

# PROPOSED FISHERIES SERVICES TO BE PROVIDED IN 2007 - 2008

This document contains the Ministry of Fisheries outputs and services proposed to be delivered in 2007/08. The purpose of consulting on them is to enable the Minister to be informed of all views on the services and their costs. It will then be for the Minister to make the decisions on the actual services to be delivered in 2007/08

Stakeholders should note that the services proposed in this consultation document are essentially a continuation of those provided in the 2006/2011 Statement of Intent, but reflect the revised policy programme for 2007/2008. The 'context' document provided as part of the consultation process for the 2006/2011 Statement of Intent remains current and can be accessed to provide commentary on the Ministry's strategic direction. This document remains relevant to the consultation now being proposed. It can be found on the Ministry's web site [www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Publications](http://www.fish.govt.nz/en-nz/Publications) under 'proposed fisheries services 2007/08'.

The Ministry has several new initiative proposals for consideration in the 2007 Budget. These are included here for consultation purposes and are shown in the section at the end of this document. The Government will determine which, if any, of these services will be approved. The costs associated with these proposals are NOT included in the proposed Departmental output expense costs, but are included in the proposed additional services for 2007/08 section.

## **Fisheries research**

For 2007/08 the Ministry will be continuing the two-tier approach adopted in 2006/07. Tier 1 projects are those that can be accommodated within the approved funding levels. Other projects will only be undertaken where tier 1 projects are withdrawn/cancelled, and after consultation on the cost recovery levies. Recovery of costs through levies will only be applied to those projects that are actually undertaken. Any tier 2 project that remains outside the approved funding levels will not be cost recovered.

## **Performance measures**

The Ministry is aware that its output performance measures need improvement and will be working to achieve more useful measures and introduce cost effectiveness measures before the final services for 2007/08 are determined.

## **Conventions**

Unless otherwise stated:

- all financial information is expressed in \$000s and on a GST-exclusive basis
- a variance calculation shown in brackets ( ) signifies an increase in expenditure or a decrease in revenue.

## **Departmental output expenses**

The table overleaf sets out the departmental output costs, and shows:

- the full cost of the outputs
- the amounts to be recovered from the commercial fishing sector through cost recovery levies and transaction charges
- the net Crown cost for 2007/08
- a comparison with the full cost of each output for 2006/07.

Departmental Output Expense/Service	2006-07	2007/08			
	Full Cost	Full Cost	Industry Recovered		Net Crown Cost
			Levies	Transaction Charges	
<b>Fisheries policy advice</b>					
New Zealand fisheries policy advice provided	2,975	3,058	0	0	3,058
International fisheries policy advice provided	2,415	2,707	0	0	2,707
Ministerial services provided	795	1,069	0	0	1,069
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>6,185</b>	<b>6,834</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,834</b>
<b>Fisheries information</b>					
Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured	23,097	22,100	14,031	0	8,069
Biodiversity of New Zealand's marine environment estimated	2,393	2,416	0	0	2,416
Observer services provided	3,648	4,013	2,643	1,370	0
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>29,138</b>	<b>28,529</b>	<b>16,674</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>10,485</b>
<b>Fisheries operations</b>					
New Zealand fisheries utilisation and sustainability reported	10,388	11,564	0	0	11,564
Deed of Settlement implemented	5,366	5,701	0	0	5,701
Statutory decision processes administered	433	345	345	0	0
Aquaculture permit applications processed	858	788	0	180	608
Registry services managed	4,996	4,525	4,375	150	0
Biosecurity advice provided	356	74	0	0	74
Biodiversity advice provided	553	624	0	0	624
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>22,950</b>	<b>23,621</b>	<b>4,720</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>18,571</b>
<b>Fisheries compliance</b>					
Commercial fisheries compliance	8,125	8,753	8,753	0	0
Non-commercial fisheries compliance	6,417	5,868	0	0	5,868
New Zealand's international fisheries compliance	617	742	0	0	742
Poaching and black market activities deterred	11,046	10,355	0	0	10,355
Prosecutions managed	3,410	4,008	0	0	4,008
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>29,615</b>	<b>29,726</b>	<b>8,753</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20,973</b>
<b>Aquaculture settlement</b>					
Aquaculture settlement implemented	1,553	1,615	0	0	1,615
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>1,615</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,615</b>
<b>Total departmental output expenses</b>	<b>89,441</b>	<b>90,325</b>	<b>30,147</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>58,478</b>
<b>2006/07 Plan</b>		<b>89,441</b>	<b>30,537</b>	<b>1,979</b>	<b>56,925</b>

## DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSE - FISHERIES POLICY ADVICE

### Description

This includes the services that ensure development and review of policy and legal frameworks to enable best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries resources.

### Objectives

- Provide and improve a conceptual framework for the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries resources.
- Participate in the development and review of international frameworks, and implement the decisions in a domestic context.
- Provide services to the Minister of Fisheries and Select Committees as required.

## NEW ZEALAND FISHERIES POLICY ADVICE PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

The services provided by the Ministry's Fisheries Policy group over the next five years cover a range of policy development activities, in the following key areas:

#### *1. Adding value to the fisheries sector*

This work area deals with reforms to add value to New Zealand's fisheries sectors, including tools to enable stakeholders to take responsible initiatives to add value and tools to ensure efficient delivery of services.

It includes reforms to improve the policy framework for allocation of shared fisheries (those fisheries in which commercial, recreational and Maori customary fishers all have significant interests), and to improve Ministry engagement with fisheries stakeholders (especially non-commercial stakeholders and the public). It also involves contributing to the Government's focus on economic transformation.

#### *2. Improving environmental performance*

This work area involves reforms to enhance the environmental performance of the fisheries sector, including managing the impact of fishing on the environment and at-risk species.

It includes reviewing the Fisheries Act to consider whether improvements to the regulatory framework are needed, and reform areas involving other government agencies that address adverse effects of activities on the marine environment, including impact on fisheries resources and habitats.

#### *3. Developing fisheries outcomes and a monitoring framework*

The focus of this work area is better prescribing fisheries management outcomes and a monitoring framework. The fisheries outcomes framework will inform the operation of an objectives-based approach to fisheries management. This work area also includes reporting on indicators of the achievement of fisheries outcomes, and contribution to the development of fisheries standards (led by the Fisheries Operations group).

#### *4. Providing for the delivery of obligations to Maori*

This work includes completing the Ministry's Treaty Strategy framework that will specify how the Ministry's obligations to Maori align with the outcomes framework and how these are implemented in

different areas of the Ministry's work. A review of the implementation of the Treaty Strategy in order to identify areas for improvement will also be undertaken.

