



Anyone identified any of these ships?



## The Illegal Fishing of Patagonian Toothfish

The Patagonian toothfish, *Dissostichus eleginoides*, marketed as Chilean sea bass in the United States and Canada, is a fish found in cold waters (1–4°C or 34–39°F) between depths of 45m (148ft) and 3,850m (12,631ft) in the southern Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans and Southern Ocean on Seamounts and continental shelves around most sun-Antarctic islands.

A close relative, the Antarctic toothfish (*Dissostichus mawsoni*), is found farther south around the edges of the Atlantic shelf; and a Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) certified fishery is active in the Ross Sea.

The average weight of a commercially caught Patagonian toothfish is 7–10kg (15.4–22lb), depending on the fishery, with large adults occasionally exceeding 100 kilograms (220lb). They are thought to live up to fifty years and to reach a length up to 2.3m (7.5ft). Several commercial fisheries exist for Patagonian toothfish which are detailed below.

In the late 1990s to early 2000s, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU) for toothfish nearly collapsed some fisheries in the Southern Ocean. Though, since 2005, thanks to CCAMLR Member nations, government patrol vessels, NGOs, media exposure and a trade and port state measures, IUU fishing has been all but eliminated from within countries' exclusive economic zones, though a relatively small portion of IUU fishing still occurs in high seas areas.

At the peak of IUU fishing, illegal catches were estimated to be 32,000 tonnes in 1997 with approximately 55 vessels believed to be active. By 2010, IUU catches had fallen to an estimated 1,615 tonnes, all taken in high seas areas, with just four IUU fishing vessels reported to be active. This is a decrease in IUU fishing by over 95% since the mid 1990s. CCAMLR estimates that 90% of IUU catches are now of Antarctic Toothfish, not Patagonian Toothfish.

**Le MALIN** (patrol boat/long liner)  
 French Southern & Antarctic Territory # (2014) 1.55€  
 1997 – French Navy; West Construction Contractor AS, Ølensvåg, Norway; Displ. 861.32 tons, Gt. 1,146; 49.99m (43.60m between pp) x 10.70m x 4.8m, 5.00m (draught);  
 Armament: 2-12.7 mm machine-guns;  
 one diesel engine Caterpillar 3606 1730 KW; 1 propeller HPOR, revolutions 720 tr/min, 1 bow thruster 220 KW, 12 kn; crew: 2 officers, 9 petty officers, 5 leading seamen and sailors, 42 beds in cabins: 2 individual, 10 doubles, 5 quadruple. The structure is steel (hull) and aluminum (block bridge); originally designed for sailing in sea ice (brand ICE-C), however, the Navy has chosen not to



maintain this qualification for cost reasons and because the building is not intended to be used in Polar Regions.

She was ordered as part of a two pairs of custom built long-liner ship order by Glacial SA (Crown Hill Chartering A.S., Bergen Norway / Glacial Group

S.A., Buenos Aires, Argentina) from West Construction, Ølensvåg in Norway. Her hull was laid down on December 21, 1994, but not floated out until January 1997 and delivered as the **CAROLINE GLACIAL** on January 15 as the third ship in the order.

*(Patagonian Toothfish, continued on page 34)*