

### Bluenose—its time to have your say

There has been much discussion amongst fishers and quota owners that recently catch rates of Bluenose in some areas of New Zealand have picked up significantly— so much in fact that they are calling for the Ministry's three year rebuild plan to be put on hold.

FINZ has responded swiftly to member's feedback that Bluenose catching has improved. We commissioned scientists thought Seafood NZ to look at the CPUE. Results particularly the first six months of 2012-13 were very positive for some stocks which has been echoed by fishers' feedback on the water. Recent Trident work presented to the Northern Inshore Working Group has further supported fishers' on the water experiences.

Let's be clear we don't know why, but there are some very strong year classes of Bluenose coming through in large numbers. We think that the Ministry's TACC three years of cuts in order to rebuild the fishery over time was too pessimistic.

FINZ argued against the current rebuild plan but it is only now, with this CPUE and Trident work, that we can argue with credible science that sustainability levels of some BNS stocks are most certainly not as dire as projected by scientists in 2010.

A notice of Bluenose Quota Holders—all stocks meeting will follow after the release of the IPP. If you're a Fisheries Inshore member, we encourage your participation.

#### SNAPPER

Attached are some talking points, written as key messages. While this information is known by you, we hope this helps keep messages consistent.

### Members voice:

It seems Hauraki Gulf fishers never tire of eating fish. Caught out last week at the Auckland Fish Market before they sat down with MPI to talk about the National Plan of Action – Seabirds, the group was seen enjoying a bit of mid-winter sun. The fishers later gave feedback to MPI about the need for a collaborative plan where all parts of the industry – commercial, recreational and charter got behind black petrels.



From left to right—Dave Moore, Cindy Bailey, Dave Kellian, Ali Undorf, Phil Clow



### FINZ

Working Groups

Fisheries Inshore New Zealand exists to represent the interests of its members. For us to ensure we're representing you in issues you want and in the direction you want, we need members to get involved and to have their say.

We're calling for interest from members to be involved in working groups pertaining to specific industry issues like:

- NPOA—Sharks
- Protected species
- Fish stock research

For more information or register your interest, email [info@inshore.co.nz](mailto:info@inshore.co.nz)

*Image above: Hauraki Gulf Fishers attending a Southern Seabirds 'Seabird Smart' workshop*