

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

March 2002



Monterey

The Monterey fleet continued to land squid this month. Squid occurrence was spotty during the first week of March, and many sets were required to make a load. During the middle of the month, a strike stopped fishing for over a week. When fishing resumed, high winds and lack of squid kept landings low. Landings increased by the end of the month, but fishermen complained of increased competition. The ex-vessel price was \$200 - 250/ton. Vessels fished off SeaSide State Beach, Marina Beach, Pacific Grove, and Cannery Row. Jellyfish, anchovies, jacksmelt, sardines, rockfish, and squid egg cases were observed as bycatch.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Squid landings remained low this month. Nine straight days of strong winds and a strike in the middle of the month resulted in no landings for that period. The strike resulted in an ex-vessel increase of \$50/ton. Landings resumed by March 20, and fishing was reported as good. However, poor fishing was reported by the last week of the month. The ex-vessel price was \$150 - \$250/ton. Most fishing took place at Santa Rosa Island with a few landings from Point Conception and Santa Cruz Island. Sardines, pelagic crabs, and kelp fronds were observed as bycatch.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

The squid fishery remained active throughout the month. Landings, however, decreased as the month progressed because of poor weather. Also, many vessels stopped looking for squid and began targeting sardine and Pacific mackerel. The ex-vessel price was \$250/ton. Vessels fished off Pt. Vicente, Santa Catalina Island, and San Clemente Island. Pacific mackerel, jack mackerel, sardines, squid egg cases, flatfish, kelp, butterfish, bat rays, skates, sea stars, pink perch, sea cucumbers, a horn shark, a longspine combfish, a ratfish, and a pit head sculpin were observed as bycatch.

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

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2000/01**	2001/02***	2000/01	2001/02
Monterey	0	805	0	15
Ventura/Port Hueneme	1,636	1,713	24	15
San Pedro	1,216	1,595	21	23
	2,852	4,113	45	53

*Month covers March 1 – March 31.

**Landings data are 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.