

Updated calculations related to the additional closed season

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Summary

The recent finalization of the Fishing Rights Allocations Process for the jig fishery resulted in 2451 fishers being allocated to this fishery. The implication of this in terms of the length of the additional closed season based on a target effort level of 250 000 is determined.

Calculations

Given the target effort level of 250 000 and a crew complement of 2451 fishers, the average number of days at sea to ensure that the target effort level is not exceeded amounts to $250\,000/2451=102$.

The jig database was used to determine the average number of days at sea by the fleet for select periods. These are reported in the Table below with comments attached.

Period	Average days at sea	Comment
2010-2014 (all months)	136.4	Exceeds 102 days
2010-2014 (omit Apr-June)	114.1	Exceeds 102 days
2015	111.5	Exceeds 102 days
2014-2010 (omit Mar-June)	103.9	Close to 102 days

These results therefore suggest that closed season of 4 months (rather than the 3 months that has been applied in the past) is required to ensure that the target effort level is not exceeded.