

RECHERCHE ARCHIPELAGO SEALS

A recent survey of the islands of the Recherche Archipelago, near Esperance, has confirmed that the population of Hair and Fur Seals is still struggling to recover from the operations that took place many years ago. The seals on these islands have been protected from 1892 to the present day, with only one open season, in 1920. So after nearly 70 years they have still not fully recovered from the "bad old days".

The Director of Fisheries and Fauna has decided that because of this situation no further permits to take seals are to be issued without a preliminary investigation and recommendation by competent departmental personnel.

Any requests for permits should be forwarded to the Fauna Officer who will arrange the appropriate investigation.