
14th MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

7 to 12 September 2026, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

SC14 – SQ 01

Catch and Effort History of Jumbo Flying Squid

Secretariat

1. Summary

Information collected by the Secretariat under the jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) conservation and management measure (CMM-18) indicates that:

- **Chile:** 105,911 t was taken within the Chilean EEZ in 2025, compared with 139,145 t in 2024, a decrease of 23.9%. Of the 2025 total, 105,250 t (99.4%) was taken by jigging gear and 661 t (0.6%) by other gears. As in previous years, the Chilean series is compiled on an all-gear basis.
- **China:** 576 Chinese jigging vessels operated in the SPRFMO Convention Area in 2025, against 528 in 2024, an increase of 9.1%. Reported catch was 484,700 t, compared with 273,900 t in 2024, an increase of 77.0%. Total effort was 111,151 fishing days, against 114,475 days in 2024, a decrease of 2.9%, giving a catch rate of 4.4 t per vessel-day compared with 2.4 t per vessel-day in 2024, an increase of 83.3%.
- **Chinese Taipei:** one Chinese Taipei vessel recorded 267 t over 58 fishing days in 2025, with activity in October, November and December; the first such jigging since 2021. Observer coverage reached 82.7% of fishing days.
- **European Union:** a single record of 181 t on the high seas was submitted for 2025. No gear, vessel or fishing day information accompanied the record.
- **Korea:** no jigging activity was recorded in 2025. A single record of 1 t taken by midwater trawl gear in 2025 was submitted. Vessel numbers and fishing days were not supplied with that record.

The SC is invited to:

- **review this paper** and liaise with the Secretariat in cases where potential updates may be needed.
- **advise the Secretariat** of an alternative public source for catches taken within the Peruvian Area under National Jurisdiction, the source used since 2020 being no longer accessible and no alternative having been identified, so that no figure is available for 2025.

2. Background

This paper is submitted to the Scientific Committee pursuant to paragraphs 18 to 20 of CMM 18-2026 (Squid), under which Members and CNCPs provide their annual reports and fishery data to the Executive Secretary in advance of each Scientific Committee meeting, and under which the information so collected is submitted to the Scientific Committee for review.

The paper identifies and provides the jumbo flying squid (*Dosidicus gigas*) datasets held by the Secretariat on catch, vessel numbers and fishing days. It updates previous reporting to the Scientific Committee (SC13-SQ01).



3. Data and methods

Data sources: annual catch submissions provided to the Secretariat under CMM 02-2026 (Data Standards), and the annual reports presented to the Scientific Committee by Members and CNCPs. For the jumbo flying squid fishery, Annex 13 Part B of that measure specifies the annual catch data to be provided including catch total in tonnes raised to “live” weight, number of vessels and number of days fished.

Reporting pathways: under paragraph 1(a) of CMM 02-2026, Members and CNCPs provide the previous calendar year’s annual catch totals by 30 June. In exceptional cases, and only where a written notification explaining the need for an extension is submitted to the Secretariat by 30 June, provisional data may be submitted by that date and final data as soon as possible but not later than 30 September. Annual reports are submitted to the Executive Secretary at least one month before each Scientific Committee meeting under paragraph 7 of the same measure.

Aggregation: catch is aggregated to calendar year by Member and by area, distinguishing waters under national jurisdiction from the high seas. Vessel numbers are annual counts of vessels that operated and fishing days are as reported by each Member.

Source precedence: where an annual catch submission and the corresponding annual report give different catch figures, the annual report figure is the one shown. This applies throughout the series and has been applied to figures published in earlier papers.

Peruvian Area under National Jurisdiction: the Secretariat does not receive formal submissions for catches taken exclusively within Peru’s national waters, as they fall outside the SPRFMO Convention Area. These data are nevertheless relevant to stock assessment, and from 2020 to 2024 they were obtained from a public source published by the Peruvian authorities and incorporated into the series. That source is no longer publicly accessible.

Other exceptions: following the SC8 recommendation, catch figures for Japan and Ecuador prior to 2014 were taken from FAO database records where no alternative validated submission was available. The catch table also includes rare and small-scale catches reported from trawl vessels operating in the high seas.

4. Annual Catch

The full annual catch series from 2000–2025 is presented in Table 1. Reported catch in 2025 was 591,060 t, against a comparable 413,173 t in 2024. Catch by Member for 2025 is summarised in Section 1.



