Templer tagged & released a 77.5cm Barracouta while fishing off Te Horo on the 23rd of October 2021, and has been awarded the All-Tackle NZ length record (M/B) for this species.





Sue Tindale adds to her impressive tally of well over 150 World Records with this pending IGFA World Fly caught Length Record Kahawai, which she caught on the Kaipara Harbour on the 16th of August 2021

Joining in the action on the same day Scott tagged and released this pending IGFA World Fly caught Kahawai, adding to his century of IGFA World record catches in New Zealand.



Two months later during a tagging mission at the Kaipara heads Scott interrupted shark fishing to tag and release this pending IGFA World Record Kahawai on fly, one of several tagged and released that day.

It will take several months for these World Records to be ratified. Meanwhile it is humbling to see angling records moving towards sustainable methods and supporting marine research.

- **Tagging kits, measure mats & posters now on Trademe**

Due to popular demand, we have added tagging kits, measure mats and bulk tags to Trademe for credit card users. As everything we sell is at or below cost orders through Trademe sales will incur the standard fees of approximately 10%. A big thank you to founding member Michael Jenkins for looking after this site and processing the orders.

You can still order tagging kits and accessories from the website by direct credit to the trust account without incurring these fees. Please be aware that deliveries around NZ are currently experiencing delays due to Covid-19 and increased demand.

Fish posters have been a challenge to arrange postage. NZ post has restructured, deleting many of their services and increased prices this year. We currently have a supply of poster tubes and can ship out at \$30 including 1 or more posters.



- **Monthly Sponsors prize draws**

It has been a very busy quarter with recaptures reported most days. A Big thank you to Daiwa NZ who have kept up the supply of Bait junkies to compliment the recapture certificates for both anglers involved that have supplied complete data.



- **Membership draw**

Each month we draw a random tag number from that month's tag and release entries and thanks to Daiwa New Zealand the winner now receives a Daiwa Legalis LT 4000D-C spinning reel and a spool of J-Braid x8 20lb line valued at a RRP \$230.00

Congratulations to our latest winners,

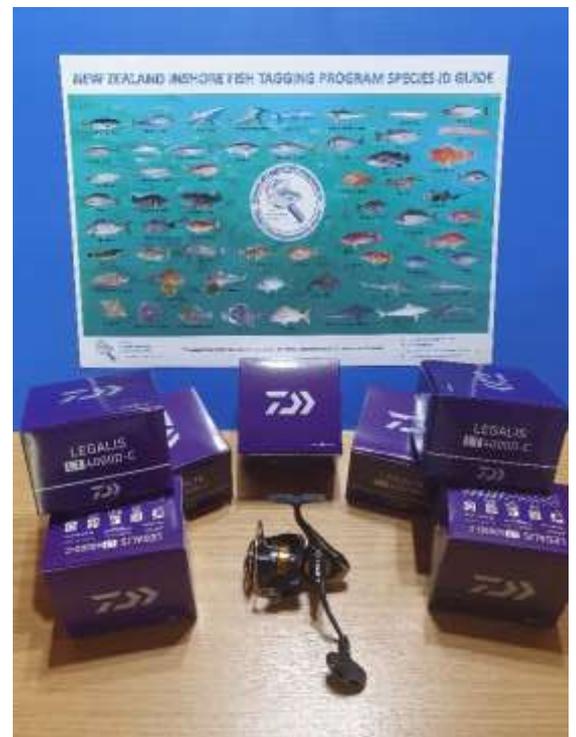
September...Chris Rix tagging a Kingfish **T13605** in Tauranga

October...Donovan King, tagging a 29cm snapper **T13307** off Motutapu Island, Hauraki Gulf.

November...Leroy Hindley with a 54cm Kingfish **T8541** tagged and released near Wellington.

Remember to send in your completed tag and release data before the end of each month to be in the draw. Old or late entries will be entered into the month received.

Note: tag and release forms sent in with incomplete or missing data are not eligible for prizes.



Lucky Draw feed back

"Thank you Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust, we really enjoy being part of the inshore tagging programme. Tagging & releasing fish, getting data back on our tags & now winning this little beauty.... Can't wait to go out & get it wet 🕶️🕶️ Kazz"

(Sorry Kazz I somehow manage to miss mentioning your win in the last report)



TINDALE MARINE RESEARCH CHARITABLE TRUST

INSHORE FISH TAGGING PROGRAM

'SHARK SPIKE'



If you are intending on tagging and releasing tough skinned fish like sharks it is advisable to pierce the skin with a 'Shark Spike' first. This will provide a pilot hole for inserting the tag applicator with tag inserted into.

