
Equipment Required

SLED Checks

- Full use of SLEDs is required at Campbell Island for sea lion risk mitigation as per the Fisheries New Zealand SBW 6I Operational Plan 2022
- If your SLEDs were used in the SQU 6T fishery, please have them re-checked at Motueka Nets Ltd or Hampidjan NZ Ltd (copies of SLED-Check certificates will be sent by them to DWG)
- If you had a SLED checked for SQU 6T but never deployed it this squid season, please advise us and re-supply the original SLED-Check certificate
- Ensure you sail with a **minimum of two** (2) certified SLEDs on board, three (3) is recommended.

Digital Cameras

- To prevent delay in any management responses, correct identification of marine mammal captures is critical
- Ensure each vessel has a digital camera on board to photograph any animal caught
- Send two (2) photos of any marine mammals caught to DWG immediately to admin@deepwatergroup.org - further instructions below

DWG Operating Procedures and MMOP

- Ensure DWG MMOP is on board and understood by captain and key crew.

Actions Required

Sea Lion Risk Reduction and Monitoring Measures

- Deploy certified SLED for all Campbell Island tows and carry **at least** one spare on board
 - Advise DWG, immediately when a SLED is damaged and replaced with your spare SLED
- Take two (2) clear photos of every dead animal (NZ fur seal and NZ sea lion) and email photo to DWG admin@deepwatergroup.org. Do not include crew or vessel ID in photos.
 - Whole animal and a clear close up of its head (**side profile so we can see whiskers & ears**)
 - Mark animal with twine/cable tie etc as per DWG MMOP
- Reduce the time gear is on the surface to an **absolute minimum** and do not shoot the gear when large numbers of animals are surrounding the vessel.
- Manage offal discharge as it may help reduce the number of marine mammals (and certainly seabirds) that are attracted to the vessel (livers and roe lost overboard from the processing deck are particularly attractive and have been observed to attract sea lions). It is paramount that all vessels continue to closely follow the offal management procedures detailed in their VMPs.
- Soaking the catch will increase risk as sea lions can dive to 500 m. Any practice or incident which results in increased time the gear is in the water or on the surface, will increase risk.
- Not undertaking full 180° turns back through the fish mark will reduce risk. Note that any turn undertaken with the gear above fishing depth will increase risk. Doors up turns (which may reduce risk on squid and jack mackerel fisheries when turning required), may increase risk in this fishery.

Trigger reports

- Immediate reporting of all NZ sea lion captures (see note re fur seals above) to DWG is critical (trigger report – each and every sea lion reported ASAP) including photos.
- Triggers, photos and any queries to admin@deepwatergroup.org