
**BEFORE THE HEARINGS PANEL
AT BLENHEIM**

UNDER THE

Resource Management Act 1991

IN THE MATTER OF

The Proposed Marlborough Environment
Plan. Hearing Block 2 (Topic 6 – Indigenous
Biodiversity)

**FURTHER BRIEF OF EVIDENCE OF STEPHEN ASHLEY HALLEY ON BEHALF
OF THE MINISTRY FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES**

20 February 2018

Ministry for Primary Industries
PO Box 2526
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INTRODUCTION

1. My full name is Stephen Ashley Halley. I am employed as the Manager of Inshore Fisheries by the Ministry for Primary Industries (**MPI**). The Minister for Fisheries and MPI are responsible for administering the Fisheries Act 1996 (**Fisheries Act**).
2. My credentials are set out in my previous statement of evidence of 2 February 2018.
3. I am authorised to give this evidence on behalf of MPI.

Further information sought by the Panel on fisheries research funding

4. I presented evidence to the Panel on 12 February 2018, at which time further information was sought regarding the funding for research to support fisheries management under the Fisheries Act.
5. The Panel sought further information on the research spending noted at paragraphs 38 to 40 of my evidence. I noted at the hearing that the funding was split between stock assessments and inshore sustainability, which itself includes both harvested stocks and other aspects of the aquatic environment (including non-harvested stocks). At the time I did not have the detail of this split and undertook to provide further detail.

Fisheries resources research funding

6. MPI allocates funding of approximately NZ\$20.5million annually for research required to manage fisheries resources, which includes managing harvested stocks using the results from stock assessments, as well as managing the impacts of fishing on the aquatic environment, and understanding environmental interactions affecting fisheries.
7. The total research funding appropriation and the allocation to specific fields of research varies between years depending on priorities. MPI runs an annual research planning process that sets out proposed projects for the year ahead. The process includes consultation with stakeholders (councils may participate in the process, but do not do so routinely). Stakeholders have the opportunity through this process to propose new projects and also comment on the projects and priorities proposed by MPI. Feedback from stakeholders on the importance of a particular project forms a key part of the prioritisation decision in each year. In addition,

events such as the Kaikoura earthquake can create short-term research priorities and additional funding can be provided in any year.

8. The total appropriation and splits for 2017-18 are shown below.

Stock assessment and management		Environment & Biodiversity	Database	Short-term priorities	Total
Offshore stocks	Inshore stocks				
\$6.894mil	\$9.838mil	\$3.017mil	\$974 000	\$1.939mil	\$22.7mil
30%	43%	14%	4%	9%	100%

9. In addition, under the Fisheries Act, the Department of Conservation manages annual research spending of approximately \$2 million (the programmed spend for 2017-18 is \$2.196mil) on the Conservation Services Programme (CSP). The CSP focus is to understand and monitor fisheries interactions with protected species, which can include species that occupy seafloor habitats.

Signed:


Stephen Ashley Halley

Date: 20 February 2018