

CONSERVATION MEASURE 237/XX
**Limits on the Exploratory Fishery for *Chaenodraco wilsoni*,
Lepidonotothen kempfi, *Trematomus eulepidotus* and *Pleuragramma antarcticum*
in Statistical Division 58.4.2 in the 2001/02 Season**

The Commission hereby adopts the following conservation measure in accordance with Conservation Measure 65/XII:

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| Access | 1. Fishing for <i>Chaenodraco wilsoni</i> , <i>Lepidonotothen kempfi</i> , <i>Trematomus eulepidotus</i> and <i>Pleuragramma antarcticum</i> in Statistical Division 58.4.2 shall be limited to the exploratory trawl fishery by Australia. The fishery shall be conducted by Australian-flagged vessels using trawls only. |
| Catch limit | 2. The total catch of all species in the 2001/02 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 1 500 tonnes.

3. The catch of <i>Chaenodraco wilsoni</i> in the 2001/02 season shall be taken by the midwater trawl method only, except for the research program on shallow-water bottom trawling specified in paragraph 4 of Annex 237/A of this conservation measure, and shall not exceed 500 tonnes.

4. The catches of <i>Lepidonotothen kempfi</i> , <i>Trematomus eulepidotus</i> and <i>Pleuragramma antarcticum</i> in the 2001/02 season shall be taken by the midwater trawl method only, except for the research program on shallow-water bottom trawling specified in paragraph 4 of Annex 237/A of this conservation measure, and shall not exceed 300 tonnes for any one species.

5. Any <i>Dissostichus</i> spp. or <i>Macrourus</i> spp. caught during the directed fishery for the above species shall be deducted from the catches of these species authorised in Conservation Measure 230/XX. |
| Season | 6. For the purpose of the exploratory trawl fishery for <i>Chaenodraco wilsoni</i> , <i>Lepidonotothen kempfi</i> , <i>Trematomus eulepidotus</i> and <i>Pleuragramma antarcticum</i> in Statistical Division 58.4.2, the 2001/02 season is defined as the period from 1 December 2001 to 30 November 2002, or until the catch limit is reached, whichever is sooner. |
| By-catch | 7. The by-catch in this fishery shall be regulated as set out in Conservation Measure 228/XX. |
| Mitigation | 8. The operation of this fishery shall be carried out in accordance with Conservation Measure 173/XVIII so as to minimise the incidental mortality of seabirds in the course of fishing. |

- Observers 9. Each vessel participating in this fishery shall have at least one scientific observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation, and where possible one additional scientific observer, on board throughout all fishing activities within the fishing period.
- Data: catch/effort 10. For the purpose of implementing this conservation measure in the 2001/02 season, the following shall apply:
- (i) the Five-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XIX; and
 - (ii) the Monthly Fine-scale Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measures 122/XIX. Fine-scale data shall be submitted on a haul-by-haul basis.
11. For the purpose of Conservation Measures 51/XIX and 122/XIX, the target species are *Chaenodraco wilsoni*, *Lepidonotothen kempfi*, *Trematomus eulepidotus* and *Pleuragramma antarcticum* and by-catch species are defined as any species other than these species.
- Data: biological 12. Fine-scale biological data, as required under Conservation Measure 121/XIX shall be collected and recorded. Such data shall be reported in accordance with the System of International Scientific Observation.
- Research 13. Each vessel participating in this exploratory fishery shall conduct fishery-based research in accordance with the Research and Data Collection Plans described in Annex 237/A. The results shall be reported to CCAMLR not later than three months after the closure of the fishery.

RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION PLANS

1. There shall be three small-scale research units (SSRUs), bounded by the longitudes 40°E to 50°E, 50°E to 57°E, and 57°E to 70°E.
2. Any vessel undertaking prospecting or commercial fishing in any SSRU must undertake the following research activities once 10 tonnes of any one species have been caught, irrespective of the number of hauls required:
 - (i) a minimum of 20 hauls must be made within the SSRU and must collectively satisfy the criteria specified in subparagraphs (ii) to (iv);
 - (ii) each haul must be separated by not less than 5 n miles from any other haul, distance to be measured from the geographical mid-point of each haul;
 - (iii) each haul shall comprise 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, Appendix H, Attachment E, paragraph 4); and
 - (iv) all data specified in the paragraph 5 of this annex 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 from 30 fish, where more than 100 fish are caught, a method for randomly subsampling the fish should be applied.
3. The requirement to undertake the above research activities applies irrespective of the period over which the trigger levels of 10 tonnes of catch in any SSRU are achieved during the 2001/02 fishing season. The research activities must commence immediately the trigger levels have been reached and must be completed before the vessel leaves the SSRU.
4. In the SSRU between 40°E and 50°E and in locations where the bottom depth is 280 m or less:
 - (i) a maximum total of 10 commercial bottom trawls may be conducted in no more than seven locations, but with no more than two bottom trawls in any one location;
 - (ii) each location must be at least 5 n miles distant from any other location;
 - (iii) at each location trawled, three separate samples will be taken with a beam trawl in the vicinity of the commercial trawl track to assess the benthos present and compare with the benthos brought up in the commercial trawl; and
 - (iv) catches from this program will not count towards the value that triggers the 20 research shots in an SSRU as defined in paragraph 2 above.

5. The following data and material will be collected from research and commercial hauls, as required by the CCAMLR *Scientific Observers Manual*:
- (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) by-catch of fish and other organisms; and
 - (viii) observations on the occurrence of seabirds and mammals in relation to fishing operations, and details of any incidental mortality of these animals.