

**FISHERIES RESEARCH PROPOSALS FOR  
2005/06**

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## ECO comment

The research services proposed for 2005/06 financial year are supported but we have an ongoing concern at the narrow range of projects, under-funding of aquatic environment projects, and the failure of the Ministry management to implement the results of many projects.

Current funding of around \$20 million dollars is still well below 1991 research funding levels especially if adjusted for inflation. If research funding had kept pace with inflation the level of funding would now be about \$30 million per year. In addition, since 1991 there has been an expansion in the number of species in the quota management systems which should have required more research.

The Ministry should promote:

- The need for more aquatic environment research: The Ministry is still not responding to the report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on “Setting Course” and Section Five of the Fifth Report to Parliament for 1999 of the Controller and Auditor General. Both reports stressed the need for more research on the aquatic environment and the adverse effects of fishing on it, as well as on the matters in the Environmental Principles, section 9.
- There has been a dramatic shift over the last 10 years away from trawl surveys which is reducing the capacity to monitor trends in fish population and the impact of fishing on non-target and commercial species.
- To date the Ministry has yet to adequately fund or give high priority to the impacts of fishing on the aquatic environment. The current funding is similar to that allocated in 1995-96. The proposed projects are more comprehensive than in past years but often the big costs projects are withdrawn eg ENV2004/07.
- More research on new species recently added or to be added to the quota management system.
- Greater observer coverage. We supported moves 2 years ago to increase observer coverage to assessed sea bird captures in fisheries. We welcome increased observer coverage in this year’s business plan and the move to consult on observer coverage but the increases proposed will be insufficient to monitor the NPOA and other non-fish bycatch.
- Greater assessment of non-fish by-catch in fisheries. We welcome moves this year for more comprehensive projects in this area.
- If research is not carried out into a fish stock then a management response consistent with precautionary management should be to reduce catch limits.

The groups are concerned at projects being cut due to later consultation with the fishing industry over costs. We understood that the cost recovery process was under review 18 months ago but that review has not been started. We look forward to Ministry consulting widely on this issue and not just with the fishing industry.

### **Our Ranking System:**

Our priority ranking system is based on 5 points:

- 4-5 - high priority
- 3 - medium priority
- 2- low priority - could be deferred to a future year.
- 0-1 - Of doubtful scientific merit

We have also included a commentary on some of the projects.

#### Ministry of Fisheries notes:

- 1 ECO classifies all projects as priority 5.
- 2 Te Ohu is the only other submitter to comment on fisheries research projects.
- 3 The comments of ECO and Te Ohu are detailed after the list of research projects.

## List of Research Projects Proposed for 2005/06

### **ANTARCTIC FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
ANT2005/01	Fishery characterisation of the toothfish fishery
ANT2005/02	Aspects of the biology of fishes in the toothfish fishery
ANT2005/03	Stock Assessment of toothfish
ANT2005/04	Modelling of the ecosystem effects of fishing in the Ross Sea
ANT2005/05	Population estimation for non-target fish species in Antarctic fisheries
ANT2005/06	Seabird and marine mammal interactions with the Ross Sea toothfish fishery
OBS 2005/02	Research Observer Days - Antarctic.

### **DEEPWATER FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
CDL 2005/01	Cardinalfish stock assessment
DEE2005/01	Age validation of black oreo, smooth oreo, and black cardinalfish using bomb radiocarbon techniques
DEE2005/02	Age validation of orange roughy and black cardinalfish using radiometric techniques
OEO2005/01	Estimation of the abundance of black oreo and smooth oreo in selected areas
OEO2005/02	Oreo stock assessment
ORH2005/01	Estimation of the abundance of orange roughy in selected areas
ORH2005/02	Orange roughy stock assessment
ORH2005/03	Stock assessment of orange roughy fisheries outside the New Zealand EEZ
ORH2005/04	Maturity and vulnerability of orange roughy fisheries
OBS 2005/01	Research Observer Days – Deepwater fisheries

### **HOKI AND MIDDLE DEPTHS FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
HOK2005/01	Hoki population modelling and stock assessment
HOK2005/02	Estimation of hoki and middle depth fish abundance on the Chatham Rise using trawl surveys
HOK2005/03	Estimation of spawning hoki biomass using acoustic surveys
HAK2005/01	Stock assessment of hake
LIN2005/01	Stock assessment of ling
MDT2005/01	Estimation of hoki and middle depth fish abundance on the Southern Plateau using trawl surveys
MID2005/01	Determination of catch at age in hoki, hake and ling fisheries
MID2005/02	Catch sampling and ageing of hoki and ling in the Cook Strait fishery
SBW2005/01	Stock assessment of southern blue whiting
SBW2005/02	Biomass estimation of southern blue whiting using acoustic surveys
OBS 2005/03	Research Observer Days – Hoki and middle depth fisheries

## **INSHORE FINFISH FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
BCO2005/01	Characterisation of the blue cod fishery in BCO4
BNS2005/01	Validation of growth zones in bluenose otoliths
EEL2005/02	Monitoring commercial eel fisheries
FLA2005/01	Productivity of yellow belly flounder
GUR2005/01	Monitoring GUR 1
GUR2005/02	Relative abundance of red gurnard in GUR2
INS2005/01	Monitoring the length and age structure of commercial landings of alfonsino, gemfish and Rubyfish.
INS2005/02	To estimate relative abundance of GUR, JDO, TAR and other inshore stocks around northern New Zealand
JDO2005/01	Monitoring JDO 1
SNA2005/02	Estimation of snapper year class strength in SNA 1
SNA2005/03	Estimation of snapper year class strength in SNA 8
SPD2005/01	Relative abundance of spiny dogfish in SPD 3 and 5
SPE2005/01	Characterisation of Chatham Rise sea perch fisheries
TAR2005/01	Monitoring the length and age structure of commercial landings of tarakihi in TAR 1

