CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 10/111
SC CIRC 10/63

Thursday, 11 November 2010

Revised Notifications for Scientific Research in 2010/11

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COMMISSION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF ANTARCTIC MARINE LIVING RESOURCES
COMMISSION POUR LA CONSERVATION DE LA FAUNE ET LA FLORE MARINES DE L'ANTARCTIQUE
КОМИССИЯ ПО СОХРАНЕНИЮ МОРСКИХ ЖИВЫХ РЕСУРСОВ АНТАРКТИКИ
COMISIÓN PARA LA CONSERVACIÓN DE LOS RECURSOS VIVOS MARINOS ANTÁRTICOS

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

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Revised Notifications for Scientific Research in 2010/11

Members are advised that the research fishing proposals notified in accordance with Conservation Measure 24-01 for 2010/11 by Japan in Divisions 58.4.4a and 58.4.4b (COMM CIRC 10/71, SC CIRC 10/40), Republic of Korea in Subarea 88.3 (COMM CIRC 10/100, SCCIRC 10/56, see also corrigendum) and Russia in Subarea 88.2 SSRU A and Subarea 88.3 (COMM CIRC 10/80, SC CIRC 10/42) were discussed and revised at CCAMLR-XXIX.

The revised plan for research fishing by Japan in Divisions 58.4.4a and 58.4.4b is in Attachment 1 (see also CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.62). The revised plan for research fishing by Russia in Subarea 88.3 is in Attachment 2 (see also CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.69). Russia will also conduct research fishing in Subarea 88.2 SSRU A in 2010/11 in accordance with Conservation Measure 24-01, paragraph 2, with catches up to 10 tonnes (CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.68).

The Republic of Korea agreed to revise its proposal for research fishing in Subarea 88.3, and to submit the revised proposal to WG-SAM for evaluation (CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.65). Korea will not engage in research fishing in 2010/11.

At CCAMLR-XXIX, Japan also agreed to conduct research fishing in Division 58.4.3b in 2010/11 in accordance with the relevant elements of Conservation Measure 41-07 (CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 12.31).

Andrew Wright
Executive Secretary

Attch.

ATTACHMENT 1

REVISED PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH FISHING FOR *DISSOTICHUS* SPP. IN DIVISIONS 58.4.4a AND 58.4.4b (OB AND LENA BANKS) IN 2010/11 – JAPAN

Following the recommendations of SC-CAMLR-XXIX, Annex 8, paragraph 5.118, the following data will be collected as part of the research plan:

1. A total of 71 research hauls will be undertaken in SSRUs B and C based on a sampling grid with haul locations within each SSRU located 7.5 n miles apart (see Figure 1), and a limit of 53 tonnes of *Dissostichus* spp. (CCAMLR-XXIX, paragraph 4.62).

2. Toothfish will be tagged at a rate of five fish per tonne. This corresponds to tagging of every 20th toothfish based on an approximate mean mass of fish of 10 kg in these divisions.

3. Comparative analysis of trotline and Spanish longline gear configuration will be conducted using a mixed set (a line with alternate segments of Spanish and trotline) that will be deployed on every 5th set.

4. The physical condition of all toothfish and skates will be assessed and recorded for all fish caught on all trotline and Spanish longline gear.

5. All observations of marine mammals will be recorded (and where possible photographed) to allow the potential influence of depredation on catch rates to be analysed.

6. Otolith ageing work will be continued.

7. The data on toothfish length, mass, age, maturity and stomach content as well as the identification and size of all by-catch species. The requirements of Conservation Measure 22-07 will also be followed in respect of VMEs. Oceanographic information including temperature–depth profiles and bathymetry will also be analysed.

8. All of the data collected as part of this research, including an assessment framework that will be developed based on the results of the research, will be submitted for analysis to WG-SAM in 2011.

