

Fisheries Inshore New Zealand, and wider industry stakeholder groups, are providing leadership through several key programmes to bring about positive behavioural change.

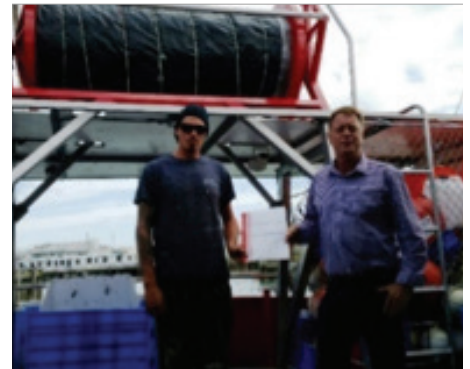
SEABIRD LIAISON PROGRAMMES

Industry is currently engaged in two programmes to reduce risks to seabirds. The first is through a Department of Conservation Seabird Liaison Programme for NZ's Surface Longline (SLL) Fleet. The second is an initiative by Fisheries Inshore NZ and Southern Inshore Fisheries Management Company NZ to implement Seabird Risk Plans on coastal trawlers in the South Island. Both projects use experienced industry representatives to deliver programmes that ensure:

- Vessels are provided with engaging and digestible documents detailing risk mitigation practices, and processes for incident reporting;
- Crew are provided with face to face engagement to ensure seabird mitigation principles and implementation of mitigation methods are understood;
- All vessel owners and quota owners know everybody is on same playing field; and
- Fishermen are set up to succeed.

TO DATE

- **All vessels** in the SLL fleet have now been visited at least once by a liaison officer;
- **All SLL vessels** have tailored Seabird Risk Plans on board;
- **Over 20km** of tori line materials have been delivered directly to vessels; and
- **95%** of South Island Coastal Trawlers have vessel-specific Seabird Risk Plans.



NEXT STEPS

- Continued engagement with the SLL fleet;
- Expansion of Seabird Risk Plans to the wider inshore fleet; and
- Extension of the Liaison Officer programme recognising the importance of industry engagement and input.

SOURCE: Richard Wells

