



HOOKPOD Ltd

Bird-friendly fishing for the future

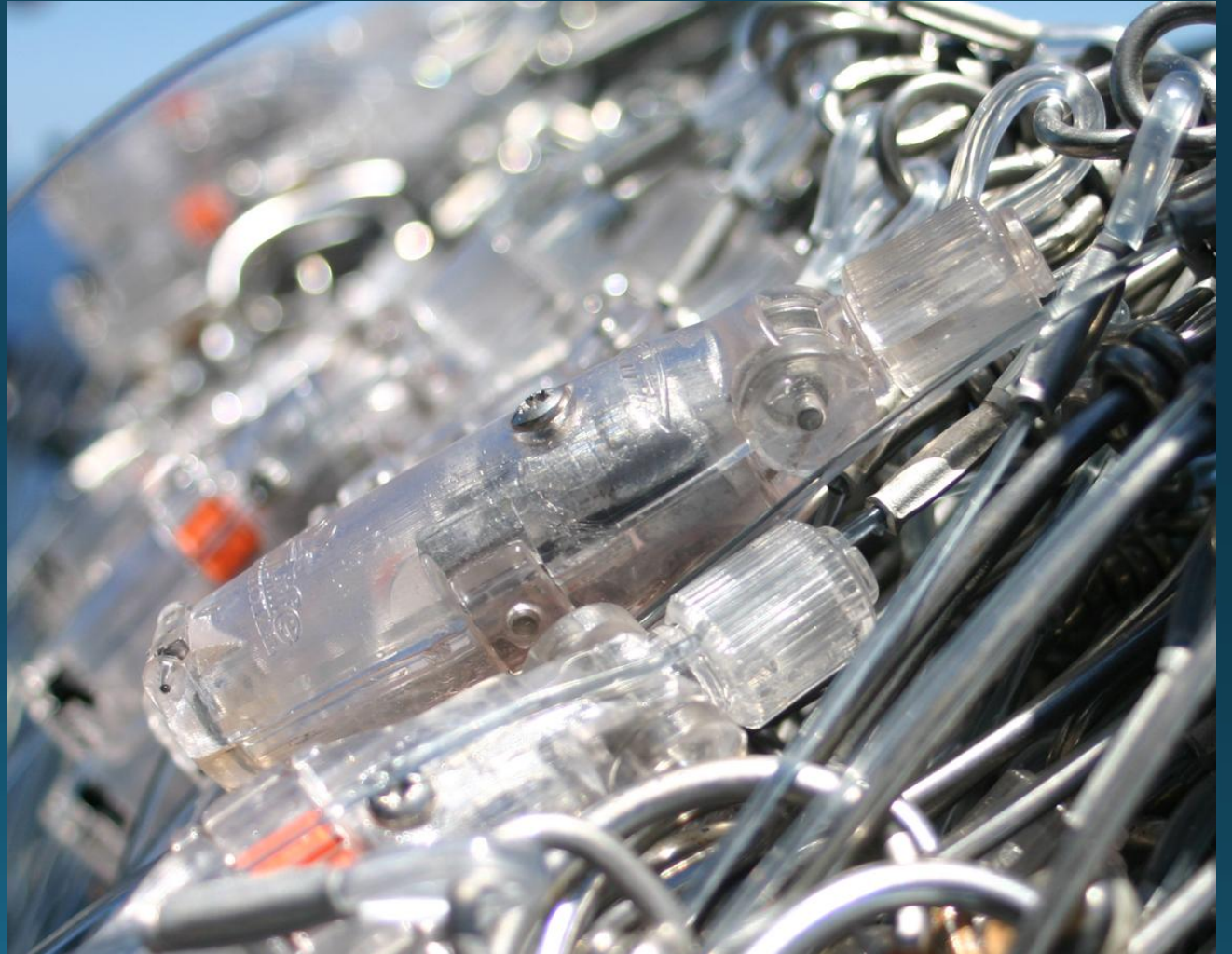
