

## Steps fishers can take to help safeguard information

### Ask technology suppliers about security and privacy

Technology suppliers must provide secure, reliable solutions for electronic reporting. Our technology solutions guide highlights some considerations for fishers, including questions you can ask about security, when choosing electronic reporting technology.

Go to: [www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting/#tech-solutions](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting/#tech-solutions).

### Keep your electronic devices and accounts safe

Treat electronic reporting as you would any important online activity, like internet banking. For example:

- > Keep your e-logbook password or PIN secret. This means not giving it to others or writing it down.
- > Make sure your e-logbook password or PIN isn't easy for others to guess. For a password, you might choose an uncommon phrase and include upper and lower case letters plus numerals or other special characters (such as @ # \$ &). Your e-logbook supplier may have requirements that your password must meet.
- > Make sure you authorise the right people to report, view or manage catch information in FishServe's online system. Check those details are correct whenever someone joins or leaves your crew.

### Set the level of access to fishing locations in FishServe's system

Permit holders are responsible for providing catch reports, which include fishing locations. If you're a fisher providing catch reports on behalf of a permit holder, you may wish to protect your precise fishing locations.

If you are fishing under someone else's permit, you can change your settings in FishServe's system to restrict the details of fishing locations that would be shared with the permit holder, from 4 decimal places (accurate to about 11 metres) to 1 decimal place (accurate to about 11 kilometres). See the "logbook fishing locations" setting under "manage my account".

If you need help with your FishServe account, email:

[registry@fishserve.co.nz](mailto:registry@fishserve.co.nz).

For permit holders, viewing fishing locations to 1 decimal place is sufficient to verify catch reports. Fisheries New Zealand can still view fishing locations to 4 decimal places.

## How does the government keep the information secure?

We take security seriously and have well-tested systems to protect private and commercially sensitive information collected through electronic catch and position reporting.

- > The Ministry for Primary Industries safeguards sensitive information from across a range of industries, including commercial data from the agriculture and food industries, and border security information.
- > We've worked with the Privacy Commissioner and the Government Chief Privacy Officer to identify controls to protect personally identifiable information.
- > We follow the Protective Security Requirements that outline the government's expectations for managing personnel, physical and information security. Go to: [www.protectivesecurity.govt.nz](http://www.protectivesecurity.govt.nz).
- > To help meet our Official Information Act and Privacy Act obligations, we have longstanding guidelines for the release of fisheries information. These have been updated with electronic catch and position reporting in mind.
- > We review our security and privacy policies and procedures regularly to ensure they are fit for purpose.

## What information does the government release?

Sometimes Fisheries New Zealand needs to share information with others. For example, we do this to support innovation and research, fulfil obligations of government accountability and transparency, and uphold the law.

Any fishing information we release publicly is routinely aggregated and anonymised. For example, we may:

- > Limit location data to one degree of accuracy.
- > Limit date and time data to month and year.

- > Exclude month and location data altogether if a dataset contains three or fewer vessels, people, or organisations.
- > Exclude information that could be used to identify any vessel, person, or company.

### The Official Information Act 1982 (OIA)

All information held by Fisheries New Zealand is official information and any New Zealander can request to see it. All OIA requests are considered case by case. We seek to protect commercial and private information received from fishers, while balancing the public interest. Information would normally be withheld under the OIA if its release would:

- > Unreasonably impact the commercial position of the person who supplied it.
- > Likely impact on the supply of similar information in the future (even if that supply is compulsory rather than voluntary).

### Sharing information across government

Any sharing of fisheries information with other government agencies is done within the framework of the OIA, the Privacy Act 1993, and the Fisheries Act 1996. The information is used for limited and specific purposes regarding: law enforcement, conservation, health and safety, maritime safety, compliance, certain science purposes, and employment conditions.

A privacy impact assessment has been done to address potential privacy issues relating to electronic catch and position reporting. It includes measures to ensure data is shared securely.

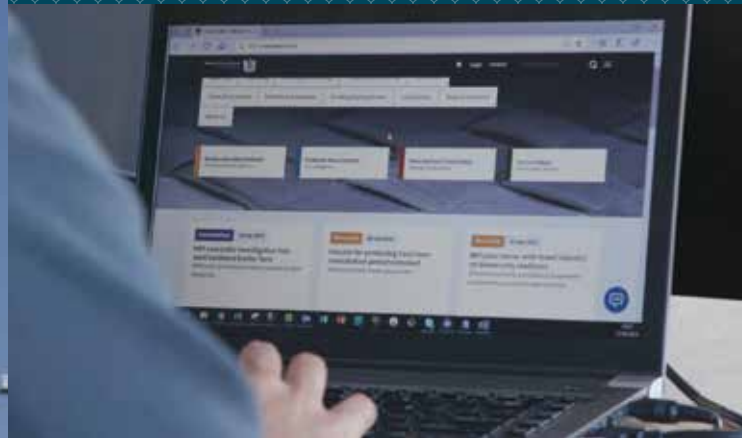
Go to: [www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting/#privacy](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting/#privacy).

**Electronic catch and position reporting means that, as a commercial fisher, you'll be providing detailed, timely information on what you catch and where you catch it, via some form of technology. This guide outlines ways you can safeguard your information, and the steps Fisheries New Zealand takes to protect the private and commercially sensitive information you provide.**

### **Where does the information go?**

With **electronic catch reporting**, the information you provide is securely sent from your e-logbook to FishServe, who receives it on behalf of the Ministry for Primary Industries – the umbrella agency of Fisheries New Zealand.

With **electronic position reporting**, the information you provide is securely sent from your position reporting device to the Ministry for Primary Industries.



## **Protecting information collected through electronic catch and position reporting**

If you need more information, please visit [www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting](http://www.fisheries.govt.nz/ereporting) or email us at [digitalmonitoring@mpi.govt.nz](mailto:digitalmonitoring@mpi.govt.nz)



**Fisheries New Zealand**

Tini a Tangaroa



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