

**CONSERVATION MEASURE 33-03 (2017)<sup>1,2</sup>**  
**Limitation of by-catch in new and exploratory fisheries**  
**in the 2017/18 season**

Species	by-catch
Area	various
Season	2017/18
Gear	all

1. This conservation measure applies to new and exploratory fisheries in the 2017/18 season, except where specific by-catch limits apply.
2. The catch limits for all by-catch are set out in Annex 33-03/A. Within these catch limits, the total catch<sup>3</sup> of by-catch, excluding individuals released alive in any small-scale research unit (SSRU), group of SSRUs or research block for which a specific catch limit (including a zero catch limit) is in place as defined in relevant conservation measures, shall not exceed the following limits:
  - skates and rays: 5% of the catch limit of *Dissostichus* spp.
  - *Macrourus* spp.: 16% of the catch limit for *Dissostichus* spp.
  - all other species 16% of the catch limit for *Dissostichus* spp.
3. For the purposes of this measure ‘*Macrourus* spp.’ and ‘skates and rays’ should each be counted as a single species.
4. On all vessels, all skates and rays must be brought on board or alongside the vessel to be checked for tags and for their condition to be assessed. Recaptured tagged skates and rays, as per Conservation Measure 41-01, Annex 41-01/C, paragraphs 2(vii) and (ix), should not be re-released. Unless otherwise specified by scientific observers, all other skates and rays caught alive and with a high probability of survival should be released alive, by vessels, by cutting snoods, and when practical, removing the hooks, and the number should be recorded and reported to the Secretariat.
5. If the by-catch of any one species is equal to, or greater than, 1 tonne in any one haul or set<sup>4</sup>, then the fishing vessel shall move to another location at least 5 n miles<sup>5</sup> distant. The fishing vessel shall not return to any point within 5 n miles of the location where the by-catch exceeded 1 tonne for a period of at least five days<sup>6</sup>. The location where the by-catch exceeded 1 tonne is defined as the path<sup>7</sup> followed by the fishing vessel.
6. If the catch of *Macrourus* spp. taken by a single vessel in any two 10-day periods<sup>8</sup> in any SSRU, group of SSRUs or research block for which a specific catch limit (including a zero catch limit) is in place exceeds 1 500 kg in each 10-day period and exceeds 16% of the catch of *Dissostichus* spp. by that vessel in that SSRU, group of SSRUs or research block for which a specific catch limit (including a zero catch limit) is in place in those periods, the vessel shall cease fishing in that SSRU, group of SSRUs or research block for which a specific catch limit (including a zero catch limit) is in place for the remainder of the season.

<sup>1</sup> Except for waters adjacent to the Kerguelen and Crozet Islands

<sup>2</sup> Except for waters adjacent to the Prince Edward Islands

<sup>3</sup> Total green weight caught, excluding individuals released alive.

<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of this conservation measure, for a longline, each haul applies to a single longline regardless of how contiguous sections of gear are connected.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

- <sup>6</sup> The specified period is adopted in accordance with the reporting period specified in Conservation Measure 23-01, pending the adoption of a more appropriate period by the Commission.
- <sup>7</sup> For a trawl, the path is defined 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. For a longline, the path is defined from the point at which the first anchor of a set was deployed to the point at which the last anchor of that set was deployed.
- <sup>8</sup> A 10-day period is defined as day 1 to day 10, day 11 to day 20, or day 21 to the last day of the month.

## ANNEX 33-03/A

Table 1: By-catch catch limits for new and exploratory fisheries in 2017/18.

Subarea/ division	Research block	<i>Dissostichus</i> spp. catch limit (tonnes)	By-catch catch limit		
			Skates and rays (tonnes)	<i>Macrourus</i> spp. (tonnes)	Other species (tonnes)
48.6	486_2	169	8	27	27
48.6	486_3	40	2	6	6
48.6	486_4	120	6	19	19
48.6	486_5	228	11	36	36
58.4.1	5841_1	96	5	15	15
58.4.1	5841_2	97	5	16	16
58.4.1	5841_3	186	9	30	30
58.4.1	5841_4	16	1	3	3
58.4.1	5841_5	42	2	7	7
58.4.1	5841_6	108	5	17	17
58.4.2	5842_1	42	2	7	7
58.4.3a	5843a_1	38	2	6	6
58.4.3b		0	-	-	-