

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

March 2004



Monterey

There were two landings for a total of 46 tons. Fishermen reported a high rate of spawning as indicated by the amount of eggs caught and confirmed by the squid condition in the sample. Fishing activity occurred during the day off the Beach Hotel. Squid were not found in the area for the rest of the week, and windy conditions hampered search efforts. Jacksmelt, squid eggs, and kelp were observed as bycatch.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

The market squid fishery at the northern Channel Islands was dormant for most of the month until two landings were made during the last week. Fishing occurred off the south side of Santa Rosa and Santa Cruz islands. The ex-vessel price was \$400/ton. No bycatch was observed.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

Although squid fishing activity decreased this month, landings remained steady throughout most of March. Landings were small, however, averaging 10 tons. Local squid availability and squid quality were poor. Many boats remained docked because the markets were not happy with the size and quality of the squid and sardine. Fishing took place off Santa Monica Bay, Manhattan Beach, Pt. Vicente, Newport Beach, Dana Point, Del Mar, between Santa Catalina and Santa Barbara islands, and Santa Catalina Island. The ex-vessel price ranged from \$300-400/ton. Pacific sardine, jack mackerel, longspine combfish, longfin sanddabs, cusk eels, shiner surfperch, butterfish, bat rays, pelagic stingrays, turbot, squid egg cases, kelp, eelgrass, gorgonians, and a jumbo flying squid (mantle length = 670mm) 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	
	2002/03**	2003/04***	2002/03	2003/04
Monterey	25	46	0	1
Ventura/Port Hueneme	760	95	16	0
San Pedro	25	1,495	2	10
	810	1,636	18	11

*Month covers March 1-31.

**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.