

FACT SHEET
2008 CDF AND SECRETARY AWARD WINNER
CMDR STEVE COLE RANR

As a champion of Defence's environmental agenda, Commander Steve Cole RANR has been recognised for his outstanding contributions and commitment to balancing Navy's unique capability requirements and the many complex environmental challenges it faces daily.

Over the past seven years as Navy Environment Manager, CMDR Cole has achieved long lasting changes in Navy's environmental performance and has been a driving force behind the development of comprehensive environmental policies and procedures. He regularly provides key advice to major exercises, informing exercise planners on environmental obligations and ways to avoid or mitigate potential environmental impacts.

In particular he has been at the forefront of managing the many operational and reputation issues associated with the impact of active sonar on marine mammals, including provision of related Ministerial advice. He has played a key role in implementing marine mammal mitigation measures now adopted by Defence. These procedures are widely viewed as amongst the most comprehensive in the world.

CMDR Cole has also shaped key procedures to avoid or mitigate other potential environmental impacts related to waste management at sea, oil pollution, hull fouling, marine pests and ballast water.

He has also played a major role in delivering effective Navy focussed environmental training courses, and developed the Navy *Commanding Officers Guide to Environmental Compliance* which provides very practical guidance to Navy operators at sea and ashore.

He has consistently demonstrated exceptional personal commitment to Defence's environmental performance through lending his support to a wide range of initiatives. A recent example was his participation in the Russell Offices Energy Efficiency Pilot Project, where he took responsibility as an energy 'champion' for Navy and obtained the highest results for energy efficiency in Russell Building 1.

CMDR Cole continues to play a key role in managing the very sound environmental reputation currently enjoyed by Navy. He has demonstrated extraordinary commitment and provided an outstanding contribution to Defence's overall environmental management.