

# Friday update



## Captain's Blog

November 18, 2016



Jason Baker stands on upraised seashore near Clarence, the ocean now 200 metres away and four metres lower at high tide/Geoff Laing

### Marlborough fisheries shaken up

The stranded cows were saved but it was tougher for marine creatures following this week's massive 7.8

## In the Media



John Bisset/Fairfax NZ

**New Sanford fishing vessel sails into Timaru after 45 day trip from Norway**  
**Stuff (November 15)** reported on Sanford's new \$25m fishing boat, the San Granit, which was met with fanfare when it sailed into Timaru Port on November 15.

quake.

Startling images of uplifted seashore on the Kaikoura coast that stranded rich paua beds and nests of rock lobsters and covered a celebrated seal rookery were seen around the world.

While there were much bigger issues to be dealt with, not least rescuing people from isolated Kaikoura, the diving fraternity began returning as many stranded adult paua and crays to the sea as possible.

With so much coastline affected it could only ever be a token effort and the smaller paua out of sight under rocks had no chance of survival once they had been out of water for a day or so.

"We're hoping to get as many as we can to the water but it's an enormous stretch of coastline and an enormous amount of paua," Paua Industry Council chief executive Storm Stanley said.

The scale of the earthquake's impact is hard to grasp. The entire ecosystem along a 50-km intertidal zone has been ravaged.

The international news agency Reuters contacted Seafood NZ to enquire whether the earthquakes would impact on exports.

Despite the localised devastation, the answer is not to any significant degree.

The paua fishery is the sector most affected but, even so, the annual Kaikoura coast harvest is 90 tonnes, which represents only 10 percent of the total New Zealand harvest.

And the Kaikoura paua habitat is not uniformly disrupted, although it may be as much as 50 percent.

The Norwegian built boat, measuring 67m long and 14m wide was welcomed into port by the sound of bagpipes and two tug boats spraying water.

The 11 strong crew had spent the last 45 days sailing from Norway, with only a two-day stopover in Panama breaking up the trip.

The ship joins Sanford's Timaru-based 11-strong factory fishing fleet and would be put into service next month. The San Granit will help Sanford increase its fishing catchments of squid, hoki, and southern blue whiting.

[Read more](#)



**Divers and volunteers band together to save stranded shellfish and sea life** **Stuff (November 15)** reported on the efforts of Marlborough locals to return sealife to the ocean along the new Kaikoura coastline.

Paua, crayfish and fish were all left stranded when the seabed floor was raised two metres during Monday mornings 7.8 earthquake.

Commercial paua diver Tim Mcleod, of Ward, said he and a group of divers were heading to the coast on Tuesday to try and minimise damage to the fishery.

"We've got commercial paua divers from the area going out to Cape Campbell light house to do what we can to save paua and lobsters," he said.

Burkhart Fisheries co-owner

Trevor Burkhart added the new coastline had left fewer rocks for paua to cling



Stranded crayfish under a newly uplifted ledge/Social media

The Government has announced a relief package, largely aimed at tourism and agriculture, but the seafood sector fully expects to be included.

In the immediate aftermath, MPI staff responded quickly and locals are full of praise for their efforts.

The coastal fringe will regenerate in time – but not if it is smothered in millions of cubic metres of rock and mud.

The highway blockages are of an unprecedented size and will likely take several months to fully clear, according to the NZ Transport Agency.

The slips are unstable and four or five are of similar size to the massive rockfall that closed the Manawatu Gorge for an extended period in 2011.

What techniques will be employed to clear the slips and where the spoil will be deposited are still to be decided.

Prime Minister John Key says the coastal road has had a mountain pushed on to it and is “really stuffed”.

The quickest and cheapest option may be to simply bulldoze the slips into the sea but that would have profound effects on the fragile coastal environment.

That concern has been made known to Primary Industries Minister Nathan Guy and adds to the many challenges facing the Government and communities in the wake of this latest upheaval in the

onto.

[Read more](#)

**Mussels put to bed in Mahurangi**  
**Rodney Times (15 November)** reported on an Auckland University project that saw seven to eight tonnes of mussels relocated from Coromandel farms to Northland.

The mussels were shovelled off boats into seven different experimental areas in Mahurangi and Kawau Bay.

Professor of Marine Science Dr Andrew Jeffs said the mussels use a “foot” to drag themselves around and will begin to anchor themselves within a few days. “They sink to the bottom, crawl around, find each other, attach anchor threads to one another and form a bed,” Jeffs said.

The bed locations were chosen specifically for their environmental conditions.

