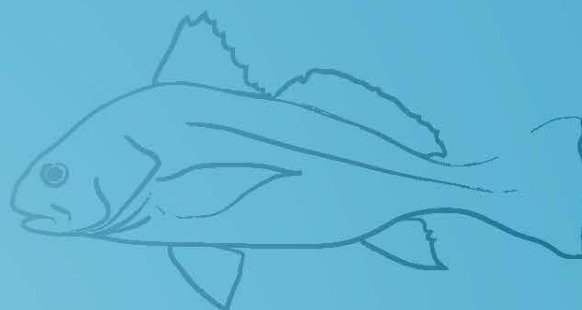


Fisheries Inshore New Zealand Ltd

# Business Plan 2017/18

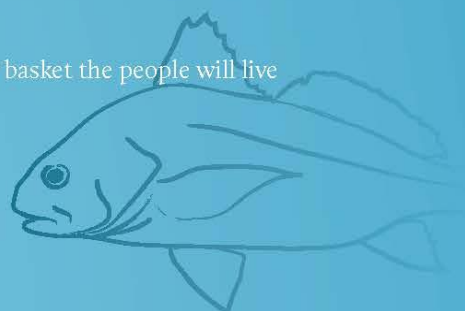
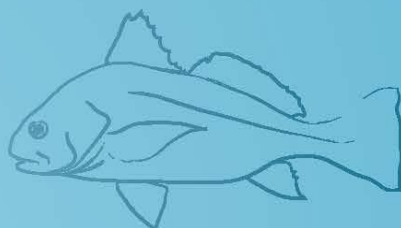
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September 2017



Naku te rourou nau te rourou ka ora ai te iwi

With your basket and my basket the people will live



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## Message from Laws Lawson, Fisheries Inshore New Zealand Chairman

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Any election year always brings concerns to industry as we watch politicians jostling for votes and offering simplistic solutions for complex issues. At the time of writing we are yet to see this emerge for seafood, but we should expect it. The resurgence of the Labour Party, and the possibility of New Zealand First and/or the Greens having a significant say in the composition of the next Government, could make life after 23 September 2017 very interesting for the seafood industry.

Whatever shape the next Government takes, our industry is in a strong position. The analysis Fisheries Inshore contracted from BERL demonstrates the value of seafood to the New Zealand economy; \$4.2 billion a year and many thousands of jobs. Furthermore, much of our industry is based in regional New Zealand where strong primary industries underpin strong communities—this is particularly so for inshore fisheries.

Yet it's not enough for us to know how much fishing benefits New Zealand; the public must believe it. Several initiatives launched this year have been aimed at telling Kiwis about what we do each day and about the nature of the seafood sector. Chief among these is Seafood New Zealand's *Our Promise* campaign that first appeared on TV in June. *OpenSeas* was also launched this year and provides reliable, peer-reviewed information about our fisheries, how we fish, and the wider positives associated with seafood in New Zealand. *Ocean Bounty* has also given the public an opportunity to go behind the scenes and learn more about this great industry of ours. Fisheries Inshore was heavily involved in all of these projects and will continue our efforts next year.

A key part of our success is the Fisheries Act 1996 and the Quota Management System; despite being widely regarded as world-leading, both are under attack. Our detractors regularly make sweeping and generalised statements about the failure of the QMS; yet there are no specifics, no suggestions for improvement, no better alternatives proffered. In today's world, hollow words and sound bites reign supreme. As a foil to such misguided criticism, MPI's *The Future of Our Fisheries* was presented as an opportunity to fine-tune and future-proof our management system. While little progress has been seen, it remains a valuable opportunity to improve the Fisheries Act. Similarly, an *Integrated Electronic Monitoring and Reporting System* (IEMRS) was heralded by MPI as a value-adding tool that would see industry reap benefits from improved reporting. Again, the industry supported aspects of IEMRS in principle, but the MPI proposals we have seen are wide of the mark—by a considerable margin.

These two examples are illustrative of a different dynamic. Only industry has the day-to-day knowledge of fishing and how we can pragmatically improve our fisheries sustainability and utilisation. Fisheries management is complicated and requires specialist skills and knowledge. Fisheries Inshore must bring our collective knowledge and skills together to work with all government agencies and, where needed, challenge them to get practical systems. Fundamentally, our long-term interests are well aligned.

Closer to home, Fisheries Inshore continues to grow and consolidate. We now represent the interests of quota owners and fishers in Area 2, in fisheries for highly migratory species, and are becoming more active in working with scallop fisheries. We are also talking with quota owners and fishers in northern New Zealand to strengthen their voice in what is clearly the key battleground for inshore fisheries. Fisheries Inshore has also taken on responsibility for the cost recovery and legislative reform programmes that Seafood New Zealand initiated. The other SREs share in this responsibility and all have been working collaboratively and effectively as part of a cross-sector Commercial Fisheries Forum.

There will be no respite in 2017/18. *The Future of Our Fisheries*, IEMRS, cost recovery reform, appealing the consent to mine iron sand off Taranaki, resisting the use of the Resource Management Act to control fishing, the next iteration of the government's Marine Protected Areas Act, and shared fisheries are all on the horizon; a new government would also bring additional challenges. Add to this our business as usual around TACCs, research, protected species and the like and we have another busy year ahead.

