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Annual Report of Chinese Taipei to the Scientific Committee

Chinese Taipei

**Annual Report of Chinese Taipei on Squid Fishery in
the SPRFMO Convention Area in 2025
to the 14th Scientific Committee Meeting**

Summary

Jumbo flying squid is widely distributed throughout the eastern Pacific Ocean. Chinese Taipei's squid jigging fleet has targeted this species since 2002; however, the fishery was temporarily suspended from 2022 to 2024. During the 2025 fishing season, a single squid jigging vessel operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area, landing a total catch of 267 tons. The major fishing grounds were located between 15°–20°S and 74°–81°W. Observer coverage reached 82.7% of fishing days.

1. Description of the Fishery

The jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) is a large pelagic squid species inhabiting the eastern Pacific Ocean, with a distribution spanning approximately 50 degrees of latitude across both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres. Since 2002, this species has been targeted by Chinese Taipei's distant-water squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean. However, the number of active vessels has declined since 2020, and the fishery has been temporarily suspended from 2022 to 2024. Fishing activity resumed in 2025, with one fishing vessel operating in the SPRFMO Convention Area (Fig. 1).

The monthly numbers of vessels were similar between 2021 and 2025 (Fig. 2). In 2025, the fishing season was from October to December, with monthly operating days ranging from 13 to 30 days (Fig. 3).

2. Catch, Effort and CPUE Summaries

The annual catch and effort of Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean during 2007–2025 was presented (Table 1). The catch of jumbo flying squid was 267 tons (t) in 2025, which is lower than the 665 t recorded in 2021. The fishing effort was 58 days (d) in 2025, down from the 189 d recorded in 2021. The nominal CPUE was 4.60 t/d in 2025, which is higher than the 3.52 t/d recorded in 2021 (Fig. 4).

The spatial distribution of the annual average CPUE (t/d) of jumbo flying squid by Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean was examined for 2021 and 2025 (Fig. 5). Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet has been operating in the high seas of the Southeast Pacific since 2011. The major fishing grounds were located in the waters of 15°–20°S and 74°–81°W in both 2021 and 2025 (Fig. 5).

The spatial distributions of the size composition (by commercial category) of the squid catch in 2025 were examined (Fig. 6). The catches mainly comprised large-sized individuals (miscellaneous, typically >3 kg; Table 2) in the waters off southern Peru

(outside the EEZ of Peru).

3. Fisheries Data Collection and Research Activities

3.1. Data collection

In accordance with its domestic regulations and SPRFMO CMMs, Chinese Taipei has collected and submitted fisheries data for the jumbo flying squid fishery in the Southeast Pacific Ocean to the Secretariat of SPRFMO from 2002 to 2025.

3.2. Research activities

The research program has been suspended since 2024.

4. Biological Sampling and Length/Age Composition of Catches

4.1. Biological sampling

Chinese Taipei's jumbo flying squid fishery was suspended from 2022 to 2024, during which time no biological data were collected. Biological data were subsequently collected during the 2025 fishing season, when an onboard observer was deployed.

4.2. Length/Age composition of catches

The annual size composition of the jumbo flying squid catch during 2007–2021 and 2025 was calculated ([Table 2](#)). There was no fishing activity by Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the SPRFMO Convention Area from 2022 to 2024.

5. Ecosystem Approach considerations

There were no bycatch records during the 2025 fishing season. This may result from the employment of highly selective fishing gear (jiggers) by the fleet, which typically targets squid exclusively.

6. Observer Implementation Reports

At its 10th Annual Meeting in 2022, the SPRFMO Commission approved the accreditation of Chinese Taipei's Squid-Jigging Fishery Observer Programme.

For the 2025 fishing season, one observer was deployed on board a fishing vessel flagged to Chinese Taipei. The observer deployment started in September and concluded in December. The observed vessel conducted squid jigging operations in the eastern Pacific from October to December before cruising to the southwestern Atlantic for another squid fishery.

The observer coverage was 100% of vessels and 82.7% of fishing days (48 days observed out of 58 total fishing days; [Table3](#)).

