

# LIAISON PROGRAMME ANNUAL REPORT

MIT2017-01 (2019-20 Fishing Year)



March 2021

T. Plencner (Liaison Coordinator)

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Background .....	3
Programme Summary: 2019-20 Fishing Year .....	7
i.    PSRMPs .....	7
ii.   Trigger Point Events .....	8
iii.  Fisheries Observer Audits .....	10
iv.   Liaison Officer Engagement .....	12
v.    Bycatch Mitigation Materials.....	13
Discussion and Recommendations .....	13
i.    Liaison Programme Growth .....	13
ii.   NPOA Seabirds and Mitigation Standards .....	14
Further Information .....	14
Appendix 1: MIT2020-02 Liaison Programme Project Description.....	15
Appendix 2: PSRMP Templates for the 2020-21 Fishing Year .....	17
Appendix 3: Tracking Sheet for Bycatch Mitigation Documents .....	22
.....	22

## Background

In order to effectively reduce the risk of interactions with protected species, it is important for vessels to be using best practice mitigation and to follow steps laid out by both regulatory and non-regulatory measures. With the support of Fisheries Inshore New Zealand (FINZ), the Conservation Services Programme (CSP) Protected Species Liaison Project aims to increase uptake of best practice mitigation for inshore and Highly Migratory Species (HMS) fishing vessels. This will be achieved by building one-on-one relationships, providing advice, and educating fishers on protected species information.

The Liaison Programme began in 2014-15 (MIT2014-03) with a focus on surface and bottom longliners. Over the years the programme has expanded to include inshore trawl and set net fleets, with opportunistic engagement in dredging, jig and Danish seine (Figure 1). Annual reports and research summaries for previous years can be found on the DOC-CSP webpage<sup>1</sup>.

---

<i>2013-14</i>	Liaison work trialled in the snapper longline fleet around the Hauraki Gulf.
<i>2014-15</i>	<b>(MIT2014-03)</b> Liaison work in SLL and snapper and bluenose BLL fleets (FMA1). Work focuses on the development of vessel-specific risk management plans. Team comprised of two Liaison Officers.
<i>2015-16</i>	<b>(MIT2015-01)</b> Liaison work expands to cover more SLL and BLL in FMA1 and SLL off East Coast North Island and West Coast South Island. Team comprised of two Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>2016-17</i>	<b>(MIT2015-01)</b> Liaison work continues for SLL and BLL fleets in FMA1 and SLL off East Coast North Island and West Coast South Island. Liaison database and Portal are created. Method-specific mitigation folders and SLL Operational Procedures are developed with FINZ. Team comprised of two Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>June 2017</i>	Liaison Programme strategy workshop held with DOC, FNZ, FINZ and Seafood New Zealand to explore a 3-5 year plan.
<i>2017-18</i>	<b>(MIT2017-01)</b> Liaison work expands to other protected species in addition to seabirds. Liaison work also expands to cover nationwide SLL, more FMA1 BLL, and coastal trawl off Otago. The Liaison Programme starts receiving PSRMP audits from the Observer Services Unit. The Liaison database and Portal system is updated. Coastal trawl Operational Procedures are developed with FINZ. Team comprised of four Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>May 2018</i>	FINZ announces its intent for all inshore vessels to have vessel-specific PSRMPs by 2020 at the Federation of Commercial Fishermen's annual conference.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-services-programme/>

---

<i>2018-19</i>	<b>(MIT2017-01)</b> Liaison work expands to cover coastal trawl and set net in the North Island and other parts of the South Island. SLL reaches 100% coverage. Regional approach to Liaison Officer roles begins. Programme manual is created to facilitate stakeholder and participant understanding of the scope and approach of the Liaison Programme. BLL and coastal Set Net Operational Procedures are developed with FINZ. Team comprised of five Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>2019-20</i>	<b>(MIT2017-01)</b> Liaison work expands to cover more BLL, coastal trawl and set net, however COVID-19 limits the number of new vessels engaged. A complete list of active inshore/HMS vessels is established. Team comprised of three Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>January 2020</i>	Fisheries (Seabird Mitigation Measures—Surface Longlines) Circular 2019 comes into force.
<i>May 2020</i>	National Plan of Action- Seabirds (2020) released alongside a set of Mitigation Standards for SLL, BLL (autoline), BLL (hand-bait), trawl (<28m), trawl (>28m), and trawl (scampi).
<i>June 2020</i>	Decision on Hector's and Māui dolphins Threat Management Plan (TMP) announced, with measures taking effect October 2020.
<i>2020-21</i>	<b>(MIT2020-02)</b> Liaison work continues to expand and cover more BLL, coastal trawl and set net. LOs start to align PSRMPs to Mitigation Standards. Liaison Programme shifts to reporting progress on a thirdly basis. Team comprised of four Liaison Officers and a Coordinator.
<i>December 2020</i>	FNZ quarterly report on commercial self-reported bycatch goes live.

---

*Figure 1: Progression of the Protected Species Liaison Programme and events influential to its operations.*

A fundamental component of the Liaison Programme is the deployment of Liaison Officers (LOs). Their role (Figure 2) is to support and educate fishers on recommended mitigation strategies and develop vessel-specific Protected Species Risk Management Plans (PSRMPs). LOs also provide a vital interface between skippers, government, and researchers. The programme's Liaison Coordinator manages liaison activities, organises and provides materials, manages data from LO-fisher interactions, and ensures there is follow-up with vessel operators (especially in regards to trigger point events and observer audits).

The Liaison Programme currently has four Liaison Officers (LOs): N. Hollands (Northland, Leigh and the Coromandel), B. Leslie (Auckland, Bay of Plenty, Napier and Gisborne), J. Cleal (Wellington region, top of South Island down to Lyttleton as well as Greymouth), and G. Parker (southeast South Island from

Timaru down to Bluff). Moving forward, the Liaison Programme plans to increase both liaison effort and LO numbers.

