

CONSERVATION MEASURE 150/XVIII
Experimental Harvest Regime for the Crab Fishery
in Statistical Subarea 48.3 for the 1999/2000 Season

The following measures apply to all crab fishing within Statistical Subarea 48.3 for the 1999/2000 fishing season. Every vessel participating in the crab fishery in Statistical Subarea 48.3 shall conduct fishing operations in accordance with an experimental harvest regime as outlined below:

1. Vessels shall conduct the experimental harvest regime in the 1999/2000 season at the start of their first season of participation in the crab fishery and the following conditions shall apply:
 - (i) every vessel when undertaking an experimental harvesting regime shall expend its first 200 000 pot hours of effort within a total area delineated by twelve blocks of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude. For the purposes of this conservation measure,

these blocks shall be numbered A to L. In Annex 150/A, the blocks are illustrated (Figure 1), and the geographic position is denoted by the coordinates of the northeast corner of the block. For each string, pot hours shall be calculated by taking the total number of pots on the string and multiplying that number by the soak time (in hours) for that string. Soak time shall be defined for each string as the time between start of setting and start of hauling;

- (ii) vessels shall not fish outside the area delineated by the 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude blocks prior to completing the experimental harvesting regime;
 - (iii) vessels shall not expend more than 30 000 pot hours in any single block of 0.5° latitude by 1.0° longitude;
 - (iv) if a vessel returns to port before it has expended 200 000 pot hours in the experimental harvesting regime the remaining pot hours shall be expended before it can be considered that the vessel has completed the experimental harvesting regime; and
 - (v) after completing 200 000 pot hours of experimental fishing, it shall be considered that vessels have completed the experimental harvesting regime they shall be permitted to commence fishing in a normal fashion.
2. Data collected during the experimental harvest regime up to 30 June 2000 shall be submitted to CCAMLR by 31 August 2000.
 3. Normal fishing operations shall be conducted in accordance with the regulations set out in Conservation Measure 181/XVIII.
 4. For the purposes of implementing normal fishing operations after completion of the experimental harvest regime, the Ten-day Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 61/XII shall apply.
 5. Vessels that complete experimental harvest regime shall not be required to conduct experimental fishing in future seasons. However, these vessels shall abide by the guidelines set forth in Conservation Measure 181/XVIII.
 6. Fishing vessels shall participate in the experimental harvest regime independently (i.e. vessels may not cooperate to complete phases of the experiment).
 7. Crabs taken by any vessel for research purposes will be considered as part of any catch limits in force for each species taken, and shall be reported to CCAMLR as part of the annual STATLANT returns.
 8. All vessels participating in the experimental harvest regime shall carry at least one scientific observer on board during all fishing activities.

LOCATIONS OF FISHING AREAS FOR THE EXPERIMENTAL HARVEST REGIME OF THE EXPLORATORY CRAB FISHERY

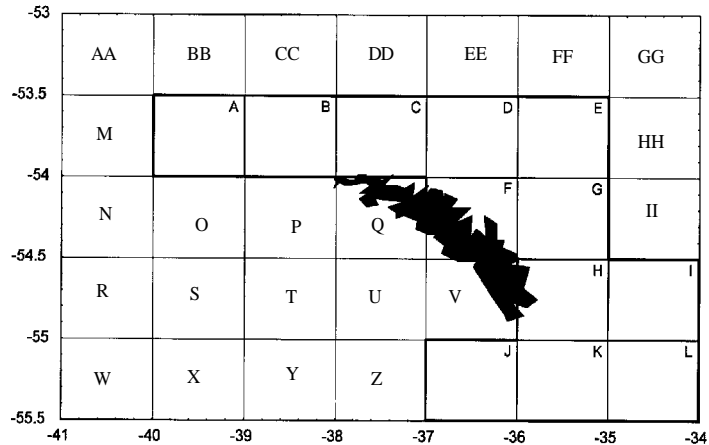


Figure 1: Operations area for Phase 1 of the experimental harvest regime for the crab fishery in Statistical Subarea 48.3.