Table 1. Annual catch and effort data for jumbo flying squid by Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean during 2007–2025.

Year	No. of vessels	Fishing effort (vessel-day)	Catch (tons)
2007	13	1,393	14,750
2008	13	2,744	31,161
2009	13	1,403	12,319
2010	20	2,874	29,206
2011	21	3,597	35,418
2012	14	2,211	14,177
2013	9	1,045	7,759
2014	5	474	4,795
2015	9	616	10,072
2016	11	1,880	12,989
2017	13	1,228	7,338
2018	14	1,396	3,848
2019	10	611	2,085
2020	5	817	2,087
2021	2	189	665
2022	0	0	0
2023	0	0	0
2024	0	0	0
2025	1	58	267

Table 2. Annual size composition (in live weight, tons) of jumbo flying squid catch by Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean during 2007–2025.
(Category: A, <1 kg; B, 1-2 kg; C, 2-3 kg; D, >3 kg or miscellaneous)

Year	A	B	C	D	Total
2007	45	23	476	14206	14750
2008	144	59	807	30151	31161
2009	80	0	0	12239	12319
2010	163	7	0	29036	29206
2011	57	3	3	35356	35418
2012	1485	138	81	12472	14177
2013	205	0	12	7542	7759
2014	50	1	1	4743	4795
2015	33	41	1	9996	10072
2016	210	62	23	12694	12989
2017	123	12	6	7197	7338
2018	671	25	49	3104	3848
2019	70	12	237	1767	2085
2020	316	125	67	1579	2087
2021	95	0	0	570	665
2022	-	-	-	-	-
2023	-	-	-	-	-
2024	-	-	-	-	-
2025	59	2	10	196	267

Table 3. The coverage rate of observer program in the 2025 fishing season.

Month	Numbers of vessels observed	Numbers of all vessels	Cover rate for the number of vessels	Number of observed days by observed vessels	Number of days by all vessels	Cover rate for the number of observed effort
Jan.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feb.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mar	-	-	-	-	-	-
Apr.	-	-	-	-	-	-
May	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jun.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Jul.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aug.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sep.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Oct.	1	1	100%	10	13	76.9%
Nov.	1	1	100%	25	30	83.3%
Dec.	1	1	100%	13	15	86.7%
Total	1	1	100%	48	58	82.7%

