



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 13/34
SC CIRC 13/22

Wednesday, 6 March 2013

Deployment of a sub-surface mooring in Subarea 48.1 - information submitted by Germany

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Members are advised that the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research has deployed a sub-surface mooring south of Elephant Island in CCAMLR statistical Subarea 48.1. The mooring with passive acoustic recorders was deployed in a water depth of 319 m to monitor the presence of marine mammals also at times when visual observations are not possible. An upward looking Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) serves to monitor the presence of krill.

The mooring is located near 61°00.88'S, 55°58.53'W, and the sub-surface buoy is approximately 120 m below the surface.

Members should avoid fishing in depths below 110 m in the vicinity of the mooring.

Andrew Wright
Executive Secretary

Attch.

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DATE 05.03.2013

For Drew,

I am writing to notify that the German Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research has deployed a permanent scientific mooring in the CCAMLR statistical Area 48.1 (South of Elephant Island).

During a CCAMLR research cruise in March/April 2012 with the German research vessel Polarstern a large number of fin whales were observed in the Elephant island area. This observation suggests that the area constitutes an important feeding area for fin whales in early austral fall. The mooring with passive acoustic recorders was deployed in a water depth of 319 m to monitor the presence of marine mammals also at times when visual observations are not possible. An upward looking Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) serves to monitor the presence of krill.

Please find further information on the area and technical specifications as well as references to scientific observation in the attached notification and drawing.

I should be grateful if the Secretariat would circulate this letter to Commission Members to ensure the mooring does not interfere with any activities in the area.

Kind regards,

Walter Dübner

Walter Dübner

German CCAMLR Commissioner

Notification of a permanent scientific mooring in the CCAMLR statistical Area 48 (Elephant Island Area)

Division and subarea in which mooring is located: Statistical area 48.1

Mooring Position: 61° 00.88'S, 55° 58.53'W

Equipment: Mooring with passive acoustic recorders and upward looking ADCP

Mooring No: AWI 251-1

Mooring Depth: Deployed in water depth of 319m with topmost buoyancy package at 120m below surface (see attached figure)

Deployment: 15.01.2013 (02:11 am)

Estimated time: open ended

Purpose of research: During a recent CCAMLR research cruise (ANT-XXVIII/4) in March/April 2012 with the German research vessel Polarstern large numbers of fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*) were observed in the Elephant Island area [Burkhardt and Lanfredi, 2012]. This observation suggests that Elephant Island constitutes an important feeding area for fin whales in early austral fall.

Since observational surveys are time consuming and only possible for a certain time of the year, passive acoustic recordings are the only technology to monitor the presence of marine mammals at times where visual observations are not possible. The ADCP serves to concurrently monitor the presence of Krill at the mooring site [Cisewski et al., 2010].

Burkhardt, E., and C. Lanfredi (2012), Fall feeding aggregations of fin whales off Elephant Island (Antarctica), *Paper SC/64/SH9 presented to the IWC Scientific Committee*, 6.

Cisewski, B., V.H. Strass, M. Rhein, and S. Krägefsky (2010), Seasonal variation of diel vertical migration of zooplankton from ADCP backscatter time series data in the Lazarev Sea, Antarctica, *Deep Sea Research Part I: Oceanographic Research papers*, 57(1), 78-94.

Mooring ID : AWI 251-1
 Cruise: ANT XXIX/2
 Waterdepth : 320 m

Position : 61° 0,88'S, 55°58,53' W
 Deployed : 16.01.2013 02:12
 Released :
 Mooring length: 120 m

16.01.2013

Anker zuerst

