

Collection and Reporting of VME-Indicator Data in Accordance with Conservation Measure 22-07

Application

The requirements of Conservation Measure 22-07 apply to all exploratory fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. (Conservation Measures 41-04, 41-05, 41-06, 41-07, 41-09, 41-10 and 41-11), as well as the exploratory fishery for crab in Subarea 48.2 (Conservation Measure 52-02).

Responsibility

The collection and reporting of VME-indicator data in accordance with Conservation Measure 22-07 is a Flag State responsibility. Vessels are required to collect the data and report these data to the CCAMLR Secretariat, either directly when authorised to do so (with copy to the Flag State), or via the Flag State.

If 5 or more VME-indicator units are recovered within one line segment (see below), a vessel is required to immediately notify the Secretariat of the location of the mid-point¹ of the line segment and the quantity of VME-indicator units recovered.

Definitions

VME-indicator organism - any benthic (bottom-dwelling) organism listed in the *CCAMLR VME Taxa Classification Guide* (available from the CCAMLR Secretariat and website <http://www.ccamlr.org/pu/e/sc/fish/forms.htm>).

VME-indicator unit - either one litre of those VME-indicator organisms that can be placed in a 10-litre container, or one kilogram of those VME-indicator organisms that do not fit into a 10-litre container.

10-litre container - a bucket or other container with a total volume of 10 or more litres. The container must have graduations marks at 5 and 10 litres.

Line segment - a 1000-hook section of a longline, or a 1200 m section of a longline, whichever is the shorter in length, or a 1200 m section of a pot line.

Risk Area - an area where 10 or more VME-indicator units are recovered within a single line segment. A Risk Area has a radius of 1 nautical mile from the mid-point¹ of the line segment from which the VME-indicator units are recovered (see Figure 1). Flag States may require their vessels to observe a larger Risk Area in accordance with their domestic laws.

Fine-Scale Rectangle - a rectangle of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude (e.g. Figure 2).

¹ The mid-point of the line segment must be reported in degrees, minutes and fractional minutes (DD.MM.mm, e.g. report latitude 64 degrees 37.85 minutes south as 64.37.85), with longitudes West reported as negative numbers and longitudes East reported as positive numbers.

Collection and Reporting of Data

Vessels are required to clearly mark the start and end of each line segment on each longline or pot line, and are required to monitor all line segments for the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered during hauling.

The quantity of VME-indicator organisms must be reported as:

- a) Volume (litre) for VME-indicator organisms which fit into a 10-litre container;
- b) Weight (kg) for VME-indicator organisms which do not fit into a 10-litre container (e.g. branching species); and
- c) VME-indicator units which is the combined total of volume of VME-indicator organisms which fit into a 10-litre container and weight of VME-indicator organisms which do not fit into a 10-litre container (i.e. unit = volume + weight).

For each line segment, the vessel must:

- a) retain all VME-indicator organisms;
- b) on completion of each line segment, determine the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered;
- c) to the extent possible, record the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered for each line segment and the mid-point¹ of each line segment on all lines, including zero catches, and submit these data using the VME-indicator data form (VMEv2010).
- d) if 5 or more VME-indicator units are recovered within one line segment, record the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered and the mid-point¹ of the line segment, using the VME-indicator data form, and immediately notify this record to the Secretariat (data@ccamlr.org), either directly if the vessel is authorised to do so (with copy to the Flag State), or via the Flag State.

On completion of hauling the entire line, the vessel must:

- e) determine the total quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered from the line, and report the quantity in the fine-scale catch and effort data form (longline: C2v2010 or pot: C5v2010).

On completion of each reporting period (5-day for exploratory fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. and 10-day for the exploratory fishery for crab), the vessel must:

- f) Determine the total quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered during the reporting period, and report the quantity in the catch and effort report (TACv2010).

Submission of VME-Indicator Notifications

A 'VME-Indicator Notification' is required for every line segment where 5 or more VME-indicator units are recovered. All VME-indicator notifications must be recorded in the VME-indicator data form and immediately emailed to the Secretariat, either directly when authorised to do so (with copy to the Flag State), or via the Flag State (the data form contains instructions for generating emails in the required text format).

The Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of all notifications within one working day.

Risk Areas

On sending of a VME-indicator notification where the quantity of VME-indicator units notified is greater than or equal to 10, the vessel must complete hauling of any lines intersecting the Risk Area without delay, and cease fishing in the Risk Area. A Risk Area has a radius of 1 nautical mile from the mid-point¹ of the line segment from which the notified VME-indicator units were recovered (Figure 1).

On receipt of a VME-indicator notification where the quantity of VME-indicator units notified is greater than or equal to 10, the Secretariat will, within one working day, notify all Members and vessels involved in that fishery of the location of the Risk Area, based on the mid-point¹ of the line segment and the area within 1 nautical mile radius of that point (Figure 1).

Risk Areas shall remain closed to fishing (i.e. vessels are not permitted to set longlines or pots in Risk Areas) until they have been reviewed by the Scientific Committee and management actions are determined by the Commission.

