



## What do cameras record?

The on-board cameras are positioned to see fishing and catch transportation activity. They are not intended to see all areas of the deck, or areas of a vessel unrelated to fishing, such as the bridge, crew quarters, messes, heads, or the engine room.

The vessel master must ensure the camera system is turned on when either trawling or set-netting in the designated area. The cameras begin recording when sensors attached to fishing gear detect activity. They continue recording for 30 minutes after the sensors stop detecting activity.

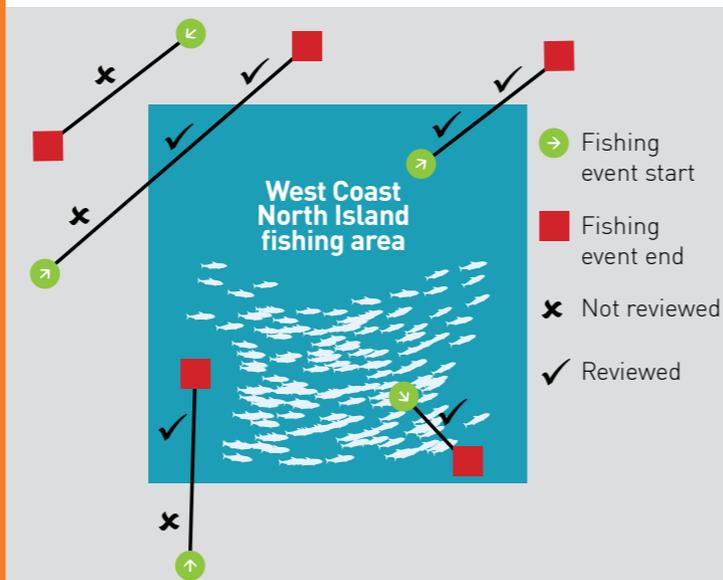
A monitor screen on each vessel shows what's in view of the cameras. The screen displays a red banner when the cameras are recording.

Associated information such as sensor data, vessel ID, vessel location, and system status are also captured by the camera system.

## What footage is reviewed?

A limited number of staff in the Ministry for Primary Industries are authorised to review camera footage. They review most footage at high speed and may review certain events at slower speeds, such as interactions with protected species or when monitoring catch.

Other matters of interest may also be identified, such as fisheries compliance or workplace safety issues. Where appropriate, these will be referred to relevant agencies for follow-up (see *What information does the government share?*).



# Protecting information collected through electronic monitoring

## West Coast North Island

Electronic monitoring through the use of on-board cameras helps verify reports from commercial fishers about what they catch, including any interactions with protected species.

From 1 November 2019, on-board cameras are operating on a number of commercial vessels fishing the inshore area between Whanganui and Tauroa Point (near Kaitiāia). This stretch of water along the west coast of the North Island has been identified as Māui dolphin habitat.

The aim is to:

- gather accurate information about any interactions with protected species, including Māui dolphins;
- encourage compliance and ensure fishing practices are sustainable and verified;
- allow time to refine government systems and processes before any wider camera programme is considered.



**Fisheries New Zealand**

Tini a Tangaroa

Some footage might include fishing events that take place partially outside the designated area:

- Where a fishing event begins inside and finishes outside the designated area, footage of the entire event will be reviewed.
- Where a fishing event begins outside and finishes inside the designated area, only footage from within the area will be reviewed.
- Where a fishing event begins and ends outside, but passes through, the designated area, footage beginning within the area through to the end of the event will be reviewed.

It is possible that some unwanted footage may be captured. For example, if the camera system is turned on and the sensors detect activity with fishing gear that is not related to fishing. This footage will be checked for relevant fishing activity, and if none is identified then the footage will be stored but not reviewed.

## How does the government keep information secure?

We take information security seriously. Security assurance and technical testing are carried out on the system. This includes activities such as vulnerability assessments, penetration testing and code reviews to ensure the system is able to protect personal and commercially sensitive information collected through on-board cameras.

- The Ministry for Primary Industries safeguards sensitive information from across a range of industries, including commercial data from the agriculture and food industries, and border security information.
- We've worked with the Privacy Commissioner and the Government Chief Privacy Officer to identify controls to protect personally identifiable information.
- We follow the Protective Security Requirements which outline the government's expectations for managing personnel, physical and information security. Go to: [www.protectivesecurity.govt.nz](http://www.protectivesecurity.govt.nz).
- To help meet our Official Information Act and Privacy Act obligations, we have guidelines for the release of fisheries information. Go to: [www.fisheries.govt.nz/open-data-and-forecasting/fisheries](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/open-data-and-forecasting/fisheries)
- We review our security and privacy policies and procedures regularly to ensure they are fit for purpose.
- A privacy impact assessment has been done, to identify privacy risks and recommend how to manage them. This has informed our development of the on-board camera system. Go to: [www.fisheries.govt.nz/camerasWCNI](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/camerasWCNI)

## What information does the government share?

Sometimes we need to share information to fulfil obligations of government accountability and transparency, and to uphold the law. Any information sharing is done in line with the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the Privacy Act 1993, and the Fisheries Act 1996.

All requests for information are considered case by case. Information would normally be withheld under the OIA or the Privacy Act where it's necessary to:

- protect the privacy of a person or people;
- prevent the release of a trade secret or avoid prejudicing the commercial position of a person or company;
- ensure the information continues to be provided in the future.

Any information will only be shared with other government agencies for limited and specific purposes. For example, regarding: law enforcement, conservation, health and safety, maritime safety, compliance, and employment conditions.

When sharing information, we will in most cases not release the full camera footage. Providing a written summary or still images will be preferred. Where we need to share footage or still images, these will be edited to protect personal and commercial identities by obscuring identifying features as appropriate. Access to view footage or images can also be limited to government premises, rather than through providing copies of files.

Under the Privacy Act, anybody can ask us to access whatever information we hold about them. A person can also ask us to correct any information about them if they consider it is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete, or out-of-date.

## Want to know more?

If you have any concerns, or would like more information about how we handle personal and sensitive information, email our chief privacy officer at [CPO@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:CPO@mpi.govt.nz) or visit [www.mpi.govt.nz/privacy](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/privacy).

To request any information we hold about you, or to request a correction, please email [privacyrequests@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:privacyrequests@mpi.govt.nz)

To learn more about on-board cameras, visit [www.fisheries.govt.nz/camerasWCNI](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/camerasWCNI) or email [onboardcameras@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:onboardcameras@mpi.govt.nz)

To contact us by phone, call: **0800 00 83 33** (within New Zealand) or **+64-4-830 1574** (outside New Zealand).

# Key steps in protecting information captured through electronic monitoring

