

A photograph showing a vast colony of seabirds, likely albatrosses, on the deck of a ship. The birds are densely packed across the wooden deck and the surrounding water. In the foreground, there are red and black poles and a wooden structure. A chain is visible in the upper right corner. The background shows the open ocean under a clear sky.

CSP Observer Programme

Presentation to CSP TWG

12 September

DRAFT
Conservation Services Programme
Observer Report for the period 1 July 2004 until
30 June 2007

See: <http://www.doc.govt.nz/cspmeetings>

2007/08 Observer year

1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008

Observer coverage

Fishery	Planned	Achieved	% achieved	Total days
ORH	71	67	94%	569
OEO	48	40	83%	321
HAK	17	17	100%	47
HOK	149	151	101%	1439
SBW	13	13	100%	261
BLL - deep	15	14	93%	156
JMA	57	60	105%	499
SLL - D	75	65	87%	399
SLL - C	26	17	65%	169
SCI	30	32	107%	244
BLL - inshore	251	184	73%	184
Trawl - inshore	258	81	31%	81
Setnet	233	161	69%	161
Squid	0	0		895
Totals	1243	902	73%	5425

2007/08 Observer year

1 July 2007 – 30 June 2008

Preliminary data

		Fishing interaction		Strike		Other		
		Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Total
Marine mammals	Trawl	102	11			3	1	117
	Longline	1	13					14
	Setnet	2	1					3
	Seine	1						1
	Total	106	25	0	0	3	1	135
Seabirds	Trawl	201	41	4	49	6	26	327
	Longline	117	20		1			138
	Setnet	2	4					6
	Seine	2					1	3
	Total	322	65	4	50	6	27	474
Marine reptiles	Longline		1					1
	Total		1					1
Total		428	91	4	50	9	28	610



Trawl fisheries

- Southern Blue Whiting

- 8 trips on vessels targeting SBW observed
- All vessels reported at least one fur seal capture
- Observers noted up to 30 FUR around vessels in SUB
- Sea lion captures occurred across three vessels
- Seabirds reported captured on three vessels
- To mitigate marine mammal captures, doors were kept at depth during tows on two vessels
- Tori lines used on five vessels, one vessel also used a warp scarer
- Bird bafflers used on three vessels
- Some vessels discharged offal during shooting and hauling
- Bird activity increased during hauling, feeding from codend

- Southern Blue Whiting interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	17					
NZ sea lion	6					
Grey petrel	2					
Black-browed albatross	1					
Seabird - large		1				
Storm petrel						1
Total	26	1	0	0	0	1

Trawl fisheries

- Scampi

- 9 trips on vessels targeting SBW observed
- No protected species interactions were reported on five trips
- Not all vessels required to use seabird mitigation devices
- One vessel deployed a warp scarer as bird numbers increased during trip
- 6 vessel deployed tori lines
- 2 vessels used home-made line and buoy devices (one of which also used tori lines)
- One vessel used no bird mitigation devices
- All seabird captures occurred in AKE or SOE
- Aggressive feeding from codend on all trips, abundance increased dramatically during hauling
- Varied offal management practices
- One vessel 'caught' 3 sooty shearwaters tangled in fishing line



- Scampi fishery interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	1					
Buller's albatross						1
Common diving petrel				1		
Petrel (unidentified)	1					
Salvin's albatross	4					
Sooty shearwater	4			13	3	
Total	10	0	0	14	3	1

Trawl fisheries

- Jack Mackerel

- 19 trips observed during which JMA targeted. Generally multiple stocks targeted within a trip including hoki, hake, silver warehou and squid
- On five of those trips, only JMA was targeted
- Protected species were caught on 7 trips on tows when JMA was the target species
- 19 common dolphin captures reported in AKW in December
- Two Buller's albatross net capture mortalities (separate incidents) reported. All other seabird interactions were not related to fishing activity.
- 9 vessels deployed tori lines (one also deployed a warp scarer)
- One vessel deployed a warp scarer only
- 9 vessels used bafflers