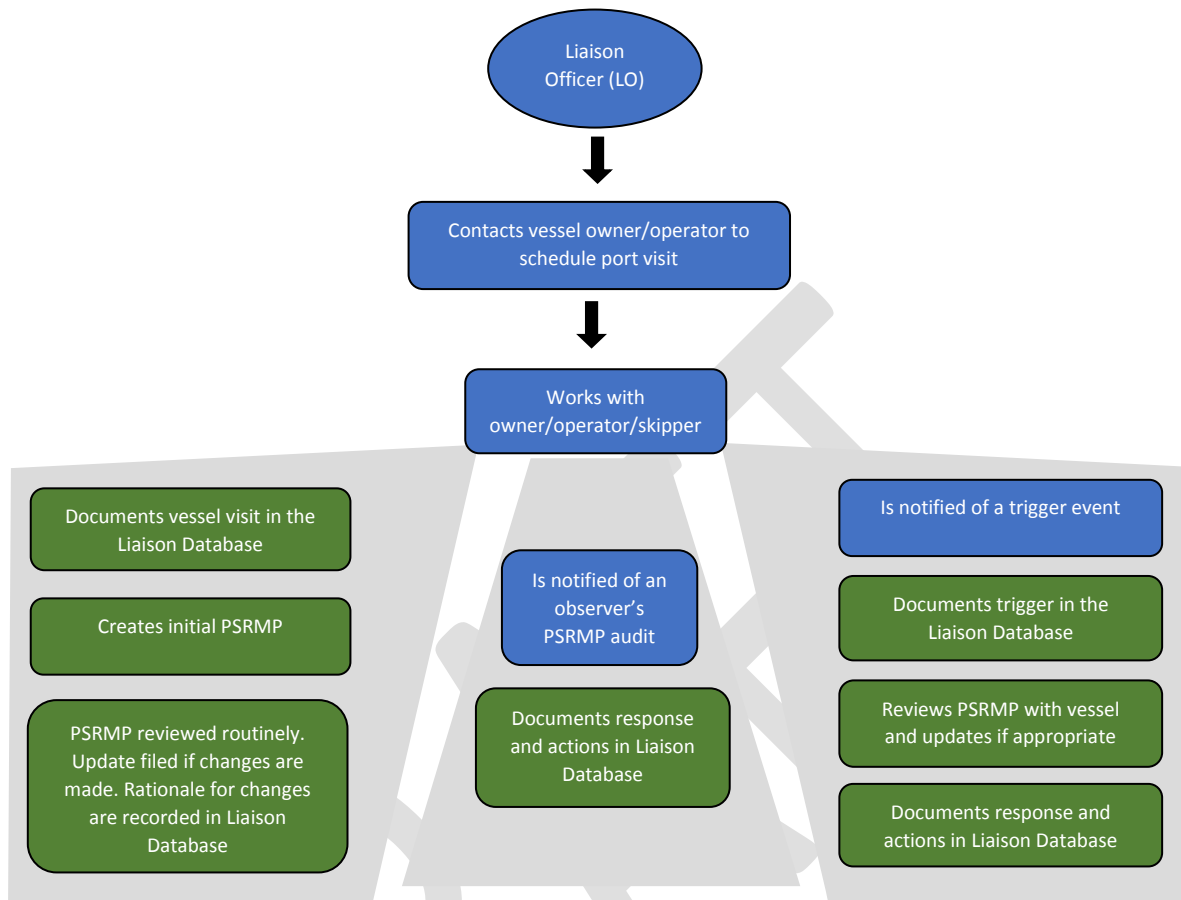


Figure 2. Workflow for Liaison Officers showing documentation completed. Green indicates a stored record.

Inter-agency collaboration is critical to the success of the Liaison Programme. Regulatory compliance checks by Fisheries Officers and non-regulatory auditing of PSRMPs by FNZ Fisheries Observers verify the steps that the vessel is taking to meet mitigation measures and serves to highlight areas for improvement. Additionally, the notification of trigger points (notable protected species captures) from fishers and MPI help the Liaison Programme and its LOs work through potential improvements in fishing practices. Inter-agency information flow and process maps will be updated for the coming year and reflected in the Liaison Programme manual.

The National Plan of Action – Seabirds 2020 outlines a suite of Mitigation Standards that will be implemented for each relevant fishing method and will be reviewed annually by the Seabird Advisory Group (SAG). The Liaison Programme will play a central role in the implementation of these standards through the development of PSRMPs on each vessel. PSRMPs reflect how vessels demonstrate the use

of best practice mitigation, and includes actions to reduce or eliminate captures of other protected species taxa (*e.g.* marine mammals, turtles, sharks and rays) as relevant to the fishery. An initial implementation plan as well as organisational roles can be found in the NPOA Seabirds 2020-Supporting Document<sup>2</sup>.

Finally, there is currently work underway to develop a shared database platform between DOC and Fisheries New Zealand. The completion of this liaison database will enable detailed and automated reporting, allow for more efficient data processing, and will create the ability to measure the overall success of the Liaison Programme on a finer scale.

DRAFT

---

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.fisheries.govt.nz/dmsdocument/38054-national-plan-of-action-seabirds-2020-supporting-document>

## Programme Summary: 2019-20 Fishing Year

### i. PSRMPs

In the 2019-20 fishing year (01 October 2019- 30 September 2020) the Liaison Programme reviewed 114 PSRMPs and developed a total of 25 new PSRMPs for inshore / Highly Migratory Species (HMS) vessels (Table 1).

*Table 1: DOC Liaison Programme PSRMPs per fishing year per fishing method. Active vessels were included if  $\geq 50\%$  of their fishing effort was spent inshore or HMS (per fishing method).*

	New PSRMPs 2017/18	New PSRMPs 2018/19	New PSRMPs 2019/20	Total active vessels with PSRMPs 2019/20	Total active vessels 2019/20
<b>SLL</b>	34	6	2	28	28
<b>BLL</b>	38	11	9	52	67
<b>Trawl</b>	20	78	10	102	124
<b>Set Net</b>	0	15	2	21	197
<b>Dredging</b>	0	1	0	-	-
<b>Jig</b>	0	1	0	-	-
<b>Danish Seine</b>	0	3	2	-	-
<b>Total</b>	92	115	25	<b>201</b>	<b>397</b>

PSRMP coverage for vessels active over the last three fishing years is displayed in Figure 3. The remaining trawl vessels are largely made up of those with low fishing effort. LOs are continuing to work with fishers to develop risk management plans for the remaining vessels.

Engagement with set net and trawl fishing in some areas was delayed due to the progression of the Hector's and Maui dolphins Threat Management Plan (TMP) and replacement of the Southeast South Island LO. Work is currently underway to bring the rest of these vessels into the programme.

