

COMM CIRC 12/49 SC CIRC 12/25

Friday, 20 April 2012

Notification for Scientific Research in 2011/12 - South Africa

Noting footnote 2 of Conservation Measure 24-01, Members are advised that South Africa has notified that it will undertake research fishing in South Africa's Prince Edward Island EEZ (attached).

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Enquiries: Mr P. Mullins

Reference: SADAFF:R042012

Mr Andrew Wright

CCAMLR Executive Secretary

PO Box 213,

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18 April 2012

Dear Sir,

An assessment of the Patagonian Toothfish was conducted in late 2011 and it was recognised that there were limitations inherent in the data used in the assessment arising from changes in the fishing gear employed by the operators in the South African fishery. A research allocation of 220 tons was deducted from the Total Allowable catch (TAC) of 320 tons in order to collect the data required to improve the assessment.

Hence, in accordance with CCAMLR Conservation Measure 24-01, we wish to inform you that two of our vessels namely the *El Shaddai* and *Koryo Maru No.11* will conduct research hauls in the Prince Edward Islands Exclusive Economic Zone (PEI EEZ).

A target of 100 sets of Spanish longline gear will be deployed in the PEI EEZ with an associated 300 trotlines to enable the operators to collect these data at no cost to the Department. If the Permit Holders have deployed 100 sets of

Spanish gear, and the catches made with the associated 300 trotlines sets do not exceed 220 tons, the balance of the research allocation will be added to the 100 ton commercial TAC. However, if the 220 tons research allocation is caught before the required 100 sets of Spanish gear, research fishing will cease and all further catches will be deducted from the available commercial TAC.

Would you please circulate this notice to all CCAMLR members?

Yours sincerely

Mr P. Mullins

Commission Representative

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