Table 1: Annual catch weights (t) for jumbo flying squid (GIS) as submitted to the SPRFMO Secretariat for 2000–2025. Values have been rounded to the nearest whole number.

Year	Chile			China	Ecuador	EU		Japan		Korea			Panama	Peru		Chinese Taipei		Total
	EEZ-CHL	FAO 87	High Seas	High Seas	FAO 87	High Seas	FAO 87	EEZ-other	FAO 87	EEZ-PER	High Seas	FAO 87	High Seas	EEZ-PER	High Seas	FAO 87	High Seas	
2000		9						32 174	1 704		20 822			53 795			0	108 504
2001		3 476		17 770				71 069	1 132	5 797		0		71 834			0	171 078
2002		5 589		50 483				26 268	33 978	13 130		8 629		146 390			12 064	296 531
2003		15 191		81 000				22 549	4 510	1 681		3 041		153 727			23 009	304 708
2004		175 134		205 600				22 385	4 615	2 026		8 761		270 368			39 450	728 339
2005		296 953		86 000					1 633	2 519		0		291 140			15 976	694 221
2006		219 800		62 000		212			323	2 048		437		434 261			18 349	737 430
2007	124 389			46 400		121				0		0		427 591		14 750		613 251
2008	145 171			79 064		668				5 971		804		533 414		31 161		796 253
2009	56 337			70 000						7 221		0		411 805		12 319		557 682
2010	200 428			142 000					498	7 764		6 742		369 822		29 206		756 460
2011	163 450		45	250 000								7 410		404 730			35 418	861 053
2012	144 956		9	261 000		91						8 310		497 462			14 177	926 005
2013	105 905		22	264 000		2						6 034		451 061			7 759	834 783
2014	176 569		0	332 523								7 203		554 882	1 274		4 795	1 077 246
2015	143 716		0	323 636	1 500							4 263		513 492	304		10 072	996 983
2016	183 123		0	223 300			0					4 388	842	322 338	999		12 989	747 979
2017	155 389		0	296 100								3 460	289	290 933	5 068		7 338	758 577
2018	145 927		0	346 200								3 651		317 000	288		3 848	816 914
2019	58 042		0	305 670	1 750							5 577		526 902	0		2 085	900 026
2020	53 967		0	358 000	157							1 003		492 363	0		2 087	907 577
2021	52 904			422 000	1 896		4							517 710			665	995 179
2022	97 013			514 500	5 907									457 364				1 074 784
2023	104 003			494 000										621 925				1 219 928
2024	139 145			273 900							128			188 345	5			601 523
2025	105 911			484 700		181					1						267	591 060

