

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

February 2004



Monterey

There were no landings this month.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Fishing occurred off the west end of Santa Cruz Island and in the Santa Cruz Channel between Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa islands. The poor quality and paucity of market squid at these sites gradually prompted many of the purse seine vessels to search for better squid concentrations at coastal and island sites further to the south. Poor weather conditions during the last half of the month also limited local fishing effort. By the end of the month, most of the active purse seine vessels had departed Ventura County ports and were fishing off Santa Catalina Island from San Pedro and Terminal Island ports. Other vessels remained tied up in Ventura and Channel Islands harbors. The ex-vessel price was \$400/ton. Pacific sardines and jack mackerel were observed as bycatch.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

Squid landings fluctuated slightly this month. Poor weather limited fishing effort during the first and last weeks of February, so much of the squid was landed mid-month. Squid quality was poor, with most squid being small and thin. Fishing took place off Pt. Mugu, Pt. Dume, Pt. Vicente, Long Beach, Huntington Flats, Huntington Beach, Newport Beach, Laguna Beach, Dana Point, Del Mar, and Santa Catalina Island. The ex-vessel price ranged from \$150-400/ton. Squid caught around the coastal areas was heavily mixed with sardine and mackerel. Several fishermen had to scoop part of their catch because there were too many sardine. Other observed bycatch included flatfish, unspecified croaker, a speckled sanddab, a pelagic stingray, squid egg cases, eelgrass, and kelp.

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

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2002/03**	2003/04***	2002/03	2003/04
Monterey	0	0	0	0
Ventura/Port Hueneme	760	202	15	4
San Pedro	174	3,227	12	10
	934	3,429	27	14

*Month covers February 1-29.

**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.