- Jack mackerel fishery interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Common dolphin	19					
Fur seal	2					
Buller's albatross	2					
Common diving petrel				1		1
Prion (unidentified)				2		
White-faced storm petrel				3		
Total	23	0	0	6	0	1

Trawl fisheries

- Oreo / orange roughy
 - 39 trips observer where OEO or ORH was the target species
 - Of those 38 trips, protected species captures (not including protected coral taxa) were reported from 7 trips
 - Four fur seal and three seabird fishing related mortalities were reported. Other interactions were not related to active fishing activities
 - The majority of larger vessels deployed bird bafflers
 - Seabird feeding generally noted as being less aggressive

Trawl fisheries

- Squid

- 23 trips were observed during which SQU was targeted
- 21 trips reported protected species captures
- Vessels deployed SLEDs when operating in SQU 6T
- 11 vessels deployed tori lines, five deployed bird bafflers and five vessels deployed both tori lines and bird bafflers. One vessel deployed a warp scarer.
- Offal management variable with various techniques used including mealing, mincing, batching and holding. Often only factory floor wash discarded during shooting or hauling. Occasional periods when offal discarded during shooting or hauling, generally due to break down in equipment or overflow.
- Bird activity increased during hauling when birds fed from codend and on loose fish
- Several instances of young fur seals climbing up stern ramp on to vessels

- Squid fishery interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	6				1	1
NZ sea lion	5					
Unidentified bird					1	
Albatross (unidentified)	5					5
Buller's albatross	3					
Fairy prion		1				
Petrel (unidentified)	27	7				
Salvin's albatross	1					
Sooty shearwater	48	11				
Seabird - small	1	1				
White-chinned petrel	22	10				
White-capped albatross	33	3			1	2
Total	151	33	0	0	3	8

Location and date of seabird captures during trips targeting squid

FMA	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08	Total
SOU	3	78	14	7	2	104
SUB		5	42	22		69
Total	3	83	56	29	2	173



Method of seabird captures during trips targeting squid

Species	Net capture	Warp capture	Tangled	Unknown	Other	Total
Albatross (unidentified)	1	1		3		5
Buller's albatross	2		1			3
Fairy prion	1					1
Petrel (unidentified)	34					34
Salvin's albatross	1					1
Sooty shearwater	57			1	1	59
Small seabird	1			1		2
White-chinned petrel	30			1	1	32
White-capped albatross	20	6		9	1	36
Total	147	7	1	15	3	178

Trawl fisheries

- Hoki, hake, warehou and ling.....
 - 52 trips were observed during which hoki, hake, warehou or ling were targeted with the method of midwater or bottom trawl
 - Protected species interactions were reported from 39 of those trips
 - 20 vessels deployed tori lines, 16 vessels deployed bird bafflers and 9 vessels deployed both. A few vessels targeting these stocks were under 28 m in length
 - Offal management variable with various techniques used including mealing, mincing, batching and holding. Hoki skins and factory floor wash discarded during shooting or hauling on some vessels
 - Bird activity increased during hauling when birds fed from codend and on loose fish
 - Some vessels would only haul doors to 100 m during turns to avoid marine mammal captures
 - Observer noted fur seals constant presence in Cook Strait



- Hoki interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	29	8				
Seal (unidentified)					1	
White-capped albatross	1					2
White-chinned petrel	8					
Giant petrel	3					
Shy albatross					1	
Sooty shearwater	4					1
Prion (unidentified)				2		
Petrel (unidentified)		1				1
Grey petrel			1			
Cape petrel	1		2	1		
Buller's albatross	4					1
Total	50	9	3	3	2	5

Location and date of fur seal captures during trips targeting hoki

FMA	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Jun-08	Total
CEE	1	1		4	6
CHA	15	2		5	22
SEC			3		3
SEC			1		1
SOU		1	1		2
SUB		1	2		3
Total	16	5	7	9	37

Location and date of seabird captures during trips targeting hoki

FMA	Jul-07	Aug-07	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	May-08	Jun-08	Total
CHA	2	5					1	8
SEC					7	3		10
SOU				2				2
SUB			1	1				2
Total	2	5	1	3	7	3	1	22

