![Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai logo]

Meeting: **MPI Aquatic Environment Working Group/ DOC Conservation Services Programme Technical Working Group**

Date: 18 February 2018
Time: 9:30 am – 11:30 am
Place: G.04 Tohora room, Conservation House, 18-32 Manners Street
Chair: Rich Ford (MPI)/ Shannon Weaver (DOC)

Attendance: Lyndsey Holland, Dave Foster (FNZ), Jack Fenaughty (Sanford), Suze Baird, Di Tracey, Owen Anderson, Fabrice Stephenson (NIWA), Geoff Tingley, Rob Tilney (DWG), Barry Weeber (ECO), Rich Ford, Karen Tunley (MPI), Shannon Weaver, Trude Hellesland (DOC)

MPI AEWG Presentation:
BEN2018-01 Monitoring of trawl footprint (including coastal). Methods presentation – Suze Baird (NIWA)

DOC CSP Presentation:
POP2018-01: Habitat suitability modelling for protected corals in NZ waters. Methods presentation – Owen Anderson (NIWA)
- **RF** Are absences of coral truly absences?
  - o **OA** Yes, they are true absences
  - o **RF** From research trawls?
  - o **OA** Yes, and only where the full catch was identified
Discussion around use of commercial catch data for presence/absence
- **OA** Wouldn't reflect proper absence, so I don't think so
- **LH** What is the lowest taxonomic level you go to?
  - o **OA** To species
- **RF** What scale is the slope variable made on?
  - o **OA** 1 KM
- **RF** Shallower inclusion of corals- will this include Fiordland?
  - o **DT** Yes
- **JF** What will be the depth limit of the model in habitat suitability?
  - o **OA** 2000 metres due to data only available to that point
Discussion around the depth distribution of deepwater corals
- **DT** 800-1000m is the main area where NZ deep-water corals thrive
Discussion around prioritisation process- which species to be included in this
Discussion around number of records
Discussion around single models and then complete model
Discussion around hoki fishery predominantly on soft sediments
- **DT** Hoki fishery impacts sea pens and solitary cup corals
- **LH** Did you exclude the cup corals due to not being reef forming?

        o **DT** Could include, good suggestion

Discussion around which taxa are going to be included in this project and open to meeting about comments on these

Discussion around observer placement on vessels and identification

Discussion around future prediction model, potential to have an annual model and be able to scroll through the changes over time, e.g. next 100 years

End of meeting