



Form 1: Pre-activity notice

Regulation 11(a), Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects-Permitted Activities) Regulations 2013

How to use this form:

This form should be completed by organisations planning to carry out a permitted activity (except seismic survey) as defined in the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects-Permitted Activities) Regulations 2013. It fulfils, in part, the pre-activity requirements of Schedule 1 of the Regulations.

This form must be provided to the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) at least 40 working days before commencing the activity.

Note: Items marked in italics are non-compulsory fields; however, inclusion of this information will assist the EPA in processing this form.

Please note that this completed form, once received and processed by EPA, will be posted on the EPA website.

Submitting in hard copy:

If you wish to provide this form in hard copy, please post your completed form to: Environmental Protection Authority, Private Bag 63002, Wellington, 6140.

Submitting electronically:

If you wish to provide this form electronically, please email your form to: eez.compliance@epa.govt.nz

Any form submitted electronically should be attached to an email that sets out:

- The details of the person undertaking the permitted activity (the operator);
- The name of the person supplying the completed form; and
- A statement that the person is authorised to supply the form on behalf of the operator.

Note: there is an 8 MB limit on electronic files submitted via email.

All forms prescribed by the Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects – Permitted Activities) Regulations 2013, as well as suggested templates for providing other information, may be viewed and downloaded from our website at www.epa.govt.nz or requested by contacting us:

Private Bag 63002, Wellington, 6140

Ph +64 4 916 2426

Email info@epa.govt.nz

Fax +64 4 914 0433

Operation name:

Name used by operator to reference the activity described in this form: Southern blue whiting camera moorings

Details of person undertaking permitted activity

Company name:	[REDACTED]		
Contact person:	[REDACTED]		
Phone number:	[REDACTED]		
Mobile number:		Fax number:	[REDACTED]
Physical address:	[REDACTED]	Postcode:	[REDACTED]
Postal address (if different):	[REDACTED]	Postcode:	[REDACTED]
Email address:	Activity Notification [REDACTED]		

General description of permitted activity

Type of activity: <i>(e.g. Marine scientific research, prospecting)</i>	Fisheries research
Description of methods to be used to undertake the activity:	<p>As part of an acoustic survey of spawning southern blue whiting (SBW) on the Campbell Plateau for the Ministry for Primary Industries we hope to measure the tilt angle distribution of SBW <i>in situ</i> using moored underwater video. Moorings will comprise of a string of up to three GoPro digital handy-cams mounted inside custom-built pressure housings with associated lights, batteries, and a microprocessor controller which are moored on the seabed using a railway wagon wheel (approx. 250 kg weight). Cameras and lights will be spaced at varying distances above the seabed, depending on the height of the fish aggregation, and timed to go on periodically (in this study we will aim for 2 minutes every hour). Following the experiment, an acoustic release will be activated, and the mooring cameras and components return to the surface, leaving only the weight (approx. 75 cm diameter) on the seabed.</p> <p>Similar moorings have previously be used by NIWA to study orange roughy on the Chatham Rise in 2010 and 2012, and hoki in the Hokitika Canyon in 2012. A detailed description of the moorings and methodology is given in: O'Driscoll, R.L.; de Joux, P.; Nelson, R.; Macaulay, G.J.; Dunford, A.J.; Marriott, P.M.; Stewart, C.; Miller, B.S. (2012a). Species identification in seamount fish aggregations using moored underwater video. ICES Journal of Marine Science 69: 648–659.</p>

It is our understanding that other voyage activities (fishing, acoustic survey work) are exempt from the Act. These are covered by Ministry for Primary Industries Special Permit 542.

Only one mooring will be deployed at a time. While the exact location will depend on where fish aggregations are found, the deployment location will be located within the red polygons on the map below.

This activity was previously approved (under waiver) by EPA on 6 September 2013 (file reference COM 16 02), but the activity was not carried out in 2013 due to poor weather.

