



# Toothfish Fact Sheet

## 88.1 & 88.2 - ROSS SEA FISHERY

### • 2022/23 TAC:

**88.1 3,140 T**

**88.2 804 T**

### • 17 REGISTERED VESSELS

**1 JAPAN**

**3 NEW ZEALAND**

**6 KOREA**

**4 UKRAINE**

**1 AUSTRALIA**

**1 SPAIN**

**1 CHILE**

The Ross Sea Antarctic toothfish fishery (Subareas 88.1 and 88.2) began as an exploratory fishery in 1996 and is one of the most successfully managed fisheries in the world. It was initially MSC certified in 2010 for a group of vessels meeting strict criteria; remarkably exceeding the already high CCAMLR standards for operation in this area. The fishery was recertified in 2015, and for a third time in 2020.

Of the total TAC, 99 t in 88.1 is set aside for a research shelf survey to continue a 10-year time-series that monitors pre-recruit Antarctic toothfish as an additional means of informing the stock assessment.

Traditionally, IUU fishing has not been major concern in the Ross Sea because of its remote location and ice cover for nine months of the year. However, the rise in the value of toothfish over recent years has increased the risk of IUU, including areas near or in Ross Sea.

Mindful of this, CCAMLR has measures in place such as VMS and port inspections to ensure long term protection of the fishery. There are also regular at-sea inspections of the fleet by naval vessels. The New Zealand airforce fly regular aerial patrols during the season as well.

Vessels fishing in the Ross Sea apply to CCAMLR annually and if approved are permitted to fish for the next season.

Daily reporting from all vessels ensures careful management of the annual quota. In addition, there is a requirement for comprehensive monthly reporting.

Each vessel is required to carry two scientific observers - one of whom is a trained

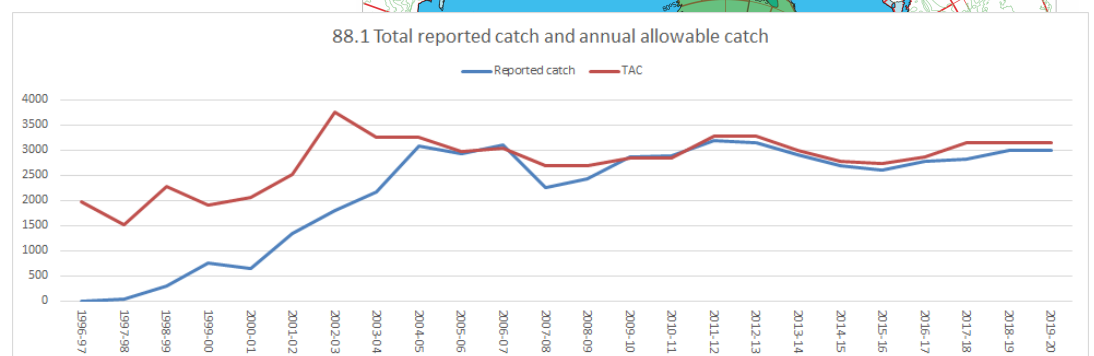
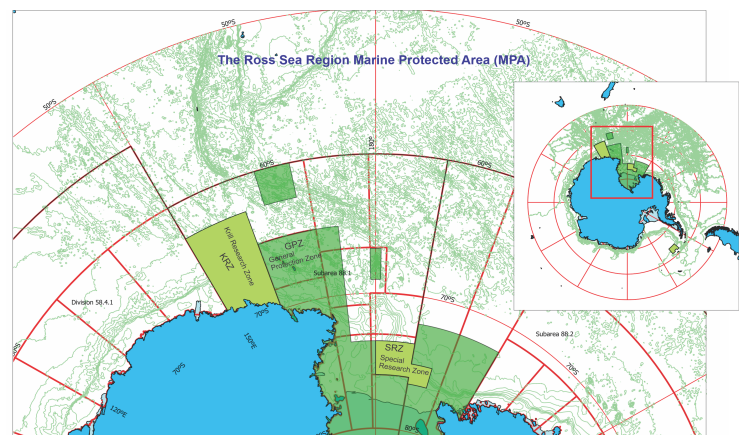
CCAMLR observer.

The Ross Sea Region Marine Protected Area was implemented in 2017, closing significant areas of the Ross Sea to fishing and protecting precious biodiversity.

World leading seabird mitigation measures have been outstandingly successful in the Ross Sea with only three mortalities in the 25-year history of the fishery.

Every effort is made by the fleet to minimise environmental impacts and ensure the pristine Antarctic environment is maintained in its original state.

The fishing season starts on 1 December and is typically over by February, depending on ice conditions.



\*As at 15/06/2023