Ben Sullivan June 2016

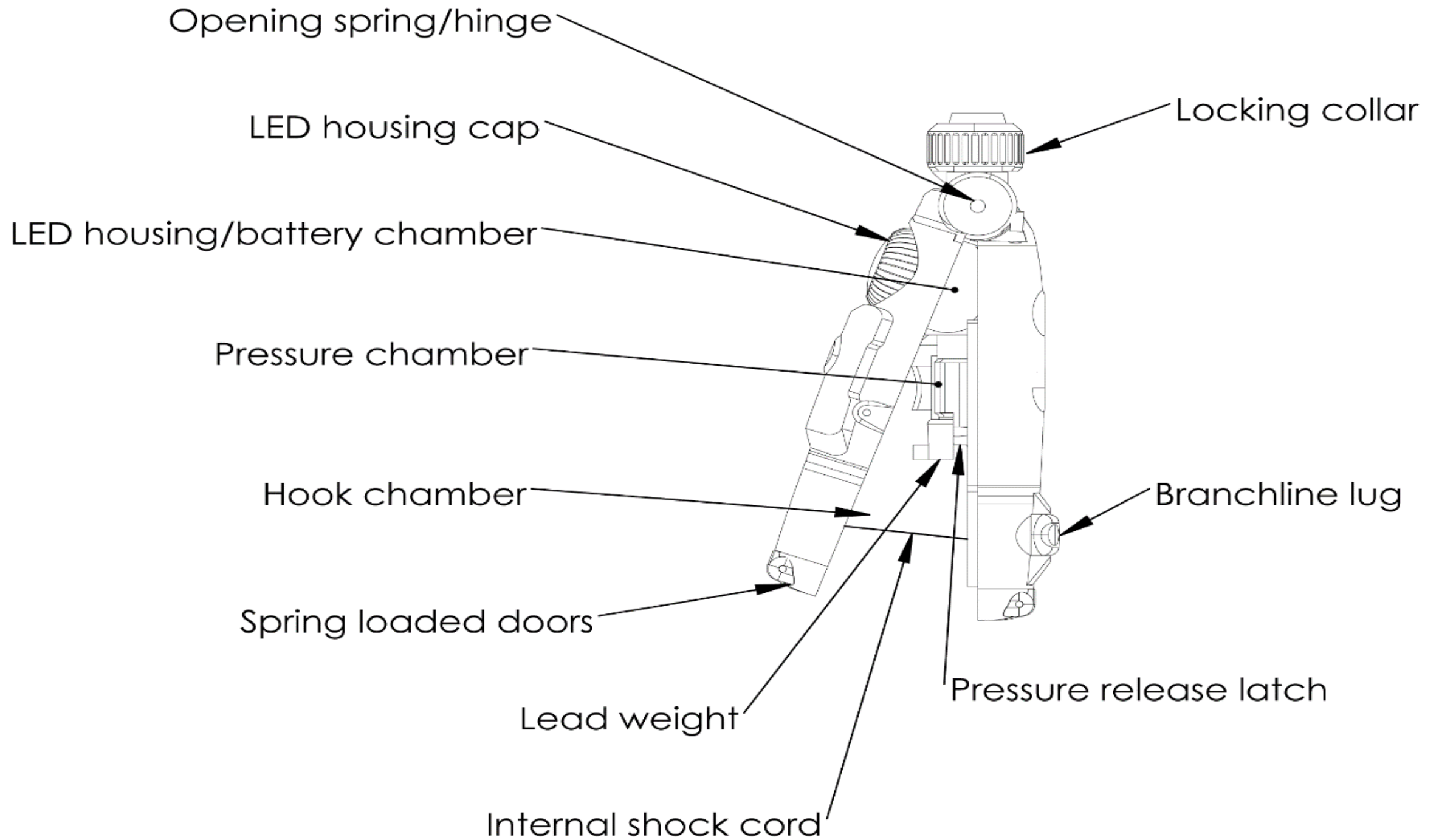
Rationale

