



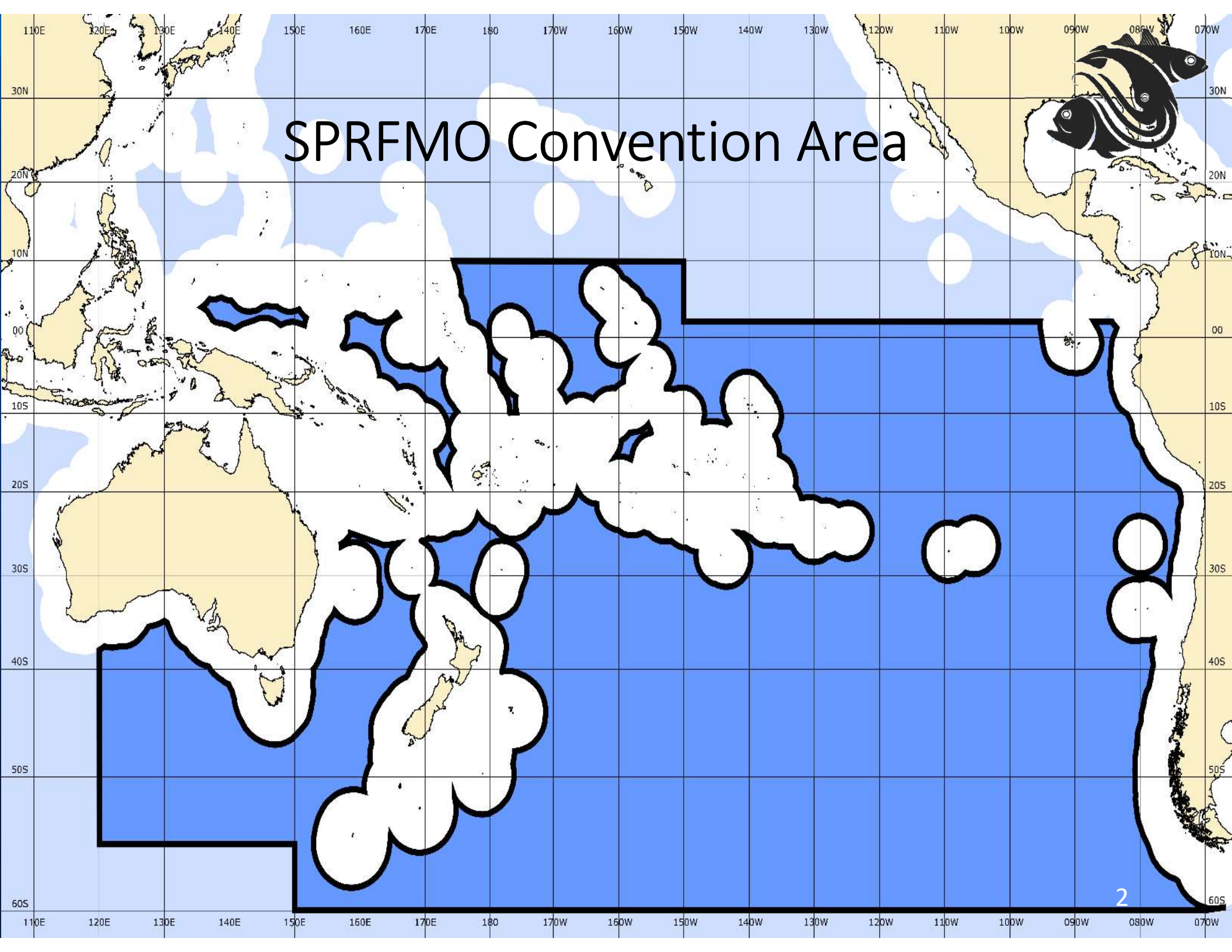
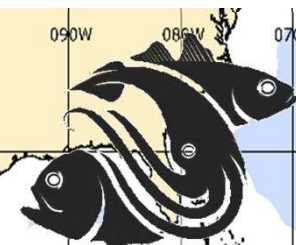
Successes and Challenges in the Implementation of the DSF Guidelines

The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)

Executive Secretary

May 2024

SPRFMO Convention Area



SPRFMO Fishery Resources



SPRFMO Organigram

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Committee

Compliance and
Technical
Committee

Finance and
Administration
Committee

SC Deepwater
Working group



Implementation of the Guidelines



MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION STEPS

- Data, reporting and assessment
- Identifying vulnerable marine ecosystems and assessing significant adverse impacts
- Enforcement and compliance
- Management and conservation tools
- Assessment and review of effectiveness of measures



Data, reporting and (stock) assessment



Successes

- Fine scale data collection on fishing events
- Standardisation of observer programmes

Challenges

- Size of SPRFMO and lack of regular independent research
- Lack of easily available socio-economic information
- Determination of stock status for data limited stocks



VME identification and assessing SAIs



Successes

- Lists of VME indicator species and associated ID guides
- VME habitat suitability models developed
- Spatial management regime implemented
- Encounter (move-on) rules and associated closures implemented
- Minimum protection level for suitable VME habitat



