

Precision Seafood Harvesting Programme Quarterly Progress report, March to June 2014

This period completes the second full year of PGP funded activity for the Precision Seafood Harvesting programme.

The 2013-14 year had a total of 190 test fishing days split between 113 design test days and 77 commercial test days. The significant increase in commercial test days is a sign of growing confidence in the use of the new prototypes.

Testing has continued to make good progress in the snapper and hoki objectives. Preparations were made to start testing in the squid fishery but were stalled by a lack of squid in the target fishing area.

Promising observations have been recorded for juvenile mortality survival (acute post harvest) when comparing the Modular Harvesting System against conventional trawl equipment. The formal validation of these preliminary results is now due to start, using PSH developed methods of measurement and data collection with overview from MPI.

There were no incidents, accidents or injuries reported this year for PSH programme activities.

Expenditure for the 2013-14 year was below budget. The total programme costs were \$5.2 million against a budget of \$7.11 million. These costs have been split 50% between MPI and PSH and this position was reconciled every month end.

