

10 Commandments for Ling Longliners - To Save Seabirds

1. Ensure your vessel has the DWG (BLL) Seabird Interim Code of Practice (COP) and a copy of the current bottom longline seabird regulations
2. Manage the discharge ('Batch/hold' i.e. no continuous discharge) of offal, fish waste, and used bait. You cannot discharge offal, fish while setting.
3. During hauling only discharge offal, fish and used 'waste-baits' from the opposite side of the vessel from the hauling station
4. Set only at night (i.e. only set between nautical dusk and dawn) if not weighting line in accordance with line weighting legal standards
5. Know the line weighting legal standards; use integrated lead weighted line (IWL) or add minimum 4kg metal/lead weight every 60m
6. Ensure the tori line meets legal standard, deployed when fishing (day & night) and is adjustable over the fishing/setting line, carry ample spare parts onboard
7. Tori line is a minimum of 150m long, well-constructed & when deployed has minimum of 50m aerial extent, that area is fitted with 'decent set of brightly colourer streamers' spaced at 5m intervals
8. Auto line vessels ensure the baiting machine is well maintained and achieving a high baiting percentage; the use of totally frozen bait is to be avoided. (*ensure 'unhooked- bait' is retained and not lost overboard*)
9. Record all seabird captures as legally required in the MPI - Non fish Protected Species Catch Return (NFPSCR) logbook and furnish to MPI
10. Advise DWG within 24hrs when seabird captures reach 'Trigger-Point' levels - DWG Trigger Point Report To: admin@deepwatergroup.org
 - a. 5 small (e.g. petrel/shearwater) or 3 big (albatross/mollymawk) birds - dead in 24hr period
 - b. 10 birds, dead or released alive in a 7 day period

For more advice phone John Cleal 021305825 or Richard Wells 021457123