MONTHLY SQUID REPORT February 2002



Monterey

Several vessels began landing squid this month. The squid were good quality but small in size (11-14 per pound). Squid occurrence was very spotty with only a few vessels looking. Vessels have had to make many sets, fish during the day and night, and set on squid that is still down a little. The ex-vessel price was \$200/ton. Vessels fished off Pacific Grove and Cannery Row. Anchovies, perch, and bat rays were observed as bycatch.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Squid landings remained low this month. Most landings came from San Clemente Island, although by the end of the month more vessels began searching Santa Rosa Island, Santa Cruz Island, and Point Conception. Vessels that fished at Santa Rosa, Santa Cruz, and Anacapa islands at the beginning of the month found spotty fishing and returned with small loads. Fishing also took place at Santa Catalina Island. Fishermen complained of cold water at the northern Channel Islands which contributed to the slow fishing. Overall, however, the squid quality was good, but fishermen complained of smaller squid. The ex-vessel price was \$150 - 200/ton. Sardines, Pacific mackerel, and bat rays were observed as bycatch.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

The squid fishery remained active throughout the month. Landings, however, began to decrease at the end of the month as squid were harder to find and not as abundant, most likely due to increasing water temperatures. Some squid landings were of decent quality, but most were small and thin. Several processors reported that their buyers like to have 7-8 squid per pound, and that the Japanese buyers like the squid to have roe. The ex-vessel price was \$200/ton. Vessels fished off Pt. Vicente, Laguna Beach, Dana Point, Santa Cruz Island, Santa Catalina Island, and San Clemente Island. Sardine, Pacific mackerel, anchovy, kelp, squid egg cases, and a bat ray were observed as bycatch.

| | Tons Landed | | Samples Collected | |
|----------------------|-------------|------------|-------------------|---------|
| Port Complex | 2000/01** | 2001/02*** | 2000/01 | 2001/02 |
| Monterey | 0 | 192 | 0 | 4 |
| Ventura/Port Hueneme | 3,810 | 1,978 | 23 | 22 |
| San Pedro | 4,564 | 7,413 | 24 | 28 |
| | 8,374 | 9,583 | 47 | 54 |

Landings and Sampling Effort at the Monterey, Ventura/Port Hueneme, and San Pedro Port Areas for February*

*Month covers February 1 - February 28.

**Landings data are from Dept. of Fish and Game landings database

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