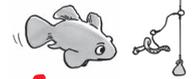


TARFish Bulletin



Tasmanian Association for Recreational Fishing Inc.

December 2018

HABITAT PROJECT

TARFish has joined with Ozfish Unlimited and UTAS as a project partner on an exciting project that is looking to determine if degraded Giant Kelp forests can be restored on the East Coast.

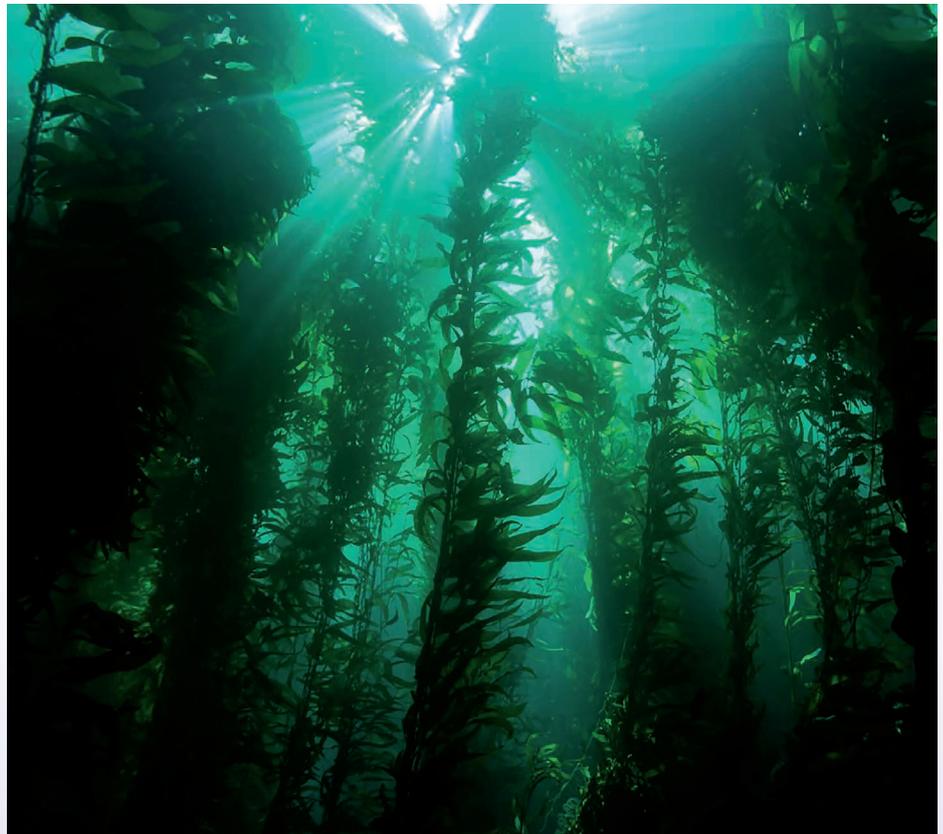
Giant Kelp forests are key habitats in Tasmania for rock lobster, abalone, trumpeter and calamari. Unfortunately, 95% of these forests have disappeared. But scattered healthy individual giant kelp still persist and they provide the foundation for a project to restore the giant kelp forests. As a project partner TARFish are looking for recreational fishers that would be willing to lend their support in:

- Mapping the location of the remnant giant kelp around Tasmania.
- Constructing and installing kelp arrays, allowing grow-out of cultivated juvenile kelp plants that are more tolerant of warm water.
- Monitoring fish activity in and around restored patches of giant kelp using Baited Remote Underwater Videos (BRUVs) and/or Remote Operated Vehicles (ROVs).

If you are interested in participating, please contact TARFish to register and obtain more information on this exciting project.

MACKEREL REVIEW

DPIPWE have released details on proposed changes to the Tasmanian Mackerel Fishery. Public submissions close on the 14 January 2019. Full details are available on the DPIPWE website.



Before ^

Now v





LONG SPINED URCHIN

Centrostephanus rodgersii is a marine pest that is having a major impact on the marine environment in Tasmanian waters. IMAS have recently undertaken a resurvey of the impacts of centro on reefs in Tasmania. Download a copy of their current report from our website.

TARFish attended a state government convened *Centrostephanus* Forum in Hobart in mid-December. The core objectives of the forum were to (a) provide details of the most up to date research on *Centro* distribution and impacts, and (b) identify possible actions that might be considered to control *Centrostephanus* and mitigate those impacts. DPIPWE and IMAS staff presented updated information on *Centro* distribution and impacts and case studies of relevant control programs. The second half of the day involved discussions around possible future actions and opportunities that might be further investigated and/or progressed.



ROCK LOBSTER

Each year the Fisheries Minister sets the following years fishing season Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for the Rock Lobster Fishery. As part of that process the Minister requests advice on the TAC from TARFish and other bodies and committees. A copy of the TARFish advice is available on our website for the 2019/20 fishing season.



TARFish are calling for applications from members who can add value to the TARFish Committee and want to support recreational marine fishing advocacy in Tasmania.