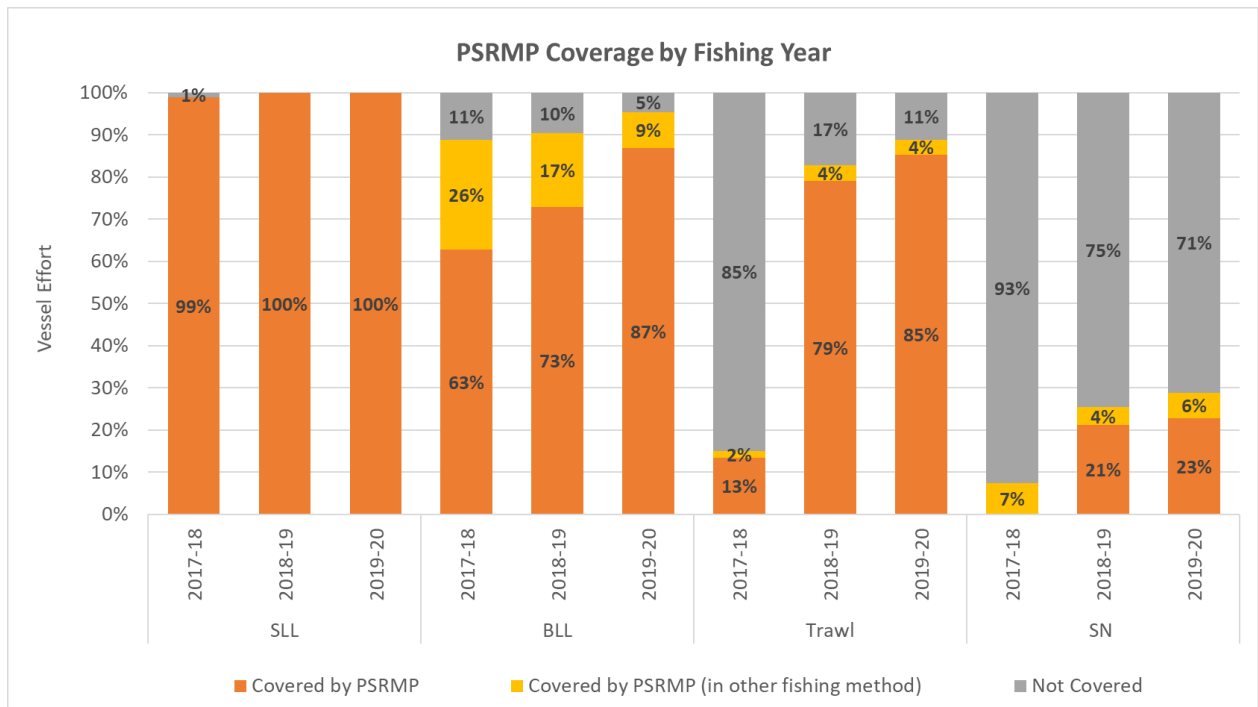


Figure 3: PSRMP coverage relative to inshore and HMS fishing effort (1 October 2017- 30 September 2020) per fishing year. Relevant DOC Liaison Programme vessels and their associated fishing effort were identified using parameters established by FNZ RDM. This included consideration of fishing method, fishing area, target species and vessel length (data supplied by FNZ RDM).

## ii. Trigger Point Events

Trigger events were developed as a risk management tool to prompt vessel operators to re-evaluate their mitigation strategies when catching high-risk protected species. They are either reported by observers or self-reported to LOs and FNZ via electronic reporting. Specifics on what constitutes a trigger event are discussed and agreed to by government and stakeholder groups. Trigger points followed up by LOs in the Protected Species Liaison Programme include the following:

---

### Any 24 hr period

- (Alive or Dead) Any great albatross, penguin, dolphin, sea lion or basking shark
- (Alive or Dead) First turtle of the fishing year (Oct- Sept)
- (Alive or Dead) 3 large (e.g. albatross/mollymawk, giant petrel, gannet), or 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) seabirds, or 2 fur seals
- (Dead) Any black petrel or flesh-footed shearwater

### Any 7-day period

- (Alive or Dead) 10 protected seabirds of any type, or 3 turtles, or 5 fur seals
-



The Liaison Programme is notified of trigger events by MPI Observer Services or by fishers directly contacting a LO. As of December 2020, FNZ has begun sending data for unobserved self-reported captures to the Liaison Programme on a weekly basis. This new information and LO follow-up will be reflected in future progress reports.

Between 01 October 2019 and 30 September 2020, we received 41 triggers from 17 different vessels (Table 2). These were largely comprised of surface longline (SLL) and bottom longline (BLL) fishing methods and were mostly in relation to black petrels and flesh-footed shearwaters. All but two trigger events were followed up by Liaison Officers: one dead flesh-footed shearwater capture by a vessel that was not in the programme, and one dead green turtle capture, where the vessel involved changed ownership shortly after. In Table 2, the 'Other' observed trigger was from a vessel in the Liaison Programme, while they were fishing a different method (trolling).

When contacting vessels, LOs suggest potential ways bycatch mitigation can be improved. The vast majority of these suggested changes have been in relation to the quality and functionality of the tori line, however suggestions have also included adding additional weighting to the line, shifting to night-setting, and changing fishing locations.

*Table 2: Number of trigger events by fishing method from 1 October 2019- 30 September 2020 (as notified to the Liaison Programme via the MPI Observer Programme and self-reporting to LOs). Triggers include seabirds, reptiles, mammals and protected fish species. (FNZ- Fisheries New Zealand, LO- Liaison Officer, LP- Liaison Programme)*

	Observed Trigger Events		Unobserved Trigger Events		Totals	
	FNZ reported to LP	Fisher reported to LO/LP	FNZ reported to LP	Fisher reported to LO/LP	Total trigger events	Total Vessels with trigger events
<b>SLL</b>	15	3	-	2	17	4
<b>BLL</b>	8	0	-	12	20	9
<b>TR</b>	2	0	-	1	3	3
<b>SN</b>	0	0	-	0	0	0
<b>Other</b>	1	0	-	0	1	1
<b>Total</b>	26	3	-	15	41	17

Within the 2019-20 fishing year and in the time since the last Progress Report (June 2020), the Liaison Programme has noted one unique capture event; a juvenile common dolphin in the surface longline fleet that had a snood tangled around its flippers. The dolphin was hauled in and released alive by the crew, and the relevant LO followed-up to discuss the capture with the vessel.