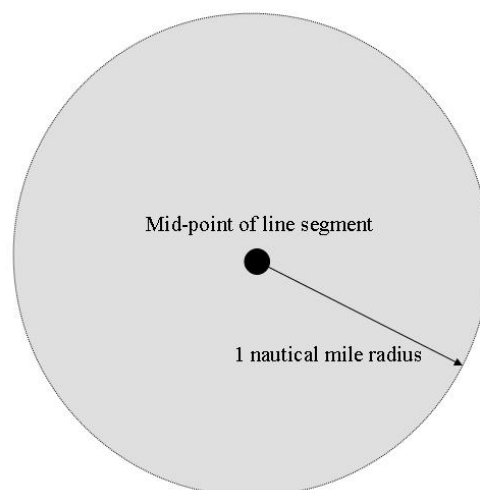


Figure 1: A Risk Area has a radius of 1 nautical mile from the mid-point of the line segment from which the notified VME-indicator units are recovered.

Fine-Scale Rectangles

On receipt of 5 VME-indicator notifications from within a single fine-scale rectangle the Secretariat will, within one working day, notify all Members and vessels involved in that fishery of the location of that fine-scale rectangle (e.g. Figure 2). On receipt of this information, vessels may continue to fish in the fine-scale rectangle(s) in accordance with the conservation measures in force.

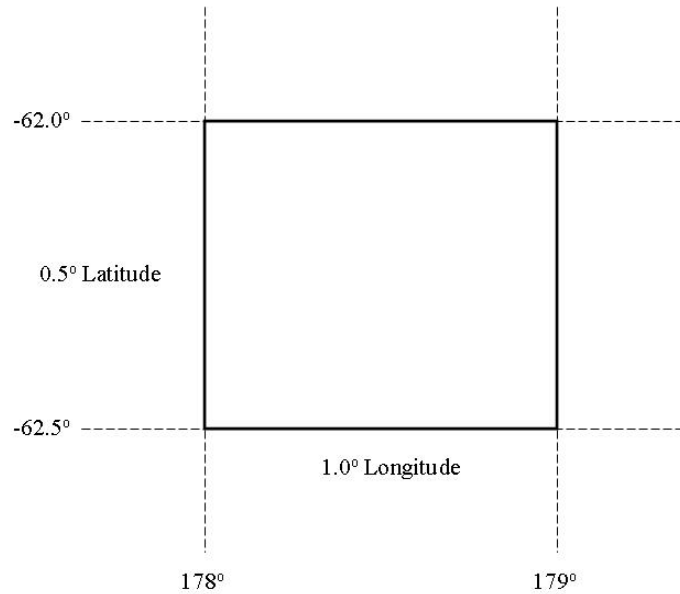


Figure 2: A fine-scale rectangle is a rectangle of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude.

Measuring the Quantity of VME-Indicator Organisms

VME-indicator units represent the combined total volume (in litre) of VME-indicator organisms which fit into a 10-litre container and weight (in kilogram) of VME-indicator organisms which do not fit into a 10-litre container (e.g. branching species). The container must have graduation marks at 5 and 10 litres, and may be constructed as illustrated in Figure 3.

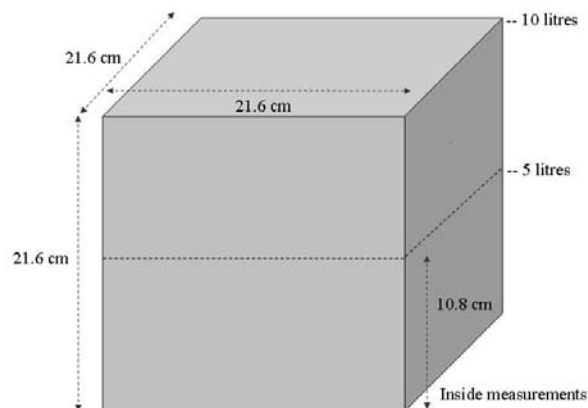


Figure 3: Inside dimensions for a 10-litre container, if made on board the vessel. The inside measurements are 21.6 cm x 21.6 cm x 21.6 cm.

Timeline and VME-Indicator Data Requirements

Timeline/Event	Data Requirement	Data Form and Submission Deadline
On hauling every line segment		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to the extent possible 	Record the mid-point of the line segment and the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered, including zero catches	Use form VMEv2010 and submit data form with the fine-scale catch and effort data
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If 5 or more VME-indicator units are recovered (VME-indicator notification) 	Record the mid-point of the line segment and the quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered	Use form VMEv2010 and immediately notify the CCAMLR Secretariat
On completion of hauling entire line	Report the total quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered from the longline or pot line	Use form C2v2010 (longline)* or C5v2010 (pot)*
At the end of each 5-day reporting period (toothfish fisheries) or 10-day reporting period (crab fisheries)	Report the total quantity of VME-indicator organisms recovered during the reporting period	Use form TACv2010*

* submission deadlines: 5-day catch and effort reports (CM 23-01); 10-day catch and effort reports (CM 23-02); fine-scale catch and effort data (CM 23-04)