



Tēnā Koutou,

On behalf of the Otago University Student's Association, we would like to make a submission to the Ministry of Primary Industries that we **support Option 4: Mandate 'three out of three' at all times, plus discharge management (Option 2).**

The coupling of these options will effectively reduce bycatch and protect our lovely seabirds. We support these options for the reasons stated below:

- Aotearoa New Zealand is the seabird capital of the world, and thus we should be a world leader in protecting seabirds. It is our duty to save the remarkable taonga we share our oceans with, and only catch what we intend to eat.
- The rate of seabird captures has more than doubled since 2020, we must act quickly, and make these 'three out of three' practices compulsory through regulation. In addition to 'three out of three', fishers should be required to implement best practice discharge management which is effective at reducing seabird bycatch.
- Once species are gone, they are gone forever. Saving our seabird species (such as the magnificent Antipodean albatross) is crucial. This means we need all surface longlines to use best practice bycatch mitigation measures across the Pacific and Tasman where our seabirds roam.
- 'Three out of three' (tori lines, line weighting and night setting) is the only option that will best protect our seabirds and achieve the vision, goals and objectives of the National Plan of Action on Seabirds.

Ngā mihi,

Imogen