While this may look like a daunting list, all present opportunities. All can make our fisheries better. All can increase the security of our rights and lead to greater prosperity. We should all take confidence in the knowledge that this is a truly great industry whose people and success are committed to sustainability.

Laws Lawson—Chairman

## Fisheries Inshore Overview

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Fisheries Inshore New Zealand (*Fisheries Inshore*) is the national voice of inshore finfish, Coromandel scallops, and pelagic & tuna fisheries. We represent quota owners, ACE holders and commercial fishers.

Fisheries Inshore brings together policy, technical, fisheries and aquatic environment management, practical fishing experience and science expertise to provide strategic and operational benefits to our members.

Fisheries Inshore's key outputs are as follows:

- The development of agreed policy frameworks, processes and tools to assist the sector:
  - to manage more effectively the fish-stocks we represent
  - to manage their impacts on the associated ecosystems within socially acceptable environmental limits
- To work positively with other fishers and users of marine space where we carry out our harvesting activities

### Our Vision

Healthy sustainable fisheries that are internationally competitive, profitable and recognised as the preferred source of wild caught fish for consumers worldwide.

### Our Mission

To provide dynamic and transparent leadership, inform decision-making and actively engage with our members, officials and other stakeholders as we advocate for the increased recognition of the value of New Zealand's inshore fisheries.

### Our Fisheries

New Zealand's inshore fishery extends around our 15,000 km coastline out to about 12 nautical miles in water depths to about 200 metres. Our pelagic and tuna fisheries operate both within this zone and out to our EEZ limit, and beyond, using both trolling and surface long-lining. The most common harvesting methods in our inshore waters are trawling, set netting, seining, bottom long-lining and potting.

The predominant fish species caught by New Zealand's inshore fishers are snapper, blue cod, bluenose, tarakihi, warehou, gurnard, rig, blue moki, flounder, hapuka (groper), trevally, stargazer, school shark and John dory. Tuna and pelagic fishers catch southern blue fin tuna, skipjack tuna, albacore, kahawai and mackerels.

New Zealand's inshore fishers provide high quality seafood that is harvested sustainably under the quota management system. We catch over 70,000 tonnes per year. Our fish are sold into New Zealand's domestic market, fresh or processed, and exported to international markets, chilled, frozen or processed. That fish generates annual revenues of approximately \$500 million and provides an estimated 4,400 jobs in the fishing, seafood processing and supply industries.

The inshore fleet consist of approximately 600 vessels, ranging in size from 40 metres to trailer boats. They operate from over 120 coastal locations from Ahipara in the north to Stewart Island in the south, from Hick's Bay in the east to Riverton in the west and all points in between.

## Fisheries Inshore Operational Framework

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Fisheries Inshore is a not-for-profit organisation that represents the interests of members who collectively own more than 51% of the quota in 192 inshore, pelagic and tuna fish stocks and have shareholdings in the remaining 48 or so other fish stocks.

Fisheries Inshore has a governance structure with Board level membership representing quota owners, fishers and ACE holders along with affiliated Commercial Stakeholder Organisations (CSOs). The Board meets on a regular basis. The Chief Executive is responsible to the Board for delivering the annual programme and is assisted by key specialists and representatives from member companies and affiliated CSOs.

In addition to the Board, FINZ has a governance structure that provides for regional management of specific fisheries. These committees determine fisheries management matters relevant to the fish stocks they represent.

At present, such committees exist for Area 2 (generally East Cape to Kapiti Island) and the Highly Migratory Species. Further committees to represent other stocks are being established, particularly in northern North Island and for remaining pelagic stocks. In the South Island, *Southern Inshore Fisheries Management Company Ltd* continue to be active in management and research work as a CSO. Fisheries Inshore has been working closely with quota owners and fishers and discussions continue about future governance changes.

Discussions about formalising the relationship between Fisheries Inshore and the *New Zealand Federation of Commercial Fishermen* have also commenced.

Fisheries Inshore is funded by member levies. The levies are based on quota holdings for quota-holders and a flat fee for fishers. Levies have three components:

- The levies required to fund the core activities of Fisheries Inshore (see pages 12-18)
- The levies required for sustainability research programmes for some stocks that are managed nationally; primarily bluenose
- Levies to fund the work approved by regional committees that includes both generic activity for the committee and stock- or fishery-specific programmes

### Role, Mandate and Relationship with Industry Groups

The work of Fisheries Inshore focuses primarily on generic matters or processes that may set a precedent for all stocks or impact on fisheries at a national level. As part of this, Fisheries Inshore progresses aspects of selected policy and strategic work in conjunction with other Sector Representative Entities (SREs) being the Deepwater Group, the Rock Lobster Industry Council and Paua Industry Council.

