

### Members shape the future of FINZ

It was pleasing to see the first Fisheries Inshore New Zealand workshop having such great turn out, with representation from major industry players and independent fishermen alike from the north to the south. With so many challenges facing our industry, there was much ground to cover in a relatively short time but everyone was enthusiastic and it was encouraging to see everyone working together. One of the hot topics of the day was Bluenose and we cover that in this newsletter. Other topics will be written up and posted onto the Fisheries Inshore website early next week.

### Members voice:

Fishermen Brian Hahn and Ian Ruthe who attended Tuesday's workshop were keen to hear how Fisheries Inshore New Zealand are stepping up their protected species work.

Both men are gillnet fishers working in the shallow inshore waters and selling most of their catch into the Auckland Fish Market.



*Fishers Brian Hahn and Ian Ruthe  
from Pukekohe, Auckland*

### FINZ PHOTOBOARD



### [ Bluenose ]



Bluenose was a hot topic on the agenda at this week's FINZ workshop, gaining early prominence in the discussion on problem fishstocks. Unless the Minister decides to change the programme of TACC reductions adopted after the 2011 assessment, 1 October 2013 will see the third year of TACC cuts to ensure rebuild of the stock. Fishers expressed their strong disappointment that the option FINZ promoted of a staged reduction over five years was not taken up by the Minister – it would have given more time to respond with further science.

Fishers on the water from north to south stressed to the meeting that they are experiencing easy fishing for bluenose. Many stated they are no longer targeting bluenose as it is so prolific it cannot be avoided and their ACE is easily caught through by catch.

In an effort to better understand that status of our bluenose stocks LFRs have been sampling catches across the country for two seasons now. It was agreed at the workshop that the next step is to have Trident undertake the catch sampling analysis. Trident is also developing management procedures that will investigate and recommend the best parameters to monitor to allow responsive management changes as the stocks rebuild. Early adoption of a management procedure would ensure that the TACCs set responded to recent signals from the fishery. The meeting also requested that FINZ have experts take a close look at the more recent CPUE for any signs of the recovery fishers are reporting as this work could influence discussions on whether the next stated level of cuts are needed or if lesser levels may now provide for the recovery of the fishery. The meeting also considered that it was critical irrespective of the level of the TACC, industry and government should agree how to monitor the fishery to show its recovery and ensure continuity of coverage.