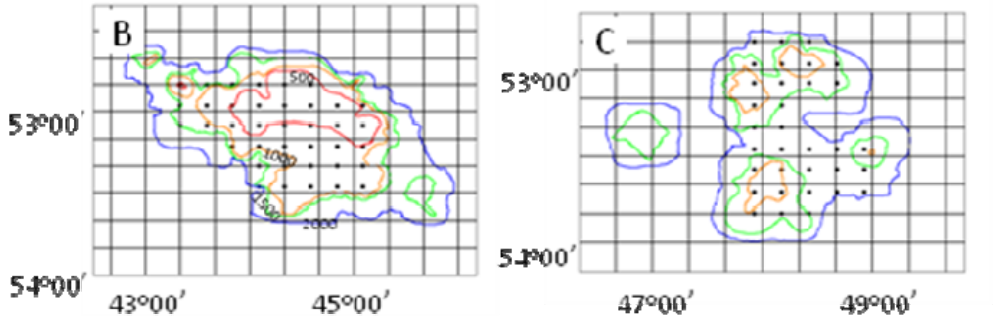

Figure 1: Location of research hauls in SSRUs 5844 B and C (Ob and Lena Banks).

ATTACHMENT 2

REVISED PROPOSAL FOR RESEARCH FISHING FOR *DISSOTICHUS MAWSONI* IN SUBAREA 88.3 IN 2010/11 – RUSSIA

The survey will be limited to 20 research longline sets and the total catch in Subarea 88.3 will be no more than 65 tonnes.

The purpose of the research fishing in Subarea 88.3 SSRUs A, B, C and D is to obtain new data for fished areas including those that could be used for the future stock assessment and to collect new biological samples of the studied target species and bycatch species. Tagging of the target species of the research, Antarctic toothfish (*D. mawsoni*), as well as skates and rays will be the priority task in the research program. Special attention will be also given to the collection of samples for ageing.

The main objectives of the survey are as follows:

- tagging of the *D. mawsoni* and associated by-catch species (skates and rays);
- investigation of the distribution of *D. mawsoni* within Subarea 88.3 SSRUs A–D, both spatial and bathymetrical;
- collection of otoliths for ageing the fish (at least 500 otolith samples);
- collection of genetic samples (at least 50 samples);
- study of maturity and fecundity of the toothfish (at least 50 histological samples);
- study of the diet of toothfish;
- collection of data on by-catch species;
- collection of VME data and data on the impact of longline fishing on benthic ecosystems.

All scientific observations specified in the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation and recommended by WG-FSA and the CCAMLR Scientific Committee will be also conducted.

Taking into account that distribution of *D. mawsoni* in Subarea 88.3 SSRUs A–D is unknown and ice condition in the area of research in the forthcoming season is uncertain, the survey will be accomplished in accordance with the following scheme:

(1) The survey will start research sets from the northernmost part of the survey area: Peter I Island area (1 set), the Gerlache Mountains (2 sets) and north of Thurston Island (1–2 sets).

(2) Then, the vessel will go southward to the area where historical ice distribution has been lowest (eastward from 90° W) and start reconnaissance sets in the depth range 900–1200 m, moving from the westernmost accessible part of the

Subarea 88.3 to the east (Figure 1). The distance between adjacent reconnaissance sets will be between 20 and 40 n miles, depending on ice condition and local bathymetry.

(3) As soon as the vessel encounters toothfish concentrations suitable for implementing the tagging program, it will start a meso-scale survey consisting of up to five transects (Figure 2). Each transect will include three sets aiming to cover the following depth ranges: 900–1200 m, 1400–1600 m and 1800–2000 m. The distance between the adjacent sets within each transect will be no less than 5 n miles; the distance between the transects will be about 15 n miles.

Throughout the research fishing, toothfish will be tagged at a rate no less than five fish per tonne. In total, not less than 10 tonnes (15%) of toothfish will be tagged and released in the course of this research fishing. All sets will consist of mixed Spanish line and trotline segments to allow comparison of size selectivity between these methods. However, tagged fish will be selected preferentially from the Spanish line segments to avoid tagging damaged fish. Scientists on board will monitor tagging rates and the tag-overlap statistic in order to ensure that the target level (≥60% overlap between tag-release length frequency and catch-weighted length frequency) is achieved.

Data collected in the season 2010/11 will be analyzed by Russian scientists and the results presented to WG-SAM and WG-FSA in 2011. All data will be reported to CCAMLR in accordance with Conservation Measure 24-01.

The survey described above represents a first stage in three-year scientific research program for Subarea 88.3 SSRUs A–D.

