# **Best Practices for Market Squid Fishing**







TURN OFF unnecessary lights

TURN OFF squid lightswhen fishing not permitted(e.g., during the weekend closure)

**DO NOT** illuminate shoreline

**DO NOT** use forward facing lights (ie. crab lights) when lighting for squid

MINIMIZE the amount of weight used to sink nets and don't add additional weight in shallow water



Proposed guidelines for safely deterring marine mammals : <u>https://www.regulations.gov/document/</u> NOAA-NMFS-2020-0109-0001

ILLUMINATE only downward facing lights

**INSPECT** lights and shields for compliance annually

MINIMIZE deck lights when at anchor or close inshore overnight

**CONFIRM** that squid lights do not illuminate the shoreline



Sea Bird Avoidance Tips https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/resources-fishing/ seabird-protection-and-avoidance-tips

## Important Nesting Months for Nocturnal Seabirds

#### with Protected Species Status at the Channel Islands

Bird	Channel Island	Jan	Feb	Mar	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cassin's Auklet	San Miguel, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, Santa Barbara	x	х	Х	х	Х	x	Х	Х	-	-	-	-
Scripp's Murrelet	San Miguel, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, <sup>A</sup> Santa Barbara	-	x	х	x	X	x	Х	X	-			-
Ashy Storm-petrel	San Miguel, Santa Cruz, Anacapa, Santa Barbara	-	x	х	x	Х	x	Х	Х	x	Х	Х	-
*Leach's Storm-Petrel	San Miguel, Santa Barbara	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

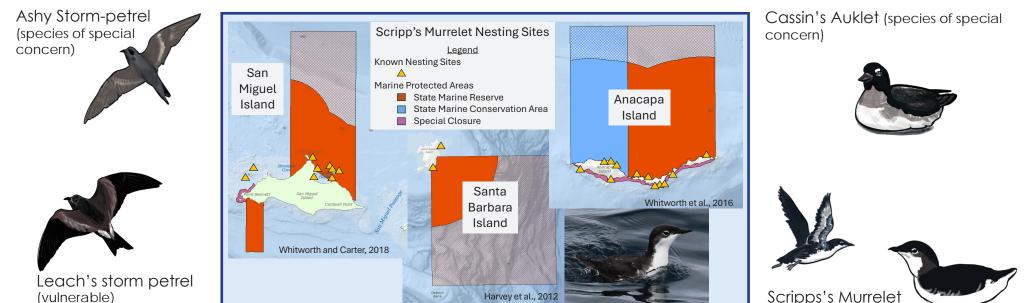
Orar

Orange months indicate birds are on island breeding and fledging Note: Beginning (courtship) and end (fledging) of the orange are the most sensitive periods.



▲ = significant nesting colony in the Channel Islands National Park

\* = irregular breeder and more research is needed



Scripps's Murrelet (threatened)

### **Additional Information**

CALIFORN

- CCR T14 § 149 (h) Light Shields Each vessel fishing for squid or lighting for squid will reduce the light scatter of its fishing operations by shielding the entire filament of each light used to attract squid and orienting the illumination directly downward, or providing for the illumination to be completely below the surface of the water. The lower edges of the shields shall be parallel to the deck of the vessel.
- Reducing lights when not in use will help limit wildlife interactions at night. Protecting wildlife maintains the balance of marine and coastal ecosystems.
- Vessels using any light (Ex. squid lights, deck lights, or forward facing crab lights) that may attract/aggregate market squid while fishing is not permitted are in violation of FGC § 86 and CCR T14 §149.
- Keeping lights at a minimum when near the shoreline will reduce impacts to wildlife especially seabirds which, can be negatively impacted by artificial lights.
- If near the shoreline, make sure that all extraneous lights are reduced so that seabirds and other wildlife are not affected.
- It is ILLEGAL to use forward facing lights (ie. crab lights) when attracting squid because squid lights MUST have the entire filament shielded and the squid light must be illuminating directly downward. CCR T14 § 149 (h).
- Using additional weights in shallow water may increase the interactions of the net and seafloor. CCR T14 § 149 (j)
- Citations for violations of this Section [CCR T14 § 149] may be issued to the vessel operator, crewmembers, and/ or the holder of a market squid permit issued pursuant to Section 149.1 of these regulations.
- National Marine Fisheries Service has a proposed rule on Guidelines for Safely Deterring Marine Mammals and has specific guidance on proper use of Seal Bombs. More information can be found here: <u>https://www.regulations.gov/document/NOAA-NMFS-2020-0109-0001</u>
- If sea birds need to be released please visit this site for more information on proper release: <u>https://www.doc.govt.nz/our-work/conservation-services-programme/csp-resources-for-fishers/how-to-manage-marine-light-pollution</u>
- For more information on the market squid fishery, please visit: https://marinespecies.wildlife.ca.gov/market-squid/

### References

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