Forcing the tag applicator through tough skin sharks without this process can cause the tag barb to slice off, jamming the tag inside the applicator. Should this happen you will need to flick the tag out of the applicator. Hold the applicator handle tightly in your hand and flick your wrist sharply. The broken tag should fly out. Do not try and drill it out or poke anything up the tag needle.

Tag placement is critical to prevent tag shedding. Insert the tag at the base of the dorsal fin as shown. This area is fibrous so the tag will have a good hold. Tag should be inserted at a steep angle, almost 90° to the fish.



- Remember to clean your tagging equipment before and after use to prevent cross contamination. A healthy fish will provide years of valuable service adding to our knowledge of these majestic animals as they carry on with their lives.

To find out more visit our website <https://tindaleresearch.org.nz> follow us on social media

Email: tindaleresearch@xtra.co.nz PO Box 278 Silverdale 0944, Auckland, New Zealand

- **TMRCT Inshore Tagging Program update**

Many of you will have noticed that the website has been updated. Remember to refresh each page on the site if you have not visited it for a while (that's the arrow in a circle for the not so computer savvy like me). I have started to add "How to" videos to the website and on social media to help those who would like tutorials on the best way to handle and tag different species. These include the most popular fish species in the program and demonstrate recommended handling, measuring and tagging from both boats and the shore.

The TMRCT Inshore tagging program membership has grown to over 800 keen fishers. To date we have just over 17,500 tags distributed. Members have reported 5703 tagged fish across 42 species to the end of spring (November 31st). Unfortunately, I still find I'm having to chase up taggers for information on tagged fish not entered into the system when they are recaptured. A few recaptured fish still have no record of when and where they were tagged, or who tagged them. One recent case is **T4674** which was reported recaptured in the Manukau Harbour by Ben Telfer (his second recapture of a tagged fish) but we have no idea who tagged it. The closest information we have is it was distributed somewhere in the Wellington area to an angler in 2019. Please check your tags and data to see if you have any information on this fish.

Please keep your tagging data safe and update to the trust website as soon as possible. This will prevent data getting lost and help us to give you regular updates on stats. The link to recording your tagged fish is now on the home page of the website or you can scan this QR code.



The direct link is <https://tindaleresearch.org.nz/tagging-program/fish-tag-release-form/>

Housekeeping...Can I please ask taggers to not send in **tagging data** via txt, in messenger or via social media. This makes transferring info or keeping a backup impossible. Please use the above link on the website. For those who are tagging more than 10 fish per day we can arrange for a personal spreadsheet you can email to the trust for manual upload to the site.

Note; any photos can still be sent via the trust email tindaleresearch@xtra.co.nz and will be kept in your folder for use in these reports on recapture.

Spring 2021 summary

- **28 tagged fish recaptured for the quarter**
- **16 recaptures caught from boats**
- **12 recaptures caught from shore**
- **27 tagged fish recaptures caught by recreational fishers and 1 from a commercial trawl**
- **13 tagged fish re-released again**
- **4 anglers recaptured their own fish up to a year later**

Recapture rate is still around 1 fish recaptured for every 23 fish tagged and released since the project began....



- **Recapture Update for spring 2021**

I'll start off with an email from one of our new members....

T1371 Snapper

"Kia Ora Scott, and Thank You Karl..."

So I only took up fishing in March this year catching a few Kahawai here and there and starting to get a wee frustrated at not catching anything or catching very little, but being on the beach and grounding myself topped the fact I wasn't catching much 🙄, I had been chatting to Karl getting as many tips and tricks I could and it felt like id tried almost everything under the sun to get on some fish. Fast forward a few months and Karl puts a post-up of his latest session and I comment "take me with you next time" (#takemewithyounexttime