[Read more](#)



The new Kaikoura coastline/Barry Chandler

**'Mass deaths of paua' after quake – expert**

**Newshub (16 November)** reported on the extensive number of paua left dead along the Marlborough coastline after the Kaikoura earthquake.

The Paua Industry Council chairman Storm Stanley said it did not take long for them to realise that most of the paua uprooted were dead.

Earth's crust.  
– Tim Pankhurst



A wall of paua left dying after Monday morning's earthquake/Social media

## Future of our Fisheries

Your opportunity to respond to the Future of our Fisheries has started. The document is broken into three parts to make submissions easy:

- Fisheries Management System Review.
- Integrated Electronic Monitoring and Reporting System regulations (IEMRS).
- Enabling Innovative Trawl Technology (EITT) regulations.

*To read the consultation document, send through a submission or find out if there is a public meeting near you [click here](#).*

**Consultation on the document will close on the December 23.**

"After an hour or two it became pretty clear that most of the paua are now dead or dying," Stanley said.

[Read more](#)

## Sanford profit up

**NZ Herald (16 November)** Sanford, New Zealand's largest listed fishing group, have more than doubled their annual profit.

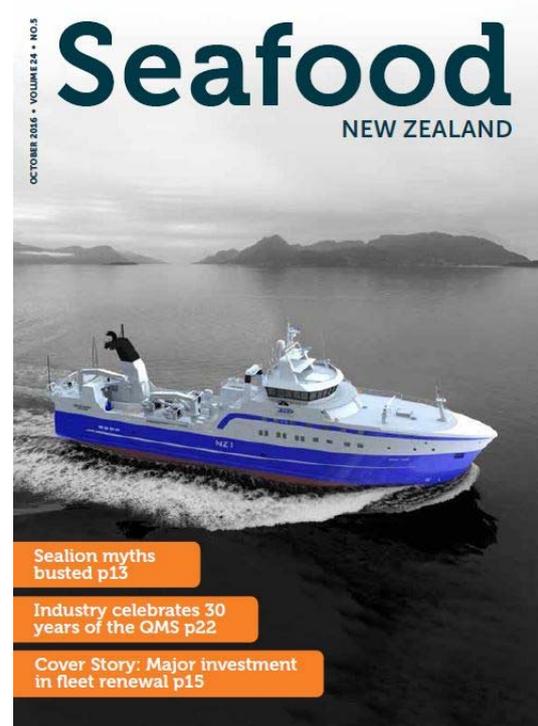
The much improved performance was on the back of a weaker kiwi dollar and cheaper fuel, with the results flying in the face of a smaller catch.

Net profit rose from \$13.8m in 2015 to \$34.7 million for the year ended September 30.

Revenue rose 2.9 per cent to \$463.5m with the board declaring a final dividend of 14 cents per share.

[Read more](#)

Click below to browse the latest Seafood New Zealand magazine

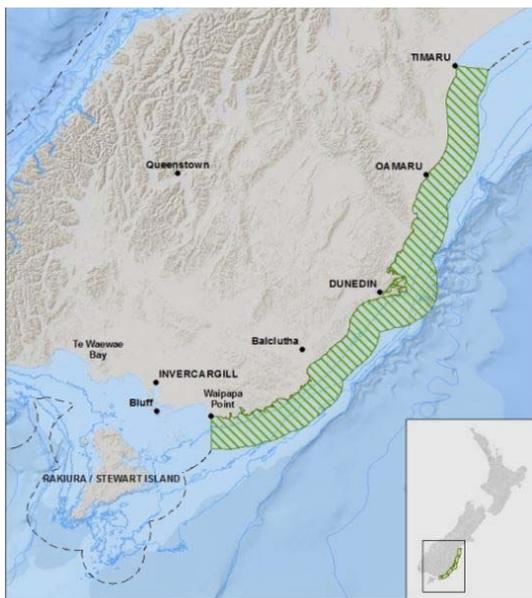




### Best Fish Guide

Remember to visit Seafood New Zealand's new website  
[bestfishguide.co.nz](http://bestfishguide.co.nz).

*You will find all the videos, recipes and information you could need on sustainable New Zealand seafood.*



**South-East Marine Protection Planning Forum Area**

**South–East Marine Protection Forum  
Public Consultation – Have your say**

The South–East Marine Protection Forum has released a public consultation document and has called for submissions on initial proposals of 20 sites that could be included in a network of marine protected areas (MPAs) along the SouthEast Coast of the South Island from Timaru to Waipapa Point.

You can download the public consultation document, submission form and supporting documents on this link, or call 0800 687 729 to request a copy.

Copies will also be available for viewing at local council offices and public libraries throughout the region.

*Submissions close 5pm, Tuesday, December 20, 2016.*

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