



For immediate release:

16 May 2017

Strong Kingfish result in a challenging market

- Net profit \$22.4m
- Total shareholder return¹ +8.1%
- Portfolio return² +13.3%
- Dividend return +8.5% (11.16 cps paid)

NZX-listed investment company Kingfish Limited (NZX: KFL) today announced a net operating profit after tax for the 12 months to 31 March 2017 of \$22.4 million. The result builds on last year's net profit of \$22.5 million and includes gains on investments of \$20.6m, dividend and interest income of \$6.8m less operating expenses and tax of \$5.0m.

Total shareholder return was 8.1% which included the change in share price, dividends paid per share and the impact of the warrants that were on issue during the year. In accordance with Kingfish's quarterly distribution policy (2% of average NAV per quarter), the company paid a total of 11.16 cents per share to shareholders during the year ended 31 March 2017. On 16 May 2017, the Board declared a dividend of 2.79 cents per share, payable on 29 June 2017 with a record date of 15 June 2017.

The Kingfish portfolio achieved a return of +13.3%² outperforming the S&P/NZX50G which was up 6.6% over the same period. Kingfish Chair Alistair Ryan said: "The 2017 year was a challenging period for the New Zealand share market and it was encouraging that Kingfish generated strong returns ahead of the market in such an environment. The Manager's focus on investing in quality growing companies has continued to yield healthy returns for shareholders."

Kingfish's Manager, Fisher Funds, was paid a performance fee of \$931,653 plus GST during the period as the Kingfish portfolio achieved a return in excess of both the performance fee hurdle (the Bank Bill Index rate plus 7%) and the High Water Mark (the highest net asset value at the end of the previous financial year in which a performance fee was paid, adjusted for changes in capital).

Senior Portfolio Manager Sam Dickie said: "The 2017 financial year was a game of two halves for the New Zealand stock market with the S&P/NZX50G up strongly in the first six months before falling as much as 10% in the second half. It was very pleasing to see Kingfish outperform in both strong market conditions and the choppy environment in the second half."

Sam added: "Since taking over the management of the Kingfish portfolio on 1 March, I've been encouraged to see the majority of the portfolio companies in very good shape and discover a number of other fertile opportunities outside the current crop. We are going to continue to invest in high quality companies with sound growth prospects and sustainable competitive advantages."

Subsequent to year end, Kingfish has had a successful uptake of its latest warrants with 29.1m (76%) warrants being converted into ordinary shares on the exercise date of 5 May 2017. The latest warrant issue has provided an additional \$35.2m for Kingfish to invest in quality, growing New Zealand companies.

For further information please contact:

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¹ *The total shareholder return and adjusted net asset value methodologies are described in the Kingfish Non-GAAP Financial Information policy. A copy of the policy is available at <http://www.kingfish.co.nz/about-kingfish/kingfish-policies/>.*

²*Gross of fees and tax and adjusting for capital management initiatives*

About Kingfish

Kingfish is a listed investment company that invests in growing New Zealand companies. The Kingfish portfolio is managed by Fisher Funds, a specialist investment manager with a track record of successfully investing in growth company shares. The aim of Kingfish is to offer investors competitive returns through capital growth and dividends, and access to a diversified portfolio of investments through a single tax-efficient investment vehicle. Kingfish listed on the NZX Main Board on 31 March 2004 and may invest in companies that are listed on the NZX Main Board, NZX Alternative Market or unlisted companies. **/ends**