Method of captures during trips targeting hoki

Species	Net capture	Warp capture	Other	Total
Fur seal	37			37
Buller's albatross	2	2		4
Cape petrel	1			1
Petrel (unidentified)	1			1
Sooty shearwater	4			4
Giant petrel	1	1	1	3
White-chinned petrel	8			8
White-capped albatross	1			1
Total	55	3	1	59

• Hake interactions	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Species						
Fur seal	5					
Buller's albatross	1					
Petrel (unidentified)		1				
Sooty shearwater	3					
Shy albatross	1					
Total	10	1	0			

• Ling interactions	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Species						
Fur seal		7		2		
Fairy prion				1		
Black-browed albatross		1				
Salvin's albatross				1		
Seabird - small				1		
White-chinned petrel		3				
White-capped albatross				1		
Total		11		5	1	0

- Silver warehou interactions

	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
Species	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	1					
Buller's albatross	1	1				
Petrel (unidentified)	1					
White-chinned petrel	1	1				
Total	4	2	0	0	0	0

- White warehou interactions

	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
Species	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Buller's albatross	1					
Shy albatross	1					
Total	2	0	0	0	0	0

Longline fisheries

- Bottom longline – deep sea ling
 - 3 trips observed
 - Protected species interactions reported from 2 trips
 - Vessels used tori lines, integrated weighted lines, sonic or acoustic canons
 - One vessel hauled line through moon pool
 - On one vessel, offal dumped as far as possible away from line in batches during hauling, no offal dumped during setting
 - Another vessel held all offal during setting and hauling
 - Erect crested penguin continuously near one vessel in April in SUB over several days
 - Birds constantly present around vessel
 - Fur seals near vessels on a number of occasions
 - Orca seen once

- Deep sea bottom longline interactions

	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
Species	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Sooty shearwater	5					
White-chinned petrel	6					
Total	11					

- Location and timing of deep sea bottom longline seabird interactions

FMA	Oct-07	Mar-08	Apr-08	Total
SOU	5			5
SUB		3	3	6
Total	5	3	3	11

Longline fisheries

- **Bottom longline – inshore**
 - 14 trips aboard bottom longline vessels under 48 m in length observed
 - Protected species captures were reported from 8 trips including the capture of 37 seabirds from one trip in SOE in September 2007. Another vessel caught 13 seabirds during one trip in AKE in May 2008.
 - Mitigation measures employed varied and included line weighting and the use of tori lines. Great variability between vessels, fishing location and target species
 - Many vessels practiced bait retention and held offal during setting and hauling, or discarded on the opposite side of the vessel.
 - Fur seals, common dolphins and orca present during fishing operations on several trips

- Inshore bottom longline interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Albatross (unidentified)	1					
Buller's albatross	4					
Black petrel	3					
Chatham albatross	12					
Cape petrel	1	3				
Grey-faced petrel	6					
Indian yellow-nosed albatross	1					
Black browed albatross (unidentified)	3					
Salvin's albatross	22					
Seabird	1					
Sooty shearwater	1					
Wandering albatross		1				
White-chinned petrel	4					
Total	59	4	0	0	0	0

- Location and timing of inshore bottom longline seabird interactions

FMA	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Jan-08	May-08	Jun-08	Total
AKE						13		13
CEE	2							2
SEC				1			2	3
SOE		38	3	1	1	2		45
Total	2	38	3	2	1	15	2	63



Longline fisheries

- **Surface longline – charter**
 - 4 trips observed (2 vessels), all trips reported protected species captures
 - Tori lines used while setting and tori pendulums and water hoses at hauling.
 - Night setting
 - Offal discharged during hauling on opposite side to hauling station
 - Unused baits collected and discarded on opposite side of vessel
 - One vessel deployed two poles with streamers at hauling station
 - Observers noted crew adjusted mitigation following seabird captures. One skipper responded to captures by putting out three tori lines and deploying heavier weights.

