## Shellfish species

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shellfish species</th>
<th>Daily limit per person</th>
<th>Seasonal limit (mm)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cockles*</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kina (mussel)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muscle - Southland FMA</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southland FMA</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scallops - Southland FMA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyster - South-East FMA</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oyster - Sub-Antarctic FMA</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paua - Ordinary</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paua - Southland FMA</td>
<td>25†</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paua - South-East FMA</td>
<td>20*</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paua - Yellow foot</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pippie</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuatua</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toheroa</td>
<td>50*</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuatua</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shellfish species (combined)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>100**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Excluding Stewart Island where the mussel limit is 50.
† Dredge oysters taken in the South-East FMA have no restriction on either size or season.
** The taking or possession of cockles from Port Levy is prohibited.

# Toheroa

Toheroa must not be taken, possessed, or disturbed unless an open season is declared by the Department of Conservation.

## Protected rock lobster

- The following types of rock lobster must be returned immediately to the water:
  - Undersized rock lobsters.
  - Female spiny rock lobster with a tail width less than 60 mm.
  - Female toheroa.

## Rock lobster

### Daily limit

- No person may take or possess more than 6 rock lobsters (both species combined) on any one day.
- No person may take or possess more than 6 rock lobsters per person.
- No person may take or possess more than 2 rock lobster pots per person.
- Packhorse rock lobster (either sex) with a tail length less than 216 mm.

### Daily limit of undersized rock lobster

- No person may take or possess more than 5 undersized rock lobster per person.
- Rock lobster may not be possessed seaward of the high water mark in an unmeasurable state.

### Possession

- Rock lobster may not be possessed seaward of the high water mark in an unmeasurable state.
- Packhorse rock lobster (either sex) with a tail length less than 216 mm.

### Escape gaps for rock lobster pots

- It is an offence to:
  - Set a rock lobster pot perpendicular to the rod and the surface float is permanently and legibly marked with the fisher’s initials and surname.
  - Any rock lobster pot constructed entirely of unaltered spot welded mesh with inside dimensions of not less than 54 mm x 200 mm.
  - Any rock lobster that cannot be measured (e.g. because of damage to the tail preventing accurate measurement).
  - Any rock lobster carrying external eggs (these are carried between the pleopods on the underside of the tail).
  - Use or possess more than six rock lobster pots per vessel carrying a limit of two rock lobster pots per person.
  - Set or possess a rock lobster pot unless it has an escape gap as detailed in the “ESCAPE GAPS FOR ROCK LOBSTER POTS” section.
  - Use or possess more than three rock lobster pots per person.
  - Use or possess more than one rock lobster pot per vessel carrying a limit of two rock lobster pots per person.
  - Set a rock lobster pot unless the pot and the surface float are permanently and legibly marked with the fisher’s initials and surname.
  - Set a rock lobster pot unless the pot and the surface float are permanently and legibly marked with the fisher’s initials and surname.
  - Use or possess more than three rock lobster pots per person.

## Method restrictions

- Any set nets prohibited with a mesh of
  - 54 mm x 140 mm
  - 54 mm x 200 mm.

## Possession of set nets

- It is an offence to:
  - Use or possess more than six rock lobster pots per vessel carrying a limit of two rock lobster pots per person.
  - Use or possess more than three rock lobster pots per person.
  - Use or possess more than one rock lobster pot per vessel carrying a limit of two rock lobster pots per person.
  - Set or possess a rock lobster pot unless it has an escape gap as detailed in the “ESCAPE GAPS FOR ROCK LOBSTER POTS” section.
  - Use or possess more than six rock lobster pots per vessel carrying a limit of two rock lobster pots per person.
  - Use or possess more than three rock lobster pots per person.

## Closed and restricted areas

- The tail length is measured along the underside in a straight line from the base of the second primary spine to the tip of the base of the tail.

### Closures

- Use of set nets is prohibited in specified areas in the following places:
  - Paterson Inlet
  - Waiau to Waitaki – closed October to March following year –
  - Port Chalmers, Taiaroa Head, Catlins Lake, the Catlins River upstream of the Hinahina Bridge
  - Dredging for shellfish prohibited in the “ESCAPE GAPS FOR ROCK LOBSTER POTS” section.

## New Zealand’s marine recreational fishing rules

- The use of set nets is prohibited in specified areas in the following places:
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Fishing is one of New Zealand's most popular recreational activities. Every year many large groups of fish, octopus, squid and shellfish are taken by recreational fishers. This can vary widely across New Zealand. This is because the regulations for all fishers are not imposed uniformly and change the resource.

Know the limits

- Don't sell or trade your catch
- Don't take more than the daily limit.
- Don't take undersized fish
- Don't use or be in possession of more than one line.
- Don't take undersized fish
- Don't use or be in possession of more than one line (other than rod and reel lines).
- All surface floats attached to any line must be marked with the fisher's initials and surname. A phone number is also useful.
- No person may use or possess a line with more than 25 hooks.
- No person may use or possess a line with more than 25 hooks.
- No person may be in possession of UBA. This includes possession in or on any vessel or vehicle.

No person may use or possess UBA.

Open seasons

- Shellfish: to be landed in a measurable state:
  - Groper/Hapuka/Bass: 160
  - Butterfish/Greenbone: 35
  - Garfish (piper): 25
  - Blue cod - South-East FMA: 30
  - Blue moki 15
  - Rig: 150
  - Tautog: 20
  - Skate: 20
  - Sand flounder 23
  - Scallops: Open seasons
  - Scallops: Season is 1 October to 15 March inclusive. Within the South-East FMA, the open season is 15 July to 15 February inclusive.
  - General netting restrictions
  - No net may be used in a way that causes fish to be stranded by the falling tide.
  - No person may use or possess UBA (does not include snorkels).