



Not many sleeps 'til the 10kg, not that it particularly feels like winter yet. Only a week ago we were in 100m off Whangaruru with dolphins and tuna all 'round and marlin being landed. Here's a pic of Grant Bittle with a chunky (120kg?) stripey he caught and hauled aboard his 6m tinny single handed. He was so close in it looked like he was snapper fishing! There was a 170+kg one caught almost in the same spot on the same day. The water temp never got above 18.4 degrees so it's what we'd normally call 'marginal' for fish like these.



The Boat Show is on this week, from Thursday 13th—Sunday 16th May, if you want to see (dream...) the latest and greatest.

Maybe you get excited about the politics of fishing, but probably not. The debate at a national level is hard to summarise, but it appears that recreational fishers are fast losing ground against commercial and customary interests because 'we' are not a unified and funded presence in the decision making forum. A number of proposals are afoot to remedy this situation, with some form of licencing being one of them. A kind of discount card being another. Both these approaches seek to quantify the recreational participation (read 'vote') and value in dollar terms. But you already knew it came back to the dollar! We'll no doubt see some debate about this in the near future. Recreational fishers do not have the cash reserves to lobby government for our 'share' and there are good arguments for a singular professional body to represent us. Getting the recreational representative Councils etc to buddy up would be a damn good start—at face value they all have 90% in common. If some form of national database gives us a voice in government then maybe it isn't all bad. Wow, maybe even our own political party? Primary policy: Friday work finishes at 1pm for compulsory fishing. Right, now the good stuff: See the attached flyer and Rules for the 10kg

MONTHLY SNAPPERS

Members have up to the end of the month following the weigh in to present your weigh sheet for this award. Monthly prize is your choice of a \$30 BoatnFish or a Ww Super Liquor voucher.

July:	
Brian Sagar	6.95kg
August:	
Brian Sagar	3.05kg
September:	
Alby Petersen	9.6kg
October:	
Jordan Heron (jnr)	7.8kg
November:	
December:	
Rodney Heron	11.05kg
January:	
Alby Petersen	7.15kg
February:	
Dave Adams	9.38kg
March: none!	
April:	
Peter (Bun) Matheson	10kg

tournament. The 10kg has going for decades and has a solid core of contestants that just keep coming back no matter what the weather throws at us.

Awesome prizes, great venue, the 'level playing field' of 10kg line, and all are welcome. Gourock have supplied discounted Momo Hi Catch 10kg IGFA Warkworth BoatnFishing and you can spool up at the rate of 3c/m instead of the usual 5c/m. Great line at a silly price—brilliant! Tickets for the 10kg should be at the outlets by the time you are reading this. Mark it up on the calendar now: 12pm Friday 4th June 'til 4pm Sunday 6th June.

This poster was created by Tegan Ilingworth and Pearl Williamson, Year 8 students at Mahurangi College. These girls are spot on with their facts and are doing a school project and fisher survey to educate those that occasionally (or regularly!) hook a small fish. It should be common sense, but it is surprising how many 'experienced' fishers handle (and ultimately kill) fish they are releasing. The wet towel/glove is ideal if you have to handle the fish, but if you use pliers or the back of a knife and turn the hook upside down while holding the trace taught the fish will fall back into the water without you even touching it. The use of recurve hooks or larger sizes in standard

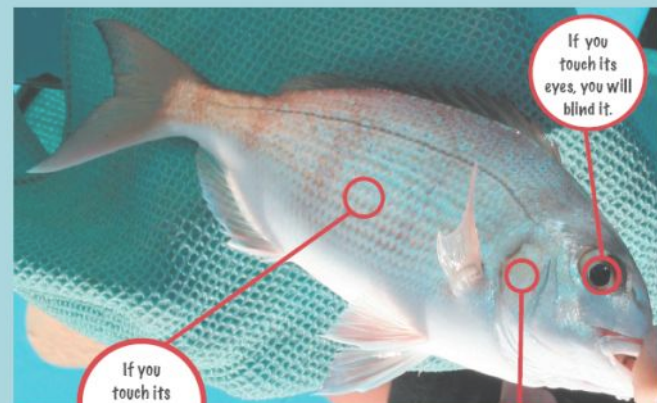
patterns will greatly reduce the hooking of smaller fish, as will moving somewhere else if you're in the nursery. Good on ya girls.

5 YEAR WARRANTY
Now on all outboard motors
Mahurangi Marine
Snells Beach
Ph 425 5806

Warkworth BoatnFishing

Whittaker Road, Warkworth Ph 425 8490
For all your tackle, bait, chandlery, and bookings for the highly successful charter boat Assassin, soft-bait specialists.

DON'T HANDLE FISH WITH YOUR BARE HANDS



About 80% of undersized fish die because they are not put back in the ocean properly. Please use a wet glove, tea towel or plastic bag to handle undersize fish and help preserve our fish for future generations.

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