- Charter surface longline interactions

Species	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	1	10
Albatross (unidentified)	2	
Buller's albatross	8	9
Grey petrel	11	
Wandering albatross	1	
White-chinned petrel	4	
White-capped albatross	3	
Total	30	19

All interactions during the course of fishing

- Location and timing of charter surface longline seabird interactions

FMA	Jul-07	Aug-07	Apr-08	May-08	Jun-08	Total
CEE	8	6				14
CHA				1	1	2
SOU			13	9		22
Total	8	6	13	10	1	38

Longline fisheries

- **Surface longline – domestic**
 - 18 trips observed on domestic surface longline vessels
 - Protected species captures were reported from 12 trips
 - Generally, vessels employed night setting, tori lines as standard mitigation techniques. Some small vessels did not deploy tori lines.
 - Seabirds in constant presence around vessels
 - Bird numbers increased during hauling and competed for returning and discarded squid baits.
 - Some vessels discarded offal while hauling
 - One leatherback turtle caught and released alive in KER.

- Domestic surface longline interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal		3				
Leatherback turtle		1				
Albatross (unidentified)	1					
Buller's albatross	2					
Cape petrel		1				
Flesh-footed shearwater		2				
Grey petrel	6					
Black-browed albatross	3	1				
Petrel (unidentified)		1				
Salvin's albatross	1	1				
Storm petrel				1		
Wandering albatross	5	1				
Total	18	11	0	1	0	0

- Location and timing of domestic surface longline seabird interactions

FMA	Jul-07	Sep-07	Jan-08	Feb-08	Mar-08	Apr-08	Jun-08	Total
AKE		1	1		1	4		7
CEE	9			5			4	18
Total	9	1	1	5	1	4	4	25



Inshore trawl

- 10 trips observed
- Protected species interactions recorded from 7 trips
- 6 vessels used no seabird mitigation devices, 2 vessels used tori lines and 2 vessels used warp scarers.
- Of the 6 vessels that used no device, 4 had seabird mortalities
- Both vessels using warp scarers and one vessel using tori lines had seabird mortalities
- Eleven sooty shearwater and 9 Westland petrel deck strikes reported
- Offal practices varied. Seven vessels held offal during active fishing and would discharge during the tow. Two vessels discharged offal during fishing.
- Five trips were observed in SEC, two trips in AKW and three trips in CHA

- Inshore trawl interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Cape petrel	1					1
Salvin's albatross	4					
Sooty shearwater				11		
White-capped albatross	3					
Westland petrel				9		
Total	8	0	0	20	0	1

- Location and timing of inshore trawl seabird interactions

FMA	Aug-07	Sep-07	Oct-07	Nov-07	Total
CHA			1	1	2
SEC	1	3	2		6
Total	1	3	3	1	8

Setnet

- 19 trips aboard setnet vessels observed
- Protected species interactions reported from four trips
- Vessels operating in SEC used pingers, generally spaced around 100 m apart. One vessel dragged a rope with pingers attached behind the vessel instead of attaching them to net.
- Nets set at idle speed for minimum tension and quick decent to bottom
- All processing undertaken when not actively fishing, often when steaming back to port
- Hector's dolphins commonly observed interacting with vessels in SEC
- Up to 250 seabirds constantly present around vessels in SEC
- 9 vessels observed in SEC, 3 vessels observed in CEW, 5 vessels observed in SOU and 2 vessels observed in CHA.
- Seabird numbers generally low in CEW, no dolphins sighted
- Seabird showed little interest in the net and generally only fed once processing began



- Setnet interactions

Species	Fishing interaction		Strike		Other	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
Fur seal	1					
Hector's dolphin	1					
Pilot whale		1				
Cape petrel		1				
Sooty shearwater	1					
Westland petrel		3				
Yellow-eyed penguin	1					
Total	4	5	0	0	0	0

- Hector's dolphin caught in SEC
- Westland petrels caught during haul in SEC
- Pilot whale tangled tail during haul in AKW
- Yellow-eyed penguin caught in SOU
- Sooty shearwater caught in SEC