

Taking another step forward

It was clear that as Fisheries Inshore New Zealand members stepped forward and got more engaged in the action at both a regional and national fisheries management level, we needed a set of policies. Policies take time to write but having them are helpful in an organisation like ours, which is spread across the country and has a diverse membership base.

The benefit of having a Policy Handbook means we can be confident our messages are consistent, transparent and high quality.

When we decided to sit down and work on the detail, we committed to write these in a bottom up style, where our members have a chance to shape the words and determine priorities. This is one of the reasons why we held our May workshop. Last week the FINZ Steering Committee took the workshop notes and drafted them into our first ten policies.

Now we want to hear from you. Download the [draft policies](#) and tell us what you think. Once signed off by the Board, likely by the end of August, they will in no way be set in stone. We see our Policy Handbook as a living document that that not only grows but will be reviewed on a regular basis. We welcome your thoughts.

Nga mihi, Carl



Image sourced from Google Images

Trident also steps forward

Last week at a meeting of MPI's Northern Inshore Stock Assessment Working Group, [Trident Systems](#) also put a strong foot forward as it develops and promotes the concept of Rapid Management Procedure Evaluations (MPE).

Trident presented on Bluenose to the working group, to gain a better understanding of the Working Group expectations around the presentation of Rapid MPEs.

Bluenose is a slow growing fish with low natural mortality and slow reproduction. There is already a fair amount of easily obtainable information on bluenose population dynamics, catch histories, size distributions and abundances indices available in the MPI plenary documents, Adaptive Management Programme Reports and the Fisheries Assessment Reports (although no one would claim that our understanding is perfect, with stock structure in particular remaining an area of uncertainty).

An MPE on Bluenose is about collating this information and using it in smarter ways to produce simulation models that can be used to test decision rules for TAC re-assessment. The intention is to allow more timely monitoring and management responses than can be achieved within the current MPI Inshore Work Programme.

Trident is not wanting to do away with full scale stock assessments, but is aiming to develop an alternative approach that is more cost effective and can be applied quickly to support effective management of QMS stocks.

Members voice:

Richard Wells, a well known fisheries manager who has spent time in the inshore fisheries in the Nelson area and the deepwater fishing industry, has been contracted to help steer our FINZ vessel while Laws, FINZ CEO is overseas and will continue supporting us with specific projects.

While Richard's job will be to support all our [Business Plan](#) objectives, his main focus will be on helping with the challenges of the National Plan of Action - Seabirds.

Richard attended last week's FINZ steering committee meeting in Wellington and the Directors meeting the next day. It's great to have him on board and we look forward to his guaranteed passionate approach to fisheries advocacy. Richard can be contacted at info@inshore.co.nz.



Richard Wells