

## 8 | Active Harvest Strategy

# Rock Lobster



### Management Authority:

New Zealand (domestic)

### Adoption Year:

1997

### Management Objectives:

Per New Zealand's Harvest Strategy Standard:

- Achieve the MSY-compatible target or better with at least 50% likelihood
- Limit the risk of breaching the soft limit to no more than 10%
- Limit the risk of breaching the hard limit to no more than 2%

### Reference Points:

- **Target Reference Point:**  $B_{MSY}$  or  $B_{REF}$  historical stock size proxy from when the stock had "good productivity and was demonstrably safe";  $B_{REF}$  is always  $\geq B_{MSY}$
- **Soft Limit:** 20%  $SSB_0$  or 50%  $B_{REF}$
- **Hard Limit:** 10%  $SSB_0$  or 25%  $B_{REF}$

\* $SSB_0$  = spawning stock size that would exist in the absence of fishing

### Harvest Strategy:

- **Type:** Empirical
- **Management cycle:** 5 years
- **Data inputs:** CPUE
- **Management output:** Quota
- **Harvest control rule:** There are 4 different rock lobster stocks that have an HCR, and each is slightly different. They include step and sliding rules.
- **Other:** Varies by stock, but most set a minimum quota change.

### Outcome:

All but one of the ten lobster stocks in New Zealand are above the target. The single stock considered overfished is still above both the soft and hard limits, according to a 2018 assessment. While the 2022 assessment has yet to be completed for the stock, initial information suggests abundance may be increasing for the stock under current management controls. In 2019, the MPs for two management areas recommended increases in TAC. Two management areas are no longer managed by harvest strategies due to a loss of some of the catch/ effort data, which had been used as the basis for the harvest strategies.

### Link to relevant policy document or update:

[Operational management procedures of New Zealand rock lobster stocks for 2020-21 \(https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/43738-FAR-202046-Operational-management-procedures-of-New-Zealand-rock-lobster-Jasus-edwardsii-stocks-for-202021\)](https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/43738-FAR-202046-Operational-management-procedures-of-New-Zealand-rock-lobster-Jasus-edwardsii-stocks-for-202021); Describes performance of harvest strategies and recommendations