

SC-02-04 (06)

2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Scientific  
Committee

13-17 March 2017, Saint Denis, La Reunion

SC -02 -04 [06]

**National Report – French Territory**

*Relates to agenda item: 4*

Working paper ☒ info paper ☐

**Delegation of French territory**

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**Abstract**

This scientific report describes the French licensed fishery in the SIOFA area from 2000 to 2015. This report includes historical data and the annual data 2016.

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**Recommendations (*working papers only*)**

1. [text]

2. [text]

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This report describes the French Territory licensed fishery operating in the SIOFA area.

### ***Description of fisheries***

The Austral French Territory fleet is mainly composing with seven to eight longliners and one trawler. From 2000 to 09 three longliners from the French territory worked in the SIOFA Area. One trawler occurred in the area during this period in 2002 (Table 1). From 2010 to 2015, five longliners from the French territory worked in the SIOFA Area, in the Northern SW Indian Ridge sub-area 3. They stay from 13 to 40 days per year and have done 41 to more than one hundred stations. No trawler occurred in the area during this period (Table 2).

In 2015, 20 traps have been deployed in the area. In 2016, 2 lines of 20 traps and 12 vertical longlines were deployed.

The size of longliners is from 55 to 60 meters and trawler is 80 m long. The port of registration is Port-aux-Français (Kerguelen Islands, French Austral and Antarctic Territory).

Table 1: Longliners and trawlers efforts in the SIOFA area from 2000 to 2010.

	2002	2006	2007	2008	2009
Longliners		1	1	2	3
Trawler	1				

Table 2: Longliners efforts in the SIOFA area from 2000 to 2010, days, hauls and hooks number per year.

2010			2011			2012			2013			2014			2015		
Days	Hauls	Hooks	Days	Hauls	Hooks	Days	Hauls	Hooks	Days	Hauls	Hooks	Days	Hauls	Hooks	Days	Hauls	Hooks
5	14	102000							5	13	55500						
8	27	212886	21	60	372164	18	80	453978	35	113	676383	23	85	545432	15	52	363242
			9	20	137250	3	9	49500									
												8	18	89250			
															7	14	80250
13	41	314886	30	80	509414	21	89	503478	40	126	731883	31	103	634682	22	66	443492

### ***Catch, effort and CPUE summaries***

The main targeted catch in the south of the SIOFA area by the French longliners is the Patagonian toothfish, *Dissostichus eleginoides* (TOP). Reported catches are presented in Table 3, catches for the period 2000 to 2009 were not recorded. Primary by-catch species from the longline fishery are the macrourid *Macrourus spp.* (GRV), rajid skates (*Bathyrja spp.*) (BHY) and blue antimora (*Antimora rostrata*) (ANT). The latter species is fully discarded, while the others are partly or totally retained. The TOP's annual catches vary between 11 and 22 tonnes.

Table 3: Catch report (in tonnes) in the SIOFA area from 2000 to 2016.

	TOP, retained	TOP, discarded	GRV, retained	GRV, discarded	BHY, retained	BHY, discarded	RFA, retained	RFA, discarded	ANT, retained	ANT, discarded
2010	11		6.6	3	0	0.8			0	17
2011	22.1		8.8	3.5	4.6	2.4			0	28

	TOP, retained	TOP, discarded	GRV, retained	GRV, discarded	BHY, retained	BHY, discarded	RFA, retained	RFA, discarded	ANT, retained	ANT, discarded
2012	17.7		3.9	2.6	2.4	9.8			1	10.9
2013	16		13	5.6	0	5.1	0		0	44.2
2014	13.5		7.7	3.8			0	3.9	0	37.6
2015	17.2		12.3	6.7			0	0.4	0	33.8
2016										

The main targeted species by the French trawler operating in the SIOFA area were *Epigonus telescopus* (EPI), *Hoplostethus atlanticus* (ORY) and *Beryx splendens* (BYS) (Table 4). Other fish species, *Oreosomatidae* (ORD), *Mora moro* (RIB), *Cyttus traversi* (ZCT), *Pleuroscopus pseudodorsalis* (UPD), *Schedophilus spp.* (SXE) and crustaceans *Palinurus spp* (CRW), *Projasus parkeri* (PJJ), occur as by-catch and hit 75 kg.

Table 4: Trawling catches (in kilograms) in the SIOFA area from 2000 to 2015.

	EPI, discarded	EPI, retained	ORY	BYS	EDR	Other
2002	39000	21000	6485	2051	140	75,3

### ***Fisheries data collection and research activities***

The collection of biological data is conducted as part of the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Observation. In longline fisheries targeting *D. eleginoides*, biological data collection includes representative samples of length, weight, sex and maturity stage as well as collection of otoliths for age determination of the target and most frequently taken by-catch species.

### **Incidental mortality of birds and mammals**

CCAMLR mitigation measures are in force in the SIOFA area for the French fleet. No incident mortality has been reported during the period 2010-2015.

No incidental mortality of birds and mammals were observed in the SIOFA area. The interaction rate with killer whales (KW) and sperm whales (SW) varies from 10 % to 40 % per year (Table 5).

Table 5: Number of longline with presence or absence of killer whales (KW) and sperm whales (SW) per year and interaction rate.

	KW alone	SW alone	KW + SW	absence	not observed	interaction rate
2010	5	8	1	27	✓	34%
2011	16	8	8	48	✓	40%
2012	3	3	3	72	8 ✓	11%
2013	3	37		61	24 ✓	40%
2014		4	11	69	19 ✓	18%
2015	7	10		42	8 ✓	29%

### ***Description of data verification mechanisms***

Scientific observer programs to collect verification data on catch, effort, catch composition (target and

non-target) discards and other details of fishing operations are the same than the one use in the CCAMLR Scheme of International Scientific Recommendation. Position verification could be done through VMS. Vessel trip, landing and transshipment reports; and Port sampling are computerizing in a national database.

### Sub-areas for reporting catch and effort data<sup>2</sup>

Table 1

	Area	Lats		Longs	
		N	S	W	E
1	Mozambique Ridge	20°	36°	-	40°
2	Madagascar Ridge	20°	36°	40°	49°
3a	Northern SW Indian Ridge	20°	36°	49°	65°
3b	Southern SW Indian Ridge	36°	45°		65°
6	Mid-Indian Ridge	20°	45°	65°	80°
4	Ninety Degree East Ridge	20°	36°	80°	90°
5	Broken Ridge	25°	36°	90°	105°
7	SE Indian Ocean	20°	55°	80°	120°
8	North of 20°	Undefined			

<sup>2</sup> Source for Table 1 and Figure 1: FAO Fisheries Report No. 677: report of the "SECOND AD HOC MEETING ON MANAGEMENT OF DEEPWATER FISHERIES RESOURCES OF THE SOUTHERN INDIAN OCEAN" held in Fremantle 20 -22 May 2002

Figure 1

