



CCAMLR

COMM CIRC 11/111  
SC CIRC 11/53

Wednesday, 23 November 2011

## **Scientific Committee review of Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems and Conservation Measure 22-07**

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Members' attention is drawn to the attached letter from Dr Christopher Jones (Chair of the Scientific Committee) regarding prioritisation of work in the coming intersessional period.

Andrew Wright  
Executive Secretary

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Dear Colleagues,

Following SC-CAMLR XXX I have consulted with WG conveners to consider the priorities and workload for the coming intersessional period. Given the large amount of work to be undertaken on marine protected areas, krill feedback management, and research plans in exploratory fisheries, there may likely be very little time for a comprehensive review of VMEs and the requirements for CM 22-07. In order that the important issue of VMEs remains on the agenda I would propose that, rather than creating an unrealistic expectation of a comprehensive review, we undertake a detailed analysis of the VME data that currently exists, as well identify the key components of and a process for a comprehensive review of VMEs and CM 22-07 over the next 2 years.

If this is acceptable I will consult with the conveners of WG-EMM, WG-SAM, and WG-FSA in order to identify which aspects of this will be dealt with in each working group in order that contributions can be scheduled accordingly. I would be grateful if you could provide any comments on this process to me ([Chris.D.Jones@noaa.gov](mailto:Chris.D.Jones@noaa.gov)) copied to the Science Manager ([keith.reid@ccamlr.org](mailto:keith.reid@ccamlr.org)) by 31 Dec 2011 and I look forward to working with you all in 2012.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. Jones', enclosed within a circular scribble.

Christopher Jones  
Chair, CCAMLR Scientific Committee