

MINISTERIE VAN LAMGEWINGSAKE EN TOERISME

Workflow Details

MINISTERIE VAN LAMGEWINGSAKE EN TOERISME



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS AND TOURISM

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16621 West Coast Rock Lobster TAC submission for the 2007/8

Date	Initiator:	Current Performer:	Due Date:	Done Date	Workflow Status:
01 October 2007 03:55 PM	Masibonge Silevu	WF: ODG Scan Registry	06 November 2007 07:04 AM		Executing

Initiator Comments:
 Please receive the attached submission for West Coast Rock Lobster TAC for the 2007/2008 season.

Step Details...

Step Name	Performer	Task Disposition	Due Date	Done Date	Comments
Step 2 - Director	Ntobeko Bacela	Forward to CD	03 October 2007 03:55 PM	09 October 2007 01:05 PM	
Step 3 - Chief Director	Andre Share	Recommended	11 October 2007 01:05 PM	23 October 2007 02:17 PM	Mr Bacela Please revise based on our discussion with CD: RAI. Thanks Andre
Step 5 - Deputy Director-General	Monde Mayekiso	Recommended	25 October 2007 02:17 PM	24 October 2007 07:43 AM	
Step 6 - Chief Financial Officer	Saliem Mohamed	Funds available	26 October 2007 07:43 AM	24 October 2007 07:40 PM	
Step 7 - Chief Operating Officer	Nosipho Jezile	Recommended	26 October 2007 07:40 PM	25 October 2007 10:58 PM	
Step 8 - Language Practitioner	Nondwe Nkayi		29 October 2007 10:58 PM	26 October 2007 05:12 PM	Edited. LP 26 10 07
Step 9 - Director-General	Pam Yako	Recommended	30 October 2007 05:12 PM	30 October 2007 04:22 PM	
Step 10D - Print Documents for DG	Betta Coetzee		01 November 2007 04:22 PM	31 October 2007 07:04 AM	
Step 10E - Scan & Attach Signed Submission	WF: ODG Scan Registry		02 November 2007 07:04 AM		
Step 11 - Workflow Complete	WF: D:IFM		06 November 2007 07:04 AM		

Step 3 - Chief Director - Review

Review Title	Reviewer	Review Date Due	Review Date Done	Instructions
Step 3 - Chief Director - Review	Steps Completed		23 October 2007 09:20 AM	'Mr bacela' Please revise based on our discussions with CD: RAI. Thanks Andre'

Step Details...

Step Name	Performer	Task Disposition	Due Date	Done Date	Comments
nbacela	Ntobeko Bacela			23 October 2007 09:20 AM	

16621



environment & tourism

Department:
Environmental Affairs and Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reference: V1/3/5/1/1/2/2

MINISTER

TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) FOR THE 2007/2008 WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER SEASON

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To request that you determine the TAC for the 2007/2008 West Coast Rock Lobster ("rock lobster") season in terms of the provisions of Section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998).

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Following the implementation of the revised Operational Management Procedure (OMP 2007), it recommended that the TAC for the 2007/8 season be reduced by 10% from 2857 tons to 2571 tons globally. The TAC should be apportioned as follows: 1754 tons offshore, 560 tons near-shore and 257 tons for recreation.
- 2.2 Furthermore it is recommended that the recreational season be determined as follows: 15 November 2007 to 31 December 2007 (fishing every day); 1 January 2008 to 15 April 2008 (fishing weekends and public holidays only).

3. BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

- 3.1 A global Total Allowable Catch (TAC) of 2 857 tons for the West Coast Rock Lobster fishery was determined for the 2006/7 season (Annexure A).

3.2 The Department considered the scientific recommendations as per Annexure B. Harvesting patterns of the West Coast Rock Lobster resource are area specific and population dynamics may be localised. Similarly, stock assessment of the resource has to be area specific. This has led to the revision in 2007, of the Operational Management Procedure (OMP), that had been used since 1997 (Annexure B).

3.3 On the basis of OMP 2007, it is recommended that the TAC for the 2007/8 season be reduced by 10% from 2857 tons to 2571 tons globally. The TAC should be apportioned as follows: 1754 tons offshore, 560 tons nearshore and 257 tons for recreation.

3.4 It is further recommended that the recreational season be determined as follows:

- 15 November 2007 to 31 December 2007 : Fishing every day of the week;
- 1 January 2008 to 15 April 2008 : Fishing weekends & public holidays only;
- Fishing times during the day : 08h00 to 16h00 for all periods.

MS 3.5 *If necessary,* The Interim Relief fishers ~~and the recreational fishers will share~~ *may be accommodated within* the TAC of 257 tons ("recreational TAC").

4. IMPLICATIONS

- Personnel : None
- Financial : None
- Communication : Right Holders will be informed of the TAC and the recreational season will be published in the media and on the departmental website.

5. OTHER BRANCHES/CHIEF DIRECTORATES CONSULTED

Chief Directorates: Research, Antarctica and Islands, Monitoring, Control and Surveillance and Marine Resource Management as well as Legal Services (MCM).

6. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

6.1 a global TAC of 2571 tons be determined for the 2007/2008 West Coast Rock Lobster fishing season and that it be apportioned as follows:

- Commercial Fishing (Offshore) : 1754 tons
- Commercial Fishing (Nearshore) : 560 tons
- Recreational Fishing : 257 tons
- Subsistence Fishing : Nil
- Foreign Fishing : Nil

6.2 the commercial TAC be divided on a zonal basis for Zones A, B, C, and E and on an area basis for area 7 (Dassen Island), Area 8 (Cape Point), Area 10 (the Hout Bay Sanctuary) , Area 12 (Kleinmond) Area 13 (Hermanus) and Area 14 (Gansbaai),

6.3 the commercial TAC be sub-divided in accordance with an interarea schedule to be determined by the Department, and

6.4 the recreational fishing season for rock lobster be determined as follows:

- 15 November 2007 to 31 December 2007 : Fishing every day of the week;
- 1 January 2008 to 15 April 2008 : Fishing weekends and public holidays only;
- Fishing times during the day : 08h00 to 16h00 for all periods;
- Bag limit : 4 lobster per person per day; and
- Size limit : 80 mm carapace length.


DIRECTOR-GENERAL (ACTING)

DATE: 

TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) FOR THE 2007/2008 WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER SEASON

~~RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 6.1 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~
~~RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 6.2 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~
~~RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 6.3 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~
~~RECOMMENDATION IN PARAGRAPH 6.4 APPROVED/NOT APPROVED~~

*Approved by Minister
telephonically on 13/11/07
M. D. S.*

MINISTER
DATE:

MS
Counter sign on 16/11/07.



environment & tourism

Department:
Environmental Affairs and Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Reference: V1/3/5/1/1/2/2

MINISTER

TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) FOR THE 2006/2007 WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER SEASON

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To request that you determine the TAC for the 2006/2007 west coast rock lobster ("rock lobster") season in terms of the provisions of Section 14 of the Marine Living Resources Act, 1998 (Act No. 18 of 1998).

2. BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

- 2.1 It is advisable that the global TAC for the fishery be decreased from 3174 tonnes (2005/2006) to 2857 tonnes for the 2006/2007 season and that the reduction be shared between the commercial and recreational sectors. If this recommendation is accepted, the commercial allocation will be reduced from 2854 tonnes (2005/2006) to 2557 tonnes (2006/2007) while the recreational allocation will be reduced from 320 tonnes (2005/2006) to 300 tonnes (2006/2007). The commercial fishing season is due to start on 15 October 2006 in Zone A (Port Nolloth area).
- 2.2 For the 2005/2006 season you recommended a global TAC of 3 174 tonnes for the rock lobster fishery (Annexure A). The department considered the recommendations from the Chief Directorate: Research, Antarctica and Islands of the Branch: Marine and Coastal Management (as per Annexure B) and wishes to advise as follows:

- The Scientific TAC recommendations for this resource are based on an updated Operational Management Procedure (OMP), which was recommended and adopted in 2003.
- The input data for this OMP comprise of three annual indices namely the commercial catch per unit effort (CPUE), the fishery-independent monitoring survey (FIMS) and the somatic growth rate. For the most recent season (2005/2006) two indices show a decrease relative to the previous season (2004/2005) while the other one shows a slight increase.
- The FIMS index has decreased from 1.000 to 0.902.
- The commercial CPUE has decreased from 1.125 to 1.047.
- The somatic growth rate has increased from 3.56 mm to 4.11mm.
- Recent evidence has shown that the catches from the recreational sector are fairly resilient to the management measures and are consistently around the 300 to 320-ton mark. A conservative estimate of recreational catch for the 2005/2006 season was 270 tons (of 320 tons allocated).
- As the appeals for west coast rock lobster (offshore) are only due to be completed by October 2006, it is possible that a small portion of the TAC will not be caught before the season ends. It is not expected that the transfer of such a limited amount of uncaught tonnage to the 2006/2007 season will have any negative impact on the resource.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

3.1 A global TAC of 2 857 tonnes be determined for the 2006/2007 west coast rock lobster season and that it be apportioned as follows:

- Commercial Fishing: 2 557 tonnes (previously 2 854 tonnes).
- Recreational fishing: 300 tonnes (previously 320 tonnes).
- Subsistence fishing: nil allocation (previously nil).
- Foreign fishing: nil allocation (previously nil),

3.2 the commercial TAC be divided on a zonal basis for Zones A, B, C, and E and on an area basis for Area 7 (Dassen Island), Area 8 (Cape Point), Area 10 (the Hout Bay Sanctuary) Area 12 (Kleinmond), Area 13 (Hermanus) and Area 14 (Gansbaai),

3.3 the commercial TAC be sub-divided in accordance with an area schedule to be determined by the department,

3.4 the regulations for recreational fishing for rock lobster will remain as follows:

- recreational fishing season:
 - (i) 15 November to 31 January of the following year– fishing every day of the week.
 - (ii) 1 February to 30 April – fishing on weekends and public holidays only.
- bag limit of 4 lobsters per person per day.
- size limit 80 mm carapace length.
- recreational fishing time: 08h00 to 16h00 for all periods, and

3.5 the portion of the TAC that could not be landed by the Offshore and Nearshore Sectors in 2005/2006 (expected to be a relatively small tonnage) be transferred to the 2006/2007 season.

TOTAL ALLOWABLE CATCH (TAC) FOR THE 2006/2007 WEST COAST ROCK LOBSTER SEASON

Recommended by DG on EDMS 4/10/2006.