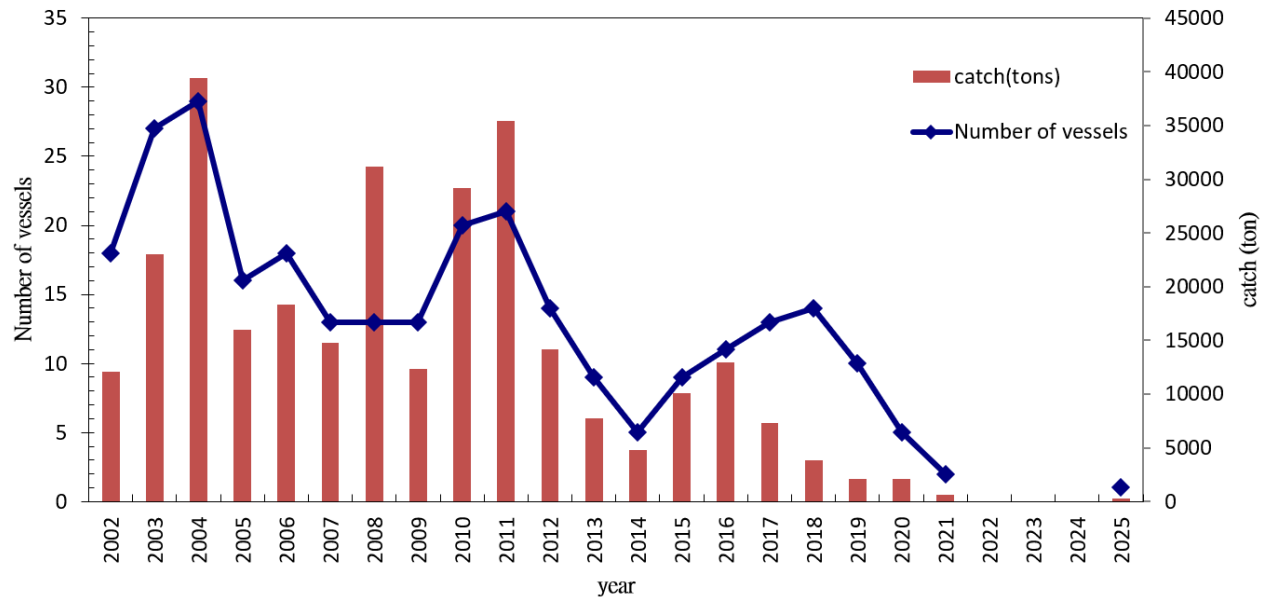


Figure 1. Annual variations in catch and number of vessels for Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean during 2002–2025.

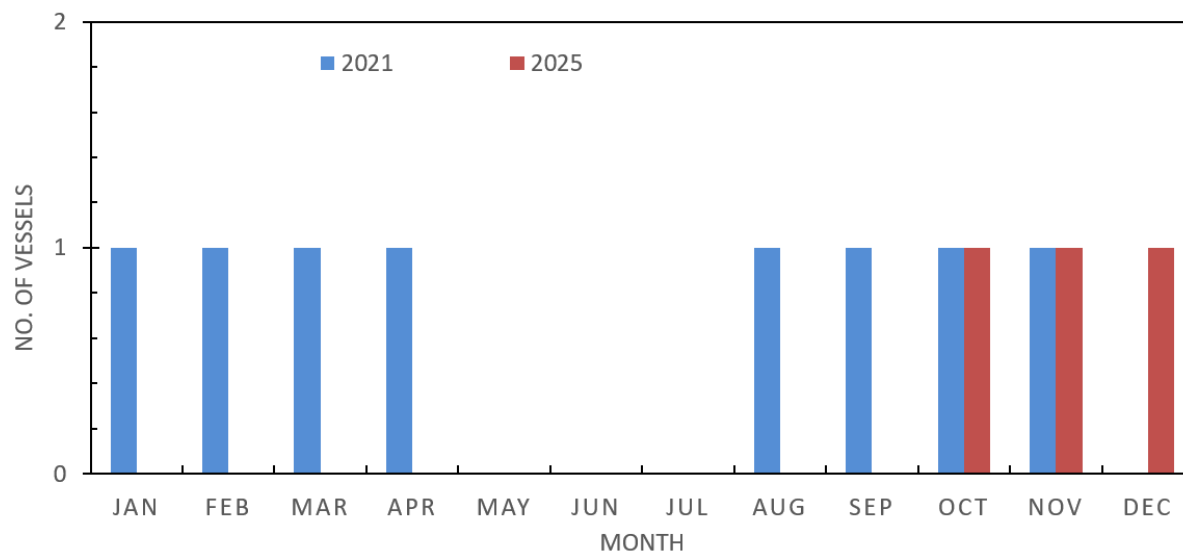


Figure 2. Monthly variations in number of vessels for Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean for 2021 and 2025. (No fishing activity from 2022 to 2024)

