



Covid-19 Protocol for Sardines (KZN Beach Seine Fishery)

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT BRANCH



environment, forestry
& fisheries

Department:
Environment, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Presentation outline

- Purpose of Protocol
- Profile of the KwaZulu-Natal Fishery
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Risk Assessment
- Prevention Measures
 - Hygiene Procedures
 - Personal Protective Clothing (PPE)
 - Fishing Equipment
 - Physical Distancing
 - Site Security
 - Customers
 - Communication.



- Purpose of Protocol

- The purpose of the Sardine Run Protocols will be to provide clear and actionable guidance for Right Holder, crew and public safety and safe operations, through the prevention, early detection and emergency procedures to control of COVID-19 at fishing site.

- Profile of the Fishery

- Frequent northward migration of Sardines along the east coast of South Africa. It is an opportunistic fishery operation where migrating sardines stranded in the shallow waters off KwaZulu-Natal beaches are targeted.
- Sardine run supports a very small commercial and small-scale, seasonal beach seine fishery. The sector comprises of 30 individual commercial right holders and 45 members of Small-scale fisheries cooperatives that have been allocated fishing rights to harvest the sardines as they draw closer to the coastline.
- The fishery creates employment opportunity and serves as an additional source of protein to coastal communities. Currently a create of sardine is being sold for R 1500.
- Require coordination from a number of authorities.
- Operations happen on the beach and in the presence of a large number of onlookers.



Roles and Responsibilities

Who	Role/Responsibility
Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issuance of licenses and Permits • Ensure compliance with the Marine Living Resources Act, Integrated Coastal Management Act. • Issuance of Beach Driving Permits.
Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal Management
Department of Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Awareness and training
Local Municipality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access control
Law Enforcement (Metro Police, SAPS, SA Army)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Policing • Enforcement of Municipal bylaws • Crowd control • Enforcement of the Disaster Management Regulations
Right Holder	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible to prepare and notify authorities of Potential and Positive cases.
Fishing Crew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct fishing operations • Compliance with regulations
KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintenance of Shark Nets • Reconnaissance information
General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compliance with regulations
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Awareness and training
Sardine Run Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications • Awareness and training

- **Risk Assessment**

- The right holder is responsible to ensure that s/he regularly conducts the Risk Assessment and updates operations procedures.

- **Prevention Measures**

- **Hygiene Procedures.** Temperature screening should be conducted as well as the sanitizing of hands of all crew before entering the vessel/vehicle. A Crew Member with temperature of 38 degrees or more should not be permitted to participate in the fishing trip. It is important to note that the crew in this sector work in shorts and because of the nature of the work, wearing a mask will be a challenge as a wet mask is impermeable.

- **Personal Protective Clothing (PPE).** The right holder should provide all crew with masks and have the sanitizer available during fishing operations. The right holder should further provide the crew with high-visibility clothing (reflector bibs) while working for ease of identification and to alert others of their presence.



- **Fishing Equipment.** Vessel and all fishing equipment must be cleaned properly prior to operations.
- **Physical Distancing.** Law Enforcement officers should ensure compliance to all physical distancing measures at designated viewing points.
- **Site Security** – Sardine run attracts lots of spectators, Charter Boat Operators and Scuba divers. Right holders must be able to produce their permit.



- **Customers.** Selling and buying of fish should only happen at the designated areas away from the beach.
- **Communication.** The KwaZulu-Natal Sharks Board conduct daily reconnaissance flights and in partnership with East Coast Radio, run a '*Sardine Run Hotline*', which provides daily information on the position and movement of sardine shoals. This information is critical and used by Right Holders to identify where the shoal will be beaching and should be useful to the relevant Municipalities and Law Enforcement to plan their deployments.



THANK YOU!

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Thank You



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