

# MONTHLY SQUID REPORT OCTOBER 2002



## Monterey

Squid landings increased this month by approximately 800 tons. Many fishermen and processors believe that the Monterey squid season will continue into the New Year. Vessels made all day sets, and sea lions continued to be a problem. Squid quality was excellent with many large males and gravid females. There were, however, many spent individuals and small squid, contributing to a higher count per pound. Fishing occurred off Pacific Grove, Seaside State Beach, and Marina Beach in 14-30 fathoms. The ex-vessel price was \$250/ton. Squid egg cases, jellyfish, jack mackerel, sauries, and kelp were observed as bycatch.

## Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Squid landings were consistent throughout the month. Squid from Anacapa and Santa Cruz Islands were mostly small and immature; however, squid found at Santa Rosa Island and Point Conception were larger and of better quality. Fishing also occurred off Port Hueneme. Although a few processors felt that the water was still too warm for good fishing, there was some optimism expressed about this season. The ex-vessel price was \$100-250/ton. Pacific sardines, anchovies, Pacific butterfish, Pacific sanddabs, bat rays, pelagic red crabs, sea stars, and kelp were observed as bycatch.

## San Pedro/Terminal Island

Squid returned to the port this month; however, fishing effort was minimal with only a few vessels fishing. Fishing mainly occurred off the Channel Islands (Anacapa, Santa Cruz, and Santa Rosa Islands), so most local vessels targeting squid offloaded in Ventura and Port Hueneme. Fishing also occurred off Point Mugu and Port Hueneme. Most squid were immature but of good quality, with counts of 15 squid/pound. Many processors, however, reported that they were not interested in buying the small squid and that they preferred 7-8 squid/pound. The ex-vessel price was \$200-250/ton. Kelp, sardines, two juvenile bat rays, Pacific mackerel, jack mackerel, northern anchovies, midshipman, flatfish, California scorpionfish, squid egg cases, a sting ray, a juvenile shovelnose guitarfish, hornyhead turbot, pelagic red crabs, an armed box crab, sea anemones, sea stars, and salps were observed as bycatch.

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

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2001/02**	2002/03***	2001/02	2002/03
Monterey	1,035	1,461	15	8
Ventura/Port Hueneme	4,274	5,077	16	30
San Pedro	5,746	1,668	21	21
	11,055	8,206	52	59

\*Month covers October 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.