

CONSERVATION MEASURE 182/XVIII^{1,2}
General Measures for Exploratory Fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp.
in the Convention Area for the 1999/2000 Season

The Commission,

Noting the need for the distribution of fishing effort and catch in fine-scale rectangles³ in these exploratory fisheries,

hereby adopts the following conservation measure:

1. This conservation measure applies to exploratory fisheries using the trawl or longline methods. In trawl fisheries, a haul comprises a single deployment of the trawl net. In longline fisheries, a haul comprises the setting of one or more lines in a single location.
2. Fishing should take place over as large a geographical and bathymetric range as possible to obtain the information necessary to determine fishery potential and to avoid over-concentration of catch and effort. To this end, fishing in any fine-scale rectangle shall cease when the reported catch reaches 100 tonnes and that rectangle shall be closed to fishing for the remainder of the season. Fishing in any fine-scale rectangle shall be restricted to one vessel at any one time.
3. In order to give effect to paragraph 2 above:
 - (i) the precise geographic position of a haul in trawl fisheries will be determined by the mid-point between the start-point and end-point of the haul;
 - (ii) the precise geographic position of a haul in longline fisheries will be determined by the centre-point of the line or lines deployed;
 - (iii) catch and effort information for each species by fine-scale rectangle shall be reported to the Executive Secretary every five days using the Five-Day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XII; and
 - (iv) the Secretariat shall notify Contracting Parties participating in these fisheries when the total catch for *Dissostichus eleginoides* and *Dissostichus mawsoni* combined in any fine-scale rectangle is likely to reach 100 tonnes, and fishing in that fine-scale rectangle shall be closed when that limit is reached.
4. If the by-catch of *Macrourus* spp. in any one haul
 - is greater than 100 kg and exceeds 18% of the total catch of all fish by weight, or
 - is equal to or greater than 2 tonnes, then

the fishing vessel shall move to another location at least 5 n miles distant⁴. The fishing vessel shall not return to any point within 5 n miles of the location where the by-catch of *Macrourus* spp. exceeded 18% for a period of at least five days⁵. The location where the by-catch exceeded 18% 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.
5. The by-catch of any species other than *Macrourus* spp. in the exploratory fisheries in the Statistical Subareas and Divisions concerned shall be limited to 50 tonnes.
6. The total number and weight of *Dissostichus eleginoides* and *Dissostichus mawsoni* discarded, including those with the 'jellymeat' condition, shall be reported.

7. Each vessel participating in the exploratory fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. during the 1999/2000 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 the fishing season.
8. The data collection plan (Annex 182/A) and research plan (Annex 182/B) shall be implemented. Data collected pursuant to the plan for the period up to 31 August 2000 shall be reported to CCAMLR by 30 September 2000 so that the data will be available to the meeting of the Working Group on Fish Stock Assessment (WG-FSA) in 2000. Such data taken after 31 August shall be reported to CCAMLR not later than three months after the closure of the fishery, but, where possible, submitted in time for the consideration of WG-FSA.

¹ Except for waters adjacent to the Kerguelen and Crozet Islands

² Except for waters adjacent to the Prince Edward Islands

³ A fine-scale rectangle is defined as an area of 0.5° latitude by 1° longitude with respect to the northwest corner of the Statistical Subarea or Division. The identification of each rectangle is by the latitude of its northernmost boundary and the longitude of the boundary closest to 0°.

⁴ This provision concerning the minimum distance separating fishing locations is adopted pending the adoption of a more appropriate definition of a fishing location by the Commission.

⁵ 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.

ANNEX 182/A

DATA COLLECTION PLAN FOR EXPLORATORY FISHERIES

1. All vessels will comply with the five-day catch and effort reporting system (Conservation Measure 51/XII) and monthly fine-scale effort and biological data reporting system (Conservation Measures 121/XVI and 122/XVI).
2. All data required by the CCAMLR *Scientific Observers Manual* for finfish fisheries will be collected. These include:
 - (i) position, date and depth at the start and end of every haul;
 - (ii) haul-by-haul catch and catch per effort by species;
 - (iii) haul-by-haul length frequency of common species;
 - (iv) sex and gonad state of common species;
 - (v) diet and stomach fullness;
 - (vi) scales and/or otoliths for age determination;
 - (vii) number and mass by species of by-catch of fish and other organisms; and
 - (viii) observation on occurrence and incidental mortality of seabirds and mammals in relation to fishing operations.
3. Data specific to longline fisheries will be collected. These include:
 - (i) position and sea depth at each end of every line in a haul;
 - (ii) setting, soak, and hauling times;
 - (iii) number and species of fish lost at surface;
 - (iv) number of hooks set;
 - (v) bait type;
 - (vi) baiting success (%);
 - (vii) hook type; and
 - (viii) sea and cloud conditions and phase of the moon at the time of setting the lines.

