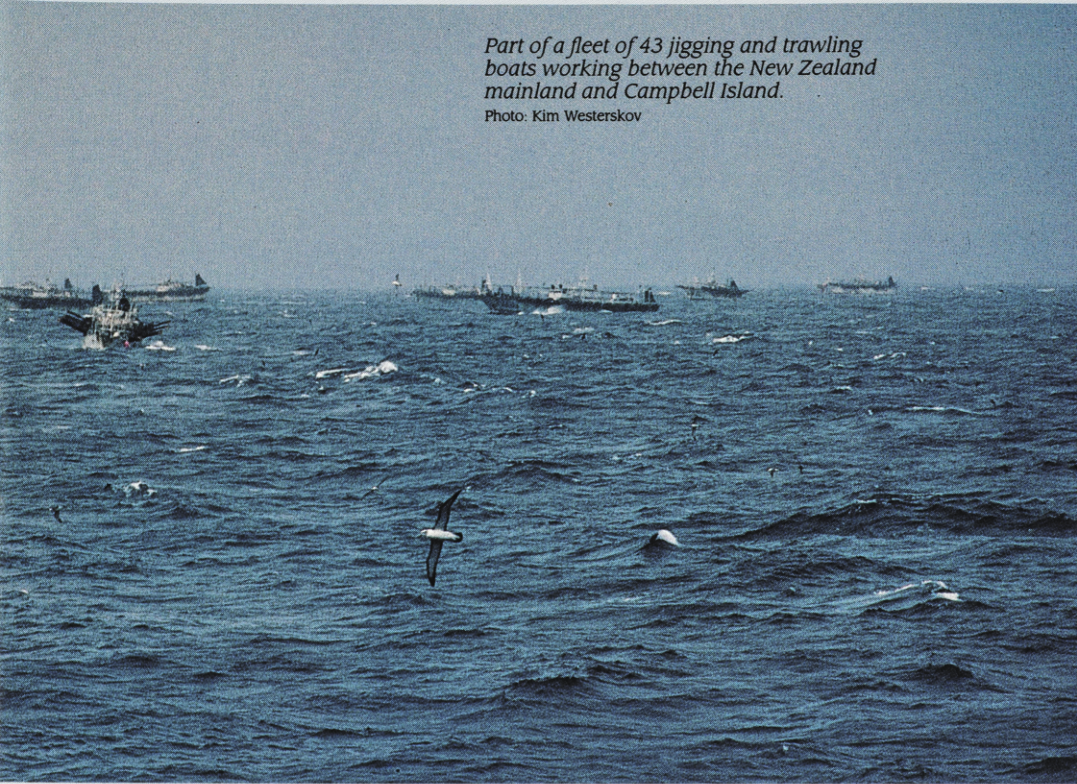


Part of a fleet of 43 jigging and trawling boats working between the New Zealand mainland and Campbell Island.

Photo: Kim Westerskov



of these jiggers was three times larger than nine of the 44 trawlers working around the Auckland Islands. It cannot be argued, therefore, that the waters around the Aucklands are too dangerous for jiggers because of their allegedly smaller size. Many jiggers working around the Falkland Islands in the subantarctic South Atlantic are even larger and could be chartered to work in New Zealand waters. These very large jiggers often pass through New Zealand waters on their way to the Falklands.

- Jiggers are used in areas of rough water in foreign fisheries and within the New Zealand 200 mile EEZ. In the 1989/90 season at least 78 percent of all jiggers working in New Zealand waters worked in the subantarctic, including 522 fishing days around the remote Bounty Platform and Pukaki Rise. In the 1986/87 season, the Snares shelf was the most important squid jigging area.
- Jiggers have worked around the Auckland Islands in the past and some jigging was even carried out in the 1989/90 season.

So why does the fishing industry dispute the fact that jiggers can work around the Auckland Islands? The answer is economics. Trawlers can catch more squid than jiggers (although squid caught through jigging is usually better quality and therefore fetches a higher price). The ecological costs of trawling, including the deaths of hundreds of sea lions and thousands of albatrosses, are ignored.



Above: Industry claims that jiggers are too small to work around the Auckland Islands do not stack up. These two Japanese jiggers, the Chidori Maru No 58 and Soho Maru No 85, are three times the size of some trawlers working around the Aucklands, such as the No 709 Dong Yung (inset).

Photos: Alan Tennyson

Centre left: About 100 Hooker's sea lions are drowned each year by squid trawlers around the Auckland Islands.

Photo: Canon Fraser

Left: Squid pounce on these lures and are snagged by the rows of unbarbed hooks.

Photo: Alan Tennyson



What you can do

Write to the Ministers of Conservation and Fisheries, Parliament Buildings, Wellington, asking them to ban trawlers using the deadly monitor cables in New Zealand waters.