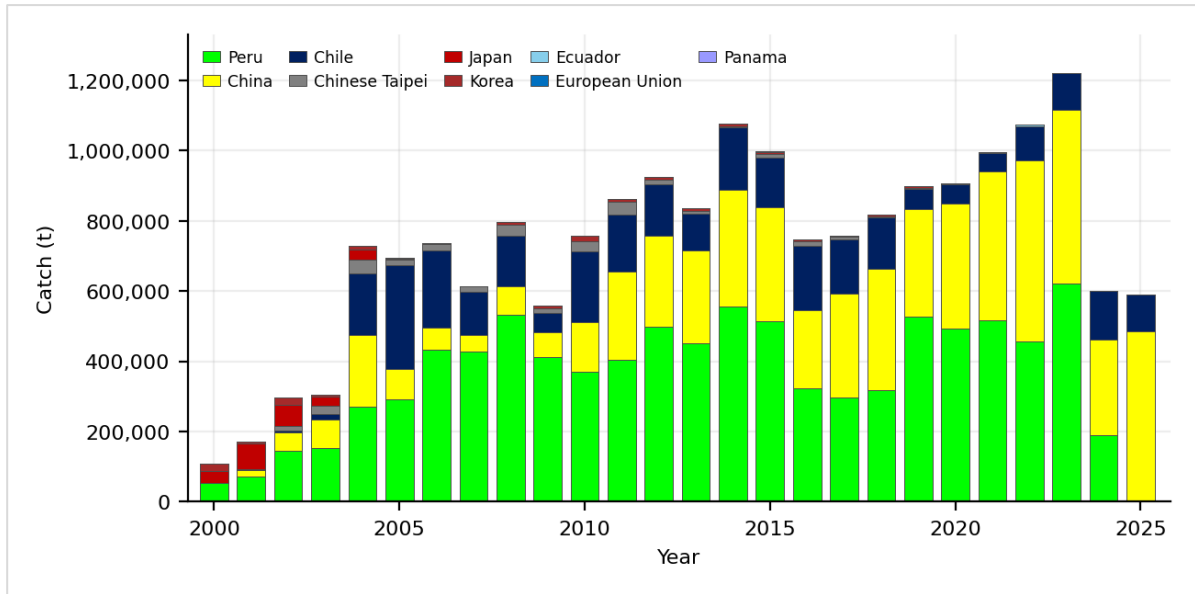


Figure 1. Annual catch weight (t) of jumbo flying squid reported to the Secretariat by Member, 2000–2025, from Table 1. Peru and China together account for most of the reported catch in every year. No figure is available for the Peruvian Area under National Jurisdiction in 2025, so that year is not comparable with earlier years.

5. Vessels and fishing days

5.1. Active vessels

The number of active vessels participating in the squid jigging fishery in the Convention Area from 2014–2025 is shown in Table 2 and Figure 1, as gathered from the annual reports presented to the Scientific Committee.

Total vessel numbers have varied considerably over the series and the composition by flag State has changed. Chinese vessels have made up most of the fleet since 2010 and account for 576 of the 577 vessels recorded in 2025. Participation by others has become intermittent: the Republic of Korea reported vessels in every year from 2008 to 2020, none from 2021 to 2023, one vessel in 2024 and none in 2025; Chinese Taipei reported vessels continuously from 2007 to 2021, none from 2022 to 2024, and one vessel in 2025. Peruvian participation was recorded between 2014 and 2018 and peaked at 558 vessels in 2017, with no vessels recorded until 2024 (two vessels). Panama reported vessels only in 2016 and 2017.

Table 2: Number of active vessels by flag and year participating in the squid fishery in the SPRFMO Area

Year	China	Korea	Panama	Peru	Chinese Taipei	Total
2000		14				14
2001	22	7				29
2002	43	17				60
2003	74	5				79
2004	119	8				127
2005	93	2				95
2006	43	1				44
2007	37				13	50
2008	50	1			13	64
2009	54	1			13	68
2010	104	1			20	125



Year	China	Korea	Panama	Peru	Chinese Taipei	Total
2011	172	1			21	194
2012	254	6			14	274
2013	205	6			9	220
2014	264	6		14	5	289
2015	252	2		32	9	295
2016	276	4	2	98	11	391
2017	356	8	1	558	13	936
2018	435	17		44	14	510
2019	503	15			10	528
2020	557	13			5	575
2021	476				2	478
2022	464					464
2023	522					522
2024	528	1		2		531
2025	576				1	577

