

CONSERVATION MEASURE 90/XIV
Experimental Harvest Regime for the Crab Fishery in
Statistical Subarea 48.3 for the Seasons 1995/96 to 1997/98

The following measures apply to all crab fishing within Statistical Subarea 48.3 for the 1995/96, 1996/97 and 1997/98 fishing seasons. Every vessel participating in the crab fishery in Subarea 48.3 shall conduct fishing operations in accordance with an experimental fishing regime as outlined below:

1. The experimental regime shall consist of three phases. Each vessel participating in the fishery shall complete all three phases. Phase 1 shall be conducted during the first season that a vessel participates in the experimental regime. Phases 2 and 3 shall be completed in the next season of fishing.
2. Vessels shall conduct Phase 1 of the experimental regime at the start of their first season of participation in the experimental regime. For the purposes of Phase 1, the following conditions shall apply:
 - (i) Phase 1 shall be defined as a vessel's first 200 000 pot hours of effort at the start of its first fishing season;
 - (ii) every vessel conducting Phase 1 shall expend its first 200 000 pot hours of effort within a total area delineated by twelve blocks of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude. For the purposes of this Conservation Measure, these blocks shall be numbered A to L. In Annex 90/A, the blocks are illustrated (Figure 1), and the northeast corner of each block is listed (Table 1). For each string, pot hours shall be calculated by taking the total number of pots on the string and multiplying that number by the soak time (in hours) for that string. Soak time shall be defined for each string as the time between start of setting and start of hauling;
 - (iii) vessels shall not fish outside the area delineated by the twelve 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude blocks prior to completing Phase 1;
 - (iv) during Phase 1, vessels shall not expend more than 30 000 pot hours in any single block of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude;
 - (v) if a vessel returns to port before it has expended 200 000 pot hours in Phase 1, the remaining pot hours shall be expended before it can be considered that the vessel has completed Phase 1; and
 - (vi) after completing 200 000 pot hours of experimental fishing, it shall be considered that vessels have completed Phase 1 and shall commence fishing in a normal fashion.
3. Normal fishing operations shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations set out in Conservation Measure 91/XIV.
4. For the purposes of implementing normal fishing operations after Phase 1 of the experimental regime, the Ten-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 61/XII shall apply.
5. Vessels shall conduct Phase 2 of the experimental regime at the start of their second season of participation in the experimental regime. For the purposes of Phase 2, the following conditions shall apply:
 - (i) every vessel conducting Phase 2 shall fish in three small squares measuring approximately 26 n miles² in area (the dimensions of these squares shall be 6.0' latitude by 7.5' longitude). These squares shall be subdivisions of the blocks delineated in Phase 1 of the experimental regime;

- (ii) vessel captains shall determine the location of the three squares that will be fished, but selected squares must not be contiguous, the distance between the boundaries of any two squares being at least 4 n miles;
 - (iii) vessels shall fish continuously (except in emergencies or foul weather conditions) within a single square until the average catch-per-pot has been reduced to 25% or less of its initial value and then continue fishing for an additional 7 500 pot hours. Not more than 50 000 total pot hours shall be expended in each square. For the purposes of Phase 2, the initial catch rate for a particular square shall be defined as the average catch-per-pot calculated from the first five sets made in that square. Soak times for these initial sets shall be at least 24 hours;
 - (iv) vessels shall finish fishing in one square before starting operations in another square;
 - (v) vessels shall attempt to distribute effort throughout the entire square and not deploy the gear in the same location on every set; and
 - (vi) after completing fishing operations in the third square, it shall be considered that fishing vessels have completed Phase 2 and shall commence fishing in a normal fashion.
6. For the purposes of implementing normal fishing operations after Phase 2 of the experimental regime, the Ten-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 61/XII shall apply.
7. Vessels shall conduct Phase 3 of the experimental regime at the end of their second season of participation in the experimental regime. For the purposes of Phase 3, the following conditions shall apply:
- (i) a vessel shall begin conducting Phase 3 of the experimental regime approximately one week prior to the conclusion of its second fishing season. A vessel's fishing season shall be concluded if the vessel leaves the fishery voluntarily or if the fishery is closed because the TAC has been attained;
 - (ii) if a vessel captain voluntarily concludes fishing operations, the vessel shall begin implementing Phase 3 approximately one week prior to the conclusion of its fishing operations;
 - (iii) the CCAMLR Secretariat shall notify (according to the guidelines set out in Conservation Measure 61/XII) all Contracting Parties that are conducting operations in their second experimental fishing season that they are to begin Phase 3 when approximately one week remains before the TAC is attained and the fishery is closed; and
 - (iv) to conduct Phase 3, every vessel shall return to the three squares it depleted during Phase 2 of the experimental regime and expend between 10 000 and 15 000 pot hours of effort in each square.
8. To facilitate analysis of data collected during Phases 2 and 3, vessels shall report the coordinates defining the boundaries of the squares where fishing occurred, date, fishing effort (number and spacing of pots and soak time), and catch (numbers and weight) for each haul.
9. Data collected during the experimental harvest regime up to 30 June in any split-year shall be submitted to CCAMLR by 31 August of the following split-year.