Examples of key work areas for Fisheries Inshore include:

- Policy development
- Legislative change
- National co-ordination of fisheries management strategies and frameworks
- Relationships with government organisations
- Precedent setting matters; and
- Management of national stocks such as bluenose

In contrast to Fisheries Inshore, Southern Inshore and HMS/Regional Committees largely concentrate on stock-specific issues or those established processes that have an effect in a confined region. Those issues include:

- Managing fish stocks – Harvest strategy settings, TAC/TACC reviews, deemed values, research and development of management plans
- Participating in local processes – customary closures, marine reserve proposals, aquaculture development
- Operational management – codes of conduct; protected species risk mitigation; voluntary closures

## The Key Objectives and Performance Strands<sup>1</sup>

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The work of Fisheries Inshore has grown to become a mixture of strategic, operational and corporate activities. The strands of the business plan set out below can be classified into those that are:

- Strategic – initiated by either Fisheries Inshore (Leadership) or a response to external initiatives (Legislative and Policy Reform);
- Fisheries Operations – these may contain a mix of both industry and externally driven processes (Ensure Sustainability and Access to Fisheries)
- Corporate Activities needed for effective performance of the Company (Working Collaboratively, Communicate Well and Company Management)

### Leadership

Provide advice, processes and tools at a national level that can be applied at both national and regional levels to enhance fishery performance. Facilitate and coordinate decisive actions and responses to issues of national importance including by promoting and facilitating best practice in fisheries management and harvesting of inshore finfish pelagic and tuna fish stocks.

### Legislative and Policy Reform

Respond in conjunction with the wider seafood industry on national policy reforms and legislative proposals. Prevent poorly targeted regulations. Obtain greater value for members from industry and government services through clarification of role and priorities, and better targeted procurement of services that benefit our fisheries.

### Ensure Sustainability

Work with industry, the Government and other fisheries stakeholders to ensure inshore finfish, tuna and pelagic fish stocks are managed within sustainable fisheries and aquatic environmental limits using best available science, and aligning with the long-term utilisation aspirations of quota owners and fishers.

### Access to Fisheries

Maintain and strengthen opportunities for sustainable commercial harvesting of inshore finfish, tuna and pelagic fish stocks. Ensure spatial restrictions are based on scientific needs and best available information.

### Work Collaboratively

Strengthen and advance collaborative partnerships with the Government, industry and other stakeholders to achieve the sector's goals for inshore finfish, pelagic and tuna fish stocks.

### Communicate Well

Be a strong and cohesive national voice for industry that brings together fishers and quota owners to improve the public's appreciation that inshore finfish, pelagic and tuna fisheries. Work alongside the government and NGOs to enhance our domestic and international reputation as a sustainable, responsible community of fishers.

### Company Management

Ensure resources are available to enable good governance, well informed advocacy and maintain financially-sound accounting practices.

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<sup>1</sup> Each of these key performance strands must make sense in themselves but also operate in a manner that is not counter-productive to progress in the other key elements. In this regard, they can be thought of as individual strands in a rope – each making the rope stronger, without compromising the others and with the sum – the rope – being much stronger than the individual parts. In many cases the work undertaken overlaps a number of strands and work done in one strand assist others.

## Making Progress—A Brief Report on the 2016/17 Year's Work

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The 2016/17 fishing year has been a challenging one for the industry and Fisheries Inshore. The unfounded assertions made about the activities of the industry, particularly related to discarding, continued to set the tone and clearly influenced MPI's consultation on *The Future of Our Fisheries* that was undertaken in late 2016.

MPI's focus has subsequently been on implementing the proposed Integrated Electronic Monitoring and Reporting System (IEMRS). Major fisheries management issues such as *The Future of Our Fisheries* wider recommendations, the Marine Protected Areas legislation, compensation for affected fishers, management options for low information stocks and the development of fisheries plans have largely taken a back seat to the implementation of IEMRS.

Fisheries Inshore has been consistent in its message to MPI that some aspects of IEMRS could be of significant value, but any such system needs to be implemented carefully and with a well-considered transition that will require changes to TACCs, deemed values and to the Fisheries Act itself.

Despite these challenges, we know the seafood industry is a strong and vibrant one. It produces a great product, responsibly, and it employs thousands of people all over the country. Telling these stories to our communities has been a significant part of the wider industry's work this year and Fisheries Inshore has been proud to play a role in that work.

### Leadership

Fisheries Inshore has been active at the strategic level, participating to the degree allowed by MPI and government agencies in various processes.

Fisheries Inshore has spent considerable effort responding to MPI's legislative and policy reforms as set out in *The Future of Our Fisheries*. That work poses the risk of significant repercussions for the fishing sector and the industry as MPI's focus shifts from "enabling responsible resource use" to a "compliance and enforcement".

At the operational level, Fisheries Inshore was an active participant, attending and contributing to working groups for fish stocks and the aquatic environment, and submitting on formal MPI, DOC and MFE proposals, working with parties to develop appropriate solutions and promoting the need for risk-based, evidence-based solutions.

We have continued to promote improved standards of fisheries management for New Zealand's inshore fisheries; including providing papers on fish plans, management procedures and pushed for the development of new frameworks for the cost-effective management of low information stocks.

We have not made substantial progress to improve the operation of the current fisheries regime for inshore finfish. We have found it hard to gain traction with MPI, and relationships with all Crown agencies have taken a backwards step as they have been wary of any accusation of Crown-Industry collaboration.

Fisheries Inshore has promoted and participated in the evaluation of gear technology trials during the year working with Hawke's Bay fishers who are responding to the challenge of avoiding by-catch.

An analysis of the financial contribution of the seafood industry to the economy was also completed in 2017. This was a significant piece that Fisheries Inshore contracted from BERL with assistance from Sanford and Moana NZ. This characterised the entire wild-catch sector and illustrated the employment and financial contributions the industry makes to regional New Zealand. It is clear from that analysis that the inshore sector is a major force in the industry and in the regions.