Timing of permitted activity

Proposed commencement date:	Voyage dates: 27 Aug to 23 Sept 2015
Approximate duration of activity (in days):	Up to two moorings will be deployed during the voyage, with each mooring taking less than 24 hours. Only one mooring will be in the water at a time.
Timetable:	Use of moored cameras on this voyage is highly weather dependent (i.e., can only be done in good weather), and is likely to be more challenging for SBW than for orange roughy or hoki because of the mobility of the SBW aggregations. Because of fish movement, and also the risk of the mooring being caught by a commercial fishing vessel, moorings will only be attempted if a relatively stable aggregation is found away from the main fleet. Mooring deployments are likely to be short (less than 24 hours), with the <i>Tangaroa</i> remaining in the near vicinity to monitor fish response to the mooring.

Location of permitted activity

Co-ordinates of area where activity will be undertaken:

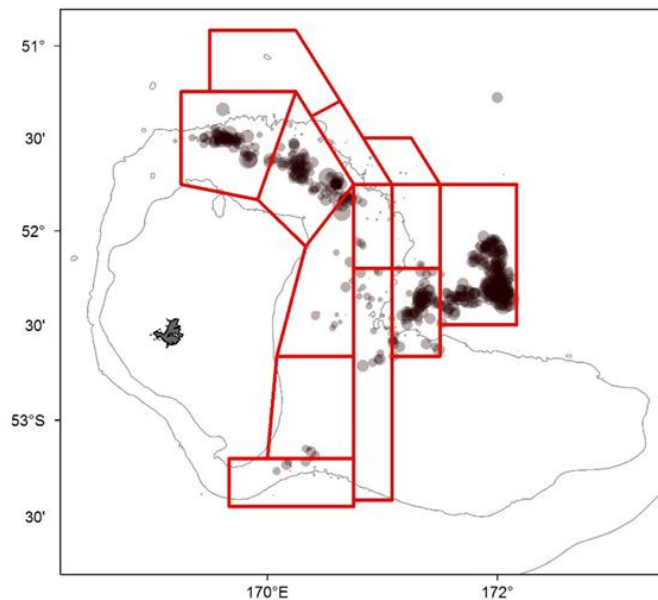
(Provide four sets of co-ordinates in latitude and longitude **or** submit a shape file or KML/KMZ file.)

Set 1	-50.92, 169.25
Set 2	-50.92, 172.16
Set 3	-53.58, 172.16
Set 4	-53.58, 169.25
<input type="checkbox"/>	I have attached a shape or KML/KMZ file

Map:

(Provide a map that shows the location of your activity relative to the New Zealand coastline)

Survey area is shown below. Most likely mooring locations are in areas of high SBW catch (denoted by largest black circles)



Description of the current state of the area and the surrounding environment, including any known sensitive environments:

Environment is relatively heavily fished, mainly using midwater trawls towed on the bottom, with more than 20,000 trawls in the region since 1993. Map above shows location of SBW catch in 2012 (largest circles show largest catch), when a total catch of 20,000 t was taken from 592 trawls. The catch increased to about 29,000 t from 693 trawls in 2013. Work with net-mounted cameras by NIWA in 2011 and 2013 showed the seabed is relatively flat and mainly consists of soft sediment.

The survey area is about 60 km east of the Campbell Islands, which is a National Nature Reserve. The islands and ocean surrounding the island groups (to a distance of 12 nautical miles) are also a World Heritage Area, but the proposed activities are outside both the Reserve and Heritage Area.

Description of the likely effects of the activity on the environment:

Negligible. The area is heavily trawled. The only long-term impact will be the mooring weights, which remain on the seabed. The combined footprint of these weights is less 2 m². Previous experience have suggested that mooring weights may provide settlement habitat for benthic invertebrates.

Other information

Name of ship involved in activity:	<i>Tangaroa</i>
International call sign or vessel number of the ship:	ZMFR
Associated licence number (under the Continental Shelf Act 1964):	NA
Associated permit number (under the Crown Minerals Act 1991):	NA

12 July 2016

Signature of authorised contact person

Date

Name: [REDACTED]

Title: [REDACTED]

Note: A signature is not required for electronic (email) forms.