10. Vessels that complete all three phases of the experimental regime shall not be required to conduct experimental fishing in future seasons. However, these vessels shall abide by the guidelines set forth in Conservation Measure 91/XIV.
11. Fishing vessels shall participate in the experiment independently (e.g., vessels may not cooperate to complete phases of the experiment).
12. Crabs captured during the experimental regime shall be considered part of the prevailing TAC for the current fishing season (e.g., for 1995/96, experimental catches shall be considered part of the 1 600-tonne TAC outlined in Conservation Measure 91/XIV).
13. The experimental regime shall be instituted for a period of three split-years (1995/96 to 1997/98), and the details of the regime may be revised by the Commission during this period of time. Fishing vessels that begin experimental fishing in the 1997/98 split-year must complete the regime during the 1998/99 split-year.

**LOCATIONS OF FISHING AREAS FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL
REGIME OF THE EXPLORATORY CRAB FISHERY**

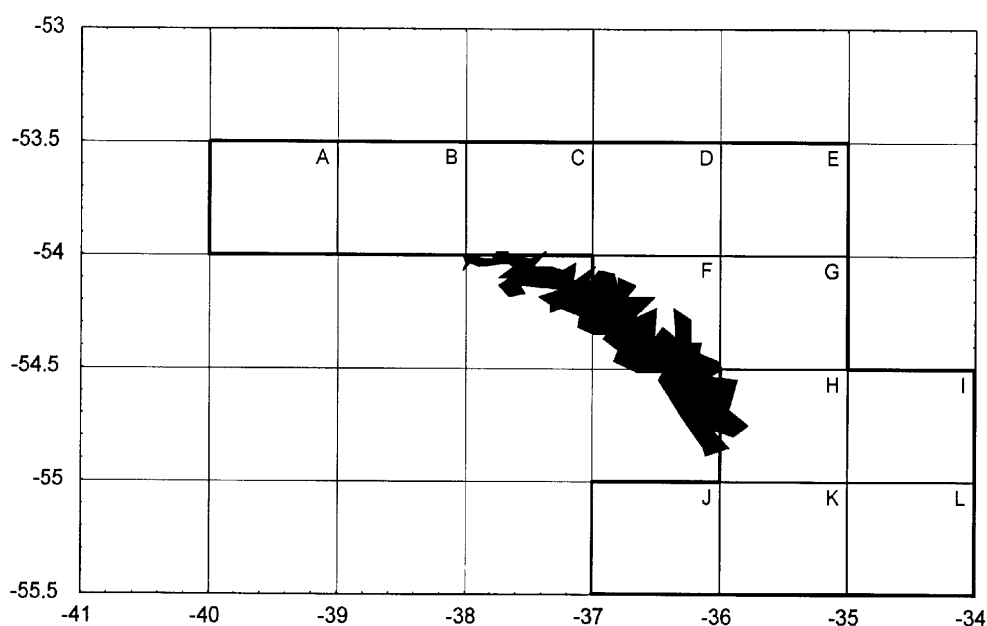


Figure 1: Operations area for Phase 1 of the experimental management regime for the crab fishery in Subarea 48.3.

Table 1: Northeast corners for twelve blocks of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude that are considered to be the operational area for fishing vessels conducting Phase 1 of the experimental crab fishery regime (Conservation Measure 90/XIV).

Block Number	Coordinates of Northeast Corner	
	Latitude	Longitude
A	53° 30.0' S	39° 00.0' W
B	53° 30.0' S	38° 00.0' W
C	53° 30.0' S	37° 00.0' W
D	53° 30.0' S	36° 00.0' W
E	53° 30.0' S	35° 00.0' W
F	54° 00.0' S	36° 00.0' W
G	54° 00.0' S	35° 00.0' W
H	54° 30.0' S	35° 00.0' W
I	54° 30.0' S	34° 00.0' W
J	55° 00.0' S	36° 00.0' W
K	55° 00.0' S	35° 00.0' W
L	55° 00.0' S	34° 00.0' W