The Fisheries Policy group also contributes to the settlement of the historical Treaty claims of individual iwi and hapu, and supports Crown negotiations and the consideration of applications made under the foreshore and seabed legislation.

### **Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes**

These services link to the following government themes and objectives:

Services 1 and 2	Economic transformation - improving the sustainable use and management of natural resources. National identity – recreation, conservation and the environment
Service 3	Economic transformation - improving the sustainable use and management of natural resources. National identity – recreation, conservation and the environment National identity - reconciliation
Service 4	National identity – reconciliation

The services directly contribute to Ministry outcomes, in particular:

- protecting the health of the aquatic environment (service 2)
- enabling New Zealanders to get the best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries resources (services 1, 2, 3 and 4)
- achieving a credible fisheries management regime (services 1, 2, 3 and 4).

### **Performance indicators**

The general performance specifications for each service are as follows:

Service 1	Develop effective approaches and implement reforms to increase value obtained from use of fisheries resources
Service 2	Improve the effectiveness of policy and legislation in reducing the adverse effects of fishing on the aquatic environment
Service 3	Improve the specification of outcomes and standards for fisheries management to provide guidance across all Ministry activity and services
Service 4	Improve the quality of the Crown relationship with tangata whenua and provide for input and participation in fisheries management, consistent with the Fisheries Deed of Settlement

### **Specific measures**

1 The quantity and nature of the specific services to be provided by the Fisheries Policy group in 2007/08 will be supplied on the basis agreed (as amended from time to time) between the Minister of

Fisheries (the Minister) and the Chief Executive of the Ministry. Reporting at agreed intervals during year will enable the Minister to assess actual performance in output delivery against those expectations.

2 All reports will comply with the Ministry's quality standards for analysis and advice outlined in this document.

3 The Minister will be formally requested, at agreed intervals during the year, to indicate his or her level of satisfaction with the overall quality of the outputs produced based on these standards.

4 Timeframes will be agreed between the Minister and the Chief Executive of the Ministry for the financial year 2007/08 (amended as necessary by agreement during the year). Advice will be delivered within the agreed and/or statutory timeframes so that Ministers have sufficient time to consider the issues and take appropriate action.

5 A comprehensive range of services will be provided as agreed with the Minister. These will include:

- policy analysis and advice, and the provision of associated legislative advice
- advice on the implementation of Government policy
- the capacity to react quickly and provide support for the Minister in Cabinet Committees, including relevant briefings on significant issues and evaluation of policy initiatives with relevance to the Government's outcomes for fisheries management
- conducting consultation processes with sector stakeholders, government agencies and the public
- initial promulgation of government policy, where such communication is separate from ongoing implementation
- oral and written briefings and preparation of speech notes.

#### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	2,975	3,058	(83)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES POLICY ADVICE PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

The services to be provided by the Ministry's international policy group cover the following key areas:

#### 1 Developing International Frameworks

Engagement and influence by negotiating improved frameworks and standards to promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources

#### 2 The promotion and protection of New Zealand interests in Regional fisheries management organisations, (CCAMLR, CCSBT, WCPFC, SPRFMO) to ensure sustainable use and securing access for the New Zealand fishing sector

Engagement and influence by negotiating improved frameworks and standards to promote the sustainable use of fisheries resources

#### 3 Pacific Fisheries Issues -Capacity Building in Pacific Island Countries (PICs)

Work with PICs to develop fishing policy and operational frameworks to maximise the social, economic and environmental benefits.

#### 4 Other Bilateral and Regional Engagement - APEC, SIOFA, Cooperation Agreements, Bilateral discussions

Promote and protect New Zealand's interests in relation to sustainable management framework and enhance opportunities for access of New Zealand seafood by engagement and influence within these fora.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

The above services link to the following government themes and objectives.

Services 1 and 2      Economic transformation – increasing International connection of firms  
National identity – promoting effective International rules

Service 3              National Identity – Rules based systems that support security and prosperity and promotes New Zealand values  
Eliminating poverty through development partnerships

Service 4              Economic transformation – increasing international competitiveness of firms

The services provided by the international group directly contribute to Ministry outcomes, in particular

- Protecting the health of the aquatic environment
- Enabling New Zealanders to get best value from the sustainable and efficient use of the marine environment

- Strengthened governance arrangements for high seas fisheries
- Promoting sound policies for managing fisheries and the environmental impacts of fishing
- Promoting strong governance arrangements for fisheries management
- Fisheries and environmental impacts of fishing are managed sustainably beyond the New Zealand EEZ. Maximise economic opportunities for New Zealand.

### Performance indicators

1 The objectives and negotiating position to protect and promote New Zealand's interests in international, regional and bilateral engagements is approved by Ministers prior to meetings (services 1, 2 and 4).

2 The results of the meetings to protect and promote New Zealand's interests in international, regional and bilateral engagements are provided to Ministers at the conclusion of the meetings (services 1, 2 and 4).

3 The Ministry will develop fisheries-related capacity building plans in partnership with Niue and Tokelau and implement training programmes for fisheries personnel from Niue and Tokelau (service 3).

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	2,415	2,707	(292)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## MINISTERIAL SERVICES PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

This service includes the drafting of reports and advice to Ministers and to Select and Cabinet Committees, replies to ministerial correspondence and responses to Parliamentary questions.

All government departments are required to provide services to the portfolio Minister(s) to enable them to carry out their statutory functions.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

These services provide an essential administrative facility for the Minister(s) of Fisheries and link to the government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to the contributing outcome of credible fisheries management through the Ministry's role of maintaining and developing long term organisational capacity.

### Performance indicators

The percentage of ministerial drafts provided to the Minister without error where error could have been avoided will be	95%
The percentage of draft ministerial replies completed within 15 working days of receipt unless specified as urgent will be not less than	95%
The percentage of draft responses to Parliamentary questions provided for the Minister's signature without error where error could have been avoided will be	100%
The percentage of responses to oral Parliamentary questions delivered on time	100%
The percentage of responses to written Parliamentary questions delivered on time	100%
The percentage of urgent replies completed within 5 days	100%
Advice and reports to Select Committees and Cabinet Committees will be in accordance with prescribed requirements, error free and on time	100%

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	795	1,069	(274)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSE - FISHERIES INFORMATION

### Description

This departmental output expense covers research that is largely science based (stock assessment, environmental assessment), and other activities relating to gathering and analysing data about New Zealand's fisheries to support decisions about sustainable utilisation, as well as the provision of information on the biodiversity of New Zealand's marine environment. Research costs represent existing projects that have been consulted on in past years, and proposed projects.