The BERL Report was summarised on a professionally-produced A4 handout that was distributed to participants at the Seafood NZ Conference.

### Legislative and Policy Reform

Fisheries Inshore has become active in responding to MPI's IEMRS proposals that would see electronic position and catch reporting on all vessels in our fleets from 1 April 2018 and camera monitoring on to be phased in from 1 October 2018. We continue to stress to Government the need for these programmes to be pragmatic and appropriate to the risks of the fisheries and to provide sufficient time to change fisheries settings to be appropriate with a new, highly monitored approach to fishing.



Fisheries Inshore is represented in discussions with MPI on The Future of our Fisheries proposals. Of particular concern to the inshore sector is the landings/return to sea policy and the introduction of a new penalty regime. More detail will emerge on this in the coming year as Government considers the wider proposals.

Preparation of the replacement Marine Reserves policy, including the concept of recreational fishing reserves, has been slower than expected but some indication of Government thinking will become apparent in a consultation due prior to the Election.

Fisheries Inshore has also been closely involved in strategic work on cost recovery. However, while MPI commenced its First Principles Review of cost recovery in May 2016, we have seen little progress achieved on the initiative.

### Ensure sustainability

Fisheries Inshore resources were directed at both stock management and the effects of fishing on the aquatic environment. Fisheries Inshore was represented at Working groups, provided submissions on the sustainability reviews of TACs and deemed values and participated in various policy development forums. As in previous years, significant resource has been devoted to the effects of fishing on seabirds, marine mammals and other aspects of the marine environment. Fisheries Inshore is an active participant in the many processes relating to the aquatic environment and the mitigation of fishing impacts.

Fisheries Inshore has worked with MPI to try and establish a robust fisheries management framework, developing fisheries plans, promoting Management and Monitoring Plans for key inshore fisheries and seeking progress on the management of Low Information Stocks. These efforts will continue and hopefully gain more traction.

In the JMA1 and BNS fisheries, Fisheries Inshore has actively participated and provided contract management capability for those fisheries.

### Access to Fisheries

Fisheries Inshore continued to participate as a member of the Hauraki Gulf Sea Change Stakeholder Working Group to provide balanced input to the fisheries sections. We have also worked with other SREs to provide support to Southern Inshore in its participation on the Otago Marine Reserves proposal.

We have also remained active in the proposal to establish an integrated marine management process in the Marlborough Sounds. In parallel with that process, and in conjunction with the rock lobster and paua organisations, we opposed several aspects of the Marlborough Environmental Plan and await further developments. We also joined the court proceedings on the ability of regional councils to regulate fishing.

A major component of our work this year was responding to an application by Trans-Tasman Resources (TTR) to mine 50 million tonnes of seabed off the Taranaki coast annually. Our view is that the information to support this proposal is lacking and may have significant adverse effects on fisheries and the wider marine environment.

### Collaboration

Fisheries Inshore has continued to broaden its member base and now represents about 76% of the sector by value and 84% by volume. Relationships have been strengthened with other fishing sectors and further work is underway to build on this to ensure the inshore sector is truly united.

To this end, progress has been made in bringing the inshore sector together through changes to governance and formal relationships with Area 2, the HMS sector, Coromandel Scallops and Northern Inshore.

Fisheries Inshore has also worked closely with Seafood NZ and other SREs on legislative reform of the Fisheries Act, cost recovery, marine protection reforms, and the Marlborough District Council Environment Plan.

While building strong working relationships is important within the sector, it is at least as important to also engage constructively with recreational fishing interests. Fisheries Inshore was fortunate to be invited by the NZ Initiative to a fisher exchange programme in Perth. In attendance were representatives from the NZ Recreational Fishing Council and Our Fishing Future, along with Iwi and government. There is a lot we can learn from the approach to managing shared fisheries in Western Australia and there remains the opportunity to bring those lessons to New Zealand.



Fisheries Inshore continues to meet regularly with various government agencies, eNGOs, and other representative organisations as required. However, it is becoming increasingly clear that seafood industry relationships with Government agencies are perhaps at their lowest for the past two decades.

## Communication

Fisheries Inshore has been involved in three significant communications initiatives this year. The first is *OpenSeas*, a transparency initiative that makes available robust and validated information about our fisheries. The aim is to counter inaccurate information with independent and peer reviewed information for the public and seafood purchasers. This transparency will also provide a catalyst for targeted improvements in our fisheries management.

The second initiative was *Ocean Bounty*, a 13-part series about the commercial fishing sector that was hosted and produced by Graeme Sinclair. The series was supported by a range of companies and told a wide array of stories about the industry. Fisheries Inshore promoted the initiatives progressing in Hawke's Bay, in conjunction with the recreational sector, on management initiatives to improve fishing in the Bay.

Finally, Seafood NZ undertook a major initiative commencing in July 2017 to tell some of the stories about our people and the work we do as an industry. This involved a TV ad campaign, supported by four online webisodes. Feedback has been positive and the initiative has been very well received. Fisheries Inshore was represented on the governance committee that oversaw the implementation of this work.

We have continued to produce regular newsletters to members and other subscribers. That newsletter was replaced in May 2017 when we joined with the Deepwater Group to produce a monthly newsletter focussed on positive developments in the finfish sector.

