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

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Annual National Report – French Territory

Relates to agenda item: 3

Working paper  Info paper

## Delegation of French Territory

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### Abstract

**This report summarizes fishing activity by France for French Territories-flagged vessels in the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Area for 2017.**

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### Recommendations

**SC are invited to consider this paper**

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# SIOFA : French territory National Annual Reports 2018

SIOFA REPORT : 2018-44



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**French territory**  
**National Annual Reports**  
**2018**  
**SIOFA Scientific Committee 2018**

## French National Report 2018

This report summarizes fishing activity by France for French Territories-flagged vessels in the Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA) Area for 2017.

The French Administration gave license to seven longliners and one trawler/potter vessel to target various species with pot, dropline, minor line, automatic longline and demersal longline. The French Administration defined 7 areas where the fishing activities were allowed (Annex I).

In accordance with CMM 2017/02, The French historical data have been reported in the French Territory National Report 2017 (SC-02-04 (06) National Report (French Territory)). This scientific report described the French licensed fishery in the SIOFA area from 2013 to 2016 and the annual data for 2017.

### Description of fisheries

In 2017, seven longliners and one trawler/potter vessel from the Southern French Territories are recorded to the “SIOFA Record of Authorised Vessels”.

The size of vessels is from 55 to 60 meters. The port of registry is “Port-aux-Français”, Kerguelen Islands, (Terres Australes et Antarctiques Françaises , TAAF) (Tab. 1).

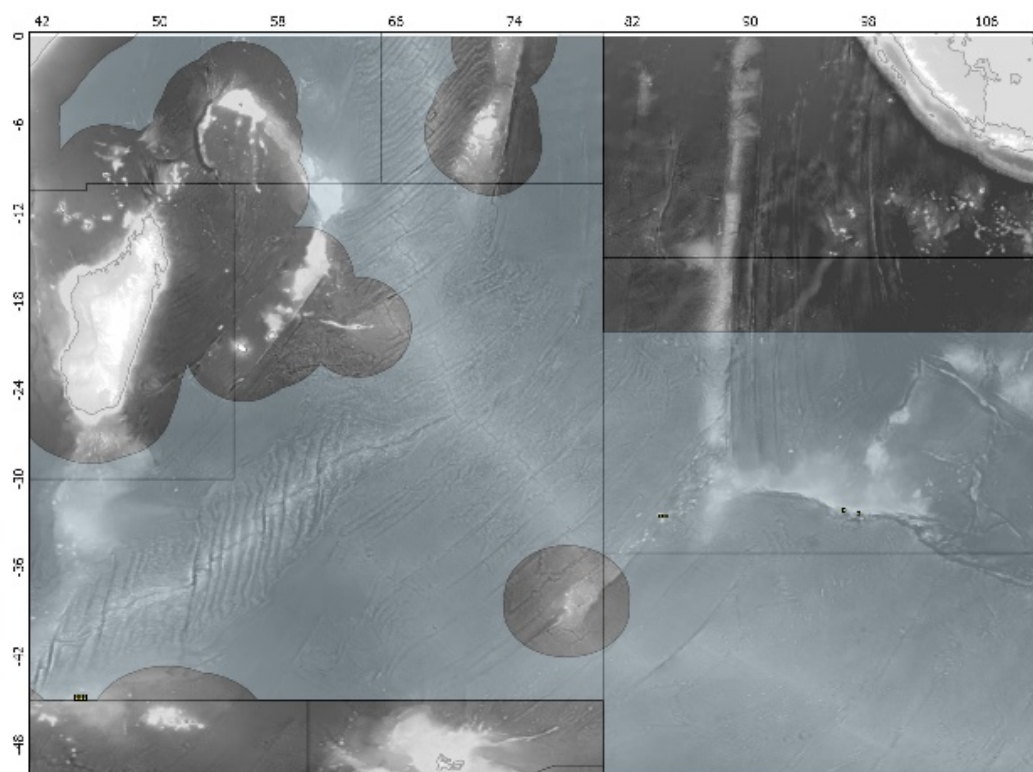
**TABLE 1: FRENCH SOUTHERN TERRITORIES AUTHORIZED VESSELS FROM 2013 TO 2017**

Gear type	Characteristic	No. authorized vessel	Active vessel				
			2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Longliner	55 to 65 (thousand hooks/line)	7	2	2	2	0	2
Potter	X trap / line	1	0	0	0	1	0

### Catch, effort and CPUE summaries

#### Fishing effort

In 2017, only two longliners occurred in the SIOFA area. In the French Proposed Zone 1b, 4 and 5. 33 sets have been registered (fig.1).



**FIGURE 1: FRENCH FOOTPRINT IN 2017**

## Catch

In 2017, the annual Patagonian toothfish (TOP) catches represent 30% of the total catches with the macrourids 20% (GRV). Blue Antimora *Antimora rostrata* (ANT) represents also an important part of the catches. The others species (*Bassanago sp.*, *Centroscymnus sp.*, *Helicolenus sp.*, *Hydrolagus sp.*, *Lepidion schmidti*, *Squalus sp.*, *Zameus squamulosus*) reach only 3 per cent of the total catches.

