

## Recommendation paper

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**Title: Changes to 'A' (Hake) licence fishing season - 2022**

**Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Report of: Director of Natural Resources**

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### **1. Background:**

- 1.1. Historically the fishing period for the 'A' licence has been for the whole year - the 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December but this changed in 2020 to reflect a shorter fishing season of 1<sup>st</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> October.
- 1.2. Prior to 2020, the target species for this licence type were *Merluccius hubbsi* and *Merluccius australis*, Southern Blue Whiting (*Micromesistius australis*), Hoki (*Macruronus magellanicus*), Red cod (*Salilota australis*), Kingclip (*Genypterus blacodes*) and Rock cod (*Patagonotothen ramsayi*). During 2020 and 2021 the target species were only Hake - *Merluccius hubbsi* and *Merluccius australis*.
- 1.3. Changes in 1.1 and 1.2 above were agreed with industry in 2019 in order to avoid a reduction in vessel units (fishing effort), which had been the other possible alternative.
- 1.4. 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.

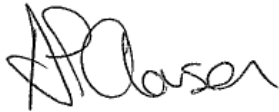
### **2. Presentation and consultations:**

- 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.

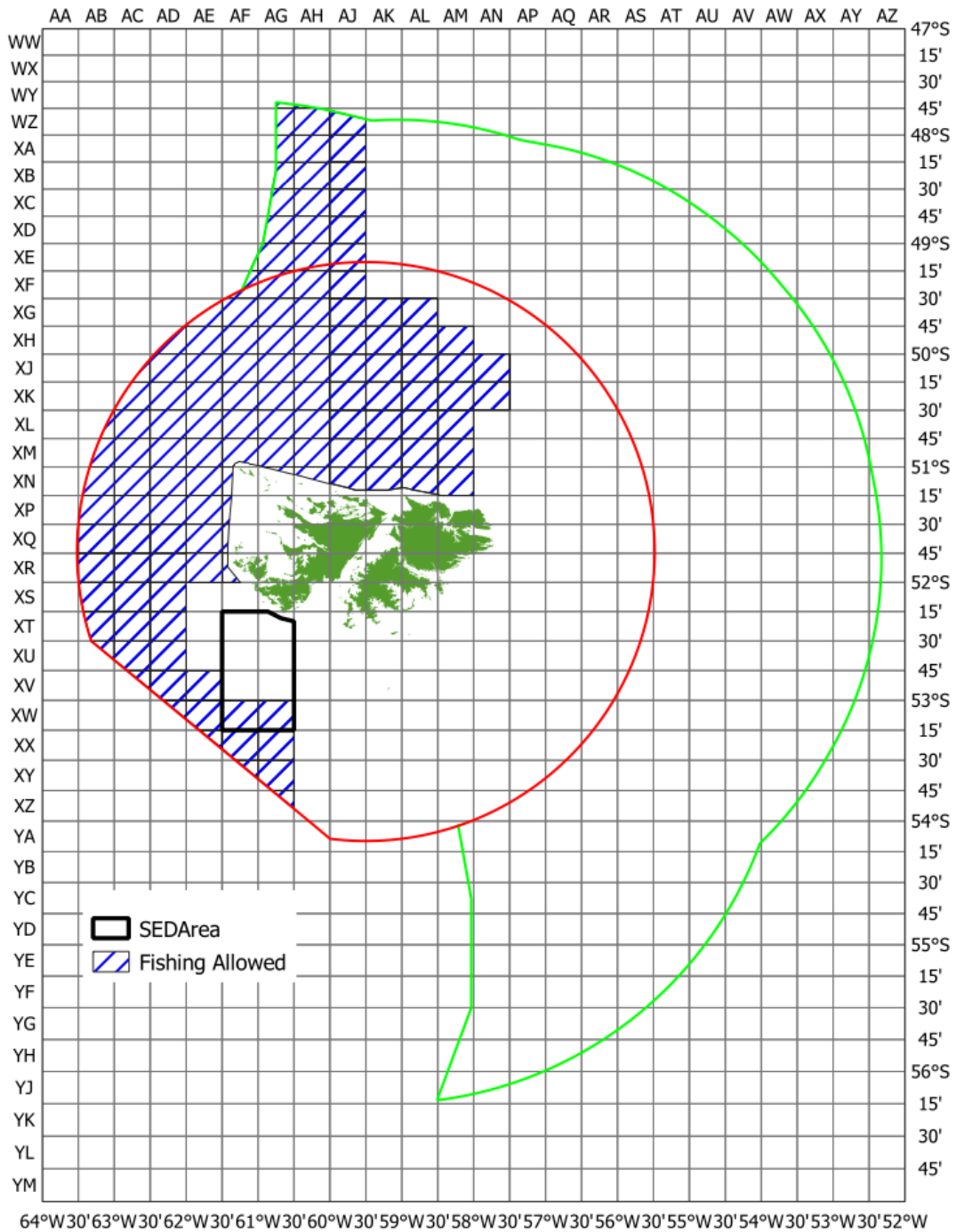
**3. Recommendation:**

- 3.1. To change the fishing season to revert to 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022
- 3.2 For the target/permitted species, to revert to ALL finfish (except Skate, Toothfish and Grenadier)
- 3.3 To increase the vessel units available for fishing companies with 'A' ITQ, in line with the Catch Entitlement levels approved for 2022 Licensing Advice.

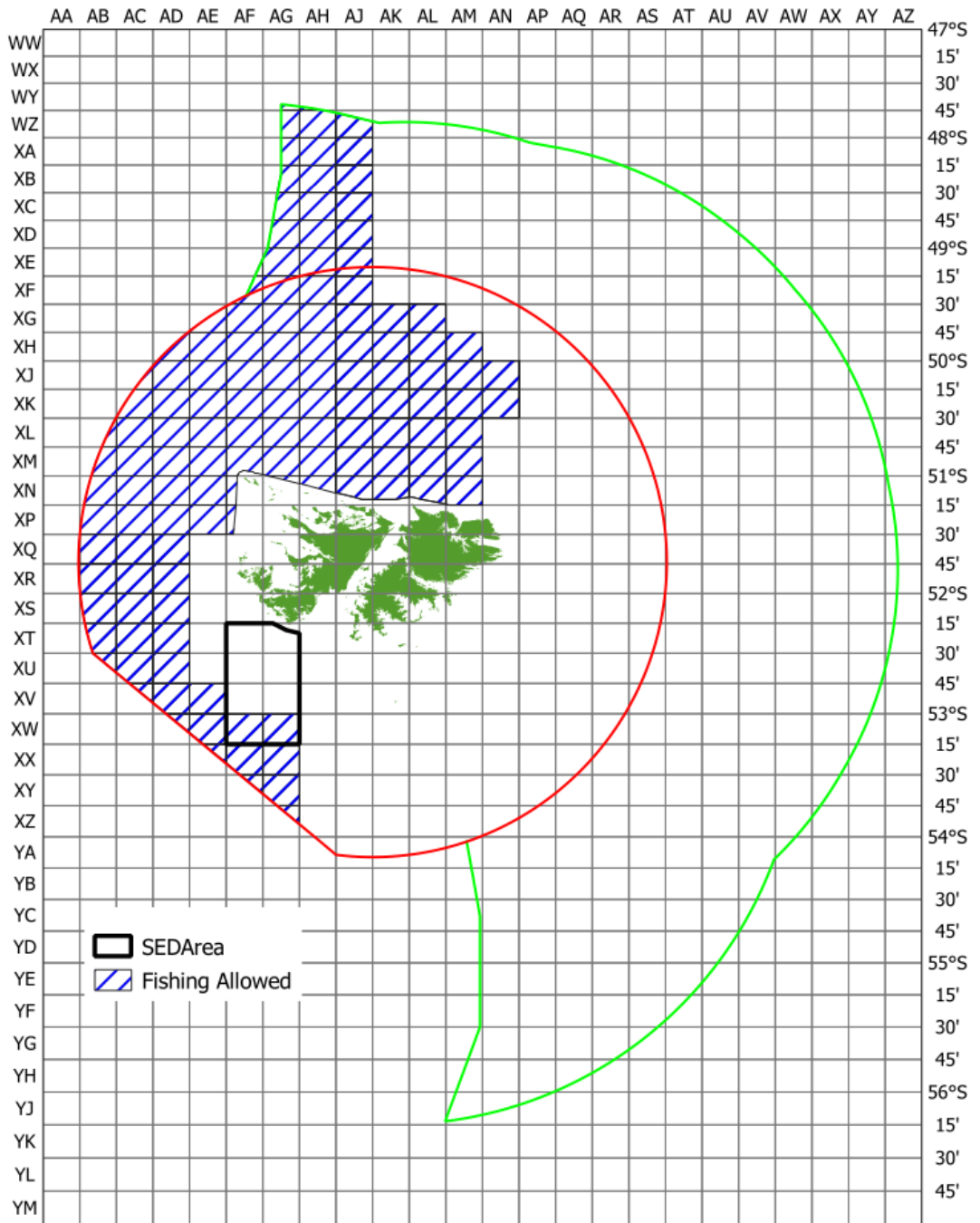
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Clausen', with a stylized initial 'A'.