We have also redeveloped the Fisheries Inshore website this year to provide more accessible information on our sector. Our submissions and media statements are regularly added to provide information to members and other interested parties.

## Company Management

At the 20th August 2017, Fisheries Inshore had 142 members with 114 being quota owning members and 28 being ACE Holders and Fisher Members that do not own quota. The quota owning members collectively own more than 51% of the quota in 192 fishstocks and between 40 and 51% in a further 13 fishstocks. Fisheries Inshore is still encouraging other industry participants to join.

Regional committees have been established for Area2 and the HMS fisheries and initial discussions have been held to address representation of the other inshore fisheries.

During the year, Oliver Wilson joined Fisheries Inshore and has taken responsibility for the Area2 and HMS fisheries activities.

## Activities to Advance Our Key Inshore Fisheries Strands in 2017/18

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As noted earlier, 2017/18 looks to be a significant year for the fishing sector, the work proposed by government has the potential to be the most influential since the introduction of the QMS in 1986.

Significant industry attention and Fisheries Inshore resource must be focused on the strategic challenges arising from the implementation of the Integrated Electronic Monitoring and Reporting System and any new policy developments from *The Future of Our Fisheries* initiatives.

The *Future of Our Fisheries* is likely to result in significant legal and policy changes. Given the consultation paper was broad, vague and contained insufficient analysis, it remains unclear what changes will result from MPI's initiative. However, it is certain to result in changes to requirements for landing and discarding fish that may have significant ramifications; particularly in light of IEMRS.

Notwithstanding the eventual legislative changes resulting from *The Future of Our Fisheries*, the implementation of IEMRS will require a transition phase to ensure that fisheries management settings are appropriate to the new policy objectives and monitoring systems; that is a significant job in itself. The lack of detail available at present on either the technology for IEMRS or the specific reporting requirements means that it is difficult to determine with any certainty what level of resourcing will be needed for 2017/18 and beyond.

Clearly both *The Future of Our Fisheries* and IEMRS span several Strands of the Fisheries Inshore Business Plan and will be a central focus for 2017/18.

We can expect other significant policy proposals to be considered during the year as Government considers wider marine management reform. These may include:

- Revival of the Marine Protected Areas Bill
- Progression of recreational fishing parks
- The influence of the Resource Management Act in the Territorial Sea

On the operational front, reviews of the *NPOA—Seabirds* and the *Hector's and Maui Dolphin Threat Management Plan* will see pressure mount for yet more protection. The industry has made excellent progress in recent years on reducing its risk to protected species and any new policy must recognise that work and take an evidence-based approach to the next iterations. We have seen pre-emptive work by specific companies to increase protection to Maui dolphins and the wider Fisheries Inshore membership is also considering what additional information and subsequent management action would be valuable in assessing how we ensure any risk from fishing to these animals is negligible.

Promoting the good work we do will remain important. Seafood New Zealand has launched a major initiative through the *Promise* campaign that has been received positively. Similarly, Fisheries Inshore funded an episode of Graeme Sinclair's *Ocean Bounty* series and several positive stories featured the inshore fishing sector. Both of those initiatives are proposed to continue in 2017/18.

The management of our fish stocks will of course remain a key focus. Fisheries Inshore's consistent view has been that inshore stocks need more resource, more attention, and more pragmatic and responsive management. Most indications are that the opposite is occurring, with research spending being reduced, fewer stocks being reviewed for TAC/TACC changes and MPI displaying a growing penchant for stakeholder engagement processes that, to some extent, reflect an abdication of its role of managing New Zealand's fisheries resources. We will continue to work with MPI to ensure management outcomes are clearly stated and the services required and subsequent responses are clear.

In the coming year, Fisheries Inshore will need to address the strategic, game-changing initiatives as a priority, while ensuring that the sector receives business as usual services to build on the positives.

We expect a rocky road ahead.

## Budget summary

Below are the summary costs of the various activities in the Business Plan. The details of each Strand are provided on the follow pages.

The budget this year does not include any contribution to Seafood NZ as that will be sought by Seafood NZ from quota owners directly. As in previous years, Fisheries Inshore's role has expanded and now includes two of the three strategic priorities previously conducted by Seafood NZ: Legislative Reform and Cost Recovery. These additional costs are reflected in the budget summary below, along with funds required for the newly established Regional Committees for Area2, HMS and Northern Inshore.

GOAL	KEY WORK ITEMS	SUBTOTAL 2017/18
Leadership	Development of Fisheries Plan for Inshore, gear technology, fisher handbook	
Legislative and Policy Reforms	Implementation of IEMRS, legislative reform of Fisheries Act, marine reserves policy and legislation, compensation mechanisms for lost access, first principles Cost Recovery review	
Ensure Sustainability	MPI science processes, research planning, MPI's fisheries management framework, DOC CSP programme, NPOA—Seabirds, HDO and MDO TMP, fish stocks of national significance, consultation on TACs and deemed values	
Access to Fisheries	Hauraki Gulf Spatial Plan, seabed mining, risk-based marine protection policies, Marlborough Environment Plan	
Work Collaboratively	Collaborate with CSOs, SREs, Seafood NZ, and Regional Committees, meet regularly with MPI, DOC and eNGOs	
Communication	Excellent communication with members, establish credibility and improve public understanding of the value of inshore fisheries; <i>OpenSeas</i> ; <i>Ocean Bounty II</i>	
Company Management	Good governance, sound financial management, well-informed advocacy, fair and equitable levies, good decision-making, progress Regional Committees	
Contingency		
Core Services Budget		
Regional Committees	Area 2: Collaboration with HBRC and recreational sector, gear trials, stock management	
	HMS: Generic and stock-specific work, retaining focus on seabird by-catch reduction	
	Northern Inshore: Generic and stock-specific work, operational improvements, JMA1	
TOTAL FUNDING: Fisheries Inshore, Area2, Northern Inshore, HMS		

