



Fisheries (Electronic Monitoring on Vessels) Amendment Regulations 2025

Rt Hon Dame Helen Winkelmann, Administrator of the Government

Order in Council

At Wellington this 17th day of November 2025

Present:

Her Excellency the Administrator of the Government in Council

These regulations are made under section 297 of the Fisheries Act 1996 on the advice and with the consent of the Executive Council.

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Regulations

1 Title

These regulations are the Fisheries (Electronic Monitoring on Vessels) Amendment Regulations 2025.

2 Commencement

These regulations come into force on 18 December 2025.

3 Principal regulations

These regulations amend the Fisheries (Electronic Monitoring on Vessels) Regulations 2017.

4 Regulation 3 amended (Interpretation)

In regulation 3, definition of **associated information**, replace “regulation 9(1)(d)” with “regulation 9(1)(b)”.

5 Regulation 3A amended (Meaning of monitored fishing)

In regulation 3A(1), replace the table with:

Fishing using this method	on a vessel of this overall length
Bottom longlining	8–32 m
Danish seining	≥8 m
Purse seining	≥8 m
Set netting (except if a vessel uses 1 or more tenders to set and haul the nets)	≥8 m
Surface longlining	≥8 m
Trawling (unless done for the purpose of targeting scampi)	8–32 m

6 Regulation 9 amended (Monitored fishing, transportation, and associated information must be recorded)

(1) In the heading to regulation 9, delete “, transportation,”.

(2) Revoke regulation 9(1)(a)(ii).

(3) After regulation 9(1), insert:

(1A) The electronic monitoring equipment must be recording during—

- (a) the monitored fishing and related activities; and
- (b) transit to and from locations where those activities are being carried out.

(1B) To avoid doubt, the electronic monitoring equipment need not be recording if—

- (a) the vessel is anchored, drifting, or powered down; and
- (b) no monitored fishing and related activities are being carried out; and

(4) In regulation 9(2)(a)(i), delete “or transported”.

- (5) In regulation 9(2)(b), replace “sorted, or transported” with “or sorted”.
- 7 Regulation 13 amended (Circulars specifying requirements relating to electronic monitoring)**
In regulation 13(1)(d), replace “regulation 9(1)(d)” with “regulation 9(1)(b)”.
- 8 Schedule 1 amended**
In Schedule 1, revoke clause 1(3).

Rachel Hayward,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

Explanatory note

This note is not part of the regulations but is intended to indicate their general effect.

These regulations, which come into force on 18 December 2025, amend the Fisheries (Electronic Monitoring on Vessels) Regulations 2017 (the **principal regulations**).

The principal regulations require the installation and use of electronic monitoring equipment on fishing vessels that use specified fishing methods.

These regulations amend the principal regulations to exclude the following vessels from electronic monitoring requirements:

- vessels less than 8 metres in overall length; and
- set net vessels using the mothership and tender model; and
- bottom longline vessels greater than 32 metres in overall length.

These regulations also revoke the requirement that electronic monitoring equipment is used to record transportation connected with monitored fishing and replace it with a requirement that electronic monitoring equipment is operational and recording during transit to and from locations for monitored fishing, as well as during all monitored fishing and related activities.

Amendments have also been made to update cross-references in the principal regulations.

Regulatory impact statement

The Ministry for Primary Industries produced a regulatory impact statement on 23 July 2025 to help inform the decisions taken by the Government relating to the contents of this instrument.

A copy of this regulatory impact statement can be found at—

- <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/70415-Appendix-4-Regulatory-Impact-Statement-Amendments-to-the-Fisheries-Act-1996>

- <https://www.regulation.govt.nz/our-work/regulatory-impact-statements/>

Issued under the authority of the Legislation Act 2019.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 20 November 2025.

These regulations are administered by the Ministry for Primary Industries.