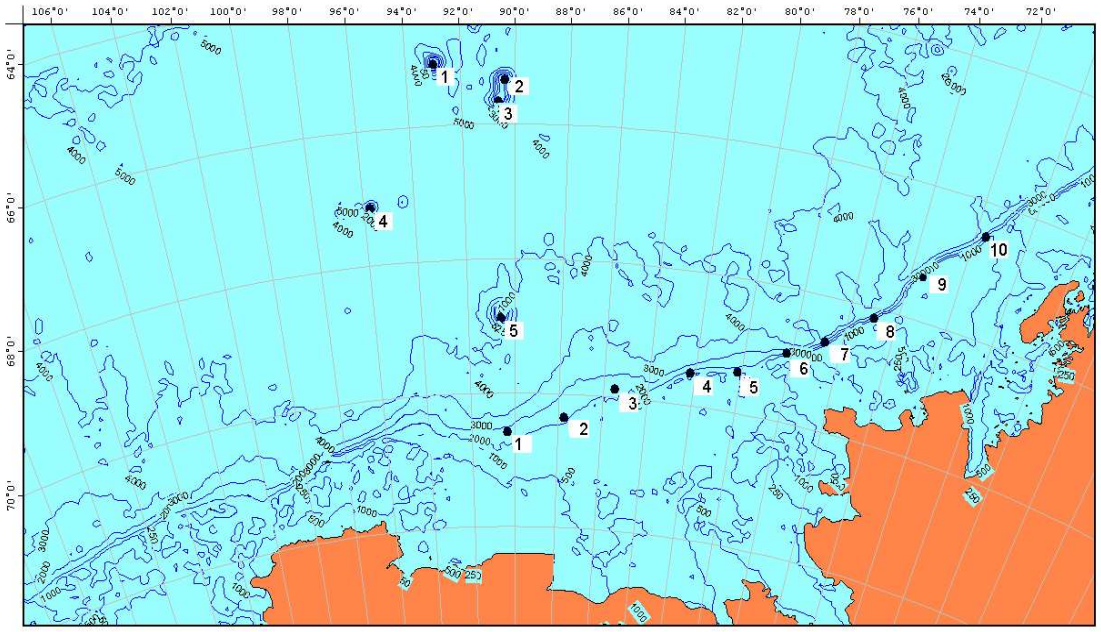

Figure 1: Reconnaissance survey scheme in Subarea 88.3.

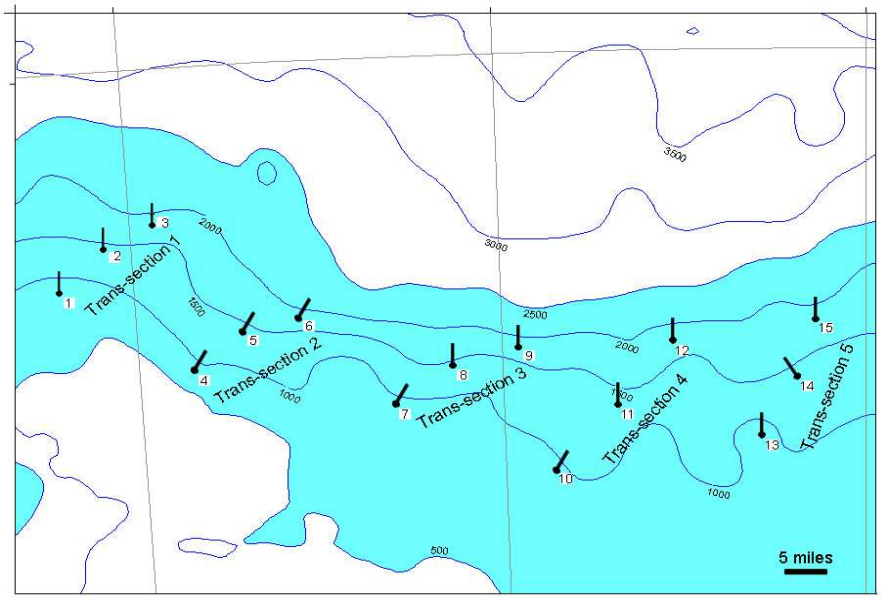

Figure 2: Example of mesoscale survey scheme.