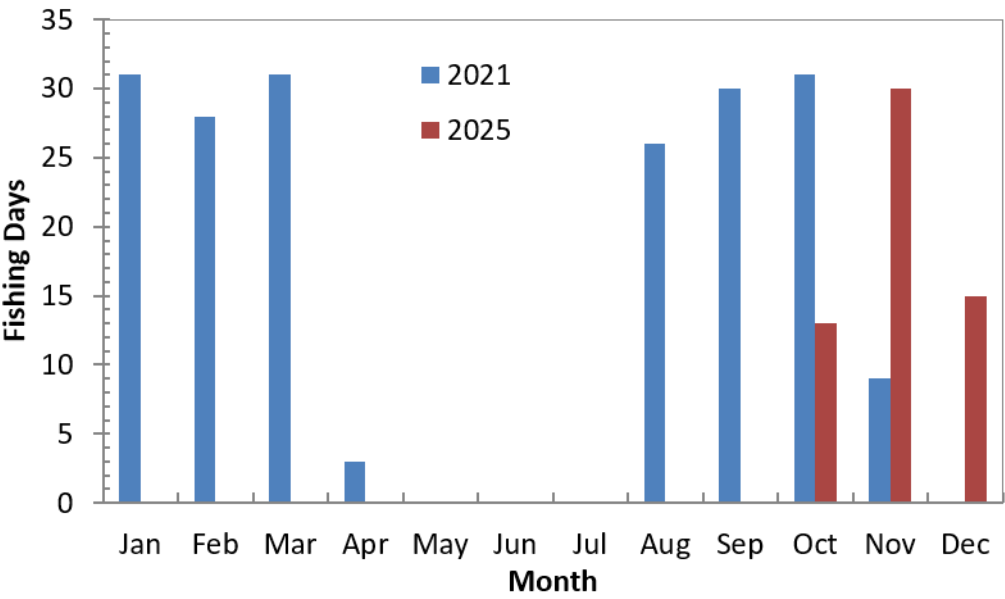


Figure 3. Monthly fishing days deployed by Chinese Taipei’s squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean for 2021 and 2025. (No fishing activity from 2022 to 2024)

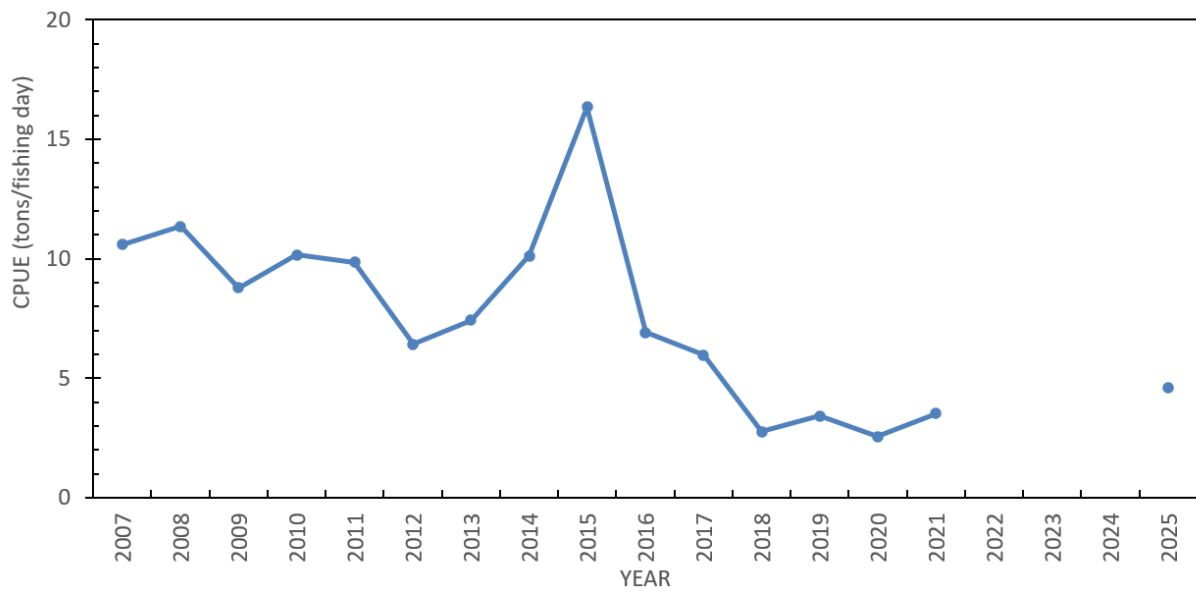


Figure 4. Annual nominal CPUE of jumbo flying squid for Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean during 2007–2025.

