

CONSERVATION MEASURE 41-09 (2015)
Limits on the exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp.
in Statistical Subarea 88.1 in the 2015/16 season

Species	toothfish
Area	88.1
Season	2015/16
Gear	longline

The Commission hereby adopts the following conservation measure in accordance with Conservation Measure 21-02:

Access 1. Fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1 shall be limited to the exploratory longline fishery by Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, Russia, Spain, Ukraine and the UK. The fishery shall be conducted by a maximum in the season of one (1) Australian, one (1) Japanese, two (2) Korean, three (3) New Zealand, three (3) Russian, two (2) Spanish, two (2) Ukrainian and two (2) UK flagged vessels using longlines only.

Catch limit 2. The total catch of *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1 in the 2015/16 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 2 870 tonnes applied as follows:

SSRU A – 0 tonnes
SSRUs B, C and G – 360 tonnes total
SSRU D – 0 tonnes
SSRU E – 0 tonnes
SSRU F – 0 tonnes
SSRUs H, I and K – 2 050 tonnes total
SSRUs J and L – 320 tonnes total
SSRU M – 0 tonnes.

A research catch limit of 0 tonnes is set aside for the 2015/16 season for the research survey in Statistical Subarea 88.2 SSRUs A and B as set out in Conservation Measure 41-10.

3. Discrete research catch limits totalling 140 tonnes have been set aside in the 2015/16 season as follows:
- for the Ross Sea shelf survey notified by New Zealand under Conservation Measure 24-01, to be undertaken by the vessel *San Aotea II* – 40 tonnes
 - for the Ross Sea winter survey notified by New Zealand under Conservation Measure 24-01, to be undertaken by the vessel *Janas* – 100 tonnes.

These research catch limits are fixed and shall not be modified by any overrun of the individual or combined SSRU catch limits for target or by-catch species in Statistical Subarea 88.1.

- Season 4. For the purpose of the exploratory longline fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1, the 2015/16 season is defined as the period from 1 December 2015 to 31 August 2016.
- Fishing operations 5. The exploratory longline fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1 shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Conservation Measure 41-01, except paragraph 6.
- By-catch 6. The total by-catch in Statistical Subarea 88.1 in the 2015/16 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 143 tonnes of skates and rays, and 430 tonnes of *Macrourus* spp. Within these total by-catch limits, individual limits will apply as follows:
- SSRU A – 0 tonnes of any species
 SSRUs B, C and G total – 50 tonnes of skates and rays, 40 tonnes of *Macrourus* spp., 60 tonnes of other species
 SSRU D – 0 tonnes of any species
 SSRU E – 0 tonnes of any species
 SSRU F – 0 tonnes of any species
 SSRUs H, I and K total – 105 tonnes of skates and rays, 320 tonnes of *Macrourus* spp., 60 tonnes of other species
 SSRUs J and L – 50 tonnes of skates and rays, 70 tonnes of *Macrourus* spp., 40 tonnes of other species
 SSRU M – 0 tonnes of any species.
- The by-catch in this fishery shall be regulated as set out in Conservation Measure 33-03.
- Mitigation 7. The exploratory longline fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1 shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of Conservation Measure 25-02.
8. Any vessel catching a total of three (3) seabirds shall immediately change to night setting only (i.e. setting only during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight¹)².
- Observers 9. Each vessel participating in the fishery shall have at least two scientific observers, one of whom shall be an observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation, on board throughout all fishing activities within the fishing period.
- VMS 10. Each vessel participating in this exploratory longline fishery shall be required to operate a VMS at all times, in accordance with Conservation Measure 10-04.
- CDS 11. Each vessel participating in this exploratory longline fishery shall be required to participate in the Catch Documentation Scheme for *Dissostichus* spp., in accordance with Conservation Measure 10-05.

- Research 12. Each vessel participating in this exploratory fishery shall conduct fishery-based research in accordance with the Research Plan and Tagging Program described in Conservation Measure 41-01, Annex 41-01/B and Annex 41-01/C respectively. The setting of research hauls (Conservation Measure 41-01, Annex 41-01/B, paragraphs 3 and 4) is not required.
13. Toothfish shall be tagged at a rate of at least one fish per tonne green weight caught in each SSRU.
- Data: catch/effort 14. For the purpose of implementing this conservation measure in the 2015/16 season, the following shall apply:
- (i) the Daily Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 23-07;
- (ii) the Monthly Fine-scale Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 23-04. Fine-scale data shall be submitted on a haul-by-haul basis.
15. For the purpose of Conservation Measures 23-07 and 23-04, the target species is *Dissostichus* spp. and ‘by-catch species’ are defined as any species other than *Dissostichus* spp.
- Data: biological 16. Fine-scale biological data, as required under Conservation Measure 23-05, shall be collected and recorded. Such data shall be reported in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation.
- Environ- mental protection 17. Conservation Measure 26-01 applies.
18. Conservation Measures 22-06, 22-07, 22-08 and 22-09 apply.
- Additional elements 19. Fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Subarea 88.1 shall be prohibited within 10 n miles of the coast of the Balleny Islands.

¹ The exact times of nautical twilight are set forth in the Nautical Almanac tables for the relevant latitude, local time and date. A copy of the algorithm for calculating these times is available from the CCAMLR Secretariat. All times, whether for ship operations or observer reporting, shall be referenced to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

² Wherever possible, when night setting, setting of lines should be completed at least three hours before sunrise (to reduce loss of bait to/catches of white-chinned petrels).