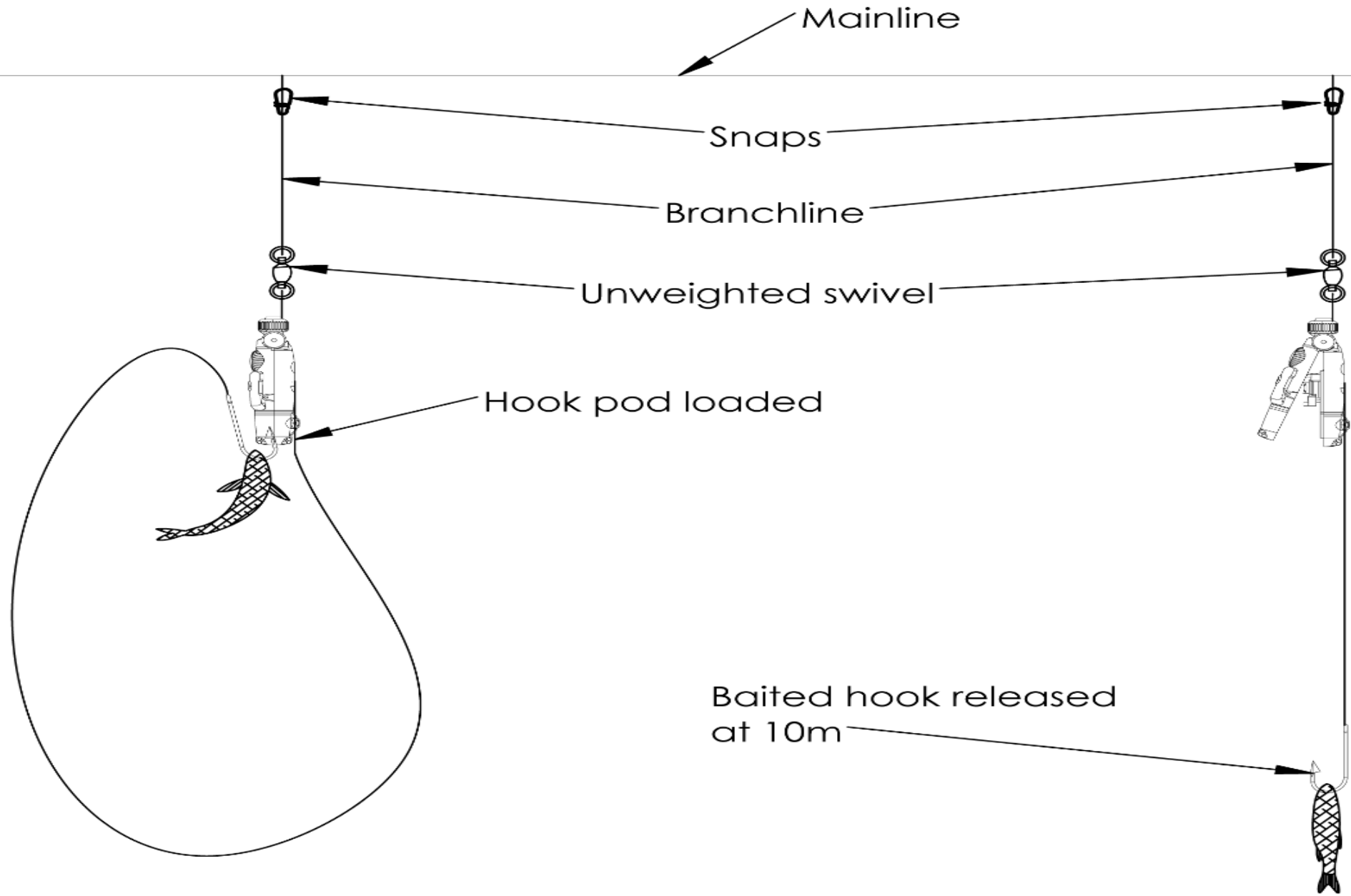
One stop mitigations for pelagic longliners!

