

10 Commandments for Cook Strait Hoki Fishery

1. Do not target hoki in the Cook Strait Hoki Management Area or ever fish/deploy gear in the Cook Strait Submarine Cable Protection NO GO Zone.
2. A window is a legal vessel and gear safety tool but not a best practice catch volume control tool. Stitched windows are considered illegal and cannot be recommended.
3. Net monitoring systems are recommended and net headline monitors and catch sensors should be deployed, giving 'real-time' catch information.
4. All vessels must have a MPI transshipment permit so that transshipping can be legally undertaken, both vessels involved need a permit and must complete the required details in the CLR
5. Avoid shooting the gear in the midst of large numbers of fur seals
6. Minimise the time that gear is on or near the surface (shoot and haul the trawl as quickly as practicable) and avoid mending the trawl with gear in the water unless the head and ground-rope are on deck
7. Avoid discharging offal or fish waste when towing. Always remove fish stickers from the net prior to shooting.
8. All coastal vessels are advised to have a Seabird Risk Plan and deploy a seabird warp mitigation device when there's a risk of warp strikes
9. Mark any dead fur seals with a cable tie or twine tied around the jaw before returning it to the sea, and report all captures of protected species as legally required by MPI on the Non-fish/Protected Species Catch Return at the completion of the voyage.
10. Report (same day) to DWG fur seal capture events (dead or released alive) that meet the trigger point = 2 +fur seals and 3+ large or 5+ small dead sea birds per day. Phone or text John Cleal 021 305 825