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Andrea Kavanagh directs Antarctic and Southern Ocean conservation work at The Pew Charitable Trusts. Kavanagh joined Pew in January 2008 as manager of the marine aquaculture campaign, and later managed the Antarctic krill conservation project.

She has worked for more than 20 years as a communications specialist and campaign director on a variety of environmental issues, including sustainable seafood, global climate change and national legislation to regulate toxic chemicals.

Before joining Pew, Kavanagh was a campaign director at the National Environmental Trust, where she led the Pure Salmon Campaign, an international coalition of groups dedicated to raising the standards for farm-raised fish. She also led the successful Take a Pass on Chilean Sea Bass campaign, in which more than 1,200 chefs across the country pledged to remove the species from their menu until significant new regulations were established to ensure that only legal toothfish is sold in the United States.

How Precautionary is CCAMLR in the Face of Climate Change?

Andrea Kavanagh, Nicole Bransome, Ryan Dolan, Whitney Mehrhof, Rodolfo Werner

The Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) was founded in 1982 with the primary mission of protecting the Southern Ocean's diverse marine life, using a science-based precautionary approach to manage the effects of fishing on the ecosystem. Parts of the Southern Ocean are amongst the fastest warming areas on earth, and there remains a degree of uncertainty regarding the effects of climate change on Southern Ocean species. Here, we share our analysis of whether CCAMLR is employing adequate precaution in the face of rapid change. We discuss the management toolkit CCAMLR has at its disposal which includes marine protected areas and ecosystem-based fisheries management, combined with adequate monitoring. Finally, to improve precautionary management, we recommend improvements to CCAMLR's internal procedures.

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