### iii. Fisheries Observer Audits

Fisheries Observer audits of vessel practices are essential in monitoring a vessel's progress and determining adherence to their non-regulatory Protected Species Risk Management Plan (PSRMP). A total of 84 PSRMP audits were completed by Observer Services and forwarded on to the Liaison Programme. These comprised of 13 surface longline audits, 27 bottom longline audits, 38 trawl audits and 6 set net audits. Figure 4 highlights the common areas where vessels did not follow their PSRMPs in their entirety. Of the vessels observed, there was 31% adherence in the SLL fleet, 37% adherence in the BLL fleet, 61% adherence in the trawl fleet and 100% adherence in the set net fleet. Appropriate offal management by vessels seemed to be a common reason for non-adherence across the fishing methods. Furthermore, non-adherent BLL vessels tended to not control/dim their spotlights and non-adherent trawl vessels were often missing useful bycatch mitigation documents (*ie.* PSRMPs, Operational Procedures and 10 Golden Rules; Appendix 2).

Of the surface longline vessels audited, three were while using hook-shielding devices; two with 100% gear coverage, and one with 50% gear coverage plus a 'fit and proper' tori line. Protected seabird interactions were minor. For the vessels with 100% gear coverage, one had a single deck landing from a Buller's/Pacific albatross (XPB) and the other had a white-chinned petrel (XWC) captured in the gear when its wing got tangled in the snood. Both were released alive and uninjured. The vessel with 50% gear coverage had two protected seabird interactions, which were both hooked in the wing. No vessels with Hookpods reached any seabird trigger points.

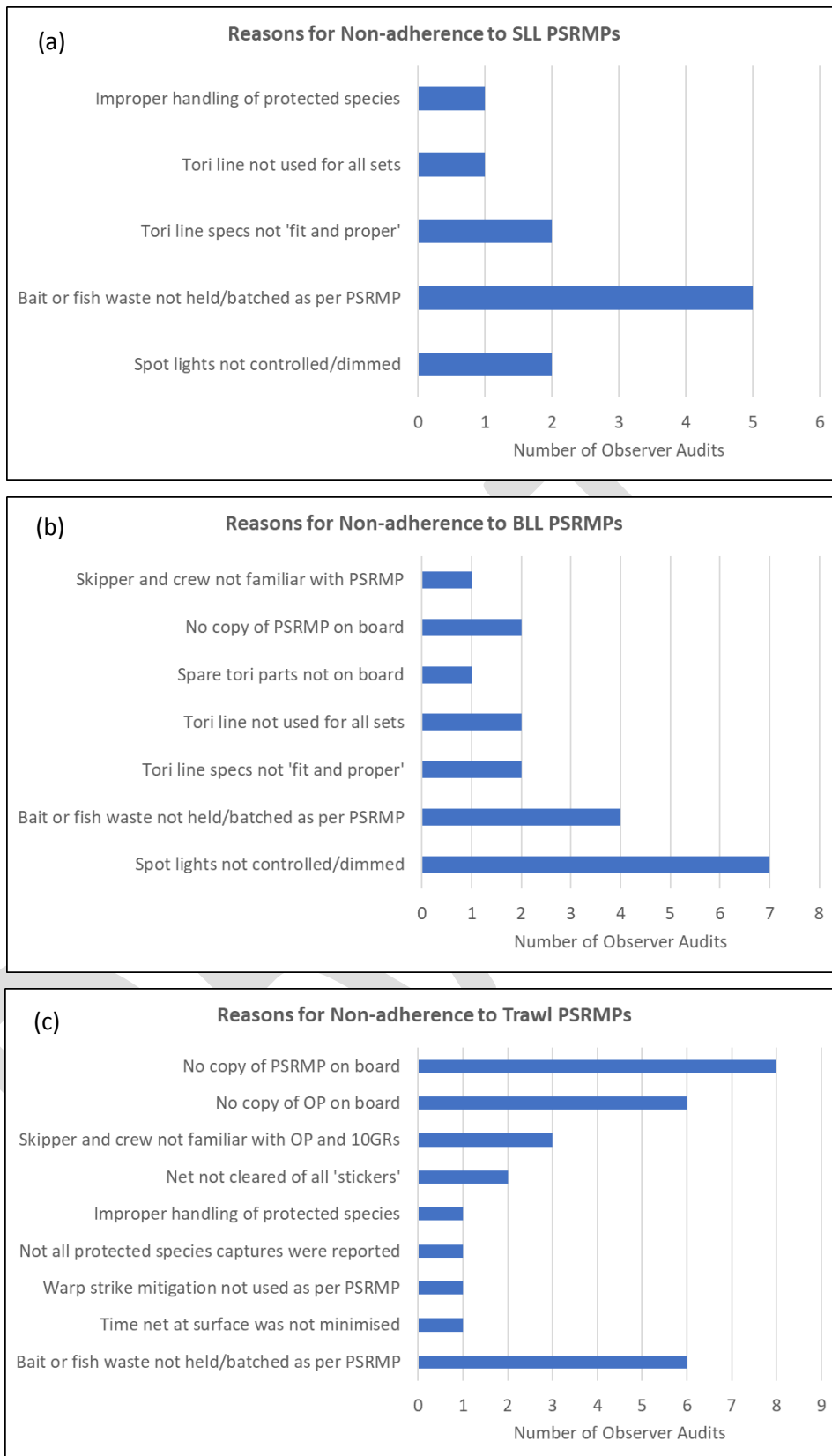


Figure 4: Results of Protected Species Risk Management Plan (PSRMP) observer audits in the 2019-20 fishing year: (a) 9 of 13 surface longline audits were non-adherent, (b) 17 of 27 bottom longline audits were non-adherent, (c) 15 of 38 trawl audits were non-adherent. All 6 set net audits were adherent.

#### iv. Liaison Officer Engagement

In the past, Liaison Programme vessel prioritisation has focused on fleets known to have significant captures and a high spatial overlap with protected species. As of September 2020, the Liaison Programme has also started to incorporate inshore / HMS fishing effort to improve direction for LO work.

Vessels are broken down into three levels of priority. Within each fishing method for that fishing year, vessels are sorted from highest to lowest effort then ranked. They are **high** effort/priority if they are ranked in the top third of their fishing method, **medium** effort/priority if they are in the middle third, and **low** effort/priority if they are in the bottom third. For SLL, BLL and Trawl, effort is measured by event number. For set net, effort is measured by net length.

The programme also recognises the need to include protected species capture information and other metrics in this risk rating moving forward. A data-sharing agreement is currently being drafted between DOC and FNZ to access and utilise capture information for prioritisation and management purposes. Once this agreement is finalised, the programme will look to tailor a risk matrix that can better inform engagement with high-risk vessels.