Dr. Andrea Clausen  
Director of Natural Resources

### Falkland Islands Conservation Zones Valid Fishing Areas: Licence Category A 01-Sep to 30-Sep

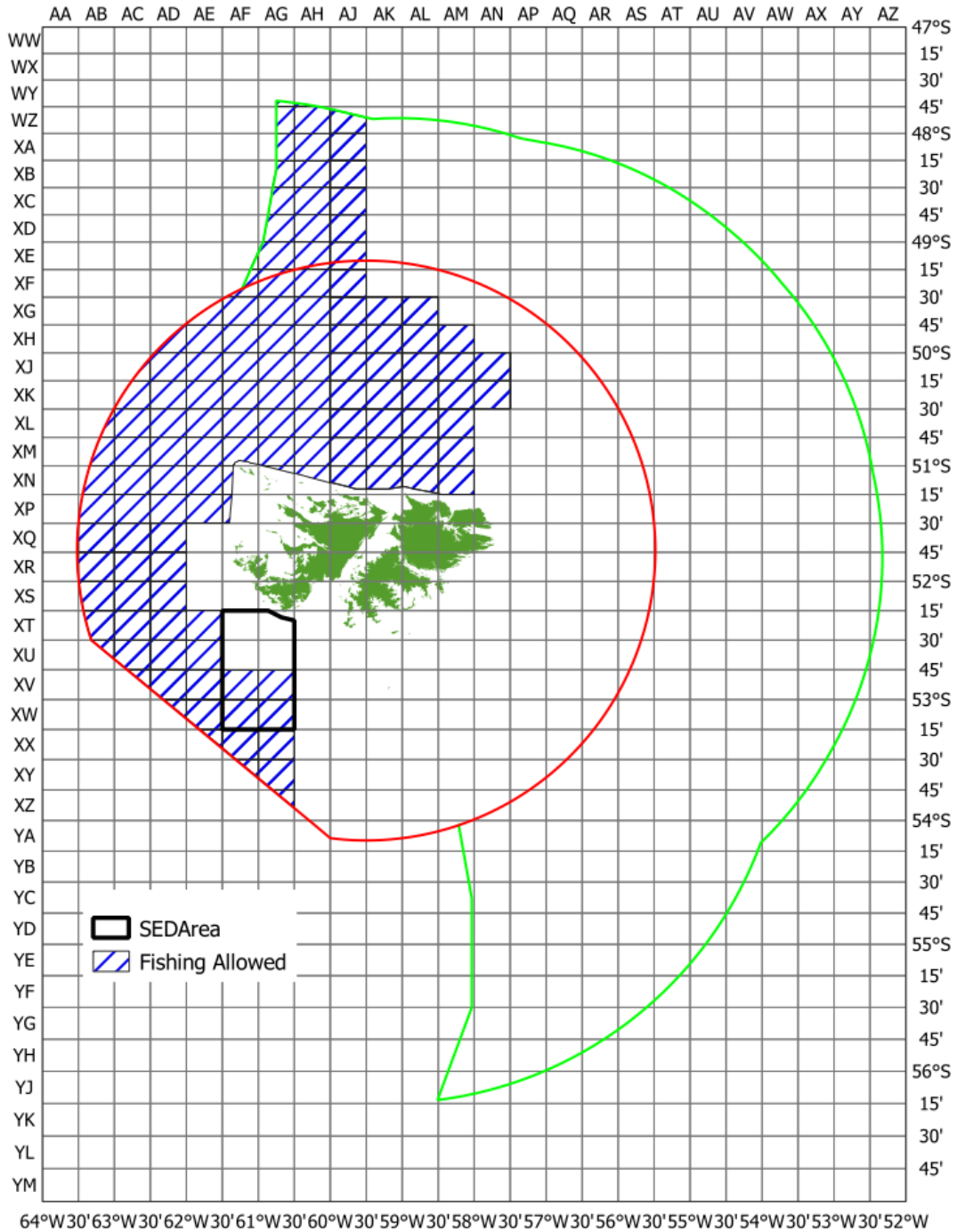


### Falkland Islands Conservation Zones Valid Fishing Areas: Licence Category A 01-Oct to 16-Oct



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 A 17-Oct to 31-Oct



### Falkland Islands Conservation Zones Valid Fishing Areas: Licence Category A 01-Jan to 31-Aug & 01-Nov to 31-Dec