DIRECTOR-GENERAL
DATE:

- RECOMMENDATIONS
3.1 APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~
3.2 APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~
3.3 APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~
3.4 APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~
3.5 APPROVED/~~NOT APPROVED~~

MINISTER *WS*
DATE: *10/10/06*

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
MARINE AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF THE
WEST COAST ROCK-LOBSTER RESOURCE

August 2007

Summary

It is recommended that a revised OMP ("OMP-2007") be adopted as the basis for providing scientific recommendations for TACs for West Coast rock lobster, together with their subdivision amongst five super-areas. This is subject to the modifications which would follow the adoption of an associated proposal that specifies the basis upon which allocations to near-shore commercial rights holders would vary in response to changes in resource status. Application of OMP-2007 results in a recommended global TAC of 2571 tons for the 2007/8 season, which reflects a 10% reduction from the previous season. This is divided as 1754 tons to offshore commercial rights holders, 560 tons to near-shore commercial rights holders, and a reduced nominal allocation (in terms of a rule agreed earlier) for recreational use of 257 tons. Effort reduction proposals that would lead to the required lesser recreational catch include starting the recreational season on 1st December instead of 15th November, and limiting recreational fishing in January as well as from February onwards to weekends and public holidays.

Background

Since 1997, scientific recommendations for TACs for the West Coast rock lobster resource have been based on Operational Management Procedures (OMPs), which are pre-agreed formulae to calculate such recommendations each year in a manner that incorporates updated information from future resource monitoring data.

The 1997 OMP had the objective to increase the biomass of the resource above the commercial minimum legal size limit (B75+) by 20% over the 1996-2006 period. This OMP has since been revised twice: in 2000 and 2003.

The new OMP (OMP-2007) proposed in this document is for application for the next four years until a process of revision is again undertaken, leading to possible amendment in 2011. A key new feature compared to the previous OMP is that OMP-2007 provides recommendations for TACs for each of five "super-areas" covering the distributional area of the resource, rather than only for the resource as a whole as in the past. This followed the recommendations of more than one international scientific review which advised that the different trends shown by the resource in these different regions necessitated their separate management through specifying limitations/restrictions separately for each such region. In terms of the conventional areas 1-8+ (where 8+ comprises area 8 plus areas further to the east, i.e. those east of

Cape Hangklip), the five super-area groupings are A1-2, A3-4, A5-6, A7 and A8+ (see Fig. 1).

Note that the convention in this document is that, for example and unless otherwise indicated, 2007 refers to the 2007/8 season.

The essence of OMP-2007

To take account of area-disaggregated design requirements, the computer simulation testing of OMP-2007 has been based on separate assessments of each of the five super-areas. One change from earlier approaches is that exploitable biomass estimates are based on only the males above 75mm carapace length, rather than on both sexes, because the sparser information available for the female component of the resource leads to less reliable estimates than can be obtained for males.

The data inputs to this OMP are very similar to those input to past OMPs, except that they are disaggregated by super-area. They include past annual catches (Table 1 and Figure 2). They further include annual resource monitoring indices in the form of trap CPUE, hoopnet CPUE, FIMS and somatic growth rate values, though note that for certain of the super-areas, some of the abundance indices are not available.

The new OMP develops TAC advice by first computing weighted average values of indices across super-areas, with weights corresponding to the relative abundance in each super-area. Figure 3 shows the resultant combined indices. A population model is fitted to these combined indices, making use also of the catch information, and the output from this model is then used, following adjustment by further factors also dependent on these indices, to provide a global TAC¹. This TAC is subject to the constraint of an inter-annual change of no more than 10%, though this can be extended to a decrease of as much as 20% in circumstances of very poor results from somatic growth monitoring data. The global TAC is then split between the super-areas on the basis of formulae that take account of the different trends in indices of abundance in each super-area, though this split respects constraints introduced by the guaranteed amounts to be set aside for near-shore rights holders in each super-area. It further takes account of the nominal allowance for recreational use. This last amount may vary if its proportion of the global TAC moves outside a certain range in a manner previously agreed. (Note that changes to this "nominal" allowance for recreational users are effected by changes to recreational effort through regulations such as the length of the recreational season.)

Reasons underlying the selection of OMP-2007

A number of candidate new OMPs were considered, and the trade-offs in their anticipated performances evaluated. The primary trade-off is between the cumulative catch taken in the medium term (taken here to be the next 10 years), and the size of the resource at the end of that period. In recommending an OMP that is expected (in

¹ The global TAC is a combination of the allocations to commercial offshore and commercial near-shore rights holders, and the nominal allowance for recreational use.

median terms) to achieve a 20% increase in B75+ by 2016 compared to 2006, the following broad features of the results from simulation trials were weighed against one another. On the one hand:

- Disturbingly low lower 5%-iles of distributions of B75+ in 2016 compared to 2006, particularly when super-areas were considered individually rather than in combination, for lower target recoveries than 20%.
- Despite the target adopted in 1996 of a 20% increase in B75+ over the next ten years, abundance by 2006 had shown an 18% decrease (see Fig. 4A); thus the target recovery level advocated would achieve no more than returning the resource to its 1996 level.
- Calculations assume a 50% probability that somatic growth rates will return towards the earlier higher levels of the 1980s, though there has been little indication of this over recent years (see Fig. 3c). If no such increase occurs, median B75+ in 2016 is estimated to be only 3% above the 2006 level, i.e. still appreciably below the 1996 level.
- Even by 2016, all super-areas except A1-2 would still remain at relatively low proportions (between 10 and 30%) of their unexploited levels under recent average recruitment.

On the other hand:

- Higher recovery targets mean lower catches in the medium term; for each additional 1% of recovery over the next ten years, TACs are lower by about 20 tons per annum on average.
- Greater abundance leads to higher catch rates, but the associated economic benefits to the industry would not be that large.
- Higher recovery targets mean less effort required to take the catch. For the target advocated, median effort (which likely relates closely to employment level) in 2016 is estimated at 80% of the current level.

