

CONSERVATION MEASURE 230/XX
Limits on the Demersal Trawl Fisheries in
Statistical Division 58.4.2 in the 2001/02 Season

The Commission hereby adopts the following conservation measure for the exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in accordance with Conservation Measure 65/XII and the new fishery for *Macrourus* spp. in accordance with Conservation Measure 31/X:

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| Access | 1. Fishing for <i>Dissostichus</i> spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.2 shall be limited to the exploratory trawl fishery by Australia. Fishing for <i>Macrourus</i> spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.2 shall be limited to the new trawl fishery by Australia. The fisheries shall be conducted by Australian-flagged vessels using trawls only. |
| Catch limit | 2. The total catch of <i>Dissostichus</i> spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.2 in the 2001/02 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 500 tonnes, of which no more than 200 tonnes shall be taken in any one of the three zones bounded by longitudes 40°E to 50°E, 50°E to 57°E and 57°E to 70°E.

3. The total catch of <i>Macrourus</i> spp. in Statistical Division 58.4.2 in the 2001/02 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 150 tonnes, of which no more than 100 tonnes shall be taken in any one of the three zones bounded by longitudes 40°E to 50°E, 50°E to 57°E and 57°E to 70°E. |
| Season | 4. For the purpose of the exploratory trawl fishery for <i>Dissostichus</i> spp. and the new fishery for <i>Macrourus</i> spp. 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 of either species is reached, whichever is sooner. |
| By-catch | 5. The by-catch in this fishery shall be regulated as set out in Conservation Measure 228/XX. The provisions governing by-catch of <i>Macrourus</i> spp. contained in Conservation Measure 228/XX do not apply to this fishery. |
| Mitigation | 6. 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 | 7. 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 | 8. 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.
9. For the purpose of Conservation Measures 51/XIX and 122/XIX, the target species is *Dissostichus* spp. and by-catch species are defined as any species other than *Dissostichus* spp.
10. 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.
- Data: biological 11. 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 Scheme of International Scientific Observation.
- Research 12. Each vessel participating in this exploratory fishery shall conduct fishery-based research in accordance with the data collection and research plans described in Annex 230/A. The results shall be reported to CCAMLR not later than three months after the closure of the fishery.

DATA COLLECTION AND RESEARCH PLANS

1. Demersal trawling for *Dissostichus* spp. and *Macrourus* spp. in water shallower than 550 m shall be prohibited except for the research activities described below:
 - (i) demersal trawling shall be allowed only in designated 'open' areas on the upper and mid-slope in depths greater than 550 m;
 - (ii) the manner in which areas are designated 'open' and 'closed' for demersal trawling will be determined according to the following procedure:
 - (a) open and closed areas will consist of a series of north-south strips extending from the coast to beyond the foot of the continental slope. Each strip will be one degree of longitude wide;
 - (b) in the first instance, when the vessel has found an appropriate area for prospecting or fishing, it will designate the strip as open, with the area to be fished to be approximately centred in that strip;
 - (c) a single prospecting haul will be permitted in that strip before it is designated as open or closed, to establish if an aggregation of interest is present. There must be a minimum of 30 minutes of longitude between prospecting hauls where no strip is designated open;
 - (d) whenever a strip is designated open, at least one strip adjacent to that strip must be designated as closed. Any remnant strips less than one degree wide resulting from the previous selection of open and closed strips, will be designated as closed;
 - (e) once a strip is designated closed it cannot be subsequently fished in that season by any method that allows fishing gear to contact the bottom;
 - (f) prior to commercial fishing in an open strip, the vessel must undertake the survey trawls in the open strip as described below. The survey trawls in the adjacent closed strip must be undertaken prior to the vessel fishing a new strip. If the adjacent closed strip has already been surveyed, a new survey is not necessary; and
 - (g) when the vessel wishes to fish in a new strip, it must not choose a strip already closed. Once a new strip is designated, conditions as described in paragraphs (b) to (f) will apply to that strip.
2. Survey trawls in each open strip and its adjacent closed strip will be conducted according to the following scheme:
 - (i) each pair of strips will be divided between the shelf area above 550 m and the slope area below 550 m. In each open and closed strip the following research shall be undertaken:

- (a) in the section deeper than 550 m, two stations (whose locations have been randomly pre-selected according to depth and longitude) shall be sampled. At each of these stations a beam trawl sample of benthos and a bottom-trawl sample of finfish using a commercial trawl with a small mesh liner shall be taken;
 - (b) in the section shallower than 550 m, two stations shall be sampled at randomly pre-selected sites according to depth and longitude for benthos using a beam trawl once at each station only; and
 - (c) this will be undertaken in each pair of the open and closed strips using the process described above.
3. 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.