## **SHELLFISH FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
COC2005/01	Stock assessment of Snake Bank cockles
CRA2005/012	Rock lobster recruitment
OYS2005/01	Foveaux Strait oyster stock assessment
PAU2005/02	Stock assessment of paua 5D
PAU2005/03	Stock assessment dive survey PAU5A
SCA2005/01	Stock assessment of Coromandel scallops
SCA2005/02	Stock assessment of Northland scallops
SCI2005/01	Measuring the abundance of scampi

## **NON-COMMERCIAL FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
AKI2005/01	Intertidal shellfish monitoring in the Auckland Fisheries Management Area
BCO2005/02	Abundance of blue cod in Paterson Inlet (BCO5)
BCO2005/04	Stock assessment of blue cod
EEL2005/02	Management of customary eel fisheries
EEL2005/03	Estimation of the national mortality of eels associated with hydro passage and waterways clearance
REC2005/01	Estimation of recreational harvest of priority fish stocks
REC2005/02	Marlborough Sounds recreational fishing survey
REC2005/03	Rock lobster recreational catch estimates
REC2005/04	Survey of marine recreational fishing in selected areas
REC2005/05	Intertidal shellfish around Banks Peninsula
REC2005/06	Monitoring recreational fishing effort and catches in QMA1
REC2005/07	Monitoring scallops populations in the Kaipara harbour
SNA2005/04	Selectivity of recreational catches in SNA 1
TOH2005/01	Distribution and abundance of toheroa on Ninety Mile Beach

## **AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
ENV2005/01	Estimation of the nature and extent of incidental captures in New Zealand fisheries
ENV2005/02	Estimation of the nature and extent of marine mammal capture in New Zealand fisheries
ENV 2005/04	Identification of marine mammals captured in New Zealand fisheries.
ENV2005/05	Characterisation of marine mammal captures in New Zealand fisheries
OBS2005/04	Research Observer services to estimate the nature and extent of incidental captures of protected species in New Zealand fisheries.
ENV2005/06	Estimation of protected species captures in longline using electronic monitoring
ENV2005/08	Experimental design of a programme of indicators of protected species population performance relative to fisheries mortality and fisheries management activities
ENV2005/09	Data collection to estimate key performance indicators in the Chatham albatross, <i>Diomedea eremita</i> population, relative to fisheries mortality and fisheries management activities
ENV2005/13	Assessment of risk to Yellow-eyed Penguin <i>Megadyptes antipodes</i> from fisheries incidental mortality in New Zealand fisheries and definition of information requirements for managing fisheries-related risk
ENV2005/14	Feeding relationships in New Zealand protected species higher predators
ENV2005/15	Information for managing the effect of fishing on physical features of the deep-sea environment
ENV2005/16	Investigate the effects of fishing on physical features of the deep-sea environment
ENV2005/17	Estimation of non-target fish catch and both target and non-target fish discards for jack mackerel trawl fisheries
ENV2005/18	Estimation of non-target fish catch and both target and non-target fish discards in orange roughy trawl fisheries
ENV2005/20	Benthic invertebrate sampling and species identification in trawl fisheries
ENV2005/21	Threat status of associated OR dependent species
ENV2005/22	Relative effects of fishing and environmental degradation of northern harbour fisheries
ENV2005/23	Monitoring recovery of the benthic community between North Cape and Cape Reinga

## **PELAGIC FISHERIES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
ALB2005/01	Stock monitoring of albacore
EMA2005/01	Development of fisheries dependent indices of abundance for blue mackerel
EMA2005/02	Investigation of blue mackerel ageing error
JMA2005/01	Status of <i>Trachurus symmetricus murphyi</i> in New Zealand fisheries waters
KAH2005/01	Stock assessment of kahawai
KAH2005/02	Stock monitoring of kahawai – recreational catch
KAH2005/03	Stock monitoring of kahawai – commercial catch
PEL2005/01	Characterisation of pelagic fisheries using observer data
STM2005/01	Stock monitoring of striped marlin
TRE2005/01	Stock monitoring of trevally
TUN2005/01	Characterisation of the New Zealand tuna fisheries
TUN2005/02	Development of a commercial catch sampling programme for highly migratory species
OBS2005/05	Research Observer Days – Pelagic fisheries

## **STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODS**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
SAM2005/01	Catch at age estimation
SAM2005/02	Effects of climate on commercial fish abundance

## **OTHER SERVICES**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
SAP2005/01	Stock assessment process
IFA2005/01	Scientific support for international obligations related to fishing
IPA2005/01	Technical input to policy advice
SEC2005/01	Social, cultural and economic research
CUS2005/05	Estimation of customary Maori harvest

## **RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT**

<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>
DAT2005/02	Research Data Management

## Comments on individual research projects

### ANTARCTIC FISHERIES

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no.</b>	21
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ANT 2005/04 Modelling of the ecosystem effects of fishing in the Ross Sea

#### Submission Details

##### ECO comment

Internationally the Ross Sea has been recognised as a special area (see report of the Worlds Parks Congress IUCN 2003 and IUCN 2004 RES 029 RESWCC3.036 [Antarctica and the Southern Ocean](#)). If fishing continues in the Ross Sea then it is critical that the impacts of fishing on the marine environment is well considered.

#### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and advises that the rationale for this project clearly recognises that fishing in the Ross Sea obligates research into the effects of fishing on the marine environment in that area.

#### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services,
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no.</b>	26
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ANT 2005/06 Seabird and marine mammal interactions with the Ross Sea toothfish fishery.

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

All these projects should be cost recovered from Antarctic fishers. Fishing industry effort in the Ross Sea is currently being subsidised by the Crown.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the view of ECO and advises that:

- a) Current policy is to Crown fund all high seas fisheries research, noting that the Ross Sea is a high seas area under current international law; and
- b) It is intended to review this cost recovery policy during the upcoming development of the International Fisheries Strategy.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services,
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **consider** the issue of cost recovery of research relating to high seas fisheries as a part of the development of the International Fisheries Strategy;
- d) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process
- e) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no.</b>	26
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OBS 2005/02 Research Observer Days - Antarctic

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

This project is a requirement of CCAMLR conservation measures..