aye Karl haha) sure enough I get a message "bro were going out, you keen" "KEEN" I reply... so we sort out the plan and that's us. I'm a little nervous, a little excited, don't wanna look like an ass or be "weird" in a new crew etc (dunno why as was met with nothing but good vibes and positive attitudes of like-minded mates) so we get the lines in the water and the conversation comes up about each different persons kaupapa as to giving back to Tangaroa (won't get into as each to their own) ultimately IF I was to catch a Snapper it would've been my call to keep or release Karl had offered me a tag if I wanted to release. I had originally said at the start of the night IF I get a legal snapper I'm taking it home id put in enough work blah blah so that's where we started.... night started slow but it's what I was use to anyway then just as talk about packing up happens the rod twitches FISH ON, inexperience plays its hand and I drop it 🙄, wasn't long and my rod was bent in half FISH ON like nothing id reeled in before, Karl giving me as much tips as he possibly could and me trying not to drop another fish we get him up on the sand WHAT A FISH first snapper and was absolutely stoked, so Karl asks the question... "What you wanna do?" I knew as soon as I picked him up "I WANNA PUT HIM BACK, but can we tag him first?" Haha, 1st Ever Snapper for me off the beach definitely went back and within what felt like that very next minute the good karma comes along and the rods bend over again... so heading home Karl continues to tell me how the tagging process works and he will enter the details in etc then we talk about recapture and how he hasn't had 1 of his recaptured yet and how cool it would be to see how far it gets and where etc and what do you know this fish of all fish gets recaptured and reported back in 241km in 23 days wow. It just bought a whole new smile, memory and now story to share on...Thank you Karl for the opportunity and thank you Scott for having this option out there I'll defiantly be getting a kit when the funds allow...Blair Leigh"



Blair's snapper measured 55cm and was tagged and released at 12.18am on the 16th of October 2021 at Matata in the Bay of Plenty.



On the 7th of November 2021 Richard Beck recaptured this tagged fish 6NM north of Gannet rock in the Hauraki Gulf while bottom fishing in 40m of water. The photo of the tape measure on top of the fish made it difficult to accurately estimate the length due to the angle of view and the curvature of the fish's body. This may account for the size reported as 51cm. It always pays to lay the fish on top of a measure with

the nose and end of the tape up against a headboard. This will allow the v in the tail to sit against the measure and give a more accurate reading.

T1969 Kingfish

Brendan Bentley reported the recapture of a tagged Kingfish caught by his 6 year old daughter Kenzie on the 19th September 2021. They were fishing in the Tauranga harbour when the estimated 55cm kingfish took a bait in 5m of water. They did not have anything to measure the fish with so they recorded the tag number and location before releasing it again.

This fish was tagged 229 days earlier on the 20th of February 2021 by Steve Bryant (R307) fishing in 6m of water 4.33km from the recapture location. Steve measured the kingfish at 50cm before release.

T8055 Kingfish

Media celebrity Milan Radonich (R150) was filming for his online show The Lateral Line at Mayor Island when he caught a tagged kingfish fish with a surface popper in 6m of water. This is the second time Milan has recaptured a tagged kingfish from this program. Videos of these recaptures and Milan's adventures can be viewed on YouTube.

This fish was originally tagged and released 98 days earlier, on the 12th of June 2021 by Josh Gibson while fishing in 30m of water. Josh measured the fish at 107cm and it was released close to the area that it was recaptured.

T10465B Blue Cod

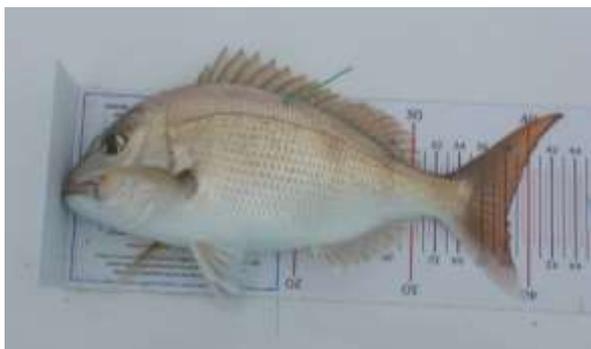
This is the third time this Blue cod has been caught off Patea. Originally tagged and released as part of the Reef Project by Hawera student Sienna MacRae on the 14th of May 2021. This 36cm fish was recaptured 15 days later by Ray Stratton aboard South Taranaki Charters and it was released again. The fish was finally recaptured by Peter Robins on the 3rd of October 2021. Peter did not notice the tag until he was cleaning the fish at home. He estimated the size at around 38cm.



T1323 snapper

It is great to see a lot of long term recaptures now the program has been running for a few years. This snapper was tagged and released by Trust director S. Tindale on the 1st of May 2020 while fishing at our control spot on the Kaipara Harbour. It measured 38cm and was caught in 1.95m of water on a bait.