The OMP recommended has shown reasonable performance when subjected to a number of robustness tests. Nevertheless the low 5%-iles for distributions of B75+ in 2016 relative to current levels for a number of super-areas are a cause for concern, and the potential for effort limitation, or of relaxing of downward constraints on inter-annual TAC changes if resource monitoring results become particularly poor, merits attention.

Resource and fishery projections under application of OMP-2007

Figure 4 shows distributions for projected future B75+, TAC and annual percentage change in TAC over the next ten years under the OMP recommended.

Figure 4A shows that although 5 years ago, the resource had more than met the 1996 recovery target of an increase of 20% in B75+ by 2006, there has subsequently been a marked decline, which is attributed to a period of below average recruitment. This inference (from the most recent resource assessment) arises primarily from the sharp declines in trap and hoopnet CPUE over the last 5 years (see Fig. 3a). Figure 4B shows that TAC decreases are to be anticipated over the next 2-3 years.

Results from application of OMP-2007 for the 2007/8 season

The output of the OMP recommended when applied to provide TAC recommendations for the forthcoming 2007/8 season are provided in Table 2, both for the resource as a whole and disaggregated by super-area and fishing sector.

The global TAC decreases as a consequence of downward trends in all four resource monitoring indices over the last five years (see Fig. 3). This decrease is constrained by a maximum of 10% in terms of the OMP-2007 formulae, yielding a global TAC recommendation of 2571 tons. This is sufficient to trigger the agreed rule for reduction of the nominal allowance for the recreational component of the fishery, which drops to 257 tons.

This reduction is to be achieved by decreasing the potential effort in this sector; the specific proposals to achieve this are for recreational fishing after 1 January to be limited to weekends and public holidays (the corresponding restriction for last season came into force only from 1 February), and for the start of the recreational season to be moved from 15th November to 1st December. Although consideration of the pattern of recreational effort during the season suggests that such reductions alone may not achieve the full proportional reduction in recreational catch intended, when taken together with indications that the recreational catch has been below the nominal allowance for the last few years, it is considered that these measures should be sufficient to reduce the recreational catch to the extent required. Recreational catch will continue to be monitored, and suggestions made in future for adjustments to these measures if such monitoring indicates this to be necessary. In addition, as a measure to enhance compliance, the number of ring nets per license holder is proposed to be reduced to 2, this being quite sufficient to catch the daily bag limit of 4 lobsters.

The allocation to near-shore rights holders

All the new OMP-related computations reported above have been conducted under the assumption that allocations to near-shore rights holders will remain unchanged (and totalling 560 tons per annum over all the super-areas) in the future.

This, however, is NOT considered a satisfactory situation from a resource conservation perspective. Allocations to two (A1-2 and A5-6) of the five super-areas are restricted to near-shore rights holders only, and for a third (A3-4), the allocation is almost entirely to near-shore operators (see Table 2). Scientifically, a situation where allowed catches would remain unchanged despite resource indices showing adverse trends cannot be defended. Furthermore, equity considerations would arise if the negative consequences of necessary decreases in the total catch from the resource had to be shouldered entirely by only one of the two commercial components of the fishery.

For reasons of ease of management and stability for near-shore rights holders, it would seem undesirable that these rights holders be subject to variations in allocations as frequently as are the offshore rights holders with their greater quanta. Furthermore,

it seems better (at least for the present) to keep the quantum in a particular year for all individual near-shore rights holders the same, irrespective of the super-area in which they are permitted to operate. It is thus proposed that allocations to near-shore rights holders be subject to less frequent change along similar lines to those agreed for the recreational component.

The specific proposal is as follows, noting that for the 2006/7 season the total near-shore allocation comprised 19.5% of the global TAC:

- If the existing total allocation to near-shore rights holders is greater than 24% of the calculated global TAC for the forthcoming season, it will be reduced to 19.5% of that TAC.
- If the existing total allocation to near-shore rights holders is less than 16% of the calculated global TAC for the forthcoming season, it will be increased to 19.5% of that TAC.

Initial OMP computations carried out implementing these near-shore allocation variation rules did indeed show improved conservation performance for the resource for the super-areas in which the near-shore operators take all or most of the catch. Figure 5 shows anticipated changes in the total near-shore allocation over the next ten years; note that the allocation for the coming season remains unchanged under this proposal, but that a decrease for the 2008/9 season is to be expected.

A possible alternative to OMP-2007

A concern raised by industry involves the socio-economic difficulties and disruption of supplies to international markets that would arise from a third successive year of a 10% decrease in the global TAC (see Fig. 4B), particularly in circumstances where delays in advising allocations over recent years have led to additional operational difficulties.

In response to this, an alternative to OMP-2007 was developed which would, for the 2007/8 season only, restrict the extent of the TAC reduction to 6%, rather than 10%, to smooth the industry's transition towards lower TACs. This alternative formula was adjusted so that by 2016, the median B75+ level achieved would be the same as for OMP-2007, i.e. greater catches in the next few years would be compensated by lower catches later during the ten year period considered. Under this alternative, the allowance for recreational use for the 2007/8 season would remain unchanged (being reduced only for the 2008/9 season), and the commercial component of the TAC would be 2403 rather than 2314 tons, thereby assisting with the socio-economic and international market problems indicated above.

Nevertheless, OMP-2007 was preferred. A concern with the alternative was the delay of a year until the allowance for recreational use would be decreased, and hence until measures considered necessary to reduce effort in this sector would be introduced.