### Additional Stock-Specific Work (Funded Directly by Quota Owners)

Bluenose	
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## Leadership

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Project Code	FIN 01
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Develop policy advice, processes and tools that can be applied at both national and regional levels to promote a paradigm change on key industry issues. Facilitate and coordinate decisive actions and responses to issues of national importance including by promoting and facilitating best practice in fisheries management and harvesting of inshore finfish pelagic and tuna fish stocks.

## Commentary

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### *Reforming Inshore Fisheries*

To improve the economic and environmental performance of inshore fisheries, a number of advances must be made. Of particular concern is the absence of an inshore finfish Fisheries Plan that would set out the guiding objectives for fisheries, the priorities, and the services needed to manage the stocks. This would give rise to defined stakeholder processes, management and monitoring frameworks for all stocks, medium term research plans and aquatic environment impact assessments. The absence of such plans for the past decade has left inshore finfish management exposed to ad-hoc and inconsistent management.

Inshore fisheries must find ways to harvest more effectively and efficiently to provide improved fisheries outcomes. Fisheries Inshore will continue its work with Hawke Bay fishers and NIWA to reduce the adverse impacts of trawl activities and improve gear selectivity. This will form the basis of a wider programme.

The advent of IEMRS will bring with it an increased prospect of any offending being detected. Discussions with fishers indicates that a guide to fishing permits, reporting and protected species handling would be valuable to assist fishers to understand and comply within the various legal provisions.

## Deliverables

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Actions to support this include:

### Reforming Inshore Fisheries

- Develop a more detailed framework for managing inshore fisheries and establishes an Inshore Finfish Fisheries Plan
- Work with MPI to develop a series of management tools that can be applied to low knowledge stocks
- Work with MPI to draft Management and Monitoring Plans for key stocks/stock groupings

### Gear Technology

- Continue to trial and refine alternative trawl technologies
- Work with NIWA to improve trawl net selectivity
- Develop a handbook to guide compliance with legal provisions and promote operational best practice
- Reflect changes in gear technology and use in the reformed management processes above

## Legislative and Policy Reforms

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Project Code	FIN 02
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Obtain greater value from industry and government services through clarification of role and priorities, procurement of services and advocate to prevent poorly targeted legislation, regulations and services being imposed on the sector.

## Commentary

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This work strand arises from the need for Fisheries Inshore to be engaged in strategic legislative and policy reforms initiated by Government. Changes have been proposed that could significantly affect the future of inshore fisheries in New Zealand. Fisheries Inshore is working with MPI and the wider sector to ensure that such changes do not detrimentally impact on the industry.

## Deliverables

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Actions to support this strand in 2017/18 will include:

- Responding to MPI's proposed Integrated Electronic Monitoring and Reporting System
- Negotiating on fisheries management settings necessary to ensure IEMRS is implemented without undue duress to the sector
- Contributing to the development of new policy and legislation as part of *The Future of Our Fisheries*
- The review of the Marine Reserves Act 1971 to establish a range of statutory marine protected areas
- Policy or legislative change that is considered as a consequence of the Hauraki Gulf Spatial Plan
- Marlborough District Council's proposals to manage fishing activity under the Marlborough Environment Plan
- Any further developments as a result of the Kermadec Ocean Sanctuary
- Developing responses to any other regulations that could adversely impact on the sector, this may be particularly important given 2017 will see a General Election

## Ensure Sustainability

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Project Code	FIN 03
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Work with industry, the Government and other fisheries stakeholders to ensure inshore finfish, tuna and pelagic fish stocks are managed sustainably, effects on the aquatic environmental are within required limits using best available science, and aligning with the long-term aspirations of quota owners and fishers.

## Commentary

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This strand is our core “business as usual” fisheries management activity that covers the sustainability of both the fish stocks and aquatic environment. Our general stance is that good information and science is essential to inform evidence-based management decisions. Sustainability decisions must be underpinned by affordable, relevant and directed research, monitoring and analysis. This information must be incorporated into risk-based management.