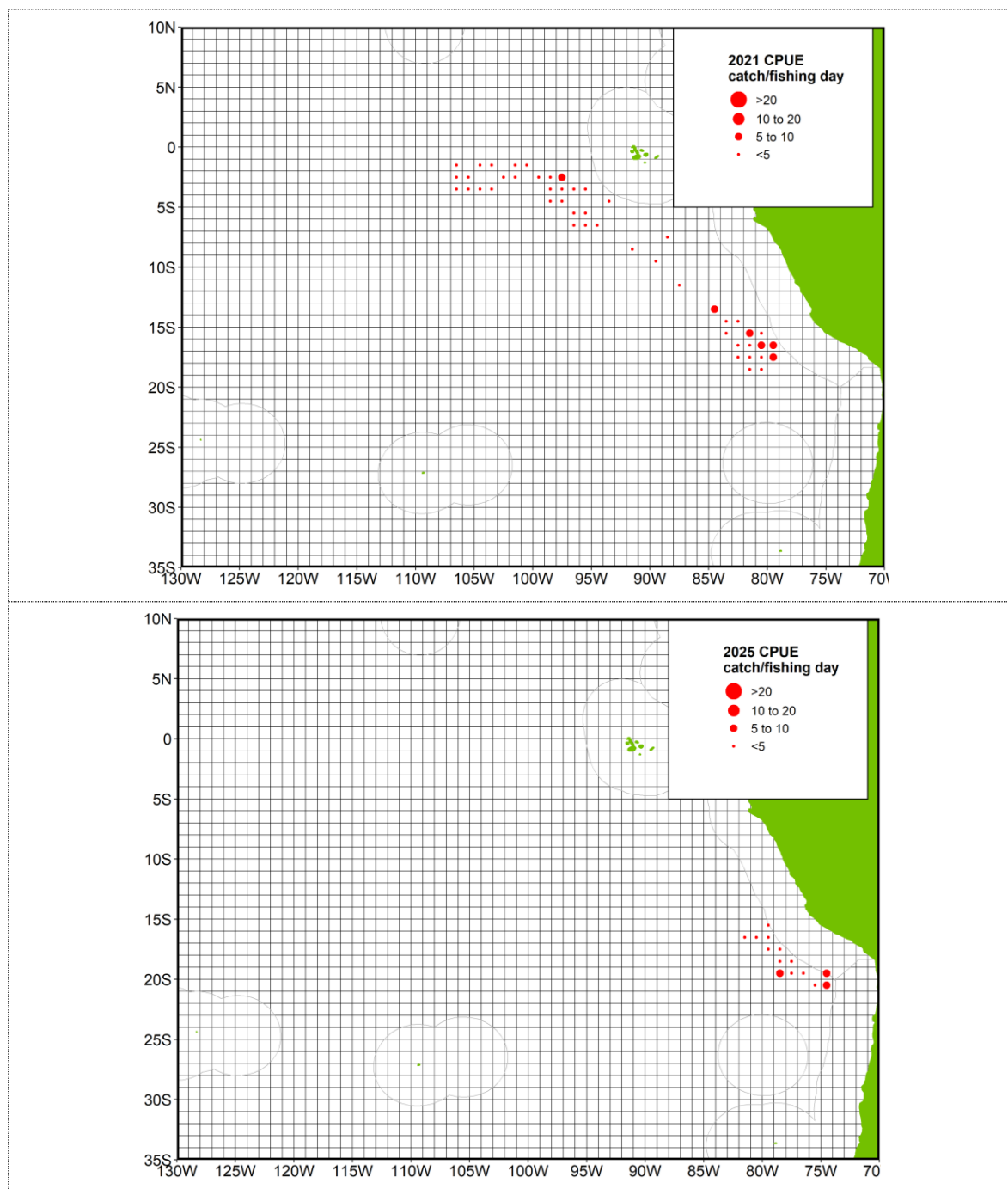


Figure 5. Spatial distributions of annual average CPUE of jumbo flying squid for Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean for 2021 and 2025. (No fishing activity from 2022 to 2024)