The delay occurs because under a smaller decrease in the global TAC for 2007/8, the threshold for downward adjustment of the recreational allowance is crossed only for the 2008/9 season, and an *ad hoc* adjustment to this pre-agreed threshold for the coming season alone is considered undesirable practice. Furthermore, since a further

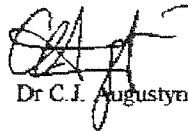
10% downward adjustment in the global TAC for the 2008/9 season is projected (see Fig. 4B), it seems that industry needs to "bite the bullet" now to downsize accordingly.

However, it is recognised that further evaluation of socio-economic impacts in other management fora might lead to suggestions to reconsider this alternative to OMP-2007.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. OMP-2007 should be adopted as the basis for providing scientific recommendations for TACs for West Coast rock lobster until the planned 2011 review, though subject to the considerations raised in points 2-4 below.
2. The basis suggested for possible future variation in near-shore allocations that is specified above should be adopted, and the necessary modifications made to the OMP-2007 formulae to allow for this.
3. OMP-2007 should be augmented by specific "exceptional circumstances" provisions that allow more drastic TAC reductions than envisaged above in circumstances where resource monitoring results are particularly poor.
4. Effort limitation provisions should be considered for the fishery in addition to the present TAC controls. If such effort limitations are implemented before 2011, possible consequential changes to OMP-2007 should be evaluated, and if deemed necessary implemented simultaneously with such effort limitation provisions.
5. As indicated by OMP-2007, the global TAC for the 2007/2008 season should be set at 2571 tons (this reduction from the previous season is limited by the 10% constraint that is imposed by OMP-2007). At this level for the global TAC, the agreed threshold for a reduction in the nominal allowance for recreational use is crossed. After subtraction of 257 tons, this being the consequent downwardly adjusted allowance for recreational use, the balance of the global TAC should be split 1754 tons to offshore operators, and 560 tons to near-shore operators. These last two amounts should be allocated by super-area as indicated in Table 2. Further subdivision of these allocations by sub-area within each super-area should be as specified by the Department.
6. The reduction in allowance for recreational fishing indicated in the previous recommendation should be achieved by changing the current recreational season of 15th November to 30th April to commence instead on 1st December, and also by restricting such fishing after 31 December to weekends and public holidays only (instead of after 31 January as last season). In other respects existing recreational limits should continue to apply, viz. a bag limit of 4 lobsters per person per day, a size limit of 80 mm carapace length, and fishing restricted to 08h:00 to 16h:00 on all days for which this is allowed, except that in addition a limitation of a maximum of 2 ring nets per license holder should be imposed to enhance compliance.



Dr C.I. Augustyn

Chief Director: Research, Antarctica and Islands

10/09/2007

Table 1: Historic catches for West Coast rock lobster (unit MT). Note that the figures under recreational for the last four years reflect the nominal allowance for that component of the fishery.

	Commercial	Recreational	Global
1992	2176	469	2645
1993	2197	391	2588
1994	1966	336	2302
1995	1516	379	1895
1996	1674	496	2170
1997	1918	340	2258
1998	1792	249	2041
1999	2315	360	2675
2000	1609	404	2013
2001	2073	468	2541
2002	2462	583	3045
2003	2918	320	3238
2004	3205	320	3525
2005	2875	320	3195
2006	2557	300	2857

Table 2: TAC recommendations for 2007/8 season using OMP-2007.

	Global TAC (Commercial + recreational)	Commercial only	Offshore quotas	Near-shore quotas	Recreational
Total	2571	2314	1754	560	257
A1-2	35	30	0	30	
A3-4	127	95	5	90	
A5-6	72	40	0	40	
A7	874	863	863	0	
A8+	1463	1286	886	400	

