

# ILLEGAL FISHING: WORKSHEET

**Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing is when people fish outside of the law.**

- **Illegal fishing** is fishing that is not conducted according to New Zealand law by Aotearoa New Zealand fishers or in Aotearoa New Zealand waters. For example, selling fish caught in our waters without quota or catching undersized snapper. Unfortunately illegal fishing happens in commercial, recreational and customary fisheries.
- **Unreported fishing** is fishing that is either not reported or not reported truthfully. For example, a commercial fisher reporting a two tonne catch of snapper when they actually caught three.
- **Unregulated fishing** is fishing that occurs outside of the law. This might be fishing for species or in areas that are not covered by fishing laws.

The problem with all kinds of illegal, unreported and unregulated kinds of fishing is it often occurs with no concern for the environment or sustainability.

In Aotearoa New Zealand the Quota Management System works because we know roughly how many fish there are and how many fish we are catching – but if fish are being taken illegally then we might end up taking too many fish. The fishery might decline or collapse because we thought we were fishing it sustainably but actually the illegal fishing means we are taking too much.

One problem with managing fisheries is that the ocean is a huge place and no one lives there! Illegal fishing can occur far out to sea. The Patagonian toothfish is a human-sized deep-living fish found only in the planet's coldest waters. Toothfish stocks were



*Patagonian Toothfish*



*Albatross*

decimated by illegal (pirate!) fishing boats (see the Marine Stewardship Council Toothfish story). The fishing practices of these illegal fishing vessels were also resulting in the death of many seabirds including albatross.

Illegal fishing can however also be a problem on or near the shoreline (see these stories about poaching and Toheroa on Ripiro

Beach). The Marine Stewardship Council is working hard to address illegal fishing as it is not sustainable. When you buy seafood that has the Blue Fish Tick you know that fish has been legally and sustainably caught.

## WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit the following web pages to find out more about Kaitiakitanga:

- The Marine Stewardship Council [Patagonian Toothfish story](#)
- Poaching of [toheroa](#)
- Illegal fishing of toheroa on [Ripiro Beach](#)
- Marine Stewardship Council work to [address illegal fishing](#)
- How the Marine Stewardship Council [Blue Fish Tick](#) helps in the fight against illegal fishing



# QUESTIONS

## What did we learn?

### Multiple choice

*Circle the correct answer*

1. Illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing is when people fish outside of the law.

**This means it is**

- (a) Legal
- (b) Not legal
- (c) Law abiding
- (d) Regulation

2. True or False? **Unreported fishing** is fishing that is either reported or reported truthfully.

3. The problem with all kinds of illegal, unreported and unregulated kinds of fishing is it often occurs with no concern for the

\_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) Environment
- (b) Economy
- (c) Profit margin
- (d) Ability to make money

4. True or false? In Aotearoa New Zealand the Quota Management System works because we know roughly how many fish there are and how many fish we are catching – but if fish are being taken illegally then we might end up taking too many fish.

5. Which of the following is not true of illegal fishing

- (a) Illegal fishing can occur on or close to shore
- (b) Illegal fishing can occur a long way from land
- (c) Recreational fishers can be guilty of illegal fishing
- (d) Illegal fishing only occurs amongst commercial fishers

# IUU FISHING QUIZ

Read each of the examples in column one below. Decide if it is illegal or legal (column 2). Would you class it as (1) illegal, (2) unreported or (3) unregulated.

| Example   | Do you think this is legal? Yes or No? | If not, is it:<br>1. Illegal 2. Unreported or 3. Unregulated |
|---|--|--|
| A recreational fisher sells six tāmure / snapper to his local fish shop   |  |  |
| A Commercial fisher fishes for tāmure / snapper in Area 1 when she owns quota for Area 2.   |  |  |
| Local whānau take 10 toheroa from Ripiro Beach using a customary fisheries permit issued by the legally appointed kaitiaki / tiaki. |  |  |
| A commercial fisher reports he caught 200 kingfish when he actually caught 400  |  |  |
| A foreign vessel sneaks inside the 200 mile limit and fishes for orange roughy under cover of darkness                              |  |  |
| A hoki fisher reports no bycatch when they actually caught two albtross   |  |  |
| Unknown to the kaitiaki / tiaki and under cover of darkness 50 toheroa are taken from Oreti Beach                                   |  |  |
| A New Zealand commercial fisher sneaks across into Australian waters and fishes for Orange Roughy.                                  |  |  |
| Taiwanese and NZ fishers fish large numbers of Janthina (small surface pelagic shellfish not included in the QMS) commercially      |  |  |

# TEACHERS: ANSWERS

Read each of the examples in column one below. Decide if it is illegal or legal (column 2). Would you class it as (1) illegal, (2) unreported or (3) unregulated.

| Example   | Do you think this is legal? Yes or No? | If not, is it:<br>1. Illegal 2. Unreported or 3. Unregulated |
|---|--|--|
| A recreational fisher sells six tāmure / snapper to his local fish shop   | No                                     | 1. Illegal   |
| A Commercial fisher fishes for tāmure / snapper in Area 1 when she owns quota for Area 2.   | No                                     | 1. Illegal   |
| Local whānau take 10 toheroa from Ripiro Beach using a customary fisheries permit issued by the legally appointed kaitiaki / tiaki. | Yes                                    | 1. Illegal   |
| A commercial fisher reports he caught 200 kingfish when he actually caught 400  | No                                     | 2. Unreported  |
| A foreign vessel sneaks inside the 200 mile limit and fishes for orange roughy under cover of darkness                              | No                                     | 3. Unregulated   |
| A hoki fisher reports no bycatch when they actually caught two albtross   | No                                     | 2. Unreported  |
| Unknown to the kaitiaki / tiaki and under cover of darkness 50 toheroa are taken from Oreti Beach                                   | No                                     | 1. Illegal   |
| A New Zealand commercial fisher sneaks across into Australian waters and fishes for Orange Roughy.                                  | No                                     | 3. Unregulated   |
| Taiwanese and NZ fishers fish large numbers of Janthina (small surface pelagic shellfish not included in the QMS) commercially      | Yes                                    | 3. Unregulated   |