

3 JUL 2015



OIA14-500

Graham Carter  
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Dear Graham Carter

### OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

I refer to your official information request transferred to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) on 5 June 2015.

You have requested the following information:

1. What is the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) fisheries policy on an Honorary Fisheries Officer working on their own?
2. Must they work in pairs?
3. Does an Honorary Fisheries Officer (HFO) need to be accompanied by a permanent staff member?
4. How many HFOs are there in each area around NZ?

The following information is released to you under the Official Information Act 1982:

#### Question 1

MPI's policy is that HFOs are not permitted to work on their own unless it is an educational event such as a presentation to a school or community group. However, there can be exceptions to the policy and these are to be approved in writing by the District Compliance Manager.

#### Question 2

As a safety measure HFOs must work in pairs. When an HFO is in a situation where they are asked to respond to a call and they are on their own, their options are:

- arrange another HFO to go with them,
- link in with the district "on call" Fishery Officer,
- see if a local policeman is available to attend the call out with them.

#### Question 3

An HFO does not need to be accompanied by a permanent staff member.

**Question 4**

MPI collates HFO numbers from around the regions on a quarterly basis. The breakdown of HFO numbers by region as at 26 February 2015 is as follows:

AUCKLAND –	51
BLENHEIM –	10
CHATHAM ISLANDS –	4
CHRISTCHURCH –	15
DUNEDIN –	15
GISBORNE –	5
HAMILTON –	9
INVERCARGILL –	8
KAIKOURA –	7
KAITAIA –	8
NAPIER –	10
NELSON –	11
NEW PLYMOUTH –	11
PETONE –	16
TAURANGA –	6
WHANGAREI –	12
WHITIANGA -	6
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>204</u></b>

I trust this information satisfies your request.

Yours sincerely



Dean Baigent  
Director Compliance