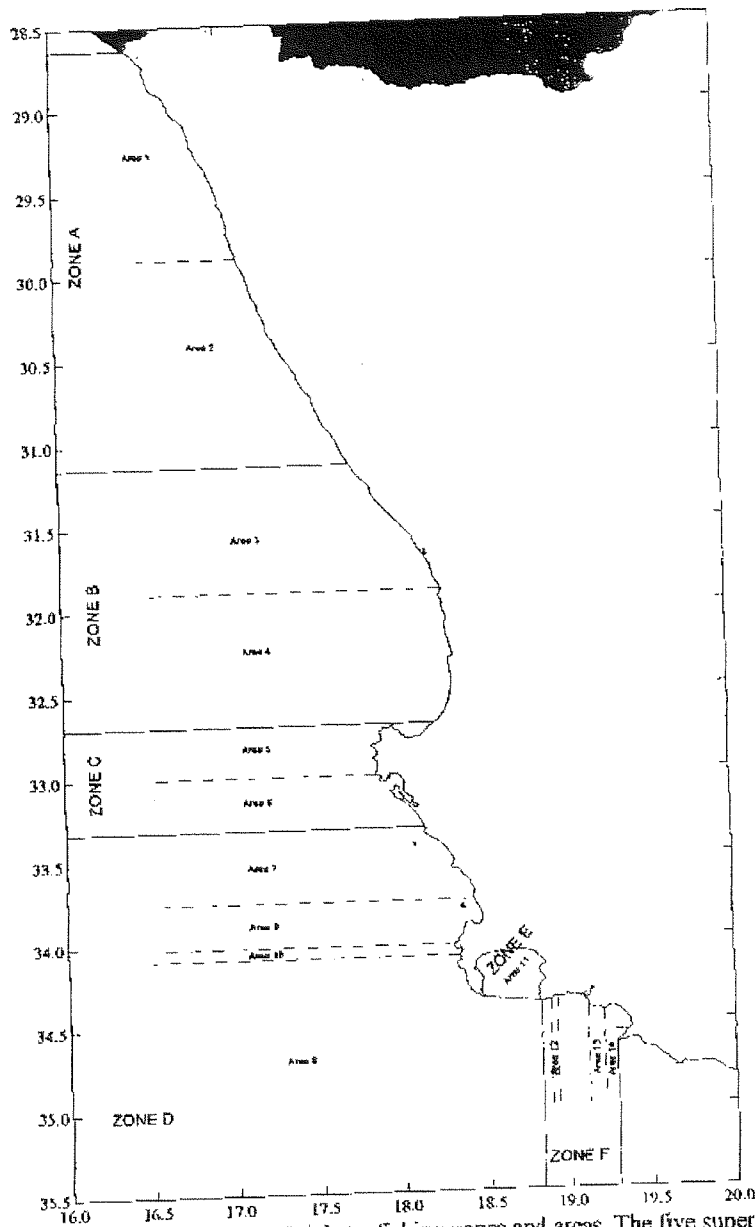


Figure 1: West Coast rock lobster fishing zones and areas. The five super-areas are A1-2 corresponding to Zone A, A3-4 to Zone B, A5-6 to Zone C, A7 being the northernmost Area within Zone D, and A8+ comprising Area 8 of Zone D in conjunction with Zone F.

Figure 2: Historic catch for West Coast rock lobster – the combined commercial plus recreational trend is shown. This catch closely approximates the TAC. For 2006 the TAC is shown.

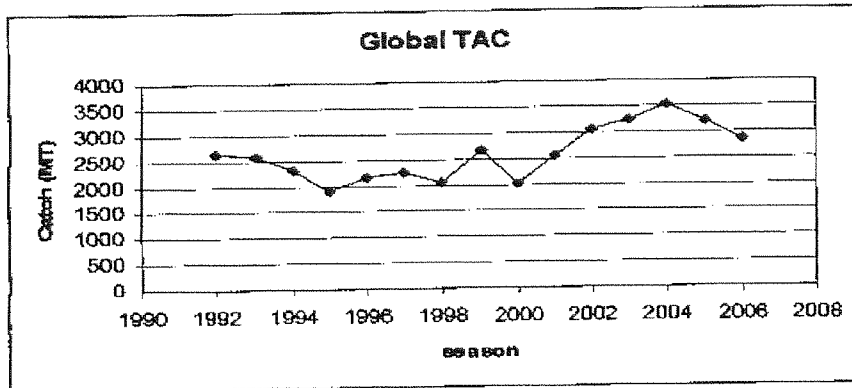


Figure 3a: Combined (over all relevant super-areas) trap and hoopnet CPUE trends used as input to OMP-2007. Note that each series is normalised to its average over the period shown.

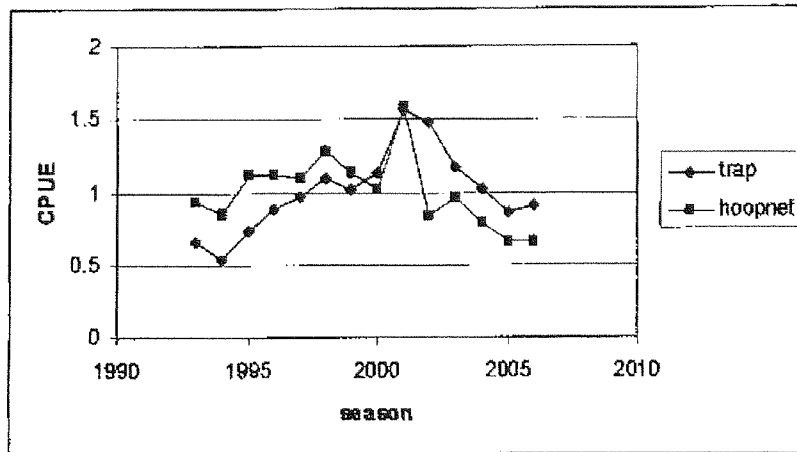


Figure 3b: Combined (over all relevant super-areas) FIMS CPUE trend used as input to OMP-2007. Note that the series is normalised to its average over the period shown.

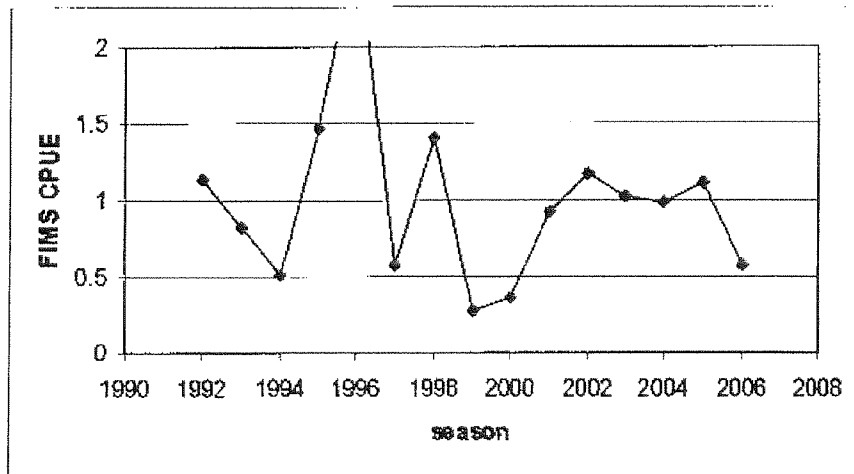


Figure 3c: Combined (over all relevant super-areas) somatic growth rate trend used as input to OMP-2007.