## Deliverables

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Actions to support this strand in 2017/18 will include:

- Working with MPI to develop appropriate fisheries management frameworks for fish stocks
- Working with MPI to develop appropriate research planning programmes for fish stocks and the aquatic environment
- Working with MPI and DOC to develop appropriate risk-based mitigation of fishing impacts
- Participation in MPI fisheries and aquatic environment Working Groups
- Participation in DOC CSP Technical Working Groups
- Advocating for appropriate mitigation measures to address impacts on protected species
- Managing research, modelling and sampling programmes on behalf of the JMA1 and BNS fisheries and the Area2 and HMS committees
- Attending policy development forums for seabirds, marine mammals, sharks and other environmental impacts
- Consideration of and submitting on the replacement National Plan of Action—Seabirds
- Consideration of and submitting on the Maui and Hector Dolphin Threat Management Plan
- Consideration of and submitting on MPI fish stock sustainability consultations
- Promotion of management and monitoring methodologies for Low Information Stocks
- Support the implementation of the SNA1 Plan
- Support Coromandel Scallop fishery and provide requested service to advance management

## Access to Fisheries

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Project Code	FIN 04
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Maintain and strengthen opportunities for sustainable commercial harvesting of inshore finfish, tuna and pelagic fishstocks.

## Commentary

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Access to fisheries will remain an important consideration in 2017/18 with further consideration likely of the Hauraki Gulf Spatial Plan, and the Marine Reserves legislation. We will also see moves from Regional Councils to establish regulations to protect indigenous biodiversity, and the continuation of the mining proposal by TTR.

## Deliverables

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Actions to support this strand in 2017/18 will include:

- Continued engagement with processes that will seek to limit access to our fisheries
- Continued involvement in the Trans-Tasman Resources seabed mining process
- Continued involvement in the Marlborough Environmental Plan process
- Continued involvement in the Marlborough Marine Futures management initiative
- Support for any associated organisations in respect of any marine reserve proposals
- Finalise industry policy and methodology on valuing economic impacts of displacement, compensation, adjustment assistance and off-setting
- Responding to any proposition to establish or expand recreational fishing parks including recognition of existing commercial rights
- Continued support and participation in the Area2 collaborative process
- Participate in any further refinement or implementation of Sea Change—the Hauraki Gulf Spatial Plan



## Work Collaboratively

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Project Code	FIN 05
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Strengthen and advance collaborative partnerships with the Government, industry and other stakeholders to achieve the sector's goals for inshore finfish, pelagic and tuna fish stocks.

## Commentary

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This Strand is different to others in this business plan. This is because it commits us to a way of working rather than specific projects. As such it applies across all the work done by Fisheries Inshore.

By its nature Fisheries Inshore must work with others. Industry recognises that the joint speed of travel on issues depends on working alongside other agencies and stakeholders that all hold legitimate (though different) perspectives to the views to Fisheries Inshore and its members. This Strand is included to highlight additional efforts to make sure everyone's contribution is constructive. This inevitably starts with the various participants focusing first on areas of common ground and jointly developing solutions to shared problems before moving on to more difficult issues.

## Deliverables

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Actions to advance this work include:

- Continue to discuss joint work with Southern Inshore
- Meet regularly with other SREs
- Participate in the Commercial Fisheries Forum with SREs and other industry bodies and continue to commission and fund joint work of mutual interest
- Work closely with Seafood New Zealand
- Meet regularly with MPI, DOC and other Crown agencies
- Work with other interested parties of specific issues
- Continue to convene and support the HMS and Regional Committees

## Communication

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Project Code	FIN 06
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Be a strong cohesive national voice for industry that brings together fishers and all quota owners to improve the public perception on why inshore fisheries matter and work alongside government and NGOs to enhance our domestic and international reputation as a sustainable and responsible community of fishers.

## Commentary

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This strand remains a key aspect of Fisheries Inshore's work and will be maintained as the company's role grows and takes on additional work. Communication with our members, decision-makers, government agencies and the public at large enhances our ability to influence decision-making to provide benefits for the sector.

The work under this Strand includes our newsletters, improvements in the accessibility of our website, a joint contribution with others in the industry to provide better material for education curricula, and gaining better information on the social and economic characteristics of our industry at a national and regional level so that the broader community can better understand our contribution to New Zealand.

A key priority for 2017/18 will be the *OpenSeas* initiative with Seafood NZ and the Deepwater Group that will compile accurate and reliable information that promotes a range of attributes about seafood and how we harvest it. This will provide a valuable resource for countering inaccurate information, promoting our industry and thereby increasing public confidence in what we do.

## Deliverables

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Activities to support this include:

### Newsletter

- Produce a monthly newsletter to members and other subscribers
- Use the newsletter to provide readers access to any updated material that is on our website

### Website

- Ensure all major submissions and media releases are available

### Improve understanding

- Provide information to assist people's understanding of the inshore finfish sector, and highlight the positive and innovative work the sector is doing
- Continue to work with Seafood NZ to ensure communications material promotes the industry's good work
- Develop appropriate material on Fisheries Inshore activities for broader communication and our contribution to New Zealand
- Assess use of *Open Seas* and consider future changes or expansion
- Ensure that Fisheries Inshore members understand and demonstrate practice that is consistent with *The Promise in Practice*
- Fund and participate in season two of *Ocean Bounty*

## Company Management

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Project Code	FIN 07
Cost apportioned among:	All quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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Ensure resources are available to enable good governance, well-informed advocacy and maintain financially-sound accounting practices.

