

MONTHLY SQUID REPORT

November 2003



Monterey

Squid fishing continued throughout the month; however, landings ceased after November 23 because of changes in the ex-vessel price, which ranged from \$520-600/ton. Fishing will resume after a firm price has been set. Squid quality was very good with many large males and females. Most fishing occurred during the day and was centered around Del Monte Beach (20-25 fathoms), Cypress Point to Pescadero Point (edge of Carmel Bay Reserve), and Hurricane Point to Big Sur. Over 500 tons were taken from the Big Sur area in one night. Pacific sardines, jack mackerel, Pacific mackerel, mola mola, butterfish, jellyfish, squid eggs, and sea stars were observed as bycatch.

Ventura/Port Hueneme/Santa Barbara

Fishing was very productive from both coastal sites and from the northern Channel Islands for most of the month. A dispute over the ex-vessel prices offered by processors resulted in a strike by vessel operators that began shortly before the Thanksgiving Holiday and continued through the end of the month. Fishing occurred off Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa islands and along the mainland coast from Port Hueneme to Point Mugu. Squid catches were also made off Refugio State Beach near Gaviota at mid-month. The ex-vessel price was \$550-600/ton. Pacific sardines, Pacific mackerel, sanddabs, bat rays, and kelp strands were observed as bycatch.

San Pedro/Terminal Island

Squid landings increased steadily throughout the month. Over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend, the fleet went on strike because of a decrease in ex-vessel price from \$600/ton to \$500/ton. The strike was resolved quickly, however, and fishing resumed Monday evening. Many local vessels fished off Port Hueneme, Pt. Dume, Point Mugu, Anacapa Island, and Santa Cruz Island, but a few found squid at Santa Catalina Island. Squid were mostly large and of good quality. The ex-vessel price was \$550-600/ton. Pacific sardine, Pacific mackerel, jack mackerel, silversides, butterfish, squid egg cases, a box crab, unspecified crab, eelgrass, and kelp were observed as bycatch.

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

Port Complex	Tons Landed		Samples Collected	
	2002/03**	2003/04***	2002/03	2003/04
Monterey	877	2,812	3	5
Ventura/Port Hueneme	2,493	4,150	22	21
San Pedro	787	1,669	20	25
	4,157	8,631	45	51

*Month covers November 1-30.

**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.