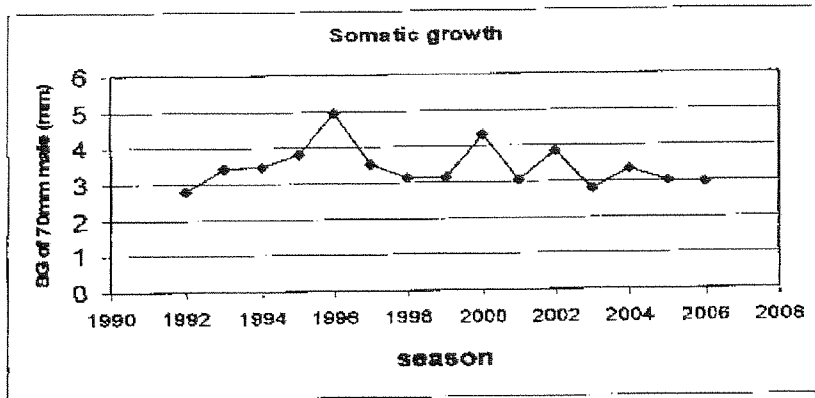


Figure 4: Projections under OMP-2007. **Plot A** indicates the trend in male biomass above 75mm carapace length (B75+), showing the median with 5th and 95th percentiles. In each plot, the vertical hashed line indicates the start of the projection period. **Plot B** is the commercial TAC showing the median, with 50%-iles (black), 75%-iles (dark-grey) and 90%-iles (light grey). **Plot C** is the commercial TAC annual variation, showing the median, with 50%- , 75%- and 90%-iles (shading as for plot B).

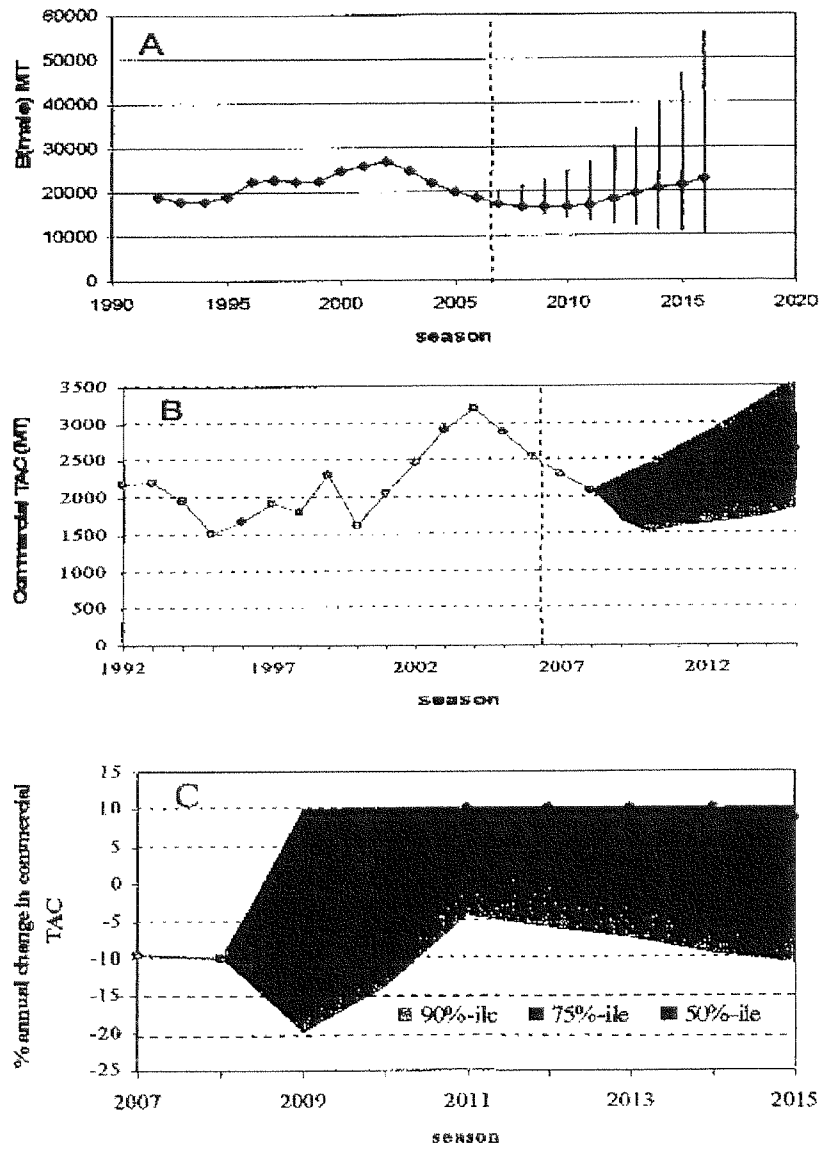
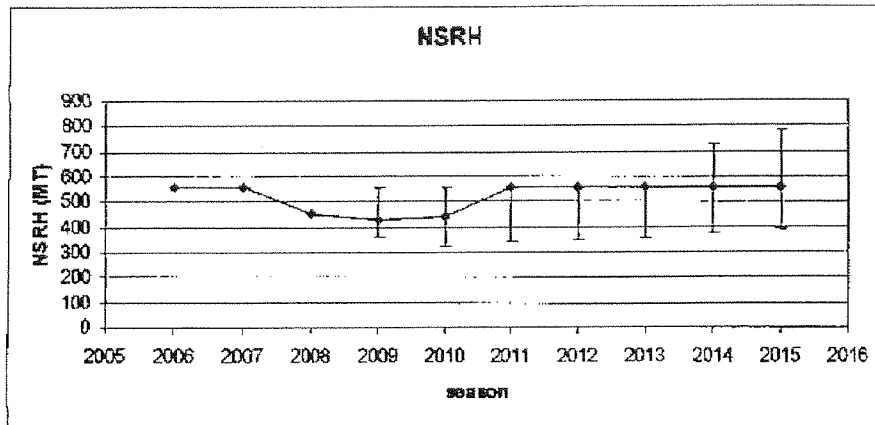