**TABLE 2: EFFORT AND CATCHES FROM 2013 TO 2017 IN THE SIOFA AREA BY FRENCH BOTTOM LONGLINERS**

Year	Effort (haul)	TOP retained	TOP discarded	GRV retained	GRV discarded	RFA retained	RFA discarded	ANT retained	ANT discarded	Others discarded
2013	126	16,0	0	13,1	5,6	0	5,2	0	44,3	
2014	103	13,5	0	7,7	3,8	0	3,9	0	37,6	
2015	66	17,2	0,1	12,4	6,8	0	0,4	0	33,8	
2016	0	0	0							
2017	33	7,6	0	5,0	2,7	0,0	0,4	0	9,5	0,8

**TABLE 3 : CORRELATION TABLE BETWEEN FAO SPECIES NAMES AND OTHER TYPES OF NAMES**

CE_FAO	ORDER	FAMILY	VERNACULAR NAME	ENGLISH NAME	SPECIES NAME
TOP	Perciformes	Nototheniidae	legine australe	patagonian toothfish	Dissostichus eleginoides
GRV	Gadiformes	Macrouridae	grenadier	rat tails grenadiers	Macrourus sp.
RFA	Rajiformes	Rajidae	raie epineuse	whiteleg skate	Amblyraja taaf
ANT	Gadiformes	Moridae	antimora	blue antimora	Antimora rostrata

## Fisheries data collection and research activities

All the licensed French Territories vessels have on-board a fishing observer to cover 100% of the fishing activities. The data collection occurs at two different levels:

- Skipper level: have to collect all detailed information on fishing events and catches
- Observer level: Independently, fishery observer (covering 100% of vessel deployment) collect data on a fourth of the set to monitor catches (retained and discarded).

All data are registered in a digital logbook and transfer to the MNHN database PECHEKER.

## VME Thresholds

Vessel must collect and retain all benthic organisms for each segments in numbered buckets, those buckets will be made available for observers. The Fishing observers reports all the VME observation in the digital logbook.

No interactions with threatened, endangered and protected species were reported in 2017.

## Biological sampling and length/age composition of catches

The fishing observer is in charge to collect sampling and biological data (length/age composition of catches) (Tab.4).

**TABLE 4: SAMPLING PROTOCOL**

où	taxon	mesure	precision	number
KER CRO SIOFA	Toothfish	TL	mm	100 to 200 ind per day or 10 to 15% of total catches
SIOFA	Toothfish	TL SL Weight	mm	>20 ind per trip
SIOFA	Others	TL *	mm	As much as possible



All area	Uncommon species	all	mm	
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In 2017, we got measurement of 7% of the number of the total catches (Tab.5).

**TABLE 5: MEASUREMENT %**

species	CE_FAO	Measurement % on total catch No.
<i>Antimora rostrata</i>	ANT	3.04
<i>Dissostichus eleginoides</i>	TOP	17.9
<i>Macrourus sp.</i>	GRV	4.5
Others		40.4

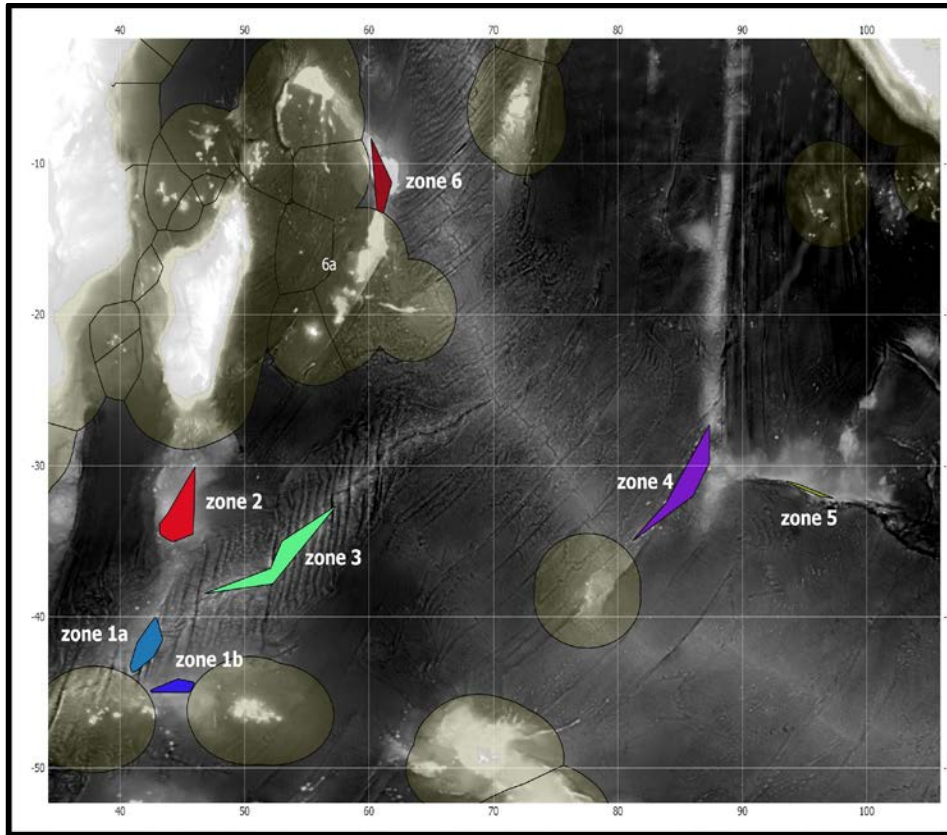
## Description of data verification mechanisms

All the data verification mechanisms are conducted according to the SIOFA CMM and describe in the French BFIA 2018.

## Summary of observer and port sampling programs

In order to keep track of the catch: species and area where the fish were caught are reported on every single box containing the fish to be landed for commercial purpose. An Independent company of expert based in Réunion island is tasked to weight a second time (first time being on the factory of the ship at sea) all the fish boxes and report exact weight for each combination of area, species and product. Those data are then used to correct the weights collected at sea. For Patagonian toothfish an official DCD (Dissostichus Catch Document) from CCAMLR is produced at the scale of each trip and contains all needed information on species, products and areas including SIOFA.

## Annex I: French area of authorized activities



### 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