*Table 3: LO Contact (1 October 2019 to 30 September 2020) for inshore/HMS vessels. Total active vessels were ranked by their total effort for the 2019-20 fishing year (ie. High, Medium, Low). Fishing methods have been targeted in the order shown. Over time, with increased LO capacity in the programme, there will be more engagement for methods lower down in the table. (data supplied by FNZ RDM)*

Active Vessels Contacted in the 2019-20 Fishing Year						
	High Effort Vessels	Medium Effort Vessels	Low Effort Vessels	Total Vessels Engaged	Total Active Vessels	Overall Contact
<b>SLL</b>	100%	100%	100%	28	28	100%
<b>BLL</b>	82%	83%	41%	46	67	69%
<b>Trawl</b>	57%	54%	24%	56	124	45%
<b>Set Net</b>	11%	11%	9%	20	197	10%
				141	397	36%

Table 3 documents Liaison – fisher engagement for the 2019-20 fishing year. While this indicates some of the LO engagement with fishers this year, it is not an exhaustive representation of all the phone calls, emails, texts and face to face time the LOs have invested.

As previously described, engagement with set net and trawl fishing in some areas was delayed due to the progression of the Hector's and Maui dolphins Threat Management Plan (TMP) and replacement of the Southeast South Island LO. Work is currently underway to bring the rest of these vessels into the programme for the 2020-21 fishing year.

#### v. Bycatch Mitigation Materials

Since the last progress report, the Liaison Programme deployed a further 2,000 hook-shielding devices as a top-up to vessels in the surface longline fleet. As of January 2021 an additional order of 12,000 hook-shielding devices has been received and are now awaiting deployment.

Although interest and requests for hook-shielding devices was relatively high, actual implementation was lower than anticipated. Due to feedback and interest from industry, the next order of Hookpods has been made for devices releasing at 10m as opposed to the standard 20m. These will function much better in fisheries that target shallower fishing depths.

## Discussion and Recommendations

#### i. Liaison Programme Growth

Within the coming years the capacity of the programme is expected to grow to provide full outreach to all relevant inshore and HMS fisheries. There is a particular interest to include both harbour setnet and purse seine in the 2020-21 financial year. With this growth, additional LOs will be needed to expand into more fisheries and areas, increase contact with high-risk vessels and develop training plans for crew on protected species and bycatch mitigation. Historically, the programme has primarily focussed on seabird bycatch. Moving forward there will be an increased effort to include more protected species mitigation and deliver on any future cross-agency plans (*ie.* NPOA Sharks). Nevertheless, the role of the LO will largely remain the same; supporting and educating fishers in best practice mitigation and providing a vital interface between skippers, government, and researchers.

The project will also expand the role of the Liaison Coordinator to ensure operational oversight of the programme and improved reporting. Reporting capability has been identified as an area in need of improvement for the rollout of this next phase of the project. This will be addressed through database development, standardised procedures, and the creation of an inter-agency advisory group, which will

help overcome barriers that prevent the Liaison Programme from operating efficiently. Furthermore, increased engagement with quota holders will support the uptake of vessel-specific risk management plans and mitigation measures.

## ii. NPOA Seabirds and Mitigation Standards

With the release of the revised NPOA- Seabirds (2020) and set of Mitigation Standards in May 2020, Liaison Officers have been working to update PSRMPs to reflect the recommended measures. The Liaison Programme has revised its PSRMP templates (Appendix 2) and developed a system for verifying if a vessel's PSRMP has fully met the Mitigation Standards. In cases where a PSRMP assessment only partially meets the Mitigation Standards, context will be provided so that a productive feedback loop is established. This information will help inform the annual review of Mitigation Standards, as described in Performance Measure 4 of the NPOA- Seabirds (2020). The Liaison Programme will report on PSRMP alignment to Mitigation Standards for the 2020-21 fishing year in the next progress report.

## Further Information

Appendix 1 describes the Liaison Programme project objectives and deliverables cited from the 2020-21 CSP Annual Plan<sup>3</sup>. More information on the Liaison Programme can be found in the most recent (2018-19) annual report<sup>4</sup> and Liaison Programme Manual<sup>5</sup>.

For more information on fleet-specific bycatch mitigation, see the list of current mitigation documents (Appendix 3), and visit the Fisheries Inshore New Zealand (FINZ) website<sup>6</sup> for downloadable resources developed in collaboration with FINZ, FNZ and DOC.

The purpose of this annual report is to provide an update on progress and developments within the programme over the past fishing year. DOC welcomes any feedback and suggestions on the programme through [Liaison@doc.govt.nz](mailto:Liaison@doc.govt.nz).

---

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/globalassets/documents/conservation/marine-and-coastal/marine-conservation-services/plans/final-csp-annual-plan-2020-21.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-services-programme/csp-reports/201819/protected-species-liaison-project-2018-19/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-services-programme/other-publications/protected-species-liaison-programme-manual/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.inshore.co.nz/operational-procedures/>

## Appendix 1: MIT2020-02 Liaison Programme Project Description

Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan 2020/21

### 4.3 Protected Species Liaison Project

**Project Code:** MIT2020-02

**Start Date:** 1 July 2020

**Completion Date:** 30 June 2021

**Guiding Objectives:** CSP Objective A; CSP seabird plan 2017; National Plan of Action – Seabirds, National Plan of Action – Sharks.

**Project Objective:**

Grow liaison capacity across inshore fleets around the country including trawl, set net, bottom longline and surface longline fisheries.

**Rationale**

In order to effectively reduce the risk of interactions with protected species, it is important for vessel operators to use best practice mitigation and take all necessary steps, whether they are regulatory or non-regulatory, to avoid interactions. To achieve ongoing reductions in bycatch towards zero, there needs to be consistent use of the most effective mitigation measures currently available, while still encouraging continual improvement through innovation.

It is proposed through the Draft National Plan of Action – Seabirds 2020 that a suite of best practice mitigation standards will be implemented for each fishing method and will be reviewed annually by the Seabird Advisory Group. It is envisaged that the Liaison Project will play a central role in the implementation of these standards through the development of Protected Species Risk Management Plans (PSRMPs) on each vessel.

