
Total landings of wet-fish increased both in 1969 and 1970. This increase reflects landings of the anchovy reduction fishery which was conducted under a 140,000 ton quota during the 1969-70 season and a 100,000 ton quota during the 1970-71 season (Table 1). Landings of Pacific mackerel during 1970 were the lowest since 1926 when records of mackerel landings were first separated by species. A moratorium was placed on the take of Pacific mackerel on November 28, 1970, which limited the catch to mixed loads with no more than 15% Pacific mackerel. The moratorium on sardine catch was changed in 1969 to permit a seasonal quota of 250 tons for bait purposes only.

TABLE 1
Landings of Pelagic Wet-Fishes in California in Tons; 1964-70

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Sardine</th>
<th>Anchovy</th>
<th>Pacific Mackerel</th>
<th>Jack Mackerel</th>
<th>Herring</th>
<th>Squid</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1964</td>
<td>6,569</td>
<td>2,488</td>
<td>13,414</td>
<td>44,846</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>8,217</td>
<td>75,709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>2,966</td>
<td>3,525</td>
<td>33,333</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>9,310</td>
<td>50,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>31,140</td>
<td>2,315</td>
<td>20,431</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>9,012</td>
<td>43,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>34,805</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>19,060</td>
<td>136</td>
<td>9,801</td>
<td>64,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>15,538</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>27,834</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>12,406</td>
<td>57,666</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>77,959</td>
<td>1,179</td>
<td>25,981</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>10,260</td>
<td>105,267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970*</td>
<td>221</td>
<td>93,805</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>23,204</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>9,033</td>
<td>126,731</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Preliminary

Sardine
During most of 1969, a moratorium was in effect restricting the take of sardines to mixed loads with no more than 15% sardines. A law became effective November 10, 1969, which permits 250 tons of sardines to be landed annually for bait, with the provision that no boat possess more than 3 tons any calendar day. After the quota is reached, sardines may not be possessed for any purpose except vessels may contain 15% or less by weight. Sardines so taken can be used only for canning, preserving, and reduction. Sardine landings were primarily used for dead bait in 1969 and 1970, and brought from $300 to $500 per ton to the fishermen.

Anchovy
The fifth anchovy reduction season closed May 15, 1970, with 33,473 tons of a 140,000 ton quota landed (Table 2). Monterey area landings were only 2,020 tons while southern California plants processed 81,453 tons. Fishermen at Monterey received $20.50 per ton for their catch while the price in southern California was $20 per ton. Domestic fish meal prices remained generally high during the season, providing considerable incentive to the fleet and processors.

During the 1969-70 season, the fishery, despite the record southern California catch, was not without its problems. Early in January 1970, when it seemed apparent that the southern quota would be reached, the Fish and Game Commission, at the request of the reduction industry granted an augmentation of 65,000 tons in the southern area. However, on March 20, 1970, at the request of the sport fishing and live bait industries, the Commission closed the southern area within 12 miles of shore. This action, in effect, completely shut down the fishery. Early in May the Commission, again at the request of the reduction industry, modified the regulations and opened a portion of the southern area to within 6 miles of shore. A resurgence of the fishery followed this decision and the fleet had generally good success up to the May 15 closure.

Preliminary data indicate total anchovy landings for calendar 1970 were over 95,000 tons (Table 3).

Mackerel
Annual landings of both jack and Pacific mackerel declined in 1969 and again in 1970. Most of the jack mackerel fish during the 2 years was made at Cortes Bank. In 1969, fish 1 year old dominated the fishery, while both 1 and 2 year old fish predominated in 1970. Fishermen received $75 per ton from the canneries for jack mackerel during 1969 and 1970.

Pacific mackerel landings reached an all time low in 1970 with only 311 tons being landed. No fish were...
taken north of Point Conception, while Santa Catalina
Island, San Clemente Island, and inshore areas off
San Pedro provided most of the catch.
Most catches were mixed with jack mackerel, and
the fishery was dominated by the 1968 year class
during both years. A moratorium became effective in
November 1970, which limited the catch to mixed
loads not to exceed 15% Pacific mackerel.

Squid
Squid landings in 1969 dropped for the first time
in 6 years. Squid appeared to be plentiful at tradi-
tional fishing areas, but canners had only small orders
for canned squid.
Landings again were down slightly in 1970 pri-
marily as a result of squid failing to appear in his-
torically productive areas.—Herbert W. Frey