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and advises that this project has been designed, along with other objectives, to ensure compliance with CCAMLR Conservation Measures.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comment made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services,
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## DEEPWATER FISHERIES

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	33
<b>Research project code and title</b>	CDL 2005/01 Cardinalfish stock assessment

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

Cardinalfish is overdue for an assessment.

#### Te Ohu comment

Supported as amended but this project is not of high priority and could be deferred. Costs of objective 2 should be allotted to CDL2 only.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and Te Ohu and agrees that cardinalfish is overdue for an assessment. The costs of objective 2 have been allocated to CDL2 only.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services,
- b) **note** the Ministry responses
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	36 - 39
<b>Research project code and title</b>	DEE2005/01; Age validation of black oreo, smooth oreo, and black cardinalfish using bomb radiocarbon techniques  DEE2005/02 Age validation of orange roughy and black cardinalfish using radiometric techniques

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu is still not convinced that it is necessary to undertake both these projects in the 2005/06 year. Our preference would be to concentrate on the 02 project initially.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that the reason for undertaking both projects simultaneously is that only one of the techniques is suitable for oreos and the other for orange roughy; black cardinalfish is the only species for which both techniques work, and is needed to calibrate the two techniques.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of the proposals may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	40
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OEO2005/01  Estimation of the abundance of black oreo and smooth oreo in selected areas

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

We accept that a time series of biomass surveys would be an important tool in monitoring the abundance of the SSO4 stock but are still having some difficulties with the costs and unanswered questions involved in the acoustic method.

Enormous sums have been spent over the past 10 years (at industry cost) on the development of an acoustic assessment methodology for deepwater fisheries but we are still faced with exactly the same problems as have dogged the method throughout that time. In Te Ohu's view, the time has now come to honestly answer the question "Can the problems of target strength, target ID, shadow zone effects, and seawater sound absorption be adequately resolved for OEO surveys in the next 2 years, or not?"

If the answer is "Yes", we will support the OEO2005/01 survey proceeding. If the answer is "No", the project should be dropped and the time involved allotted to deciding on a more productive stock monitoring methodology.

#### ECO comment

This project is strongly supported. Research on oreos has been haphazard over the last few years as surveys are cut due to industry vetoing costs

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the comments made by Te Ohu and ECO and agrees with Te Ohu that there are still many problems associated with deepwater acoustics. However, there has been considerable research on these questions recently and more is planned. If the extent of the problems remaining within the next two years is deemed to be substantial, the project may be modified or withdrawn.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	46
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ORH2005/01 Estimation of the abundance of orange roughy in selected areas

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

Supported in principle, but we are concerned at the estimated cost, bearing in mind the small size of the fishery. We are also concerned at the practicality of conducting an adequate survey of the whole fishery - neither of the previous surveys was particularly successful - during the relatively short periods the disparate parts are assessable.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that the cost will be fully evaluated following the tender process, as will the practicality of conducting an adequate survey of the whole fishery. Note that one reason for the high estimated cost is to facilitate an adequate survey.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	55
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ORH2005/04 Maturity and vulnerability of orange roughy fisheries

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Not supported. Despite the comments in the MFish response to the SeaFIC submission following the RCC meeting in 2004, Te Ohu is still of the view that this work is already covered by the industry project already in hand.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that the industry project already in hand has recently been presented to the Deepwater Fishery Assessment Working Group and has not resolved the issue of the disparity between maturity and vulnerability.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	58
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OBS 2005/01 Research Observer Days – Deepwater fisheries

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

We have considerable doubt that the 750 days programmed can be achieved with an acceptable coverage of the term of each fishery. Observer sampling performance to date has been less than optimal in terms of the periods covered.

#### ECO comment

This project is supported but additional observer coverage should be considered to determine seabird captures in deepwater fisheries and provide robust oreo and black cardinalfish coverage.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the comments from Te Ohu and ECO and advises that the Ministry is still continuing to attempt to improve the deployment of observers to optimise coverage of relevant fisheries.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## HOKI AND MIDDLE DEPTHS FISHERIES

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	65
<b>Research project code and title</b>	HOK2005/01 Hoki population modelling and stock assessment

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

The description should note the work in the current year to investigate prediction of year class strength from environmental variables. This is a crucial aspect for future management of this fishery.

We note that the project to look at stock structure of hoki was withdrawn.

#### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and advises that:

- a) Although prediction would be very useful for management of hoki stocks, there has not been much success to date with predictive models; and
- b) The project on stock structure was withdrawn for next year because it was only rated as a medium priority and there was no consensus on whether the best approach was to carry out more primary research or to model the impact of alternative assumptions on the stock assessment results.

#### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	87
<b>Research project code and title</b>	SBW2005/02 Biomass estimation of southern blue whiting using acoustic surveys

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

While Te Ohu supports the ongoing monitoring of the Campbell Islands fishery, we are not satisfied that continued use of the (costly) *Tangaroa* for such surveys can be justified.

In our view every effort should now be made by MFish to have the surveys conducted by industry vessels equipped with suitable sonar equipment already operating in the fishery. Analysis of the resulting records could still form contracted work.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that hull mounted sensors for acoustic surveys are very weather dependent for successful completion of surveys. The joint NIWA/Industry survey concluded that it was not feasible at this time to combine commercial fishing operations with a wide area survey of the Campbell islands stock.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	89
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OBS 2005/03 Research Observer Days – Hoki and middle depth fisheries

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

We support this project but increased observer coverage is necessary so that non-fish bycatch can be more accurately assessed.

This coverage also collects biological information on SWA and WWA.

