



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

Date: 17 July 2019

Time: 9:00 am – 2:15 pm

Place: G.01 Tangaroa room, Conservation House, 18-32 Manners Street

Chair: Katie Clemens-Seely

Attendance: Chris Gaskin, Edin Whitehead, Nigel Adams, Lily Kozmian-Ledward (Northern NZ Seabird Trust), Peter Frost (Science Support Services), Mike Bell, Patrick Crowe (WMIL), Monique Holmes (Te Ohu Kaimoana), William Gibson (MPI), Helen Tweedie (Port Group), Samhita Bose, Trude Helleland, Igor Debski, Graeme Taylor, Shannon Weaver, Karen Middlemiss (DOC)

POP2017-06: Indirect effects on seabirds in north-east North Island region– Northern NZ Seabird Trust

- ID Were the spatial sampling areas mixed?
 - LK yes
- PF could you split sampling into more inshore areas?
 - LK yes that is a possibility
- PF Lots of sampling on the same day
 - CG Yes first challenge is finding the fish schools, will cover what improvements could be made to sampling later on in the presentation
- PF Were there difference in the density of hauls?
 - LK No they weren't really standardised hauls
 - CG Surface tows resulted in large qtys so sub sampled those
- GT Question of mobility of zooplankton and whether that if influencing sampling
 - PF Assume boat was going out in mild sea conditions, wondering if that has an impact on zooplankton composition
 - CG There were cases when we were out in quite rough conditions and schools were still active

Discussion around mobility of zooplankton and fish schooling behaviour and seabird response

- LK Fish aren't always a component of the feeding
- PF Are there any oceanographers involved in this work? As there must be other things going on that need to be considered for a fuller understanding in terms of movements

Discussion around plastics in tows

- LK No not really enough in the tows to count

Discussion around nutritional value of different prey types

Discussion around Poor Knights and if seabird species competition is apparent on the island

- GT Island is not at capacity so is unlikely. Previous land use and vegetation change over time

POP2018-04: Flesh-footed shearwater population monitoring– WMIL

Discussion around FFSW commonly dominating northern areas of islands

Discussion around juvenile FFSW tracking to Pacific Islands area

MIT2018-01: Protected species engagement project– Port Group

Mitigation video comments:

- **GT** Night setting video, confusion between the attraction of light of vessel at night vs. setting at night with the moon. Want to highlight that fishing at night with no moon is really dangerous for birds with light on boats
 - **SW** Will clarify this after the meeting
- **WG** Clarification needed on sunrise/sunset (1 hour before/after maybe)
- **WG** Light management video – query around the wording “match” the tori line to the conditions, there are specifications
 - **SW** Initially drafted the videos to be very specific based on regulations but then the decision was made to make them broader so the videos remain valid despite future regulations that may occur
- **PF** The wording only effective if “fit and proper”, is that too generic a statement? Is there a better way of saying the same sentiment?
 - **SW** Yes, still think if alternative wording is possible
- **NA** Accent on the commentary was a bit low, made it difficult to hear some of the words
 - **SW** Yes it was quite difficult to find a good voice over for the videos, the focus was on finding a voice that fishers would be able to connect with
- **TH** Question re distribution of videos
 - **SW** distribution via promo video through social media with link back to DOC website, also distribution through liaison officers, and through other agencies, etc

Handling guide comments:

- Fix penguin flipper
- Redo medium sized bird – currently looks like an albatross (too large)
- Remove cloth on large sized bird on handling page, leave it on the page with accompanying text
- Comment re reducing noise around birds when handling them
- Comments around releasing the bird off boat using a net without getting tangled
- Put bird handling illustration after text on page so reader reads instructions first

Chatham Island Albatross aerial photograph analysis– Peter Frost

Discussion around the importance of vegetation for nesting material, influence of storm events on this

Discussion around impact of heat on egg failure, erosion etc

End of meeting