The purpose of the PSRMPs will change within this next phase, using best practice mitigation measures that the vessel will be implementing to demonstrate their achievement of the relevant mitigation standard, rather than just outlining the vessel's current practices. Auditing of these plans by MPI Fisheries Observers and compliance checks will then verify the steps that the vessel is taking to meet the mitigation measures outlined in the plan and highlight where there is still work to be done. PSRMPs will also cover mitigation actions to reduce or eliminate other protected species taxa (e.g. marine mammals), as relevant to the fishery.

Within the coming years the capacity of the program is expected to grow substantially in size to provide full outreach to all relevant inshore fisheries. The role of the liaison officers will largely remain the same, supporting and educating fishers in best practice mitigation and providing a vital interface between skippers, government, and researchers. The growth of the program will consist of additional Liaison Officers to expand into more fisheries and areas, increased contact with high risk vessels and fleets and development of training plans for crew on protected species and bycatch mitigation. The project will also expand the role of the liaison coordinator to ensure the operational oversight of the program and improve reporting.

Measuring success and constraints in reporting capability have been identified as improvements required in the rollout of this next phase of the project. This will be addressed through database development and standardisation of processes. There will also be increased engagement with quota holders to support the uptake of the plans and mitigation measures.

**Outputs**

1. Database of liaison activity, including PSRMPs developed and updated, vessels visited, trigger responses and mitigation materials and training provided.
2. Creation of a government working group involving DOC and multiple aspects of FNZ

55

Conservation Services Programme Annual Plan 2020/21

(Fisheries Management, Compliance and The Observer Programme) to ensure feedback loops and work through challenges within the Liaison Programme.

3. Development of management responses to triggers.
4. Training plans for fishers on mitigation and handling procedures.
5. Quarterly reports back to relevant stakeholders (including industry and eNGO's) detailing progress and any developments which have come from each fleet.
6. Annual reporting will be provided as part of the proposed Seabirds - Annual Research Report.
7. Yearly review of progress and implementation will be conducted through both DOC's CSP Technical Working Group and the Seabird Advisory Group as part of the NPOA - Seabirds.

**Note:** A one-year term is proposed

**Indicative Research Cost:** \$240,000 (Note: it is intended that additional Crown funds from the Biodiversity 2018 budget will also be used to grow liaison outreach into additional fisheries and provide more effort for high risk vessels in order to work towards zero bycatch).

**Cost Recovery:** F(CR) Item 4 (100% Industry)

**Fish stocks:**

Objective/Species	Indicative Cost	Fish Stocks
1. Surface Longline	\$60,000	ALB1, BIG1, STN1, SWO1
2. Bottom Longline	\$60,000	BIG1, BNS1, HPB1, SNA1
3. Inshore Trawl	\$60,000	BAR1, 7, FLA1, GUR1, JDO1, LIN1, 2, RCO3, SNA1, 2, TAR1, 2, 3, TRE1, 7
4. Setnet	\$60,000	SCH3, 5, SPO3, ELE3, 5, MOK3, SPD5



## Appendix 2: PSRMP Templates for the 2020-21 Fishing Year

DRAFT

# SLL - Protected Species Risk Management Plan

FV	Vessel ID	Home Port
Owner	Skipper/s	Date

## Purpose of this RMP

This PSRMP documents agreed procedures and actions that skippers of this vessel will follow to reduce risk of protected species captures and includes implementation of best practice as outlined by the Mitigation Standards. **This document is to be prominently displayed onboard.** Skipper(s) and crew must also read and understand the supporting 10 Golden Rules & Operational Procedures.

## Regulated measures for seabird risk reduction

Regulatory requirements can be found in the SLL circular (2019), which are included in your mitigation folder. All protected species captures must be reported using the electronic NFPS Catch Report.

**Remember it is not illegal to catch a protected species however it is illegal to not report it!**

Vessel's Practices	
<b>1. Fish waste management</b> <i>Describe equipment and procedures to hold or batch fish waste; contingency plan where required</i>	- No discharge immediately before or during setting. - While hauling, fish waste is held or batched opposite side to the hauling station. All used bait is retained till after haul.  <b>List discharge storage &amp; batching procedures &amp; discharge point (e.g. check open scuppers near processing point)</b>
<b>2a. Tori line</b>	- Tori line meets regulations and is used for duration of all sets. - Can it be adjusted/repositioned to cover hooks to suit varying conditions? <b>- (Describe attachment height x metres above waterline and drag)</b> - Spare materials and/or second tori line are carried on board
<b>2b. Hook-shielding device</b>	-x% gear coverage (or No)
<b>2c. Night-setting</b>	Always/Sometimes/Never (+ during x target species)
High-risk periods/areas	<b>Don't fish during these times? Increase setting gear sink rate?</b>
<b>2d. Weighting regime</b>	<b>Weighted snood (all/some/none); type?</b> <b>Weight and distance from hook (g/ m)</b> Use bait that is sufficiently thawed (ie. not fully frozen)
<b>3. Hauling protocols</b> <i>Describe deterrent</i>	- If break during hauling, hooks must be below surface <b>- (Describe how seabirds are actively deterred from approaching hooks, ie. hose, low pressure water sprayers, sound (such as banging a gaff against the superstructure), hauling mitigation devices and/or vessel manoeuvres)</b>
<b>4. Deck landing/impact</b>	Reduce unnecessary deck lighting, while maintaining safe lighting practises
Training	Crew know and follow safe marine mammal & seabird-handling procedures and protocols Return live fish to the sea as soon as practicable after they were landed
<b>Other- gear/mitigation</b>	

## Contact your Liaison Officer when a TRIGGER POINT is reached.

### Any 24 hr period

(Alive or Dead) Any great albatross, penguin, dolphin, sea lion or basking shark

(Alive or Dead) First turtle of the fishing year (Oct- Sept)

(Alive or Dead) 3 large (e.g. albatross/mollymawk, giant petrel, gannet), or 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) seabirds, or 2 fur seals

(Dead) Any black petrel or flesh-footed shearwater

### Any 7-day period

(Alive or Dead) 10 protected seabirds of any type, or 3 turtles, or 5 fur seals

<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Ph:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
-----------------	------------	---------------

*\*Information in this plan will be provided to MPI and FINZ for reporting and management purposes\**

# BLL - Protected Species Risk Management Plan

FV	Vessel ID	Home Port
Owner	Skipper/s	Date

## Purpose of this PSRMP

This PSRMP documents agreed procedures and actions that skippers of this vessel will follow to reduce risk of protected species captures and includes implementation of best practice as outlined by the Mitigation Standards. **This document is to be prominently displayed onboard.** Skipper(s) and crew must also read and understand the supporting 10 Golden Rules & Operational Procedures.

