

CONSERVATION MEASURE 166/XVII
Exploratory Trawl Fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in
Statistical Division 58.4.1 in the 1998/99 Season

The Commission,

Welcoming the notification of Australia of its intention to conduct an exploratory trawl fishery in Statistical Division 58.4.1 west of 90°E in the 1998/99 season,

hereby adopts the following Conservation Measure in accordance with Conservation Measure 65/XII:

1. Fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. by trawl in Statistical Division 58.4.1 west of 90°E shall be limited to the exploratory fishery by Australian flagged vessels.
2. The total catch of *Dissostichus* spp. in the 1998/99 season taken by the trawl method shall not exceed 261 tonnes.
3. For the purposes of this exploratory trawl fishery, the 1998/99 fishing season is defined as the period from 7 November 1998 to 30 November 1999 or until the catch limit is reached, whichever is the sooner.
4. Each vessel participating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.1 west of 90°E in the 1998/99 season shall have at least one scientific observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation on board throughout all fishing activities within this division.
5. Each vessel operating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.1 west of 90°E shall be required to operate a VMS at all times, in accordance with Conservation Measure 148/XVII.
6. For the purpose of implementing this Conservation Measure:
 - (i) the Five-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XII shall apply; and
 - (ii) the monthly fine-scale biological data, as required under Conservation Measure 121/XVI, shall be recorded and reported in accordance with the System of International Scientific Observation.
7.
 - (i) There shall be no directed fishing for any species other than *Dissostichus* spp.
 - (ii) The by-catch of any fish species other than *Dissostichus* spp. shall not exceed 50 tonnes.
 - (iii) If, in the course of a directed fishery, the by-catch in any one haul of any by-catch species for which by-catch limitations apply under this Conservation Measure is equal to, or greater than 2 tonnes, then the fishing vessel shall not fish using that method of fishing at any point within 5 n miles¹ of the location where the by-catch exceeded 2 tonnes for a period of at least five days². The location where the by-catch exceeded 2 tonnes is defined as the path followed by the fishing vessel from the point at which the fishing gear was first deployed from the fishing vessel to the point at which the fishing gear was retrieved by the fishing vessel.
8. The total number and weight of *Dissostichus* spp. discarded, including those with the jellymeat condition, shall be reported. These fish will count towards the total allowable catch.
9. The data collection plan in Conservation Measure 167/XVII for BANZARE Bank as a whole shall be implemented and the results reported to CCAMLR not later than three months after the closure of the fishery.

¹ This provision is adopted pending the adoption of a more appropriate definition of a fishing location by the Commission.

² The specified period is adopted in accordance with the reporting period specified in Conservation Measure 51/XII, pending the adoption of a more appropriate period by the Commission.