



Mac Stone/ WWF-US

UPDATES FROM THE WATER

MARCH 2021

PERU JUMBO SQUID

Gear Type: Squid Jig

Volume: 362, 232 MT (2018)

FIP Stage: 3 (FIP Implementation)

Progress Rating: C (Some Recent Progress)

Start Date: February 2018

The jumbo squid fishery is one of Peru's most important artisanal fisheries, employing more than 105,000 Peruvians and providing low-cost, high-quality protein to much of the population. It is also one of the largest squid export fisheries globally, generating \$860 million in exports in 2019.

The Peruvian jumbo squid FIP is the first comprehensive squid FIP in the world. WWF worked closely with Sustainable Fisheries Partnership (SFP), the Peruvian government, and the private sector to develop a comprehensive plan to help the fishery meet the MSC standard. Seventeen exporting companies representing over 50% of total squid exports have formed the Peruvian National Chamber for Giant Squid (CAPECAL), which is working to become established as a legal entity. The independent industry association promotes the conservation and management of giant squid in Peru and supports the Peru squid FIP through political advocacy, funding, and FIP implementation.

Approximately 1,500 fishers across three cooperatives have engaged directly in FIP efforts, mainly through piloting WWF's mobile electronic catch documentation system, [TrazApp](#), to improve the collection and transparency of catch data, make it easier to receive fishing permits, and improve safety at sea by allowing vessels to be monitored in real-time. Ten percent of Peru's squid catch is currently being registered by fishers using TrazApp, and WWF is continuing to train more fishers to increase uptake across the squid and mahi mahi fisheries. WWF is also working with the Peruvian government to integrate TrazApp with SITRAPESCA, a traceability system managed by the government, which will help improve data management, monitoring, and control of the fisheries.

In January 2021, a Conservation and Management Measure (CMM) for jumbo flying squid issued by the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organization (SPRFMO) went into effect. The CMM regulates the capture of jumbo flying squid in international waters and is an important first step toward addressing some of the key science and management deficiencies in the fishery. Legalization of the Peruvian unregulated artisanal fleet is the mandatory first step toward complying with other guidelines of the CMM, including preparation of catch reports per vessel, design of a biological monitoring system for research purposes, increased observer coverage, and installation of satellite equipment for vessel monitoring systems. To address this issue, global squid buyers sent a letter to the Peruvian government in October 2020 requesting the formalization of the Peruvian artisanal squid fleet as soon as possible. The letter reiterated to the Peruvian government that there is a strong global market for squid that is committed to the sustainability of the Peruvian jumbo squid fishery and helped to highlight the urgency of speeding up the formalization process in Peru. The Peruvian government has shown renewed interest in this topic and is working with WWF, SFP, and fishers to improve the legal permitting process.

Priority activities expected to occur over the next several months include: advancing formalization efforts through improved outreach with fishers, launching a campaign targeting several government agencies to promote the urgency of issuing fishing permits, and developing an online platform to monitor and support fishers as they receive permits; working with authorities and key stakeholders to update the squid fishery management regulation; and scaling up the use of TrazApp with fishers, landing sites, government, processors, and importers.

Become a WWF FIP participant today by visiting:

<https://seafoodsustainability.org/fisheries/fishery-improvement-projects-signup>

Being a WWF FIP Participant provides a pre-competitive space for companies to engage with fisheries in their supply chains and leverage power across multiple companies to drive fishery improvements forward. By signing on to support a FIP, you are joining forces with other leaders in the industry that seek to help conserve marine ecosystems and advance the livelihoods of millions of people who depend on them.

WWF recognizes FIP participants on the industry website, SeafoodSustainability.org. WWF also works with FIP participants to communicate the benefits of FIPs among key buyers, sustainable business leaders, employees, environmental activists, and other key constituencies.

Together we can protect oceans and the food and livelihoods they can sustainably provide.

For more information or to partner with WWF, please visit SeafoodSustainability.org or contact us at info@seafoodsustainability.org