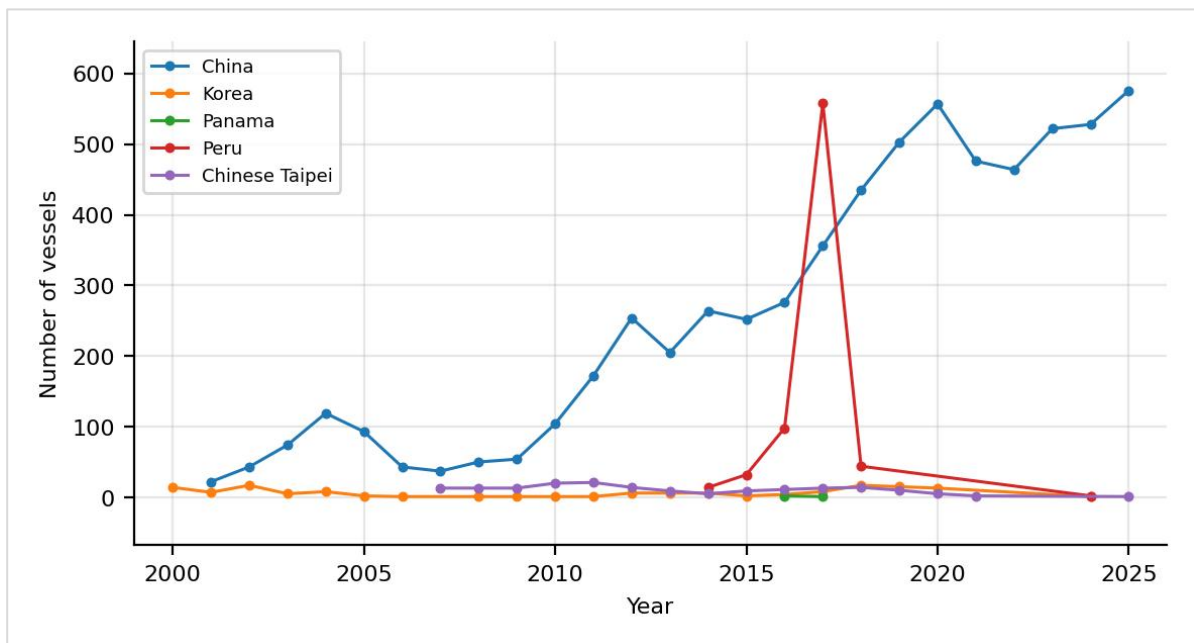


Figure 2. Number of active squid jigging vessels in the Convention Area by flag State from 2000–2025

5.2. Fishing days

Total fishing days reported for the squid jigging fishery from 2014 – 2025 are shown in Table 3 and Figure 2, drawn from annual reports to the Scientific Committee where available.

Reported fishing days fell from 114,528 in 2024 to 111,209 in 2025, a decrease of 2.9%. Chinese effort accounts for almost all of the total in both years. That reduction occurred alongside a 77.0% increase in reported Chinese catch, so total catch did not decrease despite a decrease in total effort. Effort by other Members has been intermittent: the Republic of Korea reported 53 days in 2024 and none in 2025, and Chinese Taipei reported no fishing days in 2024 and 58 days in 2025.



Table 3. Total squid fishing days by Member and year from annual reports presented to the Scientific Committee.

Year	China	Korea	Chinese Taipei	Total
2014		397	474	871
2015	60116	151	616	60 883
2016	62258	409	1880	64 547
2017	75655	456	1228	77 339
2018	85862	1003	1396	88 261
2019	111343	1037	611	112 991
2020	119306	212	817	120 335
2021	78120		189	78 309
2022	96246			96 246
2023	100306			100 306
2024	114475	53		114 528
2025	111151		58	111 209

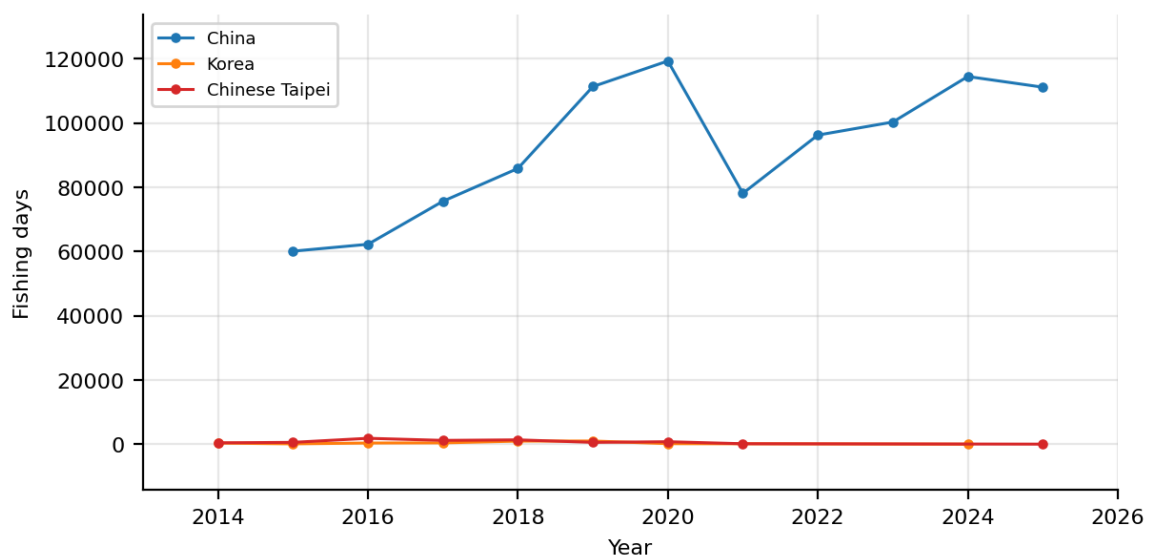


Figure 2. Total squid fishing days in the Convention Area by flag State from 2014–2025.

6. Caveats and next steps

The 2025 catch total excludes the Peruvian Area under National Jurisdiction and is therefore not comparable with the annual totals for earlier years. The Secretariat would welcome the advice of the Scientific Committee on an alternative source.