



SALE OR RAFFLE OF FISH

The sale of recreationally caught fish in New Zealand is illegal. Only fish legally caught by commercial fishers may be sold or used for raffles/fundraising.

Laws in relation to the sale or raffle of fish are:

- **Don't buy, or even have in your possession, any finfish, crayfish or shellfish (other than whitebait) for the purposes of any sale in any form whatsoever (including raffles) unless you can prove you have obtained the fish from one of the following sources:**
 1. A licenced fish receiver or other authorised person (such as dealers in fish).
 2. A commercial fisherman in the vicinity of his or her fishing vessel (maximum amounts apply to the amount of fish which can be purchased, e.g. 10kg of finfish).
- **Do not permit any premises to be used for illegal sale of fish.**

NOTE: The meaning of “sale” under the Fisheries Act is very wide. Sale “includes every method of disposition for valuable consideration, including barter; and includes the disposition to an agent for sale on consignment; and also includes offering of attempting to sell, or receiving or having in possession for sale, or exposing for sale, or sending or delivering for sale, or causing or permitting to be sold, offered, or exposed for sale; and also includes disposal by way of raffle, lottery, or other game of chance ...”

- **Severe penalties apply to offences under the Fisheries Act (large fines as well as forfeiture of property)**

Anyone organising a sale or raffle of fish or wanting further detailed information on the laws relating to the sale of fish, should contact any office of the Ministry for Primary Industries.

Each year thousands of New Zealanders go fishing and take fish (finfish, crayfish and shellfish) from a very wide range of species. Fish caught can only be consumed for personal purposes and may not be sold/raffled or traded.



Illegal sales or raffle of fish pose a serious threat to the sustainability of the resource.

**Report illegal fishing and illegal sales
Phone 0800 4 poacher (0800 476 224)**