

Conservation Services Programme Annual Research Report

Katie Clemens-Seely and Kris Ramm Marine Species and Threats





Background

- Stakeholder desire for rationalized and timely reporting
- Better integration with CSP's new strategic direction

Aim

- A single concise summary of the year's research and outputs
- Integrating the results of observer coverage with other CSP funded research
- Updates of the status of multiyear projects
- Ties back to each years annual plan
- Helps feed into future planning processes e.g. CSP RAG





Structure

Introduction

- Outlines background on the CSP
- Details any supporting documents or processes
- Details planning process for that year and any consultation





Structure

Project summary

- ~2 page summary per project
- Overall and specific objectives
- Rationale
- Project status
- Summary of methods and key findings
- Project logistics summary statement
- Citation
- Weblinks



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Structure

Observer summary

- ~4 page summary per fishery
- Overall and specific objectives
- Rationale
- Summary of methods and key findings including:
 - Observer coverage
 - Bycatch per species
 - Method of interaction
- Narrative of any patterns of trends observed, any anomalies or the cause of key bycatch events
- Consistent with previous observer reports
- Project logistics summary statement
- Citation
- Weblinks



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Any questions?

- Gaps
- Structural change
- Level of detail

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Recommendations

POP2011-06 Protected coral distribution and overlap with commercial fishing

- Research to better understand the distribution of protected corals
 - Update and maintain the protected coral dataset
 - Increase observer coverage
 - Improve the quality of observer data
 - Improve identification of protected corals
- Research to better understand coral biology
 - Collect information on coral age, growth, size, & form
 - Review international literature with regard to biological parameters
 - Species associations
- Additional environmental data layer
 - For modeling the distribution of protected corals



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Recommendations from 2011-2012 Conservation Services Programme Research Reports

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INT2011-02 Protected species interactions with commercial pot and trap fishing methods in New Zealand

- In-depth research project into the breeding ecology & the foraging behaviour and range of Chatham Island and Pitt Island shag
 - To determine & mitigate the cause of the population decline in both these species



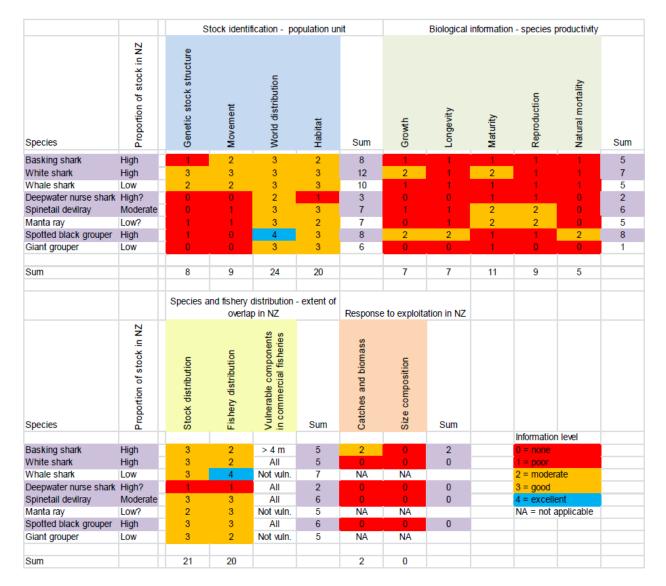
POP2011-03 Protected fish – review of interactions and populations



- Should focus on:
 - Basking shark, white shark, deepwater nurse shark, spinetail devil ray, & spotted black grouper
- Efforts should be made to increase the availability for research of specimens of protected fish species by:
 - making it legal for fishers to land dead specimens;
 - encouraging and educating fishers about the value of specimens for research; and
 - providing the specimens to a research organisation
- Genetic analyses and electronic tagging should also be implemented urgently



POP2011-03 Protected fish – review of interactions and populations





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POP2011-06 Protected coral distribution and overlap with commercial fishing



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POP2011-07 Pied shag – population review and estimate

- Investigation into the proportion of the population breeding & variability in breeding in relation to colony size
 - Enabling more accurate estimates of the national pied shag population
- GPS investigation to determining the foraging range of breeding pied shags
- Investigation into the impacts of recreational fishing
 - In particular → line entanglement



POP2011-08 Yellow-eyed penguin – review of population information

- Increase observer coverage
 - To improve the quality of risk assessment
- Comprehensive analysis of foraging ecology & at sea distribution (& seafloor surveys)
 - To assess the impact of benthic habitat degradation



MIT2011-01 Protected rays - mitigate captures and assess survival of live-released animals



- More detailed information must be collected on manta and devil ray encounters
 - Observers should know correct codes and identification, record data on behaviour, release methods, and condition prior to release
- Spotter planes should record observation of manta and devil rays
 - Valuable information on spatial & temporal patterns of occurrence



MIT2011-03 (& MIT2012-01)Inshore bottom longline – develop strategies to increase line sink rates

- Increase longline sink rates
 - Modify line-weighing regimes & float usage
- Reduce setting speeds
- Retaining baits
- Improve streamer line design & consistently deploy streamer lines
 - Hooks are protected by streamer links up to 10m





Recommendations from 2012-2013 Conservation Services Programme Research Reports

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POP2012-03 Black petrel – at-sea distribution and population estimate

- Population monitoring to be continued up to 2024/25 breeding season
 - To allow development of a multi-generational population model
- Study burrows checked for breeding pairs every year
 - More accurate determination of breeding success & sex of adults
- Use of GPS data loggers & TDRs
 - To investigate foraging behaviour, distances, locations, etc



POP2012-08 Pitt Island shags – foraging ecology



- Further studies on the foraging ecology of the in other locations
 - To determine differences in foraging behaviour & efficiency
- 3-5 year study investigating breeding parameters (i.e. success)