### Objectives

Provide the information required to ensure the sustainable use of New Zealand's fisheries resources, by scientifically evaluating:

- status of fisheries resources
- sustainable yields from fisheries resources
- the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment, including on the viability of associated or dependent species, and on biological diversity
- alternative strategies for achieving the desired level of yield while avoiding, remedying or mitigating adverse effects of fishing on the aquatic environment
- analysis of relevant cultural factors that may need to be included in the management decision process
- the specific measures needed to implement the appropriate management strategy.

## UTILISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY OF NEW ZEALAND'S FISHERIES RESOURCES MEASURED

### Services to be provided

As an input into current and future fisheries management decisions, fisheries research needs are identified, projects undertaken and results reported to provide increased information on:

- estimates of biomass and sustainable yields for fish stocks
- effects of fishing on the aquatic environment, including biodiversity and bycatch species
- relevant social, cultural and economic factors that may be included in the management decision process
- non-commercial harvest levels.

The Ministry contributes to the maintenance of sustainable fisheries in New Zealand through research designed to increase information on stock status levels, and add to the body of knowledge used to advise the Minister of Fisheries on appropriate utilisation for future years. Research is undertaken on individual fisheries at a frequency necessary to ensure the stock is not decreased through overfishing, thereby maintaining its value, and to enable the Ministry to maintain the currency of the information. This output also includes the costs associated with the capacity required to maintain the fisheries research programme.

Medium term research plans are reviewed and updated annually in consultation with stakeholders and form the framework for ongoing or new research requirements. New results from research programmes are presented annually to a number of Ministry-led working groups that convene to assess a range of fishstocks. Relevant results are used in providing advice to the Minister regarding sustainable yields from fish stocks, and the technical details for each fishery are summarised in working group reports that are published annually in the Fishery Assessment Plenary.

The effects of fishing on the environment are largely addressed through the Aquatic Environment working group, but there is overlap with the biodiversity research programme and research programmes of other government agencies. The aquatic environment medium term research plan is also updated and consulted on with all stakeholders on an annual basis. The environmental research findings are reviewed and assessed by this working group. The Ministry intends to develop a plenary document that will provide a forum for summarising the relevant issues and progress made in the New Zealand context through research contracts.

This output also includes the costs associated with the capacity required to maintain the fisheries research programme.

For 2007/08, the Ministry will continue the approach adopted in 206/07 and classify research projects into two categories with the intention of more fully utilising the research appropriation.

Tier 1 projects are those that can be funded within the proposed budget levels. Tier 2 represents those that are unable to be funded, but which the research planning groups considered of a sufficiently high priority to be included in the consultation process, and undertaken in the event of tier 1 project costs falling below appropriations.

### **Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes**

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected, people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management) through the provision of quality research information that enables the Ministry to advise the Minister of Fisheries on appropriate levels of sustainability and utilisation of the fisheries resource.

### **Performance indicators**

- 1 By 31 December 2007, update 12 medium-term research plans in accordance with the defined quality standards.
- 2 By 31 December 2007, produce research proposals for 2008/09 in accordance with the defined quality standards.
- 3 By 30 November 2007, produce a report from the mid-year fishery assessment plenary in accordance with the defined quality standards.
- 4 By 31 May 2008, produce a report from the fishery assessment plenary in accordance with the quality standards.

5 Actively manage the research budget to ensure that the funding made available from tier 1 projects not proceeding is applied to tier 2 projects that can be funded.

Notes: The quality standards adopted for measures 2 and 3 above are those defined in the document 'Format and Content of Project Summaries and Medium Term Plans proposed by the Research Planning Group' dated 9 July 2001)

The quality standards adopted for measures 4 and 5 above are those defined in the Fisheries Research Services 2003/2004 Tender Document: Part II: A – Appendix II B, Form 2 and Appendix III B)

Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	23,097	22,100	997
Amount to be recovered from industry	14,914	14,031	(883)
Percentage to be recovered from industry	65	63	-

## BIODIVERSITY OF NEW ZEALAND'S MARINE ENVIRONMENT ESTIMATED

### Services to be provided

In order to implement the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy and support the environmental principles set out in section 9 of the Fisheries Act 1996, the Ministry has a number of research programmes in place to generate high quality baseline information. Each programme has been carefully designed to progress our ability to identify key species, key communities and key habitats that contribute to the value of maintaining a rich and diverse marine environment and to identify essential components without which the marine environment could not continue to sustain productivity.

This work has implications for the overall health of the aquatic environment and the long-term sustainability of our fisheries. These programmes aim to improve our ability to:

- protect the richness and health of the marine biodiversity of New Zealand and the Ross Sea region
- ascertain the role of different organisms and habitats in maintaining the health and sustainability of our aquatic environment
- contribute to required information to set environmental standards under the Strategy to Manage the Environmental Effects of Fishing (SMEEF).

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected, people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management) through the provision of quality research information that enables the Ministry to advise the Minister of Fisheries on the long term sustainability of the marine environment.

### Performance indicators

1 By 31 October 2007, update the biodiversity medium term research plans in accordance with the quality standards (*as defined in the document 'Format and Content of Project Summaries and Medium Term Plans proposed by the Research Planning Group' dated 9 July 2001*).

2 By 30 November 2007, produce an evaluation of how biodiversity could be incorporated into the draft framework for an environment assessment plenary document.

3 By 28 February 2008, produce research proposals for 2008/09 in accordance with the quality standards (*as defined in the document 'Format and Content of Project Summaries and Medium Term Plans proposed by the Research Planning Group' dated 9 July 2001*).

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	2,393	2,416	(23)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## OBSERVER SERVICES PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

Observers provide an independent source for the collection of high quality information from fishing operations. This is a valuable input into the management of New Zealand's fisheries resources, particularly the setting of sustainability levels and management controls.

Observer services are also used by external agencies (eg the fishing industry and the Department of Conservation (DoC)) to gather specific information for those agencies and as an input into their management requirements. Provision of observer services is based on the Ministry's capacity to supply the requisite number of observers with the required skill levels to cover requests from internal and external sources.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected, people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management) through the provision of quality information on fishing activities.

