

Fisheries Management (Fish Trawl Nets) Order 2024

under the

Fisheries Management Act 1994

I, DARREN REYNOLDS, Acting Director Fisheries and Aquaculture Management with the delegated authority of the Minister and Secretary under sections 227 and 228 *Fisheries Management Act 1994* make this order under section 37 of the Act.

Dated this 4th day of November 2024

DARREN REYNOLDS

Acting Director, Fisheries and Aquaculture Management
Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Part 1 Preliminary

1 Name of Order

This order is the *Fisheries Management (Fish Trawl Nets) Order 2024*.

2 Commencement and Duration

This order commences on the date it is signed and will remain in force for 5 years.

Note. notice of the making of this order will be given by publishing the order on the website of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

3 Definitions

In this order:

belly of a net means the tapered section extending from the mouth of the net to the non-tapered 'extension' section immediately forward of the codend.

bottom of the belly means the bottom or lower half, comprising not more than half of the net's circumference, of the belly.

bottom of the wings means the bottom or lower 15 meshes of the wings.

codend of a net means the piece of netting that forms the posterior most part of the net, where the catch accumulates, as defined in clause 2, OT Plan and clause 26, Regulation.

wings means the two tapered sections extending from the end net hangings to the mouth of the net.

drawstring of an otter trawl net means a draw or closing string that may be inserted either directly into the end of the codend or by means of a secondary string as defined in clause 7B(2)(b), OT Plan and clause 26(2)(b), Regulation.

endorsement holder means a northern fish trawl endorsement holder or a southern fish trawl endorsement holder.

extension section means the non-tapered part of the net immediately forward of the codend, and towards the belly.

net means an otter trawl net (fish) as described in clause 7B of the OT Plan and clause 26 of the Regulation.

northern fish trawl endorsement holder means a person who holds a commercial fishing licence that has a fish northern zone endorsement that authorises the holder to take fish using an otter trawl net (fish) pursuant to clause 5, OT Plan.

southern fish trawl endorsement holder means a person who holds a commercial fishing licence that has an endorsement that authorises the taking of fish for sale in the southern fish trawl restricted fishery, as defined in clause 3(1), Regulation.

southern fish trawl restricted fishery is defined in clause 145 of the Regulation.

the Act means the *Fisheries Management Act 1994*.

the Regulation means the *Fisheries Management (General) Regulation 2019*.

the OT Plan means the *Fisheries Management (Ocean Trawl Share Management Plan) Regulation 2006*.

whiting codend means the mesh of the codend of the net (or part of the net capable of being used as a codend) as prescribed in clause 7B(3), OT Plan and clause 26(3) of the Regulation.

Note. Pursuant to section 11 of the *Interpretation Act 1987*, unless otherwise specified, words in this Order have the same meaning as in the Act.

Part 2 Special approval for authorised purposes

4 Spilling rope in whiting codend

Despite clause 7B, OT Plan and clause 26, the Regulation, an endorsement holder may take fish with a net that is fitted with a whiting codend and has attached to it:

- (a) a single length of rope not less than 3.4 metres in length,
- (b) inserted not more than 10 meshes from the drawstring of an otter trawl net.

5 Double-twine mesh, wings and belly

Despite clause 7B, OT Plan and clause 26, the Regulation, an endorsement holder may take fish with a net that has:

- (a) the bottom of the wings of the net constructed using double-twine mesh with a maximum twine diameter of 5 mm,

- (b) the bottom of the belly of the net constructed using double-twine mesh with a maximum twine diameter of 5 mm.

6 Double-twine mesh to the extension section

Despite clause 7B, OT Plan and clause 26, the Regulation, an endorsement holder may take fish with a net fitted with a whiting codend where the extension section of the net is constructed with double-twine mesh with a maximum twine diameter of 5 mm.

7 Whiting codend circumference greater than extension circumference

Despite clause 7B, OT Plan and clause 26, Regulation, an endorsement holder may take fish with a net fitted with a whiting codend where the meshes in circumference of the codend exceed the number of meshes in circumference of the extension section immediately forward of the codend.

Note. Other than where expressly stated, this order does not authorise fishing activities in contravention of the Act or the regulations under the Act.