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UPDATES FROM THE WATER

OCTOBER 2021

PERU JUMBO SQUID

Gear Type: Squid Jig

Volume: 362, 232 MT (2018)

FIP Stage: Stage 4 (FIP Implementation)

Progress Rating: A (Advanced Progress)

Start Date: February 2018

The jumbo squid fishery is one of Peru's most important artisanal fisheries, employing more than 11,000 fishers and 105,000 Peruvians across the industry and providing low-cost, high-quality protein to much of the population. It is also one of the largest squid export fisheries globally and generated \$614 million in exports in 2020.

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 was recently registered in Peru and will publicly launch in October 2021 at the Conxemar exhibition in Vigo, Spain in coordination with WWF and SFP. The independent industry association will promote the conservation and management of giant squid in Peru and is working with WWF to develop an annual workplan to advance the FIP, focusing on improved monitoring and traceability of the fishery.

Approximately 1,500 fishers across three cooperatives have engaged directly in FIP efforts, mainly through piloting WWF's mobile electronic catch documentation and traceability 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. In this first phase of the TrazApp pilot, efforts are focused on improving the collection of fisheries data and its transfer down the supply chain from the point of landing to the processing plants, while identifying critical issues and adapting TrazApp as needed. Ten percent of Peru's squid catch is currently being registered by fishers using TrazApp, and WWF is continuing to train more fishers, middlemen, and suppliers on the use of TrazApp to increase uptake across the squid and mahi mahi 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 which 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. WWF and SFP have been working closely with fishers and the Peruvian government to improve the permitting process so that artisanal squid fishers can receive their legal fishing permits more quickly. Two of the formalized artisanal squid vessels were recently added to the SPRFMO vessel registry, allowing them to fish for squid in international waters under the SPRFMO jurisdiction. These vessels must now comply with the squid CMMs. WWF and SFP are continuing to work with the government to streamline and improve the legal permitting process so that more vessels can be added to the SPRFMO fishing registry and adopt the squid CMMs, which will help promote more sustainable fishing practices across the fishery.

Additional activities expected to occur over the next several months include working with SFP to lead workshops for CAPECAL member companies on the FIP and MSC process and review how the industry can support the FIP to ensure it continues to advance; working with authorities and key stakeholders to update the squid fishery management regulation; and continuing to scale up the use of TrazApp with fishers, landing sites, government, processors, and importers.

Sign up to become a FIP Participant today by visiting:

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

Help conserve marine ecosystems, protect livelihoods, and increase the number of sustainable fisheries and the overall supply of sustainable seafood.

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 for millions of people who depend on them.

WWF recognizes FIP participants on the industry website, [SeafoodSustainability.org](https://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, please visit seafoodsustainability.org