525 days later Shanán Healy was surfcasting off the west coast of Auckland, a few kilometres south of Murawai Beach on the 7th of October 2021 when he recaptured this tagged fish. During the phone conversation Scott asked Shanán for the V-length of the fish... a brief pause... a bit of clatter and a growl from a dog...Shanán declared it was very hot and measured around 42cm making allowance for shrinkage and a curled up tail. He went on to explain putting down the phone briefly so he could remove the complete fish frame out of the hot oven to measure it while fending off the dog who thought it was dinner time. Hot off the press as they say!



At 525 days since tag and release this fish was recaptured a shortest distance by sea of 78.7km and demonstrates a late autumn to early spring seasonal displacement.

T17174 Kahawai

Trust founding director Sue Tindale tagged and released a 39cm kahawai on the 14th July 2021 while fishing in 3.2m of water at Mairetahi creek in the Kaipara harbour.

On the 8th of October 2021 Mosese Vahai was fishing in the upper reaches of the Taihiki River, Waiau Pa, on the Manukau Harbour when he recaptured this fish. Mosese did not notice the tag until he got it home as it had a bit of weed attached to the tag disguising it.



This fish had travelled 140km shortest distance by sea over the 87 days since release. The kahawai was full of whitebait which explains the migration up river at this time of year.

T8699 Kahawai

Emmy Harris reported catching a 47cm tagged kahawai caught in a set net at the head of a creek near Tapora in the Kaipara harbour on the 8th of October 2021.

This fish was tagged and released approximately 1.86km to the west a year earlier on the 25th of October 2020 by Robert Janse while fishing from the shore. It measured 47cm on release 349 days earlier.

T16957 School Shark (Tope)

Dean Winslow was night fishing off the Shelly Beach wharf on the 11th of October 2021 when he recaptured a tagged School shark (Tope) just on midnight. The fish was released again after a quick measure and photograph.

This 53cm juvenile school shark was tagged and released 109 days earlier on the 25th of June 2021 by Trust director and shark scientist Clinton Duffy. Clinton was fishing aboard Red October when he caught this shark at the 'Keyhole' in 2.5m of water, 12.6km north of Shelly Beach.



T8098 Kingfish

Shane Windsor (R216) was fishing from the Tauranga harbour shore line when he caught this 95cm kingfish. It was tagged and released after a quick measure and photo.

119 days later on the 14th of October 2021 Zac Wallace (R547) recaptured this fish near sulphur point boat ramp marking the length on a rock before releasing it again. Zac returned with a measuring tape to establish the length at 95.5cm.

A good example of what to do if you are caught without a measure. Another option is to use your fishing rod as a gauge. As always we would prefer accurate measurements to help with understanding growth rates in different species and around the country but something close is better than a guess.

T5741 snapper

On the 4th of July 2020 Robert Janse (R015) was fishing near the Ahaas in the Hauraki Gulf tagging a few fish including a snapper measuring 30cm.

469 days later on the 15th of October 2021 Callum Nelson was fishing in the same area in 14m of water when he recaptured this fish. Callum noted it was a dark kelpie, dark on the top and white underneath and was caught on a ledger rig. It measured 32cm and was kept.

T5749 sevengill shark



Etienne Du Toit (R431) a keen shark fisher, was fishing off the shore at Grahams Beach in the Manukau harbour on the 18th of October 2021 when he caught a tagged broad snout sevengill shark. Etienne measured the precaudal length at 141.5cm, recorded the tag number and released it again. He estimated the weight at around 37kg.



This male shark was tagged and released by Robert Janse at the same location 720 days earlier on the 30th of October 2019 (just under 2 years) where he measured the total length at 202cm.

Note: The Trust tagging program has adopted the total length measurement or TL for sharks, where the shark length is measured in a straight line from the tip of the nose to the longest tip of the tail in its natural position (not stretched). This measurement is the easiest & most accurate of the options available as some shark species are difficult to establish a V-length (like this species) and in other sharks finding the precaudal point can vary (this is a measurement more commonly used when sharks have been trunked or the tail and fins removed).

T8673 Bronze whaler shark

Another recapture by Etienne Du Toit of a shark that was tagged and released by Robert Janse.

This time a tagged Bronze whaler shark recaptured at Wattle Bay on the Manukau Harbour on the 21st of October 2021. Etienne noted that this female Bronzie was heavily pregnant and the tag was in good condition after a year at sea. This shark measured a TL of 300cm and was released again.