TARFish are currently seeking applications for an Associate Member Representative. Associate Member Representatives are appointed for two years. TARFish holds meetings every two months in Hobart which last about 2 hours and are conducted out of normal business hours, meetings generally start around 6.30pm. Committee members who need to travel to meetings from outside the greater Hobart area are entitled to claim a travel allowance to cover expenses to attend meetings. If you are interested simply contact us and we will send you an information pack.



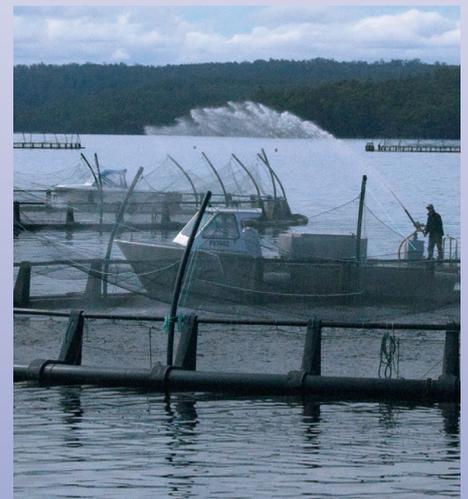
MAST UPDATE

TARFish attended the recent launch of Marine and Safety Tasmania's new boat safety campaign. MAST Chief Executive Lia Morris said the campaign is focused on three major issues: **INFLATABLE** life jackets and the need to service them, **BEING** weatherwise and knowing where your safety gear is and how to use it and **BUYING** an unseaworthy second-hand boat. Full details on the campaign are available on the MAST website.



MARINE FARMING

Due to the ongoing development and expansion of the salmon marine farming industry, TARFish has reviewed and amended its policy position. Download a copy of our latest policy from our Policies page on our website.





and outreach in debates relevant to rec-fishing." Outputs from the meeting will be used to determine regional and national recfishing research priorities for 2019/20 which will then be fed into potential project funding processes.

TARFish also participates in a similar process for Tasmania that identifies and prioritises state-based research requirements. Research projects around Southern Bluefin Tuna, Broadbill Swordfish, King George Whiting & Yellowtail Kingfish are recent examples where important knowledge has been gained through targeted research programs for the recfishing sector.

SOUTHERN BLUEFIN

The federal Department of Agriculture has advised "The Commonwealth has contracted the University of Tasmania to undertake a survey of recreational fisher effort, catch, release and harvest estimates of Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT) and other large tuna and billfish.

The survey will be undertaken in South Australia, Victoria, Tasmania and New South Wales using varied techniques appropriate to each state... Data collection will begin on 1 December 2018 and conclude on 30 November 2019. The survey results are expected to be available by mid-2020."



FISHERIES FORUM

DPIPWE held their fourth Fisheries Forum for the year in Hobart in December after successful forums on the North West, North and East Coasts during 2018.

Around 150 attendees received presentation updates on Flathead - What's the catch? Breeding and size limit research. Snapper - Are they Tassie residents? How fast do they grow? East Coast Rock Lobster - What's the strategy? Southern Bluefin Tuna - Latest research plus the Tuna Champions Program.

The forum was well supported and highlights the need to regularly communicate with the recreational fishing sector.

OUT AND ABOUT

TARFish attended Senator Richard Colbeck's National Recreational Fishing Council meeting. Discussion topics included the Tuna Champions Program, Marine Park Advisory Committees, Resource Sharing, National Habitat Strategy & Legislative recognition of rec fishing in commonwealth fisheries management and implications.

TARFish attended a national recfishing research meeting in Melbourne that is looking at "engaging with stakeholders to find out what kinds of scientific information they feel they need (existing or otherwise) to inform their responses





FISHING TOURISM

It looks like the rest of the world is coming to grips with the great fishing opportunities available in Tasmania. The latest Visitor Survey from Tourism Tasmania has identified a 16.8% increase in visitors, over the last 12 months, who have undertaken saltwater fishing whilst visiting Tasmania.

Our world class Tuna, Swordfish, Rock Lobster, Abalone and the multitude of

finfish on offer provides broad fishing options whilst visiting Tasmania. The TARFish CEO recently spent 2 weeks holidaying in New Zealand and the kiwis have adopted a novel approach to managing increasing visiting fisher numbers. NZ has introduced a non-resident fishing licence that is 30% more than a resident licence. The additional licence revenue goes to improving recreational fishing facilities and services.



SEWAGE DISCHARGE

TARFish has been communicating with the EPA since July on clarifying changes to sewage discharge from boats from 1st November following a query from a concerned rec fisher. Details on the changes as they relate to boaters is available from the EPA website.

YO HO HO

The Christmas break is the most important time of the year for recreational fishers and the time of the year when more people are fishing than at any other time of the year. Make sure you take the time over the Christmas break to go fishing, take your family and/or a friend with you and enjoy the experience for what it is, relaxation and recreation from the hectic world we live in. It's been said life's better with a rod in your hand and we agree!

JOIN TARFish

TARFish continues to grow and mature as an association and remains committed and flexible to the needs of Tasmania's recreational marine fishing community. Associate membership totals over 3300 individuals and sees members drawn from all areas of Tasmania. Associate membership is FREE and there are no ongoing fees. Simply contact us, and we will post you a membership application or you can download from our website, complete the details and send back.

Find us on 

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