

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

AUGUST 2002



Monterey

The squid fishery remained active but landings began to decrease by the end of the month. Fishing in the bay (Watsonville and Pacific Grove/Cannery Row) slowed causing some fishermen to speculate that the water around Monterey Bay was too warm. The majority of squid were caught at cooler areas along the coastline, north of the bay. These areas included Franklin Point, Davenport, Año Nuevo, Scott's Creek, and south of Half Moon Bay. Squid from the Half Moon Bay area were caught without lights due to a special regulation prohibiting light boats. In addition, fishing by Half Moon Bay required the use of a shallow net because of the depth fished (10-12 fathoms) and the hard bottom. The ex-vessel price was \$250/ton. Three king salmon, one cabezon, anchovies, sardines, jellyfish, kelp, night smelt, jacksmelt, tunicates, squid egg cases, Dungeness crabs, and sanddabs were observed as bycatch.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Squid activity was slow this month. Only a few boats fished around Santa Rosa Island. Most processors expect the fishery to start again in the fall.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

There were no reported squid landings for August. Some fishermen and processors are hesitant to make any predictions about the upcoming squid season. The odd summer weather and the predicted El Niño are causing some doubts as to whether there will be a lot of squid this year. Most have a "wait-and-see" attitude.

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

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2001/02**	2002/03***	2001/02	2002/03
Monterey	3,437	2,936	29	24
Ventura/Port Hueneme	35	168	2	2
San Pedro	336	0	6	0
	3,808	3,104	37	26

*Month covers August 1 - 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.