

Draft Giant Crab Harvest Strategy Consultation

Anthony Olver

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Dear Ewan & Luke,

Thank you for the GC draft harvest strategy.

Firstly, can you please confirm given the main operator in this fishery has had full electronic monitoring for the previous four seasons that we are currently at level 2?

I believe it is procedurally unfair that the tool for moving the TAC down in very significant increments is CPUE however CPUE cannot be used to lift the TAC back to 10.5 tonne. In light of the previous four years catch data confirmed by full video surveillance and only a 50% catch retained to returned ratio due to high grading a 10.5 tonne TAC represents a very low risk level and allows for a rapid and continuous rebuild of the stock.

As you are aware due to consolidation of many small unviable quota parcels the fishery has only one main operator. I am concerned that in instances where this operator cannot go to sea that there will be an almost complete lack of data being fed into the CPUE model. Please advise how such a lack of data will be treated in relation to the setting of TAC, while remembering the stock has been left in the water?

Kind regards

Anthony Olver

Will Olver