### Performance indicators

- 1 Information and/or data collected by observers throughout the year, in accordance with agreed client specifications.
- 2 Observer coverage delivered for an average cost of \$525 per day.
- 3 Observer coverage of 7,460 sea days delivered to within +/- 10% of the agreed annual plan at either a species level or fishing area(s)/method level, depending on client specification.
- 4 Clear and transparent processes are operated to identify variations to the observer annual plan, and communicate these changes to clients and stakeholders.
- 5 Effective processes are in place to implement any changes required to the plan through the course of the operating year.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	3,648	4,013	(365)
Amount to be recovered through levies	2,219	2,643	424
Amount to be recovered through transaction charges	1,429	1,370	(59)
Percentage to be recovered from industry	100	100	0

## **DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSE - FISHERIES OPERATIONS**

### **Description**

This departmental output expense provides for:

- The development of standards, guidelines, regulations, fisheries plans and processes that make the fisheries policy framework operational
- Services to monitor the delivery of contracted and devolved registry services to ensure consistency and compliance with contracted or devolved standards
- Delivering on obligations arising from the Fisheries Deed of Settlement obligations
- The management and dissemination of information received from registry agencies.
- A number of Ministry statutory decision processes
- A capacity to contribute to the formulation of strategic goals for the biosecurity system
- A capability to contribute to the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy.

### **Objectives**

This departmental output expense is designed to provide the following services

- Allocate rights to utilise fisheries resources
- Develop and implement standards for the management of fisheries resources
- Lead the development of fisheries plans to achieve fisheries outcomes
- Evaluate fisheries plans in order to provide advice to the Minister
- Enable tangata whenua to participate effectively in fisheries management
- Monitor the management of New Zealand fisheries
- Contribute to the advice on biosecurity issues in New Zealand
- Contribute to the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy.

## **NEW ZEALAND FISHERIES UTILISATION AND SUSTAINABILITY REPORTED**

### **Services to be provided**

This provides for fisheries management advice on utilisation and sustainability through:

- Implementation and maintenance of the rights-based framework
- Development and implementation of fisheries plans and standards
- Implement the Government's Marine Protected Areas Strategy
- Advice on marine reserve applications
- Advice on proposed aquaculture management areas
- Implementation of regulatory amendments
- Implementation of the Government's aquaculture reforms.

### **Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes**

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1. Initiate engagement with tangata whenua and stakeholders to determine objectives for a select number of fisheries plans. The number of fisheries selected and the timetable for their development will be determined at the completion of the first phase of the fisheries plan development programme due 30 June 2007.
2. Standards necessary to develop fisheries plans will be completed by 30 December 2007.
3. As and when required, concurrence reports on marine reserve applications will be provided to the Minister of Fisheries following receipt of a request by the Minister of Conservation within a timeframe agreed with the Minister of Fisheries for each request, and within the terms of the Marine Reserves Protocol.
4. Final advice papers provided to the Minister of Fisheries on the proposed sustainability measures and management controls to be implemented for the 1 October 2007 and 1 April 2008 fishing years will be completed in sufficient time to implement decisions prior to the relevant fishing year.
5. Final advice papers will be provided to the Minister of Fisheries in sufficient time to allow implementation of decisions:
  - Proposing the TACs/TACCs for new species to be introduced into the QMS on 1 October 2008 and
  - Proposing new species to be introduced into the QMS on 1 October 2009.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	10,388	11,564	(1,176)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## DEED OF SETTLEMENT IMPLEMENTED

### Services to be provided

Through the effective use of the Ministry's Pou Hononga, Pou Takawaenga and Fisheries Analyst resources assist tangata whenua to better contribute to the sustainable management of New Zealand fisheries. Continuing to build and maintain our relationship with tangata whenua and assisting them to develop fisheries management objectives and ensuring they have the opportunity to engage in the development of fisheries plans is a primary focus for the Ministry. The services we provide also include developing capacity within tangata whenua to manage customary access and to provide assistance with use of customary management tools.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1. Tangata Tiaki appointments, by the Minister of Fisheries under the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999, to cover 90% of the South Island by June 2008.
2. Tangata Kaitiaki appointments, by the Minister of Fisheries under the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998, to cover 40% of the North Island by June 2008.
3. The input of Tangata Kaitiaki and Tangata Tiaki, appointed under the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998 or the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999, into fisheries management processes.
4. The provision of quarterly catch landing reports of Tangata Kaitiaki and Tangata Tiaki appointed under the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998 or the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999.
5. The input and participation of tangata whenua into fisheries management processes (detailed in s 12 of the Fisheries Act 1996) by engaging with hapu and iwi through the creation and operation of 13 regional forums. Forums to cover the following areas:
  - Far north
  - Far mid-north
  - Gulf Harbours
  - Waikato
  - Bay of Plenty
  - Gisborne/East Cape
  - Wanganui/Taranaki
  - Hawke's Bay/Wairarapa
  - Wellington/Kapiti Coast
  - Marlborough/Nelson/Tasman

- Ngai Tahu Takiwā (Kaikoura, Canterbury, Waitaki/Otago, Southland & the West Coast)
- Chatham Islands
- Freshwater species in the North Island.

6. Provide timely advice to the Minister of Fisheries on the establishment of mātaītai reserves under the Fisheries (Kaimoana Customary Fishing) Regulations 1998 or the Fisheries (South Island Customary Fishing) Regulations 1999, and the appointment of Tangata Kaitiaki or Tangata Tiaki to manage these reserves under the same regulations.

7. Provide timely advice to the Minister of Fisheries on the establishment of taiapure-local fisheries under s 175 of the Fisheries Act 1996, and the formation of taiapure-local fishery management committees under s 184 of the Fisheries Act 1996.

8. Provide timely advice to the Minister of Fisheries on other area management proposals; e.g., temporary closures/method restrictions under s 186A or s 186B of the Fisheries Act 1996.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	5,366	5,701	(335)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## STATUTORY DECISION PROCESSES ADMINISTERED

### Services to be provided

This output provides for fisheries management advice on:

- Freshwater farm applications
- Administration of existing marine and freshwater farm authorisations
- the issuing of special permits
- Management of transitional aquaculture registrations under the Fisheries Act 1996.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1 95% of all applications made under the Freshwater Fish Farming Regulations 1983, transitional issues and applications for fish farm registration under the Fisheries Act 1996 will be determined within six months of the date of receipt.

