



Digital Monitoring update – July 2019

Important information you need to know about on-board cameras and electronic reporting

Kia ora

As you'll have heard, we're introducing on-board cameras for key vessels that fish in Māui dolphin habitat off the west coast of the North Island from 1 November 2019. You can find out more about that programme on our website at www.fisheries.govt.nz/cameras.

The November 2019 date has been gazetted, along with a holding date of 1 July 2020 for all other vessels.

At this stage, no decisions have been made about any wider roll-out of on-board cameras. We'll let you know if that changes.

Get ready early for electronic reporting

Nearly 200 commercial vessels are now reporting their catch and position electronically. It's great to see so many of you making the effort to be ready in time for your 'must report' dates.

It's really important you do start planning early, because some fishers are experiencing delays of up to five weeks to have hardware installed.

Leaving your decision too late, and not having the equipment you need in time, is not a ground that we can issue either an exemption or a direction on to allow you to continue fishing.

We're now into Stage 4, which has a 'must report' date of 1 August. If you are facing any technical difficulty meeting this date please contact the digital monitoring team digitalmonitoring@mpi.govt.nz.

Find out what stage you're in and information about how to make the switch to electronic reporting on our website at www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting or through your FishServe account.

Hector's and Māui dolphin consultation

Don't forget to have your say and attend a public meeting, on the plan to protect Hector's and Māui dolphins, which is out for consultation until 4 August 2019.

The Department of Conservation and Fisheries New Zealand have developed a range of proposals, using the best available science and covering the range of threats these dolphins face. We think the proposals give us the best opportunity to save these dolphins, but we recognise they have a potential impact on many of you.

We want the consultation to give us a better idea of the likely impacts on individuals and communities, and understand local perspectives and opinions.

Go to the website at www.fisheries.govt.nz/dolphintmp to find more information, public meeting dates, the consultation document, and maps showing the possible impacts of the proposed options, including for commercial and recreational fishing.

If you have any questions or need further information regarding this process, please contact dolphintmp@mpi.govt.nz.

Support for fishers

Fisheries New Zealand understands that there are many challenges facing fishers, your whānau and the communities you live and work in. You'll find information at www.fisheries.govt.nz/support on the national and regional services that can give help and advice on health, wellbeing, and making business decisions.

Ngā mihi,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. McEvoy'.

Kevin McEvoy
Director Digital Monitoring
Fisheries New Zealand