

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

January 2006



Monterey

There were no squid landings reported this month.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

At the beginning of the month, squid landings at Ventura Harbor and Port Hueneme came from the northern Channel Islands and Santa Catalina Island. After about the first week, fishing shifted completely to Santa Catalina Island – transit time averaged about 9 hours from the island to port. The ex-vessel price was \$550/ton. Near the end of the month, incidental wetfish were very abundant causing some fishermen to sort them out as the squid were pumped onboard. Pacific mackerel, Pacific sardine, northern anchovy, squid egg cases, and kelp were all observed as bycatch.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

Despite strong winds and large swells throughout most the month, squid fishing continued at a heavy pace with over 16,000 tons landed. However, it was a tough start to 2006 for several squid fishermen as five vessels sank and one caught fire within three weeks of each other. Fishing mainly occurred around Santa Catalina Island, but some large schools were found off Pt. Vicente, Huntington Beach, Huntington Flats, Newport Beach, 14 Mile Bank, Dana Point, San Onofre, and Oceanside. Squid from the west end of Santa Catalina Island and from the southern coastal areas were small and emaciated, but squid from the east end of the island were larger and of better quality. The ex-vessel price ranged from \$500-550/ton. Pacific mackerel, Pacific sardine, jack mackerel, northern anchovy, Pacific butterfish, a bat ray, eel grass, and kelp were observed as bycatch.

Landings and Sampling Effort at San Francisco Bay, Monterey, Ventura/Port Hueneme, and San Pedro Port Areas for January*.

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2004/05**	2005/06***	2004/05	2005/06
San Francisco Bay Area	0	N/A		
Monterey	0	0	0	0
Ventura/Port Hueneme	10,395	3,958	5	12
San Pedro	1,563	16,473	12	12
	11,958	20,431	17	24

*Month covers January 1-31; fishing season is from April 1 through March 31 the following year.

**Landings data from Dept. of Fish and Game Commercial Fisheries Information System (CFIS) database.

***Landings data from preliminary totals based on dockside tally of available landing receipts.