#### Te Ohu comment

Supported, but only subject to the review of HOK observer requirements noted on p.89 of the *2005/06 year Research Proposals* document

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) Increased observer days may not be required if they can be deployed more efficiently throughout the fishery; and
- b) A review of hoki observer requirements is proceeding, but it will not necessarily mean a reduction in total observer days. Some areas of the hoki fishery have had inadequate sampling in recent years, and days may be re-allocated to achieve the target sampling requirements.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## INSHORE FINFISH & FRESHWATER EEL FISHERIES

General comment from ECO:

1. We look forward to future proposals for observer in inshore fisheries.
2. We look forward to the development of future trawl surveys. This includes the reinstatement of the Southland trawl survey.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	93
<b>Research project code and title</b>	BCO2005/03 Characterisation of the blue cod fishery in BCO4

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

We note the project looking at abundance of blue cod in area 5 has been dropped apart from Paterson Inlet.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the comments from ECO.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	94
<b>Research project code and title</b>	BNS2005/01 Validation of growth zones in bluenose otoliths

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

It is noted that there is ongoing work on radiocarbon (C<sup>14</sup>) dating of BNS otoliths and that this project will only proceed if that work is unsuccessful or requires extension. On that basis the project is supported by Te Ohu.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the support of Te Ohu for this project.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	99
<b>Research project code and title</b>	FLA2005/01 Productivity of yellow belly flounder

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

Productivity of all flounder species need to be assessed and moves take to split the eight species.

#### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and advises that this project will provide more information on the productivity of flatfish.

#### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	108
<b>Research project code and title</b>	INS2005/02 To estimate relative abundance of GUR, JDO, TAR and other inshore stocks around northern New Zealand

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

We welcome work to assess trawl surveys in the north. It is essential that the other benefits of trawl surveys in gaining non-target information about fish populations and trends over longer periods eg 10 years or more.

#### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the support of ECO for this project.

#### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	116
<b>Research project code and title</b>	SPD2005/01 Relative abundance of spiny dogfish in SPD 3 and 5

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

We strongly support further work on this important shark species.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the support of ECO for this project.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## SHELLFISH FISHERIES

General comment from ECO: We note that these are all important projects

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	123
<b>Research project code and title</b>	COC2005/01 Stock assessment of Snake Bank cockles

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

As is noted in the proposal, Snake Bank is the only cockle bed in Whangarei Harbour open to commercial fishing. As such it provides the whole TACC for the COC1A fishery. All other cockle beds in that Harbour are available for noncommercial harvesting. As such, fluctuations in the availability of cockles on Snake Bank are only of interest for TACC setting and should in no way impact on TAC calculations or non-commercial fishing allowances.

COC1A entered the QMS on 1 October 2002 when the TACC was set at 346mt, well below the previous harvest levels. Te Ohu does not regard annual assessments of Snake Bank cockles as necessary, even under a CAY harvest strategy. In our view surveys at 2-3 year intervals are quite sufficient to establish sustainable harvest levels under such a management strategy. Accordingly we consider this project should be deferred for at least 12 months.

#### ECO comment

We support the cockle projects continuing on an annual basis.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of Te Ohu and ECO and advises that the TACC is higher than the current range of CAY estimates and annual biomass estimates are required while the biomass estimates are at the present level. The frequency of surveys and stock assessments can be reviewed following the results of the present survey.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	126
<b>Research project code and title</b>	CRA2005/01 Rock lobster recruitment

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu has always favoured the ongoing monitoring of puerulus settlement as a guide to recruitment to the CRA fisheries (as has been done for many years in Western Australia) but has never been comfortable with the poor correlation achieved between puerulus settlement records and subsequent stock assessments.

While we continue to support the settlement project in principle we would welcome an analysis of that project to see if alterations would improve its predictive capability.

#### ECO comment

We strongly support this project and strongly urge this information be used more as an input into stock assessments. Currently this information is rarely used, in particular in forward projections. The rock lobster proposals are supported.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of Te Ohu and ECO and advises that it may not be possible to find a good predictive relationship between settlement and recruitment (with a high correlation). However, poor settlement years are known to result in poor recruitment to the fishery in later years.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu and ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	129
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OYS2005/01 Foveaux Strait oyster stock assessment

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

The proposal to look at factors affecting Bonamiosis in Foveaux Strait oysters should have been continued. This is a key issue in the management of the oyster stock. The assessment of closed areas must be part of any assessment process.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the comments from ECO and advises that current research is directed at developing an epidemiological model of the disease.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	142
<b>Research project code and title</b>	SCI2005/01 Measuring the abundance of scampi

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

It is essential that further assessments are carried out in the scampi fishery. The focus needs to move from who got quota to whether the current catch limits are sustainable. We doubt that they are sustainable.

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu has considerable doubts about the usefulness of this project at this time, given the significant outstanding questions over the appropriateness for stock assessment of indices derived from photographic surveys and CPUE and the uncertainties over what such indices indicate on stock abundance.

We would prefer that greater effort be applied to reconciling such differences and producing a viable assessment model than on the conducting of more surveys producing data of doubtful significance. As such we would support an expansion of Objective 2 and the deletion of objectives 1 and 3 from this project.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- (a) The estimation of relative abundance from photographic surveys in SCI 2 is required to complete a time series. Photographic surveys have been accepted as the most suitable method of estimating scampi abundance.
- (b) It is important to extend the scampi stock assessment model currently developed for SCI 1 to other scampi stocks.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services,
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## NON-COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

ECO general comment:

We support the early development of standards and specifications for recreational fishing surveys which is supposed to be carried out via a workshop.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	146
<b>Research project code and title</b>	AK2005/01 Intertidal shellfish monitoring in the Auckland Fisheries Management Area

### Submission Details

Te Ohu comment

Supported, particularly Objective 2.

Te Ohu is particularly pleased to see the link now established between this on-going project and s.186A closures in the area involved. We have contended for a long time now that all s.186A closures must immediately be supported by similar monitoring projects so that the effects of the closures can be assessed and information is available for use in consideration of closure extension applications.

A classic case is in point with the current extension application of the s.186A closure in Hicks Bay. No hard data on resources depletion was available at the time of the closure decision and no monitoring programme was put in place following that decision. As a consequence, it is virtually impossible to make any sensible comments on the application extension application.

