

RTI 010/2019-20: Seal Deterrents

Q1. The number of 'Seal Deterrent Permit' applications that were approved since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

The number of aquaculture employees who have been issued with a Seal Deterrent Permit (crackers, bean bags, scare caps, sedation) since 26/6/2018 is 76.

Q2. The number of 'Seal Deterrent Permit' applications that were approved and who/which company made them since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

Of the 76 aquaculture employees who were issued with a Seal Deterrent Permit (crackers, bean bags, scare caps, sedation) since 26/06/18:

- 47 were employed by Tassal
- 25 were employed by Huon Aquaculture
- 4 were employed by Petuna / Van Diemen

Q3. The number of 'Seal Deterrent Permit' applications rejected since 26/6/2018 and who/which company made them to 6/8/2019.

Zero. If a potential applicant is deemed not suitable to be granted a permit – eg, he/she has a conviction, is not able to supply a firearms license or cannot demonstrate they are employed by an aquaculture company – then we do not commence the application process.

Q4. The number of times the use of beanbags, seal control units (crackers) were used since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

Monthly deterrent returns are provided by each salmon company. From 01/07/18 to 31/07/19:

- 1,533 bean bags were used;
- 24,528 crackers were used.

NB: One company's return appears to be incomplete for the month of June 2019 and is currently being followed up.

Q5. The number of times direct injury to a person happened due to a seal since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

The number of direct injuries reported to the Department due to a seal since 26/06/2018 is 2.

Q6. The number of applications made for 'Removal by humane destruction' made to Wildlife Management Branch Officers since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

One application for 'Removal by humane destruction' has been made to Wildlife Management Branch Officers since 26/06/2018, however, the application was not followed through.

Q7. The number of times a tranquiliser gun was used on seals by WMB representatives or authorised personal since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

The number of seals sedated (or attempted to be sedated) by permitted personnel at fish farms since 26/06/18 is 20.

Q8. Copies of incident reports relating to the injury on people caused by seals as described in section 3.1, page 82. (Minimum requirements for an application for humane destruction as a consequence of direct attack/injury/significant aggressive behaviour) since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

Two incidents were reported during this time frame: Attachments Q8.1 (PDF) and Q8.2 (email).

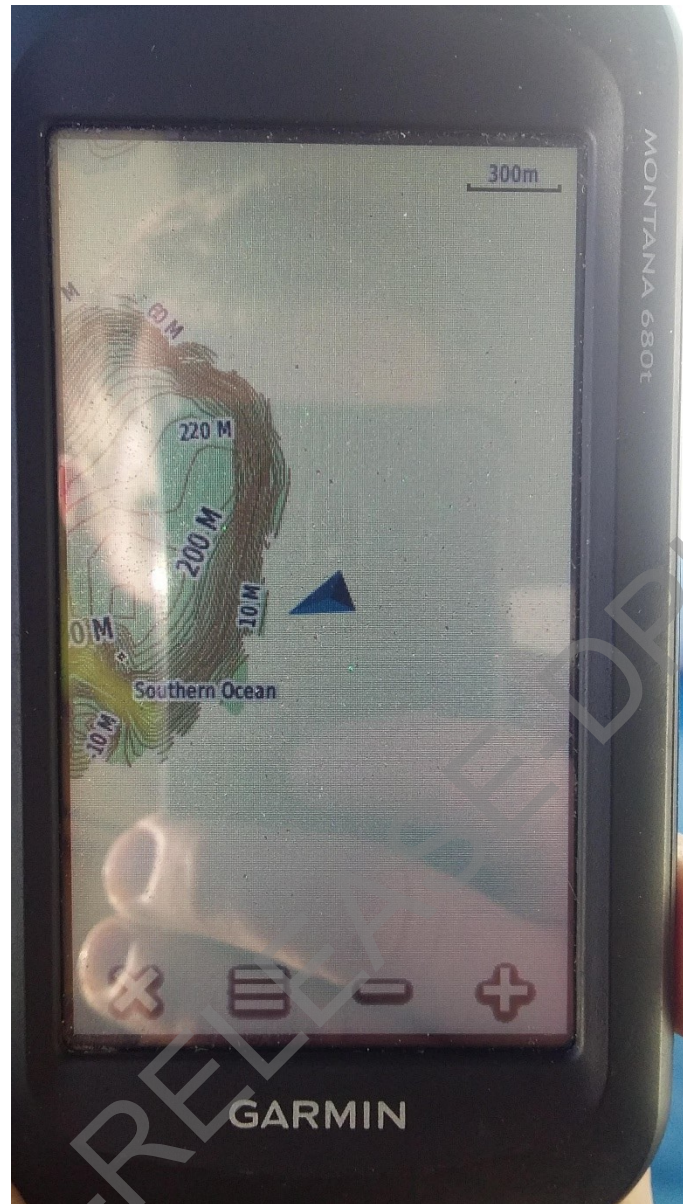
Q9. Any footage or photos of the use of beanbags, seal control units (crackers), 'Removal by humane Destruction' and seal relocation since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

