

# South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation

## Science Working Group

Port Vila, Vanuatu, 19-23 September 2011

### SWG-10-INF-10

#### Joint Bottom Footprint

*Interim Secretariat*

## 1. Introduction

The Interim Benthic Assessment Framework adopted at the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting in September 2007 notes that a 'joint trawl footprint' map should be expressed as grid blocks of 20 minute resolution, with a 'fished' block being defined as any grid block partially crossed by at least one trawl track. The period 2002 to 2006 should be used as the reference period for developing this joint trawl footprint map.

## 2. SPRFMO Joint Bottom Footprint Map

Table 1 summarises the bottom footprint data that have been submitted to the Interim Secretariat to date.

**Table 1: Summary of Bottom Footprint Data Received by the Interim Secretariat**

Participant	Time Period	Footprint Type	Resolution
Australia	2002-2006	Combined Bottom Trawl and Demersal Lining	20 x 20 minute block
Chile	2002-2006	Bottom Trawl	20 x 20 minute block
Korea	2001, 2002-2006, 2007	Bottom Trawl	20 x 20 minute block
New Zealand	2002-2006	i) Bottom Trawl only*, plus ii) Demersal Lining only	20 x 20 minute block

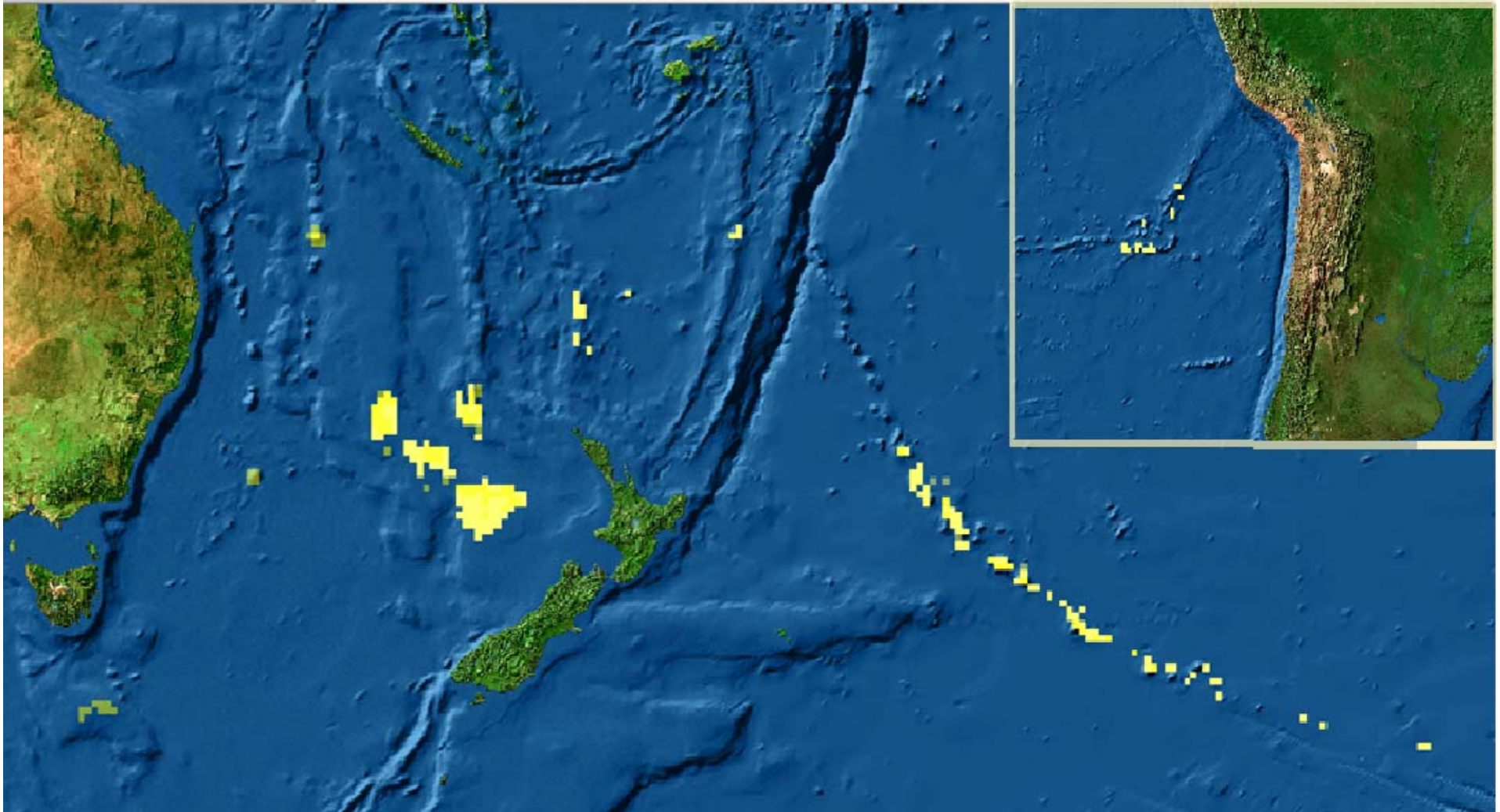
\* The New Zealand trawl footprint map includes information from New Zealand and foreign-flagged vessels that submitted information on NZ High Seas Trawl Catch and Effort returns

The Interim Secretariat has combined the bottom footprint data provided for 2002 – 2006 to produce a joint trawl footprint map (Figure 1).

Note the following:

- 1) The New Zealand demersal lining footprint data are not included in this map,
- 2) Australia's bottom footprint data were received in an amalgamated format which included both bottom trawl and demersal line data combined. The two components of the footprint could therefore not be separated out. For this reason, the Australian demersal line contribution to the bottom fishing footprint for the period 2002 – 06 is included within the joint trawl footprint map presented in this paper.

Figure 1 – SPRFMO Joint Bottom Trawl\* Footprint Map for the Period 2002 - 2006



\*Note: The bottom footprint data contributed by Australia includes both the bottom trawl and demersal line data combined