Robert Janse tagged this fish at Grahams Beach 391 days earlier on the 26th of September 2020. It measured 297cm on release.

T17953 snapper

Another tagging session on the Kaipara Harbour on the 20th October 2021 saw us tag and release multiple species of sharks and fin fish, including a 29cm snapper that was recaptured 6 days later in the same spot by Eric Vasquez. It was measured at 31cm and released again. Water surface temperature was 19.1° and the depth was 5m.

T6244 Kingfish

Jake Pyne (R221) was fishing for kingfish at Cape Runaway on the 20th of March 2021 when he tagged and released a 90cm kingfish.

218 days later on the 23rd of October 2021 Ngawai Amoamo recaptured this fish while straylining at Te Kaha point, a shortest distance by sea of 37.7km from the release spot. The kingfish was kept weighing 7.5kg, had a length measurement of 90cm and a girth of 53cm.

T4352 Kahawai



On the 15th of April 2019 Trust directors Scott and Clinton joined a Pete Lamb charter to train a group of fishers, photographers and researchers to tag and release fish. This group were part of the Air New Zealand Sentinel sites program monitoring fish movements around the Kapiti Island Marine Reserve. The first fish tagged for the day was caught by deck hand George Elkington (R104), a kahawai measuring 47.5cm caught in 19.5m depth of water.

Forward 925 days later to the 25th of October 2021 where Wayne Ward recaptured this fish in a flounder net set in 1m of water a kilometre up the Whenuakura River, Patea. Wayne measured the fish at 50cm. This kahawai had travelled a shortest distance by sea of 144km and had been at large just over two and a half years.

T10502 Blue cod

It wouldn't be a report if we didn't have Graham Wilson (R354) recapture a tagged fish. The growth information Graham has collected on these recaptures so far has been awesome. For some reason this fish decided to be the exception and just got fatter... Tagged and released on the 18th of April 2021 it measured 40cm. Recaptured 192 days later on the 26th of October 2021 it measured the same length. Graham fishes the Marlborough sounds area using mainly soft bait lures while fishing from the shore and has a wealth of local knowledge to go on.



T11753 Blue cod

For comparison... Graham Wilson tagged and released a blue cod measuring 42.5cm while fishing from the shore on the 13th May 2021

Graham recaptured it, fat and well-conditioned, 179 days later on the 7th of November 2021. It measured 46cm before being released again.

T11770 Blue cod

On the 10th of October 2021 Graham tagged and released a 31cm blue cod. When recaptured by Graham 29 days later on the 7th of November 2021 it measured 31.5cm and was released again.

Graham has tagged and released a total of 99 fish across 9 species in the Marlborough area. 18 of these have been recaptured giving Graham a staggering recapture rate of 18% or around 1 fish in 5 recaptured.

T9638 Snapper

Luke Davis (R153) in the true spirit of sportsmanship releases most of his catch supporting the sustainability of our sport and health of our oceans. Since joining the TMRCT tagging program Luke has tagged and released 143 fish of which 9 have been recaptured so far. This makes his tagged fish recapture rate at around 1 fish in 15. No doubt more of these will be recaptured over the next few months as fishers take their summer holidays out on the water.



This latest fish he recaptured himself just over a year later and in the same spot...

On the 22nd of October 2020 Luke was fishing around Great Barrier Island when he tagged and released a 68cm snapper that he caught on a soft bait in 5m of water.



Roll on to the 7th of November 2021 and Luke was back out to the Barrier on another fishing mission. Checking out a number of spots Luke was surprised to recapture this fish in the same spot that he had tagged and released it a year earlier. The fish measured 70cm after 382 days and was released again to carry on growing.



T7146 Snapper



Another of Luke Davis's tagged fish, this time a 63cm snapper that he tagged and released at the Hen & Chicken Islands on the 31st of August 2020 has been recaptured.

Jake Harrold was spearfishing at the Hen & Chickens Islands on the 6th of November 2021 when he shot this snapper feeding in his kina burley trail. Jake measured the fish at 69cm and reported it weighed 11.5kg

After 433 days at large this fish was shot within 1km of its tag & release location



T10448 Blue cod

On the 21st of April 2021 Hannes Botha (R457) was fishing in 35m of water off Karewa Island in the Bay of Plenty when he caught a 31.5cm Blue cod. Hannes decided to tag and release it as he was after snapper.