## Regulated measures for seabird risk reduction

Regulatory requirements can be found in the BLL circular (20xx), which are included in your mitigation folder. All protected species captures must be reported using the electronic NFPS Catch Report.

**Remember it is not illegal to catch a protected species however it is illegal to not report it!**

Vessel's Practices				
<b>1. Fish waste management</b> <i>Describe equipment and procedures to hold or batch fish waste; contingency plan where required</i>	- No discharge immediately before or during setting. - While hauling, fish waste is held or batched opposite side to the hauling station. All used bait is retained till after haul.  <b>List discharge storage &amp; batching procedures &amp; discharge point (e.g. check open scuppers near processing point)</b>			
<b>2a. Tori Line</b>	- <b>(Single or Double)</b> Tori line meets regulations and is used for duration of all sets. - Can be adjusted/repositioned to cover hooks to suit varying conditions - Spare materials and/or second tori line is carried on board			
<b>2b. Weighting</b>	<b>Regime 1</b>	<b>Regime 2</b>	<b>Regime 3</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Target species				
Setting Speed	<b>(Range)</b>	<b>(Range)</b>	<b>(Range)</b>	
Low Risk weighting (Night)	kg/m (Hooks)	kg/m (Hooks)	kg/m (Hooks)	<b>(material)</b>
High Risk weighting (e.g. Day or moonlit night)	kg/m (Hooks)	kg/m (Hooks)	kg/m (Hooks)	<b>(remove floats or change speed)</b>
Float size and placement	m (Hooks)	m (Hooks)	m (Hooks)	<b>(Flag variable configurations)</b>
Rope length: weight -mainline				
<b>2c. Sink rate/Hook depth</b>	Bottle or TDR tests will be conducted <b>(when/how often?)</b> on slowest sinking hook for each setup <b>(ie. every month and/or when changing regimes)</b> Records to be kept onboard for <b>x amount of time</b> Use bait that is sufficiently thawed (ie. not fully frozen)			
<b>3. Hauling protocols</b> <i>Describe deterrent</i>	- If break during hauling, hooks must be below surface - <b>(Describe how seabirds are actively deterred from approaching hooks, ie. hose, low pressure water sprayers, sound (such as banging a gaff against the superstructure), hauling mitigation devices and/or vessel manoeuvres)</b>			
<b>4. Deck landing/impact</b>	Reduce unnecessary deck lighting, while maintaining safe lighting practises			
Training	Crew know and follow safe marine mammal & seabird-handling procedures and protocols Return live fish to the sea as soon as practicable after they were landed			
<b>Other- gear/mitigation</b>				

**Contact your Liaison Officer when a TRIGGER POINT is reached.**

### Any 24 hr period

(Alive or Dead) Any great albatross, penguin, dolphin, sea lion or basking shark

(Alive or Dead) First turtle of the fishing year (Oct- Sept)

(Alive or Dead) 3 large (e.g. albatross/mollymawk, giant petrel, gannet), or 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) seabirds, or 2 fur seals

(Dead) Any black petrel or flesh-footed shearwater

### Any 7-day period

(Alive or Dead) 10 protected seabirds of any type, or 3 turtles, or 5 fur seals

<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Ph:</b>	<b>Email:</b>
-----------------	------------	---------------

*\*Information in this plan will be provided to MPI and FINZ for reporting and management purposes\**

DOC CSP Liaison Programme Risk Mitigation: Bottom Longline (2020.21)

# Trawl - Protected Species Risk Management Plan

FV	Vessel ID	Home Port
Owner	Skipper/s	Date
Vessel photo	Mitigation photo- offal control equipment	Mitigation photo- warp device

## Purpose of this PSRMP

This PSRMP documents agreed procedures and actions that skippers of this vessel will follow to reduce risk of protected species captures and includes implementation of best practice as outlined by the Mitigation Standards. **This document is to be prominently displayed onboard.** Skipper(s) and crew must also read and understand the supporting 10 Golden Rules & Operational Procedures.

## Regulated measures for protected species reporting

All protected species captures should be reported using the electronic NFPS Catch Report.

**Remember it is not illegal to catch a protected species however it is illegal not to report it!**

Vessel's Practices	
<b>1. Fish waste management</b> <i>Describe equipment and procedures to hold or batch fish waste; contingency plan where required</i>	- <u>No continuous discharge when towing</u> ; no discharge immediately before/during setting or hauling. While towing, fish waste is held or batched. <u>Cut &amp; offal discards:</u> <u>Whole and fish waste discards:</u> <u>List discharge storage &amp; batching procedures &amp; discharge point, (for the above, etc)</u>
<b>2. Warp</b> <i>Describe equipment and procedures, type of device. When is deployment required?</i>	-Warp (located closest to side where fish waste is discharged) protected by seabird scaring device <u>List Seabird device type- carried onboard (Baffler, warp-deflector, tori, other etc)</u> -Seabird scaring device deployed <u>(choose: at all times or when there is any potential risk to seabirds)</u> and in a way to not increase the risk to seabirds (ie. excessive trailing streamers) -Carry sufficient spares to effect repairs
Warp splice control	Warps are not overly greased; warp splices are wrapped; sprags are removed; warp splices are not near water's surface when towing
<b>3. Net interaction</b>	Haul as quickly as practicable to minimise time net is at/near surface
Stickers	All practicable stickers are removed from the net before each shot.
Gear maintenance/repair	Is conducted while net is onboard or during low risk periods (ie. night or low seabird abundance) Regularly inspect and maintain all fishing gear/equipment (eg. winches)
<b>4. Deck landing/impact</b>	Reduce unnecessary deck lighting, while maintaining safe lighting practises
Training	Crew know and follow safe marine mammal & seabird-handling procedures and protocols Return live fish to the sea as soon as practicable after they were landed
<b>Other- gear/mitigation</b>	

**Contact your Liaison Officer when a TRIGGER POINT is reached.**

<b>Any 24 hr period</b> (Alive or Dead) Any great albatross, penguin, dolphin, sea lion or basking shark (Alive or Dead) First turtle of the fishing year (Oct- Sept) (Alive or Dead) 3 large (e.g. albatross/mollymawk, giant petrel, gannet), or 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) seabirds, or 2 fur seals (Dead) Any black petrel or flesh-footed shearwater <b>Any 7-day period</b> (Alive or Dead) 10 protected seabirds of any type, or 3 turtles, or 5 fur seals		
<b>Contact:</b>	<b>Ph:</b>	<b>Email:</b>

*\*Information in this plan will be provided to MPI and FINZ for reporting and management purposes\**

DOC CSP Liaison Programme Risk Mitigation: Trawl (2020.21)

# Set net - Protected Species Risk Management Plan

FV	Vessel ID	Home Port
Owner	Skipper/s	Date
Vessel photo	Mitigation photo	Mitigation photo

## Purpose of this RMP

This PSRMP documents agreed procedures and actions that skippers of this vessel will follow to reduce risk of protected species captures and includes implementation of best practice as outlined by the Mitigation Standards. **This document is to be prominently displayed onboard.** Skipper(s) and crew must also read and understand the supporting 10 Golden Rules & Operational Procedures.

