

Amendments to Fisheries Regulations for the Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) Marine Area

Effective from 1 October 2009

Rock Lobster Pots and Rock Lobster Holding Pots

Within the Fiordland Marine Area, there is now provision for 'rock lobster holding pots' to be used in addition to 'rock lobster (catching) pots'.

The Fiordland Marine Area is one of the few places nationwide where holding pots are commonly and regularly used by recreational fishers. Due to the area's remoteness and access constraints, holding pots are a practical solution to the absence of freezer storage.

Rock lobster pot means any pot, whether baited or not, that is capable of catching or holding rock lobster; and includes any other device capable of catching holding, or storing rock lobster except a loop, bob or ring pot.

Rock lobster holding pot means a pot that is used, or can be used for holding or storing rock lobster but does not include any pot that is capable of catching rock lobster.

- Holding pots are excluded from other rock lobster pot limits and escape gap requirements.
- Restrictions apply limiting one holding pot per person or a maximum of 2 holding pots per vessel if there are two or more persons.
- Holding pots and attached surface floats used from or transported on a vessel must be clearly and permanently marked with the vessel name and the characters HP 1 for the first holding pot and (if applicable) HP 2 for the second holding pot.
- Holding pots and attached surface floats used other than from a vessel must be clearly and permanently marked with the fishers surname, initials and the characters HP.

Lassoes

Only hand operated loops or lassoes may be used to take rock lobster. It is prohibited to use a spring loaded loop or lasso.

These regulations take precedence over regulations outlined on pages 64 and 65 of *Beneath the Reflections: A User's Guide to the Fiordland (Te Moana o Atawhenua) Marine Area*

For further information or a copy of the updated Fiordland Marine Area Recreational Fishing Rules brochure, please contact:

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