



## Precision Seafood Harvesting

### Summary of progress during this quarter

#### Sustainability performance

At-sea testing of a new concept fluid fish handling prototype was started during this quarter. Improved on-board fish handling systems will become critical part of moving the sustainability objectives for the PSH programme into commercial applications. This marks the start of the second stage development in the PSH programme where the first stage was focussed on the harvesting systems. The expectations for sustainability performance reporting have been further refined during discussions between MPI, PSH and PFR scientists. These metrics are being aligned with both regulatory change processes and the added value (improved performance) reporting that is resulting from the PSH investment.

#### Commercial testing

- Commercial ( $\beta$ ) testing in the hoki / alfonsino fisheries are moving towards becoming “routine” operations. This process includes the use of gear codes and TCEPR data for catch composition analysis, repairs and maintenance of the MHS units and reduced expectations for MPI observer coverage.
- The use of the MHS in high volume spawn aggregations is still very limited and the test vessels are working to develop procedures, technology and MHS design changes to expand the use of the MHS into the spawn fishing conditions.
- The  $\beta$  testing in the in-shore fishery is working to consolidate improvements in fish quality and the consistent landing of high quality fish.

#### Cost and Value

- The cost of the PSH programme remains within budget and delivery targets are being met across a wide scope of outcomes.
- A basis for the tracking of value is being formulated and this will link into the increased landings of MHS harvested fish.

#### Key highlights and achievements

- The release of the first  $\beta$  specification selectivity module for juvenile snapper
- Commencement of at-sea testing of the new fluid fish handling systems
- Winner of the South Canterbury Business Excellence award for Innovation
- Finalist in the SeaWeb Seafood Champions awards for Innovation.

## Upcoming

- Commence validation work of new  $\beta$  selectivity specifications
- Continue to develop the fluid handling concepts and prototype testing.

## Investment

<i>Investment period</i>	<i>Industry contribution</i>	<i>MPI contribution</i>	<i>Total investment</i>
<i>During this Quarter</i>	\$907k	\$907k	\$1.81m
<i>Programme To Date</i>	\$8.85m	\$8.85m	\$17.69m