We would strongly urge that –

- either project AK2005/01 be extended to include the Hicks Bay closure, or that an equivalent project be initiated to cover that and other s.186A closures in the area Eastern Bay of Plenty to Napier; and
- projects similar to AK2005/01 be put in place for all other s.186A closures.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) The project is a continuation of the monitoring of intertidal shellfish beds in the Auckland Fisheries Management Area. The beach selection was decided in

consultation with the Ministry and local tangata whenua representatives. The areas considered did not include any outside the Auckland FMA.

- b) A project for monitoring s.186A closures could be considered as part of the research planning process for 2006/07.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	149
<b>Research project code and title</b>	BCO2005/02 Abundance of blue cod in Paterson Inlet (BCO5)

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

We note the SeaFIC comments (paras 168-169 of their submission dated 31 October 2004 on the proposed Fisheries Research Services 2005/06) on the ownership of opportunistically taken BCO otoliths were studiously ignored in the MFish response to that submission. We also note that the same issue still arises from the latest iteration of this project proposal.

Te Ohu fully endorses the SeaFIC comments on this ownership of otoliths question and considers it must be addressed before further progress is made on this project. Until the matter is settled, both for the otoliths mentioned in this project proposal and more generally, we consider this project should be deferred.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views Te Ohu and advises that the ownership of the otoliths in question has no bearing on the priority or feasibility of this project. However, we do agree that the question needs to be addressed.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	151
<b>Research project code and title</b>	BCO2005/04 Stock assessment of blue cod

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

We question that this is only a non-commercial assessment.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views of ECO and advises that, in accordance with the cost recovery rules, this project is 100% Crown funded.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	155
<b>Research project code and title</b>	EEL2005/03 Estimation of the national mortality of eels associated with hydro passage and waterways clearance

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

We support this project. The Ministry need to take a stronger advocacy position on these issues.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the view expressed by ECO.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	161
<b>Research project code and title</b>	REC2005/01 Estimation of recreational harvest of priority fish stock

## Submission Details

### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu fully concurs that better estimation of recreational harvest is essential to the future management of shared stocks. As such we can see the justification for this project provided the methodology proposed under Objective 1, if successful, is transferable to other shared fisheries and is not limited only to fisheries such as SNA8. As we assume transferability is applicable we would suggest that by stressing SNA8 in the project proposal MFish is under-selling the importance of the feasibility study.

We would certainly expect, as noted in the MFish response to SeaFIC comments on the proposal as discussed at the RCC, that no progress is made on Objective 2 until the results of the feasibility study have been reviewed by the Marine Recreational Fishery Technical Working Group. In fact, to ensure this happens, we would strongly suggest Objectives 1 and 2 be contracted as separate projects, with REC2005/01(b) - the Objective 2 project - not being contracted until at least the 2006/07 year.

## Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) It is not possible to predict that the methodology developed in Objective 1 will be able to be applied to other shared fish stocks. Application of the methodology, if successful in SNA8, to other fish stocks would have to be considered on a case by case basis.
- b) Objective 2 will only be considered after the Marine Recreational Fishery Technical Working Group has evaluated the results of Objective 1. It is not necessary to separate out the objectives into separate projects to achieve this purpose.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	163
<b>Research project code and title</b>	REC2005/02 Marlborough Sounds recreational fishing survey

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Essentially this project seeks a new method for assessing recreational harvest - including charter vessel harvest – of fish species. Certainly results from the previous telephone/diary survey method have been less than optimal and Te Ohu has no objection to the project concept.

We are somewhat concerned at the limitation of the objectives to the Marlborough Sounds in this project though as there is little certainty new methods developed for such a localised and specialised area will be applicable more widely. We are also unsure that any results achieved will be comparable with 1999 survey results, so generating questions as to the usability of the answers from both surveys.

These doubts lead us to suggest that this project not proceed for the 2005/06 year but be resubmitted for 2006/07. In the interim we suggest its objectives and scope be refined and clarified. Is it in fact a feasibility study (like REC2005/01) for trialling different survey methods, or is it a project to produce recreational harvest data for the Marlborough Sounds and environs?

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) Objective 1 is designed to provide direct comparability with the earlier study undertaken in 1998.
- b) Tenderers will provide methodologies for estimating the recreational harvest in the Marlborough Sounds and these will be evaluated accordingly.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	165
<b>Research project code and title</b>	REC2005/03 Rock lobster recreational catch estimates

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu is becoming increasingly disenchanted with "place holder" projects and gives notice that we are unlikely to continue to support such proposals.

Although this project falls into the “place holder” category (as it relies on the results of project REC2003/02) the importance of rapidly moving to improve recreational (and customary) harvest levels data is such that we support retention of this project.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that an estimation of the recreational harvest of rock lobster in CRA 2 is now being undertaken as part of a current research project and that this project has subsequently been withdrawn.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project has been withdrawn.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	167
<b>Research project code and title</b>	REC2005/04 Survey of marine recreational fishing in selected areas

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Like SeaFIC (op *cit.*) we reject this undefined project.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that this is a placeholder project and a similar project has been in place in previous years to account for unforeseen circumstances that cannot be identified at the time the 2005/06 research plan was developed. Fisheries management can at times be a reactive process and placeholder projects are necessary to allow for this.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	173
<b>Research project code and title</b>	SNA2005/04 Selectivity of recreational catches in SNA 1

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Like SeaFIC (*op cit.*) we reject this placeholder project. It could be resubmitted for 2006/07 when the results of project REC2003/01 are available and have been assessed.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that this project is required to continue the work begun in REC2003-02 and therefore should be initiated in 2005/06.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## AQUATIC ENVIRONMENT

General comment from ECO

All of these projects are supported.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand's fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	179
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/01 Estimation of the nature and extent of incidental captures in New Zealand fisheries

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

The principal new item in this project, as compared to its predecessors, is Objective 2. Without that inclusion Te Ohu would have been inclined to reject the project on the basis that previous projects had identified the interactions, times, locations and species and had provided sufficient data for observer coverage targeting. The inclusion of Obj.2 though has encouraged us not to reject the project, but we support its retention for the processing of 2004/05 year only.