Any solution must be:

- Re-usable
- Operationally simple
- Cost-effective
- Have no impact on target catch





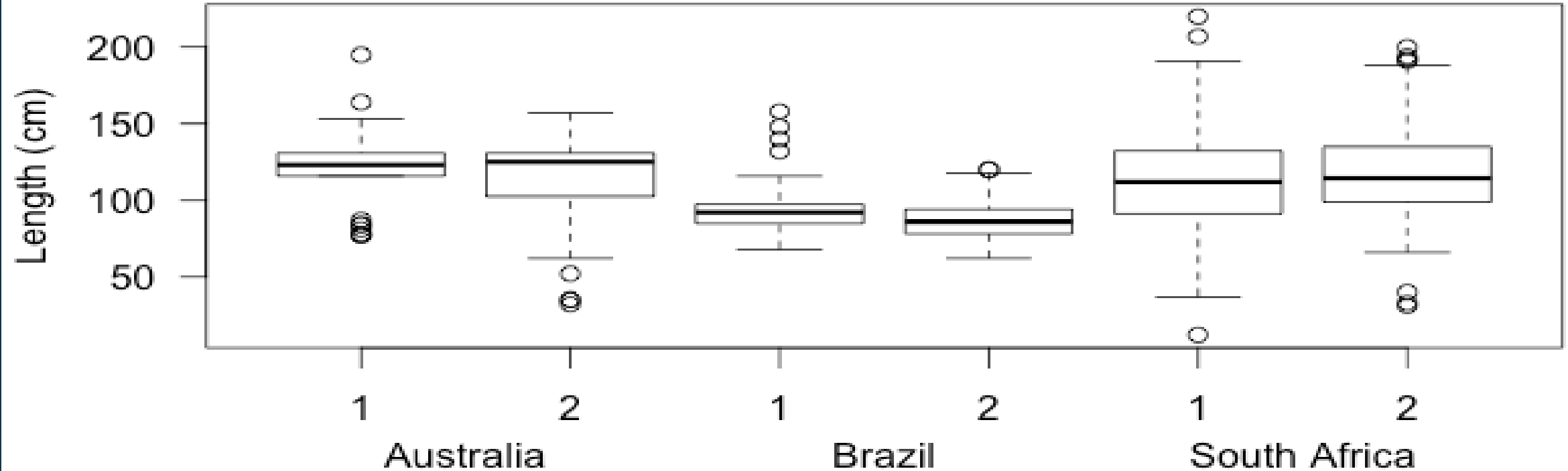


2011-2015 at-sea trials

- Australia (AFMA) and Brazil, South Africa (BirdLife Albatross Task Force)
- 19 at-sea trips, 127 sets in 3 distinct locations/fisheries
- 62,000 experimental branchlines
- 24 seabird caught on control @ 0.77 birds/1000 hooks
- One seabird on Hook Pods @ 0.034 birds/1000 hooks
- Generalised linear model identified no significant difference in catch rates between treatments (control and Hook Pod)

(Sullivan *et al.* Fisheries Research)

Tuna



Length distribution of Tuna individuals caught for each treatment type (Treatment 1= Hook Pods, Treatment 2 = control) within each of the three regions (Australia, Brazil and South Africa).

New Zealand Trials

August 2014 – preliminary trial
(*FV Commission*)

Well received ..but smaller pod
considered easier to use....plus
more robust and durable!

Fihstek/Hook Pod Ltd
collaborated with DoC and Min
Fish to fund re-tooling,
development and trialling of
'mini' pod (minus LED)