## Regulated measures for protected species reporting

All protected species captures should be reported using the electronic NFPS Catch Report.

**Remember it is not illegal to catch a protected species however it is illegal not to report it!**

## This vessel's measures used to manage the risk of non-fish protected species capture:

Vessel Practices	
1. Fish waste management	- No discharge immediately before or during setting. - While hauling, fish waste is held or batch discharged (minimum of x min intervals) opposite side to the hauling station. All used bait is retained till after haul. - Describe suitable equipment and setup- including storage methods and location of discharge - Describe methods to contain fish waste (e.g. check open scuppers near processing point) and any contingency plans
2. Placement	Spatial placement of set nets does not pose unnecessary risk to seabirds (i.e. near seabird colonies and foraging grounds)
3. Net interaction	Haul as quickly as practicable to minimise time net is at/near surface Nets are not stalled
Stickers	All practicable stickers are removed from the net before each shot.
Gear maintenance/repair	Is conducted while net is onboard or during low risk periods (i.e. night or low seabird abundance) Regularly inspect and maintain all fishing gear/equipment (e.g. winches)
4. Deck landing/impact	Reduce unnecessary deck lighting
Training	Crew know and follow safe seabird-handling procedures and protocols
Other	Any other gear/mitigation? (otherwise omit)

## Contact your Liaison Officer when a TRIGGER POINT is reached.

<p><b>Any 24 hr period</b> (Alive or Dead) Any great albatross, penguin, dolphin, sea lion or basking shark (Alive or Dead) First turtle of the fishing year (Oct- Sept) (Alive or Dead) 3 large (e.g. albatross/mollymawk, giant petrel, gannet), or 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) seabirds, or 2 fur seals (Dead) Any black petrel or flesh-footed shearwater</p> <p><b>Any 7-day period</b> (Alive or Dead) 10 protected seabirds of any type, or 3 turtles, or 5 fur seals</p>
<p><b>Contact:</b></p>
<p><b>Ph:</b></p>
<p><b>Email:</b></p>

\*Information in this plan will be provided to MPI and FINZ for reporting and management purposes\*

DOC CSP Liaison Programme Risk Mitigation: Set Net (2020.21)

## Appendix 3: Tracking Sheet for Bycatch Mitigation Documents

This is a comprehensive list of all the current mitigation documents handed out to fishers through the Protected Species Liaison Programme. PDF Documents are downloadable at the FINZ website: (<https://www.inshore.co.nz/operational-procedures/>)

### Surface Longline (SLL)

	Version
1. 10 Golden Rules – Small Vessel SLL	2.0
2. 10 Golden Rules for NFPSCR	Sept 2020
3. Small Vessel SLL Operational Procedures	2.1
4. Fisheries Seabird Mitigation Measures - SLL (Circular 2019 and Corrigendum)	2019
5. SLL Mitigation Standards	June 2019
6. Observer Audit Form	x
7. SLL Tori Line Design Guide	Mar 2021
8. Small Vessel Surface Longline Crew and Vessel Safety Guide	x
9. ACAP Hook Removal from Seabirds Guide	x
10. Turtle Handling and Release and Crew Safety Guide	x
11. Fur Seal Handling and Release and Crew Safety Guide	x
12. Black Petrel Factsheet	Nov 2020
13. MPI Shark Factsheets 1-4	Feb 2020

### North Island Trawl

	Version
1. 10 Golden Rules – Coastal Trawl	Sept 2020
2. 10 Golden Rules for NFPSCR	Sept 2020
3. NI Coastal Trawl Operational Procedures	2.0 Nov 2018
4. <28m Trawl Mitigation Standards	June 2019
5. Observer Audit Form	x
6. Seabird Risk Policy Framework	x
7. Hector's and Maui dolphins TMP Factsheet- North Island	June 2020

### South Island Trawl

	Version
1. 10 Golden Rules – Coastal Trawl	Sept 2020
2. 10 Golden Rules for NFPSCR	Sept 2020
3. SI Coastal Trawl Operational Procedures	1.5 Oct 2020
4. Warp Strike Risk and Mitigation + Tier Rating	x
5. Warp Mitigation Options- Design Guide	x
6. <28m Trawl Mitigation Standards	June 2019
7. Observer Audit Form	x
8. Seabird Risk Policy Framework	x

### Bottom Longline (BLL)

	Version
1. 10 Golden Rules –BLL	1.0 July 2020
2. 10 Golden Rules for NFPSCR	Sept 2020
3. Bottle Test Guide	Sept 2020
4. Bottle Test Record Sheet	1.0
5. BLL Operational Procedure- North Island	1.2 Oct 2018
6. BLL Circular	2018
7. BLL Mitigation Standards- hand bait	June 2019
8. Observer Audit Form	x
9. BLL tori line guide	TBC
10. ACAP Hook Removal from Seabirds Guide	x
11. Black Petrel Factsheet	Nov 2020

### Set Net

	Version
1. 10 Golden Rules – Coastal Setnet	Sept 2020
2. 10 Golden Rules for NFPSCR	Sept 2020
3. Coastal & Harbour Setnet Operational Procedures	2.0 Sept 2020
4. Setnet Mitigation Standards	TBC
5. Acoustic Pinger Info	x
6. Observer Audit Form	x
7. YEP Factsheet	Nov 2020
8. MPI Shark Factsheets 1-4	Feb 2020
9. Hector's and Maui dolphins TMP Factsheet - North Island	June 2020
10. Hector's and Maui dolphins TMP Factsheet - South Island	June 2020
11. Maps of Commercial Setnet restrictions	Dec 2020