2 95% of applications for special permits will be determined within six months of the date of receipt of completed applications and to the following prescription:

- appropriate consultation is carried out in accordance with section 97(2) of the Fisheries Act 1996 on each application, prior to a decision to approve or decline the application
- the purpose for which a special permit is issued is consistent with those specified in section 97(1) of the Fisheries Act 1996
- in compliance with the procedures in the *Special Permit Manual*.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	433	345	88
Amount to be recovered from industry	433	345	(88)
Percentage to be recovered from industry	100	100	0

## AQUACULTURE PERMIT APPLICATIONS PROCESSED

### Services to be provided

This output provides for fisheries management advice on management of the backlog of permit applications under the Fisheries Act 1983.

### Link to Government themes/ministry outcome

This output links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

### Performance indicators

- 1 The Ministry will resolve all applications made under the Fisheries Act 1983 by 30 June 2008.
- 2 As and when required, a reservation or determination is issued within the timeframes set in section 186E of the Fisheries Act 1996 to the relevant regional council following receipt of advice from the council that an aquaculture management area is proposed.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	858	788	70
Amount to be recovered from industry	400	180	(220)
Percentage to be recovered from industry	47	15	-

## REGISTRY SERVICES MANAGED

### Services to be provided

Accurate and timely registry information is collected under contract or by a devolved agency (including permit holder register, vessel registers, quota and ACE ownership, and catch data) to support sustainability and utilisation decisions within each fishery. The Ministry is required to ensure contracted or devolved registry services are delivered in a manner consistent with the standards and specifications for those services

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1 Within one month of the end of each quarter, produce quarterly reports for registry-based services, with actual performance compared against:

- expectations as defined by the Minister of Fisheries in respect of services provided through the Approved Service Delivery Organisation
- expectations as defined by the Chief Executive in respect of services delivered by the Service Delivery Agency

and in accordance with the Ministry's agreed monitoring programme. Breaches of standards are to be managed in accordance with the auditing, monitoring and sanctions policy approved by the Minister of Fisheries.

2 By 1 October 2007, allocate quota for species declared by the Minister to be subject to the Quota Management System for 1 October 2007, the allocation to be made in accordance with Part IV of the Fisheries Act 1996, and within the quality and timeframes defined in the Ministry's Stock Allocation Policy in respect of that species and stock.

3 Ensure sufficient progress is made to enable quota for species declared by the Minister to be subject to the Quota Management System for 1 October 2008, to be implemented by that date; the allocation shall be made in accordance with Part IV of the Fisheries Act 1996, and within the quality and timeframes defined in the Ministry's Stock Allocation Policy in respect of that species and stock.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	4,996	4,525	471
Amount to be recovered from industry	4,996	4,525	(471)
Percentage to be recovered from industry	100	100	0

## BIOSECURITY ADVICE PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

This output provides a capability for the Ministry to contribute to the formulation of strategic goals for the biosecurity system, monitor the performance of the system against specified outcomes and to provide advice on biosecurity risks to fisheries interests. The funding also enables the Ministry to provide specific management services to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) following the transfer of marine biosecurity functions to MAF.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1. As and when required, provide advice to Ministers on the fishing-related impacts of biosecurity decisions.
2. Provide MAF, as the lead biosecurity agency, with advice and support from a fisheries management perspective on the formulation of strategic goals for the marine biosecurity system and advice on biosecurity risks. This advice should wherever possible help to minimise the risks to the aquatic environment from biosecurity threats. Work will be done in accordance with timelines and priorities determined by MAF in consultation with other interested agencies, including MFish.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	356	74	282
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## BIODIVERSITY ADVICE PROVIDED

### Services to be provided

In the 2000 Budget, the Ministry was provided with additional funding to enable it to contribute to the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy. The Strategy covers a broad range of activities across several departments. This output covers a range of work designed to improve understanding of marine biological diversity and improve the management tools by which it is protected.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

This service links to all three contributing outcomes (the health of the aquatic environment is protected; people are able to realise best value from the sustainable and efficient use of fisheries, credible fisheries management).

### Performance indicators

1. In accordance with the work programme for the implementation of the Marine Protected Area Policy, by 31 Dec 2007 work will have been undertaken to finalise Stage One of the Policy and implement Stage Two.
2. A Threat Management Plan for Hector's and Maui's dolphins will be sent to the Minister of Fisheries and Minister of Conservation by 31 December 2007.
3. Planning and prioritisation of the next phase for the implementation of the New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy following completion of the five year review will be undertaken by 31 Dec 2007.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	553	624	(71)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSE - FISHERIES COMPLIANCE

### Description

This output class covers the outputs that promote compliance with fisheries laws and lead to detection of those involved in illegal fisheries activities.

### Objectives

The objectives are to:

- promote voluntary compliance
- monitor fishing-related activities
- detect non-compliance with fisheries rules
- take enforcement actions where appropriate
- collate and provide information on non-compliance to support policy and regulatory decision-making processes
- provide recommendations for prosecution
- successfully prosecute those who have offended against fisheries laws.

Terms used in the following outputs

\* The term *completed* indicates that the investigation file has been closed and all matters subsequent to prosecution have been dealt with in accordance with law and policy.

\*\* The focus of investigations will be on serious offending and cases undertaken will be prioritised against the 'risk based compliance strategy', however, it is recognised that some work undertaken will be important and necessary for other reasons.

\*\*\* The term *finalised* indicates that a decision to prosecute has been made and informations have been laid. Alternatively, a decision has been made and documented to finalise the investigation by a means other than prosecution.

## COMMERCIAL FISHERIES COMPLIANCE

### Services to be provided

To support the integrity of the quota management system the following services will be delivered:

- Monitoring
- Inspections
- Audit
- Investigations
- Recommendations to prosecute
- Provision of advice
- Information and intelligence

## Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to Ministry outcomes through:

- Encouraging fisher compliance with access standards
- Encouraging fisher compliance with standards relating to commercial fishing rules
- Undertaking enforcement and prosecution action against deliberate and serious offending

### Performance indicators

#### *Observations and inspections*

1	Vessels inspected	700
2	Licensed Fish Receivers (LFR) inspected	200
3	The quality of the observed landings, vessel and LFR inspections will be in accordance with surveillance plans for each district and will be not less than	90%

#### *Monthly Harvest Returns*

4	Monthly harvest returns provided within 30 days after month end	95%
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#### *Investigation cases*

5	Investigations commenced	10
6	Investigations completed*	5
7	Cases undertaken categorised as high and medium risk against the 'Risk Based Compliance Strategy'	75%**
8	Prosecution decision making is consistent with Crown Law Office prosecution Guidelines and Compliance policy statements	100%
9	The number of cases investigated that are finalised*** within 18 months of commencement will be not less than	80%

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	8,125	8,753	(628)
Amount to be recovered from industry	8,125	8,753	628
Percentage to be recovered from industry	100	100	0

## NON-COMMERCIAL FISHERIES COMPLIANCE

### Services to be provided

To support the recreational and customary fisheries the following services will be delivered:

- Customary and recreational patrols
- Managing the HFO network
- Investigations
- Minor prosecutions
- Education and advice
- Training

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to the Ministry outcomes of:

- (a) Protecting the health of the aquatic environment through:
- Encouraging fisher compliance with access standards
  - Encouraging fisher compliance with standards relating to recreational and customary fishing rules
  - Undertaking infringement and prosecution action against offending
- (b) Enabling best value to be realised within each fishing sector by
- Ensuring obligations set out in the Treaty of Waitangi (Fisheries Claims) Settlement Act are met.

