



Digital Monitoring update – September 2019

Important information about electronic reporting and on-board cameras

Kia ora

We are half way through the ER/GPR rollout, with nearly 500 vessels now reporting catch and position electronically.

Already we're receiving more detailed catch information, particularly around some of the minor species. We're also hearing positive reports from fishers that the new system is reducing their monthly paperwork.

If you're yet to transition to ER/GPR, make sure you start planning early.

Get ready early for electronic reporting

We're now into Stage 6, which has a 'must report' date of 1 October. If you're 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 changing over to electronic reporting on our website at www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting or through your FishServe account.

Choosing an e-logbook to suit the conditions

When choosing your e-logbook, think about the conditions you want it to operate in.

We've heard from some fishers that waterproof cases or poorly fitted screen protectors can reduce the touch sensitivity of screens when wet (particularly with salt water).

Tips we've heard about using e-logbooks in the wet include:

- Choose a device designed for wet conditions – ie doesn't need a waterproof case;
- Keep your device in a plastic box, along with a towel to clean and dry your hands.

Dealing with reporting issues

Missed a step in your catch reporting process?

Some e-logbook software may not let you enter a report if you miss a step – for instance if you hit Trip End, then realise you haven't put in a catch or discard report.

You can submit this one-off missed report directly through the FishServe website. This feature is only available if your e-logbook can't accept the missed report.

Technical difficulties or accident?

Are you unable to report your position or catch on time due to technical difficulties or an accident? Staff at MPI's National Coordination Centre (NCC) can tell you what to do.

If you're having troubles, contact the NCC as soon as possible on 0800 008333, select Option 3, then Option 2; or e-mail them: ncc@mpi.govt.nz.

Stage One on-board cameras

On-board cameras are being installed on some vessels that fish the area off the west coast of the North Island where there is a higher risk of interacting with Māui dolphins.

Installation is complete on two vessels, and the remaining vessels are scheduled over the next few weeks. Cameras must record while these vessels are fishing in the specified West Coast North Island areas, and this footage will be reviewed by MPI staff.

The government has not yet made any decision about a wider roll-out of on-board cameras and we'll keep you updated as necessary.

Consultation on circulars

We'll shortly be seeking comments on two draft documents:

- 1) Updates to the Fisheries (E-logbook Users Instructions and Codes) Circular (No.2) 2018. The proposed updates address operational issues identified for particular fishing methods in the course of rolling out electronic reporting. We are working closely with fisher groups most affected by these proposed changes. A more comprehensive review is planned for 2020, which would incorporate any enhancements identified during the roll-out; and
- 2) A new circular, the Fisheries (Electronic Monitoring on Vessels) Circular 2019, which will apply to a number of trawl and set net vessels fishing in the West Coast North Island fishery area. From 1 November of this year these vessels will be required to operate on-board cameras, and provide MPI with footage of all fishing events that are carried out in that area. We are working closely with fisher groups most affected by these proposed changes

These documents will be available at the following link: www.fisheries.govt.nz/digital-monitoring-resources/#circulars

Ngā mihi,

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