

Recommendation paper

Title: Changes to 'G' licence - fishing season - 2022

Date: 7th December 2021

Report of: Director of Natural Resources

1. Background:

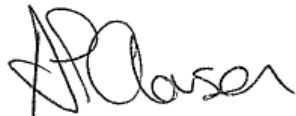
- 1.1. Historically the fishing period for the 'G' licence has been for the period 1st March to 31st May. In years of abundant *Illex argentinus*, the start of the season has been brought forward to the 22nd February (as in 2019).
- 1.2. Target species under this licence type are *Illex argentinus*, *Martialia hyadesi*, Southern Blue Whiting (*Micromesistius australis*), Hoki (*Macruronus magellanicus*) Red cod (*Salilota australis*), Kingclip (*Genypterus blacodes*) and Rock cod (*Patagonotothen ramsayi*).
- 1.3. The Falkland Islands Government commissioned an independent review of the Finfish fishery and MacAlister Elliot & Partners (MEP 2020) were appointed to undertake this work. The focus of the review was to consider moving finfish allocations from a system of Total Allowable Effort (TAE) to a system of Total Allowable Catch (TAC) or improving the system of TAE.

2. Presentation and consultations:

- 2.1. During the 2021 June and September Fisheries Advisory Committee (FAC), DONR introduced proposals to establish a new management structure for FI finfish trawl licences based on the MEP review.
- 2.2. This new system uses ICES stock assessment modelling to determine the TAC on a stock by stock basis. These TACs are converted into TAE (Vessel Units) to ensure operational management on a TAE basis can continue. Spatial and temporal management tools were also reviewed and amended as part of this process.
- 2.3. Presentations were made by Senior Stock Assessment Scientist – Dr Andreas Winter to both Fisheries Advisory Committee meetings regarding Licensing Advice and Management Proposals for 2022.
- 2.4. Please also refer to Licensing Advice 2022 for more detailed information
- 2.5. Various individual meetings were held by DONR with stakeholders on a company by company basis, as requested, to discuss possible impacts of introducing the changes.

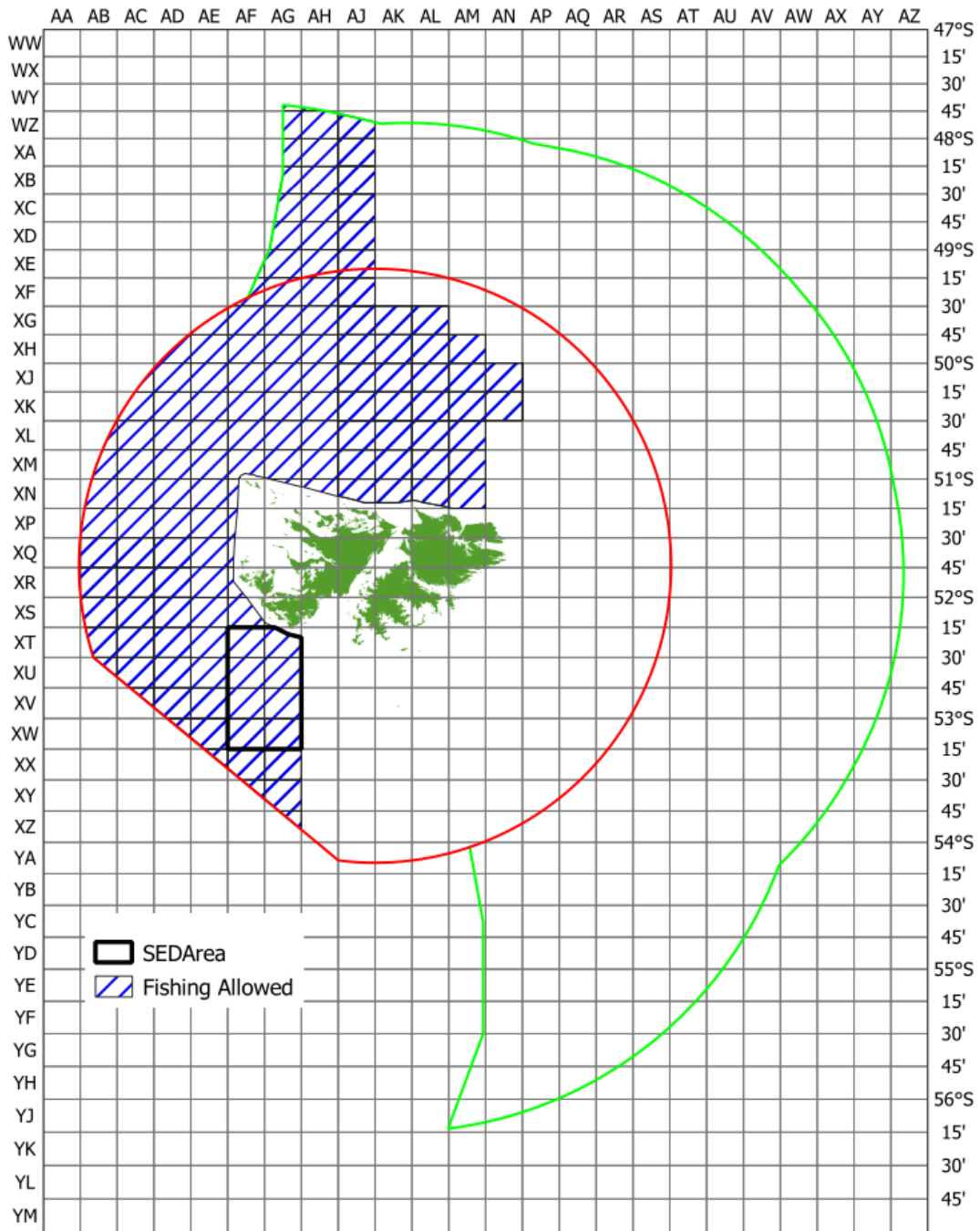
3. Recommendation:

- 3.1. To change the fishing season to be open from the 1st February to the 31st May
- 3.2. In order to avoid by-catch of species not authorised under this licence type, to change the valid area for the 1st-31st May to the North East of the FICZ.
- 3.3. To decrease the vessel units available for fishing companies with 'W' ITQ, in line with the Catch Entitlement levels approved for 2022 Licensing Advice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Clausen', with a stylized initial 'A'.

Dr. Andrea Clausen
Director of Natural Resources

Falkland Islands Conservation Zones
Valid Fishing Areas: Licence Category G&W
W:-01-Jan to 31-Mar & 01 Nov to 31-Dec, G:-01-Feb to 30-Apr



64°W30'63°W30'62°W30'61°W30'60°W30'59°W30'58°W30'57°W30'56°W30'55°W30'54°W30'53°W30'52°W

Falkland Islands Conservation Zones Valid Fishing Areas: Licence Category G 01-31 May