Figure 5: Predicted total allocation to near-shore rights holders (NSRH) for the OMP-2007 variant for which there is provision for this allocation to vary depending on resource status. Medians together with 5th and 95th percentiles are shown.



From: Constance Molope
To: Betta Coetzee
Date: 11/7/2007 8:28 AM
Subject: Fwd: FINAL TAC WCRL
Attachments: 16621 Recommendation for WCRL 2007 2008 FINAL.doc

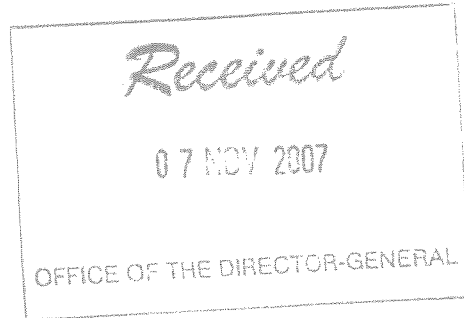
Dear Betta

MCM would like to change the contents of the memo they sent to Ministry, 16621. It is important that the acting DG recommends the memo again. Please print 16621 with the workflow details again with the new memo and send to acting DG with that explanation.

Kindly treat as urgent.

Regards

Constance



>>> Marianne Louw 11/6/2007 3:52 PM >>>
 Dear Constance

Note Andre's e-mail below.

Please find attached the revised version of the West Coast Lobster 2007 document for Act DG to sign off on it and then for Minister's signature (EDMS 16621) as discussed.

Please do not hesitate to call me or Andre if you need more clarity on this matter or assistance.

Regards
Marianne

>>> Andre Share 06 November 2007 >>>
 Dear Marianne

As discussed and approved by Dr Mayekiso, please find attached the FINAL TAC for WCRL to be forwarded to DG and Minister.

Kind regards
Andre

Mr André Share
 Chief Director: Marine Resource Ma
 Department of Environmental Affairs
 Branch: Marine and Coastal Manage
 Private Bag X2
 ROGGE BAY
 8012
 CAPE TOWN
 REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Tel: (+27 21) 402 3552 / 402 3019

9/11/07
 Ministry
 MCM revised the content
 of memo - DG (Acting)
 recommended
 Betta

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E-mail: ashare@deat.gov.za



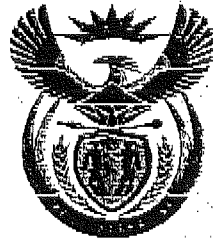
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
SOUTH AFRICA

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET	
TO: Monde Mayekiso	FROM: Marius Niemant (Lindie)
COMPANY:	DATE: 13.11.07
FAX NO: 021-419 6942.	TOTAL NO OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER 1 + 4 (5)
PHONE NO:	SENDER'S REF. NO:
RE:	YOUR REF. NO:
<input type="checkbox"/> URGENT <input type="checkbox"/> OR REVIEW <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE COMMENT <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE REPLY <input type="checkbox"/> PLEASE RECYCLE	
<u>NOTES / COMMENTS</u>	

TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

TIME : 13/11/2007 13:27
 NAME : DPT OF ENVIRO AFF
 FAX : 021-4653216
 TEL : 021-4657240
 SER. # : 000C4J233680

DATE, TIME	13/11 13:26
FAX NO. /NAME	0214196942
DURATION	00:01:02
PAGE(S)	05
RESULT	OK
MODE	STANDARD ECM



MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TOURISM
SOUTH AFRICA

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL SHEET

TO: <i>Mande Mayekiso</i>	FROM: <i>Marius Niemont (Linde)</i>
COMPANY:	DATE: <i>13.11.07</i>
FAX NO: <i>021-419 6942</i>	TOTAL NO OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER <i>1 + 4 (5)</i>
PHONE NO:	SENDER'S REF. NO:
RE:	YOUR REF. NO:

URGENT OR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

NOTES / COMMENTS

From: Ntobeko Bacela
To: Diemont, Marius
Date: 2007/11/14 12:13
Subject: WCRL interactions

CC: Middleton, Sue; Share, Andre
Dear Marius,

You requested that I indicate whether I had interactions with the stakeholders (commercial and recreational) regarding west coast rock lobster. Yes, I did have interactions with the West Coast Rock Lobster Association through Mr Peter Foley, Mr Gaston Fernandes and Mr Patrick Mngxuneni; and with Recreational fishers through Mr Cary Steelbow. We have also had a management working group meeting previously. These interactions were in the context of the recreational and commercial fishing and the season.

All of us, including stakeholders expect the decrease in the TAC and adjustments in the fishing season in consideration of outlook of the resource.

Regards,
Ntobeko