We would suggest that MFish review the *Cost Recovery Information* section. In our view it is inappropriate to seek to cost recover against bycatch species like BWS, MAK, MOO, POS, RBM and the like - costs should be levied against the target species only.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that costs should be recovered from all fisheries where seabirds are potentially caught because of the type of gear being used.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	183
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/02 Estimation of the nature and extent of marine mammal capture in New Zealand fisheries

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu supports SeaFIC's call (*op. cit, paras 204-215*) for this project to be withdrawn. That document clearly sets out the reasoning, with which we concur.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) The Ministry is obliged to enumerate catches of marine mammals by New Zealand fisheries as they are protected species.
- b) This project is a rollover of previous work.
- c) Objective 2 has been dropped and incorporated into ENV2005/05.
- d) The objectives and specifications have been reworded to make it clearer that the research applies to all marine mammals, while the new objective 2 applies to sea lions only.
- e) Concerns in relation to beach cast animals have been addressed by rewording to clarify the intent.
- f) Changes in cost estimates are with respect to standardised formats for the FSP, and do not represent a real change in cost estimates. With respect to cost recovery, fur seals have been reported in domestic and chartered tuna fishing operations (e.g. ENV2001-02, draft working group report for the 2002-03 fishing year; an estimated 61 animals were caught).

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	186
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV20005/04 Identification of marine mammals captured in New Zealand fisheries.

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

In Te Ohu's view much of this proposal repeats well-established material developed by DoC, eg Obj. 3, and is quite unnecessary.

In addition, the implication of Obj. 1 is that all marine mammal carcasses should be returned. For some years now DoC has indicated it only requires previously tagged fur seal carcasses to be returned for autopsy as it has more than sufficient general data on fur seals and only needs data on known age animals. The wording of Obj. 1 needs clarification as the retention of marine mammal carcasses on board vessels is a complex task if marketable product is not to be compromised.

Note that the comment, under *Rationale: General* that *This research is high priority... The high tonnage and high value of the fisheries concerned* is both irrelevant and illogical, as is the earlier comment about *informing the national regard*. There are other examples of inappropriateness elsewhere in the text also.

Te Ohu believes this project proposal should be withdrawn for rewriting and resubmission. The present text is just too inappropriate to be credible.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) Objective 1 has already been modified.
- b) The Ministry only requires tagged fur seal carcasses at this point.
- c) This sentence refers to an indication of ‘fisheries of significance’.
- d) The text essentially indicates that we need to obtain information about fur seals that will enable an assessment of risk to the population (from fishing). We do not believe that it needs to be re-written.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	189
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/05 Characterisation of marine mammal captures in New Zealand fisheries

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

We strongly support this project which completes the full picture of captures of marine mammals apart from cetacean captures in the jack mackerel fishery and Hector’s dolphin captures.

#### Te Ohu comment

Like SeaFIC, we see no need for this project to be undertaken in the 2005/06 year.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that this project has been withdrawn.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project has been withdrawn.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	195
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OBS2005/04  Research Observer services to estimate the nature and extent of incidental captures of protected species in New Zealand fisheries.

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

We strongly support this project.

#### Te Ohu comment

Why the southern squid trawl fisheries? What evidence is there that 960 observer days will be required to observe trawling activities in these fisheries to meet the defined objectives? Is it the rarity of the encounter events? What other duties will the observers so employed undertake to not die of boredom from that rarity?

This project makes very little sense. Surely the work falls within the squid trawl industry's own responsibilities under the NPOA on Seabirds? Te Ohu sees no need for this project and recommends it be withdrawn.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) The southern squid trawl fisheries have the highest capture rate of seabirds within the EEZ, including some endangered species.
- b) 960 days (typical of coverage in previous years) ensures 20% Observer Coverage in this fishery. This is the minimum requirement to estimate seabird captures with any reliability.
- c) The Seabird NPOA Code of Practice specifically requires reliable estimates of seabird captures.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	199
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/06 Estimation of protected species captures in longline using electronic monitoring

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

While supporting this project we have questions over the usefulness of electronic monitoring. Results to date presented in New Zealand have been equivocal at best. To be effective it would require law changes and management issues to be sorted out. It is essential that this assessment be carried out by the Ministry of Fisheries and/or Department of Conservation.

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu still concurs with SeaFIC. The project should be withdrawn until the many questions posed in the SeaFIC submission are answered.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) This project will address the legal and management issues of electronic monitoring.
- b) We acknowledge Industry input to this methodology and its utility.
- c) It is however important to have an independent assessment of the utility of the system.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	203
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/08  Experimental design of a programme of indicators of protected species population performance relative to fisheries mortality and fisheries management activities

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

With the demise of the Ministry for the Environment’s indicators programme it is essential that this work produces indicators that are durable.

#### Te Ohu comment

We concur with the SeaFIC view that this project is entirely premature and the thinking behind it needs clarification before any project proposal is developed. While the proposal clearly delineates that the desired programme indicators relate only to NZ fisheries effects on relevant seabird and marine mammal populations, it completely omits any indication of how other "non NZ fisheries" effects - both within and outside NZ waters - are to be monitored, the effects evaluated and those effects assessed against the NZ fisheries effects.

In our view, until these matters have been addressed, any results which might be achieved from this project will exist in a vacuum, so rendering them unusable.

The project should be withdrawn from the cost recovery context also. If officials are so imbued with its importance as to insist it proceed without the essential supporting thinking, public funding should be applied.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) It is essential to develop a robust protocol for data collection to monitor seabird population changes in relation to commercial fishing.
- b) New and more advanced methodologies have been developed in the scientific literature for discerning fishing effects from other effects and their application to seabirds and marine mammals in New Zealand should be thoroughly investigated.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	207
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/09  Data collection to estimate key performance indicators in the Chatham albatross, <i>Diomedea eremita</i> population, relative to fisheries mortality and fisheries management activities

## Submission Details

### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu notes five major problems with this project proposal –

- Valid and continuing customary harvest rights are characterised as *Illegal harvest of Chatham Albatrosses*;
- The project is alleged to require 5 years of data gathering, although this proposal is limited to one year;
- The range of Chatham albatross noted in the DoC *Action Plan for Seabird Conservation in New Zealand, Part A* includes the Tasman Sea, waters south of Australia and the South Pacific Ocean;
- The project is dependent on outputs from project ENV2005/08 - see above - which has not commenced and is not timed for completion until 30 September 2005, well after the commencement date proposed for this project; and
- The Cost Recovery information presupposes that the Chatham albatross is susceptible to interactions with all the principal trawl and pelagic and bottom longline fisheries, despite ascertaining information on which fisheries could be involved being the prime purpose of objective 2.

