Interim Relief Catch Estimate for the 2010/2011 season

S.J. Johnston and D. van Zyl

Table 1 and 2 provides information from Resource Management pertaining to the interim relief 2010/2011 season.

This is an excerpt from an email received from Resource Management explaining the season and numbers allowed to catch: "The fishing season is suppose to start on 15 November up to 15 April for west coast rock lobster from area 3 to 14 and in area 1 and 2 it starts on 15 October unto 15 March. Exemptions were issued one month late in all areas, but fishers were allowed to harvest for the lost month as well. It means that fishers were allowed to harvest 160 lobster in December 2010 to include the November 2010. Those that were issued in March 2011 were allowed to harvest from January 2011 (eg. Jan 2011 80 lobster, February 80 lobster and March 80 Lobster – total 240 lobster in March)."

Table 3 provides estimates of numbers of lobsters caught in each super-area, their tonnage, and their percentage contribution to the overall take from this sector.

The total tonnage of lobster removed by the interim relief (subsistence) sector for the 2010/2011 season is estimated to be **274 MT**. Table 4 provides IR catch estimates for all five seasons, and the super-area breakdown previously assumed. The percentage breakdown for this season appears to be similar for that taken from previous seasons.

Table 1: Number of permit holders who were allowed to fish for the whole season and their catch per month.

Area/Zone	Nr of	Catch per Permit Holder per month						
	IR							
	Permits							
		October	November	December	January	February	March	April
Zone A	67	80	80	80	80	80	80	
Zone B	318		80	80	80	80	80	80
Zone C	226		80	80	80	80	80	80
Area 8	229		80	80	80	80	80	80
Area 11	132		80	80	80	80	80	80
Zone F	375		80	80	80	80	80	80
Total	1347	80	480	480	480	480	480	400

Table 2: Number of permit holders who were allowed to fish for the whole season and their catch per month.

Area/Zone	Nr of	Catch per Permit Holder per month						
	IR			_				
	Permits							
		October	November	December	January	February	March	April
Zone A								
Zone B	18				80	80	80	80
Zone C	23				80	80	80	80
Area 8	29				80	80	80	80
Area 11	11				80	80	80	80
Zone F	30				80	80	80	80
Total	111				480	480	480	480

Table 3: Estimated catch from IR in each super-area for the 2010/2011 season.

Super-area	Zone	Catch (# lobsters)	Catch (# lobsters)	Catch (MT) [®]	% of total	Previous % splits assumed
Area 1+2	Zone A	67x480	32160	12.9	4.71	3.3
Area 3+4	Zone B	318x480+18x320	158400	63.7	23.22	20.7
Area 5+6	Zone C	226x480+23x320	115840	46.6	16.98	24.6
	Area 8	229x480+29x320	119200	47.9	17.48	
Area 8+	Area 11	132x480+11x320	66880	26.9	9.81	51.3
	Zone F	375x480+30x320	189600	76.2	27.80	
Total			682080	274.20		

[®] assume an average of 0.402kg per lobster

Table 4: Comparison of IR catches for all five seasons.

Season		# permits	Estimated Catch (MT)
2006/07	I	896	63
2007/08	II	1042	174
2008/09	III	952	170
2009/10	IV	1528	278
2010/2011	V	1347+111	274