RESEARCH PLAN FOR EXPLORATORY FISHERIES

1. Activities under this research plan shall not be exempted from any conservation measure in force.
2. This plan applies to all small-scale research units (SSRUs) as defined in Table 1 and Figure 1.
3. Any vessel wishing to undertake prospecting or commercial fishing in any SSRU must undertake the following research activities once 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp. have been caught or 10 hauls completed in the SSRU, whichever is achieved first:
 - (i) a minimum of 20 hauls must be made within the SSRU and must collectively satisfy the criteria specified in subparagraphs (ii) to (v);
 - (ii) each haul must be separated by not less than 10 n miles from any other haul, distance to be measured from the geographical mid-point of each haul;
 - (iii) each haul shall comprise: for longlines, at least 3 500 hooks; this may comprise a number of separate lines set in the same location; for trawls, at least 30 minutes effective fishing time as defined in the Draft Manual for Bottom Trawl Surveys in the Convention Area (SC-CAMLR-XI, Annex 5, Attachment E, paragraph 4).
 - (iv) each haul of a longline shall have a soak time of not less than six hours, measured from the time of completion of the setting process to the beginning of the hauling process; and
 - (v) all data specified in the data collection plan (Annex 182/A) of this conservation measure shall be collected for every research haul; in particular, all fish in a research haul up to 100 fish are to be measured and biological characteristics obtained, where more than 100 fish are caught, a method for randomly subsampling the fish should be applied.
4. The requirement to undertake the above research activities applies irrespective of the period over which the trigger levels of 10 tonnes of catch or 10 hauls in any SSRU are achieved during the 1999/2000 fishing season. The research activities must commence immediately the trigger levels have been reached and must be completed before the vessel leaves the SSRU.

Table 1: The coordinates of the small-scale research units (Figure 1).

Subarea/ Division	Grid Coordinates			
	Top Left Latitude	Top Left Longitude	Bottom Right Latitude	Bottom Right Longitude
58.4.1	55 S	80 E	64 S	89 E
58.4.3	55 S	60 E	62 S	73.5 E
58.4.3	55 S	73.5 E	62 S	80 E
58.4.4	51 S	40 E	54 S	42 E
58.4.4	51 S	42 E	54 S	46 E
58.4.4	51 S	46 E	54 S	50 E
58.7	45 S	37 E	48 S	40 E
58.6	45 S	40 E	48 S	44 E
58.6	45 S	44 E	48 S	48 E
58.6	45 S	48 E	48 S	51 E
58.6	45 S	51 E	48 S	54 E
88.1	60 S	150 E	65 S	170 W
88.1	65 S	150 E	72 S	180
88.1	65 S	180	72 S	170 W
88.1	72 S	171 E	84 S	180
88.1	72 S	180	84.5 S	170 W

Subarea 88.2 is divided into six 10° longitudinal sections and one 5° longitudinal section.

Subarea 48.6 is divided into one section north of 60° and five 10° longitudinal sections south of 60°.

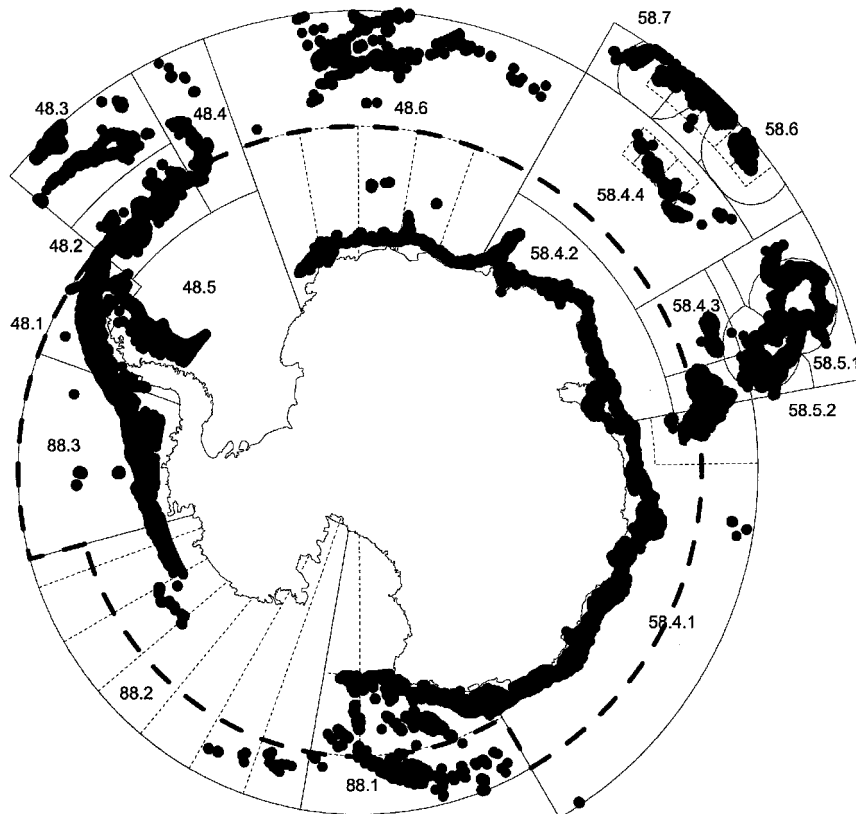


Figure 1: Small-scale research units for new and exploratory fisheries. The boundaries of these units are listed in Table 1. EEZ boundaries for Australia, France and South Africa are marked in order to address notifications for new and exploratory fisheries in waters adjacent to these zones. Dashed line – delineation between *Dissostichus eleginoides* and *Dissostichus mawsoni*; shaded patches – seabed areas between 500 and 1800 m.