



Meeting: Conservation Services Programme Technical Working Group
Date: 21 July 2025
Time: 9:30 am – 10.20 am
Place: Microsoft Teams Meeting
Chair: Kris Ramm (Marine Bycatch and Threats Manager)

Attendees: Kris Ramm, Tiffany Plencner, Hollie McGovern, Igor Debski, Jody Weir (DOC), Chelsea McGaw (Forest & Bird), William Gibson, Campbell Murray, Charity Puloka (FNZ), Emma Jones, Matt Pinkerton, Laura Jordan-Smith (Earth Sciences NZ), Dave Goad (Vita Maris), Karen Baird (SPREP), Janice Molloy (Southern Seabirds), Peter Langlands (Wild Capture Research)

Apologies: Jack Fenaughty

Presentations:

9:35 am MIT2023-02 Understanding and mitigating seabird and turtle bycatch during the pelagic longline soak period/ MIT2024-02 Enhancing seabird bycatch mitigation across the set and soak periods in surface longline fisheries Vita Maris

1. MIT2023-02 Understanding and mitigating seabird and turtle bycatch during the pelagic longline soak period/ MIT2024-02 Enhancing seabird bycatch mitigation across the set and soak periods in surface longline fisheries

Dave Goad (Vita Maris) presented a combined draft report for these projects.

Discussion:

BW Is there any intention to do a statistical analysis? It would be good to do a statistical analysis of the data with different statistical packages to see any differences. Not sure if intention to do that?

KR This is supposed to be a step along the way, we are in a state of constant learning. We will definitely be looking at where we can take these findings.

DG In a way, what matters most is what matters to fishers. Generally pretty considered about maximising their catch, so statistical analysis likely won't

persuade fishers. Agree that it would be good to have a fresh set of statistical eyes over this.

KR Fundamentally it's about behaviour change. Whatever convinces fishers will be the best.

BW It would be good to see some more statistical analyses, whether that means that a separate CSP project is required to do that. Helpful to show what the priority will be for future data collection, as well as what options are worth pursuing.

JM Following up on point around fish catch and the suggestion to use camera footage to look at fish catch by hook position, that's a brilliant idea. The swordfish fishery is one where fishers like to get their gear in the water for mid-afternoon to soak overnight, is that what the vessel was practicing? Could vertical migration be something to look at?

DG Some have Hookpods and some don't, some vessels are waiting until dark to shoot. For this vessel, Hookpods were an attractive option for that reason, they got a longer soak than they would otherwise. Don't think they will haul much earlier than the other vessels.

Any additional comments should be provided to csp@doc.govt.nz by 5pm, 4th August 2025. Close of Meeting @ 10:20 am