Relative proportions: LED version compared to 'mini' pod



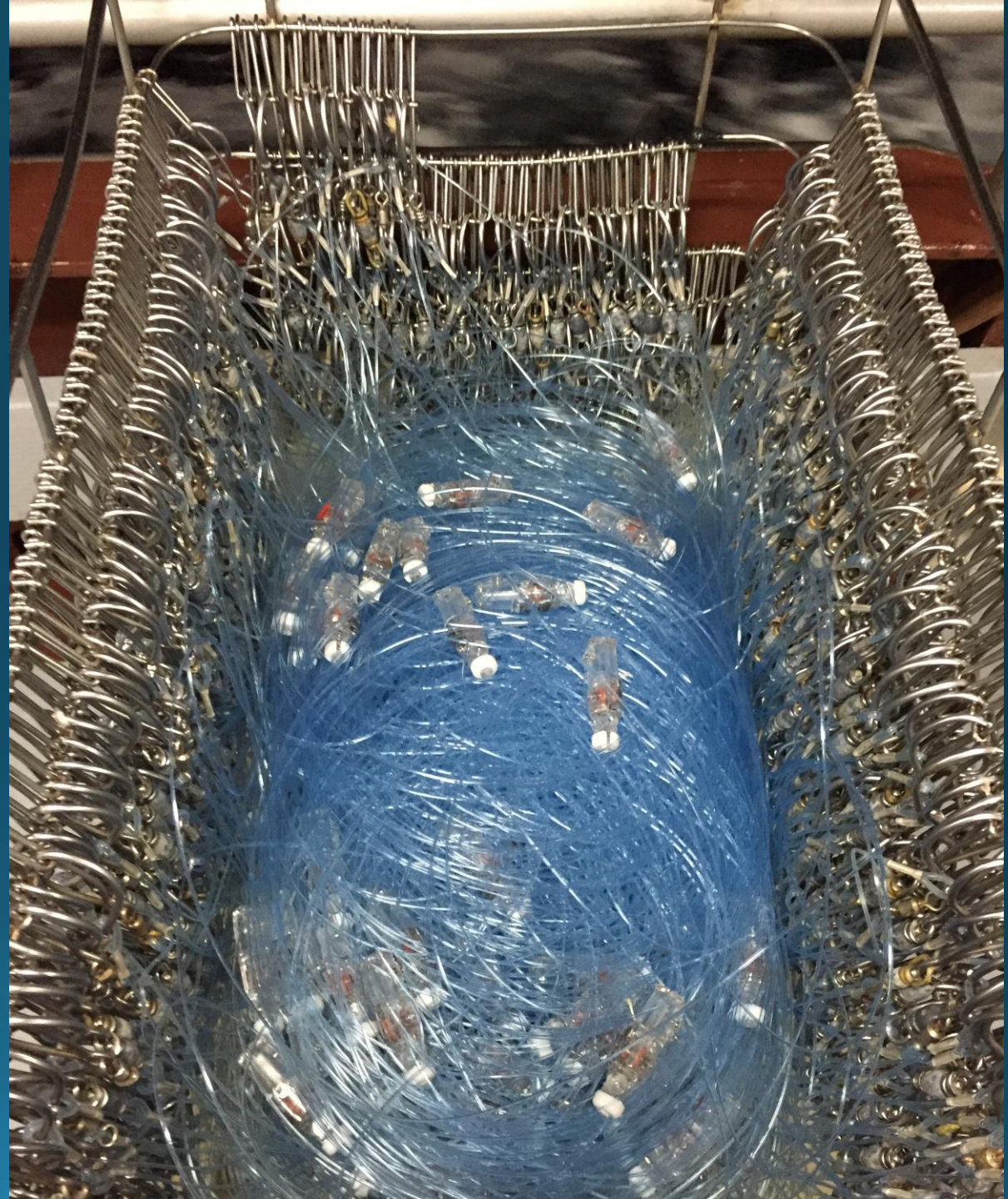
30% smaller
25% lighter (45g)

New Zealand Trials

March – April 2016 (FV
Commission)

- 8 sets - 3320 pod branchlines
- No significant difference in catch rates
- Operationally successful
- Less than 0.7 failure / loss rate