We flatly reject that either DoC or MFish has any right under any legislation to remove customary harvest rights or to characterise such rights as *Illegal harvest*.

Experience with the DoC-run Antipodean and Gibson's albatross population programmes indicates to us that even the 5 years of data gathering mentioned in the *Rationale* for Objective 1 is likely to be a severe understatement of the time required to obtain usable data. To propose a 1-year data programme is clearly a waste of time, money and effort.

No attempt is made in the proposal to identify interactions or effects across the whole range of the Chatham albatross or to evaluate any interaction effects on the population not resulting from NZ fisheries in NZ waters;

The linking of this project to results and outcomes from projects ENV 2005/01 and 08 strongly suggests that this project should be at least delayed until after 30 September 2006.

If this project proceeds at this time - we think it should not - its cost should only be attributed to those fisheries where there is clear evidence of interactions. There is no justification for a broad brush charging approach.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) As a result of Submissions received after the RCC round in 2004, the Ministry was advised to insert the phrase 'illegal harvest'. The Chatham albatross is an endangered species and should not be harvested at any level. Any offence taken from this statement is regrettable, and the wording of the project will be modified accordingly.
- b) The project may indeed need more than 5 years to run; however, it was agreed in the NPOA review of research projects that a one year trial period would be a useful way to proceed to develop the appropriate protocol.
- c) The Chatham albatross's full range does extend beyond the study area. However, data gathering will be focussed during the breeding season when mature birds are all at the Chatham Islands.
- d) The timing of the project is designed to mesh in with ENV2005/08. Sampling at the Chathams cannot begin until at least October 2005 when the breeding season begins. Work prior to this time relates to giving contractors time to make the logistical arrangements necessary to conduct the project.
- e) The Chatham albatross is potentially caught by many fisheries (as identified in the cost recovery recommendation). As the project proceeds, the fisheries that catch more of this species will become evident. It has been observed to be caught in a range of trawl and longline fisheries, mainly in FMA 2, but the foraging range described from satellite tracking also shows that breeding birds extensively use FMA4. Therefore fishing using longlining and trawling in these areas potentially affects the species.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	211
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/13  Assessment of risk to Yellow-eyed Penguin <i>Megadyptes antipodes</i> from fisheries incidental mortality in New Zealand fisheries and definition of information requirements for managing fisheries-related risk

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu understood it had been generally accepted that commercial fisheries interactions with yellow-eyed penguins were minimal and that any interactions which did occur related to recreational setnet activities. As such we can see absolutely no validity in this project being included in projects to be cost-recovered from the commercial industry at all, let alone seeking to cost recover it from offshore trawl fisheries such as BNS, RBY, and TRU.

We have no objection to this project proceeding, provided it is removed from the commercial sector and is 100% Crown funded.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) There is evidence in the scientific literature and from fishers themselves that yellow eyed penguins are sometimes caught by commercial fishing.
- b) TCEPR data from offshore fisheries indicates some fishing over the shelf and at the shelf break off Otago, some 20-30km offshore, where these penguins are known to forage, as studied by GPS technology.
- c) Fisheries occurring in coastal QMAs including 3 and 5 have therefore been included for cost recovery.
- d) Cost recovery from RBY7 and TRU7 could however be dropped.

## **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	217 - 224
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/15 Information for managing the effect of fishing on physical features of the deep-sea environment  ENV2005/16 Investigate the effects of fishing on physical features of the deep-sea environment

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

We do not feel qualified to comment on these projects although to us they smack strongly of Public, rather than Private, Good

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) Until we understand the biological sustainability consequences of the impacts of bottom trawling on these environments, we will not have a sound basis for better managing the fisheries. Once we gain an improved understanding of the consequences of deep-sea fishing, we will be able to better define ‘adverse effects’.
- b) These projects have specifically been designed to integrate with NIWA/FoRST and MFish Biodiversity projects that are crown funded. They utilize previous work done by NIWA/FoRST and the MFish biodiversity programme by elaborating on what we have learnt about the ecology of underwater topographical features and by extrapolating this knowledge to assess the vulnerability of these environments to the impacts of fishing (which should be cost recovered).
- c) These projects have already been deferred for one year. The Ministry believes that an ongoing commitment to assessing the effects of bottom trawling is required to mitigate the adverse effects of fishing.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of these proposals may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that these projects are classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	225
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/17 Estimation of non-target fish catch and both target and non-target fish discards for jack mackerel trawl fisheries

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

While the project may be useful in summarising existing data, it serves no management purpose for either the JMA or the bycatch species. When coupled with the fact that JMA in particular is a low value species and 2 of the 3 principal bycatch species (SPD and RBT) are also of low value - the *Rationale* is quite wrong in characterising the fish stocks as *both high value and high tonnage* - this project should be deferred as being of low to medium priority.

#### ECO comment

Project 17 and 18 are ongoing projects which should be used to assess trends in discards.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that this project was instigated after discussion with the SFMA for pelagic fisheries, in response to non-target fish bycatch concerns in this fishery.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu and ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	228
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/18 Estimation of non-target fish catch and both target and non-target fish discards in orange roughy trawl fisheries

### **Submission Details**

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu agrees with both SeaFIC and the Orange Roughy Management Co that this project is of low priority and can be deferred.