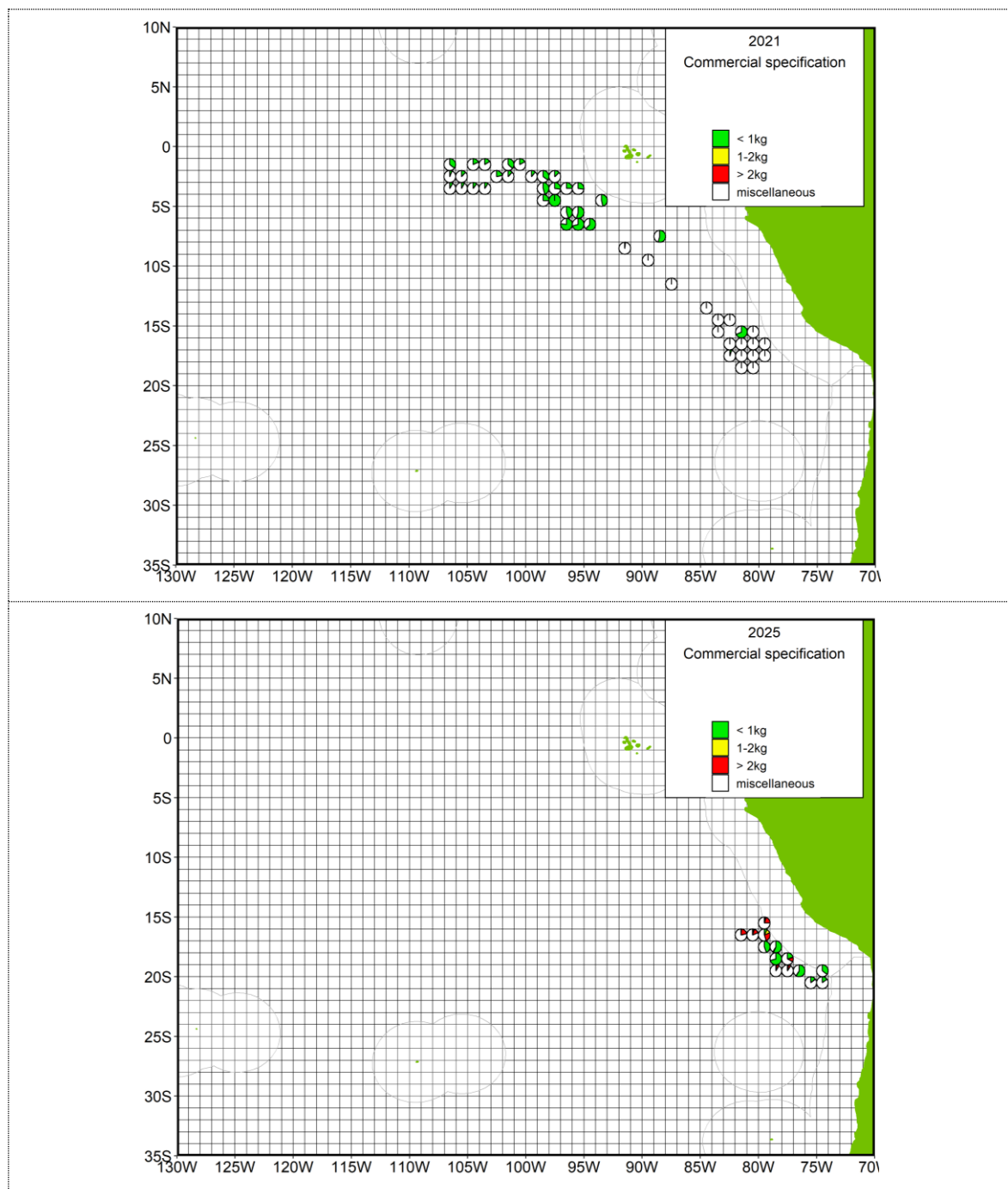


Figure 6. Spatial distributions of size composition (in live weight) of jumbo flying squid catch for Chinese Taipei's squid-jigging fleet in the Southeast Pacific Ocean for 2021 and 2025. (No fishing activity from 2022 to 2024)