Conservation Measure 41-06 (2023) Limits on the exploratory fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* on Elan Bank (Statistical Division 58.4.3a) outside areas of national jurisdiction in the 2023/24 season

Species	toothfish
Area	58.4.3a
Season	2023/24
Gear	longline

The Commission hereby adopts the following conservation measure in accordance with Conservation Measure 21-02:

Access

- 1. Fishing for *Dissostichus eleginoides* on Elan Bank (Statistical Division 58.4.3a) outside areas of national jurisdiction shall be limited to the exploratory fishery using longlines only. Directed fishing shall not take place in 2023/24.
- 2. This fishery shall be subject to the conditions in Conservation Measure 41-01, Annex 41-01/B. The area open to fishing is defined by the research block in Annex 41-06/A.

Catch limit

3. The total catch of *Dissostichus eleginoides* on Elan Bank (Statistical Division 58.4.3a) outside areas of national jurisdiction in the 2023/24 season shall not exceed a precautionary catch limit of 0 tonnes applied as follows:

Research block 58.4.3a 1 - 0 tonnes.

Season

4. For the purpose of the exploratory longline fishery for *Dissostichus eleginoides* on Elan Bank (Statistical Division 58.4.3a) outside areas of national jurisdiction, the 2023/24 season is defined as the period from 1 December 2023 to 30 November 2024, or until the catch limit is reached, whichever is sooner.

By-catch

5. The by-catch in this fishery shall be regulated as set out in Conservation Measure 33-03.

Mitigation

- 6. The operation of this fishery shall be carried out in accordance with Conservation Measure 25-02 so as to minimise the incidental mortality of seabirds in the course of fishing.
- 7. Any vessel catching a total of three (3) seabirds shall immediately change to night setting only (i.e. setting only during the hours of darkness between the times of nautical twilight¹)².

Observers

8. Each vessel participating in this fishery shall have at least one scientific observer appointed in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation and, where possible, one additional scientific observer, on board throughout all fishing activities within the fishing period.

Data: catch/effort

9. For the purpose of implementing this conservation measure in the 2023/24 season, the following shall apply:

- (i) the Daily Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 23-07;
- (ii) the Monthly Fine-scale Catch and Effort Reporting System set out in Conservation Measure 23-04. Fine-scale data shall be submitted on a haul-by-haul basis.
- 10. For the purpose of Conservation Measures 23-07 and 23-04, the target species is *Dissostichus eleginoides* (any *Dissostichus mawsoni* caught shall be counted towards the overall catch limit for *Dissostichus eleginoides*) and 'by-catch species' are defined as any species other than *Dissostichus* spp.

Data: biological 11. Fine-scale biological data shall be collected, recorded and reported in accordance with the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation.

Research

- 12. Each vessel participating in this exploratory fishery shall conduct fishery-based research in accordance with the Research Plan and Tagging Program described in Conservation Measure 41-01, Annex 41-01/B and Annex 41-01/C respectively.
- 13. Toothfish shall be tagged at a rate of at least five fish per tonne green weight caught. The tagging rate and the tag-overlap statistic shall be calculated for each research block (paragraph 3).

Environmental protection

- 14. Conservation Measure 26-01 applies.
- 15. Conservation Measures 22-06, 22-07 and 22-08 apply.
 - The exact times of nautical twilight are set forth in the Nautical Almanac tables for the relevant latitude, local time and date. A copy of the algorithm for calculating these times is available from the CCAMLR Secretariat. All times, whether for ship operations or observer reporting, shall be referenced to Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).
 - Wherever possible, when night setting, setting of lines should be completed at least three hours before sunrise (to reduce loss of bait to/catches of white-chinned petrels).

Annex 41-06/A

Research blocks

Research block 58.4.3a_1 coordinates 56°00'S 65°00'E 57°30'S 65°00'E 57°30'S 73°00'E 56°00'S 73°00'E