

CONSERVATION MEASURE 203/XIX
Exploratory Trawl Fishery for *Dissostichus* spp.
on BANZARE Bank in the 2000/01 Season

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

1. Fishing for *Dissostichus* spp. by trawl on BANZARE Bank shall be limited to the exploratory fishery by Australian-flagged vessels. No more than one vessel shall fish at any one time.
2. BANZARE Bank is defined as waters within the latitudes 55°S and 64°S and longitudes 73°30'E and 89°E.

3. The total catch of *Dissostichus* spp. in the 2000/01 season taken by the trawl method shall not exceed 150 tonnes for BANZARE Bank.
4. Catch of *Dissostichus* spp. shall be further limited to 100 tonnes in any one fine-scale rectangle (0.5° latitude by 1° longitude).
5. (i) The by-catch in this exploratory fishery shall be regulated as set out in Conservation Measure 201/XIX.
 (ii) 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, as set out in paragraph 5(i) of 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.
6. For the purposes of this exploratory trawl fishery, the 2000/01 fishing season is defined as the period from 1 December 2000 to 30 November 2001 or until the catch limit of the target or by-catch species is reached, whichever is the sooner.
7. Each vessel participating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. on BANZARE Bank in the 2000/01 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.
8. Each vessel operating in this exploratory trawl fishery for *Dissostichus* spp. on BANZARE Bank shall be required to operate a VMS at all times, in accordance with Conservation Measure 148/XVII.
9. For the purpose of implementing this conservation measure:
 - (i) the Five-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 51/XIX shall apply; and
 - (ii) the monthly fine-scale biological data, as required under Conservation Measure 121/XIX, shall be recorded and reported in accordance with the System of International Scientific Observation when undertaking commercial fishing on BANZARE Bank.
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.
11. The data collection plan shall be as set out in Annex 200/A of Conservation Measure 200/XIX (General Measures for Exploratory Fisheries for *Dissostichus* spp. in the Convention Area in the 2000/01 Season), with the following variation:
 - (i) data reporting measures specific to the longlining method shall not apply.
12. The research and fisheries operations plans shall be as set out in Annex 200/B of Conservation Measure 200/XIX, with the following variations:
 - (i) prospecting and fishing will be unrestricted until 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp. has been taken from any one aggregation that may be discovered;

- (ii) once 10 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp. has been taken from any one aggregation the vessel must complete a survey using an echosounder to map the aggregation and the physical feature with which it is associated;
- (iii) the vessel must complete eight research trawls around the aggregation to map its extent and to obtain CPUE data;
- (iv) the research trawls should be arranged as evenly as possible around the aggregation and the track of any trawl should not be closer than 2 n miles to any part of the track of another research trawl; and
- (v) these provisions will apply to each aggregation discovered where 10 tonnes or more of *Dissostichus* spp. have been caught, irrespective of the number of hauls.

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/XIX, pending the adoption of a more appropriate period by the Commission.