

Krill fishery management in the Southern Ocean

So Kawaguchi
Australian Antarctic Division
203 Channel Highway, Kinston, Tasmania 7050 Australia
Email: So.Kawaguchi@aad.gov.au

Antarctic Krill is one of the few marine resources with the potential for a large but sustainable increase in catches. The krill fishery in the Southern Ocean is regulated by the international Commission for Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). CCAMLR practises an ecosystem-based management approach that take into account the needs of dependent and related species. The sum of the precautionary catch limits for the Antarctic krill fishery in the South Atlantic and the South Indian Oceans is equivalent to 11% of the current total tonnage of all wild-caught marine fish, indicating a huge potential for this fishery, and therefore an appropriate management scheme must be in place before this fishery fully develops especially given the evidence of the rapidly changing environment due to climate change. I will also describe the recent issues surrounding Antarctic krill fishery management.

Key words: CCAMLR, Management, Antarctic krill fishery, ecosystem-based approach, Southern Ocean