



Meeting: Conservation Services Programme Technical Working Group

Date: 28 February 2018

Time: 9:30 am – 11:50 pm

Place: Conservation House, 18-32 Manners Street, Wellington

Chair: Kris Ramm (kramm@doc.govt.nz)

Attendance: Sharleen Gargiulo (DWG), Oliver Wilson (FINZ), Richard Ford, Jo Lambie (MPI), Janice Molloy (SSST), Johanna Pierre (JPEC ltd.), Jingjing Zhang, Malcom Francis (NIWA), Karen Baird (Forest & Bird). Dave Goad (Vita Maris), Laws Lawson, Tamar Wells (Te Ohu Kaimoana), Kris Ramm, Igor Debski, Freya Hjorvarsdottir, Rebecca Isaacs, Graeme Taylor (DOC).

Apologies: Ian Angus (DOC), Tom Clark (FINZ), Richard Wells (DWG), Anton VanHelden (Forest & Bird)

MIT2016-01: Protected species bycatch media: Progress update and recommendations – Johanna Pierre (JPEC)

- **OW** How many of the readers are actual fishers on the water?
 - **JP** I don't have information on that. The crew used to be the hardest group to reach to begin with, but with building up contacts, it's now easier to distribute the newsletters to relevant groups.
- **KB** If you're worried about it not getting all of the fishers, is there a way that industry representatives can help?
 - **OW** I don't think this project sits under CSP. But potentially liaison officers (LO) can deliver the newsletters as well.
- **DG** The value of this is distributing this information to vessels that don't have a LO programme. LO's could ask questions at vessel visits to verify reach on those vessels
- **KB** The boats you are visiting through the LO programme, would they be a random sample of the audience group?
 - **OW** Could be a way to see if the newsletters are making it to fishers by using the LO programme.
- Further discussion about the newsletter reaching the target audience and possibilities for developing videos.

MIT2015-02: Characterisation of seabird captures during small vessel longline hauling – Johanna Pierre (JPEC)

- **DG** has reporting of haul mitigation improved over time?
 - **JP** Yes generally more and more detailed information
- **OW** If there are bird captures, does the observer always make comment in their diaries?
 - **JP** If something that seems abnormal occurs, this is recorded, but every bird capture isn't necessarily recorded in the diary.
- **OW** Is there any information on in the fisher reported data on number live captures per trip?

- JP Not in the extract used as records could not be grouped by trip.
- OW has there been any information that would indicate that practices have changed over time?
 - JP Not enough information there at the moment.
- KB were the same vessels discarding bait and offal continuously
 - JP There was a real range of practices across vessels and trips
- Further discussion around increasing the level of detail that is looked into to increase relevance and use in other projects, such as total reported catch by target species group, number of trips vs number of live captures.
- GT How far back from the boat do people start quantifying birds trying to take bait from the line?
 - DG With surface lining, on a clear day there are always going to be birds being observed as there is a better view of the line.

MIT2015-02: Development of haul mitigation on a bluenose small vessel longliner – Dave Goad (Vita Maris)

- KB What is the purpose of the dangler?
 - DG It's used as a visual and physical disturbance
- KB Is the dangler pole flexible with float bouncing on water? In recreational fishing trials with Dave Kellian milk bottle movement seemed important.
 - DG The pole used was not flexible, and the result depends of the movement of the vessel. My intention was to make it as simple as possible to encourage uptake.
- GT Were there any entanglement issues?
 - DG If there was it was easy enough to solve by pulling the device in and untangling it. Keeping it simple reduces the chance of tangling
- RF Did you see any habituation from the birds?
 - I was only there for six days which wasn't long enough, but very likely that a lot of the birds that returned to the boat were the same.
- GT Could be useful to make the device into a fork or dual system to increase the area of deterrence
- OW Highlighted the possibilities to automate video analysis.
- Discussion on the potential usage of cameras to collect mitigation trial data of this type – could be improved with positioning of cameras and using cameras with longer battery life, including trident cameras.
- OW Highlighted that the Trident project has been voluntary, and results may not be immediately available for other uses and would be dependent upon the permission of individual vessels.
- ID The relevance of using a camera system means that if we wanted to do more trials we wouldn't have to have someone on board the boat.
- KB The most effective technique is not putting bait in the water in the first place as birds will become disinterested.
- Discussion about combining DG collection of videos of the use of the device for engagement with fishermen.

End of meeting