

TEN GOLDEN RULES FOR SMALL SURFACE LONGLINERS TO SAVE PROTECTED SPECIES

1. Ensure your vessel has onboard:
 - The vessel's Protected Species Risk Management Plan (PSRMP)
 - The Surface Longline Operational Procedures, and
 - A copy of the current surface longline seabird regulations.
2. For all setting events you must use a tori line and either set at night or use line weighing, unless you are using a hook-shielding device as a standalone measure (rule 7).
3. When using a tori line it must meet the legal standard and always be deployed when fishing. The tori line must achieve minimum aerial extent of 75m from the stern. Tori line must be attached at least 6m above vessel's waterline as close to the stern as practicably possible.
4. Streamers must be durable and brightly coloured. Short streamers must be min of 1m long, fitted every 1m. Long streamers must be fitted a max of 5m spacing and must reach the water surface. The first 15m of tori line may be modified to reduce tangling. Carry a spare tori line and ample spare parts.
5. Know the line weighting legal standards – use weight of 60 g within 3.5m of hook, 40 g within 50 cm of hook. (Consult circular for other line weighting standards).
6. If not line weighting you must set only at night (i.e. only set between a half hour after nautical dusk and a half hour before dawn) as legally required (unless using a hook-shielding device (rule 7)).
7. Hook-shielding devices (aka Hookpods) can be used as a standalone device. They must be on 100% of the gear and attached so that they can be retrieved. Hook-shielding devices must be deployed in accordance with line weighting regulations (rule 5).
8. No offal/fish waste discharge when setting and 'hold & or batch-discharge' when hauling (no continuous discharge). Use thawed bait for setting hooks.
9. Report all protected species captures by ERS or in the Nonfish Protected Species Catch Return (NFPSCR) logbook and send to FishServe. Record bird band numbers and report. **It is illegal not to report.**
10. Report protected species trigger level captures to Liaison Officer. A trigger level is a capture level that actions a skipper in real time to try and increase mitigation to reduce ongoing risk of further captures. Please consult your Protected Species Vessel Risk Management Plan for relevant trigger levels.

For support phone your local Liaison Officer.