### Performance indicators

1	Deliver education programmes to promote fisheries compliance	1000
2	Non-commercial patrols* undertaken during the year	1000
3	Kaitiaki appointed by the Minister of Fisheries trained in fisheries compliance matters	90-100
4	Recreational and customary patrols in accordance with district Surveillance plans	90% achieved

\* Non-commercial patrols include:

- Recreational patrols and inspections
- Kaitiaki liaison
- Enforcement of customary regulations
- Community based education, brochures and signage
- Management of Honorary Fishery Officers.

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	6,417	5,868	549
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## NEW ZEALAND'S INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES COMPLIANCE

### Services to be provided

To support New Zealand's interests in international fisheries the following services will be delivered in this output:

- Inspections
- Advice and input into international frameworks
- Supporting New Zealand's international obligations
- Liaising with the MCS (Monitoring, Control and Surveillance) practitioners

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to the Ministry outcomes of enabling best value to be realised within each fishing sector by

- Encouraging fisher compliance with standards relating to international fishing rules
- Undertaking enforcement and prosecution action against deliberate and serious offending
- Promoting and protecting New Zealand's international fisheries interest

### Performance indicators

1	Investigation cases commenced	2
2	Investigation cases completed*	1
3	Technical advice will be provided where requested	100%
4	Cases undertaken categorised as high and medium risk against the 'Risk Based Compliance Strategy'	50%**
5	Case management and legal review processes are in place to ensure prosecution decision making is consistent with Crown Law Office prosecution guidelines and Compliance policy statements	100%
6	Cases investigated are finalised*** within 12 months of commencement	Min 50%
7	Technical advice is relevant, timely and accurate	100%

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	617	742	(125)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## POACHING AND BLACK MARKET ACTIVITIES DETERRED

### Services to be provided

To detect and prosecute key offenders and disrupt the supply of illegally taken seafood to markets so that fisheries resources are available to legitimate users, the following services will be delivered in this output:

- Patrols
- Monitoring
- Inspection
- Investigations
- Providing 0800 4 POACHER

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to the Ministry outcomes of:

- (a) Protecting the health of the aquatic environment through achieving compliance with access standards set for fisheries by:
- Encouraging fisher compliance with access standards
  - Encouraging fisher compliance with standards relating to commercial, recreational and customary fishing rules
  - Undertaking infringement and prosecution action against offending
- (b) Enabling best value to be realised within each fishing sector by
- Gathering information required to monitor fishing performance against access standards

### Performance indicators

1	Poaching and black market patrols undertaken	400-500
2	Dealer in fish inspections	1000
3	Investigation cases commenced	12
4	Investigation cases completed*	5
5	Cases undertaken categorised as high and medium risk against the 'Risk Based Compliance Strategy'	Min 75%**
6	Case management and legal review processes are in place to ensure prosecution decision making is consistent with Crown Law Office prosecution guidelines and Compliance policy statements	100%
7	Cases investigated are finalised*** within 12 months of commencement	Min 80%

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	11,046	10,355	691
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## PROSECUTIONS MANAGED

### Services to be provided

Under this output the Ministry of Fisheries delivers services that relate to the prosecution of offences against fisheries laws and regulations.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to the Ministry outcome of enabling best value to be realised within each fishing sector by

- Undertaking enforcement and prosecution action against deliberate and serious offending

### Performance indicators

1	Prosecution cases initiated within statutory timeframes	100%
2	Successful prosecutions achieved under the Fisheries Act 1996	90%
3	Successful prosecutions achieved under Fisheries regulations	75%
4	Prosecution cases meet prima facie requirements	95%

### Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	3,410	4,008	(598)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## DEPARTMENTAL OUTPUT EXPENSE – AQUACULTURE SETTLEMENT

### Description

This output provides for the implementation of the Maori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 ('the Act'). The Act provides for a settlement of Maori interests in commercial aquaculture, including the provision of 20% of new space in aquaculture management areas and the provision of 20% equivalent of existing space allocated since September 1992.

### Objectives

Administration of the legislated settlement in order to:

- Ensure Crown obligations in relation to the settlement are met
- Provide for the durability and integrity of the settlement
- Protect the relationship between the Crown and Maori
- Comply with the Crown's obligations under the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi
- Support the government's economic transformation initiatives in relation to aquaculture.

### Services to be provided

- 1 Progress the implementation of the Act in an effective and efficient manner; ensuring that all legislative timetables are met; this includes:
  - i. Ensuring potential beneficiaries understand the settlement. This will be achieved in partnership with the trustee for the settlement;
  - ii. Development of a valuation methodology for the settlement obligation by 31 December 2007;
  - iii. Establish processes to support the settlement option of purchasing established marine farms from 1 January 2008; and
  - iv. Supporting the Minister's review, as required by the Act, of the assessment of the Crown's compliance with the settlement. The planning for the review is to be started by 31 December 2007
- 2 Maintain the aquaculture settlement register and the associated space required in each region to meet the settlement obligation.
- 3 Monitor the performance of Te Ohu Kai Moana Trustee Ltd as trustee of the settlement process both in terms of funding and performance of their role as trustee.

### Link to Government themes and Ministry outcomes

This service links to the Government theme of economic transformation through the objective of improving the value derived from the sustainable use and management of natural resources.

It contributes to the Ministry outcome of enabling best value to be realised through ensuring the Crown's obligations set out in the Maori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004 are met.

## Performance indicators

- 1 The Crown administers the Act to provide for the intended settlement consistent with the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Ministry will not create further grievances.
- 2 All of the Crown's obligations under the Act are met within the legislative timetable
- 3 All potential beneficiaries are aware of their rights and obligations under the settlement
- 4 Te Ohu Kai Moana Trustee Ltd as trustee of the settlement process undertakes its fiduciary duties under the Act in a cost effective manner.