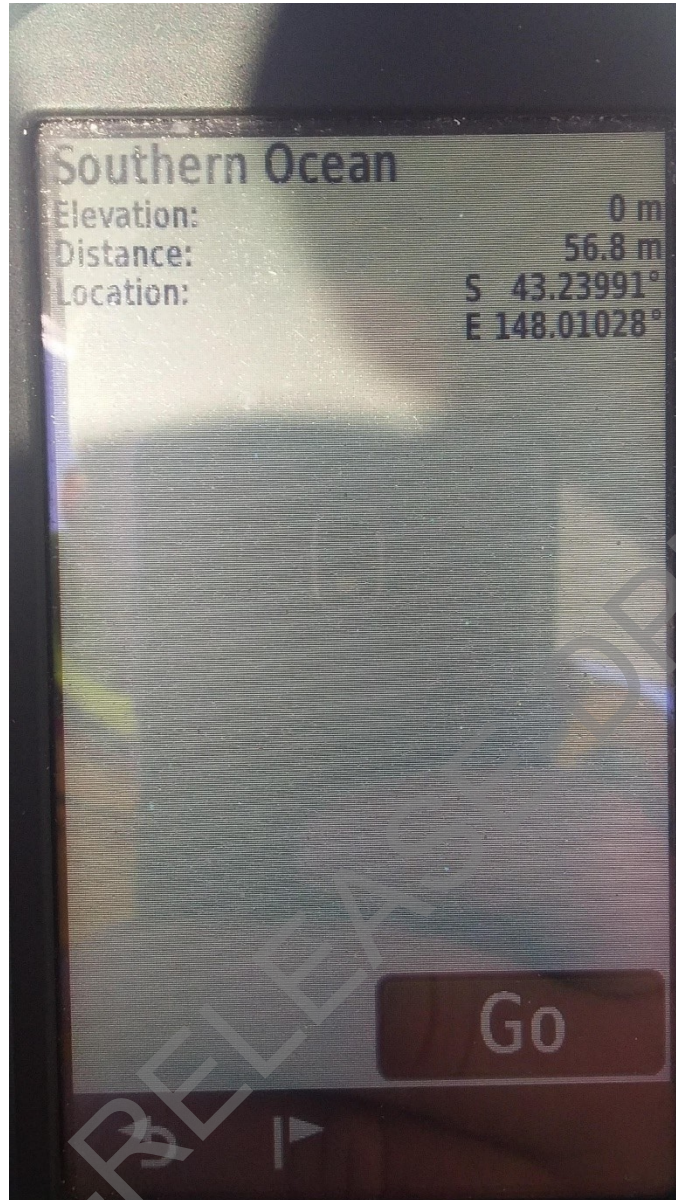
No footage or photos of use of bean bags or crackers, or humane destruction, in the specified time period.

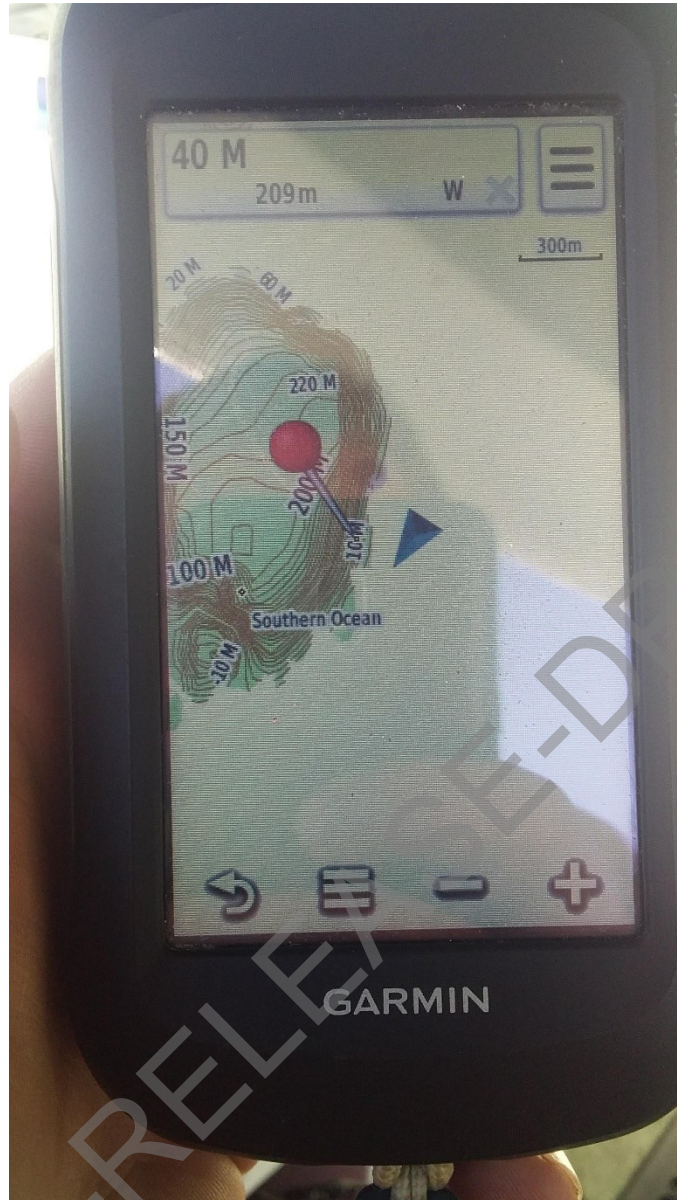
One video and three photos of offshore release following 'by-sea' relocation.

Q10. Copies of all incident reports concerning the Humane Destruction of seals since 26/6/2018 to 6/8/2019.

No incident reports available as no destructions have been enacted in this time period.







RTI-DL-RELEASED-DRIPWE

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Alderman, Rachael \(DPIPWE\)](#); [Febey, Justin \(Parks\)](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Channel seal incident
Date: Monday, 26 November 2018 12:00:06 PM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)
[image002.jpg](#)
[image003.jpg](#)
[image004.jpg](#)
[image005.jpg](#)
[image006.jpg](#)

Hi,

Just letting you guys know one of our divers got bitten by a seal inside pen on the weekend – diver is ok.

Dive team was unaware of seal in pen prior to diver entering the water, seal was described around 80-100kgs.

Please give [REDACTED] a call if you need to follow up.

Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Compliance Coordinator



TASSAL GROUP LIMITED

m | [REDACTED]

e | [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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