## Commentary

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### Governance

Activities to support this include:

- Ensuring the Constitution reflects the desired relationship between Fisheries Inshore and CSOs (or Regional Committees) and their respective roles and mandates
- Engage with Northern Inshore finfish and Pelagic and Tuna quota holders to assist with setting up more targeted fisheries representation
- Progress other governance initiatives for Coromandel Scallops
- Attendance at Board meetings
- Attendance at Seafood New Zealand Board meetings
- Advice as needed from legal and policy advisors
- Administrative assistance where needed
- Rental of space and equipment for Fisheries Inshore personnel with Seafood New Zealand
- Conduct AGM

### Financial Management

Activities to support this include:

- Continue to contract FishServe to provide full financial services for Fisheries Inshore as per the agreed contract and Fisheries Inshore financial policies

### Levies Administration

Activities to support this include:

- For the 2017/18 year contracting FishServe to provide Fisheries Inshore with the full process associated with levying its members in accordance with the Constitution and policies of Fisheries Inshore

## Stock-specific work: Bluenose

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Project Code	FIN BNS
Cost apportioned among:	All BNS quota owners
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

## Objectives

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To provide robust analysis of the performance of bluenose fisheries and finalise a strategy that will inform future management and research.

To further develop the information base on the fishery throughout the country so that there are representative regional samples of catch at age data.

## Commentary

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This package of work is an extension of that undertaken since 2013/14. That work has involved revising CPUE data, developing a management strategy to guide future research and management, and setting up a robust programme to obtain representative data on bluenose catch.

In the 2017/18 sustainability round, MPI consulted on options to reduce bluenose TACCs based on an update of the 2011 stock assessment. Fisheries Inshore members holding bluenose quota unanimously proposed a reduction of TACCs by 100 tonnes along with the implementation of a management procedure to ensure the stocks rebuilt.

Fisheries Inshore will continue to work on a Management and Monitoring Plan for bluenose that will specify the management objectives, identify a harvest control rule and the necessary monitoring to ensure robust, transparent and responsive management.

## Deliverables

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Actions to support this include:

- Establish BNS working group to formalise decisions on future research and management
- Analysis of the CPUE for all bluenose stocks for the 2016/17 year
- Work with MPI to agree on a management strategy for bluenose fish stocks
- Bringing forward the BNS stock assessment to 2017/18

## Area 2 Work Programme

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At an Area 2 Regional Committee meeting on 18 July 2017, the Committee considered both generic costs and a stock-specific work programme for the 2017/18 year. The following resolutions were put the meeting:

1. *Agree the generic services to be conducted as part of the Area 2 2017/18 Work Programme*
2. *Agree the stock specific services to be conducted as part of the Area 2 2017/18 Work Programme*

These motions were moved by Salvatore Zame, seconded by Ritchie Kibblewhite and carried unanimously.

### Generic Services

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Project Code	FIN AREA 2
Cost apportioned among:	All Area 2 quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

### Stock-specific services

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Project Code	FIN AREA 2
Cost apportioned among:	TRE2, GUR2, SNA2 and FLA2 quota owners
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

### Project specifics

TRE2: Characterisation and CPUE update	\$
GUR2: Rapid CPUE update	\$
SNA2: Rapid CPUE update	\$
FLA2: Rapid CPUE update	\$

### Contingency Services

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Project Code	FIN TAR 2
Cost apportioned among:	TAR2 quota owners
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$

## Northern Inshore Work Programme

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At a meeting of northern quota owners on 1 August 2017, it was agreed that FINZ should formally pursue a process to form a Northern Inshore Committee. As for the 2016/17 fishing year, the costs associated with establishing the Committee and related work in support of Northern Inshore fisheries would be funded by quota owners of the relevant stocks.

### Generic Services

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Project Code	FIN NOR
Cost apportioned among:	All Northern Inshore quota owners & fishers
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

### Stock-specific services

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Project Code	FIN NOR
Cost apportioned among:	JMA1 quota owners
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

### Project specifics

To provide robust analysis of jack mackerel catch composition in JMA1 and progress a strategy that will inform future management and research.

To further develop the information base for the fishery so that quota owners can utilise better their ITQ right.

### Deliverables

Actions to support this include:

- Quota owners via Trident will provide to MPI the catch sampling data for the 2017/18 year
- Pelco and Sanford Tauranga will commit resources to catch sampling including staff certification
- Trident will report back to quota owners and make recommendations for future stock management
- It is anticipated that significant cost savings will continue to result

## HMS Work Programme

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At an HMS Committee meeting on 26 July 2017, the Committee considered both generic costs and a contingency work programme for the 2017/18 year. The following resolutions were put the meeting:

1. *Agree the generic services to be conducted as part of the HMS 2017/18 Work Programme*
2. *Agree the contingency services to be conducted as part of the HMS 2017/18 Work Programme*

These motions were moved by Dave Falconer, seconded by Dave Kellian and carried unanimously.

### Generic Services

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Project Code	FIN HMS
Cost apportioned among:	All HMS quota owners & vessel operators
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$
2016/17 Year End Forecast	\$

### Contingency Services

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Project Code	FIN HMS
Cost apportioned among:	All HMS quota owners & vessel operators
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$

### Stock-specific services

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Project Code	FIN HMS
Cost apportioned among:	Not applicable
2017/18 Proposed Budget	\$
2016/17 Approved Budget	\$

### Project specifics

Contingency services pursuant to the outcome of the generic work on the blue shark management strategy. Dependent on the outcome of the generic services the contingency fund has been earmarked for:

- Contracted development of the blue shark management strategy, as necessary
- Contracted research services to support the development of the blue shark management strategy