Service	By When
Progress the implementation of the Act in an effective and efficient manner; ensuring that all legislative timetables are met; this includes:	
i Ensuring potential beneficiaries understand the settlement. This will be achieved in partnership with the trustee for the settlement	Respond to particular iwi needs as they arise.
ii Development of a valuation methodology for the settlement obligation	31 December 2007
iii Establish processes to support the settlement option of purchasing established marine farms	1 January 2008
iv Supporting the Minister's review, as required by the Act, of an assessment of the Crown's compliance with the settlement	The planning for the review is to be commenced by 31 December 2007.
Maintain the aquaculture settlement register and associated the space required in each region to meet the settlement obligation.	The register and the Ministry's web site will be updated monthly. The register will be audited annually.
Monitor the performance of Te Ohu Kai Moana Trustee Ltd as trustee of the settlement process both in terms of funding and performance of their role as trustee.	Ministry will review quarterly.

## Cost

	2006/07 SOI	2007/08 Plan	Change
Plan	1,553	1,615	(62)
Amount to be recovered from industry	0	0	0
Percentage to be recovered from industry	0	0	0

## STANDARDS ADOPTED BY THE MINISTRY WITHIN THE CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

### Policy advice quality standards

The standards used to assess the quality of policy advice provided to the Minister are.

#### *Purpose*

The aim or purpose is clearly stated and it answers the questions set.

#### *Logic*

The assumptions behind the advice are explicit, and the argument logical and supported by facts.

#### *Accuracy*

The facts are accurate and all material facts are included.

#### *Options*

An adequate range of options has been presented and the benefits, costs and consequences of each option are clearly outlined.

#### *Consultation*

There is evidence of adequate consultation with interested parties and possible objections to proposals/content are identified.

#### *Practicality*

The problems of implementation, technical feasibility, timing or consistency with other policies/reports have been considered.

#### *Presentation*

The format meets the stipulated requirements; the material is effectively, concisely and clearly presented, has short sentences in plain English and is free of grammatical or spelling errors.

#### *Quality management*

The product quality will be supported by a process that provides for:

- circulation of drafts for critiquing by government agencies and affected stakeholders
- internal peer review and checking procedures
- adherence to the Ministry's policy framework
- consistency with relevant legislative obligations.

## PROPOSED ADDITIONAL FISHERIES SERVICES FOR 2007/08

Achieving the Ministry's vision relies on the commitment and ability of its people, the quality of the services and the strength of the relationships with others who have an interest and involvement in the fishery. This requires investment in the Ministry and the wider fisheries sector. The proposals set out in this section have been submitted for consideration in the Government's 2007 Budget. Specific costs are set out in the table below.

Proposal (\$000 GST excl)	2007/08	Crown	Cost recovered
Fisheries enforcement services-maritime patrol team	3,636	1,818	1,818 (est)
Environmental certification of fisheries	1,300	1,300	0
South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation	1,222	1,222	0
Additional funding for fisheries research	6,000	2,100	3,900 (est)
Transformation of Reporting and Recordkeeping Frameworks	750	750	0
Legal expenses	500	500	0
Support for aquaculture	300	300	0
Shared fisheries	3,755	3,755	0
East coast iwi customary management	750	750	0
International Polar Year (IPY)	1,500	1,500	0
Inshore trawl catch effort form	232	0	232
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,945</b>	<b>13,995</b>	<b>5,950</b>

**Note: This is a full list of the Ministry proposals. It would be ambitious to expect that they will all pass through the Government's 2007 Budget evaluation process without reduction. Their inclusion here is for consultation purposes. It will be a matter for the Government to determine which of the proposals, if any, will be approved and for the Minister of Fisheries to determine the final services to be approved for the year.**

### **Fisheries enforcement services-maritime patrol team**

The Ministry of Fisheries proposes to provide a patrol team to utilise the new Project Protector vessels, together with support staff to manage the volume of data and intelligence generated, in order to ensure greater compliance with fisheries legislation.

Not all risks to fisheries sustainability can be monitored from land or from minor sea patrol capability. Fisheries risks being addressed by this initiative are actions such as dumping, area misreporting and misreporting generally, incursion into the EZ of non-NZ flagged vessels, and obligations in international waters. In addition many inshore fisheries are inaccessible from shore and in remote areas of coastline making some poaching activities difficult to detect and act on.

With the reintroduction of an effective at sea patrolling capability the Ministry expects changes in fisher behaviour leading to increase in sustainability of fisheries with increases in access and value obtained by all users.

### **Environmental certification of NZ fisheries**

This is a joint approach with industry to seek certification of major NZ fisheries and seafood as sustainably managed. Ministry of Fisheries will seek an assessment of its management regime, then contribute to the certification of fisheries using an approved fisheries plan approach.

Environmental certification is increasingly important for companies selling New Zealand seafood into international markets. Some overseas supermarket chains (e.g. Walmart) have announced they will no longer sell seafood from fisheries that have not been certified as sustainable. There is some evidence of price premiums in other markets for seafood products from certified fisheries.

Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified seafoods are widely promoted in overseas markets. The NZ hoki fishery has already benefited from its MSC certification and there is interest being shown from other fisheries. A joint approach would allow government and industry to develop a planned programme and co-ordinate the resources needed to achieve MSC certification of the major NZ fisheries with economies of scale. This will increase economic benefits and demonstrate sustainable development.

### **Interim South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation secretariat**

SPRFMO will manage South Pacific Ocean non-tuna fisheries. The interim secretariat would receive and manage information needed for conservation and management measures prior to an Agreement establishing SPRFMO coming into force. New Zealand is well positioned to host the interim Secretariat.

This NZ-Australia-Chile initiative seeks to fill a remaining gap in management of the world's high seas fisheries. International consultations involving 26 countries are focussed on drafting an Agreement and interim conservation and management measures. Our balanced and principled approach to international fisheries issues and position as a key South Pacific state place us well to offer to host the interim secretariat at the next meeting in Chile in May 2007.

### **Additional funding for fisheries research**

Value to New Zealand is created by harvesting sustainable fisheries. Striking a balance between the benefits of harvesting now and the longer term benefits of ensuring healthy fish populations for the future means information needs are increasing as fisheries managers are called upon to provide advice to support sustainable harvest levels for increasing numbers of species and increased demands for assessments of environmental performance, international obligations and local issues.