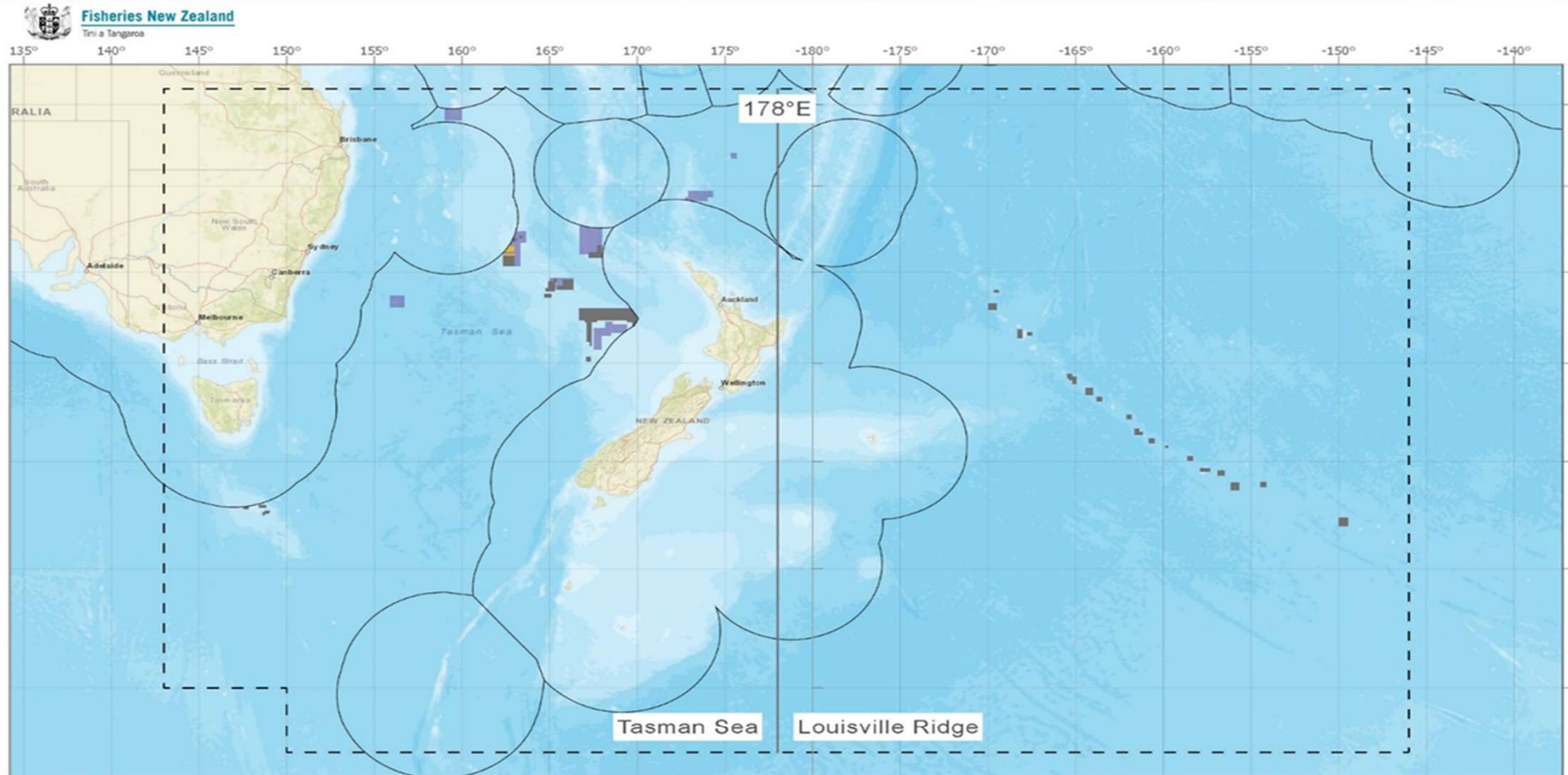
Challenges

- Modelling and data limitations and documented uncertainties
- Assessing if a VME is present at an encounter area

Fishery Management Areas



Disclaimer: This map and all information accompanying it (the 'Map') is intended to be used as a guide only, in conjunction with other data sources and methods, and should only be used for the purpose for which it was developed. The information shown in this Map is based on a summary of data obtained from various sources. While all reasonable measures have been taken to ensure the accuracy of the Map, IPII does not give any warranty or representation in relation to the accuracy or completeness of the information shown on the Map, and IPII shall not be liable for any loss or damage, including but not limited to any consequential, derivative or special damages, arising from the use of the Map. Open copyright ©. This map is subject to Crown copyright administered by Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).



SPRFMO Management Areas: Overview

Date: 24/01/2019
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 Coordinate System: Mercator 41

- Bottom Trawl (Also allowed: Midwater Trawl & Bottom Line)
- Midwater Trawl (Also allowed: Bottom Line)
- Bottom Line Only
- Exclusive Economic Zones
- Evaluated Area

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Data sources: Flanders Marine Institute (2018). Basemap data sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community.

Enforcement and compliance



Successes

- VMS implemented on all SPRFMO vessels
- Mandated observer coverage
- Establishment of the SPRFMO Record of Vessels
- Establishing an IUU Vessel list
- Port and high seas boarding inspection schemes
- Member compliance is assessed annually



Challenges

- Monitoring such a huge area
- Managing, standardising and analysing the information gathered
- Follow-up to identified issues

Management and conservation tools



Successes

- CMM 03 **Bottom Fishing** – provides the framework for deepsea fishing
- CMM 03a **Deepwater species** – sets catch limits and monitoring
- CMM 08 **Gillnets** – prohibits the use of gillnets
- CMM 13 **Exploratory fisheries** – governs new and exploratory fisheries

Challenges

- Effects of climate change and how management should respond
- Balancing conservation vs utilization
- Organisational capacity

Assessment and review of effectiveness of measures



Successes

- Bottom fishing measure continues to be updated regularly
- Bottom fishing impact assessments are conducted regularly
- A thorough review of the bottom fishing measure was conducted in 2022

Challenges

- The complexity of this type of work
- Continued need to make management decisions based on the best available science

SPRFMO achievements since 2014



- The DSF guidelines have been referenced and used extensively in developing the SPRFMO management regime
- Better managed fisheries providing for the conservation and sustainable use of deepsea fishery resources
- Increased safeguarding of deepsea marine ecosystems



Thank you for your attention