

Valer Deepwater Trawl Vessel Management Plan (VMP) Vessel Specific Procedures for Mitigating Seabird and Mammal Captures for Trawlers

Vessel Name	Туре	FNZ Reg. No.	Call Sign
	Freezer/Fresher Trawler		
Company	Contact Person	Phone	Email

Section 1. Responsibilities: Designated Vessel Manager and Captain

- Ensure that, while all care is taken to mitigate risks to seabirds/mammals, crew and vessel safety is paramount
- Adherence to this VMP & DWG seabird & mammal Operational Procedures in DWG OP Manual.
- Monitor seabird and marine mammal risk, manage fish waste control and mitigation systems in real-time
- Ensure participation in the DWG crew training programme
- Reassess actions after trigger point events and undertake annual VMP reviews

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:

- Holding, batching, mincing/Hashing system & discharge in batches and/or when volumes dictate; mincing discharge on demand
- Batching / mincing system: details of gear and procedures

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Minimise spillage of fish waste to the deck. Scupper or sump 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 (tori line/warp deflector) immediately until risk subsides. Splices to be wrapped/covered and sprags whipped. Never have a splice near the surface when towing.

- Main Device: Baffler 2 or 4 boom and/or Super Baffler [Installed & managed in compliance with FNZ regulations]
- Secondary Device: Warp deflector or tori lines [Installed & managed in compliance with FNZ regs.]
- Other

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). Also option of net-binding the trawl (when shooting) if capture evidence points to birds taken regularly when shooting)

Section 4. Contingency Equipment & Procedures (fish waste control)

Carry spare parts in the event of equipment failure or loss. All repairs made promptly. If the fish waste system equipment fails and is unrepairable, (continuous discharge is required) a secondary mitigation device (tori line) must be deployed and the vessel manager & DWG notified.

- If the fish waste system fails, fish bins/tank/Chutes will hold fish waste to limit continuous discharge during the tow and still enable no discharge for the shooting and hauling period
- Other,

Section 5. Reporting

Report all captures as legally required via ERS (see reporting section in DWG OP)

Report all DWG trigger points (below) within 24 hours to admin@deepwatergroup.org.

DWG Trigger Points	Captures in any 24-hour period	Captures in any 7-day period	
Seabirds (dead)	3x large (albatross/mollymawks) or 5x any birds	10x any seabird species (dead/alive)	
Mammals (dead/alive)	1x sea lion or 2x fur seal or 1x dolphin	5x fur seals (dead/alive)	
Shark (dead/alive)	1x basking shark	n/a	