

Precision Seafood Harvesting Programme Quarterly Progress report, October to December 2013

This period completes the seventh quarter of PGP funded activity for the Precision Seafood Harvesting programme.

The 3rd beta prototype was approved this quarter and the programme now has the ability to perform commercial testing across the three classes of test vessels (in-shore, fresher and factory vessel) and two of the three exemplar fish species (Snapper and Hoki).

Testing on the third exemplar species (Squid) is hoped to start late in the 3rd quarter or early in the 4th quarter of this financial year.

Testing on both Hoki and Snapper has demonstrated significant gains in quality are now possible by using the new MHS designs and the objective is to bring consistency to these results.

The survival rates of small Snapper that have been harvested using the MHS are being validated and survival rates of over 90% have been shown for fish at 24 hours post-harvest.

Programme expenditure for this quarter was within budget.