Research is prioritised to fit available funds, but even after rigorous planning and consultation, essential research services cannot be met and the Ministry has to withdraw or defer essential projects designated as high priority and likely to feed directly into management decision making. The primary reason for this funding shortfall is a substantial decline in the value of fisheries research funding over the past 10–15 years, coupled with substantial increases in the demands for research.

Increasing research information will provide for better, more informed fisheries management decision making to underpin strategies designed to extract close to the maximum sustainable yield from fisheries where appropriate, and will thus capture the economic benefits of fishing with greater certainty and at less risk. Improving environmental research will enable the Ministry to avoid, remedy and mitigate any adverse effects of fishing through better environmental standards and monitoring.

### **Transformation of Reporting and Recordkeeping Frameworks**

The quota management system relies on accurate information to monitor the sustainability of fisheries. This project seeks to review and update the statutory reporting/recordkeeping frameworks to obtain better information, utilise new technologies and reduce costs of collecting information

The framework of self-reporting has remained largely intact since its establishment 20 years ago, with little flexibility to define new information requirements for fisheries managers and fishers or to enable tailoring information needs to those that cause risk. The system fails to allow for variations for individual

fishers and processors. A new system would provide more efficient methods of collection, storage and dissemination leading to increased efficiency in processing information.

The new framework will provide a structure for the next 10 – 20 years, allow for the provision of better information to fisheries managers and stakeholders – including enhanced capacity to monitor catch limits. It will promote more cost effective methods of collecting information, provide for a flexible regulatory regime which anticipates changes in information needs, and build off existing industry systems/technologies so that information can be collected once and be used by industry members.

### **Increase in Ministry of Fisheries' baseline for Crown legal expenses**

To set the Ministry of Fisheries baseline for Crown legal expenses at a more realistic level. The expenditure arises through external parties litigating the Crown and the need for the Crown to defend its actions and the Fisheries Management Framework.

The Ministry is constantly reviewing its processes to ensure that its decisions remain in line with the legislative intent; which will minimise the litigation risk. However any decision to commence litigation against the Ministers and Ministry's discharge of responsibilities under the Fisheries Act 1996 is made independent of the Ministry. The Ministry is powerless to prevent those who are aggrieved at Ministry/Ministerial decisions or who believe the process has not been operated fairly, from taking court action.

### **Support for Aquaculture**

Two additional staff to support the Government's response to the Aquaculture Strategy by liaising with stakeholders and government agencies on the expansion and more effective use of aquaculture space, supporting Maori involvement in aquaculture and regional aquaculture partnerships, supporting work on environmental certification and facilitating the implementation of aquaculture legislation.

Aquaculture is a sustainable industry, with the potential to assist economic transformation in terms of increased export earnings and employment. The Aquaculture Strategy sets out a plan for growth and the Government is responding by developing a number of projects to be progressed through a number of agencies. The Ministry is contributing to this work but does not have staff available with the skills or experience to participate in a promotional role.

### **Improved management of fisheries that are shared between Maori customary fishers, amateur fishers, and commercial fishers.**

Information on amateur catch is currently poor. Survey information is needed to assess the effects of fishing on stock size and sustainability, and to ensure that non-commercial values are recognised and provided for. The amateur sector lacks the capacity to engage in fisheries management processes. It is represented on a voluntary basis, and its accountability and representation structures are weak. This creates an imbalance in multi-stakeholder processes which significantly impedes constructive progress. A process is also required to re-set baseline sector allocations in key fish stocks because concern that existing allowances are unfair is a key factor blocking progress on overall policy reform.

More robust catch information will be obtained using a combination of methods over an extended timeframe. This research requires significant levels of investment over an extended period to establish solid baseline estimates and viable ongoing monitoring programmes.

Valuation research will be required if best value is to be achieved from shared fisheries, in part, through value based allocation. These research methods are not well established in New Zealand at present,

but suggested levels of investment will provide the opportunity to develop the expertise required. Methodology has been developed and proved through research in Australia.

Involvement of amateur fishers in fisheries management increases the chance that all relevant information is considered in government decision-making and allocation processes aimed at increasing value obtained from shared fisheries. Fishers who have their views well represented in fisheries management are able to assist in design of optimal management interventions and are also more likely to accept decisions that may adversely affect them. An Amateur Fishing Trust will provide an intermediate step towards an effective sector-owned representative structure, through being constitutionally tasked with development of that structure, while providing the services of a peak body to the sector in the interim. Endowment funding provides the trust with more independence, security, and flexibility in terms of timing of effort to establish the ongoing governance structure.

### **East Coast Iwi Customary Management**

New Ministry services are required to develop and implement commitments arising from current foreshore and seabed negotiations with Ngati Porou and Te Whanau a Apanui.

Current negotiations are exploring mechanisms to meet expectations of Ngati Porou and Te Whanau a Apanui in respect of customary fisheries management on the East Coast. New Ministry services will be required to develop and implement these new mechanisms.

### **Science for the International Polar Year (IPY) Census of Antarctic Marine Life**

The Census of Antarctic Marine Life (CAML) is a circum-Antarctic biodiversity survey. New Zealand science participation in CAML in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica is a high priority providing benefits for sovereignty, biodiversity, climate change, marine protection, and fisheries management.

Climate change will affect all nations. The CAML voyage and subsequent scientific research creates a real opportunity for New Zealand to show scientific leadership in the Ross Sea and progress implementation of our marine strategy in the region. The voyage will foster improved international relationships, measure and discover biodiversity, contribute to assessing ocean acidification arising from climate change, input to planning of marine protection and improve fisheries stock assessment and ecosystem modelling.

### **Inshore Trawl Catch Effort Form**

The reporting of spatial information, by commercial fishers, should be at a finer scale than is currently required to improve effectiveness in fisheries management. It is proposed to develop a new inshore trawl form to apply to trawl vessels under 28m in length to meet these information needs.

Development of a new Catch and Effort return (catch by latitude and longitude) to replace the current Catch Effort and Landing Return (statistical area reporting) for vessels 28 metres and under in length about fishing using the methods of trawling, and possibly all vessels that use some methods of seining (i.e Danish seining).

The lack of fine scale catch and effort information reduces the Ministry's ability to clearly define the impacts on commercial fishing of proposed special allocation tools such as, mātaimai and marine reserves and aquaculture management areas. Localised fisheries management is more likely to occur through the development of fisheries plans, which will involve stakeholders investigating innovative ways to manage specific fishery management issues.