



4 June 2010

To Stakeholders

Request for information and advice on indicators to measure sector outcome performance

1. This letter seeks review and advice to assist with the development of a set of indicators to be used to monitor fisheries sector outcomes outlined in Fisheries 2030. Submissions on the attached indicators will close on 2 July 2010.

Why are indicators needed?

2. Indicators will help the Ministry of Fisheries (MFish), tangata whenua and stakeholders evaluate performance against Fisheries 2030 outcomes. Fisheries 2030 provides direction for the Ministry, with one overarching goal – **New Zealanders maximising benefits from the use of fisheries within environmental limits**. Sound governance is, of course, critical to achieving the Fisheries 2030 outcomes. A copy of Fisheries 2030 can be found on the MFish website www.fish.govt.nz.
3. Indicator information will be used by MFish for a variety of tasks, including planning and reporting, prioritising activities, benchmarking performance, and setting performance goals.
4. Developing indicators to monitor performance and measure outcomes is challenging because outcomes are usually influenced by a complex set of variables. We propose to use multiple indicators, which when combined should give us a better understanding of what is going on.

How have the attached indicators been developed?

5. The process so far for obtaining possible indicators has included:
 - seeking input on possible indicators from MFish and a broad group of stakeholders
 - researching possible indicators that agencies use, here and overseas, to report on the fisheries sector
 - documenting information about possible indicators (see Appendix 1).

6. The indicators set out in appendix 1 are the most relevant indicators identified to date. Other indicators seemed less suitable, either because the intervention logic did not stack up, or information was not available.
7. The Ministry aims to have 2 to 4 indicators for each supporting outcome and governance condition. If there are other indicators you believe we should consider, or that more are needed to cover all aspects of a particular outcome or governance condition, please let us know.

What will happen next?

8. MFish intends to establish an expert panel (that includes government and public representatives) to evaluate the possible indicator set developed by MFish against criteria, taking into account stakeholder comments. The expert panel will then recommend a preferred set of indicators to MFish. This may include indicators where there is currently no information available.
9. MFish will approve the final set of indicators, taking into account the recommendations of the expert panel (and stakeholder submissions).
10. MFish will continue to review and amend the initial set as better information becomes available.

What does the Ministry want from me?

11. MFish seeks your review on the indicators in Appendix 1. Your advice on other possible indicators would also be appreciated.
12. Please send submissions to Indicator Review, Ray Voller, Ministry of Fisheries, PO Box 1020, Wellington 6140 or email Ray.Voller@fish.govt.nz by **28 June 2010**.

Yours faithfully,



John Beaglehole
Manager, Office of the Chief Executive