



# TEN COMMANDMENTS

## FOR LING LONGLINERS TO SAVE SEABIRDS

- 1.** Ensure your vessel has the current Ling Bottom Longline Operational Procedures (OPs) and a vessel-specific Protected Species Risk Management Plan onboard.
- 2.** Rules are complex - ensure you and your crew are aware of all regulations for Seabird Mitigation as per the Fisheries New Zealand Factsheets in your OP.
- 3.** Ensure your tori line meets specifications, is always deployed as required by law, is adjustable over the mainline of your gear and carry ample spare parts.
- 4.** As legally required, when setting bottom longlines, weight your lines to achieve a sink rate of 5 m depth within the aerial extent of the streamer line. Carry out regular sink rate tests as required (in your OP) and maintain a record of results onboard.
- 5.** Be aware that daylight and 3 days on either side of the full moon period are high risk and tori lines must extend 50 m during these times.
- 6.** A bottom longliner must not fish in FMA 6 between 1 November and 31 May inclusive unless using an integrated weighted line (IWL) @ 50 g/m.
- 7.** Manage the discharge (i.e., no continuous discharge) of offal, fish waste and bait. You cannot discharge any offal or fish waste while setting (unless fish is legally undersized or Schedule 6) When hauling you can only return live fish and dead fish (over 30cm) on the same side as you haul if a mitigation device is in use.
- 8.** Autoline vessels must ensure the baiting machine is well-maintained and achieves a high (i.e., >95%) baiting percentage. The use of totally frozen bait is to be avoided.
- 9.** Advise DWG (same day) when seabird captures reach Trigger Point. Email DWG Trigger Point Report to [admin@deepwatergroup.org](mailto:admin@deepwatergroup.org). Assess the event and when necessary, implement further risk reduction measures.  
Trigger Points are:
  - Within any 24-hour period, 5 dead or alive small birds (e.g., petrel/shearwater) or 3 dead or alive big birds (albatross/mollymawk); or
  - Within any 7-day period, 10 birds dead or released alive (all species).
- 10.** As legally required, report all seabird captures via your vessel's Electronic Reporting System (ERS). Record and report bird band numbers.