

**9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

*Held virtually, 27 September to 2 October 2021*

**SC9-DW05**

**Checklist for NZ Exploratory Fisheries Proposal**

*New Zealand*



## Checklist for Exploratory Fisheries Proposals CMM 13-2020 and CMM 14b-2020

### Scientific Committee Considerations Fisheries Operation Plans

**8. The Scientific Committee shall provide recommendations and advice to the Commission on each Fisheries Operation Plan on the following matters, as appropriate:**

Fisheries Operation Plan Considerations	Rationale	Assessment
<p><i>a) management strategies or plans for fishery resources;</i></p> <p>[<b>Note</b> that SC has previously interpreted this as to mean as having a clear objective for the fishery]</p>	<p>Main objective of the FOP is detailed in section 2.2 of the proposal. Please refer to this text</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><i>b) reference points, including precautionary reference points as described in Annex II of the 1995 Agreement;</i></p>	<p>Proposed new areas are unexplored with no history of fishing. The proposal also includes continuing research within regions fished from 2016 to 2021. Catches from this SPRFMO research are included in the current CCAMLR stock assessment. This will continue.</p>	<p>Partial</p>
<p><i>c) an appropriate precautionary catch limit;</i></p>	<p>See section 2.8.1 of the proposal</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><i>d) the cumulative impacts of all fishing activity in the area of the exploratory fishery;</i></p>	<p>The proposal has been prepared to comply with all requirements of Articles 2 and 22, CMM- 13-2021 (exploratory fisheries), CMM- 03-2021 (bottom fisheries), and the BFIAS. The proposal incorporates a cluster design in order to distribute research effort which incorporates a maximum hook limit per cluster thus minimising any cumulative effects on one area.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><i>e) the impact of the proposed fishing on the marine ecosystem;</i></p>	<p>See Section 2.8.3 of the proposal.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><i>f) the sufficiency of information available to inform the level of precaution required and the degree of certainty with which the Scientific Committee's advice is provided;</i></p>	<p>Annex 2 of the Proposal contains a detailed risk assessment.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p><i>g) the degree to which the approach outlined in the Fisheries Operation Plan is likely to ensure the exploratory fishery is developed consistently with its nature as an exploratory fishery, and consistently with the objectives of Article 2 of the Convention<sup>1</sup>; and</i></p>	<p>This proposal is an extension of previous agreed research carried out in a stepwise manner and which is based on precautionary catch limits, mitigation measures, and measures to limit local depletion and spread research effort.</p>	<p>Yes</p>

<sup>1</sup> The objective of this Convention is, through the application of the precautionary approach and an ecosystem approach to fisheries management, to ensure the long-term conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources and, in so doing, to safeguard the marine ecosystems in which these resources occur.

<i>h) in respect of a Fisheries Operation Plan that proposes any bottom fishing activity, advice and recommendations in accordance with paragraph 21 (b) of CMM 03-2021 (Bottom Fishing)<sup>2</sup>.</i>	Fully covered in the proposal in sections 2.8.3 and Annex 2	Yes
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### Data Collection Plans

**9.** *When considering a Fisheries Operation Plan [...] the Scientific Committee shall develop a Data Collection Plan in respect of that exploratory fishery which should include research requirements, as appropriate. The Data Collection Plan shall identify and describe the data needed and any operational research actions necessary to obtain data from the exploratory fishery to enable an assessment of the stock, the feasibility of establishing a fishery and the impact of fishing activity on non-target, associated or dependent species and the marine ecosystem in which the fishery occurs. The Scientific Committee shall review and update the Data Collection Plan for each exploratory fishery annually as appropriate.*

**10.** *The Data Collection Plan shall require, as appropriate:*

Data Collection Plan considerations	Rationale	Assessment
<i>a) a description of the catch, effort and related biological, ecological and environmental data required to undertake the evaluations described in paragraph 24;</i>	A full fisheries operation plan is presented in 2.8 of the proposal. This plan incorporates and builds on previous research in the exploratory fishery from 2016 onwards.	Yes
<i>b) the dates by which the data must be provided to the Commission;</i>	Covered in the proposal section 2.8.5. The timing of data submission will be conditional on the timing of fishing operations but will be within the calendar year of fishing operations.	Yes
<i>c) a plan for directing fishing effort in an exploratory fishery to allow for the acquisition of relevant data to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target and associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impact;</i>	A full fisheries operation plan is presented in section 2.9 of the proposal.	Yes
<i>d) where appropriate, a plan for the acquisition of any other research data obtained by fishing vessels, including activities that may require the cooperative activities of scientific observers and the vessel, as may be required by the Scientific Committee to evaluate the fishery potential and the ecological relationships among harvested, non-target, associated and dependent populations and the likelihood of adverse impacts; and</i>	Covered under section 2.9 and subsections 2.9.2 and 2.9.3 of the proposal.	Yes

<sup>2</sup> The Scientific Committee shall undertake a review of the proposed assessment and provide advice to the Commission on:

- i. whether the proposed bottom fishing would contribute to having significant adverse impacts on deep sea fish stocks for which no stock assessment has been completed, bycatch species and/or VMEs and, if so,
- ii. whether any proposed or additional mitigation measures would prevent such impacts.

<p><i>e) an evaluation of the time scales involved in determining the responses of harvested, dependent and related populations to fishing activities</i></p> <p>[<b>Note</b> that SC has previously interpreted this as to mean “when will data be analysed and available”]</p>	<p>Analyses will be undertaken on an annual basis having regard for timing of the research fishing. Every attempt will be made, should timing be appropriate, to provide interim and final reports to Scientific Committee.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
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