#### ECO comment

Project 17 and 18 are ongoing projects which should be used to assess trends in discards

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and ECO and advises that this project is carried out on a three-year cycle to monitor bycatch in the orange roughy fishery. It should not be deferred as 3 years will have elapsed since the last analysis.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu and ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	231 - 236
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/20 Benthic invertebrate sampling and species identification in trawl fisheries  ENV2005/21 Threat status of associated OR dependent species

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Even the MFish responses to the initial SeaFIC comments on these projects are weak. Clearly there is no priority for this work than that it is in the "Nice to do" category. Defer both projects.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that:

#### ENV2005/20

- a) It is highly probable that more than 100 species across several phyla are commonly caught in commercial trawl fisheries, and that the scope of the work for deep sea fisheries alone needs to extend over more than 100 common species. For this reason, there is a justification for continuing research in this area, and for the time being, until a considerable proportion of species commonly landed on commercial vessels is covered (e.g. over 50-75%), the work should be funded by the fishing industry.

#### ENV2005/21

- b) This project is not required for 2005/06.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that proposal ENV2005/20 is classified as essential and that its nature and extent may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that project ENV2005/21 has been withdrawn.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	237
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/22 Relative effects of fishing and environmental degradation of northern harbour fisheries

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

Te Ohu notes that this project has resurfaced, despite the statement in the MFish response to SeaFIC that *This project has been deferred, as greater clarity and purpose from Fisheries Managers is required for the work to proceed.*

We can see little additional "clarity and purpose" in the material now presented and can see no justification for the project being reinstated at this time. Delete project.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry note the views expressed by Te Ohu and advises that this project has been deferred and is therefore no longer a part of the current round of required services.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project has been withdrawn from the current round of required services.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	240
<b>Research project code and title</b>	ENV2005/23 Monitoring recovery of the benthic community between North Cape and Cape Reinga.

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

This should be a high priority project given the high level of biodiversity at risk in this area.

#### Te Ohu comment

The SeaFIC original comments are still valid. A reading of the MFish response to those comments - *The utility of National Plans for this type of work is currently under investigation* - suggests that this project, like ENV2005/22, was also to be withdrawn by MFish but it also has reappeared. Te Ohu strongly suggests it disappear again.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views expressed by ECO and Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) This project is 100% crown funded.
- b) It is an ideal case study for before and after effects of fishing research on marine soft sediments.
- c) It will assist in the development of appropriate methodologies for assessing the impacts of fishing on benthic communities.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO and Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on Fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## PELAGIC FISHERIES

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	247
<b>Research project code and title</b>	EMA2005/01 Development of fisheries dependent indices of abundance for blue mackerel

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

While we have severe doubts that adequate EMA abundance indices will be developed from bycatch data from other trawl fisheries, Te Ohu agrees that an abundance index (or indices) for EMA is a necessary step forward to stock assessment. As such we support the project proceeding.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) The development of an abundance index from trawl bycatch data is a method recommended for investigation by an international expert who reviewed approaches to assessing mackerel fisheries in New Zealand; and
- b) The development of a set of abundance indices for EMA stocks is critical for any future stock assessment and the monitoring of EMA stocks in the absence of an assessment.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	261
<b>Research project code and title</b>	KAH2005/02 Stock monitoring of kahawai – recreational catch

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

While Te Ohu does not object to the project *per se*, we do have some problem with the proposed *Cost Recovery Information* proposing the application of Rule 9(2). That Rule, of course, relates to commercial not the recreational fishery. As it is the recreational fishery which is to be monitored in this project, in our view the project should be 100% Crown funded or, at worst, under the Rules Schedule, be only 70% industry funded.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) This research is undertaken to monitor the status of the entire KAH stock and is not specifically recreational research, accordingly, the cost recovery rule applied is believed to be correct; and
- b) As the species has been introduced to the QMS a portion of the costs of this project are not recovered from industry (the proportion of the TACC/TAC is borne by industry).

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	267
<b>Research project code and title</b>	PEL2005/01 Characterisation of pelagic fisheries using observer data

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

As we have commented earlier, it makes little sense in allocating costs for projects such as this one to include bycatch species such as POS, BWS and MAK which cannot be target fished. Instead we would urge cost recovery be directed at the target species only.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that:

- a) There is no consensus on whether levies should apply to target fisheries only, or to all species taken in a fishery; and
- b) The current Ministry of Fisheries approach is to apply the levy to all species known to be taken in a fishery in accordance with the cost recovery intent to levy the risk exacerbator.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	276 - 281
<b>Research project code and title</b>	TUN2005/01 Characterisation of the New Zealand tuna fisheries  TUN2005/02 Development of a commercial catch sampling programme for highly migratory species

### Submission Details

#### Te Ohu comment

As the data and outputs from these projects are admitted by MFish as being important to the work of the WCPFC and of the CCSBT and will be contributed by New Zealand to scientific work of those organisations as required, it would be appropriate for a portion of the costs in each case to be met by the Crown under its international obligations.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry notes the views of Te Ohu and advises that a part of the Other Services budget, project IFA2005/01, is used to fund the portion of research costs that are required to be met by the Crown under its international obligations.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by Te Ohu, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	282
<b>Research project code and title</b>	OBS2005/05 Research Observer Days – Pelagic fisheries

### **Submission Details**

#### ECO comment

We strongly support this project.

### **Ministry of Fisheries analysis**

The Ministry notes the strong support of ECO for this project.

### **Recommendation**

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that this project is classified as essential.

## STOCK ASSESSMENT METHODS

<b>Output Class</b>	Fisheries information and monitoring
<b>Output</b>	21 – Utilisation and sustainability of New Zealand’s fisheries resources measured
<b>Draft SOI fisheries research section page no</b>	288
<b>Research project code and title</b>	SAM2005/02 Effects of climate on commercial fish abundance

### Submission Details

#### ECO comment

This project is strongly supported.

### Ministry of Fisheries analysis

The Ministry of Fisheries notes the support of ECO for this project.

### Recommendation

The Ministry of Fisheries recommends that you:

- a) **note** the comments made by ECO, along with those made by other stakeholders in previous submissions on fisheries research services;
- b) **note** the Ministry responses;
- c) **note** that the nature and extent of this proposal may be amended following the tender evaluation process;
- d) **note** that this project is classified as essential.