

CONSERVATION MEASURE 185/XVIII
Exploratory Trawl Fishery for *Dissostichus* spp.
in Statistical Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.3
(BANZARE and Elan Banks) in the 1999/2000 Season

The Commission,

Welcoming the notification of Australia of its intention to conduct an exploratory trawl fishery in Statistical Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.3 in the 1999/2000 season,

hereby adopts the following conservation measure in accordance with Conservation Measure 65/XII:

1. Fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. by trawl in Statistical Division 58.4.1 west of 90°E and Statistical Division 58.4.3 shall be limited to the exploratory fishery by Australian-flagged vessels.

2. BANZARE Bank is defined as waters within the latitudes 55°S and 64°S and longitudes 73°30'E and 89°E. Elan Bank is defined as waters within the latitudes 55°S and 62°S and longitudes 60°E and 73°30'E.
3. The total catch of *Dissostichus* spp. in the 1999/2000 season taken by the trawl method shall not exceed 150 tonnes for BANZARE Bank and 145 tonnes for Elan Bank.
4.
 - (i) There shall be no directed fishing for any species other than *Dissostichus* spp.
 - (ii) The by-catch of any species other than *Dissostichus* spp. shall not exceed 50 tonnes.
 - (iii) If in the course of a directed fishery, the by-catch in any one haul of any by-catch species for which by-catch limitations apply under this conservation measure is equal to, or greater than 2 tonnes, then the fishing vessel shall not fish using that method of fishing at any point within 5 n miles¹ of the location where the by-catch exceeded 2 tonnes for a period of at least five days². The location where the by-catch exceeded 2 tonnes is defined as the path followed by the fishing vessel 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.
5. For the purposes of this exploratory trawl fishery, the 1999/2000 fishing season is defined as the period from 1 December 1999 to 30 November 2000 or until the catch limit of the target or by-catch species is reached, whichever is the sooner.
6. Each vessel participating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.3 in the 1999/2000 season shall have at least one scientific observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation on board throughout all fishing activities within these divisions.
7. Each vessel operating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. in Statistical Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.3 shall be required to operate a VMS at all times, in accordance with Conservation Measure 148/XVII.
8. For the purpose of implementing this conservation measure:
 - (i) the Five-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XII shall apply; and
 - (ii) the monthly fine-scale biological data, as required under Conservation Measure 121/XVI, shall be recorded and reported in accordance with the System of International Scientific Observation when undertaking commercial fishing in Statistical Divisions 58.4.1 and 58.4.3.
9. 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.
10. The research and fisheries operations plan shall be as set out in Annex 182/A and 182/B of Conservation Measure 182/XVIII (General Measures for Exploratory Fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. in the Convention Area for the 1999/2000 Season), with the following variations:

- (i) There shall be two small-scale research units, one for BANZARE Bank and one for Elan Bank, as defined in paragraph 2 above.
- (ii) data reporting measures specific to the longlining method shall not apply.

¹ This provision is adopted pending the adoption of a more appropriate definition of a fishing location by the Commission.

² The specified period is adopted in accordance with the reporting period specified in Conservation Measure 51/XII, pending the adoption of a more appropriate period by the Commission.