Vessel Management Plan – VMP

Vessel Specific Procedures for Mitigating Incidental Capture of Seabirds – Trawlers < 28 m LOA

Vessel Name	Type	MPI Registered No	Call Sign
	Stern Trawler – Fillet / H&G / Fresh		
Company	**Contact Person**	**Phone**	**E-mail**

Section 1. Responsibilities: Designated Vessel Manager and Captain

- Adherence to this VMP and the Seabird Risk Mitigation Operational Procedure (in the Deepwater Group (DWG) OPs Manual)
- Monitor seabird interactions and manage and fish waste control and mitigation systems in real-time
- Ensure participation in DWG crew training program
- Reassess actions after trigger point event; undertake yearly VMP review
- Ensure that while care is taken to mitigate risk to seabirds, the over-riding principle is the safety of vessel and crew

Section 2. Fish Waste Control System – Equipment & Procedures

No continuous discharge of fish-waste while towing | No discharge of fish-waste when shooting & hauling

Fish waste discharge will be controlled by: *[Vessel mgt /DWG complete vessel specific offal control information inc contingency]*

1. Fishmeal plant and/or a dedicated holding tank with the capacity to process or hold all fish-waste
2. Discarding only (if required) in-between tows or
3. Batching system: holding fish-waste (in tank etc) for minimum 30 minutes and discharge 'in batches' of less than 5 min, or
4. Mincing/pumping system; intermittent/continuous discharge of water & fish-waste

Minimise spillage of fish waste to the factory deck. Scupper or sumps pumps used to clear water from the deck have a grating or trap system to reduce fish waste discharge. Sump grates must not prevent water discharge.

Section 3. Mitigation – Equipment & Procedures

Warp Capture In the event of warp capture(s) deploy secondary mitigation immediately.

[Vessel management/DWG complete vessel specific warp mitigation device information]

Main device: baffler (2 or 4 boom) [Installed and managed in compliance with MPI regulations
Second device: tori lines (all vessel to carry a tori line) [Installed and managed in compliance with MPI regulations

Net Captures

No fish waste discharge when shooting and hauling. | Remove all stickers from the net before shooting.

Shoot and haul as quickly as practical and minimise time gear is on the surface for turns, repairs and breakdowns.

If 'doors-up' turn undertaken, ensure wing ends are closed (doors close together).

Section 4. Contingency Equipment & Procedures

Carry spare parts in the event of equipment failure or loss. All repairs made promptly.

If the offal control system equipment fails and non-repairable, and continuous discharge is required, then deploy secondary mitigation device (tori line) and notify vessel manager.

Section 5. Reporting

Report all captures as legally required on the Non-fish/Protected Species Catch Return, furnish to MPI

Report all DWG trigger points within 24hrs to admin@deepwatergroup.org and john.fvms@xtra.co.nz

Report DWG Trigger – Species	Captures in any 24 hour period	Captures in any 7 day period
Seabirds (dead)	3 x large birds (albatross) 5 x small birds	10 x of any seabird species (dead or alive)
Mammals (dead or alive)	1 x dolphin / 1 x sea lion / 2 x fur seal	5 x fur seals (dead or alive)
Basking shark (dead or alive)	1 x basking shark	n/a

For further information refer to the DWG VMP Operational Procedures | VMP Template Version 5.0 - 2014//15 last updated - Feb 2015