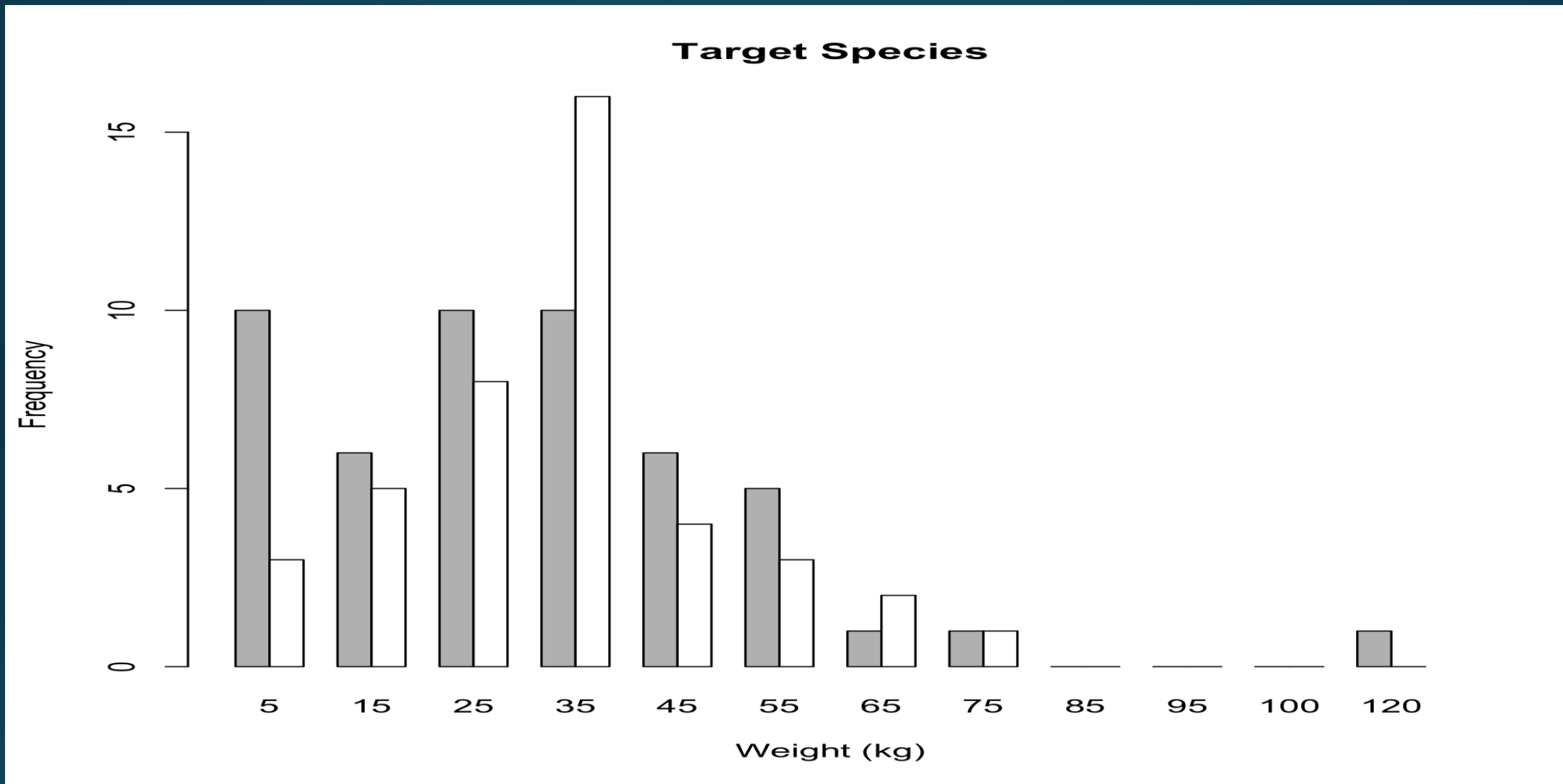
Positive feedback from skipper
and crew!



Catch grouped in target and non-target

- Target Tuna (BET, YFT)
- Target species (BET, YFN, SWO)
- Swordfish (SWO)
- All Tuna (BET, YFN, ALB, SKJ)
- Sharks (blue, mako, porbeagle, thresher)
- Other ('junk' fish)

Generalise linear model identified so significant difference in catch rates between pod and control branchlines



Weights of caught 'target species' (to nearest 5 kg) for each treatment type (shaded grey = hook pods; shaded white =

Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels (ACAP)



- May 2016 - 9th Meeting Advisory Committee recognised Hook Pod as a 'stand alone' mitigation measure
- Opportunity to work with governments and industry for regulatory change
- Currently in discussion with Brazil about fitting out 2 vessels (under permit)



New Zealand Surface Longline Fishery – Next Steps



- 30 pods provided to proportion of fleet as 'demonstration' trial
- 14 vessels identified (ready to go!)
- KEY QUESTIONS
- Permits required?
- Coordination
- Required data/feedback
- Follow up actions?