202 days later on the 8th of November 2021 Kelly McDonald from Methven in Canterbury was fishing with friends in the Bay of Plenty when she recaptured this Blue cod in 34m of water 2.25km from where Hannes had released it. Kelly estimated it at 33cm and understandably took it home for tea. They are a 'south island' favourite.

T14798 Kahawai

On the 6th of November 2021 Trust directors Scott & Sue were out on the Kaipara Harbour looking for school sharks when they tagged and released a 44.5cm (VL) Kahawai caught in 10.6m of water near Tapora. The fish was filmed as part of a series of short videos demonstrating how to tag and release fish.

Brady McDonald reported recapturing this fish 18 days later on the 23rd of November near Mosquito Bay in 70 feet of water. A distance of 8.13km south west of where it was released. Brady added that the fish measured 47cm and was caught on a rod.



T3810 Kahawai

On the 20th of October 2019 Andrew Boyes (R198) was surfcasting at Breaker Bay in Wellington when he tagged and released a 51cm Kahawai.

767 days later on the 24th of November 2021 Thomas Williams was fishing near Ward Island in the Wellington Harbour when he recaptured this kahawai on a bait in 7m of water. They reported that the tag had a bit of algae on it. The fish was kept as it was in very good condition. It was only 5.77km from the release location. Where had it been in those two years at large? Recording the tag number and releasing tagged fish again can help answer questions like that.



T8658 snapper

Adrian Cooper (R901) posted this photo on social media of a tagged fish he captured at the Ahaas in the Hauraki Gulf on the 26th November 2021. There was a lot of banter in the comments about the damage around the tag site and how we were killing fish... Adrian explained that he had only noticed the tag when he was filleting the fish and had cut the tag out, putting it back in for the social media photo after the head was removed. The fish measured 49cm.



This fish had been tagged and released 504 days earlier on the 11th of July 2020 by very experienced founding Trust member Robert Janse (R015) at the Ahaas. The snapper measured 42cm on release and was recaptured 1.95km from this location.

T16906 Gurnard

I had a phone call from chief engineer Isaac Perkins aboard the commercial fishing vessel San Rakaia who wanted to report the recapture of a tagged gurnard caught by the trawler in 65.5m of water south of the Kaipara Harbour. The skipper Mark Tookley estimated the length at 47cm.

This was a fish I had tagged and released at the Kaipara shallows in 1.45m of water on the 23rd of June 2021. This 43cm fish was one of nine gurnard we tagged that day, a species quite common in the harbour during winter and absent during summer so it was great to see another seasonal migration pattern confirmed. At 158 days at large this fish had a shortest distance travelled by sea of 51.8km to the recapture point.

It is great to see all participants in our shared fishery engaging in this citizen science project. Straight forward observations and data collecting supporting research on the fish we target.



T5759 snapper

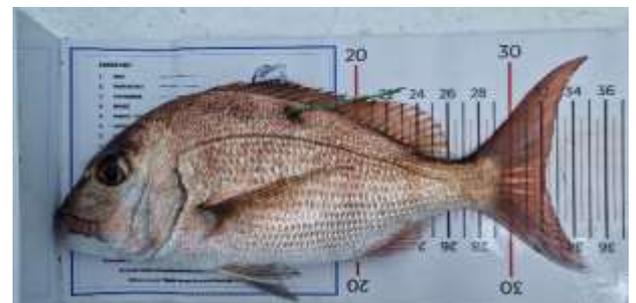
Luke Davies (R166) was fishing off Motutapu Island in the Hauraki gulf on the 6th of October 2021 where he tagged and released 15 snapper including T5759, a 32.5cm fish.

53 days later on the 27th of November at the same location Luke recaptured his fish. Unfortunately it was gut hooked so it was unable to be released again. It measured 33cm on recapture.



T5754 snapper

Luke recaptured another of those fish on the 27th of November. This one measured at 30.5cm on release and measured 32cm upon recapture and this time Luke was able to release it again.



A very big Thank You goes out to all the volunteers, supporters and contributors that have helped make this project... your project... a great success. Keep those tagging reports coming in, remember to share your stories and adventures online.

So that is it from us until next year. Stay safe and have a great end of the year.

Tight lines

Scott, Sue and the team at

Tindale Marine Research Charitable Trust

PO Box 278 Silverdale 0944 - Email: tindaleresearch@xtra.co.nz - <https://tindaleresearch.org.nz>

