

3 October 2016

Dear DWG Shareholders and Operators

DWG Operational Procedures (OPs) for the 2016-17 Fishing Year

It is important that you note the following regarding the OPs for this year. These are an important part of our businesses and give confidence to the Minister and others that we are doing our jobs well. We expect that you advise all those involved within your company of any changes and we thank you for your continued cooperation and compliance.

MPI's Squid OP

This expires this year, as its term was 2012-2016. The New Zealand Sea Lion Threat Management Plan is being finalised and DWG expects MPI to develop a new SQU6T Management Plan based on this. Our expectation is that the T&Cs will be similar to those for the last five years. DWG will review its SQU6T Code of Conduct alongside this process and keep quota owners and operators engaged. This process will be completed before December 2016. Meantime, operators should ensure SLEDs are certified as usual.

Seabird VMPs

As you all know, this document is subject to continuous monitoring and review if your vessel alters its processing or operations significantly. We ask that you please advise us of any significant changes.

Marine Mammal OP

There is one change to this OP relating to common dolphin risk management in JMA7. **The restriction on *hauling the net between 0230 and 0430 hours has been removed. Shooting the gear in this time period is still not allowed.*** The process to update this is as follows:

- Page 8 of Marine Mammal OP has been updated and will be circulated as a single page replacement
- The 10 Commandments and Jack Mackerel Trawl Fishery and Risk to Common Dolphins Briefing Paper will be updated to reflect the change noted above
- John Cleal will distribute these three documents to all JMA7 operators by email and will carry hardcopies to pre-season vessel checks as well
- All vessels expecting to operate in JMA7 should update these three documents in their 'on vessel' hardcopy files. We deem it unnecessary for all other vessels to update their OPs for this singular and fishery-specific change.

Orange Roughy OP, Hoki OP, Shark OP, Reporting OP and the Other 10 Commandments

These all remain unchanged from last year.

Access to the Latest OPs for Shore-based Managers

Digital copies of all OPs are available on DWG website via this link:

www.deepwatergroup.org/deepwater-group-operational-procedures-2016-17/

OPs Under Review

During 2016-17 we will be reviewing how we present the OPs with the view to enhancing delivery in 2017-18. We will be reviewing and developing the following and would welcome your feedback:

- Delivery of MPI SQU6T OP and DWG Code of Conduct prior to January 2017
- The relevance of hard-copies on vessels and whether a digital version (like the app below) might be practicable
- An app easily accessible from various devices (smartphone, tablet, computer) for shore-based managers
- How content is presented with a view to making this as easy to understand and read as possible
- Whether content can be segregated by user – e.g. vessel version vs. shore-based version
- The SBW fishery risk management following the 2016 season and in light of fur seal and sea lion interactions – document and delivery expected before August 2017

Questions

Please refer any questions to Richard Wells (richard@resourcewise.co.nz) or John Cleal (john.fvms@xtra.co.nz)

Regards,

Richard Wells
Fisheries Specialist
Deepwater Group Ltd